

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 1 of 48

- 1- Groton Chiropractic Clinic Ad
- 1- Recycling Trailer
- 2- No. 1 Northern State slides past Sioux Falls in 4-sets
- 3- Groton Area beats Milbank in 4-sets
- 4- Photo Page
- 5- Fjeldheim for County Commission ad
- 6- Absentee Ballots Requested as of October 19, 2018
- 7- Noem's Weekly Column
- 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

Saturday, October 20, 2018

State Cross Country at Sioux Falls.
Oral Interp at Florence
Robotics at Groton Area

Monday, October 22, 2018

Oral Interp at Brookings High School
6:00pm: Volleyball: Girls Varsity Match at Deuel High School. C & JV matches start at 6pm followed by varsity match.

Tuesday, October 23, 2018

End of 1st Quarter
5:30pm- 6:30pm: Title 1 Open House Groton Area Elementary School for parents and families in JK-5th.

Thursday, October 25, 2018

All State Chorus and Orchestra at the Rapid City Civic Center
Football: Boys Varsity Playoffs 2nd Round

Friday, October 26, 2018

All State Chorus and Orchestra at the Rapid City Civic Center

Saturday, October 27, 2018

ACT Test (Cancelled) Groton Area High School (This testing center has been closed for this test by ACT due to low registration numbers. Students will be notified by ACT of their new testing center assignment.)

All State Chorus and Orchestra at the Rapid City Civic Center

Oral Interp (Pumpkinstakes) at Watertown High School

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

Groton Chiropractic Clinic

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

No. 1 Northern State slides past Sioux Falls in 4-sets

Aberdeen, S.D. – The No. 1 Northern State University volleyball team battled to a 4-set victory over Sioux Falls on Friday evening. The Wolves defeated the Cougars on their home court with set scores of 25-15, 25-17, 17-25, and 25-20. Northern notches their eighth straight victory, improving to 22-1 overall and 14-1 in the NSIC.

The Wolves tallied a match high 58 kills, 57 assists, and 53 digs in the win, while also adding six aces and six blocks. NSU hit .289 in the match, and defensively held the Cougars to a .202 hitting percentage. Northern hit a match high .389 and .364 in the first two sets, suffering just nine attack errors.

Laura Snyder led three Wolves in double figures with a match high 17 kills. She was also second on the team hitting .355, while adding one assist and two blocks. Sally Gaul and Hailey Busch were a one-two punch on the outside with 13 and ten kills respectively. The pair combined for 40 percent of the Northern State offense in the match.

Jenna Reiff led the team hitting at a .385 clip, recording eight kills on 13 swings, with three hitting errors. Morgan Baufield added nine kills of her own, hitting .333, while Ashley Rozell added the final team kill for NSU.

Rozell averaged 13.25 assists per set, totaling 53 in the win. She also added one service ace, as well as three blocks and seven digs. Busch recorded a team high three aces, and notched a double-double with a team best 17 digs. Jaiden Langlie grabbed another 17 digs for the Wolves, while adding one assist.

Baufield led the defense at the net with a single season match high 5.0 blocks. Bry Goar and Lexi Boesl rounded out the defensive effort for the Wolves with five and four digs respectively.

Northern returns to action this afternoon at Southwest Minnesota State. First serve is set for 2 p.m. between the Wolves and the No. 16 Mustangs from Marshall.

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 3 of 48

Groton Area beats Milbank in 4-sets

The Groton Area volleyball team battled to a 4-set victory over Milbank on Friday evening. The Tigers defeated the Bulldogs in Milbank with set scores of 22-25, 25-17, 25-16 and 26-24. Groton Area improves to 19-9 on the season, moving up to second in the regional ratings.

Groton Area dominated the killing attacks with 53 kills compared to 33 by Milbank. Even in the first game that Groton Area lost, the Tigers doubled up on Milbank in kills, 14-7, with both teams having two blocks and Milbank having more ace serves, 3-1.

Groton Area had more kills in the following games as well. Up until the fourth game, Groton Area had only two serving errors. Two serving areas down the stretch held Milbank tie the game at 24 before Groton Area was able to put the game away. Milbank had seven serving errors on the night while Groton Area had five.

