

# Groton Daily Independent

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

**JOHNSON AGENCY**

Real Estate & Insurance  
Jay Johnson, Broker

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

102 N Main St. Groton, SD 57445	Office: 605/397-2424 Home: 605/397-8565	
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## Wednesday, October 10, 2018

PSAT Testing for Sophomores and Juniors at GHS.

## Thursday, October 11, 2018

All-State Chorus Day at South Dakota State University

1:30pm- 8:30pm: Parent/Teacher Conferences  
GHS Gymnasium, Groton Area Elementary School  
3:30pm: Cross Country: Varsity Regional at Webster

6:45pm: Senior Scholarship Info Night at GHS  
Groton Area High School

## Friday, October 12, 2018

Marching Festival in Groton  
7:00pm: Football hosts Redfield/Doland at Doney Field, Groton

## Saturday, October 13, 2018

Oral Interp at Florence High School  
Soccer: Boys Varsity Championships at Rapid City  
9:00am: Volleyball: Girls Varsity Tournament at Redfield.

## Deer License Allocation Proposal Approved Unanimously by GFP Commission

PIERRE, S.D. – Last week, the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) Commission voted to approve the deer license allocation proposal with no changes.

The most significant change from how the drawings are structured today is that drawings for East River, West River, Black Hills and Muzzleloader deer seasons will be combined in the first and second drawings. In the first draw, applicants will have to choose between one of the four seasons. Special buck, Custer State Park and Refuge deer hunting seasons will remain unchanged from the current draw structure.

“This was not an easy decision to make. The tough topics and conversations don’t come without discomfort or change,” stated Russell Olson, GFP Commissioner from Wentworth. “Good policy leaders seek change and look for ways to make South Dakota better. South Dakota has, and will continue to have more deer hunting opportunity than just about any other state in the Midwest. We will be watching this closely and if the new system isn’t doing what it’s designed to do, we will make changes.”

Changes that will be effective for the 2019 deer hunting seasons include:

1. Remove Special Buck, Custer State Park and Refuge Deer from the combined deer drawing.

These seasons will remain separate drawings.

Hunters still have to choose among licenses available for East River, West River Black Hills and Muzzleloader in the first draw, both first and second choices.

2. In the second draw, an applicant may only apply for a license if the applicant did not draw a license in the first draw.

3. In the third draw, the four seasons will no longer be drawn together and a resident will submit one application for each season they do not have a license for.

The maximum number of licenses a resident could have through the third draw is four; one for each of the East River, West River, Black Hills and Muzzleloader seasons.

Non-residents without a license will be able to apply for a license remaining in pools originally designated for non-residents in the Black Hills and West River deer hunting seasons.

4. In the fourth draw, remaining resident and non-resident licenses will be pooled within each season.

Residents can submit up to five applications in any of the four seasons.

Non-residents who do not have a license can submit one application for any remaining license.

5. After the fourth draw, all licenses will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis.

6. While first draw applicants must continue to use accrued preference points for their first choice, applicants can use preference points for any other choice in the first three drawings. An applicant who uses preference to acquire a license in a season is not allowed to purchase a preference point for that season. The advantage of this new system is that hunters can accrue preference points for multiple seasons and then elect to switch to a different “preferred” license in a different season in a future year.

“The department did an unprecedented amount of outreach on this topic and continues to receive questions and feedback regarding the decision made and what happens next,” concluded Kevin Robling, GFP special projects coordinator. “Ultimately this is about increasing deer hunters’ chances of getting their preferred license more often and getting more people out deer hunting every year.”

For additional frequently asked questions and answers, please click [here](#).

## GFP Commission Removes Domicile Fish Possession Limits and Liberalized Fishing Regulations

PIERRE, S.D. - Last week, the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) Commission removed fish possession limits at an angler’s permanent residence. While possession at a permanent residence will be unlimited, possession limits would remain in place for transporting fish and for storing fish at all locations outside of a person’s domicile; which is their established, fixed and permanent home.

The Commission also repealed liberalized fishing regulations. The Department has not used liberalized

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fishing rules for some time as they were not effective in accomplishing intended management goals.

Additionally, the Commission removed the closed fishing seasons for game fish on Minnesota/South Dakota border waters. This removal reduces regulation complexity and increases recreational opportunities for anglers. The Commission also removed spring stream closures in eastern South Dakota, in association with opening spearing for northern pike and catfish year-round on all waters except those managed for muskies.

## **GFP Commission Changes Fish Limits**

PIERRE, S.D. - The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) Commission made several changes to fish limits.

These changes or removals include:

Removed the daily and possession limits for white bass and rock bass.

Eliminated the regulation allowing for one trout over 14 inches from Black Hills lakes.

Established a minimum length limit of 24 inches and a daily limit of one for lake trout or splake in the Black Hills Fish Management Area.

Removed the 15-inch minimum size restriction on walleye for Richmond and Elm Lakes in Brown County, Enemy Swim and Pickerel Lakes in Day County, Clear and Roy Lakes in Marshall County and Lake Mitchell in Davison County.

Removed black bass (largemouth and smallmouth) size restrictions from all waters with the exception of Burke Lake, New Wall Lake and Lake Yankton.

Added a 28-inch minimum length and a daily limit of one walleye on Horseshoe Lake in Day County.

Modified the Lake Francis Case paddlefish season to allow license holders to take a paddlefish with snagging gear or bow and arrow.

## **GFP Commission Finalizes Modifications to Nebraska Border Waters and Fish Spearing and Archery Rules**

PIERRE, S.D. - The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) Commission opened up the spearing of rough fish year-round on South Dakota/Nebraska border waters and added crossbows and legal spearguns to the list of legal methods of take for rough fish.

The Commission also made the following changes to spearfishing regulations:

Opened up the entirety of Lake Sharpe and Lake Francis Case to gamefish spearing and archery during established season dates.

Removed the requirement to purchase a game fish spearing and archery permit.

Changed spearing season dates for northern pike and catfish on inland waters, except those managed for muskie, to year-round.

Changed gamefish spearing and archery season dates on the South Dakota/Nebraska border waters to July 1-Dec. 1 to match Nebraska's season.

Allowed for the take of gamefish below Gavins Point Dam during established season dates.

Prohibited spearing and archery fishing in Angostura and Lewis and Clark Lake marinas.

## **GFP Commission Modifies AIS Rules**

PIERRE, S.D. - The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) Commission made several modifications to the aquatic invasive species (AIS) rules.

These modifications include:

Added Starry Stonewort to the list of aquatic invasive species.

Allowed exemptions for commercial plant harvesters and lakeshore property owners from the prohibitions of possessing aquatic invasive species if authorized to do so by the department.

Allowed the GFP Department secretary to authorize certain boats to keep plugs in while being trailered.

Added Lake Yankton to the list of containment waters.

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## GFP Commission Proposes 2019 Duck Hunting Season

PIERRE, S.D. - The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) Commission proposed the 2019 duck hunting season last week at their October meeting in Deadwood.

Season Dates and Open Areas:

High Plains Zone: October 12, 2019 – January 16, 2020

Low Plains North & Low Plains Middle Zone: September 28 – December 10, 2019

Low Plains South Zone: October 26, 2019 – January 7, 2020

Proposed daily limits would be six ducks; comprised of no more than five mallards (which may include no more than two hens), three wood ducks, three scaup, two redheads, two canvasbacks and one pintail.

Two bonus blue-winged teal would be available for the first sixteen days of the season.

The GFP Commission will consider adopting the proposal at their Nov. 1-2 meeting at Good Earth State Park near Sioux Falls. The public hearing will be held Nov. 1 at 2 p.m. CDT. Individuals can also provide written comments on proposals by sending them to 523 E. Capitol Ave., Pierre, SD 57501, or online at <https://gfp.sd.gov/forms/positions/>. To be included in the public record and to be considered by the Commission, comments must include a full name and city of residence and meet the submission deadline of 72 hours before the public hearing.

## GFP Commission Finalizes Several Goose and Other Waterfowl Hunting Seasons

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) Commission set the 2019 early fall Canada goose, Special Canada goose, August Management Take, youth waterfowl and tundra swan hunting seasons with no proposed changes from 2018.

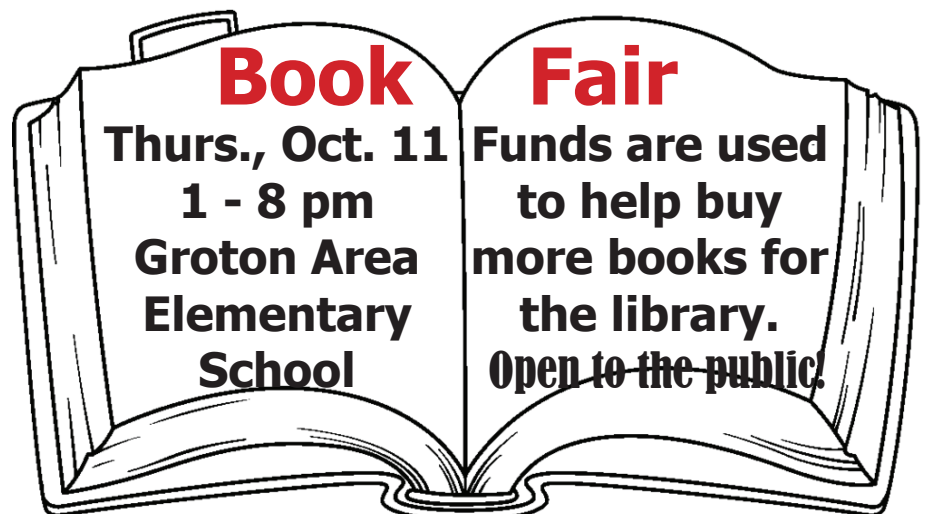
The early fall Canada goose season will run from Sept. 7-30, have a daily limit of eight Canada geese and a possession limit of 24. The early fall Canada goose hunting season is for Unit 1 only.

The special Canada goose season will run from Oct. 19 – Dec. 22 in Bennett County. For 2019, 800 three-tag licenses will be available for residents and 25 two-tag permits are available to nonresidents.

The August Management Take will be open for Pennington County, west of the Cheyenne River from Aug. 17 – 31. This season is open to residents only and has a 15 Canada goose daily limit and no possession limit.

The 2019 youth waterfowl hunting season will be Sept. 21-22. This season is open state-wide to residents and nonresidents who have not reached the age of 16 by the first day of the season. Daily and possession limits apply.

The tundra swan hunting season will run from Sept. 28 through the end of the light goose hunting season. There will be 1,425 resident and 250 nonresident single-tag licenses.





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## Goose, Sandhill Crane, Spring Light Goose Seasons Proposed

PIERRE, S.D. - The South Dakota Game Fish and Parks (GFP) Commission proposed the 2019 goose, Sandhill crane and spring light goose seasons.

Dates for these proposed seasons include:

Canada Geese (and Brant)

Unit 1: October 1 – December 22, 2019

Unit 2: November 5, 2019 – February 16, 2020

Unit 3: January 11-19, 2020

Light Geese

Statewide: September 28, 2019 – January 10, 2020

White-fronted Geese

Statewide: September 28 – December 10, 2019.

Daily limits would be eight Canada geese for Unit 1 and four Canada geese for Units 2 and 3. Limits for light geese would be 50 statewide.

The Commission proposed an increase in the daily limit of white-fronted geese from two to three, but the proposal also included a shortening of the season from 86 to 74 days.

The Commission also proposed to expand the area where hunters can hunt Sandhill cranes. The proposal would modify the open unit from that portion of the state lying west of U.S. Highway 281 to that portion of the state lying west of a line beginning at the South Dakota-North Dakota border and State Highway 25, south on State Highway 25 to its junction with State Highway 34, east on State Highway 34 to its junction with U.S. Highway 81, then south on U.S. Highway 81 to the South Dakota-Nebraska border.

The proposed Sandhill crane season would run from Sept. 28 – Nov. 24, 2018, have a daily limit of three and a possession limit of nine.

A slight change to the season dates for the 2019 light goose hunting season were proposed for the Spring Light Goose Conservation Order from 79 days beginning the day after the Unit 2 dark goose season to the day after the Unit 2 dark goose season to May 15.

The GFP Commission will consider adopting the proposal at their Nov. 1-2 meeting at Good Earth State Park near Sioux Falls. The public hearing will be held Nov. 1 at 2 p.m. CDT. Individuals can also provide written comments on proposals by sending them to 523 E. Capitol Ave., Pierre, SD 57501, or online at <https://gfp.sd.gov/forms/positions/>. To be included in the public record and to be considered by the Commission, comments must include a full name and city of residence and meet the submission deadline of 72 hours before the public hearing.

## Spring Turkey Hunting Season Proposed;

Custer State Park Turkey Hunting Season Set

PIERRE, S.D. - The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) Commission proposed to remove the use of rifles to hunt spring turkeys starting in 2019. This decision was proposed as a safety concern due to the increased use of life-like decoys used by spring turkey hunters.

The Commission also proposed to:

1. Offer residents 55 more one-tag male turkey licenses and 150 less two-tag male turkey licenses for the prairie units than 2018 for an overall decrease of 245 tags.

2. Offer nonresidents two more one-tag male turkey licenses and 12 less two-tag male turkey licenses for the prairie units than 2018 for an overall decrease of 78 tags.

3. Modify the season end date for turkey hunting on the prairies, in the Black Hills and during the archery season from the eighth day prior to Memorial Day weekend to May 31.

4. Adjust the hunting season end date for Sica Hollow in unit 48A to end on May 31.

Season dates for 2019 would be:

Archery: April 6 – May 31

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Black Hills regular and single-season prairie units: April 13 – May 31

Split-season early prairie units: April 13 – April 30

Split-season late Prairie units; Black Hills late season: May 1 – May 31

The Commission proposed the number of tags available for the spring turkey season as:

Black Hills: Unlimited resident and nonresident one-tag male turkey licenses

Prairie: 5,657 resident and 246 nonresident one-tag male turkey licenses

600 resident and 48 nonresident two-tag male turkey licenses

Archery: Unlimited resident and nonresident one-tag male turkey licenses

Access permits would be required to turkey hunt Good Earth State (five archery permits available) and Adams Homestead and Nature Preserve (20 archery permits available).

The Commission also finalized the Custer State Park spring turkey hunting season for 2019 and 2020 with no changes from 2018 with season dates being April 13 – May 19, 2019 and April 11 – May 17, 2020. There will be 100 resident one-tag male turkey licenses available.

The GFP Commission will consider adopting the proposal at their Nov. 1-2 meeting at Good Earth State Park near Sioux Falls. The public hearing will be held Nov. 1 at 2 p.m. CDT. Individuals can also provide written comments on proposals by sending them to 523 E. Capitol Ave., Pierre, SD 57501, or online at <https://gfp.sd.gov/forms/positions/>. To be included in the public record and to be considered by the Commission, comments must include a full name and city of residence and meet the submission deadline of 72 hours before the public hearing.

## GFP Commission Proposes Changes to Camping Fees

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) Commission proposed three changes to camping fees.

The Commission proposed to define the new service of a modern cabin being a structure with beds, electricity, sewer and water and establish a fee of \$150/night.

The Commission also proposed to increase the per night fee for the lodge at Shadehill Recreation area from \$205 to \$280 due to expansion of the lodge.

Finally, the Commission proposed to establish fees for the use of the Good Earth State Park amphitheater of \$300 for four hours and \$600 for all day (6 a.m. – 11 p.m. from May 1 – Sept. 30 and 6 a.m. – 9 p.m. from Oct. 1 – April 30).

The GFP Commission will consider adopting the proposal at their Nov. 1-2 meeting at Good Earth State Park near Sioux Falls. The public hearing will be held Nov. 1 at 2 p.m. CDT. Individuals can also provide written comments on proposals by sending them to 523 E. Capitol Ave., Pierre, SD 57501, or online at <https://gfp.sd.gov/forms/positions/>. To be included in the public record and to be considered by the Commission, comments must include a full name and city of residence and meet the submission deadline of 72 hours before the public hearing.



# GROTON

CARE & REHABILITATION CENTER



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RN \$25-31

LPN \$20-26

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stop in and speak to Brynn Pickrel at

**605-397-2365.**

## No. 2 Wolves roll past the Dragons in NSIC play

Moorhead, Minn. – The No. 2 Northern State University volleyball team rolled to the 12th sweep of the season defeating MSU Moorhead on the road. The Wolves downed the Dragons with set scores of 25-15, 25-17, and 25-17, improving to 19-1 overall and 11-1 in the NSIC.

The Wolves hit .343 in the match, recording a match high 47 kills, 47 assists, 53 digs, and eight aces. They also added five team blocks, while holding the Dragons to a .147 hitting percentage on defense.

Laura Snyder and Morgan Baufield led the team with 14 and 11 kills respectively. Baufield hit a team leading .786, while Snyder was second on the team hitting .444. Hailey Busch and Sally Gaul followed with nine and eight kills respectively, while Jenna Reiff notched four.

Ashley Rozell served up 46 assists, averaging 15.33 per set. The junior also recorded one kills, one ace, six digs, and a team high four blocks. Baufield also led the team at the net with four blocks, while Reiff recorded one.

Bry Goar led the defense with 16 digs, averaging 5.33 per set, while Jaiden Langlie added 11. Goar led the team from the service line as well with a career high four aces. Baufield added two aces of her own, while Busch tallied one. Lexi Boesl recorded seven digs, followed by Busch with five and Baufield and Gaul with four and three respectively.

Northern returns to action Friday evening for a 6 p.m. match from Wachs Arena against the visiting Wildcats of Wayne State.





## Season's first snowfall

Residents awoke Wednesday morning to snow on the ground and blowing around.



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## Today in Weather History

October 10, 1928: The temperature reached 90 degrees at Minneapolis, Minnesota their latest such reading on record.

October 10, 1982: October 8th through October 10th, 1982 record amounts of snow piled up in the northern Black Hills. Not only was the storm an unprecedented breaker because it came so early in the season, but it was also a record snowfall producer for any time of year. Amounts of three to six feet were common across the northern hills. On October 9th, 1982 thirty-two inches of snow buried Lead. The thirty-two inches that day is the most on record for a 24 hour period in South Dakota.

1780: The Great Hurricane of 1780 made landfall on the island of Barbados on this day with estimated wind gusts of 200 mph. This hurricane went on to affect the islands of St. Vincent where only 14 of 600 homes stood at Kings Town. St. Lucia, Martinique, Dominica, and Puerto Rico were all impacted by this hurricane. This storm is the deadliest Atlantic hurricane on record with between 20,000 and 22,000 deaths.

1949: A rapidly deepening area of low pressure produced gale to hurricane force winds across much of Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Michigan, and the Dakotas. Sustained 1-minute winds reached 85 mph at Rochester, MN and 79 mph at La Crosse, WI during the early afternoon. Winds gusts were as high as 100 mph. This storm produced extensive damage to buildings and power lines. Also, many corn crops were flattened.

2009: Nome, Alaska, experiences its first ever October thunderstorm with five lightning strikes between 8 and 9 PM ADT.

1804 - A famous snow hurricane occurred. The unusual coastal storm caused northerly gales from Maine to New Jersey. Heavy snow fell across New England, with three feet reported at the crest of the Green Mountains. A foot of snow was reported in the Berkshires of southern New England, at Goshen CT. (David Ludlum)

1928 - The temperature at Minneapolis, MN, reached 90 degrees, their latest such reading of record. (The Weather Channel)

1973 - Fifteen to 20 inch rains deluged north central Oklahoma in thirteen hours producing record flooding. Enid was drenched with 15.68 inches of rain from the nearly stationary thunderstorms, which established a state 24 hour rainfall record. Dover OK reported 125 of 150 homes damaged by flooding. (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1979 - A storm blanketed Worcester, MA, with 7.5 inches of snow, a record snowfall total for so early in the season for that location. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Eleven cities in the north central U.S. reported record low temperatures for the date, including Colorado Springs CO with a reading of 23 degrees, and Havre MT with a low of 11 degrees above zero. Light snow was reported as far south as Kansas. Omaha NE reported their third earliest snow of record. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Sunny and mild weather prevailed across the nation for Columbus Day. The afternoon high of 77 degrees at Kalispell MT was the warmest reading of record for so late in the autumn season. Thunderstorms developing along a cold front produced wind gusts to 56 mph at Lorain OH. Snowflakes were observed at Milwaukee WI around Noon, but quickly changed to rain as temperature readings were in the lower 60s. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Thunderstorms produced torrential rains along the northeast coast of Florida. Augustine was deluged with 16.08 inches of rain. The heavy rain caused extensive flooding of homes and businesses, and left some roads under three feet of water. Ten cities from South Carolina to New England reported record low temperatures for the date, including Concord NH with a reading of 23 degrees. Temperatures dipped into the 30s in the Carolinas. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

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## Winter Weather Advisory

Today



100%

Rain/Snow and  
Fog

High: 36 °F

Tonight



40%

Chance Snow  
and Areas Fog  
then Cloudy

Low: 25 °F

Thursday



Partly Sunny

High: 36 °F

Thursday  
Night



Mostly Cloudy

Low: 22 °F

Friday



Mostly Sunny

High: 43 °F



Published on: 10/10/2018 at 5:14AM

Snow will spread over the region today. Additional accumulations of 1 to 4 inches, especially on grassy surfaces, are expected. Temperatures will hover at or above freezing so could see some melting as the snow falls. Gusty north winds of 25 to 35 mph will accompany the snow before the system exits to the east late this evening.

