

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 1 of 49



“Life begins
at the end
of your
comfort
zone.”

-Neale Donald
Walsch

Chicken Soup
for the Soul

- 1- Chicken Soup for the Soul
- 1- Midwest Masonry Ad
- 1- Recycling Trailer
- 2- Pool Mural
- 3- Lazy Farmers 4-H Meeting Minutes
- 4- Book Fair Ad
- 5- Groton Care & Rehab Ad
- 6- Governor's Safety Awards given to 11 Agtegra Cooperative locations
- 7- Area's First Snow
- 8- Today in Weather History
- 9- Today's Forecast
- 10- Yesterday's Weather
- 10- National Weather map
- 10- Today's Weather Almanac
- 11- Daily Devotional
- 12- 2018 Groton Community Events
- 13- News from the Associated Press

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

Midwest Masonry & concrete Pumping

Greg Heilman, owner

405 E 1st Ave., Groton

Greg: 253/929-9137

Mike: 605/492-7041

midwestmasonry1@yahoo.com



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.

The Pool Mural



Emma Donley spent many, and I mean MANY hours this summer working on the mural that is painted on the wall of the counter as you enter the pool building. The next few pages show the sections of the mural. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Lazy Farmers 4-H Minutes

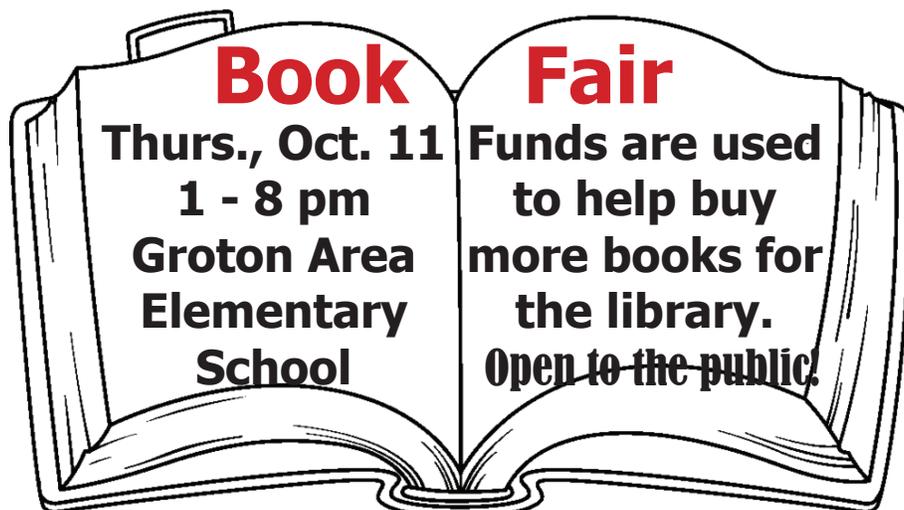
The Monday, October 8th Meeting of the Lazy Farmers 4-H Club was held at Northern Electric in Bath, SD, Lexi Osterman and Kayla and Kody Lehr were Host and Hostesses. Delayne Jones let the US Pledge and Alicia Davis led the 4-H Pledge. Discussion was held about the success of the meal served at the Andover Threshing Bee with close to 700 meals being served by club members and their families. The members were also reminded to send thank yous to premium buyers. Members were reminded of the recognition event on November 4th at 2:00. The Club welcomed 2 new members; Porter Jones and Journey Zieroth.

Alicia Davis did a demonstration on clothes pin wreaths and Faith Fliehs did a talk on the History of Cats. The next meeting will be held at Northern Electric Monday November 5th at 5:30pm.

Respectfully, Faith Fliehs reporter

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 4 of 49



Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 5 of 49



GROTON

CARE & REHABILITATION CENTER



Has a new
wage scale

LPN and RN

RN \$25-31
LPN \$20-26

For more details or to apply please call or
stop in and speak to Brynn Pickrel at

605-397-2365.



Agtegra representatives (from left): Andy Clemen, Regional Safety Specialist; Casey Buchholz, Tulare Location Manager; Tom Waletich, Regional Safety Specialist; Dean Weidner, Wolsey Scale Manager; John Zeck, Bath Assistant Manager. (Courtesy Photo)

Governor's Safety Awards given to 11 Agtegra Cooperative locations

(OCTOBER 10, 2018; ABERDEEN, S.D.) -- Eleven Agtegra Cooperative locations received Governor's Meritorious Achievement Awards from the South Dakota Safety Council at the annual South Dakota Safety and Health Conference held Wednesday in Sioux Falls.

Among the 26 recipients of the Governor's Meritorious Achievement Award are 11 Agtegra Cooperative locations, including: Agtegra Aberdeen, Agtegra Bath Fertilizer, Agtegra Chamberlain, Agtegra Huron Elevator and Fertilizer, Agtegra Ipswich Regional Office, Agtegra Kennebec Agronomy, Agtegra Stickney, Agtegra Tulare, Agtegra Wolsey Fertilizer, and Agtegra Wolsey Grain.

The South Dakota Safety Council presents Governor's Workplace Safety Awards to South Dakota employers for excellence in safety. Recipients of the South Dakota Governor's Workplace Safety Awards are required to provide injury data for the most recent three years and complete a safety program evaluation scorecard that measures implementation of a comprehensive safety program.

Meritorious Achievement recipients must demonstrate a minimum of three years of Days Away Restricted Transferred (DART) rates that exceed the average for industry classification. Agtegra Cooperative not only exceeds the industry average, but is in the industry best quartile measured per 100 employees.

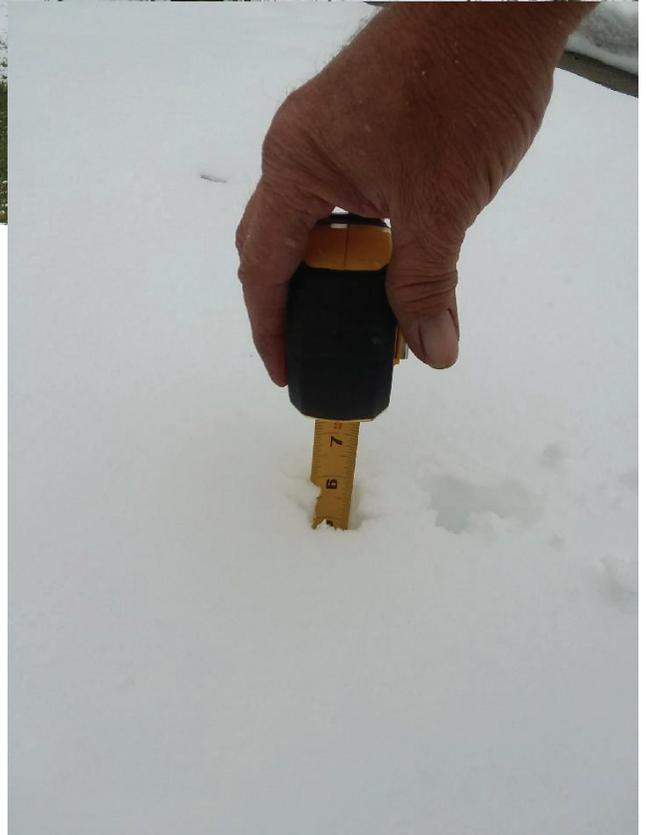
"Safety is one of our core values and we seek to demonstrate safety at all times at all our Agtegra Cooperative locations," said Vice President of Safety Bill Spreeman. "These awards recognize the efforts of our entire employee team to place safety as a top priority every day."

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 7 of 49



Groton received about three inches of accumulated snow. But over in Pierpont, Brian Gravatt (right photo) measured a strong five inches of accumulated snow.



Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 8 of 49

Today in Weather History

October 11, 1997: High winds and hail caused nearly \$20,000 in damage to rural Meade County homes.

1846: A major hurricane, likely a Category 5, moved through the Caribbean Sea. This Great Havana Hurricane struck western Cuba on 10 October. It hit the Florida Keys on 11 October, destroying the old Key West Lighthouse and Fort Zachary Taylor.

1906: Games 1 and 2 of all Chicago World Series were played amid snow flurries. Snow would not happen again in a World Series until 1997. The high temperature for game 3 played on this day was 43 degrees.

2005: A tropical depression, formerly Hurricane Vince, became the first tropical cyclone make landfall in Spain since 1842.

1925 - Widespread early season snows fell in the northeastern U.S., with as much as two feet in New Hampshire and Vermont. The heavy snow blocked roads and cancelled football games. (David Ludlum)

1954 - A deluge of 6.72 inches of rain in 48 hours flooded the Chicago River, causing ten million dollars damage in the Chicago area. (9th-11th) (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1987 - More than thirty cities in the Upper Midwest reported record low temperatures for the date, including Waterloo IA and Scottsbluff NE where the mercury dipped to 16 degrees. Tropical Storm Floyd brought heavy rain to southern Florida, moisture from Hurricane Ramon produced heavy rain in southern California, and heavy snow blanketed the mountains of New York State and Vermont. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Low pressure brought gale force winds to the Great Lakes Region, with snow and sleet reported in some areas. Unseasonably warm weather prevailed in the north central U.S. The mercury hit 84 degrees at Cutbank MT and Worland WY. The temperature at Gunnison CO soared from a morning low of 12 degrees to a high of 66 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Much of the nation enjoyed "Indian Summer" type weather. Nine cities in the central U.S. reported record highs for the date as temperatures warmed into the 80s and 90s. Record highs included 90 degrees at Grand Island NE and 97 degrees at Waco TX. Strong winds along a cold front crossing the Northern High Plains Region gusted to 80 mph at Ames Monument WY during the early morning. (The National Weather Summary)

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 9 of 49

Today



Partly Sunny

High: 35 °F

Tonight



Increasing
Clouds

Low: 22 °F

Friday



Mostly Sunny

High: 46 °F

Friday
Night



Partly Cloudy

Low: 35 °F

Saturday



Partly Sunny
and Breezy

High: 44 °F

Cloudy This Morning
Partial Clearing This Afternoon
Highs in the Low 30s to Low 40s

 National Weather Service
Aberdeen, SD

www.weather.gov/abr

Graphic created
10/11/2018 5:29 AM

Published on: 10/11/2018 at 5:37AM

High pressure will build into the region today bringing drier conditions to most of the area. Clouds will remain for much of the day before clearing across the north and east by tonight. Another low pressure system will bring some additional light snow late tonight and Friday morning to south central SD.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 10 of 49

Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 38 °F at 12:00 AM

Low Outside Temp: 31 °F at 10:25 PM

High Gust: 33 mph at 5:29 PM

Precip: 0.26

Today's Info

Record High: 93° in 2015

Record Low: 16° in 1935

Average High: 60°F

Average Low: 35°F

Average Precip in Oct.: 0.74

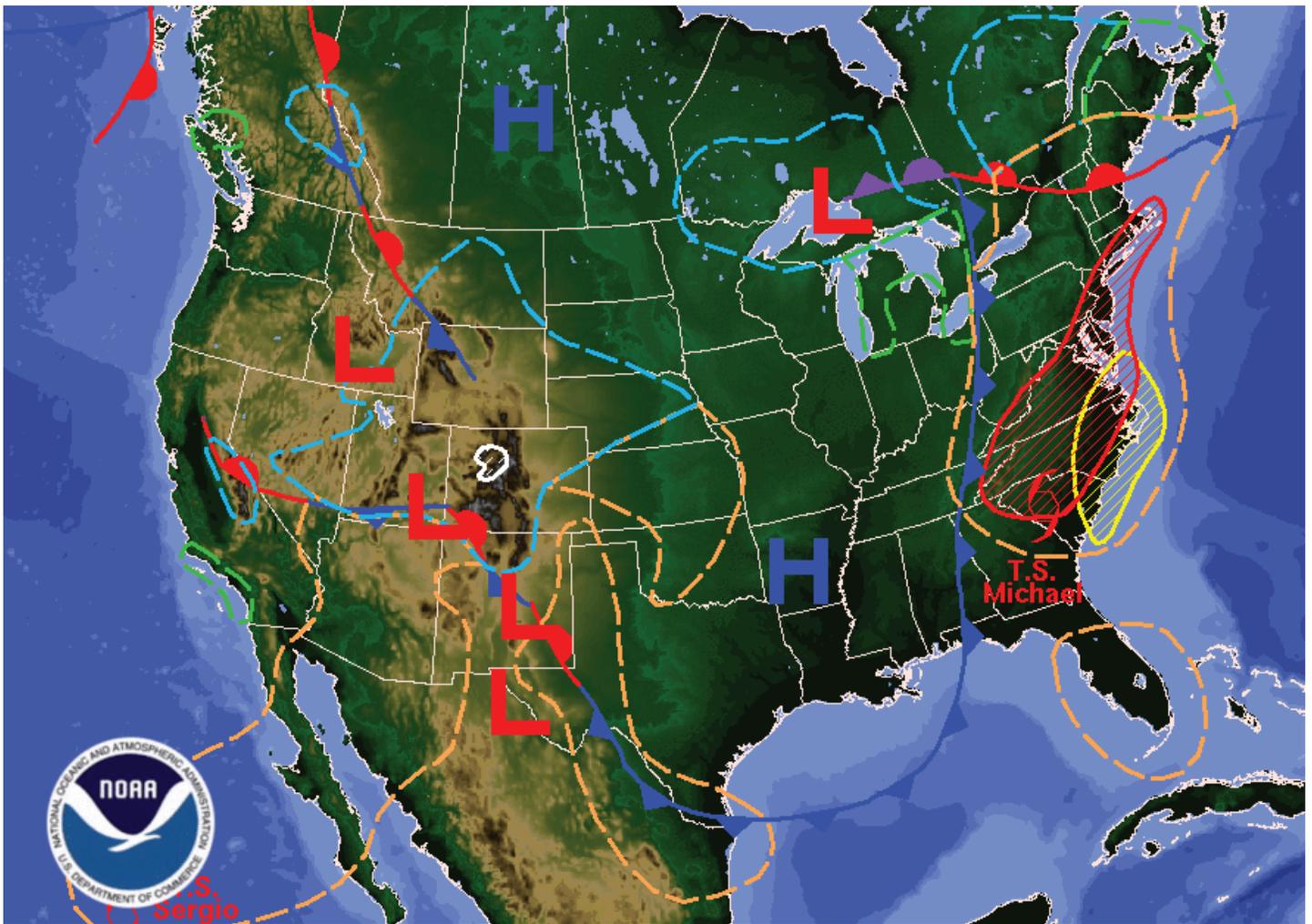
Precip to date in Oct.: 1.40

Average Precip to date: 19.22

Precip Year to Date: 15.01

Sunset Tonight: 6:55 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:46 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Thu, Oct 11, 2018, issued 4:52 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain
Rain and T'Storms
Rain and Snow
Snow

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

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 11 of 49



GODS ATTITUDE ABOUT STRENGTH

What Americans spend on nutritional supplements and bodybuilding is staggering. Consider these facts:

Sixty billion dollars were spent in January to lose weight.

One and one-half billion dollars are spent on food supplements each month.

There are 30,500 health clubs in America.

The average cost per month of a gym membership is \$55.00.

The total amount of money spent on gym memberships in 2014 was \$23.1 billion .