Jennie Doeden led the offensive charge with 19 kills, three blocks and two ace serves. Eliza Wanner added 13 kills and two ace serves. Nicole Marzahn had four of her nine kills in the first game. Portia Kettering and Indigo Rogers each had five kills and Kaylin Kucker had two kills. Miranda Hanson finished with three ace serves and Todyn Glover had two ace serves. Rogers added two blocks. Payton Maine had 38 digs with Miranda Hanson added 19. Kucker had 51 of the team's 53 assists.

Milbank won the junior varsity match, 25-19 and 25-20, and Groton Area won the C match, 20-25, 25-21 and 15-13.

Groton Area will complete its regular season on Monday by taking on the Deuel Cardinals at Clear Lake.

Region 1	Seed Points	W-L
Aberdeen Roncalli	43.125	18-6
Groton Area	43.000	19-9
Redfield/Doland	42.565	17-6
Milbank	40.407	13-14
Sisseton	37.708	7-17
Webster Area	37.708	7-17
Tiospa Zina	36.250	4-16

Groton Area right behind Roncalli in ratings

Groton Area is right behind Aberdeen Roncalli in the regional power ratings, only .125 behind, with a week's worth of matches still yet to be played. Roncalli is done playing so all they will get are power points from their opponents. Groton Area is well ahead of Redfield/Doland right now. The top seed receives a first round bye.

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 4 of 48



Payton Maine goes for the dig in Groton Area's win over Milbank. (Photo

by Jeslyn Kosel)

Tadyn Glover returns the ball. Also pictured is Indigo Rogers. (Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)



Jonathan Doeden gets ready to hand off the ball to Darien Shabazz. (Photo by

Julianna Kosel)





Doug Fjeldheim County Commission

**A devoted FAMILY MAN,
a FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE leader,
and a Commissioner who will make
decisions based on COMMON SENSE.**

My fellow taxpayers of Brown County:

I am seeking re-election to the Brown County Commission because I believe I can and have contributed to the greater good by spending our tax dollars wisely.

As a farmer I know how important it is to have good roads and to have a county government that works with the people of the area to protect their interests.

I would be honored to serve another 4 years as a commissioner and treat your tax dollars as my own because just like you, some of them are!

On November 6th, please cast your ballot for Doug Fjeldheim for Brown County Commission.

Doug Fjeldheim

Paid for by Fjeldheim for County Commission

Doug Fjeldheim County Commission

Doug Fjeldheim is seeking to be re-elected to the Brown County Commission. Having over 32 years of management experience in business, 30 years of farming experience, and as the Westport Township Clerk since 2003, Doug is familiar with the challenges each township faces.

As your County Commissioner, Doug Fjeldheim pledges to continue being prudent with how the tax dollars of Brown County are spent.

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 6 of 48

Absentee Ballots Requested as of October 19, 2018

PIERRE, SD – Secretary of State Shantel Krebs announced that as of noon on Friday, October 19, 2018, there have been 39,100 Absentee Ballots requested from South Dakota voters.

In the 2016 Presidential Election there were 108,733 Absentee Ballots cast.

In the 2014 Midterm Election there were 55,292 Absentee Ballots cast.

In the 2012 Presidential Election there were 91,145 Absentee Ballots cast.

As a reminder, the voter registration deadline in South Dakota is on Monday, October 22nd , 5:00 pm local time, 15 days prior to the General Election. As of October 19, 2018, the following chart displays the South Dakota active voter registration totals broken down by age group.

Age Range	Total
18-24	41,995
24-34	85,185
35-44	83,616
35-54	80,642
55-64	104,399
65-74	83,268
75-84	39,367
85-94	15,322
95+	1,859
Total	535,653

* These registration numbers do not include inactive voters.

The General Election ballot contains five ballot questions to be voted on this year. The link to the Ballot Question Information Pamphlet is <https://sdsos.gov/elections-voting/upcoming-elections/general-information/2018-GeneralElection-Ballot-Question-Pamphlet.aspx>.

South Dakota voters may check their voter registration, find their polling locations, track their absentee ballot application and view their sample ballot at <https://vip.sdsos.gov/VIPLogin.aspx>.