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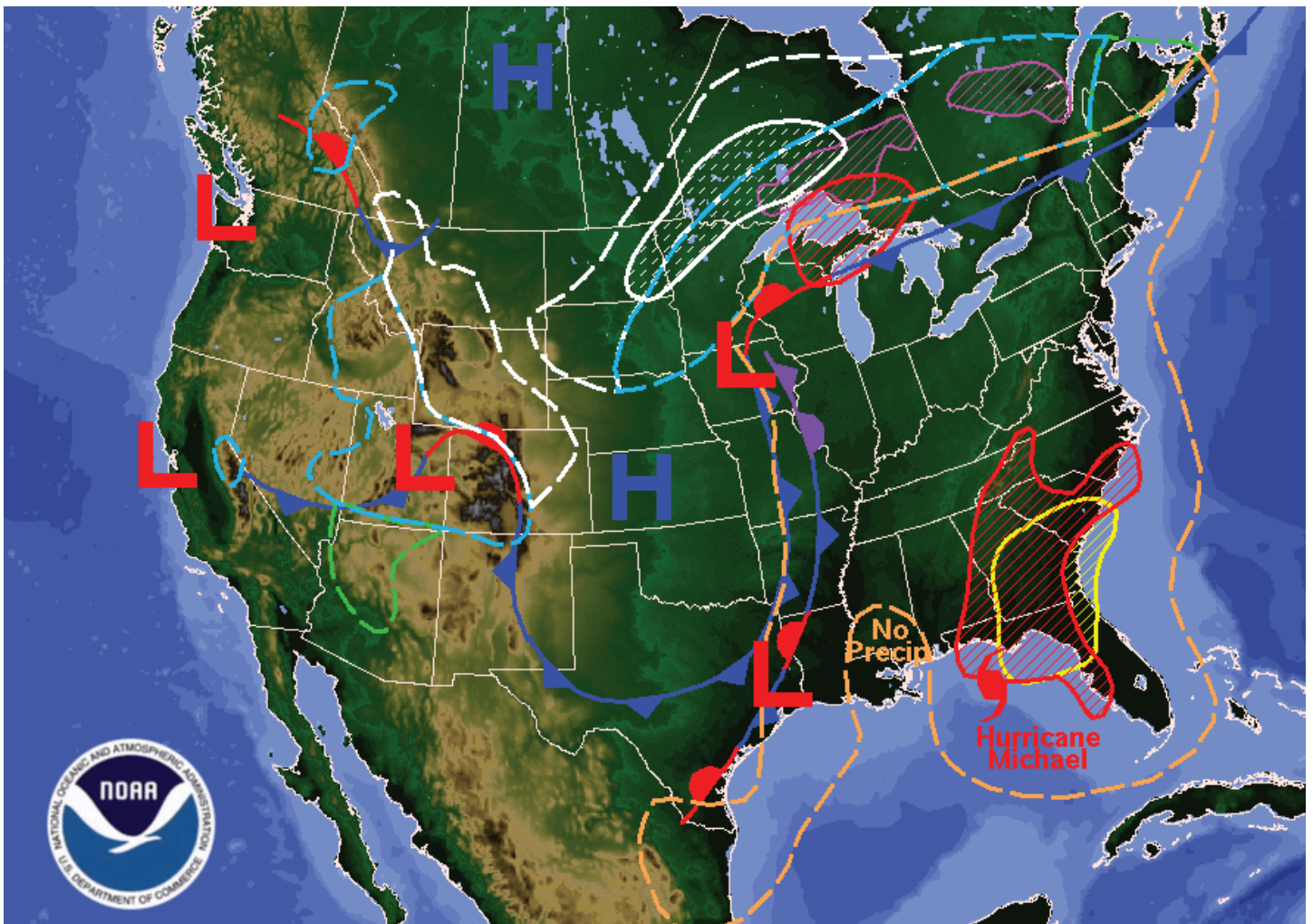
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## Yesterday's Weather

**High Outside Temp: 42 °F at 1:36 PM**  
**Low Outside Temp: 38 °F at 7:11 AM**  
**High Gust: 30 mph at 9:49 PM**  
**Precip: 0.08**

## Today's Info

**Record High: 85° in 1938**  
**Record Low: 14° in 1964**  
**Average High: 61°F**  
**Average Low: 36°F**  
**Average Precip in Oct.: 0.60**  
**Precip to date in Oct.: 1.14**  
**Average Precip to date: 19.08**  
**Precip Year to Date: 14.75**  
**Sunset Tonight: 6:59 p.m.**  
**Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:43 a.m.**



### Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Wed, Oct 10, 2018, issued 4:54 AM EDT  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

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



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## GODS INTENTIONS

The young couple had been married for less than a month. One evening after taking his bride to dinner, the husband nervously asked, Dear, you wouldnt be offended if I pointed out a few of your flaws and faults, would you?

Why, of course not, Andrew, she responded. After all, those little defects kept me from getting a better husband.

We all have defects - except our Lord. The Psalmist reminded us of this when he wrote, The Lord is righteous in all His ways and loving toward all He has made.

Before the sixteenth century, the word righteousness was spelled, rightwise. It meant one who is as he ought to be. Our Lord is what God intended Him to be. He committed no sin. He did not violate anyones rights. He wronged no person. Whatever He did was right. He was rightwise.

Our English word holy is closely related to the idea of being whole or complete. Three feet is a whole yard. One hundred pennies are a whole dollar. Our Lord approached nothing or no one half-heartedly. He never held anything back for Himself. He was totally committed to whatever He did to the glory of God. Every obligation He had to His Father was complete!

Not one of us is who or what God intended us to be. We are not who we ought to be in Gods eyes. Nor are we whole or complete as God designed and created us to be. We have all fallen short of His intentions.

But through Christ our Savior we can be!

Prayer: Thank You, Father, for providing a way for us to become who You intended us to be through Christ. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 145:17 The Lord is righteous in all His ways and loving toward all He has made.



## 2018 Groton SD Community Events

- Groton Lion's Club Bingo- Wednesday Nights 6:30pm at the Groton Legion (Year Round)
- Nov./Dec./Jan./Feb./Mar. 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)
- Transit Fundraiser (Middle Thursday in June)
- SDSU Golf at Olive Grove
- 6/15/2019 Triathlon (Saturday before Father's Day)
- 7/4/2019 Firecracker Golf Tourney (4th of July)
- 7/14/2019 Summer Fest
- 9/7/2019 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
- 10/12/2019 Pumpkin Fest (Saturday before Columbus Day)
- 10/11/2019 Lake Region Marching Band Festival (2nd Friday in October)
- 10/31/2018 Trunk or Treat (Halloween)
- 11/10/2018 Groton American Legion Post #39 Turkey Shoot (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)
- 12/01/2018 Olive Grove Golf Course 2018 Holiday Party
  
- Best Ball Golf Tourney
- SDSU Golf Tourney
- Sunflower Golf Tourney
- Santa Claus Day
- Fireman's Stag
- Tour of Homes
- Crazy Dayz/Open Houses
- School Events

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## News from the Associated Press

### Tuesday's Scores By The Associated Press

#### Volleyball

Aberdeen Roncalli def. Mobridge-Pollock, 25-18, 25-9, 25-14  
Alcester-Hudson def. Irene-Wakonda, 25-19, 25-18, 13-25, 26-24  
Arlington def. Sioux Valley, 25-17, 26-24, 25-23  
Baker, Mont. def. Harding County, 21-25, 25-23, 25-19, 24-26, 15-13  
Bennett County def. Hot Springs, 25-13, 25-23, 22-25, 25-22  
Bon Homme def. Scotland, 21-25, 25-21, 27-25, 21-25, 15-13  
Bridgewater-Emery def. Colman-Egan, 25-19, 25-13, 23-25, 25-18  
Brookings def. Brandon Valley, 23-25, 24-26, 25-19, 25-10, 15-11  
Burke def. Andes Central/Dakota Christian, 25-19, 25-11, 25-13  
Canton def. Gayville-Volin, 25-21, 25-19, 26-24  
Chester def. West Central, 25-9, 25-15, 25-9  
Cheyenne-Eagle Butte def. Potter County, 25-19, 21-25, 14-25, 25-19, 16-14  
Clark/Willow Lake def. Flandreau, 26-28, 16-25, 25-17, 25-14, 15-10  
Corsica/Stickney def. Mitchell Christian, 25-20, 25-12, 21-25, 25-18  
Crawford, Neb. def. Oelrichs, 25-17, 25-16, 25-17  
Dakota Valley def. Lennox, 25-20, 27-25, 27-25  
Dell Rapids def. Deubrook, 11-25, 26-28, 26-24, 25-20, 15-11  
Dell Rapids def. Baltic, 23-25, 25-21, 25-12, 25-20  
Edmunds Central def. Wakpala, 25-0, 25-9, 25-15  
Elkton-Lake Benton def. Deuel, 25-23, 25-23, 21-25, 25-14  
Estelline/Hendricks def. Florence/Henry, 28-26, 25-15, 20-25, 25-12  
Ethan def. Howard, 25-12, 25-15, 25-11  
Faith def. Dupree, 25-6, 25-5, 25-10  
Faulkton def. Herreid/Selby Area, 26-24, 24-26, 25-7, 25-14  
Freeman def. Oldham-Ramona/Rutland, 25-22, 25-6, 25-15  
Gregory def. Colome, 25-11, 25-23, 25-11  
Hamlin def. DeSmet, 25-15, 25-27, 25-16, 25-17  
Hanson def. Menno, 25-15, 25-23, 25-21  
Huron def. Harrisburg, 25-23, 25-19, 25-23  
Langford def. Webster, 25-20, 26-24, 25-19  
Lemmon def. Grant County, N.D., 25-20, 25-9, 25-3  
Madison def. Milbank Area, 25-22, 25-27, 25-22, 20-25, 15-13  
Marty Indian def. Flandreau Indian, 25-21, 25-21, 17-25, 25-21  
McCook Central/Montrose def. Garretson, 25-9, 25-12, 25-12  
McIntosh def. Bison, 25-20, 25-14, 25-18  
Miller def. Platte-Geddes, 25-14, 25-17, 25-12  
Ponca, Neb. def. Vermillion, 25-20, 25-21, 25-6  
Rapid City Central def. Sturgis, 25-11, 25-20, 25-13  
Rapid City Stevens def. Douglas, 25-11, 25-9, 25-3  
Sanborn Central/Woonsocket def. James Valley Christian, 25-16, 25-22, 25-18  
Sioux Falls Christian def. Tri-Valley, 25-17, 25-2, 25-12  
Sioux Falls Roosevelt def. Aberdeen Central, 25-18, 25-21, 25-16  
Spearfish def. Belle Fourche, 25-19, 25-22, 21-25, 19-25, 15-13

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St. Francis Indian def. Crazy Horse, 25-15, 25-23, 25-13  
St. Thomas More def. Hill City, 26-24, 25-14, 19-25, 27-25  
Sully Buttes def. Stanley County, 25-15, 25-16, 25-18  
Tea Area def. Beresford, 25-17, 14-25, 25-23, 15-25, 15-13  
Wagner def. Parkston, 25-9, 25-15, 25-7  
Warner def. Redfield/Doland, 25-21, 25-10, 25-19  
Watertown def. Pierre, 25-17, 25-21, 25-16  
Waubay/Summit def. Wilmot, 15-25, 28-26, 23-25, 25-12, 15-13  
Wessington Springs def. Sunshine Bible Academy, 25-19, 25-18, 25-11  
Winner def. Chamberlain, 25-15, 25-16, 25-20  
Wolsey-Wessington def. Highmore-Harrold, 25-14, 25-11, 11-25, 25-10

## SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Mega Millions

20-22-39-54-60, Mega Ball: 18, Megaplier: 3

(twenty, twenty-two, thirty-nine, fifty-four, sixty; Mega Ball: eighteen; Megaplier: three)

Estimated jackpot: \$470 million

Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$282 million

## Stacy Phelps testifies in his own defense at trial

By JAMES NORD, Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A former South Dakota nonprofit official accused of backdating contracts said Tuesday that he didn't know his colleague was using another organization's money for the nonprofit's payroll before he died in a murder-suicide.

Stacy Phelps, the former CEO of the nonprofit American Indian Institute for Innovation, testified in his own defense at trial, saying he trusted Scott Westerhuis and considered him a friend.

"I knew his kids," Phelps told jurors during testimony that's set to continue Wednesday.

Westerhuis was embezzling money before he shot his wife, his four children and then himself in September 2015. The deaths spurred a financial investigation that led to charges in 2016 against Phelps and two others who worked with Westerhuis at the Institute or Mid-Central Educational Cooperative.

Prosecutors allege Phelps backdated contracts between the Institute and Mid-Central to avoid an audit. Attorney General Marty Jackley said during his opening statement that the case was about a "cover up" of the financial dealings of the nonprofit and Phelps' conduct.

Phelps testified that he didn't learn Westerhuis was using Mid-Central funds to cover the Institute's payroll until after the deaths, and Phelps said the staff appeared to get paid by the Institute. A state Department of Legislative Audit official said earlier in the day that he saw no evidence that employees at the nonprofit knew Mid-Central money was funding payroll.

Phelps' defense attorney, Dana Hanna, asked questions highlighting that Phelps doesn't have an accounting or auditing background and instead focused on his work in educating Native American students. The Institute helped Mid-Central administer a college-readiness grant program called Gear Up, and Phelps and Westerhuis worked for both organizations.

Judge Bruce Anderson on Tuesday denied a push by Hanna to clear Phelps on the four counts he's facing. Phelps, 45, has pleaded not guilty to two counts of falsifying evidence and two counts of conspiring to offer forged or fraudulent evidence. He faces a maximum sentence of two years in prison and a \$4,000

fine per count.

Phelps is the second and final defendant to go to trial in what prosecutors dubbed the Gear Up case. Mid-Central's former director, Dan Guericke, was to stand trial with Phelps, but instead took a plea deal in September.

A jury in June cleared onetime Mid-Central assistant business manager Stephanie Hubers, who had been accused of receiving about \$55,000 to keep quiet about Westerhuis and his wife's alleged stealing. Hubers was found not guilty of grand theft, grand theft by deception and alternative receiving stolen property charges.

## Measurable snow expected in big chunk of the Dakotas

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — Measurable snow is in the forecast for a big chunk of the Dakotas from late Tuesday into early Thursday.

The National Weather Service says up to 5 inches of snow is expected in central South Dakota, and up to 6 inches could fall in south central and eastern North Dakota.

Forecasters say the snow and gusty winds are likely to make roads slippery and reduce visibility for motorists, and could also result in downed trees and tree branches and power outages.

Winds in eastern North Dakota could gust up to 35 mph.

## Mitchell manufacturers hire more Hispanic workers

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — Manufacturers in southeast South Dakota are looking to tap into a growing Hispanic population in a city with a low unemployment rate.

Mitchell's Hispanic or Latino population grew to about 2.7 percent in 2016, up from 1.7 percent in 2010, according to U.S. Census Bureau data. The percentage is small but significant enough to revamp local manufacturers' hiring practices, the Daily Republic reported.

The city's unemployment rate was 2.4 percent in August, according to Lori Essig, regional workforce coordinator for the Mitchell Area Development Corporation.

"It does not necessarily mean that people are employed at their dream job, but it does mean that there are more jobs than people available in our community, and so we need to look for more ways to bring more people to town," she said.

Essig found that many Mitchell manufacturing workers were commuting from Huron, which had an 11.8 percent Hispanic or Latino population in 2016.

Clark Breitag, human resources manager at Trail King in Mitchell, said Mitchell's low unemployment rate forced the manufacturing company to change their recruiting approach.

"We started to see a lot of potential candidates come to Trail King to apply for careers that necessarily didn't speak English," Breitag said. "So we've had to tailor our business to accommodate them, because we want to grow our workforce."

The company is using bilingual employees to bridge language barriers and train employees on the job, he said.

AKG began to recruit workers who speak English as a second language in April. The Mitchell manufacturer identified its existing bilingual employees to ensure that communication could work well before advertising for open positions.

"We're in a growth period right now, and we plan to be for some time," said Brian Hunt, plant manager for AKG. "We really needed an applicant pool that's bigger than what the economy provides right now."



## **Nebraska college system reaches contract with new chancellor**

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — The Nebraska State College System has entered a contract with the next system chancellor.

The system said in a news release Tuesday that Paul Turman will begin his Lincoln work on Jan. 2 at a yearly salary of \$270,000. He was unanimously approved by system trustees last week.

Turman is system vice president for academic affairs for the South Dakota Board of Regents. He'll be replacing Chancellor Stan Carpenter, who is retiring after 18 years of service to the Nebraska system, which has campuses in Chadron, Peru and Wayne.

The other three finalists were state Sen. John Kuehn, a veterinarian who represents District 38 in the Nebraska Legislature; Thomas Chesney, president of Brookhaven College in Farmers Branch, Texas; and Rusty Monhollon, who is assistant commissioner for academic affairs, Missouri Department of Higher Education.

## **TCF Bank closing Sioux Falls center; 145 workers impacted**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — TCF Bank is closing its operations center in Sioux Falls, impacting 145 workers.

The Argus Leader reports that a company filing with state and local officials says 145 workers will be let go between November and March. The bulk are 54 call center representatives and 43 operations specialists.

TCF says impacted workers will be offered help to relocate to offices in Illinois and Minnesota. Those who choose not to will receive severance packages.

TCF Bank is the principal subsidiary of TCF Financial, and is based in Wayzata, Minnesota. Its bank branch in Sioux Falls will remain open.

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

## **Mount Rushmore changes parking and payment system**

KEYSTONE, S.D. (AP) — Mount Rushmore National Memorial has changed its parking and payment system in hopes of alleviating long lines at the entrance during summer months.

Starting this month, drivers no longer exchange cash or a credit card for a parking slip at manned booths. Instead, they pay at their leisure at stations installed in several locations on the campus and present their paid ticket when leaving the parking area.

Superintendent Cheryl Schreier says each parking level also now has an electronic sign providing the number of parking spaces available on that level.

The Rapid City Journal reports that parking fees remain \$10 per vehicle or \$5 for visitors 62 or older. Active-duty military personnel get in free.

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

## **2 people die in weekend house fire in Lead; cause unknown**

LEAD, S.D. (AP) — Two people died in a weekend house fire in Lead.

Firefighters responded to the two-story home shortly after 4:30 a.m. Saturday and found that it was engulfed and the roof had already partially collapsed.

Two bodies were found upstairs, and the home was extensively damaged. The victims were not immediately identified.

Firefighters kept the blaze from spreading to surrounding homes.

Local and state officials are investigating the cause of the fire.

## Sioux Falls police investigate weekend restaurant robbery

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls police are investigating a weekend robbery at a local eatery. Officers were called to Fazoli's Restaurant shortly after 11:30 p.m. Saturday. Authorities say three people had come through the rear door of the business, threatened staff and took an undetermined amount of money from the safe.

Police did not say if the robbers had a weapon. No injuries were reported.

## The Latest: Florida governor says it's too late to evacuate

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — The Latest on Hurricane Michael (all times local):

8 a.m.

Hurricane Michael is strengthening as it races over the Gulf of Mexico approaching a landfall along Florida's Panhandle.

Forecasters say deadly storm surge, catastrophic wind damage and heavy rainfall are imminent.

The National Hurricane Center in Miami says the Category 4 storm has maximum sustained winds of 145 mph (230 kph) and is moving at 13 mph (20 kph).

At 8 a.m., Michael was centered about 90 miles (145 kilometers) southwest of Panama City, with tropical storm force winds already lashing the coast.