The number of gym memberships in 2014 was 12.2 million.

Looking good for many is much more important than being good. Taking pride in bulging muscles and well-toned bodies have become a way of life for many who worship themselves rather than God. It is difficult to watch TV without seeing commercials on how to get ripped or pills to lose weight or products that will extend life. The beautiful body has become an end for many.

However, the Psalmist staked our Gods position on all of this: He takes no pleasure...in human might.

Now, theres nothing wrong with being physically fit. We are indebted to God to avoid doing anything to our body that would put it at risk for any disease that we can avoid. Why? We are obligated to Him to honor this gift and use it for His glory by serving Him. But, we cross a line when we worship our bodies and not the God who created them.

Prayer: Lord, may we care deeply about the gift of life and wellness You have given us and use it to honor You. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm147:10b He takes no pleasure...in human might.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 12 of 49

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

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 13 of 49

News from the Associated Press

South Dakota farmers make progress on late-season harvest

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota farmers continue making progress on the late-season harvest, despite a week with just two days considered suitable for fieldwork.

The federal Agriculture Department in its weekly crop report says 4 percent of the sunflower crop, 16 percent of the sorghum, 16 percent of the corn and 28 percent of the soybeans are harvested.

Subsoil moisture is rated 62 percent adequate to surplus, and topsoil moisture is 81 percent in those categories.

Pasture and range conditions are rated 45 percent in good to excellent condition, up slightly over the week.

SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Dakota Cash

04-14-15-30-35

(four, fourteen, fifteen, thirty, thirty-five)

Estimated jackpot: \$20,000

Lotto America

19-22-35-37-49, Star Ball: 9, ASB: 2

(nineteen, twenty-two, thirty-five, thirty-seven, forty-nine; Star Ball: nine; ASB: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$9.33 million

Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: \$548 million

Powerball

08-23-27-42-60, Powerball: 7, Power Play: 3

(eight, twenty-three, twenty-seven, forty-two, sixty; Powerball: seven; Power Play: three)

Estimated jackpot: \$282 million

Wednesday's Scores

By The Associated Press

Volleyball

Pine Ridge def. Little Wound, 25-23, 25-10, 25-20

Phelps denies fearing audit at contract backdating trial

By JAMES NORD, Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A former South Dakota nonprofit executive accused of trying to avoid a potential state audit said Wednesday that he didn't intend to cheat or deceive anyone when he backdated contracts in 2015.

Stacy Phelps, the former CEO of the nonprofit American Indian Institute for Innovation, testified for a second day at his trial, saying he backdated the documents in August 2015 because his colleague, Scott

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 14 of 49

Westerhuis, said he couldn't find the originals. Prosecutors allege Phelps backdated the contracts between the nonprofit and an educational cooperative to avoid an audit.

But Phelps denied fearing an audit of the nonprofit and said he believed the contracts were genuine. Phelps said he had never discussed dodging an audit with Westerhuis and trusted him up until the day he died.

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.

The Institute helped Mid-Central administer a college-readiness grant program called Gear Up, and Phelps and Westerhuis worked for both organizations.

Phelps said Mid-Central's former director, Dan Guericke, had already signed the contracts when they were emailed to him. Phelps said he viewed backdating the contracts as a "routine act that Mid-Central asked me to do."

Westerhuis also told him the contracts had to be amended to include language requiring that the Institute get permission from Mid-Central to spend money for a Gear Up summer program, Phelps testified.

But 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. Prosecutor Paul Swedlund questioned Phelps Wednesday about a series of phone calls and text messages between Phelps and Westerhuis leading up to Phelps emailing the backdated contracts.

Phelps said he could only remember talking to Westerhuis about the contracts once. Swedlund also asked questions highlighting "different explanations" Phelps provided to investigators during a December 2015 interview and at trial about why the contracts were changed.

Phelps later testified that an agent that interviewed him in 2015 was speaking quickly and talking over him. "It was very confusing to me," Phelps said.

Closing arguments are set for Thursday in the trial. 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. Guericke was to stand trial with Phelps, but instead took a plea deal in September.

Guericke and Phelps were accused of backdating two contracts between Mid-Central and the Institute in August 2015 before they were made available to the state Department of Legislative Audit.

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.

Victims in fatal Lead house fire were mother and adult son

LEAD, S.D. (AP) — Authorities have identified the two people who died in a weekend house fire in Lead as a mother and her adult son.

Firefighters responded to the two-story home shortly after 4:30 a.m. Saturday and found the bodies upstairs.

The victims were identified as 85-year old Delores Butcher and 62-year-old Keith Butcher. The Lawrence County Coroner's Office says both died of smoke inhalation.

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

Information from: KEVN-TV, <http://www.kevn.com>

Aberdeen pedestrian hit and killed on Canton road identified

CANTON, S.D. (AP) — Authorities have identified an Aberdeen man who was struck and killed by a sport utility vehicle while standing on a road in Canton.

The Highway Patrol says 73-year-old Larry Pigors died at the scene Saturday night when he was hit on U.S. Highway 18 in the Lincoln County town.

The 25-year-old man driving the SUV wasn't injured.

The patrol is continuing to investigate the crash.

South Dakota town tries to save nursing home

SELBY, S.D. (AP) — Residents in a small South Dakota town are rallying to save a nursing home that employs 50 people, accounting for about one-fourth of the community's workforce.

Selby residents formed nonprofit Walworth County Care Center Inc. to try to keep the Good Samaritan Center in operation, Aberdeen American News reported.

Good Samaritan has served the town of roughly 625 residents for more than 50 years. But the Good Samaritan Society no longer wants to run the facility in Selby, which is 80 miles west of Aberdeen.

"(The nursing home has) been in our town a long time," said resident Dan Biel, who's serving as president of the nonprofit looking to take over.

The town has an incentive to keep the facility open not only to prevent job loss, but because there are about 45 residents who live in the home, according to Biel.

"It would be catastrophic to move those residents at this stage in their lives," he said.

Walworth County Care Center is working with the Good Samaritan Society to buy the nursing home and transition its operations, Biel said. The nonprofit will need to fundraise \$500,000 to help keep the home open for another 50 years, he said.

The society has been looking for an alternative for the facility after analyzing the regulatory environment and health care reimbursements to determine whether the site is sustainable, said Aaron Woods, the society's director of corporate communications.

But Woods said he's hopeful about the ongoing discussions with the nonprofit in Selby.

"What's significant about this relationship is that if we're successful in gaining approval from the city it will ensure sustainable operations for those that we care for," he said. "And that's been our mission all along ... We believe Selby will look like a success story with this partnership."

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

Authorities ID Iowa man killed in South Dakota crash

HARRISBURG, S.D. (AP) — Authorities have identified an Iowa man who died in a crash in eastern South Dakota.

The Highway Patrol says 86-year-old Anthony De Haan of Sioux Center, Iowa, turned his sport utility vehicle in front of a semitrailer truck on Friday afternoon west of Harrisburg, in Lincoln County. He died later at a Sioux Falls hospital.

The semi driver was not injured. A passenger in the semi suffered minor injuries.

Attendance up at this year's South Dakota State Fair

HURON, S.D. (AP) — Attendance was up at this year's South Dakota State Fair.

Fair Manager Peggy Besch says 217,231 people attended the event in Huron in late August and early September, up 2.5 percent over last year. Gate revenue increased 3.6 percent.

This year's entertainment lineup was headlined by country music star Toby Keith. Grandstand ticket revenue was up 56 percent.

Besch says the fair also enjoyed good weather during its five-day run.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 16 of 49

Person of interest ID'd in Rapid City crash that killed baby

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Rapid City police have identified a person of interest in a three-vehicle crash that killed a 1-year-old girl.

Police spokeswoman Brendyn Medina tells the Rapid City Journal that no arrests have been made, and the investigation continues into who was driving the vehicle that caused the crash and then fled.

The crash happened Friday, and authorities said Monday that the girl had died. Police had an initial suspect but later ruled him out.

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

Dakota Wesleyan men's basketball player accused of abuse

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — A Dakota Wesleyan University men's basketball player is accused of assaulting his ex-girlfriend and damaging her father's car.

Twenty-one-year-old Tyson Smiley, of Omaha, Nebraska, was arrested Sept. 13 and is to appear in court Oct. 18 on misdemeanor charges of domestic abuse and intentional damage to property.

The Daily Republic reports Smiley denied pushing his ex-girlfriend to the floor.

Smiley started 11 games last season. Dakota Wesleyan Athletic Director Jon Hart says the junior guard is still a member of the men's basketball team and is taking part in practice. He says the school won't make a decision on Smiley's future until the legal process and a school investigation is complete.

According to the Dakota Wesleyan student conduct manual, Smiley could be suspended or dismissed from the university if convicted.

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

Boy accused of shooting BB gun on school playground

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Prosecutors will decide whether a 10-year-old boy should be charged for shooting a BB gun on a school playground in Sioux Falls.

Police spokesman Sam Clemens says the boy shot at other children on the playground at Cleveland Elementary School last Friday, but no one was hurt.

The Argus Leader reports authorities don't believe the boy had the gun in the school building, but went home and brought it to the playground. Clemens says having a weapon on school grounds is a misdemeanor. The Minnehaha County State's Attorney's Office is reviewing the case.

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

Indonesian city's recovery to take 2 years, search nears end

By DITA ALANGKARA and ANDI JATMIKO, Associated Press

PALU, Indonesia (AP) — The rebuilding of an Indonesian city shattered by an earthquake and tsunami will take two years, a disaster official said Thursday, as the search for victims buried in obliterated neighborhoods neared its end.

The national disaster agency's spokesman, Sutopo Purwo Nugroho, told a news conference that the official search and rescue effort was extended by a day and would end Friday.

"Because of the demands of the residents to lengthen the search for victims, we have extended the search and evacuation process for one day," he said.

Officials plan prayers in areas such as Balaroa, Petobo and Jono Oge where the force of the Sept. 28 quake liquefied soft soil and tore apart neighborhoods.

Assessments of the cost of reconstruction are still being carried out, Nugroho said.

"Judging the conditions now, the reconstruction period will be from 2019 to 2020," he said. "We expect

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 17 of 49

full recovery by 2021.”

The agency said the official death toll had risen to 2,073 as of Thursday, with most of the fatalities in Palu. Officially, 680 people are missing but officials have acknowledged the number could be several thousand because hundreds of homes were sucked into the earth.

Save the Children’s affiliated organization in Indonesia said there could be as many as 1,500 children missing.

Selina Sumbung, the organization’s chief, said the end of the search mission is accepted with a “heavy heart.”

“Children are particularly vulnerable in disasters, and to think that so many will never have the chance to grow up is heart breaking,” she said in a statement.

Central Sulawesi Gov. Longki Djanggola said the disaster relief period, due to expire on Saturday, was extended by two weeks to Oct. 26.

Firefighters, soldiers and other personnel searched the rubble Thursday in a last push to find victims. They also burned debris and excavators dug into the tangled remains of buildings.

Heavy equipment hasn’t been able to operate in neighborhoods where the earth turned to mud, hampering the search effort, and many bodies have decomposed beyond recognition due to the tropical heat.

Miles (kilometers) of coastline were trashed by the tsunami that followed the quake, with houses swept off their foundations, trucks crumpled and numerous ships beached.

Jatmiko reported from Jakarta, Indonesia.

Saudi team after Post writer included soldiers, royal guards

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

ISTANBUL (AP) — Saudi royal guards, intelligence officers, soldiers and an autopsy expert were part of a 15-member team from the kingdom that targeted missing writer Jamal Khashoggi, Turkish media said Thursday. The Washington Post contributor vanished last week while visiting the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul.

The reported details, coupled with more-direct comments from Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, appear aimed at gradually pressuring Saudi Arabia to reveal what happened to Khashoggi, while also balancing Ankara’s need to maintain the kingdom’s investments in Turkey and relations on other issues.

In Washington, President Donald Trump expressed reservations over withholding American arm sales over the writer, even as prominent American lawmakers increasingly criticize Saudi Arabia — America’s longtime security ally in the region.

Turkish officials say they fear Saudi Arabia killed and dismembered Khashoggi, without offering evidence explaining why they believe that. Khashoggi contributed columns to the Post, including some critical of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.

Saudi Arabia, before going silent in recent days, called the allegation it abducted or harmed Khashoggi “baseless.” However, it too has offered no evidence to support its claim the writer simply walked out of its consulate and vanished despite his fiancée waiting outside for him.

Information continues to trickle out through Turkish media about the 15-man Saudi team previously described as an “assassination squad.” These leaks, largely matching across Turkey’s state-run media and private Erdogan-linked outlets, likely come from the country’s security services as another means to pressure the kingdom over Khashoggi’s Oct. 2 disappearance.

The first plane of nine Saudis arrived from Riyadh around 3:30 a.m. that day, and included an individual described as a forensics official, according to the Sabah newspaper. One Turkish official, speaking on condition of anonymity to The Associated Press to discuss an ongoing police investigation, previously described that official as an “autopsy expert.”

The other six flew in on commercial flights, according to a list obtained by Sabah, which also published their names and faces. Local media described the Saudis being military and intelligence officers, as well as several “royal guards.”

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 18 of 49

Around the time Khashoggi entered the consulate, a second private plane from Riyadh took off for Istanbul. About two hours after he entered the consulate, video released by state media in Turkey shows several vehicles with diplomatic license plates, leave the consulate and drive some 2 kilometers (1.2 miles) away to the consul's residence.

The Hurriyet newspaper and other media alleged that the consulate's 28 local staff were given the day off because a "diplomats' meeting" would be held there. The reports did not cite a source and there was no official confirmation.

By 7 p.m., six of the Saudis left by the newly arrived private plane, flying onto Cairo and remaining overnight until heading back to Riyadh, according to Sabah and other media reports. By 11 p.m., another seven left by the other private plane, heading to Dubai, United Arab Emirates, similarly remaining there overnight and then flying on to Riyadh the next day, according to reports. Two others flew out commercially, Sabah said.

While the reports provide nothing definitive, they darken the picture surrounding Khashoggi's disappearance.

Erdogan was quoted by Turkish media on Thursday as telling journalists flying with him back home from a visit to Hungary that "we cannot remain silent to such an incident."

"How is it possible for a consulate, an embassy not to have security camera systems? Is it possible for the Saudi Arabian consulate where the incident occurred not to have camera systems?" Erdogan asked. "If a bird flew, if a mosquito appeared, these systems would catch them and (I believe) they (the Saudis) would have the most advanced of systems."

Meanwhile, Trump told reporters in the Oval Office that he has a call in to Khashoggi's fiancée, Hatice Cengiz, who has appealed to the president and first lady Melania Trump for help.

Trump said he had spoken with the Saudis about what he called a "bad situation," but he did not disclose details of his conversations. He also said the U.S. was working "very closely" with Turkey, "and I think we'll get to the bottom of it."

White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said national security adviser John Bolton and presidential senior adviser Jared Kushner spoke on Tuesday to Crown Prince Mohammed about Khashoggi.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo then had a follow-up call with the crown prince to reiterate the U.S. request for information and a thorough, transparent investigation.

In an interview later Wednesday with "Fox News @ Night," Trump said he wanted to find out what happened to Khashoggi but appeared reluctant to consider blocking arms sales, citing economic reasons.