Celebrating A Century of Tradition

A century has passed since South Dakota's first pheasant opener, but the shots fired that day have resonated throughout the last 100 years of South Dakota history, impacting our culture, traditions, and economy.

Over the years, Opening Day has become an unofficial holiday for many families, including ours. But beyond a family tradition, it was our family business for many years, as we opened and operated a hunting lodge in northeastern South Dakota. There are dozens of small businesses like that across the state, and they come alive this time of year, as people from across the world flock to our state to take advantage of our unmatched hunting opportunities.

All in all, hunting drives nearly \$700 million worth of economic activity in the state, supporting more than 18,000 full- and part-time jobs, so it's critical we work to maintain a healthy hunting economy.

This year, surveys show a 47 percent increase in pheasant populations, welcome news for our centennial season. But habitat remains a challenge.

That's why I fought to have my Protect Our Prairies language included in the 2014 Farm Bill. This legislation encourages conservation of native sod and grassland in our area. Because it's proven successful, I'm now working to expand the program nationwide.

Additionally, I continue to work to strengthen the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). Earlier this year, the House passed legislation to increase CRP acreage to 29 million acres, a priority for many South Dakota sportsmen. I'm hopeful we can move that language across the finish line in the weeks to come, once again helping to create long-term sustainability for our bird populations.

I'm proud to live in a state that celebrates our hunting traditions. All the best to you and your family this pheasant season. I hope it is safe and abundant.

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 8 of 48

Today in Weather History

October 20, 1936: Heavy snow across the region brought snowfall totals upwards of 5 inches in Newcastle and Sundance with 5.5 inches reported in Dupree and 10 inches in Faith. Aberdeen saw 2 inches, while Mobridge had three inches from this event.

1770: An exceedingly great storm struck eastern New England causing extensive coastal damage from Massachusetts to Maine, and the highest tide in 47 years.

1956: While not a record, Esperanza Base in Antarctic warmed to 57.2 degrees on this date. The all-time warmest day at this base occurred on March 24, 2015, when the temperature reached 63.5 degrees. As of now, the 63.5 degrees has not been verified to be the warmest temperature recorded on the continent of Antarctica.

1983 - Remnants of Pacific Hurricane Tico caused extensive flooding in central and south central Oklahoma. Oklahoma City set daily rainfall records with 1.45 inch on the 19th, and 6.28 inches on the 20th. (17th-21st) (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Cold arctic air invaded the Upper Midwest, and squalls in the Lake Superior snowbelt produced heavy snow in eastern Ashland County and northern Iron County of Wisconsin. Totals ranged up to 18 inches at Mellen. In the western U.S., the record high of 69 degrees at Seattle WA was their twenty-fifth of the year, their highest number of record highs for any given year. Bakersfield CA reported a record 146 days in a row with daily highs 80 degrees or above. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Unseasonably warm weather continued in the western U.S. In California, afternoon highs of 96 degrees at Redding and Red Bluff were records for the date. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Forty-nine cities reported record low temperatures for the date as readings dipped into the 20s and 30s across much of the south central and southeastern U.S. Lows of 32 degrees at Lake Charles LA and 42 degrees at Lakeland FL were records for October, and Little Rock AR reported their earliest freeze of record. Snow blanketed the higher elevations of Georgia and the Carolinas. Melbourne FL dipped to 47 degrees shortly before midnight to surpass the record low established that morning. Showers and thunderstorms brought heavy rain to parts of the northeastern U.S. Autumn leaves on the ground clogged drains and ditches causing flooding. Up to 4.10 inches of rain soaked southern Vermont in three days. Flood waters washed 600 feet of railroad track, resulting in a train derailment. (The National Weather Summary)(Storm Data)

2004: Typhoon Tokage blasting across Japan triggers flash floods that wash away entire hillsides, killing 55 people and leaving at least 24 people missing.