The hurricane center says Michael will be the first Category 4 hurricane to make landfall on the Florida Panhandle.

7:45 a.m.

Florida Gov. Rick Scott is warning people in the path of massive Hurricane Michael that it's too late to evacuate.

In a tweet on Wednesday morning, Scott said "If you chose to state in an evacuation zone, you must SEEK REFUGE IMMEDIATELY."

Hurricane Michael grew into a Category 4 storm overnight and officials at the National Hurricane Center in Miami say a storm that strong has never hit the Florida Panhandle.

Meanwhile the Bay County Sheriff's Office warned residents that a "shelter-in-place" order has been issued, and urged everyone to stay off the roads. Sheriff's officials say deputies will continue to respond to calls for now, but that will change as the storm approaches the coastline.

7:15 a.m.

The National Hurricane Center in Miami says Hurricane Michael would be the first Category 4 storm to hit Florida's Panhandle.

In a Facebook post, NHC spokesman Dennis Feltgen said "we are in new territory with now Hurricane Michael and its 130 mph sustained winds."

Feltgen says Bay County is the likely "ground zero" for Hurricane Michael on Wednesday afternoon.

The outer bands of the massive storm are beginning to reach the Gulf Coast. At 7 a.m. the center of the storm was about 105 miles (165 kilometers) south-southwest of Panama City.

A NOAA buoy located some 90 miles south-southwest of Panama City recorded sustained winds of 76 mph (122 kmh) early Wednesday. Forecasters also said a wind gust of 54 mph (87 kph) was reported at Apalachicola Regional Airport.

5:30 a.m.

Some of the worst storm surge from Category 4 Hurricane Michael is expected to hit Florida's Tyndall Air Force Base, which has ordered all non-essential personnel to evacuate.

The National Hurricane Center's latest forecast shows as much as 13 feet of water on top of the usual waves and tides could inundate the base, which is home to more than 600 families and on an island about 12 miles east of Panama City.

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All base residents were ordered to leave when Tyndall moved to "HURCON 1" status as the storm closes in. The base provided transportation but limited families to one large piece of luggage per family and one carry-on piece per person.

Tyndall is home to the 325th Fighter Wing.

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5 a.m.

Hurricane Michael is an extremely dangerous Category 4 storm and still growing stronger as it closes in on the northwest Florida coast.

Reports from an Air Force Reserve Hurricane Hunter aircraft indicate that maximum sustained winds have increased to near 140 mph (220 kph) with higher gusts.

At 5 a.m., the center of the hurricane was bearing down on a stretch of the Florida Panhandle, still about 140 miles (225 kilometers) from Panama City and 130 miles (209 kilometers) from Apalachicola, but moving relatively fast at 13 mph (21 kph). Tropical-storm force winds extending 185 miles (295 kilometers) from the center were already lashing the coast.

Forecasters are warning of life-threatening storm surge, catastrophic wind damage and heavy rainfall as the hurricane moves onshore.

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2:10 a.m.

The National Hurricane Center says Michael has become an extremely dangerous Category 4 storm.

At 2:00 a.m. Wednesday, the eye of Michael was about 180 miles (289 kilometers) south-southwest of Panama City, Florida. It also was about 170 miles (273 kilometers) southwest of Apalachicola, Florida. Hurricane-force winds extend outward up to 45 miles (72 kilometers) from the center and tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 175 miles (281 kilometers).

Michael was expected to become one of the Panhandle's worst hurricanes in memory with a life-threatening storm surge of up to 13 feet (4 meters).

Florida officials said roughly 375,000 people up and down the Gulf Coast had been urged or ordered to evacuate. Evacuations spanned 22 counties from the Florida Panhandle into north central Florida.

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12:30 a.m.

Hurricane Michael is roaring down on the Florida Panhandle, gaining strength so quickly that forecasters expect it to become a Category 4 monster once it slams into the white-sand beaches, fishing villages and coastal communities.

The brute storm that sprang from a weekend tropical depression gained in fury and size just hours ahead of Wednesday's projected midday landfall, packed 125 mph (200 kph) winds as a dangerous Category 3 storm. Forecasters say it's expected to keep strengthening in the final hours before it crashes ashore as potentially one of the worst hurricanes in the region's history.

Florida officials said roughly 375,000 people up and down the Gulf Coast had been urged or ordered to evacuate. Evacuations spanned 22 counties from the Florida Panhandle into north central Florida.

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For more of the latest on Hurricane Michael, visit <https://www.apnews.com/tag/Hurricanes>

## Category 4 Hurricane Michael roars nearer to Florida coast

By JAY REEVES, Associated Press

PANAMA CITY, Fla. (AP) — Michael's leading edge careened onto northwest Florida's white-sand beaches as a still-growing Category 4 hurricane Wednesday, lashing the coast with tropical storm-force winds and rain and pushing a storm surge that could cause catastrophic damage well inland once it makes landfall.

The unexpected brute quickly sprang from a weekend tropical depression and grew swiftly into the worst hurricane in recorded history for this stretch of the Florida coast, carrying destructive wind, up to a foot (30 centimeters) of rain and a life-threatening storm surge of up to 13 feet (4 meters).

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The sheriff in Panama City's Bay County issued a shelter-in-place order before dawn Wednesday, and Florida Gov. Rick Scott tweeted that for people in the hurricane's path, "the time to evacuate has come and gone ... SEEK REFUGE IMMEDIATELY."

At 7 a.m., an Air Force Reserve Hurricane Hunter crew reported top sustained winds up to near 140 mph (225 kph) with higher gusts. Michael's eye was about 105 miles (165 kilometers) from Panama City and 100 miles (160 kilometers) from Apalachicola, but moving relatively fast at 13 mph (21 kph). Tropical-storm force winds extending 185 miles (295 kilometers) from the center were already lashing the coast.

"We are in new territory," National Hurricane Center Meteorologist Dennis Feltgen wrote in a Facebook post Wednesday. "The historical record, going back to 1851, finds no Category 4 hurricane ever hitting the Florida panhandle."

Florida officials said more than 375,000 people up and down the Gulf Coast had been urged or ordered to evacuate.

Only a skeleton staff remained at Tyndall Air Force Base, which is located on a peninsula just south of Panama City. The home to the 325th Fighter Wing and some 600 military families appeared squarely targeted for the worst of the storm's fury, and leaders declared "HURCON 1" status, ordering all but essential personnel to evacuate. The base's aircraft, which include F-22 Raptors, were flown hundreds of miles away as a precaution, a spokesman said in a statement.

Evacuations spanned 22 counties from the Florida Panhandle into north central Florida. But civilians don't have to follow orders, and authorities feared many failed to heed their calls to get out of the way as the hard-charging storm intensified over 84-degree Gulf of Mexico water.

"I guess it's the worst-case scenario. I don't think anyone would have experienced this in the Panhandle," meteorologist Ryan Maue of weathermodels.com told The Associated Press. "This is going to have structure-damaging winds along the coast and hurricane force winds inland."

Maue and other meteorologists watched in real time as a new government satellite showed the hurricane's eye tightening, surrounded by lightning that lit it up "like a Christmas tree."

University of Georgia's Marshall Shepherd, a former president of the American Meteorological Society, called it a "life-altering event," writing on Facebook that he watched the storm's growth on satellite images with a growing pit in his stomach.

Sheriff A.J. Smith in Franklin County, near the vulnerable coast, sent his deputies door to door urging people to evacuate.

"We have done everything we can as far as getting the word out," Smith said. "Hopefully more people will leave."

On the exposed coast of Florida's Big Bend, most of the waterfront homes stood vacant in Keaton Beach, which could get some of the highest water — seas up 9 feet (2.75 meters) above ground level.

"I know it's going to cover everything around here," said Robert Sadousky, who at 77 has stayed through more than four decades of storms.

The retired mill worker took a last look at the canal behind his home, built on tall stilts overlooking the Gulf. He pulled two small boat docks from the water, packed his pickup and picked some beans from his garden before getting out — like hundreds of thousands elsewhere.

The local geography — low-lying land and lots of areas where people live along waterways — means many people living inland could see their homes flooded as Michael makes landfall.

"We don't know if it's going to wipe out our house or not," Jason McDonald, of Panama City, said as he and his wife drove north to safety into Alabama with their two children, ages 5 and 7. "We want to get them out of the way."

Scott had warned of a "monstrous hurricane," and his Democratic opponent for the Senate, Sen. Bill Nelson, described a destructive "wall of water," but some officials didn't see any rush of evacuees ahead of the storm.

"I am not seeing the level of traffic on the roadways that I would expect when we've called for the evacuation of 75 percent of this county," Bay County Sheriff Tommy Ford said Tuesday.



In the dangerously exposed coastal town of Apalachicola, population 2,500, Sally Crown planned to hunker down with her two dogs.

"We've been through this before," she said. "This might be really bad and serious. But in my experience, it's always blown way out of proportion."

Mandatory evacuation orders went into effect in Panama City Beach and other low-lying areas in the storm's path. That included Pensacola Beach but not in Pensacola itself, a city of about 54,000.

Michael will weaken over land but could still spin off tornadoes and dump rain along a northeasterly path over Alabama, Georgia, the Carolinas and Virginia before its remnants head out to sea again. Forecasters said it also could bring 3 to 6 inches of rain, enough to trigger flash flooding in places still recovering from Hurricane Florence.

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Associated Press contributors include Tamara Lush in St. Petersburg; Russ Bynum in Keaton Beach; Jonathan Drew in Raleigh, North Carolina; and Science Writer Seth Borenstein in Kensington, Maryland.

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

## Taylor Swift wins big at AMAs and encourages fans to vote

By MESFIN FEKADU, AP Music Writer

Taylor Swift kicked off her week with a rare political post on social media, and at the American Music Awards she continued the conversation by encouraging fans to vote in the upcoming midterm elections.

Swift won four honors including artist of the year at the fan-voted show on Tuesday in Los Angeles, beating out Drake, Ed Sheeran, Imagine Dragons and Post Malone for the top prize.

"This award and every single award given out tonight were voted on by the people, and you know what else is voted on by the people," she said, "the midterm elections on November 6."

Swift announced on Sunday that she was voting for Tennessee's Democratic Senate candidate Phil Bredesen, breaking her long-standing refusal to discuss anything politics.

Voting was a hot topic at the AMAs. Host and Golden Globe-winning "black-ish" actress Tracee Ellis Ross wore a shirt that said, "I am a voter," and comedian-actor Billy Eichner told the audience, "The biggest election of our lifetime is happening."

"Please grab your friends and tell them to vote. Now is the time. If you believe in equality for women, for people of color, for the LGBTQ community. If you believe that climate change is real and that we need to do something about it," he said onstage before presenting an award.

"And you can go to Vote.org like Taylor Swift told you to," he added.

Swift made history by becoming the most decorated woman in the show's history with a total of 23 AMAs. Despite having the year's top-selling album and three No. 1 hits, Drake didn't win a single award. He did not attend the show but tied Cardi B with most nominations walking into the AMAs.

Swift kicked off the show with a performance of "I Did Something Bad," while Cardi B — who won three honors — picked up the night's first award, favorite hip-hop/rap artist, which she dedicated to her daughter.

"I really want to thank my daughter," said Cardi B, who gave birth to Kulture Kiari Cephus in July. "I gotta prove people wrong. They said I wasn't going to make it after I had a baby."

The rapper hit the stage to give a festive and colorful performance of her No. 1 hit, "I Like It," where she was joined by J Balvin and Bad Bunny, who was wheeled onstage inside a shopping cart. Cardi B's husband, Offset of the rap trio Migos, danced along in the audience with group member Quavo as Cardi B worked the stage with vibrant dance moves, including the salsa.

Cardi B returned the favor, screaming happily when Migos was named favorite pop/rock duo or group, beating out Maroon 5 and Imagine Dragons, later in the show.

"We did not know we was winning this at all," said Quavo, also giving a shout-out to group member Takeoff, who didn't attend the AMAs.

"I want to thank you sexy lady," Offset said, pointing to Cardi B.

Like Cardi B's performance, rising newcomer Ella Mai also won over the crowd when she sang the year's

biggest R&B hit, "Boo'd Up," starting the performance as she walked down the aisle of the Microsoft Theater. Khalid, Quavo and Offset were some of the audience members dancing along, while others sang and some even filmed her with their phones.

Others who shined onstage included R&B singer Ciara, who showed off her skilled dance moves and was joined by a fierce Missy Elliott. Carrie Underwood was in perfect form vocally, and Camila Cabello — who tied Swift with four wins — gave a heartfelt, touching and vocally impressive performance of the ballad "Consequences," earning her a standing ovation.

The three-hour show closed with a rousing tribute to Aretha Franklin, who died in August. Gladys Knight, Ledisi, Mary Mary, Donnie McClurkin and CeCe Winans were among the musicians who paid tribute to the Queen of Soul's gospel roots and her iconic album, "Amazing Grace."

Rapper-singer XXXTentacion, who was fatally shot in June, was also honored: He won favorite soul/R&B album for his 2017 debut, "17." It was days after he was named best new artist at the BET Hip-Hop Awards.

His mother, Cleopatra Bernard, said she was honored to accept the award on behalf of her son. "I'm so nervous," Bernard said as the audience cheered her on.

Kane Brown swept the country categories with three wins, including male artist, album and song.

Post Malone, who wore a baby blue suit and performed, won favorite pop/rock male artist, Underwood was named favorite country female artist and Khalid picked up favorite soul/R&B male artist.

Other performers included Mariah Carey, Jennifer Lopez, Shawn Mendes and twenty one pilots.

## Images surface of Saudis allegedly sent to target writer

By **AYSE WIETING, SUZAN FRASER and JON GAMBRELL, Associated Press**

ISTANBUL (AP) — Turkish media published images Wednesday of an alleged 15-member Saudi "assassination squad" and video of suspicious movements at the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul following journalist Jamal Khashoggi's disappearance a week ago, putting new pressure on the kingdom amid growing international concern for the writer.

Saudi Arabia remained silent as the images, though not offering definitive proof about Khashoggi's fate, played across television networks in Turkey and around the world. Turkish officials fear the team killed Khashoggi, who wrote critically of Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. The kingdom dismisses the allegation as "baseless."

However, Saudi Arabia has offered no evidence to support its contention that the writer left the consulate unharmed and vanished into Istanbul while his fiancée waited impatiently outside. Politicians in the U.S., Riyadh's main ally, have warned that any harm done to the Washington Post contributor will jeopardize America's relations with the world's largest oil exporter.

State-run broadcaster TRT aired video purportedly showing the Saudis arriving by private jet and then leaving a hotel. The footage shows Khashoggi entering the consulate on Oct. 2. An hour and 54 minutes later, according to the time stamp, a black Mercedes Vito with diplomatic license plates, which resembled a van parked outside of the consulate when the writer walked in, drives some 2 kilometers (1.2 miles) to the consul's home, where it parks inside a garage.

The footage all seemed to come from surveillance cameras, which would have been posted throughout the district housing the Saudi consulate and other diplomatic missions. No one has produced any such footage of Khashoggi leaving the consulate.

The Sabah newspaper, which is close to Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, published images of what it referred to as the "assassination squad" apparently taken at passport control. It said they checked into two hotels in Istanbul on Oct. 2 and left later that day.

Turkey's private NTV news channel identified one member of the alleged 15-member team as the head of a Saudi forensic science agency. It alleged he may have been responsible for cleaning up any incriminating evidence. The station did not cite a source for its report.

Khashoggi had written a series of columns for the Washington Post that were critical of Saudi Arabia's

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assertive Prince Mohammed, who has led a widely publicized drive to reform the conservative Sunni monarchy but has also presided over the arrests of activists and businessmen.

Erdogan has not accused Saudi Arabia of being responsible for Khashoggi's disappearance but has said that if the Saudis have footage of him leaving the consulate they should release it. Saudi Arabia is a major investor in Turkey, despite Ankara's support for the Gulf nation of Qatar, which is under a blockade led by Saudi Arabia and three other Arab nations.

Police and investigators in Turkey typically release video and information through state-run or otherwise government-friendly media outlets, as opposed to holding briefings like those common in Western nations.

On Wednesday, the Post published a column by Khashoggi's fiancée, Hatice Cengiz. She said the writer first visited the consulate on Sept. 28 "despite being somewhat concerned that he could be in danger." He later returned Oct. 2 after being promised the necessary paperwork so the two could be married.

"At this time, I implore President Trump and first lady Melania Trump to help shed light on Jamal's disappearance," Cengiz wrote. "I also urge Saudi Arabia, especially King Salman and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, to show the same level of sensitivity and release CCTV footage from the consulate."

She added: "Although this incident could potentially fuel a political crisis between the two nations, let us not lose sight of the human aspect of what happened."

Khashoggi had sought to become a U.S. citizen after living in self-imposed exile since last year, fearing repercussions for his criticism of the prince, Cengiz wrote.

Trump, who took his first overseas trip as U.S. president to the kingdom and whose son-in-law Jared Kushner has close ties to Prince Mohammed, said Tuesday he had not yet talked to the Saudis about Khashoggi, "but I will be at some point," without elaborating.

Turkish Foreign Ministry spokesman Hami Aksoy said Tuesday that Saudi authorities have notified Ankara that they were "open to cooperation" and would allow the consulate building to be searched. It's unclear when such a search would take place.

Embassies and consulates under the Vienna Convention are technically foreign soil and must be protected by host nations. Saudi Arabia may have agreed to the search in order to reassure its Western allies and the international community.

Fraser reported from Ankara, Turkey, and Gambrell reported from Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

## More than 70 years later, an unknown soldier comes home

By ASHRAF KHALIL, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Gerard Murphy never met his uncle Richard. But the Potomac, Maryland, native grew up hearing stories of the former journalist who enlisted in the Marines during World War II and disappeared during the Jan. 15, 1944, amphibious assault on the Pacific island of Saipan.

"This was a mystery in our family for basically my entire life," said Gerard Murphy, a lawyer. "It's bad enough to lose someone in a war. Having them missing in action is an added burden and grief to carry."

That all changed in 2015, when Gerard Murphy was contacted by Ted Darcy, an independent researcher specializing in identifying World War II-era military remains. Darcy, a retired Marine gunnery sergeant, believed he had made a match between Richard Murphy's dental records and the remains of an unidentified Saipan casualty buried in the Philippines as unknown soldier X-15.

Three years and many steps later Richard Murphy's remains are finally coming home. Darcy's efforts resulted in the military disinterring the remains in the X-15 grave and bringing them to Hawaii for genetic testing. Gerard Murphy and one of his cousins provided DNA samples — "basically we spit in a bag" — and the military was able to make a positive match.

Richard Murphy's remains are expected to arrive in late November, where they will be reburied in a cemetery in Silver Spring, Maryland, "right next to his mother," Gerard Murphy said.

A native of Washington, D.C., Richard Murphy graduated from Georgetown University and worked for several years for the Washington Evening Star, an afternoon newspaper that ceased publication in 1981.

When the U.S. entered World War II, Murphy enlisted in the Marines as a combat correspondent, island hopping through the Pacific with American troops.

"He carried his M-1 rifle and his typewriter," Gerard Murphy said. "All my life we heard about Uncle Richard. Having his remains brought home feels really amazing — very spiritual."

Working from his home in Florida, Darcy was able to make the match by comparing dental records from Richard Murphy's enlistment with those of unknown soldier X-15, all supplied for a fee by the National Archives and Records Administration. Darcy said he has dealt with dozens of such cases and often ends up dealing directly with family members — sometimes with divergent reactions to news of a long-dead relative.

"Some are very, very grateful," he said. "Some don't want to be bothered."

Darcy said he has personally helped complete 15 such unknown soldier cases from World War II, a small fraction of the nearly 9,000 unknown soldier cases from that conflict.

His work frequently brings him in contact with the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, or DPAA. Darcy expressed some frustration with the pace of the process on the military's end.

"It took three years for them to decide to disinter (Murphy), go get the body and ship it to Hawaii for DNA testing," Darcy said. "I've got 48 more on my desk right now. How long is it going to take to get them through those?"

Hattie Johnson, a service casualty officer for the Marine Corps, has been handling the Murphy case and said there's a renewed sense of urgency surrounding the World War II cases because "the family members of these soldiers are starting to die off."

The situation is complicated by the relatively primitive nature of the medical and dental records back then, Johnson said. For example, the dental records on file for each American soldier and Marine were essentially done by hand instead of with an X-ray machine.

"Back then, the dentist would literally look into your mouth and manually fill out a chart," she said.