"I think that would be hurting us," Trump said. "We have jobs, we have a lot of things happening in this country. We have a country that's doing probably better economically than it's ever done before."

"Part of that is what we're doing with our defense systems and everybody's wanting them," he continued. "And frankly, I think that that would be a very, very tough pill to swallow for our country. I mean, you're affecting us and, you know, they're always quick to jump that way."

On his first international trip as president, Trump visited Saudi Arabia and announced \$110 billion in proposed arms sales. The administration also relies on Saudi support for its Middle East agenda to counter Iranian influence, fight extremism and support an expected peace plan between Israel and the Palestinians.

Khashoggi had gone to the consulate on Tuesday last week to get paperwork he needed for his upcoming marriage. His Turkish fiancée waited outside.

The Post reported Wednesday evening that U.S. intelligence intercepts outlined a Saudi plan to detain Khashoggi. The Post, citing anonymous U.S. officials familiar with the intelligence, said Prince Mohammed ordered an operation to lure Khashoggi from his home in Virginia, where he lived most recently, to Saudi Arabia and then detain him.

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

Hurricane Michael left path of destruction, isn't done yet

By JAY REEVES and BRENDAN FARRINGTON, Associated Press

PANAMA CITY, Fla. (AP) — The third-most powerful hurricane to hit the U.S. mainland in recorded history left a wide path of destruction, destroying homes and shopping centers and felling trees that killed at least two people in Florida and Georgia. And it's not done yet.

Hurricane Michael finally weakened to a tropical storm on Thursday, no longer a Category 4 monster packing 155 mph (250 kph) winds. But it was still menacing the Southeast with heavy rains, blustery winds and possible spinoff tornadoes, soaking areas swamped by epic flooding last month from Hurricane Florence.

By 5 a.m., Michael's eye was about 45 miles (72 kilometers) west of Augusta, Georgia, packing top winds of 50 mph (80 kph) and moving at 21 mph (33 kph) into South Carolina, the National Hurricane Center in Miami said.

Thousands of law enforcement officers and search and rescue teams rolled out in its wake to find survivors amid the wreckage of homes where people defied evacuation orders. Michael washed away white sand beaches, hammered military bases and destroyed coastal communities, stripping trees to stalks, shredding roofs, toppling trucks and pushing boats into buildings.

Many homes were ripped apart or washed away altogether in Mexico Beach, a town of 1,000 where the hurricane made landfall and the storm surge pushed lead-grey water up to the rooftops. Authorities said falling trees killed a man outside Tallahassee, Florida, and an 11-year-old girl in southwest Georgia.

It will take some time for residents of north Florida to take stock of the enormity of the disaster. Reaching the worst-hit areas wasn't easy: Authorities closed Interstate 10, the main east-west route along Florida's Panhandle, for 80 miles to clear debris, the Florida Highway Patrol said.

Damage in Panama City, just west of where Michael came ashore Wednesday afternoon, was so extensive that broken and uprooted trees and downed power lines lay nearly everywhere. Roofs were peeled away, sent airborne, and homes were split open by fallen trees. Twisted street signs lay on the ground. Palm trees whipped wildly in the winds. More than 380,000 homes and businesses were without power at the height of the storm.

Vance Beu, 29, was staying with his mother at her home, Spring Gate Apartments, a complex of single-story wood frame buildings where they piled up mattresses around themselves for protection. A pine tree punched a hole in their roof and his ears even popped when the barometric pressure went lower. The roar of the winds, he said, sounded like a jet engine.

"It was terrifying, honestly. There was a lot of noise. We thought the windows were going to break at any time," Beu said.

Sally Crown rode out Michael on the Florida Panhandle thinking at first that the worst damage was the many trees downed in her yard. But after the storm passed, she emerged to check on the cafe she manages and discovered a scene of breathtaking destruction.

"It's absolutely horrendous. Catastrophic," Crown said. "There's flooding. Boats on the highway. A house on the highway. Houses that have been there forever are just shattered."

A Panhandle man was killed by a tree that toppled on a home, Gadsden County Sheriff's Office spokeswoman Anglie Hightower said. But she added emergency crews trying to reach the home were hampered by downed trees and debris blocking roadways. The debris was a problem in many coastal communities and still hundreds of thousands of people were also left without power.

Gov. Rick Scott said search and rescue efforts would be "aggressive."

"Hurricane Michael cannot break Florida," Scott vowed.

Michael sprang quickly from a weekend tropical depression, going from a Category 2 on Tuesday to a Category 4 by the time it came ashore. More than 375,000 people up and down the Gulf Coast were ordered or urged to evacuate, but it moved so fast that people didn't have much time to prepare, and emergency authorities lamented that many ignored the warnings, thinking they could ride it out.

In Panama City, plywood and metal flew off the front of a Holiday Inn Express. Part of the awning fell and shattered the glass front door of the hotel, and the rest of the awning wound up on vehicles parked

below it.

"Oh my God, what are we seeing?" said evacuee Rachel Franklin, her mouth hanging open.

Based on its internal barometric pressure, Michael was the third most powerful hurricane to hit the U.S. mainland, behind the unnamed Labor Day storm of 1935 and Camille in 1969. Based on wind speed, it was the fourth-strongest, behind the Labor Day storm (184 mph, or 296 kph), Camille and Andrew in 1992.

The storm is likely to fire up the debate over global warming. Scientists say global warming is responsible for more intense and more frequent extreme weather, such as storms, droughts, floods and fires, and Michael was fueled by abnormal water temperatures in the Gulf — 4-to-5 degrees above the historic norm for this time of year. But without extensive study, they cannot directly link a single weather event to the changing climate.

After Michael left the Panhandle late Wednesday, Kaylee O'Brien was crying as she sorted through the remains of the apartment she shared with three roommates at Whispering Pines apartments, where the smell of broken pine trees was thick in the air. Four pine trees had crashed through the roof of her apartment, nearly hitting two people.

Her biggest worry: finding her missing 1-year-old Siamese cat, Molly.

"We haven't seen her since the tree hit the den. She's my baby," a distraught O'Brien said, her face wet with tears.

Associated Press writers Tamara Lush in St. Petersburg, Florida; Terry Spencer in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; Freida Frisaro in Miami; Brendan Farrington in St. Marks, Florida; Russ Bynum in Keaton Beach, Florida; Jonathan Drew in Raleigh, North Carolina; and Seth Borenstein in Kensington, Maryland, contributed to this story.

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

The Latest: Astronauts to be flown to Moscow after emergency

BAIKONUR, Kazakhstan (AP) — The Latest on the failed space launch carrying two astronauts (all times local):

5:20 p.m.

NASA says two astronauts from the U.S. and Russia will be flown to Moscow after they made an emergency landing.

NASA astronaut Nick Hague and Roscosmos' Alexei Ovchinin landed in the steppes of Kazakhstan Thursday following the failure of a Russian booster rocket carrying them to the International Space Station.

NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine said in a statement that Hague and Ovchinin are in good condition and will be transported to the Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center in Star City outside Moscow.

He added that a "thorough investigation into the cause of the incident will be conducted."

5 p.m.

A senior Cabinet official says that Russia is suspending manned space launches pending a probe into a Russian booster rocket failure minutes after the launch.

U.S. and Russian space officials said NASA astronaut Nick Hague and Roscosmos' Alexei Ovchinin are safe after an emergency landing in the steppes of Kazakhstan following the failure of a Russian booster rocket carrying them to the International Space Station.

Russian Deputy Prime Minister Yuri Borisov told reporters that the Soyuz capsule automatically jettisoned from the booster when it failed 123 seconds after the launch from the Russia-leased Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan.

He said all manned launches will be suspended pending an investigation into the cause of the failure. Borisov added that Russia will fully share all relevant information with the U.S.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 21 of 49

3:30 p.m.

NASA says that two astronauts from the U.S. and Russia are in good condition after an emergency landing following booster rocket failure minutes after the launch.

NASA astronaut Nick Hague and Roscosmos' Alexei Ovchinin lifted off as scheduled at 2:40 p.m. (0840 GMT; 4:40 a.m. EDT) Thursday from the Russia-leased Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan atop a Soyuz booster rocket.

They were to dock at the International Space Station six hours later, but the booster suffered engine failure minutes after the launch.

NASA said it has been informed by Russian space officials that the crew has made an emergency landing at an unspecified location in Kazakhstan and is in good condition. Search and rescue crews are heading to the landing site.

3 p.m.

Two astronauts from the U.S. and Russia are making an emergency landing after a Russian booster rocket carrying them into orbit to the International Space Station has failed after launch.

NASA astronaut Nick Hague and Roscosmos' Alexei Ovchinin lifted off as scheduled at 2:40 p.m. (0840 GMT; 4:40 a.m. EDT) Thursday from the Russia-leased Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan atop a Soyuz booster rocket.

They were to dock at the orbiting outpost six hours later, but the booster suffered a failure minutes after the launch.

Russian and U.S. space officials said that the crew is heading for an emergency landing in Kazakhstan at an unspecified time. Search and rescue crews are getting ready to reach the expected landing site.

2:50 p.m.

A duo of astronauts from the U.S. and Russia has blasted off for a mission on the International Space Station.

NASA astronaut Nick Hague and Roscosmos' Alexei Ovchinin lifted off as scheduled at 2:40 p.m. (0840 GMT; 4:40 a.m. EDT) Thursday from the Russia-leased Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan atop a Soyuz booster rocket. Their Soyuz spacecraft will dock at the orbiting outpost six hours later.

It's the first space mission for Hague, who joined NASA's astronaut corps in 2013. Ovchinin spent six months on the station in 2016.

Relations between Moscow and Washington have sunk to post-Cold War lows over the crisis in Ukraine, the war in Syria and allegations of Russian meddling in the 2016 U.S. presidential vote, but Russia and the U.S. have maintained cooperation in space.

Sense of impunity emboldens autocrats to get rid of enemies

By SARAH EL DEEB and LEE KEATH, Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — The disappearance of a prominent Saudi journalist raises a dark question for anyone who dares criticize governments or speak out against those in power: Will the world have their back?

Dictators and autocrats have always sought to silence dissenters, even ones that flee abroad to escape their grasp. They seem to only get bolder in turning to their playbook of detention, threats and killings.

That may in part be because, despite decades of talk of human rights in international circles, violations get only muted reproaches.

In the United States, the Trump administration avoids strenuous criticism of human rights abuses by allies, like Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Israel and the Philippines, or leaders it seeks to cultivate ties with, like Russia, China and North Korea.

President Donald Trump's denunciations of "globalism" and tough stance against the International Criminal Court also have signaled that Washington has little interest in international enforcement against violators

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 22 of 49

of human rights. Western countries have turned inwards, buffeted by rising xenophobic forces — and autocrats have either benefited from the vacuum or received outright support.

So when Turkish officials said they believed Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi had been killed last week after disappearing during a visit to his country's consulate in Istanbul, there was good reason to wonder whether there would be serious repercussions.

So too when China detained the now former Interpol chief after capturing him midair — the latest Chinese figure to vanish only to appear in court, accused of corruption.

So too when Russia was accused of poisoning an ex-spy in Britain.

Often economic and diplomatic interests lead countries to overlook killings, even of their own citizens.

In one of the most chilling recent cases, an Italian postgraduate student, Giulio Regeni, was found dumped on the side of a road outside the Egyptian capital, Cairo, his body mutilated and his bones broken. Suspicion in Italy immediately fell on Egypt's security forces, notorious for their use of torture. But nearly three years later, no one has been blamed, and while Italy says it continues to investigate, it has forged ahead with ties with Egypt, particularly with the development of a natural gas field off Egypt's coast by Italy's largest energy company, ENI.

Sara Kayyali, a researcher on Syria for Human Rights Watch, said Khashoggi's disappearance "is not just sad, it is terrifying."

"We are all taken aback by the lack of condemnation by any of our traditional allies for the acts that we are seeing happen, most recently with Jamal's case. I think it is a very challenging time for all of us and our traditional allies are not around," she said. "It looks like it is the age of impunity, but we won't let it go."

THE ARAB DIASPORA

After the wave of pro-democracy protests that shook the Arab world in 2011 came the backlash — brutal crackdowns. As millions from Syria, Iraq, Egypt and Libya left their home countries, autocrats have tracked the vocal critics among them.

The Khashoggi disappearance has shaken the large community of Arab exiles who found relative safety in Turkey, said an Egyptian dissident who fled his country after the 2013 massacre. He had met Khashoggi only days earlier. He said he is considering where to go next, adding that his wife just got a job in Saudi Arabia, but he's afraid to go there. He spoke on condition of anonymity, fearing for his safety.

"It is a whole new level of dangerous," he said. It harkens back to the days when Libya's Moammar Gadhafi called his opponents in diaspora "stray dogs" and sent death squads to shoot them down in European capitals.

One prominent Libyan defector, Mansour al-Kikhia vanished from Cairo in 1993. His fate was unknown until 2012, a year after Gadhafi's ouster and death, when his body was found in a freezer in an intelligence building in Libya.

A Bahraini dissident living in Britain, Sayed Alwadaei, said these days he was afraid for his wife when she had to go to the embassy to notarize legal representation for a pending trial against her at home.

"We did not trust that if she goes to the embassy, she will leave unharmed," he said.

Bahrain's Embassy in London dismissed Alwadaei's concerns as "nothing more than a cynical attempt to exploit a current news story."

Today's dissidents have more tools to speak their mind from exile, making them more dangerous in the eyes of regimes back home. But the autocrats' toolkit is also more diverse.

Those in exile in Turkey say their governments have infiltrated their circles, spying on them physically and through social media. One Egyptian activist said he fled his refuge in Turkey after nearly five years because government spies infiltrated the opposition TV station he had set up.

With the government gaining more ground in Syria, activists fear they will now be chased in diaspora.

One prominent exiled Syrian, Rami Abdurrahman, who has monitored the war for years and has now become a British citizen, said he got word that a senior Syrian military official named him in meetings as the next target, "wherever I am."

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 23 of 49

RUSSIA

Russia has been accused of going after turncoat spies without paying much attention to borders and international norms.

In 2006, former Russian security officer Alexander Litvinenko, who fled to Britain and became a harsh critic of President Vladimir Putin, died after drinking tea laced with radioactive polonium-210 in London. Investigations concluded that Russia's security service killed him, likely on Putin's orders. The Russian government has denied any responsibility.

In March, former Russian spy Sergei Skripal and his daughter were found unconscious in the English city of Salisbury after being exposed to a Soviet-designed nerve agent known as Novichok. They spent weeks in critical condition but survived. Months later, a civilian died after being accidentally exposed to the poison.

British officials said the attack on the Skripals received approval "at a senior level of the Russian state" and announced charges in absentia against two Russian agents. The British government says it has evidence the men work for the Russian military intelligence agency. Moscow denies any role in the poisoning.

In retaliation, Britain, European Union countries and the United States expelled dozens of Russian diplomats, Britain put greater scrutiny on Russian funds, and Washington imposed limited financial sanctions. Still, Trump was reluctant to speak out strongly against the attack.

CHINA

China's President Xi Jinping has increasingly defied foreign governments and international rights groups, bolstered by his country's global economic clout, military power and diplomatic weight. That's raised concerns over the fate of civic society within the country, as well as the risks of appointing Chinese officials to positions in international organizations.