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 9 of 48

Today



Sunny

High: 45 °F

Tonight



Mostly Clear

Low: 32 °F

Sunday



Sunny

High: 63 °F

Sunday
Night



Mostly Clear

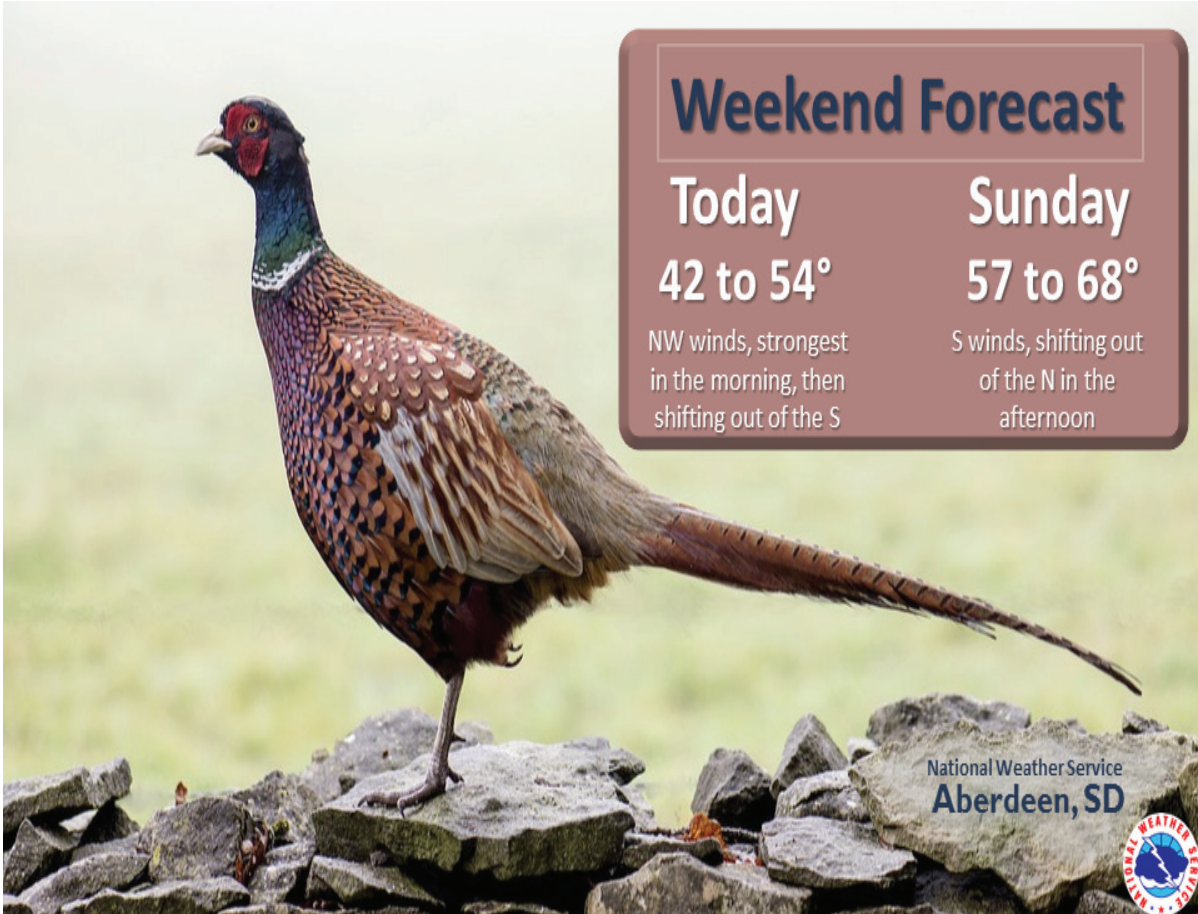
Low: 30 °F

Monday



Sunny


High: 56 °F



Weekend Forecast

Today	Sunday
42 to 54°	57 to 68°
NW winds, strongest in the morning, then shifting out of the S	S winds, shifting out of the N in the afternoon

National Weather Service
Aberdeen, SD



Published on: 10/20/2018 at 4:35AM

Weekend Forecast: Cool high pressure moving overhead today will result in diminishing winds this afternoon. Temperatures will warm back into the upper 50s to upper 60s Sunday.