Still, Darcy was able to make that connection using the same records.

"The military said they tried but they couldn't figure it out," he said. "I think they're just overwhelmed."

## Lock her up? Now it's Dianne Feinstein instead of Clinton

By JILL COLVIN and ZEKE MILLER, Associated Press

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Iowa (AP) — Chants of "Lock her up!" rang once again throughout an Iowa arena as President Donald Trump rallied supporters Tuesday night.

But this time, the staple of Trump's 2016 campaign against Democrat Hillary Clinton had a new target: California Sen. Dianne Feinstein.

Trump, who was in the state boosting Republican candidates ahead of the Nov. 6 midterm elections, claimed that Feinstein, the ranking Democratic member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, had leaked a letter written by California professor Christine Blasey Ford alleging Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh had sexually assaulted her when they were teenagers.

Feinstein has denied her office was the source of the leak.

"Can you believe that?" Trump said, as his supporters turned the chant once deployed against the former secretary of state on another Democratic woman.

"Did she leak that? 100 percent," Trump said, adding, "I don't want to get sued, so 99 percent."

In a statement, Feinstein called Trump's remarks "ridiculous and an embarrassment."

Ford had sought to remain anonymous when she brought the allegation against Kavanaugh to Feinstein's attention. She later went public after reporters started trying to contact her. Kavanaugh staunchly denied Ford's accusation.

"Dr. Blasey Ford knows I kept her confidence, she and her lawyers said so repeatedly," Feinstein said. "Republican senators admit it. Even the reporter who broke the story said it wasn't me or my staff."

The rally in Council Bluffs, across the Missouri River from Omaha, Nebraska, was Trump's latest stop on a busy tour campaigning for Republican candidates in the lead-up to midterms that will determine control of Congress. And it comes as the president is on a high wave following a series of wins, including Kava-



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naugh's confirmation. It's the second appointment Trump has made to the Supreme Court.

Indeed, Trump's loudest applause came as he continued his victory lap, which has included bashing Democrats for attempting to sink the nomination. Trump and other GOP leaders say the effort energized Republican voters, who had long been considered less energized than Democrats.

"This is truly an historic week for America," said Trump, praising Republican senators for standing up to what he called "the Democrats' shameful campaign of political and personal destruction" against his nominee.

"They wanted to destroy that man," Trump said. "What the Democrats did to Brett and his family is a national embarrassment, a national disgrace."

Trump also rolled out new fuel standards that will be a boon for Iowa and other farm states that have pushed for greater ethanol sales. The long-expected change will lift the federal ban on summer sales of gasoline with high-ethanol blends and allow them year-round. The EPA currently bans the high-ethanol blend, called E15, during the summer because of concerns that it contributes to smog on hot days. Ethanol industry advocates say that fear is unfounded.

Speaking to a crowd of thousands, Trump said he was delivering a promise he'd made to Iowa voters years ago when he campaigned ahead of the state's caucuses.

"Promises made, promises kept," he said. He charged without offering evidence that if Democrats take control of Congress next month, they will seek to roll back his efforts.

The move was also seen as a reward for Republican Sen. Chuck Grassley of Iowa, the Senate Judiciary Committee chairman who led Kavanaugh's contentious but successful confirmation fight. Trump praised Grassley on Tuesday night as a "tough cookie" as he applauded local leaders including Iowa's Republican Rep. David Young and Gov. Kim Reynolds, who face tough re-election fights.

Trump also boosted Nebraska Rep. Don Bacon and Nebraska Gov. Pete Ricketts, who face voters next month. The pair received loud applause from the heavily Nebraskan crowd.

Early voting in Iowa began on Monday, and Trump urged those gathered to cast their ballots now. "Go! Just vote. Get it over with," he urged.

Early voting accounted for 41 percent of the Iowa vote in 2016, according to the White House.

Miller reported from Washington.

## 10 Things to Know for Today

By The Associated Press

Your daily look at late-breaking news, upcoming events and the stories that will be talked about today:

### 1. MICHAEL INTENSIFIES, ROARS DOWN ON FLORIDA

The Category 4 storm is expected to become one of the panhandle's worst hurricanes in memory with reported 140 mph winds and a life-threatening storm surge of up to 13 feet.

### 2. IMAGES SURFACE OF SAUDIS ALLEGEDLY SENT TO TARGET WRITER

Turkish media publish images of an "assassination squad" allegedly sent to target Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi, and of a black van later traveling from the Saudi consulate in Istanbul, where he went missing, to the consul's home.

### 3. HOW UN AMBASSADORS REACTED TO NIKKI HALEY'S DEPARTURE

Many at the U.N. headquarters express shock, and some sadness and dismay after getting word that the well-liked diplomat would be leaving her post by the end of the year.

### 4. 'IF WE TAKE EDUCATION THEN WE WILL BE ABLE TO LEAD OUR LIFE AS A LIFE'

Rahima Akter is a 19-year-old refugee in a Bangladeshi camp who dreams of becoming the most educated Rohingya woman in the world.

### 5. CANADA TO BECOME LARGEST COUNTRY WITH LEGAL POT SALES

The profound social shift brings the black market into a regulated, taxed system after nearly a century of prohibition failed to stem the drug's prevalence.

## 6. WHO ARE MIA NO LONGER

New technology and more researchers result in a big increase in the identification of remains of service members missing in action from World War II and the Korean War.

## 7. WHAT SUPREME COURT IS WEIGHING

A case before the high court pits the government against immigrants it wants to deport following crimes they have committed in the United States.

## 8. WHO DREW IRE AT TRUMP RALLY

Chants of "Lock her up!" rang again throughout an Iowa arena as the president rallied supporters, but this time there was a new target: California Sen. Dianne Feinstein.

## 9. TAYLOR SWIFT WINS BIG AT AMAs

The "I Did Something Bad" singer won artist of the year and then encouraged fans to vote in the upcoming midterm elections.

## 10. RIVALRY SERIES ENDS IN 4

Craig Kimbrel and the Red Sox hold off the Yankees' ninth-inning rally that ended with a video replay, eliminating New York with a 4-3 victory in Game 4 of the AL Division Series.

## Haley became a popular UN diplomat despite Trump policies

By EDITH M. LEDERER, Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Nikki Haley came to her job as the top U.S. diplomat at the United Nations with no foreign policy experience, but in less than two years she made many friends — even among ambassadors from countries at odds with the Trump administration's policies.

Tuesday's sudden announcement that she was leaving by the end of the year ricocheted through U.N. headquarters like a lightning bolt, with many expressing shock, and some sadness and dismay.

"It was a surprise, not a very pleasant one for me personally," said Russia's U.N. Ambassador Vassily Nebenzia, whose country has clashed with U.S. positions including on Syria, Iran and Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The ambassadors on the powerful U.N. Security Council who worked closely with Haley praised her — a testament to her skills and success as a diplomat — though many of their countries, including America's traditional allies, have serious issues with her government's foreign policy.

When Haley arrived at the U.N. on Jan. 27, 2017, she was the former governor of South Carolina and a novice at international affairs but she wasted no time in announcing a new way the U.S. was going to do business.

The Trump administration's goal was to show U.S. strength, speak out, and defend its allies — and as for countries opposing America, "we're taking names" and will respond accordingly, she said.

Haley has kept to that goal, but she has also honed her diplomatic skills, which were recognized by half a dozen members on the 15-nation Security Council as they headed into a closed meeting Tuesday afternoon on chemical weapons in Syria.

Nebenzia said he and Haley have "good working and personal relations despite all the differences that we were and are having."

"She's a charismatic personality," he said. "She was a friend to all of us, and ... beyond the doors of the Security Council we as a group were very friendly."

Bolivia's U.N. Ambassador Sasha Llorentty Soliz said the Security Council "is like a family — sometimes a dysfunctional family — but nevertheless we care about each other and I really like Nikki very much."

The good personal relations, however, could never mask the sharp differences over a host of issues ranging from U.S. policy toward Syria to Trump's withdrawal from the Iran nuclear deal, the Paris climate agreement and the U.N. Human Rights Council. Washington's decisions to halt to funding for the U.N. agency for Palestinian refugees and to move the U.S. embassy in Israel to Jerusalem also upset some council members.

Llorentty Soliz stressed the separation, echoing Bolivian President Evo Morales, who launched a blistering

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critique of U.S. policy toward Iran, the Mideast and Trump's immigration policies at a Security Council meeting the American president presided over on Sept. 26 during the annual U.N. gathering of world leaders.

Sweden's U.N. Ambassador Olof Skoog said "there are issues that relate to the U.N. where we don't always see eye to eye, but with Nikki there has always been a very close relationship, respectful and very frank."

While Haley's speeches in the council can sometimes "be very strong," he said, council members were often invited to her apartment afterward.

France's U.N. Ambassador Francois Delattre, who met Haley when she was governor of South Carolina and he was ambassador to Washington, said "even though we didn't agree on everything, we had established a particularly close and constructive working relationship based on trust."

"Nikki Haley is one of the most talented, most authentic U.S. government officials that I have ever met," he said.

At a White House event, seated near Trump in the Oval Office, Haley told reporters that her six years as governor followed by nearly two years at the U.N. has been an "intense time, and I'm a believer in term limits."

"I have given everything I've got these last eight years," she said. "I think you have to be selfless enough to know when to step aside and allow someone else to do the job."

Trump told her: "Hopefully, you'll be coming back at some point."

The daughter of Indian immigrants, Haley, who is 46 and not personally wealthy, hinted in her resignation letter to Trump that she is headed to the private sector. She said that as a businessman Trump would appreciate "my sense that returning from government to the private sector is not a step down but a step up."

As for a replacement, Trump told reporters aboard Air Force One he was considering five candidates and a successor would be named in two to three weeks — or maybe sooner. Among those under consideration, Trump said, is former deputy national security adviser Dina Powell.

Trump told reporters he heard his daughter Ivanka Trump's name discussed for the post, but said if he selected her he'd be accused of nepotism, and she later ruled herself out in a tweet.

U.S. Ambassador to Germany Richard Grenell's name has also been floated for the post, but Trump suggested he'd rather keep him in his current post "because he's doing such a good job."

Privately, many diplomats believe Haley will run for president, though she ruled out 2020 on Tuesday without being asked, and pointed to Trump saying she will campaign for him.

"She's young, she's energetic, she's ambitious," Russia's Nebenzia said. "I think we will see her after she has this well-deserved respite that she was referring to" in her remarks at the White House.

## South Korea considers lifting some sanctions on North Korea

By KIM TONG-HYUNG, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korea is considering lifting some of its unilateral sanctions against North Korea to create more momentum for diplomacy aimed at improving relations and defusing the nuclear crisis, the South's foreign minister said Wednesday.

During a parliamentary audit of her ministry, Kang Kyung-wha said the government is reviewing whether to lift sanctions South Korea imposed on the North in 2010 following a deadly attack on a warship that killed 45 South Korean sailors.

South Korea then effectively shut down all cross-border economic cooperation except for a jointly run factory park in the North Korean border town of Kaesong, which was shuttered in February 2016 after a North Korean nuclear test and long-range rocket launch. The so-called "May 24 measures" of 2010 also banned North Korea from using shipping lanes in South Korean territory.

A move by South Korea to lift its unilateral sanctions would have little immediate effect since U.S.-led international sanctions remain in place. But it's clear the South's liberal government is preparing to restart joint economic projects if the larger nuclear negotiations between the United States and North Korea begin yielding results.

"Many parts of the May 24 measures now duplicate with the United Nations sanctions (against North

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Korea)," Kang said. "As negotiations continue to improve ties between the South and North and achieve denuclearization, there's a need to flexibly review (lifting the measures) as long as it doesn't damage the larger framework of sanctions against the North."

South Korean President Moon Jae-in has described inter-Korean engagement as crucial to resolving the nuclear standoff. A large number of South Korean business leaders accompanied Moon last month to Pyongyang, North Korea's capital, where he and leader Kim Jong Un agreed to normalize operations at the Kaesong factory park and resume joint tours to North Korea when possible, voicing optimism the international sanctions could end and allow such projects.

The North and South also announced measures to reduce conventional military threats, such as creating buffer zones along their land and sea boundaries and a no-fly zone above the border. The North also said it would dismantle its main nuclear facility in Nyongbyon if the United States takes unspecified corresponding measures.

Despite the current mood of detente and negotiation between the Koreas, the removal of sanctions will be a difficult decision for Seoul's government.

South Koreans are deeply divided along ideological lines and many people still harbor deep anger over North Korea's 1950 attack that started the Korean War, killing and injuring millions. There has been occasional bloodshed ever since — the 2010 attack on the warship was followed months later by North Korea's shelling of a South Korean border island that killed four and gutted homes.

Kang's comments drew an angry reaction from conservative opposition lawmakers. Chung Jin-suk of the Liberty Korea Party demanded that Moon's government consult with the families of the sailors who died in 2010 before making any decision on sanctions. Kang's ministry later tried to downplay her comments, saying in a statement that no decision was imminent.

During her conversation with lawmakers, Kang described Seoul's unilateral sanctions as a key obstacle in restarting South Korean tourism to the North's Diamond Mountain resort, which was suspended in 2008 following the shooting death of a South Korean woman there.

But the removal of such sanctions wouldn't be enough to get the tours back on, said Koh Yu-hwan, a North Korea expert at Seoul's Dongguk University and a policy adviser to Moon. While U.N. sanctions against North Korea don't ban tourism, they do place strict restrictions on the transfer of funds, he said. Still, the lifting of the 2010 sanctions could offer at least some tangible benefits to the North.

"For North Korea, the most meaningful result from the lifting of the May 24 measures would be that its ships will be able to travel through Jeju Strait again," said Koh, referring to waters between South Korea's mainland and the southern island of Jeju. "This will allow them to save time and fuel."

As part of the agreements reached during Moon and Kim's meetings, a liaison office between the countries opened in Kaesong last month. Seoul's Unification Ministry said Tuesday that water being supplied to the office is being provided to the town's residents as well.

Using a facility that draws from a reservoir near the factory park, South Korea has been pumping 1,000 to 2,000 tons of water to the liaison office and about 15,000 tons to the rest of the city every day, ministry spokesman Baik Tae-hyun said. He said the resumption of the water supply does not violate sanctions.

The closure of the factory park had deprived Kaesong residents of what had been a steady supply of water and electricity. South Korea is providing electricity to the liaison office, but not to the town's residents.

"There are also humanitarian considerations as the residents of Kaesong have to rely on the park's facility for water," Baik said. "This has nothing to do with restarting the Kaesong factory park."

Other moves by the Koreas to reduce tensions include temporary reunions between war-separated relatives and military agreements that call for reducing weaponry and guards at the border and demining sections of the Demilitarized Zone.



## US seeks answers about missing writer from Saudi ally

By MATTHEW PENNINGTON, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Turkish claims that a well-known Saudi writer and government critic was slain inside his country's diplomatic mission in Turkey have put the Trump administration in a delicate spot.

Members of Congress have grown increasingly insistent in recent days that the administration get to the bottom of the disappearance of Jamal Khashoggi, a writer for The Washington Post. He had apparently drawn the wrath of the Saudi government, which has become an ever-closer U.S. ally under President Donald Trump.

Angry lawmakers likely won't cause the administration to turn away from Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. But they could throw a wrench into arms sales that require their approval and demand the U.S. scale back support for the Saudi military campaign against Iran-backed rebels in Yemen.

Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina has warned that if there was any truth to the allegations of wrongdoing by the Saudi government, it would be "devastating" to the U.S.-Saudi relationship. Sens. Chris Coons, D-Del., and Thom Tillis, R-N.C., said the disappearance of the journalist sends a "chilling message" and called for the Saudis to "immediately investigate and verify Jamal's location."

Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., a longtime critic of the Saudi government, went further. He said he'll try to force a vote in the Senate this week blocking U.S. arms sales to Saudi Arabia. He told local radio in his home state that he wants to end the arms shipments if there's "any indication" the Saudis are "implicated in killing this journalist that was critical of them."

Saudi Arabia denies involvement in Khashoggi's disappearance, and the Trump's administration's response has been far more cautious than that coming from Capitol Hill.

The administration has expressed concern but has refused to even to entertain questions about what the consequences would be if Turkish allegations turn out to be true — that the 59-year-old journalist was killed inside the Saudi consulate in Istanbul after entering it on Oct. 2 to get routine paperwork for his marriage while his Turkish fiancé waited outside.

"We don't know what has happened to him. We don't have any information on that," State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert told reporters Tuesday. "That's why I want to say, we don't want to make any judgments about what happened, and we call for a thorough and transparent investigation."

The Washington Post said it has repeatedly asked the Saudi and Turkish governments for information about Khashoggi's whereabouts and has not received any satisfactory answers. "Instead, reports about Jamal's fate have suggested he was a victim of state-sponsored, cold-blooded murder," CEO and publisher Fred Ryan said in a statement late Tuesday. "Silence, denials and delays are not acceptable. We demand to know the truth."

Analysts said there were reasons for skepticism about the Turkish account. Ties between Ankara and Riyadh are at a low point over Turkey's support for Qatar in that country's yearlong dispute with Saudi Arabia and other Gulf nations. Saudi Arabia, a Sunni Muslim power, is also annoyed by Ankara's rapprochement with the kingdom's Shiite archrival, Iran.

The Saudi ambassador to Washington, Prince Khalid bin Salman bin Abdulaziz, described the allegations as "malicious leaks and grim rumors" and said the kingdom is "gravely concerned" about Khashoggi. Saudi officials maintain he left the consulate shortly after entering, although it has failed to provide evidence to support that.

The Trump administration is left with an awkward lack of information about a widely respected writer who had been living in self-imposed exile in the U.S. for the past year after fleeing a crackdown on intellectuals and activists in Saudi Arabia. Nauert said Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and other U.S. diplomats have been engaged on the issue and that Trump himself — he said Tuesday he "knows nothing" about what happened to Khashoggi — intends to speak to the Saudis.

Khashoggi's fiancée asked Trump and first lady Melania Trump to "help shed light" on his disappearance, writing in a column Wednesday in The Washington Post that she remains confident he is still alive while acknowledging "my hope slowly fades away each passing day."

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"I also urge Saudi Arabia, especially King Salman and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, to show the same level of sensitivity and release CCTV footage from the consulate," wrote Hatice Cengiz, who lives in Istanbul.

The Trump administration, from the president on down, is heavily invested in the Saudi relationship. Robin Wright, a scholar at the Wilson Center think tank and close friend of the missing writer, said that's unlikely to change. The administration's Middle East agenda heavily depends on the Saudis, including efforts to counter Iranian influence in the region, fight extremism and build support for its yet-to-be-released plan for peace between Israel and the Palestinians.

Indication of those stakes came within four months of Trump taking office, when Saudi Arabia became his first destination on a presidential trip and he announced \$110 billion in proposed arms sales. Trump heaped praise on Prince Mohammed when he made a three-week visit to the U.S. last March, saying the Saudi king had made a "very wise decision" in choosing the prince to succeed him.

Prince Mohammed, who has ties to Trump's son-in-law and senior adviser, Jared Kushner, has introduced some economic and social reforms, allowing women to drive and opening movie theaters in the deeply conservative Muslim nation. The flip side, however, is that he's also squelched dissent and demonstrated a thin skin when faced with international criticism. He's also championed the destructive three-year military campaign against Iranian-backed Houthi rebels in Yemen that has pushed that nation toward famine and caused many civilian deaths.

Still, the Trump administration last month stood behind its support for that campaign with weaponry, logistics and intelligence, certifying that the Saudis were taken adequate steps to prevent civilian despite mounting evidence to the contrary.

Karen Elliott House, a veteran writer on Saudi affairs and chair of the board of trustees at RAND Corp., said U.S. support for the Yemen war is likely to be the focus of congressional criticism but won't endanger a relationship that has endured for decades, underpinned by shared strategic interests. Even under the Obama administration, which had difficult relations with Riyadh compared with Trump, there were some \$65 billion in completed arms sales.

"The U.S.-Saudi relationship is certainly not about shared moral values," House said. "It's about shared security interests."

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Associated Press writers Susannah George, Matthew Lee and Deb Riechmann contributed to this report.

## Red Sox hold off Yanks in Game 4, face Astros in ALCS

By RONALD BLUM, AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Eduardo Nunez charged Gleyber Torres' four-hopper toward third base and whipped the ball across the diamond. Steve Pearce stretched, falling on his chest for a sprawling catch. The umpire signaled: "Out!"

The Boston Red Sox gathered around exhausted closer Craig Kimbrel, hugging and celebrating after the New York Yankees' two-run rally in the ninth inning fell short.