Xi has waged a broad anti-corruption campaign that has ensnared numerous political foes — including among Chinese communities outside the country.

The most recent to fall afoul is Interpol's president, Meng Hongwei, who was taken into custody upon arriving in Beijing late last month. The Ministry of Public Security has since said that Meng, who left his post, was being investigated for accepting bribes and other crimes that were a result of his "willfulness."

Such vague accusations are typical in China's highly opaque judicial system that has jailed figures such as the dissident writer and late Nobel Peace Prize winner Liu Xiaobo.

Beijing-based independent political analyst Zhang Lifan said China's handling of the Meng case undermines the leadership's insistence that theirs is a country "ruled by law."

"In China disappearance is something that happens quite often," Zhang said. "It's just that this time it was presented to the international public in such a special way."

ASSASSINATIONS AND RENDITIONS

A tenuous place in the ruling dynasty is no protection: witness one of the most brazen instances of assassination in recent memory, when North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's estranged half-brother Kim Jong Nam died in 2017 at an airport in Malaysia in an attack that authorities said used VX nerve agent.

In March, the Trump administration referred to it only indirectly, hedging perhaps with an eye to future diplomacy. Washington only determined that Pyongyang used chemical weapons, an apparent reference to the killing without going into any further detail.

Israel and the Palestinians have a history of assassinations. Israel's Mossad killed several top PLO and Hamas leaders in the Arab world and Gaza, while a Palestinian splinter group attempted and failed to kill the Israeli ambassador to the United Kingdom in 1982. Palestinian militants assassinated Israel's tourism minister in 2001. Tehran has blamed Israel for a series of slayings of top Iranian nuclear scientists earlier this decade.

During the post-9/11 'war on terror' under President George W. Bush, the CIA program of "extraordinary rendition" and torture of suspects to secret "black sites" was a key U.S. strategy in neutralizing the enemy. More than 50 countries participated with some like Poland and Lithuania allowing the jails to be

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 24 of 49

run on their territory.

And of course, the United States carried out the most noteworthy assassination of this century when Navy SEALs under President Barack Obama's direction tracked down Osama bin Laden in Pakistan and killed him in 2011.

"It may take time, but we have long memories, and our reach has no limits," Obama would say, in his last State of the Union address.

AP writers Tamer Fakahany in London, Vladimir Isachenkov in Moscow, Christopher Bodeen in Beijing, Hamza Hendawi in Cairo and Jon Gambrell in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, contributed to this story.

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 CHARGES INTO SOUTHEAST AFTER SLAMMING FLORIDA

As the tropical storm continues to weaken it is still menacing the flood-weary Southeast with heavy rains, blustery winds and possible spinoff tornadoes.

2. SENSE OF IMPUNITY EMBOLDENS AUTOCRATS TO GET RID OF ENEMIES

Dictators and autocrats have always sought to silence dissenters, and in the case of a missing Saudi journalist, even ones that flee abroad to escape their grasp, but now others wonder: Will the world have their back?

3. WHY TRUMP IS HESITANT TO ACT ON SAUDI WRITER

The president is expressing reservations over calls to withhold further U.S. arms sales to Saudi Arabia, warning that such a move "would be hurting us."

4. TOXIC METAL FOUND IN CHAIN STORES' JEWELRY

New testing shows jewelry loaded with cancer-causing cadmium is being sold by national retailers including Ross, Nordstrom Rack and Papaya, AP learns.

5. WHAT IS CAUSING MARKET DOWNTURN

High-flying tech stocks like Apple, Amazon and Google are in the crosshairs as investors fret about the possible impact of a recent surge in interest rates.

6. US, RUSSIAN ASTRONAUTS SAFE AFTER EMERGENCY LANDING

The launch in Kazakhstan failed after a Russian booster rocket carrying them to the International Space Station experienced an emergency shutdown.

7. CUBA UNDERGOING RARE INTROSPECTION

In a country with no opinion polls, campaigns or independent mass media, a series of meetings on reforming Cuba's constitution spawns an unusual debate on the island's political system and values.

8. WEINSTEIN BACK IN COURT

A judge in New York is weighing the disgraced movie mogul's bid to have some or all of his sexual assault case thrown out.

9. INDONESIA'S GRIM SEARCH FOR DISASTER DEAD NEARS END

The search for bodies in neighborhoods annihilated by an earthquake and tsunami is ending two weeks after the double disasters hit the remote city of Palu.

10. WHO IS FEELING PRESSURE FROM AMAZON PAY HIKE

Small business owners may feel compelled to raise wages, even those who aren't directly competing with the online retailing giant.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 25 of 49

WHAT'S HAPPENING: Carolinas next in line for Michael's fury

MIAMI (AP) — Florida's Panhandle is littered with evidence that Hurricane Michael is one of the most powerful storms ever to hit the mainland United States. Roofs and awnings are peeled from buildings, pieces of homes are scattered amid snapped trees and downed power lines, chunks of beaches are washed away. Michael thrashed Georgia as a hurricane and eventually weakened to a tropical storm early Thursday as it moved toward the Carolinas, soaking areas that got swamped last month by Hurricane Florence.

BY THE NUMBERS

—Hurricane history: first Category 4 hurricane to make landfall in Florida's Panhandle since record-keeping began in 1851.

— Top winds: 155 mph (250 kph), strong enough to completely destroy homes and cause weekslong power outages.

— Powerful pressure: 919 millibars minimum pressure in the eye, the third most intense hurricane landfall in the U.S. in recorded history.

— High water: storm surge of 6 feet (2 meters) up to 14 feet (4 meters) forecast for Florida's Panhandle and Big Bend.

—Storm riders: Roughly 375,000 people in Florida warned to evacuate; many refused. Search and rescue teams are looking to help survivors.

— Staying safe: nearly 6,700 people took refuge in 54 shelters in Florida.

— Power outages: More than 780,000 customers in Georgia, Florida, Alabama and South Carolina without power.

— Food and water: 1.5 million ready-to-eat meals, 1 million gallons (3.75 million liters) of water and 40,000 10-pound (4.5-kilogram) bags of ice ready for distribution.

— The human cost: Trees crashing through homes killed a man in Gadsen County, Florida, and an 11-year-old girl in Seminole County, Georgia.

IMAGES of DESTRUCTION

Images captured by Associated Press journalists show how Florida residents took shelter while waters were rising ahead of Michael's landfall.

STORMY WEATHER

Michael isn't alone. The National Hurricane Center says Hurricane Leslie and Tropical Storm Nadine are no threat to land over the open Atlantic Ocean, but Tropical Storm Sergio in the Pacific is blowing toward the Baja California Peninsula on a path across Mexico to the southern U.S. Plains and the Ozarks by the weekend.

RECORDING THE DAMAGE

Associated Press journalists watched Michael roll ashore from hotels in Panama City and Panama City Beach. The winds ripped off hotel awnings, shattered glass doors, blew down fences and stirred up white caps in swimming pools.

STRENGTH BUILDING

The Gulf of Mexico gave Michael exactly what it needed to bulk up into a monster: The water was 4 to 5 degrees F (2.2 to 2.8 degrees C) warmer than normal, and high-atmosphere winds that can disrupt a hurricane were quiet. Michael's wind speed increased by 72 percent in less than 33 hours.

THAT'S INTENSE

Meteorologists use central pressure readings to gauge a hurricane's strength — the lower the pressure, the stronger the storm. Michael was more intense at landfall than hurricanes Andrew, Katrina and Maria. Only the 1935 Labor Day hurricane in the Florida Keys and Hurricane Camille in 1969 were stronger.

POLITICAL STORM

Michael is shaking up the upcoming election in the battleground state of Florida. The hurricane has given national exposure to Republican Gov. Rick Scott, who is trying to unseat Democratic Sen. Bill Nelson, and Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillum, the Democrat running against Republican Ron DeSantis. The publicity could backfire if recovery is delayed ahead of Election Day. President Donald Trump has endorsed Scott

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 26 of 49

and DeSantis.

TORNADO WARNING

A month after Hurricane Florence's epic deluge, South Carolina officials are more concerned about tornadoes than flooding from Michael. The National Weather Service issued multiple tornado warnings in Georgia as Hurricane Michael pushed through the state, and local media report three of them may have touched down.

SEEK ALTERNATE ROUTES

Many flights were canceled in the hurricane zone, and Amtrak changed some train schedules to protect passengers and employees. Silver Star trains from New York to Miami were only running from Miami to Jacksonville. The Palmetto between New York and Savannah, Georgia, is only running between New York and Washington beginning Thursday.

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

Trump raises economic concerns over halting Saudi arms sales

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump says the U.S. is looking into the fate of a Saudi writer missing and feared murdered but expressed reservations over calls to withhold further U.S. arms sales to Saudi Arabia, warning that such a move "would be hurting us."

Decades of close U.S.-Saudi relations, which have only intensified under Trump, appeared in jeopardy by the suggestion of a carefully plotted murder of a government critic, Jamal Khashoggi, 59, who disappeared a week ago after entering a Saudi consulate in Turkey. The wealthy former government insider had been living in the United States in self-imposed exile.

In an interview Wednesday with "Fox News @ Night," Trump said he wanted to find out what happened to Khashoggi but appeared reluctant to consider blocking arms sales, citing economic reasons.

"I think that would be hurting us," Trump said. "We have jobs, we have a lot of things happening in this country. We have a country that's doing probably better economically than it's ever done before."

He continued: "Part of that is what we're doing with our defense systems and everybody's wanting them. And frankly I think that that would be a very, very tough pill to swallow for our country. I mean, you're affecting us and, you know, they're always quick to jump that way."

On his first international trip as president, Trump visited Saudi Arabia and announced \$110 billion in proposed arms sales. The administration also relies on Saudi support for its Middle East agenda to counter Iranian influence, fight extremism and support an expected peace plan between Israel and the Palestinians.

Earlier Wednesday, Republican Sen. Bob Corker, who as chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee has reviewed U.S. intelligence on the case, said it was likely that Khashoggi was killed the day he walked into the consulate. Whatever took place, Corker said, "there was Saudi involvement" and "everything points to them."

More than 20 Republican and Democratic senators instructed Trump to order an investigation into Khashoggi's disappearance under legislation that authorizes imposition of sanctions for perpetrators of extrajudicial killings, torture or other gross human rights violations.

Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., a longtime critic of the Saudi government, has said he'll try to force a vote in the Senate blocking U.S. arms sales to Saudi Arabia. Sen. Chris Murphy, D-Conn., said it would be time for the U.S. to rethink its relationship with Saudi Arabia if it turned out Khashoggi was lured to his death by the Saudis.

Khashoggi had gone to the consulate in Istanbul on Oct. 2 to get paperwork he needed for his upcoming marriage while his Turkish fiancée waited outside. Turkish authorities have said he was killed by members of an elite Saudi "assassination squad," an allegation the Saudi government has dismissed.

The Washington Post reported Wednesday evening that U.S. intelligence intercepts outlined a Saudi plan to detain Khashoggi. The Post, citing anonymous U.S. officials familiar with the intelligence, said Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman ordered an operation to lure Khashoggi from his home in Virginia to Saudi Arabia and then detain him.

US increases pressure on Saudis over writer's disappearance

By MATTHEW PENNINGTON, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump demanded answers Wednesday from Saudi Arabia about the fate of a missing Saudi writer as lawmakers pushed for sanctions and a top Republican said the man was likely killed after entering a Saudi consulate in Turkey.

Trump said he didn't know what happened to Jamal Khashoggi and expressed hope that the 59-year-old writer, who went missing a week ago, was still alive. But senior members of Congress with access to U.S. intelligence reporting feared the worst.

More than 20 Republican and Democratic senators instructed Trump to order an investigation into Khashoggi's disappearance under legislation that authorizes imposition of sanctions for perpetrators of extrajudicial killings, torture or other gross human rights violations.

While no suspects were named, and the lawmakers' letter to the president is only a preliminary step toward taking punitive action, it marked a departure from decades of close U.S.-Saudi relations that have only intensified under Trump. Riyadh has supported the administration's tough stance toward Iran, a key rival of Saudi Arabia in the volatile Middle East.

Republican Sen. Bob Corker, who as chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee has reviewed the U.S. intelligence into what happened to Khashoggi, said "the likelihood is he was killed on the day he walked into the consulate." He said that "there was Saudi involvement" in whatever happened with the journalist, who wrote columns for The Washington Post.

"The Saudis have a lot of explaining to do because all indications are that they have been involved at minimum with his disappearance," Corker told The Associated Press. "Everything points to them."

Khashoggi, a wealthy former government insider who had been living in the U.S. in self-imposed exile, had gone to the consulate in Istanbul on Oct. 2 to get paperwork he needed for his upcoming marriage while his Turkish fiancée waited outside.

Turkish authorities have said he was killed by members of an elite Saudi "assassination squad," an allegation the Saudi government has dismissed.

The Washington Post reported Wednesday evening that U.S. intelligence intercepts outlined a Saudi plan to detain Khashoggi. The Post, citing anonymous U.S. officials familiar with the intelligence, said Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman ordered an operation to lure Jamal Khashoggi from his home in Virginia to Saudi Arabia and then detain him.

Trump told reporters in the Oval Office that he has a call in to Khashoggi's fiancée, Hatice Cengiz, who has appealed to the president and first lady Melania Trump for help.

Trump said he had spoken with the Saudis about what he called a "bad situation," but he did not disclose details of his conversations. He also said the U.S. was working "very closely" with Turkey, "and I think we'll get to the bottom of it."

White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said national security adviser John Bolton and presidential senior adviser Jared Kushner spoke Tuesday to Crown Prince Mohammed about Khashoggi. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo then had a follow-up call with the crown prince to reiterate the U.S. request for information and a thorough, transparent investigation.

While angry members of Congress likely won't cause the administration to end decades of close security ties with Saudi Arabia, the initiation on Wednesday of possible sanctions under the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act indicated the depth of concern on Capitol Hill over Khashoggi's case. Lawmakers could also 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.

Sen. Chris Murphy, D-Conn., said if Saudi Arabia had lured a U.S. resident into a consulate and killed him, "it's time for the United States to rethink our military, political and economic relationship with Saudi Arabia."

Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., a longtime critic of the Saudi government, 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 Tuesday that he wants to end the arms shipments if there's "any indication" the Saudis are "implicated in killing

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 28 of 49

this journalist that was critical of them.”

The Saudi ambassador to Washington, Prince Khalid bin Salman bin Abdulaziz, has 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, though it has failed to provide evidence to back that up, such as video footage.

Trump’s comments Wednesday were the toughest yet from his administration. The reaction from European governments has also been cautious — in part because of uncertainty over whether strained relations between Ankara and Riyadh might have colored Turkey’s reporting of events.

The Trump administration, from the president on down, is heavily invested in the Saudi relationship. That’s unlikely to change, said Robin Wright, a scholar at the Wilson Center think tank and close friend of the missing writer. 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 an expected 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.

Crown Prince Mohammed 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 imprisoned activists. He has championed the three-year military campaign against Iran-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 weapons, logistics and intelligence, certifying that the Saudis were taking adequate steps to prevent civilian deaths despite mounting evidence to the contrary.