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 10 of 48

Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 61 °F at 1:36 PM

Low Outside Temp: 39 °F at 8:17 AM

High Gust: 33 mph at 2:09 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 87° in 1947

Record Low: 12° in 1930

Average High: 56°F

Average Low: 31°F

Average Precip in Oct.: 1.37

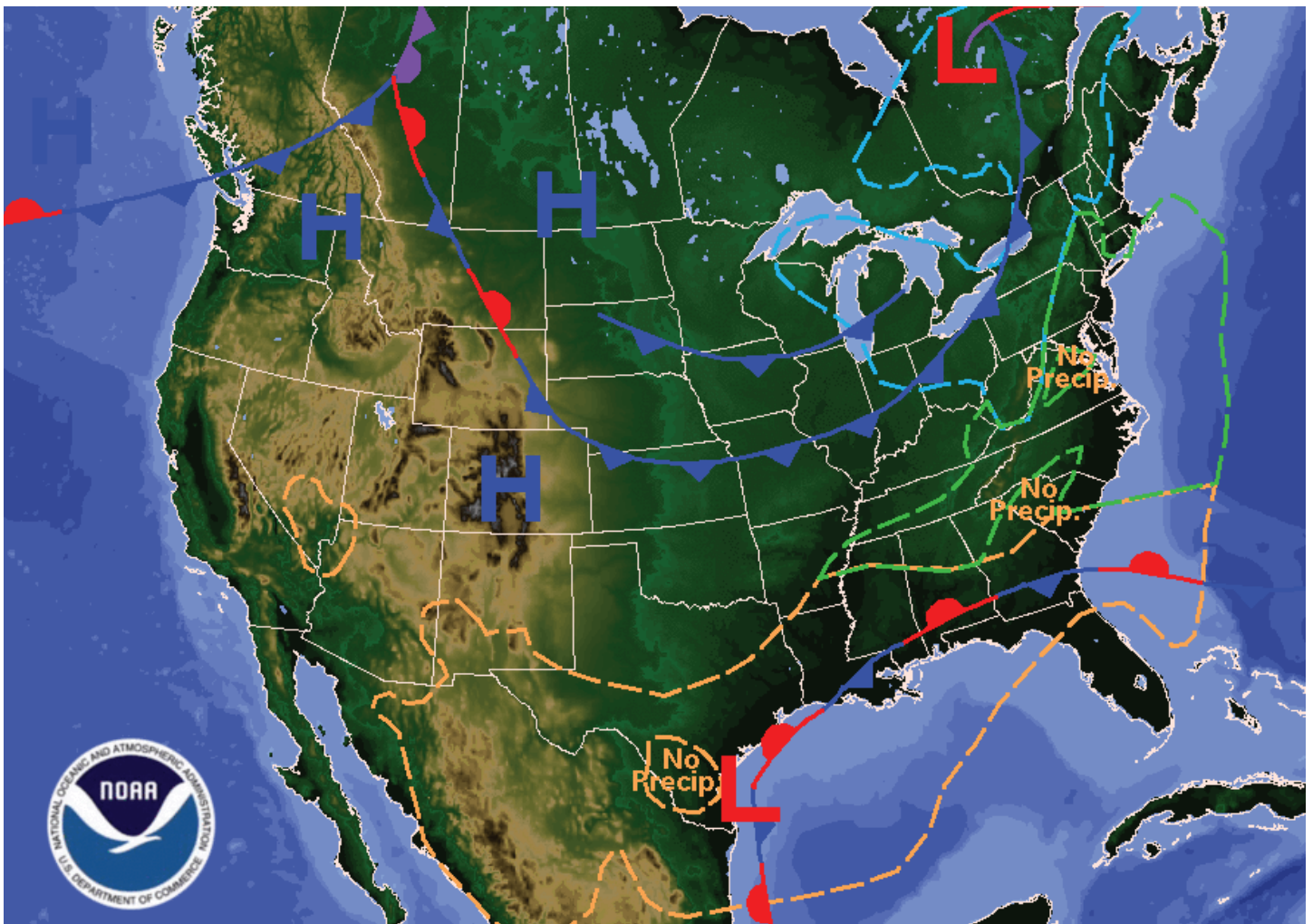
Precip to date in Oct.: 1.42

Average Precip to date: 19.85

Precip Year to Date: 15.03

Sunset Tonight: 6:40 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:58 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Sat, Oct 20, 2018, issued 4:41 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Snell 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

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 11 of 48



THE SOUND OF THE TRUMPETS

An old Jewish legend claims that each day in heaven begins with the ringing sound that comes from a trumpet.