But wait!

In 21st century baseball, the game doesn't always end when it seems, hanging in limbo until umpires in a downtown Manhattan replay room agree.

A Yankee Stadium crowd of 49,641 wondered and the Red Sox paused as they watched from the infield in suspended celebration, fixated on the center-field video board.

After 63 seconds that felt like a lot longer, crew chief Mike Winters heard the decision, took off his headset, raised his right fist and made it official: The Red Sox beat the Yankees 4-3 Tuesday night to win the AL Division Series 3-1, setting up a postseason rematch with the World Series champion Astros.

"I've been talking about them the whole season, so now we go," said Red Sox rookie manager Alex Cora, Houston's bench coach last year. "Best of seven. They know me. I know them. It should be fun."

J.D. Martinez and the 108-win Red Sox reached the AL Championship Series for the first time since

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Boston won the title in 2013. A year after losing to Houston in a four-game ALDS, the Red Sox open the best-of-seven matchup against the 103-win Astros on Saturday night at Fenway Park. Houston went 4-3 against Boston this year.

"Awesome to clinch this one," Red Sox reliever Matt Barnes said, "but we've got eight more."

A New Jersey native who grew up a Mets fan, Rick Porcello held the Yankees to one run over five innings for his first postseason win in 13 appearances. Barnes and Ryan Brasier followed with a perfect inning each to protect a 4-1 lead.

Red Sox ace Chris Sale told Cora when he arrived at the ballpark that he wanted to pitch, and he followed with a 1-2-3 eighth in a rare relief appearance that extended the Yankees' streak of consecutive outs to 11.

New York had not put a leadoff runner on until Kimbrel, a seven-time All-Star closer, walked Aaron Judge on four pitches leading off the ninth.

Didi Gregorius singled and Giancarlo Stanton struck out, Luke Voit walked on four pitches, and Kimbrel hit Neil Walker on a leg with a next pitch, forcing in a run that made it 4-2.

Gary Sanchez fell behind 0-2 in the count, worked it full and sent a drive that had the crowd roaring only for Andrew Benintendi to catch it on the left-field warning track, a few feet short of a series-tying grand slam.

"I hit it well. But I got under it," Sanchez said through a translator.

Then came Torres' bouncer.

"You never want to give a game back and go to a Game 5, so it's great that we could do it tonight," said Kimbrel, who got his second save of the series.

A night after Boston romped to a record-setting 16-1 rout in a game that included three replay reversals, Martinez, Ian Kinsler and Nunez drove in runs in the third inning off a wobbly CC Sabathia, who took the loss. For the second straight night, Yankees rookie manager Aaron Boone hesitated to remove his starting pitcher early.

When Boone brought in Zach Britton to start the fourth, and Christian Vazquez led off with an opposite-field drive over the short porch in right field for his first career postseason homer.

Not even the presence of 1978 AL East tiebreaker star Bucky Dent for the ceremonial first pitch could inspire the 100-win Yankees, who were outscored 27-14 in the series, including 20-4 in the final two games. New York set a major league record this year for most home runs in a season, but didn't go deep in the two games at Yankee Stadium and hit .214 in the series, which included 3 for 14 by Gregorius, 1 for 15 by Andrew McCutchen and 3 for 15 by Sanchez.

Stanton, New York's big acquisition last offseason, was 4 for 18 (.222) with no RBIs.

"I don't want to experience the postseason. I want to win it all," Stanton said.

Dent's home run over Fenway Park's Green Monster in the 1978 AL East tiebreaker propelled the Yankees to their second straight World Series title, but Boston eliminated its rival in the Bronx in the teams' second straight postseason meeting. In the 2004 ALCS — with Barnes in the crowd as a teen, rooting for the Yankees — the Red Sox became the first big league team to overcome 3-0 postseason deficit, winning the final two games on the road and going on to sweep the World Series for its first title since 1918.

Boston added championships in 2007 and 2013, becoming one of baseball's elite clubs. But the Red Sox were knocked out in the Division Series in 2016 and '17, had not reached the sport's final four since their last title.

A lanky, bearded 29-year-old right-hander, Porcello lived a traffic jam from Yankee Stadium in Chester, New Jersey, and is a 2007 graduate of Seton Hall Prep in West Orange — the baseball field there was renamed in his honor last year after he helped fund artificial turf and pro-style dugouts. The 2016 AL Cy Young Award winner entered with a 0-3 in 12 previous postseason appearances, which included four starts.

He didn't allow a run until a sacrifice fly in the fifth by Brett Gardner, like Sabathia playing perhaps his last game for the Yankees. Aaron Hicks missed a two-run homer by about 4 feet on a foul drive down the right-field line.

Sabathia escaped a bases-loaded jam in the first when Kinsler hit an inning-ending flyout to Gardner in front of the left-field wall. Sabathia nicked Benintendi on the right shoulder with a slider on his first pitch

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of the third, Pearce sliced a cutter into right-center to put runners at the corners and Martinez hit a third-inning sacrifice fly for second straight night, giving him a series-high six RBIs.

With David Robertson starting to warm up, Kinsler hit a two-out double over a leaping Gardner for a 2-0 lead and Nunez singled on the next pitch for his first RBI of the postseason.

New York's starting pitchers allowed 15 runs in 13 innings, and Masahiro Tanaka was the only one to get an out in the fourth — a sign the Yankees may pursue top free-agent pitchers such as Dallas Keuchel and Patrick Corbin.

"I think we're right there knocking on the door," Boone said, "very close to being a championship club right now. We just got to continue to improve on the margins in every facet. Pitching is one of those."

## BEHIND THE PLATE

A night after three of his calls at first base were reversed on video reviews, Angel Hernandez was the plate umpire. Benintendi argued after he was called out on a breaking ball with the bases loaded for the final out of the eighth, a pitch that may have been outside. Sabathia was livid. "I don't think Angel Hernandez should be umpiring playoff games," he said. "He's absolutely terrible. He was terrible behind the plate today. He was terrible at first base." Major League Baseball declined comment, spokesman Mike Teevan said.

More AP baseball: <https://apnews.com/tag/MLBbaseball> and [https://twitter.com/AP\\_Sports](https://twitter.com/AP_Sports)

## Canada set to become largest country with legal pot sales

By **GENE JOHNSON** and **ROB GILLIES**, Associated Press

DELTA, British Columbia (AP) — Mat Beren and his friends used to drive by the vast greenhouses of southern British Columbia and joke about how much weed they could grow there.

Years later, it's no joke. The tomato and pepper plants that once filled some of those greenhouses have been replaced with a new cash crop: marijuana. Beren and other formerly illicit growers are helping cultivate it. The buyers no longer are unlawful dealers or dubious medical dispensaries; it's the Canadian government.

On Oct. 17, Canada becomes the second and largest country with a legal national marijuana marketplace. Uruguay launched legal sales last year, after several years of planning.

It's a profound social shift promised by Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and fueled by a desire to bring the black market into a regulated, taxed system after nearly a century of prohibition.

It also stands in contrast to the United States, where the federal government outlaws marijuana while most states allow medical or recreational use for people 21 and older. Canada's national approach has allowed for unfettered industry banking, inter-province shipments of cannabis, online ordering, postal delivery and billions of dollars in investment; national prohibition in the U.S. has stifled greater industry expansion there.

Hannah Hetzer, who tracks international marijuana policy for the New York-based Drug Policy Alliance, called Canada's move "extremely significant," given that about 25 countries have already legalized the medical use of marijuana or decriminalized possession of small amounts of the drug. A few, including Mexico, have expressed an interest in regulating recreational use.

"It's going to change the global debate on drug policy," she said. "There's no other country immediately considering legalizing the nonmedical use of cannabis, but I think Canada will provide almost the permission for other countries to move forward."

At least 109 legal pot shops are expected to open across the nation of 37 million people next Wednesday, with many more to come, according to an Associated Press survey of the provinces. For now, they'll offer dried flower, capsules, tinctures and seeds, with sales of marijuana-infused foods and concentrates expected to begin next year.

The provinces are tasked with overseeing marijuana distribution. For some, including British Columbia and Alberta, that means buying cannabis from licensed producers, storing it in warehouses and then shipping it to retail shops and online customers. Others, like Newfoundland, are having growers ship directly



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to stores or through the mail.

Federal taxes will total \$1 per gram or 10 percent, whichever is more. The feds will keep one-fourth of that and return the rest to the provinces, which can add their own markups. Consumers also will pay local sales taxes.

Some provinces have chosen to operate their own stores, like state-run liquor stores in the U.S., while others have OK'd private outlets. Most are letting residents grow up to four plants at home.

Canada's most populous province, Ontario, won't have any stores open until next April, after the new conservative government scrapped a plan for state-owned stores in favor of privately run shops. Until then, the only legal option for Ontario residents will be mail delivery — a prospect that didn't sit well with longtime pot fan Ryan Bose, 48, a Lyft driver.

"Potheads are notoriously very impatient. When they want their weed, they want their weed," he said after buying a half-ounce at an illicit medical marijuana dispensary in Toronto. "Waiting one or two three days for it by mail, I'm not sure how many will want to do that."

British Columbia, home of the "B.C. Bud" long cherished by American pot connoisseurs, has had a prevalent marijuana culture since the 1970s, after U.S. draft-dodgers from the Vietnam War settled on Vancouver Island and in the province's southeastern mountains. But a change in government last year slowed cannabis distribution plans there, too, and it will have just one store ready next Wednesday: a state-run shop in Kamloops, a few hours' drive northeast of Vancouver. By contrast, Alberta expects to open 17 next week and 250 within a year.

There is no immediate crackdown expected for the dozens of illicit-but-tolerated medical marijuana dispensaries operating in British Columbia, though officials eventually plan to close any without a license. Many are expected to apply for private retail licenses, and some have sued, saying they have a right to remain open.

British Columbia's ministry of public safety is forming a team of 44 inspectors to root out unlawful operations, seize product and issue fines. They'll have responsibility for a province of 4.7 million people and an area twice as large as California, where the black market still dwarfs the legal market that arrived in January.

Chris Clay, a longtime Canadian medical marijuana activist, runs Warmland Centre dispensary in an old shopping mall in Mill Bay, on Vancouver Island. He is closing the store Monday until he gets a license; he feared continuing to operate post-legalization would jeopardize his chances. Some of his eight staff members will likely have to file for unemployment benefits in the meantime.

"That will be frustrating, but overall I'm thrilled," Clay said. "I've been waiting decades for this."

The federal government has licensed 120 growers, some of them enormous. Canopy Growth, which recently received an investment of \$4 billion from Constellation Brands, whose holdings include Corona beer, Robert Mondavi wines and Black Velvet whiskey, is approved for 5.6 million square feet (520,000 square meters) of production space across Canada. Its two biggest greenhouses are near the U.S. border in British Columbia.

Beren, a 23-year cannabis grower, is a Canopy consultant.

"We used to joke around all the time when we'd go to Vancouver and drive by the big greenhouses on the highway," he said. "Like, 'Oh man, someday. It'd be so awesome if we could grow cannabis in one of these greenhouses.' We drive by now and we're like, 'Oh, we're here.'"

Next to Canopy's greenhouse in Delta is another huge facility, Pure Sunfarms, a joint venture between a longtime tomato grower, Village Farms International, and a licensed medical marijuana producer, Emerald Health Therapeutics. Workers pulled out the remaining tomato plants last winter and got to work renovating the greenhouse as a marijuana farm, installing equipment that includes lights and accordion-shaped charcoal vents to control the plant's odor. By 2020, the venture expects to move more than 165,000 pounds (75,000 kg) of bud per year.

Some longtime illegal growers who operate on a much smaller scale worry they won't get licensed or will get steamrolled by much larger producers. Provinces can issue "micro-producer" licenses, but in Brit-

ish Columbia, where small-time pot growers helped sustain rural economies as the mining and forestry industries cratered, the application period hasn't opened yet.

Sarah Campbell of the Craft Cannabis Association of BC said many small operators envision a day when they can host visitors who can tour their operations and sample the product, as wineries do.

Officials say they intend to accommodate craft growers but first need to ensure there is enough cannabis to meet demand when legalization arrives. Hiccups are inevitable, they say, and tweaks will be needed.

"Leaving it to each province to decide what's best for their communities and their citizens is something that's good," said Gene Makowsky, the Saskatchewan minister who oversees the province's Liquor and Gaming Authority. "We'll be able to see if each law is successful or where we can do better in certain areas."

British Columbia safety minister Mike Farnworth said he learned two primary lessons by visiting Oregon and Washington, U.S. states with recreational marijuana. One was not to look at the industry as an immediate cash cow, as it will take time to displace the black market. The other was to start with relatively strict regulations and then loosen them as needed, because it's much harder to tighten them after the fact.

Legalization will be a process more than a date, Farnworth said.

"Oct. 17th is actually not going to look much different than it does today," he said.

Rob Gillies reported from Toronto. Gene Johnson is a member of AP's marijuana beat team. Follow him at <https://twitter.com/GeneAPseattle>. Find complete AP marijuana coverage at <http://apnews.com/tag/LegalMarijuana>.

## Long after they died, military sees surge in identifications

By SCOTT McFETRIDGE, Associated Press

BELLEVUE, Neb. (AP) — Nearly 77 years after repeated torpedo strikes tore into the USS Oklahoma, killing hundreds of sailors and Marines, Carrie Brown leaned over the remains of a serviceman laid out on a table in her lab and was surprised the bones still smelled of burning oil from that horrific day at Pearl Harbor.

It was a visceral reminder of the catastrophic attack that pulled the United States into World War II, and it added an intimacy to the painstaking work Brown and hundreds of others are now doing to greatly increase the number of lost American servicemen who have been identified.

It's a monumental mission that combines science, history and intuition, and it's one Brown and her colleagues have recently been completing at ramped-up speed, with identifications expected to reach 200 annually, more than triple the figures from recent years.

"There are families still carrying the torch," said Brown, a forensic anthropologist with the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency's lab near Omaha, Nebraska. "It's just as important now as it was 77 years ago."

Officials believe remains of nearly half of the 83,000 unidentified service members killed in World War II and more recent wars could be identified and returned to relatives. The modern effort to identify remains started in 1973 and was primarily based in Hawaii until a second lab was opened in 2012 at Offutt Air Force Base in the Omaha suburb of Bellevue.

With an intensified push, the identifications climbed from 59 in 2013 to 183 last year and at least 200 and possibly a few more this year.

The increase has led to a surge of long-delayed memorial services and burials across the country as families and entire communities turn out to honor those killed.

Joani McGinnis, of Shenandoah, Iowa, said her family is planning a service Friday at the national cemetery in Omaha now that they have finally learned what happened to her uncle, Sgt. Melvin. C. Anderson.

Piecing together bits of history and DNA, the Omaha lab confirmed that remains found in 1946 in Germany were Anderson's and that he died when his tank was hit in the rugged Hurtgen Forest during a battle that lasted for months and left tens of thousands of Americans killed and wounded.

Besides returning the remains, McGinnis said the agency gave her a thick file with details about how he died and how researchers unraveled the mystery.

"I wish my mom and my grandma were here to know all this information," said McGinnis, who recalled a

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framed picture of Anderson that hung in her grandmother's home in Omaha. "My grandmother was very sad about it. She just wanted to know what happened, and she never knew."

In Kentucky, thousands of people lined roads for miles on a steamy August day to see a hearse carrying the remains of Army Pfc. Joe Stanton Elmore from the Nashville, Tennessee, airport to the small city of Albany.

Elmore was reported missing in action in December 1950 after an intense battle at the Chosin Reservoir in Korea and as deceased in 1953, but his great-niece April Speck said even decades later, her family would tell stories of "Joe going off to war and never coming home." Speck said she knew her family would feel a sense of relief that his remains were finally returned, but she didn't realize what it would mean to her community.

"There were people standing out with their signs and there were retired soldiers in their uniforms saluting, and then we get into Albany and it like was a sea of people with all the American flags," she recalled. "The county did an awesome job of showing respect."

The soaring number of identifications followed years of complaints about a cumbersome process, typically resulting in about 60 completed cases annually. Congress responded by setting a goal of 200 identifications annually, and it supported a reorganization and increased funding that saw spending climb from \$80.8 million in the 2010 fiscal year to \$143.9 million in 2018.

The effort now employs about 600 people.

Officials have streamlined the work of determining which remains should be disinterred. Historians focus on where clusters of servicemen died, and examine troop movements and conduct interviews with local residents.

"This work is very different from what most historians do," said Ian Spurgeon, an agency historian in Washington. "This is detective history."

Spurgeon's focus is on battles in Europe and the Mediterranean, with a goal of disinterring 50 service members annually, up from fewer than five.

At Offutt, inside a lab built in a former World War II bomber factory, bones are arranged by type on black-topped tables. In another room, buttons, fabrics, coins and other items found alongside remains are studied for hints about a service member's role or hometown.

DNA is key to identifications, but it can't be extracted from all bones, and without a match from potential relatives, it has little value.

In some cases, lab workers refer to standard chest X-rays of World War II servicemen taken when they enlisted, focusing on the traits of the collarbones shown. An algorithm developed by the University of Nebraska-Omaha helps workers make comparisons of remains in minutes.

For Patricia Duran, the result has been finally learning what happened to her uncle, Army Air Forces Sgt. Alfonso O. Duran, who died in 1944 when his B-24H Liberator bomber was shot down. His remains were disinterred from a grave in Slovenia and identified this spring.

Duran had for years sought information about her uncle's remains, and she said she clutched her cousin's hand while watching him be buried Aug. 22 at Santa Fe National Cemetery, about 50 miles (80 kilometers) from his childhood home in the small mountain community of El Rito, New Mexico.

"We felt such a sense of closure about it because the whole family heard the stories" about him. "We felt we knew Alfonso," she said. "We felt he'd come home."

Follow Scott McFetridge on Twitter at: <https://twitter.com/smcfetridge>

## Democrats warily eye Avenatti's flirtation with 2020 bid

By JULIE PACE, KEN THOMAS and STEVE PEOPLES, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Michael Avenatti held court last month with a dozen Democratic strategists in the main dining room at The Palm — a see-and-be-seen table at one of Washington's most prominent power lunch spots.

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Avenatti did most of the talking. While he offered few details about how he planned to raise enough money or hire the staff to run a presidential campaign, one participant and another person briefed on the lunch said he cast himself as one of the few Democrats who knows how to go head-to-head with President Donald Trump. The sources requested anonymity because they weren't authorized to publicly discuss details of the meeting.

Avenatti's brash confidence is being closely watched by Democrats in Washington and key political battleground states with a mix of intrigue and trepidation. Trump's victory over more experienced politicians in the 2016 campaign has reshaped traditional views of who would make a viable presidential candidate. Yet some party leaders are worried about trying to replicate Trump's approach by backing another untested and unpredictable candidate — a concern that was heightened after Avenatti's involvement in the recent Supreme Court confirmation fight.

Still, Avenatti has so far managed to stand out among the senators, governors and mayors expected to vie for the Democratic presidential nomination. Early state operatives are offering him advice, and he's sold out Democratic Party dinners in Iowa and New Hampshire. He's scheduled to be in South Carolina this weekend, and has another trip to New Hampshire planned on Oct. 22.

Raymond Buckley, a veteran New Hampshire Democratic strategist, said ticket sales for a recent Hillsborough County Democratic Party fundraiser tripled within 48 hours after Avenatti was announced as the featured guest.

"There is great interest in him," said Buckley, who met with the high-profile attorney. "I take everybody seriously. Donald Trump has taught us all a lesson. It is a mistake to be dismissive of anybody."

But Avenatti has suddenly found himself on the defensive over his role in the acrimonious Supreme Court confirmation fight for Brett Kavanaugh, raising questions about whether his relentless self-promotion could backfire before a presidential campaign ever gets off the ground.

After two women came forward with allegations of sexual misconduct against Kavanaugh, Avenatti revealed that he was representing a third accuser, Julie Swetnick. In a signed declaration, Swetnick said she witnessed Kavanaugh engage in sexually inappropriate behavior.

In the same statement, Swetnick said she had been the victim of gang rape — an explosive allegation that garnered significant attention, even though she never accused Kavanaugh of the crime. Avenatti's promise to provide people to corroborate Swetnick's account never materialized. He says he tried to bring more information to the FBI, but the bureau never investigated.

Republican congressional aides say Avenatti's involvement helped turn momentum back toward Kavanaugh. When the deciding vote on the nomination, Republican Sen. Susan Collins of Maine, announced that she was supporting Kavanaugh, she cited Swetnick's "outlandish allegation" and said it was "put forth without any credible supporting evidence."