Karen Elliott House, a veteran writer on Saudi affairs and chairwoman 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.”

Associated Press writers Alan Fram, Susannah George, Matthew Lee and Deb Riechmann and video journalist Padmananda Rama contributed to this report.

Trump prays for hurricane victims, criticizes Democrats

By CATHERINE LUCEY, Associated Press

ERIE, Pa. (AP) — As Hurricane Michael pounded Florida, President Donald Trump took shelter at a campaign event in Pennsylvania, where he sought to boost Republicans before the midterms.

Trump acknowledged the hurricane at the top of his rally Wednesday night in Erie, offering his “thoughts and prayers” to those in the storm’s path and promising to “spare no effort” in the response. He promised to travel to Florida “very shortly.”

He added: “We will always pull through. ... We will always be successful at what we do.”

Then Trump turned back to politics. With weeks to go before the critical November elections, Trump and his fellow Republicans are engaged in an all-out midterms blitz. They have been invigorated by the successful nomination of Justice Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court and are seeking to use the contentious moment to unify the GOP and stave off Democratic energy at the polls.

That Trump kept his appointment in Erie underscored the importance of this effort to Republicans. Earlier in the day, Trump received a hurricane briefing at the White House on the Category 4 storm. He told reporters he faced a “quagmire” about whether to attend the Pennsylvania rally because “thousands of

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 29 of 49

people" were already lined up for the event.

He ultimately decided to attend, a move he criticized President Barack Obama for six years ago after Superstorm Sandy hit the East Coast.

"Yesterday Obama campaigned with JayZ & Springsteen while Hurricane Sandy victims across NY & NJ are still decimated by Sandy. Wrong!" Trump tweeted on Nov. 6, 2012.

On Wednesday, Trump touted two Republican congressmen, Mike Kelly and Lou Barletta. Kelly is facing a challenge from Democrat Ron DiNicola, while Barletta is mounting an uphill campaign to unseat two-term Democratic Sen. Bob Casey. The president, who attended a fundraiser before the rally, also praised GOP gubernatorial candidate Scott Wagner.

Trump also celebrated Kavanaugh's appointment amid Democratic opposition and sexual misconduct allegations against the nominee. Trump called it a "historic week," saying, "What the radical Democrats did to Brett Kavanaugh and his beautiful family is a national disgrace."

For weeks, Trump has been escalating his attacks on Democrats. He continued that effort Wednesday, claiming that Democrats want to "impose socialism and take over and destroy American health care." He added: "Democrats want to abolish America's borders and allow drugs and gangs to pour into our country."

Trump also returned to one of his favorite themes — reliving his stunning 2016 victory.

"Was that the most exciting evening?" he said to cheers.

Trump also ticked through what he sees as his top achievements, including tax cuts and a new trade deal with Canada and Mexico. He talked about exiting the Iran nuclear deal and drew wild applause for mentioning his plans for a Space Force.

Trump attacked Casey for opposing Kavanaugh's nomination, saying he had "joined the left-wing mob." He also accused Casey, named for his politician father, for "banking on the name of his father." Trump's own father, Fred, was a successful real estate developer who set his son up in business. The New York Times recently reported that Donald Trump received at least \$413 million from his father over the decades, much of that through dubious tax dodges, including outright fraud.

Earlier Wednesday, Trump published an op-ed in USA Today that attacked Democrats over "Medicare for All" health care proposals. In his op-ed, Trump said Democrats have moved away from centrism, claiming the "new Democrats are radical socialists who want to model America's economy after Venezuela."

He added: "Government-run health care is just the beginning. Democrats are also pushing massive government control of education, private-sector businesses and other major sectors of the U.S. economy."

Trump's attack on Medicare for All omits any mention of improved benefits for seniors that Democrats promise.

Medicare for All means different things to different Democrats. The plan pushed by Sen. Bernie Sanders, the Vermont independent who challenged Hillary Clinton for the 2016 Democratic presidential nomination, would expand Medicare to cover almost everyone in the country, and current Medicare recipients would get improved benefits. Other Democratic plans would allow people to buy into a new government system modeled on Medicare, moving toward the goal of coverage for all while leaving private insurance in place.

Democrats, who think health care is a winning issue going into the midterms, also sought to focus voter attention Wednesday. In the Senate, Democrats unsuccessfully sought to scuttle Trump's push for short-term health insurance plans, which are less expensive but provide skimpier coverage. While the vote failed, Democrats think the move will help them in November.

S. Korea walks back on possibly lifting sanctions on North

By KIM TONG-HYUNG, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korea on Thursday walked back on a proposal to lift some of its unilateral sanctions against North Korea following U.S. President Donald Trump's blunt retort that Seoul could "do nothing" without Washington's approval.

Foreign Minister Kang Kyung-wha had said on Wednesday that Seoul was considering lifting measures applied after a deadly attack in 2010 that killed 46 South Korean sailors. She cited the intent to create

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 30 of 49

more diplomatic momentum for talks over North Korea's nuclear program.

South Korean conservatives reacted with anger as well, and Kang's ministry downplayed her comments later, saying in a statement that the government has yet to start a "full-fledged" review of sanctions, meaning no decision was imminent.

Unification Minister Cho Myoung-gyon told a parliamentary audit on Thursday there has been no serious consideration given to lifting the sanctions and that doing so would be hard unless North Korea acknowledges responsibility for the 2010 attack. North Korea has fiercely denied it sank the Cheonan warship.

Liberal South Korean President Moon Jae-in hopes that progress in nuclear diplomacy will allow him to advance his ambitious plans for engagement with North Korea, including joint economic projects and re-connecting inter-Korean roads and railways. These projects have been held back by the sanctions against North Korea.

While arguing that improved inter-Korean relations could possibly facilitate progress in larger nuclear negotiations between the U.S. and North Korea, Cho said Seoul isn't ready yet to campaign for reduced pressure against its rival.

"At the current stage, I think it's a little early for us to call for the lifting or easing of the U.N. sanctions," Cho said.

Trump's response when he was asked about Kang's comments implied friction between the allies over the pace of inter-Korean engagement amid concerns in Washington that North Korea is lagging behind in its supposed promise to denuclearize.

"They won't do that without our approval," Trump said of the comments. "They do nothing without our approval."

Trump has encouraged U.S. allies to maintain sanctions on North Korea until it denuclearizes as part of what his administration has termed a campaign of "maximum pressure" against leader Kim Jong Un's government.

Moon has mostly stayed firm on sanctions despite actively engaging with North Korea and floating the possibility of huge investments and joint economic projects in return for the North's relinquishment of its nuclear weapons.

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

In the 2010 sanctions, South Korea effectively shut down all cross-border economic cooperation except for a jointly run factory park in the North Korean border town of Kaesong and banned North Korea from using shipping lanes in South Korean territory. The Kaesong factory park was shuttered in 2016 in response to a North Korean nuclear test and long-range rocket launch.

During Moon's visit to North Korea last month, he and Kim agreed to normalize operations at the Kaesong factory park and resume joint tours to North Korea when possible, voicing optimism that 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.

Washington, however, has insisted that efforts to improve relations between the Koreas should move in tandem with efforts to denuclearize the North.

Kang said Wednesday that U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo had expressed displeasure about the Koreas' military agreement. Kang was not specific but her comments are likely to fuel speculation Washington wasn't fully on board before Seoul signed the agreement.

Despite three summits with Moon and one with Trump this year, Kim has yet to provide a convincing sign that he's ready to deal away his nuclear weapons.

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

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 31 of 49

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. There has been occasional bloodshed ever since — the 2010 attack on the warship was followed months later by North Korean shelling of a South Korean border island that killed four and gutted homes.

Kang pointed out that many parts of South Korea's 2010 sanctions now duplicate United Nations sanctions that were considerably strengthened after 2016 when the North began accelerating its nuclear and missile tests. She also described Seoul's unilateral sanctions as a key obstacle to 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 restrictions on bulk cash transfers, 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."

Rising interest rates weigh on high-flying tech stocks

By ALEX VEIGA, AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Technology and internet stocks have led the way for much of Wall Street's bull market run, propelling the stocks of big names like Apple, Amazon and Google's parent company sharply higher along the way.

Now those high-flying stocks are at the forefront of a wave of selling as investors fret about the possible impact of a recent surge in interest rates.

Those jitters gave the Nasdaq composite index, which has a high concentration of technology companies, its biggest loss in more than two years Wednesday. Apple, Microsoft, Amazon, Netflix and Alphabet, Google's parent company, all posted steep declines.

"The sell-off was perhaps a little overdone," said Lindsey Bell, investment strategist at CFRA. "A lot of it may have been investors just kind of taking profits in some of the high-flyers of the year that also have high valuations."

The yield on the 10-year Treasury jumped from 3.05 percent early last week to more than 3.20 percent Wednesday, a seven-year high. Interest rates tend to follow increases in bond yields, eroding profits for companies, which have to pay higher interest-rate costs to borrow money. They also make bonds more attractive investments relative to stocks.

Technology and internet-based companies are known for their high profit margins, and many have reported explosive growth in recent years, with corresponding gains in their stock prices. That's made them particularly vulnerable to higher interest rates, because it makes the stocks' already high valuations look even more stretched.

Investors have other reasons to worry about the tech sector stocks. Those include the potential impact that the U.S.-China trade dispute may have on big tech companies, which tend to do a lot of business in China.

In addition, the big-name tech stocks have been faring so well for so long that investors have been betting on even bigger things to come from the companies. Those wagers might take longer to pay off, or worse, fizzle completely if a slowing economy or recession undermines their future growth.

Facebook and Google, for instance, might not be able to entice as many new users to their free digital services, and the advertising that generates most of their revenue might shrivel anyway.

For Amazon, it might mean consumers curtail their spending on merchandise in its e-commerce site and decide they really don't need an internet-connected speaker like the Echo, after all. And Netflix might have more difficulty attracting subscribers, or even start seeing more cancellations to its online streaming

service if households feel squeezed.

There's another cloud hanging over Netflix's stock, too. The company is scheduled to report its third-quarter results Tuesday. After it missed its target for subscriber growth during the spring, investors may be bailing out of its stock for fear the trend continued during the summer months, when it's traditionally more challenging to get people to sign up for a video service because of vacation schedules and good weather outdoors.

The margin of error for these companies is extremely thin because the dramatic run-up in their stocks has driven a key stock benchmark — price-to-earnings ratio — to astronomical levels. None more so than Netflix, with investors still paying the equivalent of \$149 for every \$1 in earnings, even after its stock has tumbled 13 percent during the past week.

Even with the recent sell-off, Netflix's stock is still worth nearly three times more than it was just three years ago and seven times more than it was five years ago.

Long-established technology companies like Apple and Microsoft, which now pay dividends because they aren't growing as quickly as they once did, have also been caught in the downdraft. That's despite Microsoft still making software that powers most of the personal computers in the world and Apple's iPhones and other gadgets still attracting legions of loyal fans willing to pay premium prices for the products.

Apple's popularity shows in its profits. If analysts' estimates prove accurate, Apple earned \$13.3 billion from July through September, or about \$6 million every hour. The company is scheduled to report its earnings on Oct. 30.

"We're still optimistic going into third-quarter earnings, with regard to technology," Bell said.

AP Business Writers Stan Choe in New York and Michael Liedtke in San Francisco contributed to this report.

Senate vote on health care likely fodder for both parties

By ALAN FRAM, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Days after ending a turbulent Supreme Court confirmation fight, the Senate turned back to health care — with a battle squarely aimed at coloring next month's crucial elections for control of Congress.

In a return to its characteristically more unruffled mode of work, the Senate on Wednesday rejected a Democratic attempt to stop President Donald Trump from expanding access to short-term health care plans, which offer lower costs but skimpier coverage. It was clear Democrats would lose, and a real victory was never feasible since the measure would have died anyway in the Republican-run House.

But by pushing ahead, Democrats made Republicans cast a health care vote that Democrats could wield in campaign ads for next month's midterm elections, in which they hope to topple the GOP's 51-49 Senate majority. The vote was also aimed at refocusing people away from the Senate's nasty battle over confirming Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court, which both sides say has transformed indifferent conservative voters into motivated ones — for now.

Wednesday's vote was about showing whether Congress will "allow insurance companies to scam Americans with cut-rate health insurance," said Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y. "I wouldn't want to be on the wrong side of that vote."

Republican Sen. Cory Gardner of Colorado insisted it was actually the Democrats who had done themselves no favors with the vote.

"Look, if they want to take away people's health insurance and that's what they're campaigning on for the next several weeks, I think it's a losing strategy," said Gardner, who heads the Senate GOP's campaign organization.

Using regulations, Trump has moved to let people buy short-term insurance that could last one year — and up to three years if renewed. President Barack Obama's health care law, which Trump and Republicans have weakened but failed to repeal, created more limited versions of those plans, lasting up to just three

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 33 of 49

months. The policies are for people who don't get coverage at work.

The administration says premiums for the new short-term plans will be around one-third the cost of comprehensive coverage that Obama's law requires. Republicans have promoted them as a low-cost option for strapped consumers after years of steadily rising premiums, which they blame on Obama's law, and GOP candidates will be happy to use Wednesday's vote to make that point.

"It's not surprising that Senate Democrats are fighting to take away people's choices on health care, to drive up premiums," said Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, who's facing a surprisingly robust re-election challenge from Democratic Rep. Beto O'Rourke.

Unlike Obama's statute, the new policies don't require coverage for people with pre-existing conditions. The government has estimated those people number from 50 million to 130 million, making them a potent political talking point for Democrats. The short-term insurance also doesn't have to cover a menu of services like prescription drugs and could cap beneficiaries' benefits. Democrats call the plans "junk insurance" because, they say, the policies will leave unwary consumers purchasing dangerously meager packages.

"Anyone who supports coverage for people with pre-existing conditions should oppose Trump's "expansion of these junk insurance plans," said Sen. Tammy Baldwin, D-Wis., who is running for re-election and introduced the Democratic measure.

On its face, Wednesday's fight was over repealing Trump's new rules. But practically speaking, it served to renew attention on the overall issue of health care, which polling shows ranks at the top of the public's priorities and has been a major concern for voters for over a decade.

It also comes as campaign operatives assess whether the Kavanaugh battle will overshadow what has been shaping up as a voters' referendum on Trump, colored by candidates' views on health care and the economy.

Both sides' consultants say initial polling shows newfound enthusiasm among conservatives, who until the court fight were far less excited about voting than their liberal, anti-Trump counterparts. The big question, they agree, is whether conservative enthusiasm will last until Nov. 6 or fade away, victim to the historic pattern of midterm congressional losses by the party holding the White House and the ever-changing parade of distracting controversies prevalent under Trump.

Lawmakers from both parties are putting the best face on voters' mood.

"Whatever difference in enthusiasm Republican voters may have had going into the fall elections has been eliminated," Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., told reporters.

"Kavanaugh's in the rear-view mirror," said Sen. Tim Kaine, D-Va., who spends weekends campaigning and is expected to be easily re-elected next month. "What people are asking me about is health care."

The Democratic effort to block Trump's short-term plans lost 50-50, with legislation needing a majority to pass. They forced the vote under a seldom-used procedure that makes it easier for lawmakers to try repealing recent federal regulations.

Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, the only lawmaker to join the other side in the vote, complained that the plans could deny coverage to people with pre-existing conditions. Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, voted against the Democratic proposal, saying people in her high-cost state could benefit from the low-cost option.

Collins and Murkowski helped defeat Trump's effort to repeal Obama's law last year.

Associated Press writer Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar contributed to this report.

Limousine service operator charged in crash that killed 20

By MICHAEL HILL and JENNIFER PELTZ, Associated Press

COBLESKILL, N.Y. (AP) — A limousine service operator was charged Wednesday with criminally negligent homicide in a crash that killed 20 people, while police continued investigating what caused the wreck and whether anyone else will face charges.

Nauman Hussain, 28, showed little emotion as he was arraigned Wednesday evening in an Albany-area court, and he ignored shouted questions from reporters as he left after posting \$150,000 bond. A judge

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 34 of 49

had entered a not guilty plea for him.

Earlier, his lawyer said that Hussain wasn't guilty and that police were rushing to judgment in investigating Saturday's stretch limo wreck .

But State Police Superintendent George Beach said Hussain hired a driver who shouldn't have been behind the wheel of such a car, and the vehicle shouldn't have been driven after state inspectors deemed it "unserviceable" last month.

"The sole responsibility for that motor vehicle being on the road on Saturday rests with Nauman Hussain," Beach said, though he noted that investigators continue looking into whether anyone else should be held accountable in the crash.

Hussain's car was packed with luggage when he was stopped Wednesday on a highway near Albany, Schoharie County District Attorney Susan Mallery said.

Hussain's lawyer, Lee Kindlon, said his client felt unsafe at home because he'd gotten threats.

The company, Prestige Limousine, has come under intense scrutiny since a 19-seater limo ran a stop sign and plowed into a parked SUV at the bottom of a long hill Saturday. The impact killed two pedestrians and 18 people in the limo, which was taking a group to a birthday bash.

Kindlon said his client handled only marketing duties and phone calls, while his father ran the company, though police called Hussain its operator.

"My client is not guilty," Kindlon said. "The police jumped the gun in charging him with any crime."

Under New York law, criminally negligent homicide involves not perceiving a substantial, unjustifiable risk that leads to someone's death. It's punishable by up to four years in prison.

Charged with a single count involving all 20 victims, Hussain spoke in a clear, firm voice as he gave brief answers to the judge's questions about his finances and living arrangements. He turned twice to nod at relatives in the courtroom audience.

Hussain has had a brush with authorities before. State police accused him and his brother of claiming each other's names after a 2014 traffic stop, which happened while the brother was driving without a valid license.

Their father, Prestige Limousine owner Shahed Hussain, also has a history with law enforcement — as a government informant in terror plot investigations after the Sept. 11 attacks.

Saturday's crash appeared to be the nation's deadliest traffic accident since a bus full of Texas nursing home patients caught fire while fleeing 2005's Hurricane Rita, killing 23.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo said Monday that the limo driver didn't have the required commercial license, and that Prestige Limousine "had no business putting a failed vehicle on the road."

The limo had been written up Sept. 4 for code violations, including a problem with the antilock brakes' malfunction indicator system.

A sticker was placed on the vehicle declaring it "unserviceable," state Department of Transportation spokesman Joseph Morrissey said.

It was the latest in a series of inspection knocks for the Gansevoort, New York-based company. Four of its limos were cited this year with a total of 22 maintenance violations, though none was deemed critical.

Kindlon told CBS News on Tuesday the "safety issues had been addressed and corrected," saying many were minor. But Morrissey said any assertion that the limo involved in the crash had been cleared for service was "categorically false."

Kindlon said he didn't think the infractions contributed to the crash. He suggested the driver, who died in the crash, might have misjudged his momentum on the hill.

The T-intersection at the bottom was a known danger spot, Kindlon noted. It was rebuilt after a deadly 2008 wreck, but there have since been other accidents at the junction.

"I think, frankly, the Department of Transportation and the state of New York is doing a great job in saying, 'Look over there! It's not our fault!'" Kindlon said.

The limo's driver, Scott Lisinicchia, had been told he didn't have the proper license to drive it during an Aug. 25 traffic stop, state police said Wednesday. They said a trooper issued violations, advised that Lisinicchia couldn't drive the limo and "took steps to ensure that the vehicle was taken off the road."

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 35 of 49

The Times Union of Albany first reported about the traffic stop.

Lisinicchia's family, meanwhile, said he was unwittingly put in an unsafe vehicle.

Kim Lisinicchia told CBS in an interview broadcast Wednesday that her husband repeatedly said he wouldn't drive the car the way it was. But then "he trusted in what the limo company said, that the cars were all right," she said.

She said her husband was an excellent, veteran driver with over 20 years of experience in tractor-trailers and was in fine health.

"I feel for these victims," the widow said. "I am in no way trying to make it seem like it's about me or my husband. I just want my husband to be vindicated. I have to stand for him, 'cause nobody else will."

Peltz reported from New York. Associated Press writer Mary Esch contributed from Latham, New York.

Losses on Wall Street ripple through Asia; stocks slump

By ANNABELLE LIANG, Associated Press

SINGAPORE (AP) — Asian markets were broadly lower on Thursday after Wall Street slumped on a heavy selling of technology and internet stocks.

Japan's benchmark fell by an unusually wide margin of 3.9 percent and China's main index lost 4.3 percent. Markets in Hong Kong, South Korea, Australia and Southeast Asia recorded similar declines.

Investors are wary of possible further U.S. interest rate hikes. That will raise the cost of corporate borrowing and could drag on economic growth.

The U.S. Federal Reserve recently raised short-term interest rates for the third time this year, with one more expected before the year ends. Strong economic data and a positive outlook from Fed officials have led to a sell-off in U.S. Treasury bonds, particularly longer-term ones, sparking concerns about even higher interest rates.

On Wednesday, President Donald Trump said the Fed "is making a mistake" with its campaign of rate increases. "I think the Fed has gone crazy," he charged.

Stephen Innes of OANDA said that Trump's comments have put pressure on the dollar but "the severity of this equity rout could bring the hawkish Fed narrative into question."

"If the Feds are crazy, this market reaction is bordering on insanity, as so many negative crosscurrents collide that is merely impossible to find a glint of optimism," he added.

Sentiment also has been dampened by the spreading U.S.-Chinese tariff fight over Beijing's technology policy. The International Monetary Fund cut its outlook for global growth this week, citing interest rates and trade tensions.

Tokyo's Nikkei 225 gave up 3.9 percent to 22,591.10 and the Shanghai Composite lost 4.3 percent to 2,607.44. The Kospi in South Korea fell 3.6 percent to 2,148.97. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 slipped 2.4 percent to 5,906.00. Stocks plunged in Taiwan and fell across Southeast Asia.

U.S. stocks slumped on Wednesday as concerns over rising interest rates and trade tensions caused a sell-off in technology and internet stocks. The Dow Jones Industrial Average suffered its worst loss in eight months, falling 3.1 percent to 25,598.74.

The S&P 500 index sank 3.3 percent to 2,785.68. The Nasdaq composite, which has a large contingent of technology stocks, was 4.1 percent lower at 7,422.05. It has fallen 7.5 percent in just five days. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks shed 2.9 percent, to 1,575.41.

Apple and Amazon, the two most valuable companies in the S&P 500, each had their worst day in 2½ years. Apple slipped by 4.6 percent while Amazon lost 6.2 percent.

Amazon has soared 50 percent this year, but its stock has fallen 14 percent from its all-time high in early September.

Francis Tan, an investment strategist at UOB private bank, believes the markets will likely pick up in the U.S. session. "The valuation of U.S. stocks, especially tech stocks, is still pretty high and there could be some profit taking actions now," Tan explained.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 36 of 49

The dollar slipped to 112.17 Japanese yen from 112.27 yen late Wednesday. The euro rose to \$1.1566 from \$1.1523.

Oil futures fell. U.S. crude gave up \$1.27 to \$71.90 a barrel. The contract settled at \$73.17 in New York. Brent crude, the international standard, dropped \$1.58 to \$81.51 a barrel.

AP Business Writer Joe McDonald in Beijing contributed to this report.

Donnelly family business uses import practice he criticizes

By BRIAN SLODYSKO, Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — In the high-stakes battle for a pivotal Indiana Senate seat, Democrat Joe Donnelly has repeatedly attacked his opponent, multimillionaire auto-parts magnate Mike Braun, for importing the products he sells from China.

It's a potent issue for the incumbent senator in a manufacturing powerhouse state where "made in America" is an identity — not just a slogan — and railing against foreign outsourcing helped President Donald Trump rack up a win by 19 percentage points.

Yet for Donnelly, whose neck-and-neck race with Braun could help determine which party controls the Senate, it ignores one inconvenient detail. Stewart Superior Corp., a family business that he owned stock in, has also received repeated shipments of goods from China for much of this decade, records reviewed by The Associated Press show.

That makes Donnelly susceptible to charges of hypocrisy while undercutting one of his main attacks on Braun before an election in which working-class support will be crucial. It's also likely to ratchet up a GOP onslaught that was already intensifying after Donnelly cast a "no" vote against Trump's second Supreme Court pick, Brett Kavanaugh.

Donnelly's campaign did not directly address the shipments, but noted that the senator sold his stock in the company last year and donated \$17,410 in proceeds to charity.

Spokesman Will Baskin-Gerwitz also attacked Braun, who he said "continues to lie repeatedly about the fact that he profits every single day from Chinese labor at the expense of Hoosier workers."

Stewart Superior's imports from China, which have been referenced in attack ads, are minuscule when compared to the goods Braun regularly receives from the country.

Between 2011 and 2017, a time when Donnelly owned as much as \$50,000 in company stock, Stewart Superior received more than 120,000 pounds of Chinese materials, spread out across more than 20 shipments, according to the website Panjiva, which tracks international trade. He collected dividend payments in 2016 worth between \$15,001 and \$50,000, according to Senate financial disclosures.

In comparison, Braun's auto-parts empire, which employs 850 workers at 70 locations across the U.S., obtains Chinese goods through intermediary companies that have imported thousands of shipments in recent years. His stock income from the business was \$4.5 million last year, records show.

It's not the first time Donnelly has drawn unwanted attention for his ties to his family's company, which is operated by his brother. The longtime outsourcing opponent, who is one of a handful of red-state Democrats running for re-election, faced withering criticism last year after news reports revealed the business operated a factory in Mexico.

Republicans labeled him "Mexico Joe," ran ads with him wearing a sombrero and even sent a Mariachi band to play outside his campaign kickoff.

But after Braun unexpectedly beat two sitting congressmen in the GOP primary, Democrats saw an opportunity to flip the script by focusing on his business practices.

They wave Chinese flags outside Braun campaign events and, in a recent prank, delivered a box of the flags to his campaign headquarters along with a note signed in Chinese.

In an ad, Donnelly stands next to a pickup brimming with boxes of Braun's auto parts while declaring that he "voted against every bad trade deal."

"Mike Braun has used those same trade deals to outsource Hoosier jobs to China," he says after tapping

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 37 of 49

his finger on a label that says "made in China."

Experts say it's not just normal for businesses and manufacturers to rely on supply chains that include at least some foreign goods — they say it's unusual when companies don't. And some longtime political observers say they hear troubling echoes from Indiana's history of nativism and nationalism.

"Xenophobia is certainly in the campaign," said former Lt. Gov. John Mutz, a well-respected Republican and elder statesman who blames "both sides."

Mutz would know. As lieutenant governor, he helped persuade Subaru to build a plant in Indiana that has since become a major employer. When Mutz ran for governor in 1988, though, he was subject to ruthless attack ads by Democrat Evan Bayh that focused on the fact that the automaker was Japanese. Mutz lost and ever since, he's held up the campaign as a cautionary tale of nativist forces that can seep into politics.

"There's an undercurrent that is still present," he added. "It's unfortunate."

Braun's campaign did not respond to a request for comment on the criticism.

But Baskin-Gerwitz, Donnelly's spokesman, dismissed it outright and said the senator would "never apologize for sticking up for American workers."

"Mike Braun has made (millions) a year from his Chinese auto parts while Indiana factories making the same parts went out of business," Baskin-Gerwitz said. "Joe is going to make sure voters know that, and if that offends some people, then it's time they put Indiana and Indiana workers first."

Robert Dion, a political science professor at the University of Evansville, said it's not uncommon for candidates in a close race to walk a thin line between "light-hearted campaigning and pandering to our baser instincts."

"There is a bit of an unsavory element to this kind of campaigning," he said. "Unfortunately when there is a close election, we tend to see these kinds of things ratchet up. Everything gets turned up to 11."

Parties take fight for votes straight to suburban women

By **MATTHEW BARAKAT, Associated Press**

McLEAN, Va. (AP) — Suburban women could hold the keys to control of Congress this election year. Once considered reliably Republican, college-educated, affluent women may be turned off by President Donald Trump and some of his party's policies, recent polling has shown, and Democrats are eager to offer them an alternative.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

The outer suburbs of Washington, D.C., provide a case study.

Virginia's 10th Congressional District stretches from the wealthy precincts of McLean, just outside Washington, through very suburban Loudoun County and west to rural areas surrounding Winchester near the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Two-term Rep. Barbara Comstock of Virginia is one of the most vulnerable Republicans in Congress in a year when Democrats are hoping to pick up dozens of seats and take control of the House. The district has been represented by a Republican for more than three decades, but the affluent, highly educated area is diversifying and newcomers are not showing party loyalty.

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

Democrat Jennifer Wexton, a state senator and former prosecutor, won a six-way primary for the right to take on Comstock and has been highlighting her dual roles of attorney and mother.

Both women are spending millions of dollars in the pricey Washington media market.

WHY IT MATTERS

Democrats need to add at least 23 members to regain control of the House. Districts like Virginia's 10th,

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 38 of 49

which Hillary Clinton won by double digits in 2016, are prime targets. With commuting federal workers, a thriving tech sector and sizable defense contractors based in the area, the district is filled with the sorts of highly educated, independent voters who have been resistant to Trump. It remains to be seen how the contentious battle to confirm Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh will play out among those same voters.

WHAT TO WATCH

This race could provide an early sign on Election Night of how Democrats are performing. If Wexton does well, winning by double digits, Democrats across the country will feel more confident about their strength in suburban areas.

The heart of the district, Loudoun County, is a swing county in a swing state, routinely vacillating between Democratic and Republican control. It is one of the wealthiest counties in the nation, and has seen tremendous growth over the past few decades. Many of its residents are newcomers and political free agents.

Wexton lives in Loudoun County, while Comstock lives in neighboring Fairfax County, which is closer to Washington.

DON'T MISS

While the Comstock-Wexton battle has received national attention, it is one of four Republican-held House seats in Virginia where Democratic women look to have a strong chance to flip Republican districts.

In the 2nd District, former Navy commander Elaine Luria is seeking to unseat Rep. Scott Taylor, a former Navy SEAL, in a Norfolk-based district with a large military population. In the 7th District, a swath of central Virginia with a population base in the suburbs of Richmond, former CIA officer Abigail Spanberger is challenging Rep. Dave Brat. The college professor turned congressman shook up the political establishment in 2014 by knocking out then-Majority Leader Eric Cantor in a primary.