Democrats quickly found themselves having to answer for Avenatti's actions. During an early-voting rally in Iowa Monday, New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker responded to questions about Avenatti's client by stressing the validity of the other two accusers, Christine Blasey Ford and Deborah Ramirez.

"What is obvious to most Americans, I think, is you have Dr. Ford and Ramirez come forward with credible claims," said Booker, another Democratic weighing a presidential run.

Avenatti said he's seen no drop in interest in his potential presidential prospects since he jumped into the confirmation fight, and cast the criticism of him as an inevitable response to his presidential prospects.

"It is being stoked by the Republicans and establishment Democrats that are very nervous about what my intentions are," Avenatti said. "This is a direct response to individuals coming to the conclusion that I am a threat."

To questions about his fundraising and planning, Avenatti said that he has not been providing details at introductory meetings, but stressed that he has donors lined up should he run and said that "we are going to have no problem raising money." He also said he is hearing from people who are "very enthusiastic" about joining the campaign.

Avenatti's uneven handling of the Kavanaugh allegations was a stark contrast to his role representing



Stormy Daniels, the porn star who says she had sex with Trump and was paid by the president's lawyer to keep quiet. While Trump and attorney Michael Cohen initially denied Daniels' claims, details of the payment have been verified during court proceedings. Avenatti became a media fixture in the process, spending hours a day racing from one television studio to the next.

His interest quickly shifted from taking on Trump in the courtroom to challenging him in the presidential election. On Monday, Avenatti formally launched a federal political action committee, The Fight PAC, giving him the ability to support Democratic candidates up and down the ballot, pay for political travel and build a list of supporters. The PAC will not accept money from corporate PACs.

Avenatti's PAC is being advised by Tracy Austin, a Los Angeles-based fundraiser who has helped several California Democrats, including Gavin Newsom, Antonio Villaraigosa and Xavier Becerra; Stephen Solomon, a digital media strategist; and Adam Parkhomenko, an aide to Hillary Clinton's 2016 campaign and the Ready for Hillary PAC that preceded her campaign.

During his visits to Iowa and New Hampshire, the first two contests on the presidential calendar, Avenatti has also sought out local consultants and party leaders familiar with the caucus and primary races. During a trip to Iowa in August, Avenatti was joined by Matt Paul, an Iowa-based former strategist to Clinton, and Jeff Link, a longtime adviser to former Sen. Tom Harkin.

Avenatti's handling of the Kavanaugh confirmation fight was met with a mixed reaction in the early presidential voting states.

Steve Shurtleff, the top Democrat in the New Hampshire state house, said Avenatti's promotion of his client may have undermined the credibility of Kavanaugh's other accusers.

"If there was any other attorney connected to that woman, it might have helped avoid the three-ring circus it became," said Shurtleff, who said he doesn't see Avenatti as a viable presidential contender.

But Iowa Democrat Randy Brown, who hosted Avenatti at a Democratic fundraiser in August, said the prominent lawyer's involvement may have helped energize some voters who may not have normally paid attention to the confirmation process.

"It fired them up more," said Brown, chairman of the Iowa Wing Ding fundraiser.

As for the impact on Avenatti's presidential prospects, Brown said the lawyer was simply "doing what he does best — getting his name out there."

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Peoples reported from Manchester, New Hampshire. Associated Press writers Thomas Beaumont in Des Moines, Iowa, and Catherine Lucey in Washington contributed to this report.

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Follow Julie Pace at <http://twitter.com/jpaceDC>, Ken Thomas at <http://kthomasDC> and Steve Peoples at <http://twitter.com/sppeoples>

## Supreme Court considering case on detention of immigrants

By JESSICA GRESKO, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — An immigration case before the Supreme Court pits the government against immigrants it wants to deport following crimes they have committed in the United States.

The issue in the case has to do with when federal law gives immigration authorities the ability to hold immigrants in custody and deny them a hearing to argue for their release while they try to avoid being deported. The case before the justices Wednesday involves mostly long-term green card holders who have been convicted of a broad range of crimes that make them eligible to be deported.

Immigration law says that noncitizens convicted of certain crimes should be detained when they are released from federal or state custody and then held while an immigration court decides whether or not they should be deported.

But those affected by the law aren't always detained immediately and are sometimes not detained until years later. One of the lead plaintiffs in the case is Mony Preap, a lawful permanent resident of the United States since 1981. He has two convictions for possession of marijuana and was released from custody in

2006. But he wasn't taken into immigration custody until 2013.

Preap and others in his position, who are represented by the American Civil Liberties Union, argue that if they're not promptly detained after being released from custody and are instead picked up at some later date, their detention isn't mandatory. They say in that case they're entitled to a hearing to argue to an immigration judge that they aren't a danger to the community and are not likely to flee. If a judge agrees, they can then be released on bond. That's the same hearing rule that applies to other noncitizens the government is trying to deport.

The Trump administration argues, as the Obama administration did, against any hearing for former inmates affected by the law. The government says their detention is mandatory regardless of when they are picked up.

In Preap's case, which is a class-action lawsuit brought in California, and a similar class-action lawsuit brought in the state of Washington, courts found the government had to provide bond hearings. The San Francisco-based U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit agreed. Other appeals courts have sided with the government in similar cases. Preap has since won his deportation case.

The case is 16-1363 Nielsen v. Preap.

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Follow Jessica Gresko on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/jessicagresko>

## Trump says he may pick new UN ambassador this month

By **ZEKE MILLER, DEB RIECHMANN and JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — In the latest shake-up for President Donald Trump's turbulent administration, U.N. Ambassador Nikki Haley abruptly announced she is resigning at the end of the year, raising questions about who will fill the key national security post and about the outspoken diplomat's own political ambitions.

Trump later told reporters he was considering five candidates for Haley's job, and that a successor would be named in two to three weeks — or maybe sooner.

Among those under consideration, Trump said, is former deputy national security adviser Dina Powell. The Goldman Sachs executive and former Bush administration official is a close ally of Trump's daughter Ivanka Trump and son-in-law, Jared Kushner — both senior White House aides.

The news of Haley's departure blindsided some key U.S. allies and many congressional Republicans involved in foreign policy matters. And it came less than a month before congressional elections, thwarting White House efforts to project an image of stability, with the loss of one of the highest-profile women in the administration at a time when women's votes are being vigorously pursued.

But Haley, the first female governor of South Carolina, has often been an unpredictable and independent force in the Trump administration. At times she has offered strikingly different perspectives on world events from her more isolationist-minded boss.

A smiling Haley announced her decision at an Oval Office meeting alongside the president, bringing up her own political prospects even as she underscored her continued support for Trump. Without prompting from reporters, she said she had no plans to run for president "in 2020" and would campaign for Trump.

Trump told reporters that he has heard Ivanka Trump's name discussed for the post, adding she'd be "incredible," but said if he selected her he'd be accused of nepotism.

In a tweet, the presidential senior adviser praised Haley, saying Trump will "nominate a formidable replacement for Ambassador." She added: "That replacement will not be me."

U.S. Ambassador to Germany Richard Grenell's name has also been floated for the post, but Trump suggested he'd rather keep him in his current post "because he's doing such a good job."

Haley, who is 46 and not personally wealthy, hinted in her resignation letter to Trump that she is headed to the private sector. She has one child in college and another approaching college age, and she has the potential to make much more money in the business world.

"I have given everything I've got these last eight years," she said, referring to her six years as governor as well as her time at the U.N. "And I do think it's good to rotate in other people who can put that same

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energy and power into it.”

White House officials had sought to put a hold on Trump’s record-setting turnover in the run-up to the Nov. 6 elections, with aides being asked months ago to step down or commit to stay through Election Day to avoid adding to a sense of turmoil.

The prospect of post-midterm changes continues to hang over the West Wing, and Haley’s exit was one that has been discussed, according to a senior administration official not authorized to publicly discuss private conversations.

A number of officials speculated that the timing was meant to preserve the ambassador’s own political future. A post in the Trump administration has proven to be a rickety stepping-stone to either lucrative private sector work or hopes for higher office, and the risk to those ambitions might only increase after the elections if Democrats make significant gains in Congress.

Trump said Haley first discussed leaving with him six months ago. The senior official noted that their conversation coincided with the appointments of Mike Pompeo as secretary of state and John Bolton as national security adviser in an earlier upending of top foreign policy officials. Haley had expressed some frustration that her voice had been diminished as the two men became the aggressive new faces of Trump’s international policy, the official said.

More recently, there was the awkward moment at the U.N., when Trump’s boasting of American economic strength under his leadership brought laughter at a General Assembly session. He insisted later that the delegates were laughing with him, not at him.

The six-month timeline also coincides with a high-profile spat between Haley and the White House in April, when she drew the president’s ire for previewing in a television appearance the administration’s planned imposition of a new round of sanctions on Russia. When the sanctions never materialized, White House officials said the plans had changed without Haley being briefed, and economic adviser Larry Kudlow suggested she was confused.

“I don’t get confused,” Haley said in a sharply worded response to the West Wing.

Haley was appointed to the U.N. post in November 2016 and last month coordinated Trump’s second trip to the United Nations, including his first time chairing the Security Council.

At the U.N., she helped spearhead the administration’s efforts to combat what it alleged to be anti-American and anti-Israel actions by the international body, including the U.S. decision to leave the Human Rights Council and to stop funding the U.N. agency for Palestinian Refugees.

Haley also secured three successively tougher Security Council sanction resolutions against North Korea — which the administration has credited with bringing Kim Jong Un to the negotiating table — and an arms embargo against South Sudan. But under Haley’s tenure at the U.N., the U.S. has faced strong opposition from Russia when it comes to addressing the 7-year-old war in Syria, and frustration from European allies over reimposing nuclear sanctions against Iran.

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Lemire reported from New York. Associated Press writers Matthew Lee in Washington, Edith M. Lederer at the United Nations, Jill Colvin from Omaha, Nebraska, and Meg Kinnard in Columbia, South Carolina, contributed to this report.

## **APNewsBreak: Chilling call made to wife of ex-Interpol boss**

**By JOHN LEICESTER and GILLIAN WONG, Associated Press**

LYON, France (AP) — The call came at night and was chilling.

“You listen, but you don’t speak,” the man on the other end said. “We’ve come in two work teams, two work teams just for you.”

In her first one-on-one interview since her husband’s disappearance in China, the wife of the former head of Interpol described the threatening phone call that prompted authorities in the French city where the international law enforcement agency is headquartered to place her under police protection.

French authorities are still trying to determine whether China did indeed, as the mysterious caller men-

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aced, dispatch agents to get to Grace Meng, the wife of Meng Hongwei. But she has good reason to be fearful: Speaking out about the fate of her high-profile husband risks China's ire and, she said, is putting her "in great danger."

However, she hopes that doing so will help other families in similar circumstances.

"He has disappeared for so long and nobody has given me any information or told me where he has gone. This is very common now in China," she told The Associated Press during an interview. "I feel like I have a responsibility to stand up. Only when you've been through this much pain can you understand that even more people have been suffering."

Meng Hongwei — who was China's vice minister of public security while also leading Interpol — vanished while on a trip to China late last month. A long-time Communist Party insider with decades of experience in China's sprawling security apparatus, the 64-year-old is the latest high-ranking official to fall victim to a sweeping purge against allegedly corrupt or disloyal officials under President Xi Jinping's authoritarian administration.

Speaking to the AP late Monday at a hotel in Lyon, the French city where she lives and Interpol is based. Grace Meng said she had put their two boys to bed when she got the threatening call. It was one week after her last contact with her husband. On Sept. 25, he sent her from China an emoji of a knife — suggesting to her he was in danger.

The man who called her on her mobile phone spoke in Chinese, she said. She said the only clue he gave about his identity was saying that he used to work for Meng, suggesting that the man was part of China's security apparatus. He also said he knew where she was.

"Just imagine: My husband was missing, my kids were asleep, all my other phones weren't working, and that was the only call I got. I was so frightened," she said.

By speaking out about her husband's fate, she has taken a step practically unheard of in Chinese politics, where such moves are seen as confrontational.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry did not immediately respond to a request for comment late Tuesday in Beijing.

Chinese authorities said Monday that Meng Hongwei is being lawfully investigated for taking bribes and other crimes that were a result of his "willfulness." Hours earlier, Interpol said Meng had resigned as the international police agency's president. It was not clear whether he did so of his own free will.

His wife suggested that the bribery accusation is just an excuse for a lengthy detention.

"As his wife, I think he's simply incapable of this," she said. She said she would be willing to make their bank accounts public.

She refused to provide her real name to the AP, saying she was too afraid for the safety of her relatives in China. It is not customary for Chinese wives to adopt their husbands' names. Mrs. Meng said she has done so now to show her solidarity with her husband. Her English name, Grace, is one she has long used, she said.

A French judicial official, speaking on condition of anonymity, confirmed to the AP that police are investigating the threat against her, but said the probe has yet to determine whether there were indeed Chinese teams sent to Lyon.

China's move to go after the Interpol president, an official with international standing, was unusually audacious even for an administration that under Xi's leadership has sought to assert its interests more aggressively on the global stage.

Poland's interior minister, Joachim Brudzinski, told AP on the sidelines of a ministerial meeting in Lyon Tuesday that he disapproved of Beijing's conduct. Brudzinski thinks it shows China believes it can act with impunity "in an ostentatious way, without limit."

Grace Meng wouldn't speculate on why her husband may have fallen out of favor, saying he had stayed above the secrecy-shrouded world of factional party politics.

She described her husband as a man of modest beginnings, the fifth of six children whose parents were school teachers. He rose through the ranks based on his own merit, she said, and remained an idealist



who longed to see the rule of law established in China.

Tearfully, she said she hasn't yet been able to tell their young sons about his detention.

China's beleaguered rights activists point out that as someone with a seat atop the country's powerful public security apparatus, Meng has helped build the opaque system of largely unchecked power wielded by the ruling Communist Party to which he's now fallen victim.

"Once an issue becomes political, there is no law. This has happened even to Meng Hongwei himself," said Hu Jia, a Beijing-based rights activist who is frequently placed under house arrest for his critical comments. "If his wife weren't in France and speaking to the media, his case would have been locked in a black box."

Earlier this year Chinese officials established the National Supervision Commission, a party-led anti-corruption agency empowered to detain suspects for up to six months and to operate independent of the Cabinet, courts and prosecutors.

"If Meng Hongwei weren't an Interpol chief, people would have no idea what kind of a police empire China has become," said Hu, the activist.

Wong reported from Beijing.

## Limo driver's family believes he was given an unsafe vehicle

By MICHAEL HILL, Associated Press

SCHOHARIE, N.Y. (AP) — Relatives of the limousine driver involved in a crash that killed 20 people in upstate New York said Tuesday they believe he was unwittingly assigned an unsafe vehicle.

The family of Scott Lisinicchia released a statement through a lawyer shortly after another attorney representing the limousine company, Prestige Limousine, said the driver might have been unfamiliar with the rural road.

Lisinicchia was driving the limousine that ran through a stop sign Saturday at the bottom of a T-intersection on a rural road 25 miles west of Albany. Two pedestrians and all 18 people in the limo celebrating a woman's birthday died.

The statement from Lisinicchia's lawyer said he would never have "knowingly put others in harm's way" and cautioned against jumping to conclusions.

"The family believes that unbeknownst to him he was provided with a vehicle that was neither roadworthy nor safe for any of its occupants," according to the statement from Grant & Longworth.

Prestige Limousine has been criticized for maintaining vehicles rife with violations and for employing a driver lacking a commercial license. The deadly crash also has shined fresh light on the business owner, a former FBI informant.

The limousine that ran the stop sign was cited for code violations Sept. 4, including a problem with the antilock brake system malfunction indicator system. Four of the Gansevoort, New York-based company's limos were cited for 22 maintenance violations this year, though none were deemed critical.

"Those safety issues had been addressed and corrected," attorney Lee Kindlon, who represents Prestige, told CBS News in a segment Tuesday. "Not all infractions are major. A lot of these things are minor and were fixed."

State Department of Transportation spokesman Joseph Morrissey said a sticker was placed on the vehicle after the September inspection declaring it "unserviceable." He said Kindlon's assertion that the code violations had been corrected and the vehicle cleared for service was "categorically false."

Even if the repairs were made, the limo would have needed to be re-inspected and the owner would need approval again to transport passengers, a state transportation department spokesman said.

Kindlon said he doesn't think those infractions contributed to the crash.

Kindlon told the Times Union of Albany that the driver might have misjudged his ability to stop at the bottom of the long winding hill.

"I think he came up over that hill unfamiliar with territory," Kindlon said. "I think the state has been warned

about that intersection for years and the Department of Transportation is just looking to point a finger.”

One of the victims, Erin McGowan, texted a friend saying the party bus that was supposed to take them to Cooperstown had broken down on the way to pick them up and that the group obtained a stretch limo instead, the friend, Melissa Healey, told The New York Times. McGowan texted that the limo was in poor condition, with its motor “making everyone deaf.”

The limousine, built from a 2001 Ford Excursion, ran the stop sign, crossed three lanes of traffic and hit a parked SUV before stopping in a wooded ditch.

Federal transportation records show that Prestige is owned by Shahed Hussain, who worked as an informant for the FBI after the Sept. 11 attacks. He infiltrated Muslim groups by posing as a terrorist sympathizer in at least three investigations.

State police say Shahed Hussain is in Pakistan.

On Monday his son, Nauman Hussain, who has operated the limo company, met with state police investigators for several hours, according to the Albany newspaper.

Kindlon declined to comment on the interview to the newspaper. He did not return calls seeking comment from The Associated Press.

In 2014, Nauman Hussain and his brother were accused by police of insisting they were each other after a traffic stop. Nauman Hussain was the passenger, but had a valid license. His brother did not. Police later discovered Nauman had an extensive suspension and conviction list which had been cleared, according to the Times Union.

Prestige’s address is listed as a modest motel outside Saratoga Springs that is owned by Hussain, according to tax records.

Nearby residents complained to town code enforcement officials several times in recent years about the condition of Hussain’s property.

In spring 2017, the state health officials shut down the motel and its low-income residents were forced to temporarily move out after a sewer line failed. The owner claimed a disgruntled former tenant sabotaged the infrastructure, but a building inspector blamed the problem on improper fittings and lack of support for the waste lines.

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Associated Press writers Chris Carola in Albany and Michael Balsamo in New York contributed to this report.

## Trump rally crowd chants ‘Lock her up!’ about Sen. Feinstein

By JILL COLVIN and ZEKE MILLER, Associated Press

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Iowa (AP) — Chants of “Lock her up!” rang once again throughout an Iowa arena as President Donald Trump rallied supporters Tuesday night.

But this time, the staple of Trump’s 2016 campaign against Democrat Hillary Clinton had a new target: California Sen. Dianne Feinstein.

Trump, who was in the state boosting Republican candidates ahead of the Nov. 6 midterm elections, claimed that Feinstein, the ranking Democratic member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, had leaked a letter written by California professor Christine Blasey Ford alleging Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh had sexually assaulted her when they were teenagers.

Feinstein has denied her office was the source of the leak.

“Can you believe that?” Trump said, as his supporters turned the chant once deployed against the former secretary of state on another Democratic woman.

“Did she leak that? 100 percent,” Trump said, adding: “I don’t want to get sued, so 99 percent.”

In a statement, Feinstein called Trump’s remarks “ridiculous and an embarrassment.”

Ford had sought to remain anonymous when she brought the allegation against Kavanaugh to Feinstein’s attention. She later went public after reporters started trying to contact her. Kavanaugh staunchly denied Ford’s accusation.

“Dr. Blasey Ford knows I kept her confidence, she and her lawyers said so repeatedly,” Feinstein said.

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"Republican senators admit it. Even the reporter who broke the story said it wasn't me or my staff."

The rally in Council Bluffs, across the Missouri river from Omaha, Nebraska, was Trump's latest stop on a busy tour campaigning for Republican candidates in the lead-up to midterms that will determine control of Congress. And it comes as the president is on a high wave following a series of wins, including Kavanaugh's confirmation. It's the second appointment Trump has made to the Supreme Court.

Indeed, Trump's loudest applause came as he continued his victory lap, which has included bashing Democrats for attempting to sink the nomination. Trump and other GOP leaders say the effort energized Republican voters, who had long been considered less energized than Democrats.

"This is truly an historic week for America," said Trump, praising Republican senators for standing up to what he called "the Democrats' shameful campaign of political and personal destruction" against his nominee.