And in the sprawling 5th District, which stretches from Charlottesville to the North Carolina border, former "60 Minutes" producer Leslie Cockburn is running against distillery owner Denver Riggleman for an open seat being vacated by Rep. Tom Garrett, who dropped his re-election bid after announcing he's an alcoholic.

Q&A: Why rising interest rates are shaking financial markets

By STAN CHOE, AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The foundation at the center of the investment world is shaking.

U.S. Treasury bonds are considered among the closest approximations to a "safe" investment in the financial system, which makes them a benchmark for most other investments. A pronounced move in Treasury prices ripples through to stock and bond markets around the world.

Lately, those prices have been heading sharply lower, meaning the bonds' yields have been spiking. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note climbed above 3.23 percent at one point on Wednesday, up from 3.05 percent last Tuesday, and is close to its highest level in seven years.

A jump in yields tends to rattle investors, and the S&P 500 dropped 3.3 percent on Wednesday for its biggest loss since February — and clinched its first five-day losing streak since 2016. Among the hardest hit areas of the market were those that had earlier been the biggest winners, such as technology stocks.

It's the latest sign that markets may be struggling to adjust to a new era, where returns are no longer juiced by the ultra-low rates that prevailed in the years following the Great Recession. Going back even further, it's another piece of evidence that the long run of declining interest rates, which began in the early 1980s, is over.

Here's a look at what's going on:

WHY ARE INTEREST RATES RISING?

The U.S. economy is doing well, and the Federal Reserve is raising short-term rates in response. Two weeks ago, the Fed raised its benchmark rate for the third time this year, and the federal funds rate now sits at a range of 2.00 percent to 2.25 percent. It had been anchored at virtually zero for seven years following the 2008 financial crisis.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 39 of 49

The Fed has less control over longer-term interest rates, which move mostly on expectations for future economic growth and inflation. Reports recently have shown that the job market and economy are strong. Inflation is still relatively tame but may be showing more signs of life. Investors have sold longer-term bonds accordingly. When a bond's price falls, its yield rises, and the 30-year Treasury yield rose above 3.40 percent at one point Wednesday, up from 2.89 percent a year ago.

WHAT DO RISING RATES MEAN FOR STOCKS?

Higher rates generally hurt stock prices for a few reasons. One is that higher rates make it more expensive to borrow, which can tap the brakes on economic growth. Earlier this week, the International Monetary Fund downgraded its forecast for global economic growth, in part due to rising rates.

Higher rates also erode profits for companies, which have to pay higher interest costs. As big U.S. companies give updates in the coming weeks on how much they earned during the summer, investors will listen as CEOs say how much of an impact they're seeing from higher rates.

Higher yields make bonds more attractive investments, which can siphon buyers away from stocks. When a bond is paying more in interest, investors aren't as willing to pay high prices for stocks, which are riskier investments. Some of the areas of the stock market that have been hit hardest this month are those trading at higher prices relative to their earnings, such as technology stocks. Apple plunged 4.6 percent on Wednesday, and Microsoft fell 5.4 percent, their worst days in nearly two-and-a-half years.

WHAT DO RISING RATES MEAN FOR BOND INVESTMENTS?

Bonds getting issued today are paying investors more handsomely than those issued a year ago. That's good news for savers and investors looking for more income.

But those bonds issued a year ago look less attractive in comparison. That means their resale price drops, something mutual funds and ETFs with such bonds in their portfolios must account for. Prices for long-term bonds are more sensitive to rises in rates than short-term ones, because they lock investors into a lower rate for a longer period.

As a result, bond funds have logged losses recently, though generally milder than for stock funds. One of the largest bond funds, the iShares Core U.S. Aggregate Bond ETF, is down 0.9 percent since last Tuesday.

A swoon in bond funds can be particularly unsettling for investors because they're supposed to be the safe part of anyone's portfolio, offering stability when stocks go on another of their stomach-churning runs.

SHOULD I PANIC ABOUT RISING RATES?

One measure of fear in the market is at its highest level since April. The VIX, which measures how much volatility investors expect from the S&P 500 over the next 30 days, was up more than 35 percent at one point on Wednesday.

But if the recent rise in rates turns more gradual, markets could be better able to digest it.

For bond funds, higher rates should mean more income in the long run, even though they're knocking down prices at the moment. If rates rise slowly, that higher income could offset the price drops and leave investors with positive returns.

For stocks, rates seem to be rising due to a strengthening economy, which should eventually feed through into corporate profits. That would help the case for holding onto stocks.

The Federal Reserve has repeatedly pledged to raise rates only gradually. Last month it indicated it may raise rates in December for the fourth time this year, three times in 2019 and perhaps once in 2020.

The biggest threat to stocks would be a burst of inflation that causes the Federal Reserve to sharply accelerate that timetable.

Russian suspect in UK poisoning is hero to his home village

By NATALIYA VASILYEVA, Associated Press

LOYGA, Russia (AP) — As the recipient of Russia's highest award, Alexander Mishkin is the pride of his home village, his photo even decorating a local school.

Several residents of this remote hamlet located amid marshlands and deep forests in Russia's northwestern Arkhangelsk region easily recognized him in photos Wednesday as one of two men accused by British officials of poisoning a former Russian spy.

But to them he is just a warm-hearted local boy, a "Hero of Russia" who has made a successful career as a military doctor thanks to his hard work and courage.

"He studied at school here," said Yuri Poroshin, an amateur painter who lives in Loyga. "His picture even hangs on the wall there because he's a Hero of Russia."

Poroshin said he heard that Mishkin received Russia's highest medal for saving the life of his commanding officer during fighting with Islamist rebels in Chechnya.

According to British police, two agents of Russia's GRU military intelligence agency, traveling under the aliases Alexander Petrov and Ruslan Boshirov, used the Soviet-made nerve agent Novichok to poison former Russian double-agent Sergei Skripal and his daughter, Yulia, in the English city of Salisbury in March.

This week, the investigative group Bellingcat identified Petrov as Dr. Alexander Mishkin, a GRU agent who had received Russia's highest award. Previously the group had uncovered the real identity of Boshirov, determining that he is GRU Col. Anatoly Chepiga.

Bellingcat, which based its probe on passport information, residents' databases, car registration documents and phone records, determined that the 39-year-old Mishkin grew up in Loyga before moving to St. Petersburg, where he studied medicine at the elite Kirov Military Medical Academy.

Some Loyga residents corroborated that account, confirming that Mishkin was trained as a military doctor.

They said he continued to visit Loyga, where his 90-year-old grandmother, a respected local general practitioner, still lives.

Poroshin's wife, Valentina Poroshina, fondly remembers Mishkin, whom she last spoke to on a train four years ago. "He was a good boy," she said. "He was very polite."

Poroshin also immediately recognized Mishkin when shown the photos released by British police. "Yes, that's him. He looks like his dad and grandmother," he said.

The Poroshins' granddaughter, Yulia, said that Mishkin was lauded as a role model at her school. "We even have a portfolio on him," the sixth-grader said.

Several other villagers also recognized Mishkin but wouldn't talk about him further.

However, village manager Svetlana Lukina denied the man in the photos was Mishkin, saying she didn't recognize him.

"People are looking for something to entertain themselves with," Lukina said nervously after being shown the pictures by an Associated Press reporter. "They make it all up out of nothing. His family hasn't lived here for a long time. It's all rumors and hearsay."

On Wednesday, the village was largely desolate, with only the occasional big-wheeled all-terrain vehicle able to navigate its unpaved dirt roads. A few people, some of them drunk, passed by on its streets covered with wooden planks.

"Only those who have nowhere to go are left here," Poroshin said. "Only drinkers and pensioners are left. Good young people are all gone."

The gray two-story brick school building was locked on Wednesday, a note announcing a ban on taking photos and videos pinned next to the door. A school employee told an AP reporter through the glass pane to go away.

President Vladimir Putin's spokesman, Dmitry Peskov, refused to confirm that Putin awarded Mishkin the Hero of Russia medal. He insisted that the Kremlin wouldn't discuss investigative reports and media articles on the Skripal poisoning in the absence of official British requests for information.

Skripal, a former Russian military intelligence officer turned double agent for Britain and his visiting daughter spent weeks in critical condition after the March 4 attack. In June, two area residents who ap-

parently came across a discarded vial that contained the poison also fell ill; one of them died.

Britain claims the poisoning was authorized "at a senior level of the Russian state," something both the Kremlin and the suspects have vehemently denied.

Pavel Felgenhauer, an independent Moscow-based military analyst, said that the Salisbury attack marked a dangerous escalation of the rift between Russia and the West.

"The Russians are kind of treating Western Europe as Western Europe is treating Syria and Afghanistan—as a battle zone — if it's going in with special ops people to run operations," he said.

Associated Press writers Kate de Pury and Vladimir Isachenkov in Moscow contributed to this report.

Hurricane Michael slams into Florida, charges into Southeast

By JAY REEVES and BRENDAN FARRINGTON, Associated Press

PANAMA CITY, Fla. (AP) — Hurricane Michael slammed into the Florida Panhandle with terrifying winds of 155 mph Wednesday, splintering homes and submerging neighborhoods before continuing its destructive charge inland across the Southeast. It was the most powerful hurricane to hit the continental U.S. in nearly 50 years and at least one death was reported during its passage.

Supercharged by abnormally warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico, the Category 4 storm crashed ashore in the early afternoon near Mexico Beach, a tourist town about midway along the Panhandle, a 200-mile (320-kilometer) stretch of white-sand beach resorts, fishing towns and military bases.

After it ravaged the Panhandle, Michael barreled into south Georgia as a Category 3 hurricane — the most powerful ever recorded for that part of the neighboring state. It later weakened to a Category 1 hurricane, and there were reports it spawned possible tornadoes in central Georgia.

In north Florida, Michael battered the shoreline with sideways rain, powerful gusts and crashing waves, swamping streets and docks, flattening trees, shredding awnings and peeling away shingles. It set off transformer explosions and knocked out power to more than 388,000 homes and businesses.

A Panhandle man was killed by a tree that toppled on a home, Gadsden County Sheriff's Office spokeswoman Anglie Hightower said. But she added emergency crews trying to reach the home were hampered by downed trees and debris blocking roadways. The man wasn't immediately identified.

Damage in Panama City was extensive, with broken and uprooted trees and power lines down nearly everywhere. Roofs were peeled off and homes split open by fallen trees. Twisted street signs lay on the ground. Residents emerged in the early evening to assess damage when rains stopped, though skies were still overcast and windy.

Vance Beu, 29, was staying with his mother at her apartment, Spring Gate Apartments, a small complex of single-story wood frame apartment buildings. A pine tree punched a hole in their roof and he said the roar of the storm sounded like a jet engine as the winds accelerated. Their ears even popped as the barometric pressure dropped.

"It was terrifying, honestly. There was a lot of noise. We thought the windows were going to break at any time. We had the inside windows kind of barricaded in with mattresses," Beu said.

Kaylee O'Brien was crying as she sorted through the remains of the apartment she shared with three roommates at Whispering Pines apartments, where the smell of broken pine trees was thick in the air. Four pine trees had crashed through the roof of her apartment, nearly hitting two people. Her 1-year-old Siamese cat, Molly, was missing.

"We haven't seen her since the tree hit the den. She's my baby," O'Brien said, her face wet with tears.

In Apalachicola, Sally Crown rode out the storm in her house. The worst damage — she thought — was in her yard. Multiple trees were down. But after the storm passed, she drove to check on the cafe she manages and saw breathtaking destruction.

"It's absolutely horrendous. Catastrophic," Crown said. "There's flooding. Boats on the highway. A house on the highway. Houses that have been there forever are just shattered."

Gov. Rick Scott announced soon after the powerful eye had swept inland that "aggressive" search and

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 42 of 49

rescue efforts would get underway as conditions allow. He urged people to stay off debris-littered roads. "If you and your family made it through the storm safely, the worst thing you could do now is act foolishly," he said.

Michael was a meteorological brute that sprang quickly from a weekend tropical depression, going from a Category 2 on Tuesday to a Category 4 by the time it came ashore. It was the most powerful hurricane on record to hit the Panhandle.

More than 375,000 people up and down the Gulf Coast were urged to evacuate as Michael closed in. But the fast-moving, fast-strengthening storm didn't give people much time to prepare, and emergency authorities lamented that many ignored the warnings and seemed to think they could ride it out.

Diane Farris, 57, and her son walked to a high school-turned-shelter near their Panama City home, where about 1,100 people crammed into a space meant for about half as many. Neither she nor her son had any way to communicate because their lone cellphone got wet and quit working.

"I'm worried about my daughter and grandbaby. I don't know where they are. You know, that's hard," she said, choking back tears.

In Panama City, plywood and metal flew off the front of a Holiday Inn Express. Part of the awning fell and shattered the glass front door of the hotel, and the rest of the awning wound up on vehicles parked below it.

"Oh my God, what are we seeing?" said evacuee Rachel Franklin, her mouth hanging open. The hotel swimming pool had whitecaps.

Hurricane-force winds extended up to 45 miles (72 kilometers) from Michael's center at the height of the storm. Forecasters said rainfall could reach up to a foot (30 centimeters) in spots. And then there was the life-threatening storm surge.

A water-level station in Apalachicola, close to where Michael came ashore, reported a surge of nearly 8 feet (2.4 meters).

Based on its internal barometric pressure, Michael was the third most powerful hurricane to hit the U.S. mainland, behind the unnamed Labor Day storm of 1935 and Camille in 1969. Based on wind speed, it was the fourth-strongest, behind the Labor Day storm (184 mph, or 296 kph), Camille and Andrew in 1992.

Forecasters said it would unleash damaging wind and rain all the way into the Carolinas, which are still recovering from Hurricane Florence's epic flooding.

At the White House, President Donald Trump said, "God bless everyone because it's going to be a rough one," he said. "A very dangerous one." His office said he would tour the devastated areas next week.

In Mexico Beach, population 1,000, the storm shattered homes, leaving floating piles of lumber. The lead-gray water was so high that roofs were about all that could be seen of many homes.

Hours earlier, meteorologists watched satellite imagery in complete awe as the storm intensified.

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

The storm is likely to fire up the debate over global warming.

Scientists say global warming is responsible for more intense and more frequent extreme weather, such as storms, droughts, floods and fires. But without extensive study, they cannot directly link a single weather event to the changing climate.

And with Election Day less than a month away, the crisis was seen as a test of leadership for Scott, a Republican running for the Senate, and Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillum, the Democratic nominee for governor. Just as Northern politicians are judged on how they handle snowstorms, their Southern counterparts are watched closely for how they deal with hurricanes.

Associated Press writers Tamara Lush in St. Petersburg, Fla.; Terry Spencer in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; Freida Frisaro in Miami; Brendan Farrington in St. Marks, Fla.; Russ Bynum in Keaton Beach, Fla.; Jonathan Drew in Raleigh, North Carolina; and Seth Borenstein in Kensington, Md., contributed to this story.

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

Trump campaigns in Pennsylvania as hurricane pounds Florida

By CATHERINE LUCEY, Associated Press

ERIE, Pa. (AP) — As Hurricane Michael pounded Florida on Wednesday, President Donald Trump took shelter at a campaign event in Pennsylvania, where he sought to boost Republicans before the midterms.