"They wanted to destroy that man," Trump said. "What the Democrats did to Brett and his family is a national embarrassment, a national disgrace."

Trump also rolled out new fuel standards that will be a boon for Iowa and other farm states that have pushed for greater ethanol sales. The long-expected change will lift the federal ban on summer sales of gasoline with high-ethanol blends and allow them year-round. The EPA currently bans the high-ethanol blend, called E15, during the summer because of concerns that it contributes to smog on hot days. Ethanol industry advocates say that fear is unfounded.

Speaking to a crowd of thousands, Trump said he was delivering a promise he'd made to Iowa voters years ago when he campaigned ahead of the state's caucuses.

"Promises made, promises kept," he said. He charged without offering evidence that if Democrats take control of Congress next month, they will seek to roll back his efforts.

The move was also seen as a reward for Republican Sen. Chuck Grassley of Iowa, the Senate Judiciary Committee chairman who led Kavanaugh's contentious but successful confirmation fight. Trump praised Grassley on Tuesday night as a "tough cookie" as he applauded local leaders including Iowa's Republican Rep. David Young and Gov. Kim Reynolds, who face tough re-election fights.

Trump also boosted Nebraska Rep. Don Bacon and Nebraska Gov. Pete Ricketts, who face voters next month. The pair received loud applause from the heavily Nebraskan crowd.

Early voting in Iowa began on Monday, and Trump urged those gathered to cast their ballots now. "Go! Just vote. Get it over with," he urged.

Early voting accounted for 41 percent of the Iowa vote in 2016, according to the White House.

Miller reported from Washington.

## Marijuana backers look for Midwest breakthrough in November

By DAVID EGGERT, Associated Press

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — Backers of broad marijuana legalization are looking to break through a geographic barrier in November and get their first foothold in the Midwest after a string of election victories in Northeastern and Western states.

Michigan and North Dakota, where voters previously authorized medical marijuana, will decide if the drug should be legal for any adult 21 and older. They would become the 10th and 11th states to legalize so-called recreational marijuana since 2012, lightning speed in political terms.

Meantime, Missouri and Utah will weigh medical marijuana, which is permitted in 31 states after voters in conservative Oklahoma approved such use in June. Even if Utah's initiative is defeated, a compromise reached last week between advocates and opponents including the Mormon church would have the Legislature legalize medical marijuana.

"We've kind of reached a critical mass of acceptance," said Rebecca Haffajee, a University of Michigan assistant professor of health management and policy. She said the country may be at a "breaking point" where change is inevitable at the federal level because so many states are in conflict with U.S. policy that

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treats marijuana as a controlled substance like heroin.

"Generally, people either find a therapeutic benefit or enjoy the substance and want to do so without the fear of being a criminal for using it," Haffajee said.

Two years ago, voters in California approved a ballot measure creating the world's largest legal marijuana market. Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Colorado and Nevada are other Western states with legal marijuana for medical and personal uses. On the other side of the country, Massachusetts, Maine, Vermont and Washington, D.C., have legalized recreational marijuana, and every other Northeastern state has approved medical marijuana.

In Michigan, surveys show the public's receptiveness to marijuana legalization tracks similarly with nationwide polling that finds about 60 percent support, according to Gallup and the Pew Research Center.

The Washington-based Marijuana Policy Project was the driving force behind successful legalization initiatives in other states and has given at least \$444,000 for the Michigan ballot drive.

"The electorate is recognizing that prohibition doesn't work. There's also a growing societal acceptance of marijuana use on a personal level," said Matthew Schweich, the project's deputy director.

"Our culture has already legalized marijuana. Now it's a question of, 'How quickly will the laws catch up?'" added Schweich, also the campaign director for the Michigan legalization effort, known as the Coalition to Regulate Marijuana Like Alcohol.

Midwest voters have considered recreational legalization just once before, in 2015, when Ohio overwhelmingly rejected it. Supporters said the result was more back lash against allowing only certain private investors to control growing facilities than opposition to marijuana.

Proponents of Michigan's measure say it would align with a new, strong regulatory system for medical marijuana businesses and add roughly \$130 million annually in tax revenue, specifically for road repairs, schools and municipalities. Military veterans and retired police officers are among those backing legalization in online ads that were launched Tuesday.

Critics say the Michigan proposal is out of step and cite provisions allowing a possession limit of 2.5 ounces (71 grams) that is higher than many other states and a 16 percent tax rate that is lower. Opponents include chambers of commerce and law enforcement groups along with doctors, the Catholic Church and organizations fighting substance abuse.

Randy Richardville, a former Republican legislative leader and spokesman for the opposition group Healthy and Productive Michigan, said adults — even those without serious health problems — already can easily obtain pot under the state's lax medical marijuana law. The ballot proposal, he said, would lead to a more "stoned" workforce, car crashes and crimes, and increased health risks for teens.

"This has nothing to do with a citizens' initiative with a whole bunch of people out there that said they would like to smoke marijuana recreationally and responsibly," Richardville said. "This is a special interest group that put up a lot of dollars so that they can sacrifice our kids' futures to make more money."

Dr. Donald Condit, an orthopedic surgeon in Grand Rapids who is helping lead physicians' opposition, said few doctors see a problem with, for example, terminal cancer patients using marijuana to ease their pain.

But people should think harder about full legalization because marijuana is becoming "very, very potent" and "this stuff could hit the teenage developing brain like a ton of bricks," he said.

Backers counter that teens' use of marijuana has not increased in states that already have approved recreational use and point to the drug's other benefits, like as a safer substitute for painkillers amid the deadly opioid epidemic.

"It'll take the scourge of the old days when drug dealers sold heroin and crack and methamphetamines and marijuana — it was all lumped together" said Stu Carter, who owns Utopia Gardens, a medical marijuana shop in Detroit. "Now we can pull that away from that illegal drug world and make it much safer for the consumer."

In North Dakota, legalization faces an uphill battle. No significant outside supporters have financed the effort, which comes as the state still is setting up a medical marijuana system voters approved by a wide margin two years ago.



The medical marijuana campaign in predominantly Mormon Utah, which has received \$293,000 from the Marijuana Policy Project, was jolted last week when Gov. Gary Herbert said he will call lawmakers into a special postelection session to pass a compromise deal into law regardless of how the public vote goes.

Medical marijuana also is on the ballot in Missouri and while the concept has significant support, voters may be confused by its ballot presentation.

Supporters gathered enough signatures to place three initiatives before voters. Two would change the state constitution; the third would amend state law. If all three pass, constitutional amendments take precedence over state law, and whichever amendment receives the most votes would overrule the other.

An organizer of one amendment, physician and attorney Brad Bradshaw, said it is unclear if having three initiatives could split supporters so much that some or all of the proposals fail.

"A lot of people don't really even have this on the radar at this point," he said. "They're going to walk into the booth to vote and they're going to see all three of these and say, 'What the heck?' You just don't know how it's going to play out."

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Associated Press writers Brady McCombs in Salt Lake City, James MacPherson in Bismarck, North Dakota, and Jim Salter in St. Louis contributed to this report.

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Follow David Eggert on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/DavidEggert00> . His work can be found at <https://apnews.com/search/David%20Eggert> . Find complete AP marijuana coverage at <http://apnews.com/tag/LegalMarijuana>.

## Treasure hunters doubt FBI's word on dig for Civil War gold

By MICHAEL RUBINKAM, Associated Press

DENTS RUN, Pa. (AP) — Surrounded by dozens of stone-faced FBI agents on a frigid winter's day, Dennis and Kem Parada stared down at the empty hole and knew something wasn't right.

The father-son duo spent years combing this bit of Pennsylvania wilderness with high-end metal detectors, drills and other tools to prospect for a fabled cache of Civil War gold. They felt certain they'd discovered the hiding place of the long-lost booty, leading the FBI to the mountainous, heavily wooded area last March.

Now, at the end of the court-sanctioned excavation, the FBI escorted the treasure hunters to the snow-covered site and asked them what they saw. They gazed at the pit. Not so much as a glimmer of gold dust, let alone the tons of precious metal they said an FBI contractor's instruments had detected.

"We were embarrassed," Dennis Parada told The Associated Press in his first interview since the well-publicized dig last winter. "They walk us in, and they make us look like dummies. Like we messed up."

Since that day, however, neighbors' accounts of late-night excavation and FBI convoys have fueled suspicions the agency isn't telling the whole truth. The Paradadas are challenging the FBI's account of the dig, insisting that something had to have been buried in the woods near Dents Run, about 135 miles (220 kilometers) northeast of Pittsburgh.

That something, they believe, was gold.

"After my years of experience here using equipment, there was something here, something here of value, some kind of precious metal. And whatever it is, it's gone now. And that's what I want to get to the bottom of, is what was in that hole," Kem Parada said.

Federal investigators insisted a few days after leaving the site that the search came up empty, adding cryptically that its work there was related to an "ongoing investigation." The FBI declined to comment further, and a bureau spokeswoman told the AP last week that court documents related to the dig are sealed.

The dispute between the Paradadas and the FBI is the latest chapter in a mystery that has persisted for more than a century and a half. As the story goes, around the time of the 1863 Battle of Gettysburg, the Union Army sent a shipment of gold from Wheeling, West Virginia, to Philadelphia. The wagon train took a circuitous route through the wilds of northern Pennsylvania so as to avoid Confederate troops. Along the way, the gold was either lost or stolen.

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The legend has inspired generations of treasure hunters to take to the thick woods of northwestern Pennsylvania — including Dennis and Kem Parada, who spent five years digging in a cave on state land, and two more years drilling atop the cave, before going to the FBI in January with their evidence.

The Paradas showed agents how their sophisticated metal detector lit up like crazy when aimed at the spot where they believed the gold was hidden. Within a month, they said, the FBI had hired an outside firm to conduct an underground scan using a device called a gravimeter. The scan identified a large metallic mass with the density of gold, according to the Paradas and Warren Getler, an author and journalist who's been working with them.

So it was with great anticipation that father, son and Getler arrived at the dig site March 13. But nothing went as planned.

The treasure hunters and Getler said they had an agreement with the FBI to watch the excavation. Officers instead confined them to their car — out of sight of the wooded hillside where a backhoe was digging — for six hours that first day before they were finally allowed up the hill. The digging proceeded for another hour before an agent called an abrupt halt at 3 p.m., saying the team was cold, tired and hungry and it would be getting dark soon. They were just 3 feet from the target.

"I said, 'You've got three hours of daylight and we're only 3 feet away,'" Dennis Parada recalled. He said the agent replied, "Denny, we're going, we're going."

Whether the FBI actually left the woods that afternoon is itself an open question.

Cheryl Elder, who lives nearby, told AP she heard what sounded like a backhoe and jackhammer at least until 2 a.m. — the noisy machinery keeping her awake and annoying her because she had to rise early for work — and she saw that the hillside was brightly lit.

"It was just real loud all night," the former constable recalled. "It was driving me nuts."

The second day of the excavation was similar to the first, according to the Paradas and Getler. They said they were confined to their car for several hours, then escorted up the hill to the dig site — by then a large, empty hole. The FBI had finished the excavation out of their presence, they said.

The Paradas said they were cheated of a moment they had spent years working for.

"You can only dig the gold up once, and that's a historical moment. And here we were robbed of all that," Dennis Parada said. "I don't understand why they played that game on us."

After the Paradas and Getler had left, Elder said, she saw a half-dozen black SUVs at the site. One by one, she said, they backed up to the bottom of the hill and rendezvoused with one of several all-terrain utility vehicles. Elder tried using her binoculars, but couldn't make out what investigators were transferring from the ATVs to the SUVs.

Even so, "I know they found gold," she declared. "I know they found it, and they're being sneaky."

Heather Selle, who lives in nearby Weedville, said she was getting her kids ready for school on the morning of the second day when she spied a convoy of FBI vehicles driving past — including two large armored trucks.

"There was too many people involved, there was too much hush-hush, and there's been too much seen," said still another resident, Garrett Osche, whose garage was used as a staging ground for the FBI's initial foray to the Dents Run area weeks before the dig. "Why do you close the road down if you're not loading something out? If you're not sneaking something, why do you need to do what they did?"

If Union gold was indeed recovered from the woods, the discovery of a historic and extremely valuable trove of federal property on state-owned land would almost certainly touch off a court battle over who owns it, and whether the Paradas are entitled to a cut. Bill Cluck, their lawyer, said it would be a novel case for the courts, "a law professor's dream final exam."

According to the legend, the lost shipment had either 26 gold bars or 52 bars, each weighing 50 pounds (23 kilograms), meaning it would be worth about \$25 million or about \$50 million today. The Paradas and Getler say the government contractor's scan detected a much larger quantity of precious metal — 7 to 9 tons — an eye-popping haul that could be worth more than \$250 million if every ounce of it was gold.

In May, Cluck filed a Freedom of Information Act request for documents on the FBI's investigation into

the legendary gold. The agency demurred, claiming it had no files it could share. Cluck appealed to Republican U.S. Sen. Pat Toomey for help, and, a few weeks ago, the Justice Department ordered the FBI to do a more thorough review. If the bureau determines there are documents it can turn over after all, it could still take months or years to reach that point.

"There was definitely some kind of precious metal based on the readings of the instruments at the site," Cluck said. "The fact they wouldn't let them be there for the dig, it's suspicious as hell and it doesn't have to be."

## Being killed for their work is growing risk for journalists

By DAVID BAUDER, AP Media Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Journalists are familiar with the risks of reporting from war-torn lands, but the recent death or disappearance of three people in Turkey, Bulgaria and Mexico illustrates the growing dangers to reporters targeted for practicing their craft.

Authorities in Turkey are searching for Jamal Khashoggi, a contributor to The Washington Post who has been missing since walking into the Saudi Arabian consulate last week in Istanbul. There are concerns that Khashoggi, who has written critically of the Saudi regime, may have been killed there.

Elsewhere, Bulgarian national radio reported an arrest Tuesday in the death of television reporter Viktoria Marinova, host of a show that reported on the alleged misuse of European Union funds by a Bulgarian building company.

And in Mexico this past week, journalist and activist Sergio Martinez Gonzalez was shot and killed by two people on a motorcycle as he ate breakfast with his wife at a cafe.

The Committee to Protect Journalists reports that 43 journalists have been killed in the line of their work so far in 2018. Last year, there were 46 deaths for all of 2017. The numbers aren't that unusual and, in fact, have been higher: 73 in 2015 and 2013, 74 in 2012, the committee said.

What's different is the way they are losing their lives. At least 27 journalists have been individually slain so far this year, compared with eight losing their lives in the crossfire of violent conflicts, CPJ said. Of all the journalists killed since 1992, 848 were individually killed and 1,322 were lost in crossfire, CPJ said.

"Conflict deaths are one thing, targeted assassinations another," said Bruce Shapiro, executive director of the Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma at Columbia University.

Similarly alarming is the spread of slayings into Europe, as opposed to countries like Mexico, where drug violence has made journalism risky for years, said Robert Mahoney, CPJ deputy executive director.

Besides Marinova's death in Bulgaria, Jan Kuciak was found shot to death in Slovakia after investigating tax fraud among people close to the ruling party. In Malta, investigative reporter Daphne Caruana Galizia was killed after reporting frequently on government corruption for her blog.

"There are crooks everywhere you look now," she wrote right before her death. "The situation is desperate."

The killing of five staff members at the Capital Gazette in Annapolis, Maryland, by a gunman in June brought the threat home to the United States. Meanwhile, the United Nations has been involved in seeking the release from prison in Myanmar of Wa Lone and Kyaw Soe Oo, Reuters reporters who had been investigating the killing of 10 Rohingya Muslim men and boys.

"It's safe to say there is a pervasive worldwide threat directed to journalists and a perceived immunity for attacks," Shapiro said. "And I think that's very dangerous."

The European cases appear to speak to the power of oligarchs involved in shady activities who act across borders without consequences, he said.

While careful not to place blame on President Donald Trump, experts say his attacks on the press as the "enemy of the people" have a corrosive effect that is noticed around the world. Journalists who may not have felt physical danger often find themselves the targets of threats and harassment online.

"We are conditioned to expect the United States to speak up for press freedom around the world and to defend it, not to belittle the press," Mahoney said.

Journalism organizations have recognized the threat and have taken steps to protect reporters, the experts said.

"If there is an upside to this, I think that people who stand for democratic values are beginning to understand that scapegoating journalists and scapegoating the media is a step toward authoritarianism," Shapiro said.

## UN's Nikki Haley to leave in latest Trump shake-up

By ZEKE MILLER, DEB RIECHMANN and JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — In the latest shake-up for President Donald Trump's turbulent administration, U.N. Ambassador Nikki Haley abruptly announced Tuesday she is resigning at the end of the year, raising fresh questions about the Trump team and about the outspoken diplomat's own political ambitions.

The news blindsided some key U.S. allies and many congressional Republicans involved in foreign policy matters. And it came less than a month before congressional elections, thwarting White House efforts to project an image of stability, with the loss of one of the highest-profile women in the administration at a time when women's votes are being vigorously pursued.

But Haley, the former South Carolina governor, has often been an unpredictable and independent force in the Trump administration. At times she has offered strikingly different perspectives on world events from her more isolationist-minded boss.

A smiling Haley announced her decision at an Oval Office meeting alongside the president, bringing up her own political prospects even as she underscored her continued support for Trump. Without prompting from reporters, she said she had no plans to run for president "in 2020" and would campaign for Trump.

Haley, who is 46 and not personally wealthy, hinted in her resignation letter to Trump that she is headed to the private sector.

"I have given everything I've got these last eight years," she said, referring to her six years as governor as well as her time at the U.N. "And I do think it's good to rotate in other people who can put that same energy and power into it."

Trump was asked why the announcement was made now since Haley is staying until the end of the year. Instead of answering directly, he recounted how she has had to work on tough issues, such as Iran and North Korea.

White House officials had sought to put a hold on Trump's record-setting turnover in the run-up to the Nov. 6 elections, with aides being asked months ago to step down or commit to stay through Election Day to avoid adding to a sense of turmoil.

Still, the prospect of post-midterm changes continues to hang over the West Wing, and Haley's exit was one that has been discussed, according to a senior administration official not authorized to publicly discuss private conversations.

A number of officials speculated that the timing was meant to preserve the ambassador's own political future. A post in the Trump administration has proven to be a rickety stepping-stone to either lucrative private sector work or hopes for higher office, and the risk to those ambitions might only increase after the elections if Democrats make significant gains in Congress.

Trump said Haley first discussed leaving with him six months ago. The senior official noted that their conversation coincided with the appointments of Mike Pompeo as secretary of state and John Bolton as national security adviser in an earlier upending of top foreign policy officials. Haley had expressed some frustration that her voice had been diminished as the two men became the aggressive new faces of Trump's international policy, the official said.

More recently, there was the awkward moment at the U.N., when Trump's boasting of American economic strength under his leadership brought laughter at a General Assembly session. He insisted later that the delegates were laughing with him, not at him.

The six-month timeline also coincides with a high-profile spat between Haley and the White House in April, when she drew the president's ire for previewing in a television appearance the administration's



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planned imposition of a new round of sanctions on Russia. When the sanctions never materialized, White House officials said the plans had changed without Haley being briefed, and economic adviser Larry Kudlow suggested she was confused.

"I don't get confused," Haley said in a sharply worded response to the West Wing.

Haley was appointed to the U.N. post in November 2016 and last month coordinated Trump's second trip to the United Nations, including his first time chairing the Security Council.

A rookie to international politics, the former South Carolina governor was an unusual pick for to be U.N. envoy. "It was a blessing to go into the U.N. every day with body armor," Haley said, saying her job was to defend America on the world stage.

At the U.N., she helped spearhead the administration's efforts to combat what it alleged to be anti-American and anti-Israel actions by the international body, including the U.S. decision to leave the Human Rights Council and to stop funding the U.N. agency for Palestinian Refugees.

Haley also secured three successively tougher Security Council sanction resolutions against North Korea — which the administration has credited with bringing Kim Jong Un to the negotiating table — and an arms embargo against South Sudan. But under Haley's tenure at the U.N., the U.S. has faced strong opposition from Russia when it comes to addressing the seven-year-old war in Syria, and frustration from European allies over reimposing nuclear sanctions against Iran.

Trump told reporters aboard Air Force One he was considering five candidates for Haley's job and that a successor would be named in two to three weeks — or maybe sooner. Among those under consideration, Trump said, is former deputy national security adviser Dina Powell. Trump told reporters that he has heard his daughter Ivanka Trump's name discussed for the post, but said if he selected her he'd be accused of nepotism.