Trump acknowledged the hurricane at the top of his rally in Erie, offering his “thoughts and prayers” to those in the storm’s path and promising to “spare no effort” in the response. He promised to travel to Florida “very shortly.”

He added: “We will always pull through. ... We will always be successful at what we do.”

Then Trump turned back to politics. With weeks to go before the critical November elections, Trump and his fellow Republicans are engaged in an all-out midterms blitz. They have been invigorated by the successful nomination of Justice Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court and are seeking to use the contentious moment to unify the GOP and stave off Democratic energy at the polls.

That Trump kept his appointment in Erie underscored the importance of this effort to Republicans. Earlier in the day, Trump received a hurricane briefing at the White House on the Category 4 storm. He told reporters he faced a “quagmire” about whether to attend the Pennsylvania rally because “thousands of people” were already lined up for the event.

He ultimately decided to attend, a move he criticized President Barack Obama for six years ago after Superstorm Sandy hit the East Coast.

“Yesterday Obama campaigned with JayZ & Springsteen while Hurricane Sandy victims across NY & NJ are still decimated by Sandy. Wrong!” Trump tweeted on Nov. 6, 2012.

On Wednesday, Trump touted two Republican congressmen, Mike Kelly and Lou Barletta. Kelly is facing a challenge from Democrat Ron DiNicola, while Barletta is mounting an uphill campaign to unseat two-term Democratic Sen. Bob Casey. The president, who attended a fundraiser before the rally, also praised GOP gubernatorial candidate Scott Wagner.

Trump also celebrated Kavanaugh’s appointment amid Democratic opposition and sexual misconduct allegations against the nominee. Trump called it a “historic week,” saying, “What the radical Democrats did to Brett Kavanaugh and his beautiful family is a national disgrace.”

For weeks, Trump has been escalating his attacks on Democrats. He continued that effort Wednesday, claiming that Democrats want to “impose socialism and take over and destroy American health care.” He added: “Democrats want to abolish America’s borders and allow drugs and gangs to pour into our country.”

Trump also returned to one of his favorite themes — reliving his stunning 2016 victory.

“Was that the most exciting evening?” he said to cheers.

Trump also ticked through what he sees as his top achievements, including tax cuts and a new trade deal with Canada and Mexico. He talked about exiting the Iran nuclear deal and drew wild applause for mentioning his plans for a Space Force.

Trump attacked Casey for opposing Kavanaugh’s nomination, saying he had “joined the left-wing mob.” He also accused Casey, named for his politician father, for “banking on the name of his father.” Trump’s own father, Fred, was a successful real estate developer who set his son up in business. The New York Times recently reported that Donald Trump received at least \$413 million from his father over the decades, much of that through dubious tax dodges, including outright fraud.

Earlier Wednesday, Trump published an op-ed in USA Today that attacked Democrats over “Medicare for All” health care proposals. In his op-ed, Trump said Democrats have moved away from centrism, claiming the “new Democrats are radical socialists who want to model America’s economy after Venezuela.”

He added: “Government-run health care is just the beginning. Democrats are also pushing massive government control of education, private-sector businesses and other major sectors of the U.S. economy.”

Trump’s attack on Medicare for All omits any mention of improved benefits for seniors that Democrats promise.

Medicare for All means different things to different Democrats. The plan pushed by Sen. Bernie Sanders, the Vermont independent who challenged Hillary Clinton for the 2016 Democratic presidential nomination,

would expand Medicare to cover almost everyone in the country, and current Medicare recipients would get improved benefits. Other Democratic plans would allow people to buy into a new government system modeled on Medicare, moving toward the goal of coverage for all while leaving private insurance in place.

Democrats, who think health care is a winning issue going into the midterms, also sought to focus voter attention Wednesday. In the Senate, Democrats unsuccessfully sought to scuttle Trump's push for short-term health insurance plans, which are less expensive but provide skimpier coverage. While the vote failed, Democrats think the move will help them in November.

FBI says man planned to bomb National Mall on Election Day

By JIM MUSTIAN, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Federal authorities have charged a New York man with building a 200-pound (90-kilogram) bomb they say he planned to detonate on Election Day on the National Mall in Washington.

Paul Rosenfeld, 56, of Tappan, was charged Wednesday with unlawfully manufacturing a destructive device and interstate transportation and receipt of an explosive.

Prosecutors said he planned to use the bomb to kill himself and draw attention to a political system called sortition, in which public officials are chosen randomly rather than elected.

It was not immediately clear whether Rosenfeld had an attorney. A message left with the federal public defender's office in White Plains, which often represents newly arrested criminal defendants, wasn't immediately returned.

The FBI raided Rosenfeld's home Tuesday and found a functional bomb in his basement that consisted of black powder inside a plywood box, according to a criminal complaint.

Agents also found empty canisters of black powder often used in firearms and artillery, the complaint said.

The FBI said in court filings that Rosenfeld, after being pulled over on Tuesday, confessed to ordering large quantities of black powder over the internet and having the substance delivered to "a location in New Jersey."

Rosenfeld took the black powder to New York, constructed smaller explosive devices and conducted test detonations, according to the criminal complaint.

William Sweeney Jr., the assistant director of the FBI's New York field office, said in a statement that Rosenfeld intended to "detonate a large explosive to kill himself and draw attention to his radical beliefs."

"Had he been successful, Rosenfeld's alleged plot could have claimed the lives of innocent bystanders and caused untold destruction," Sweeney said in the statement. "Fortunately, his plans were thwarted by the quick action of a concerned citizen and the diligent work of a host of our law enforcement partners and the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force."

Rosenfeld had an initial court appearance before a magistrate at a federal courthouse in White Plains on Wednesday afternoon.

Remember when it was NFC Beast? Now, it's a pussy cat.

By BARRY WILNER, AP Pro Football Writer

Remember when it was called the NFC Beast? Now, it's a pussy cat.

Washington leads the division at 2-2, followed by Dallas and Philadelphia at 2-3, New York at 1-4. The Giants host the Eagles — the defending Super Bowl champion Eagles, who have looked anything but title worthy so far — on Thursday night.

Eagles coach Doug Pederson has cited "self-inflicted wounds" as a major reason for injury-riddled Philly's struggles. His offensive coordinator, Mike Groh, concurs.

"We obviously don't condone those kinds of mistakes," Groh says. "The guys that are responsible for that, we've talked to those guys. Those things can't happen. I mean, they just can't happen. That's simple football. We've got to get out of the huddle, we've got to get lined up, and we've got to know where we're supposed to be and what our assignment is. We've got to do a better job collectively of teaching that,

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 45 of 49

and then when we get out there, everybody has to know what to do and where to line up. Those things have to be eliminated."

The Giants eliminated a lot of those things at Carolina last Sunday and made an impressive comeback, only to fall on Graham Gano's 63-yard field goal with 1 second remaining.

"These guys love to play the game, it's their livelihood, but they certainly play it with great emotion and great passion and they just keep playing," coach Pat Shurmur says.

"As we get better — I think we played better last week — we need to find 63 more yards somewhere to get the win. But we played better and we've got to continue on that path. Then eventually it will crack."

Philadelphia, ranked 15th in the AP Pro32, is a 3-point favorite over the No. 28 Giants. The short week probably is more damaging to the Eagles.

GIANTS, 22-20

KNOCKOUT POOL: Thanks, New England. Very tough choice this week, will gamble on TEXANS.

No. 6 Carolina (pick-em) at No. 18 Washington

Getting Panthers at a bargain price.

BEST BET: PANTHERS, 26-20

No. 12 Pittsburgh (plus 2 1-2) at No. 5 Cincinnati

Really like what Bengals are doing, but pick them here? Sorry.

UPSET SPECIAL: STEELERS, 21-20

No. 1 Los Angeles Rams (minus 7) at No. 25 Denver

NFL's most talented roster keeps unbeaten season going.

RAMS, 30-20

No. 2 Kansas City (plus 3) at No. 4 New England

Expect a load of points, and a victory for ...

PATRIOTS, 37-31

No. 11 Los Angeles Chargers (minus 1) at No. 16 Cleveland

Chargers remember that 2016 loss to Browns, who went 1-15 that season.

CHARGERS, 22-17

No. 19 Seattle (minus 2 1-2) vs. No. 31 Oakland at London

Is Jon Gruden wondering about going back to ESPN booth?

SEAHAWKS, 25-20

No. 8 Chicago (minus 3) at No. 17 Miami

Bears favored on road? Dolphins should have won last week, will this week.

DOLPHINS, 19-17

No. 29 Indianapolis (plus 2) at No. 24 New York Jets

If only Colts were healthier, this would be upset special.

JETS, 30-26

No. 22 Tampa Bay (plus 3 1-2) at No. 27 Atlanta

Injuries have ruined Atlanta's season already.

BUCCANEERS, 31-29

No. 26 Buffalo (plus 7) at No. 21 Houston

Bills are gutsy, Texans are gutsy and more talented.

TEXANS, 21-10

No. 10 Baltimore (minus 2 1-2) at No. 13 Tennessee

Titans are gutsy, Ravens are more talented. But ...

TITANS, 20-16

No. 7 Jacksonville (minus 3) at No. 23 Dallas

Is anyone more inconsistent than Jacksonville? Well, maybe Dallas is.

JAGUARS, 19-17

No. 30 Arizona (plus 10 1-2) at No. 9 Minnesota

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 46 of 49

So the Cardinals got a win. Big deal.

VIKINGS, 30-16

No. 32 San Francisco (plus 10) at No. 14 Green Bay, Monday night

Packers make too many mistakes to be so heavily favored.

PACKERS, 27-20

2018 RECORD:

Last Week: Against spread (5-9-1). Straight up (9-6)

Season Totals: Against spread (33-40-3). Straight up: (48-28-2)

Best Bet: 2-3 against spread, 5-0 straight up

Upset special: 3-2 against spread, 2-2-1 straight up

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

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 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.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 47 of 49

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 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

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 48 of 49

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Thursday, Oct. 11, the 284th day of 2018. There are 81 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 11, 1991, testifying before the Senate Judiciary Committee, Anita Hill accused Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas of sexually harassing her; Thomas re-appeared before the panel to denounce the proceedings as a "high-tech lynching."

On this date:

In 1809, just over three years after the famous Lewis and Clark expedition ended, Meriwether Lewis was found dead in a Tennessee inn, an apparent suicide; he was 35.

In 1884, American first lady Eleanor Roosevelt was born in New York City.

In 1910, Theodore Roosevelt became the first former U.S. president to fly in an airplane during a visit to St. Louis.

In 1958, the lunar probe Pioneer 1 was launched; it failed to go as far out as planned, fell back to Earth, and burned up in the atmosphere.

In 1961, actor-comedian Leonard "Chico" (CHIH'-koh) Marx, 74, died in Hollywood, Calif.

In 1962, Pope John XXIII convened the first session of the Roman Catholic Church's Second Vatican Council, also known as "Vatican 2."

In 1968, Apollo 7, the first manned Apollo mission, was launched with astronauts Wally Schirra (shih-RAH'), Donn Fulton Eisele and R. Walter Cunningham aboard. The government of Panama was overthrown in a military coup.

In 1983, the last full-fledged hand-cranked telephone system in the United States went out of service as 440 telephone customers in Bryant Pond, Maine, were switched over to direct-dial service.

In 1986, President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev opened two days of talks concerning arms control and human rights in Reykjavik, Iceland.

In 1992, in the first of three presidential debates, three candidates faced off against each other in St. Louis: President George H.W. Bush, Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton and businessman Ross Perot.

In 2001, in his first prime-time news conference since taking office, President George W. Bush said "it may take a year or two" to track down Osama bin Laden and his terrorist network in Afghanistan, but he asserted that after a five-day aerial bombardment, "we've got them on the run."

In 2002, former President Jimmy Carter was named the recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush and foreign financial officials, meeting at the White House, displayed joint resolve in combatting the unfolding financial crisis. Austrian far-right politician Joerg Haider (yorg HY'-dur), 58, was killed in a car accident. Composer and arranger Neal Hefti, who wrote the themes for the movie "The Odd Couple" and the TV show "Batman," died in Toluca Lake, Calif., at age 85.

Five years ago: The Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons won the Nobel Peace Prize for its efforts to stop chemical warfare. Tyrese Ruffin, the 2-year-old son of Minnesota Vikings running back Adrian Peterson, died at a South Dakota hospital two days after being admitted with severe head injuries; Joseph Patterson was convicted of second-degree murder in the child's beating death and was sentenced to life in prison. Carlos Beltran hit an RBI single in the 13th inning to lift the St. Louis Cardinals over the Los Angeles Dodgers 3-2 in the NL championship series opener.

One year ago: The Boy Scouts of America announced that it would admit girls into the Cub Scouts starting in 2018 and establish a new program for older girls based on the Boy Scout curriculum, allowing them to aspire to the Eagle Scout rank. Strong winds fueled wildfires burning through California wine country; the confirmed death toll climbed to 23 as authorities ordered new evacuations. An American woman, Caitlan Coleman, her Canadian husband Joshua Boyle, and their children were freed, five years after they were seized by a terrorist network in the mountains of Afghanistan; officials said the couple and their three children - who'd been born in captivity - were rescued in a dramatic raid orchestrated by the U.S. and

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 094 ~ 49 of 49

Pakistani governments.

Today's Birthdays: Former U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry is 91. Actor Ron Leibman is 81. Actor Amitabh Bachchan is 76. Country singer Gene Watson is 75. Singer Daryl Hall (Hall and Oates) is 72. Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash., is 68. Rhythm-and-blues musician Andrew Woolfolk is 68. Actress-director Catlin Adams is 68. Country singer Paulette Carlson is 67. Actor David Morse is 65. Actor Stephen Spinella is 62. Actress-writer-comedian Dawn French is 61. Pro and College Football Hall of Famer Steve Young is 57. Actress Joan Cusack is 56. Rock musician Scott Johnson (Gin Blossoms) is 56. Comedy writer and TV host Michael J. Nelson is 54. Actor Sean Patrick Flanery is 53. Actor Lennie James is 53. College Football Hall of Famer and former NFL player Chris Spielman is 53. Actor Luke Perry is 52. Country singer-songwriter Todd Snider is 52. Actor-comedian Artie Lange is 51. Actress Jane Krakowski is 50. Rapper U-God (Wu-Tang Clan) is 48. Actress Constance Zimmer is 48. Bluegrass musician Leigh Gibson (The Gibson Brothers) is 47. Rapper MC Lyte is 47. Figure skater Kyoko Ina is 46. Actor Darien Sills-Evans is 44. Actor/writer Nat Faxon is 43. Singer NeeNa Lee is 43. Actress Emily Deschanel is 42. Actor Matt Bomer is 41. Actor Trevor Donovan is 40. Actor Robert Christopher Riley is 38. Actress Michelle Trachtenberg is 33. Actress Lucy Griffiths is 32. Golfer Michelle Wie is 29. Rapper Cardi B is 26.

Thought for Today: "Science is organized knowledge. Wisdom is organized life." — Immanuel Kant, German philosopher (1724-1804).