In a tweet, the presidential senior adviser and eldest daughter praised Haley, saying Trump will "nominate a formidable replacement for Ambassador."

She added: "That replacement will not be me."

U.S. Ambassador to Germany Richard Grenell's name has also been floated for the post, but Trump suggested he'd rather keep him in his current post "because he's doing such a good job."

The daughter of Indian immigrants, Haley clashed with then-candidate Trump during the 2016 campaign, denouncing "the siren call of the angriest voices" that disrespected America's immigrants. Trump tweeted that "The people of South Carolina are embarrassed by Nikki Haley."

Haley has one child in college and another approaching college age, and she has the potential to make much more money in the business world. She reported owing between \$500,000 and \$1 million on financial disclosures filed as part of her nomination to be U.S. ambassador to the United Nations. The debts included a personal mortgage of between \$250,001 and \$500,000, according to the report with the Office of Government Ethics.

Before she was named by Trump to her U.N. post, Haley was elected the first female governor of South Carolina. She was re-elected in 2014. As governor, she developed a national reputation as a racial conciliator who helped lead the effort to bring down the Confederate flag at the Statehouse and helped guide the state through one of its darkest moments, the massacre at a black church.

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Lemire reported from New York. Associated Press writers Matthew Lee in Washington, Edith M. Lederer at the United Nations, Jill Colvin from Omaha, Neb., and Meg Kinnard in Columbia, South Carolina, contributed to this report.

## Officials: 4 people remain missing in West Texas flooding

By JAMIE STENGLE, Associated Press

DALLAS (AP) — Crews in swift-water boats on Tuesday patrolled a 35-mile stretch of a West Texas river for four people who went missing after a recreational vehicle park was overrun by raging floodwaters a day earlier.

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"There's a lot of brush, there's a lot of tree line, so they're slowing down and hopefully if there's anybody that's hung up on a bank or in a tree, they can at least hear them," said Texas Game Warden Rachel Kellner, who added that a drone was also expected to help in the search.

Rains that brought more than 12 inches of rain to the area beginning Sunday night caused the South Llano River to rise in Junction, about 140 miles (225 kilometers) west of Austin. The floodwaters early Monday swept away people staying at the South Llano River RV Park, prompting dramatic air and water rescues.

Emergency crews looked for the four missing people on Monday, but abandoned the search as darkness fell and more rain set in. The search resumed Tuesday morning with rainy skies clearing by early afternoon.

Kellner said Tuesday that the four missing are one woman and three men. Officials on Monday said all four missing were men. Kellner said there were no other people known to be missing.

Officials on Monday were initially able to rescue dozens from the RV park by throwing them life jackets or ropes. But then the water got too high and they needed helicopters and boats for the rescues. Fifteen people were rescued by boat and four by helicopter, including, Kellner said, two people and a dog plucked from a tree. One woman, she said, floated about 18 miles (28 kilometers) down the river on debris before being rescued. She only sustained cuts and bruises.

Kellner said boats looking for the missing people are patrolling from the location of the RV park on the South Llano River in Junction downstream to the Mason County line. The South Llano River connects with the North Llano River in Junction, becoming the Llano River.

Jake Gosschalk, a spokesman for the Texas A&M Forest Service, said that as search efforts continue, about 50 people with the Texas Military Department — which includes national guardsmen — are on their way to walk the area by the river.

National Weather Service meteorologist Mike Decker says the next chance of rain in the area will be on Friday.

Associated Press reporters Ken Miller in Oklahoma City and Ryan Tarinelli in Dallas contributed to this report.

## Want election results? On West Coast, patience is required

By RACHEL LA CORTE, Associated Press

OLYMPIA, Wash. (AP) — If control of the U.S. House comes down to any of the competitive congressional races in Washington state and California, the nation might have to wait days to learn the outcome.

In both of those states, voters can put their ballots in the mail as late as Election Day, meaning the final votes do not typically reach election officials until several days later.

"I could see a scenario where we're waiting a week or so to get results," said Todd Donovan, a political science professor at Western Washington University. "The unfortunate thing is, you take longer and people are going to think something wrong is going on, when in fact, when you take longer, you're more likely to have more accurate results."

Washington is one of just three states that conduct all elections by mail, and it's the only one of those three that allows ballots to be postmarked on Election Day. The system usually leaves about half of the vote outstanding at the end of the night, making it impossible to quickly determine the winner of close races.

In California, which has more than half a dozen competitive races in GOP-held districts, voters have the option of balloting by mail. Those ballots too must be postmarked by Election Day and received no later than three days after that. In past elections, some close California races have not been called for days. In its June primary, more than 67 percent of Californians voted by mail.

Ballots in Washington state will be mailed to voters next week. Three of the state's 10 U.S. House races are being watched nationally as Democrats eye potential gains that could determine control of the chamber. The party needs a net gain of 23 seats nationwide to win back the House.

According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, 37 states and the District of Columbia offer some type of early voting, and 27 states and D.C. offer "no-excuse" absentee voting.

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While more than 20 states allow certain elections to be held by mail, only Washington, Oregon and Colorado conduct all elections by mail. Colorado and Oregon both require that ballots — whether they are mailed or dropped off — be received by elections officials no later than Election Day in order to be counted.

Washington state's 39 counties all post their initial results after 8 p.m. on election night. Many counties do daily updates after that, but because of the number of steps involved in ballot verification — including sorting, signature verification and assessment of ballots for extraneous marks — the updates can feel painfully slow for candidates locked in close races and the media organizations covering them.

"Fast is good, and I guarantee you that there's nothing more that the counties want than to get the results out quickly," said Washington Secretary of State Kim Wyman. "But it's more important to make sure that they're accurate."

King County, by far the state's most populous, is the largest of five counties voting in the 8th Congressional District, a closely watched open seat where Republican Dino Rossi and Democrat Kim Schrier are vying to replace retiring Republican Rep. Dave Reichert. Republican-held seats in the state's 5th and 3rd Districts, in eastern Washington and southwestern Washington, are also being fiercely contested by Democrats this year.

Julie Wise, King County's elections director, said she and her staff are ready for what will be a busy week. "There's no system that is perfect, but vote-by-mail is the strongest type of election system in the country," she said. "We have a paper trail for everything."

During the 2016 general election, more than 1 million ballots were cast in King County. The county posted results for over 615,000 ballots on election night, and about 30,000 the following day.

Wise said that a new tabulation system that came online in 2017 has helped increase the number of meaningful results they can post in the days after the election.

For the August primary, the county posted over half of the 557,000 votes cast on election night. With the new system, the day-after update increased to 45,000 ballots.

But it still takes about a day to go through the entire process, so the bulk of ballots that are brought in from across the county's drop boxes on election night, in addition those still arriving via mail, will not be reflected immediately.

Even states like Colorado, where ballots must be in by Election Day, instantaneous results are not guaranteed.

Lynn Bartels, a spokeswoman for the Colorado Secretary of State, said that even with that firm deadline, mailed ballots require more time because of the procedures that need to be followed to process them.

"It's not like you pull a lever and it all gets tabulated," she said.

Washington's system ensures that the state's voters are not disenfranchised by mail delays and allows them to consider their options longer, Wise said.

"I think we have a better democracy when we have more people participating," she said. "If we have to wait a day or two longer than others, I think that's well worth it."

## US student detained in Israel over alleged boycott support

By ISABEL DEBRE, Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — In a groundbreaking case, Israel has detained an American graduate student at its international airport for the past week, accusing her of supporting a Palestinian-led boycott campaign against the Jewish state.

The case highlights Israel's concerns about the boycott movement and the great efforts it has made to stop it. The grassroots campaign has made significant inroads in recent years, particularly among university students and millennials.

Lara Alqasem, a 22-year-old U.S. citizen with Palestinian grandparents, landed at Ben-Gurion Airport last Tuesday with a valid student visa. But she was barred from entering the country and ordered deported, based on suspicions she is a boycott supporter.

An Israeli court has ordered that she remain in custody while she appeals. The weeklong detention is

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the longest anyone has been held in a boycott-related case, and it was not immediately clear on Tuesday when a final decision would be made.

In the meantime, she has been spending her days in a closed area with little access to a telephone, no internet and a bed that was infested with bedbugs, according to people who have spoken to her.

Alqasem, from the Fort Lauderdale suburb of Southwest Ranches, Florida, is a former president of the University of Florida chapter of Students for Justice in Palestine. The group is a branch of the BDS movement, whose name comes from its calls for boycotts, divestment and sanctions against Israel.

BDS supporters say that in urging businesses, artists and universities to sever ties with Israel, they are using nonviolent means to resist unjust policies toward Palestinians. Israel says the movement masks its motives to delegitimize or destroy the Jewish state.

"Lara served as president of a chapter of one of the most extreme and hate-filled anti-Israel BDS groups in the U.S.," said Strategic Affairs Minister Gilad Erdan, who spearheads the Israeli government's efforts against the boycott movement. "Israel will not allow entry to those who work to harm the country, whatever their excuse."

The ministry said that during Alqasem's involvement with Students for Justice in Palestine, the club advocated a boycott against Sabra hummus, an Israeli-owned brand of chickpea dip.

On Tuesday, Erdan floated a possible compromise, saying in a radio interview that he would rethink his decision to expel her if she apologizes and renounces her support for BDS.

"If Lara Alqasem will tomorrow in her own voice, not through all kinds of lawyers or statements that can be misconstrued, say that support for BDS is not legitimate and she regrets what she did, we will certainly reconsider our position," he said.

Israel enacted a law last year banning any foreigner who "knowingly issues a public call for boycotting Israel" from entering the country. It also has identified 20 activist groups from around the world whose members can be denied entry upon arrival. It so far has blocked 15 people from entering, according to Erdan's ministry.

The ministry uses a variety of sources to identify BDS activists, including tips from informants and social media posts. The ministry says its suspicions were deepened after learning that Alqasem recently deleted all of her social media accounts.

In her appeal, Alqasem has argued that she never actively participated in boycott campaigns, and promised the court that she would not promote them in the future.

"We're talking about someone who simply wants to study in Israel, who is not boycotting anything," said her lawyer, Yotam Ben-Hillel. "She's not even part of the student organization anymore."

Alqasem is registered to study human rights at Israel's Hebrew University in Jerusalem. The university has thrown its support behind her, announcing on Monday it would join Alqasem's appeal.

She also received a boost from her former Hebrew professor at the University of Florida, who described her as an exceptional and curious student. In a letter to the Israeli newspaper Haaretz, Dror Abend-David said she had an "open and positive attitude toward Judaism, Jews, and the State of Israel."

In an interview from Florida, her mother, Karen Alqasem, affirmed her daughter's tolerance and intellectual drive.

"Studying and getting to know the country was Lara's dream for as long as I can remember," she told The Associated Press. "She may have been critical of some of Israel's policies in the past but she respects Israeli society and culture. To her, this isn't a contradiction."

Karen Alqasem said her daughter graduated from the University of Florida in May with degrees in Arabic and international studies and studied Hebrew with hopes of becoming a lawyer.

She said the Israeli government is exaggerating her daughter's involvement in the university student group, saying she only belonged to it for a semester. She said her daughter has never made any threats against Israel and is not religious.

"She is being treated like a criminal but she is not a criminal," she said.

Her lawyer and a group of opposition lawmakers have visited Alqasem and say she is in safe, but subpar, conditions.



In a conversation with her daughter last Friday, Alqasem said Lara complained of a bedbug infestation in her cell. With her phone confiscated and communication mostly restricted to calls with her lawyer, Lara has felt "completely cut off from the world," she said.

The United States Embassy said it has visited Alqasem in detention to ensure that she has food and water. In Washington, State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert said the government is aware of the case, but "ultimately, it is up to the government of Israel to decide who it wants to let into the country."

Mossi Raz, an opposition lawmaker who visited her, said she told him that without books or any forms of entertainment, she spends her time talking with other women being held in the same cell for various visa-related issues.

In addition to the anti-BDS campaign, Israel has detained or interrogated a number of vocal Jewish critics, both Israeli and foreign, about their political views while entering the country in recent months. These tactics, along with legislation curbing the influence of anti-occupation advocacy groups, have raised concerns that the nationalist government is trying to stifle dissent.

The Strategic Affairs Ministry says it deals only with BDS cases. The Shin Bet, which oversees security procedures at border crossings, says it stops people only over security matters, not their political views.

Susannah George in Washington and Terry Spence in Fort Lauderdale, Florida contributed reporting.

## Gecko butt-dials 'bazillion' times from Hawaii seal hospital

By JENNIFER SINCO KELLEHER, Associated Press

HONOLULU (AP) — If you got incessant phone calls last week from a hospital that cares for Hawaiian monk seals, you were butt-dialed.

Or, more specifically, foot-dialed.

By a gecko.

Marine mammal veterinarian Claire Simeone was at lunch when she got a call from Ke Kai Ola, the Big Island hospital where she's director. There was silence on the other end. Nine more silent calls followed. Fearing a seal emergency, she rushed back.

She wasn't the only one getting calls, and people started asking why the hospital was calling non-stop.

Trying figure out why a "bazillion" calls were made from one line, she called the phone company and a rep tried to talk her through finding a possible line on the fritz. She walked into a lab and found the culprit. The gecko was perched on a phone, making calls to everyone in the recent call history with "HIS TINY GECKO FEET," she wrote in a Twitter thread the next day, detailing the saga.

Social media delighted in the tale and some people offered jokes about a certain company's gecko calling to save you money on your car insurance.

After discovering the mystery caller, Simeone caught the gecko and put it outside on a plant, she said Tuesday.

"If there's a little gecko that helps us share the story of conservation, then that's a win," she said of the work she does caring for the endangered seals. "I think people needed a little pick me up with the news cycle."

## Asian shares mixed in muted trading amid growth worries

By YURI KAGEYAMA, AP Business Writer

TOKYO (AP) — Asian shares were mixed in muted trading Wednesday amid continuing worries about trade tensions and slowing global economic growth.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 slipped 0.2 percent to 23,414.43 in early trading, while Australia's S&P/ASX 200 inched up nearly 0.1 percent to 6,045.00. South Korea's Kospi lost 0.9 percent to 2,234.50. Hong Kong's Hang Seng added 0.5 percent to 26,298.74, while the Shanghai Composite fell 0.2 percent to 2,716.91.

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**WALL STREET:** The Dow Jones industrial average fell 56.21, or 0.2 percent, to 26,430.57, and the Nasdaq composite added 2.07, or less than 0.1 percent, to 7,738.02.

**JAPAN MACHINERY:** Data for Japan's machinery orders for August released Wednesday showed a robust increase, boosting optimism about the economy holding up. Core machinery orders rose a seasonally adjusted 6.8 percent from the previous month, according to the data.

**GLOBAL WORRIES:** The International Monetary Fund has downgraded its forecast for global economic growth in its latest report, citing higher interest rates and ongoing trade battles. The IMF said the global economy will grow 3.7 percent this year, the same as in 2017, but down from its earlier forecast of 3.9 percent. The IMF also cut its forecast for Chinese economic growth in 2019 to 6.2 percent, which would be its slowest since 1990.

**THE QUOTE:** "This has weighed on risk sentiment amid worsened relations between China and the U.S. over hardware hack allegations," said Zhu Huani at Mizuho Bank in Singapore, referring to the IMF report. "Increasing degree of distrust between the two could further complicate already frosty trade talks."

**ENERGY:** U.S. crude fell 30 cents to \$74.66 a barrel. Brent crude, the international standard, dropped 17 cents to \$84.83 a barrel.

**CURRENCIES:** The dollar slipped to 113.03 Japanese yen from 113.21 yen late Tuesday. The euro rose to \$1.1511 from \$1.1437.

Follow Yuri Kageyama on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/yurikageyama>

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## Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, Oct. 10, the 283rd day of 2018. There are 82 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 10, 1973, Vice President Spiro T. Agnew, accused of accepting bribes, pleaded no contest to one count of federal income tax evasion, and resigned his office.

On this date:

In 1845, the U.S. Naval Academy was established in Annapolis, Maryland.

In 1911, Chinese revolutionaries launched an uprising which led to the collapse of the Qing (or Manchu) Dynasty and the establishment of the Republic of China.

In 1913, the Panama Canal was effectively completed as President Woodrow Wilson sent a signal from the White House by telegraph, setting off explosives that destroyed a section of the Gamboa dike.

In 1938, Nazi Germany completed its annexation of Czechoslovakia's Sudetenland (soo-DAYT'-uhn-land).

In 1943, Chiang Kai-shek took the oath of office as president of China.

In 1957, President Dwight D. Eisenhower apologized to the finance minister of Ghana, Komla Agbeli Gbedemah, after the official was refused seating in a Howard Johnson's restaurant near Dover, Delaware.

In 1964, the 18th Summer Olympic Games opened in Tokyo.

In 1967, the Outer Space Treaty, prohibiting the placing of weapons of mass destruction on the moon or elsewhere in space, entered into force.

In 1978, President Jimmy Carter signed a bill authorizing the Susan B. Anthony dollar.

In 1985, U.S. fighter jets forced an Egyptian plane carrying the hijackers of the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro (ah-KEE'-leh LOW'-roh) to land in Italy, where the gunmen were taken into custody. Actor-director Orson Welles died in Los Angeles at age 70; actor Yul Brynner died in New York at age 65.

In 1997, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and its coordinator, Jody Williams, were named winners of the Nobel Peace Prize.

In 2001, U.S. jets pounded the Afghan capital of Kabul. President George W. Bush unveiled a list of 22

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most-wanted terrorists, including Osama bin Laden. U.S. Rep. Nancy Pelosi of California won the race for the post of House Democratic leader.

Ten years ago: Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson announced the government had decided to go forward with a plan to buy a part ownership in a broad array of American banks in response to the financial meltdown. Connecticut's Supreme Court ruled that gay couples had the right to marry, making the state the third behind Massachusetts and California to legalize such unions. An Alaska legislative committee released a report saying Gov. Sarah Palin had violated state ethics laws and abused her power by trying to have her former brother-in-law fired as a state trooper.

Five years ago: Gunmen from one of Libya's many militias stormed a hotel where Prime Minister Ali Zidan had a residence and held him for several hours. Kwame Kilpatrick, a former Democratic mayor of Detroit, was sent to federal prison to serve a 28-year sentence for widespread corruption that occurred under his watch. Scott Carpenter, 88, the second American to orbit the Earth and one of the last surviving Mercury 7 astronauts, died in Denver.

One year ago: The U.S. soccer team failed to qualify for the World Cup, eliminated with a 2-1 loss to Trinidad and Tobago; it ended a run of seven straight U.S. appearances at soccer's showcase event. A flood of new allegations poured in against movie executive Harvey Weinstein, including testimonies from Gwyneth Paltrow and Angelina Jolie. Reacting to reports that Secretary of State Rex Tillerson had called him a "moron" after a classified briefing, President Donald Trump challenged Tillerson to "compare IQ tests;" the White House insisted Trump was only joking.

Today's Birthdays: Former Illinois Sen. Adlai Stevenson III is 88. Actor Peter Coyote is 77. Entertainer Ben Vereen is 72. Singer John Prine is 72. Actor Charles Dance is 72. Rock singer-musician Cyril Neville (The Neville Brothers) is 70. Actress Jessica Harper is 69. Author Nora Roberts (aka "J.D. Robb") is 68. Singer-musician Midge Ure is 65. Rock singer David Lee Roth is 64. Actor J. Eddie Peck is 60. Country singer Tanya Tucker is 60. Actress Julia Sweeney is 59. Actor Bradley Whitford is 59. Musician Martin Kemp is 57. Actress Jodi Benson is 57. Rock musician Jim Glennie (James) is 55. Actress Rebecca Pidgeon is 53. Rock musician Mike Malinin (mah-LIHN'-ihn) (Goo Goo Dolls) is 51. Pro Football Hall of Famer Brett Favre is 49. Actor Manu Bennett is 49. Actress Joelle Carter is 49. Actress Wendi McLendon-Covey is 49. Actor/TV host Mario Lopez is 45. Retired race car driver Dale Earnhardt Jr. is 44. Actress Jodi Lyn O'Keefe is 40. Singer Mya is 39. Actor Dan Stevens is 36. Singer Cherie is 34. Actress Rose McIver is 30. Actress Aimee Teegarden is 29.

Thought for Today: "The opposite of a fact is falsehood, but the opposite of one profound truth may very well be another profound truth." — Niels Bohr, Danish physicist (1885-1962).