After Lucifer, once the son of the morning, had fallen from heaven, he was asked, What do you miss most? After a moments thought, he said, The trumpets that sound in the morning. The legend continues that the reason the trumpet sounded was to call people together to thank God for His love and mercy, grace and goodness.

Sadly, the trumpet of thanksgiving is absent from the lives of far too many Christians. The sounds of glory and gratitude have been replaced with groans of gloom and grief, greed and godless living.

But we are urged in Psalm 150: to Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet. Trumpets were used in Jewish ceremonies to remind worshipers of the greatness, glory, and goodness of God and to praise and thank Him.

Perhaps it would be a good idea if each church had a trumpet player to begin each worship service. Perhaps the sound of a well-played trumpet might remind us to bow down before our Creator and give Him thanks for His many blessings - the ones we are aware of and those who fall on us unannounced and unrecognized.

Giving thanks is an important part of life - especially in the life of a Christian. All that we have or will have, all that we are or will become is not accidental. Everything in our lives comes from the grace of God. And not to thank Him is to insult Him. In ourselves, we have no worth. We only have worth in, through and by Gods grace.

Prayer: God, give us grateful hearts - hearts filled with gratitude for Your love, grace, mercy, salvation, and hope! In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 150:3 Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet.

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 12 of 48

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

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 13 of 48

News from the Associated Press

Forest Service seeks private partner for Pactola center

HILL CITY, S.D. (AP) — Black Hills National Forest administrators are looking for someone to take over management of the Pactola Visitor Center and operate it as a business.

The Forest Service would continue to own the facility. But the agency tells the Rapid City Journal that leasing it to a private entity would allow for such amenities as a gift shop, food service and special events.

The Forest Service would keep an employee on site to provide visitor information and other services to the public.

The visitor center is at the southeast end of the Pactola Reservoir, 13 miles north of Hill City. It's open from Memorial Day to Labor Day. About 50,000 people visit each year.

The agency is accepting ideas for the potential future use of the facility until Dec. 1.

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

Energy company pursues third wind farm in South Dakota area

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — An energy company is moving forward with a plan for a new 36-turbine wind farm in northeastern South Dakota.

Aberdeen American News reports that Apex Clean Energy is planning Dakota Range Wind III in Roberts and Grant counties.

Senior Development Manager Mark Mauersberger says the proposed wind farm would be the Virginia-based company's third 150-megawatt project in the area. He says the company's \$380 million Dakota Range I and II projects are underway and will start producing energy in 2021.

He says the company has completed environmental assessments and obtained 98 percent of the land-owner agreements for the third wind farm project.

Construction will begin on Dakota Range I and II once a transmission line between Big Stone City and Ellendale, North Dakota is finished.

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

SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Mega Millions

15-23-53-65-70, Mega Ball: 7, Megaplier: 2

(fifteen, twenty-three, fifty-three, sixty-five, seventy; Mega Ball: seven; Megaplier: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$1.00 Billion

Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$430 million

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 14 of 48

Friday's Scores By The Associated Press

Volleyball

Aberdeen Roncalli def. Britton-Hecla, 25-11, 25-14, 25-10
Adrian, Minn. def. Garretson, 25-13, 25-23, 26-24
Andes Central/Dakota Christian def. Mitchell Christian, 25-15, 25-15, 25-23
Avon def. Menno, 18-25, 25-21, 25-21, 25-13
Baltic def. Freeman Academy/Marion, 25-23, 25-23, 25-20
Belle Fourche def. Lead-Deadwood, 25-20, 25-20, 25-19
Bridgewater-Emery def. Sanborn Central/Woonsocket, 12-25, 25-21, 18-25, 25-14, 15-12
Canton def. Alcester-Hudson, 25-19, 25-19, 25-18
Castlewood def. Oldham-Ramona/Rutland, 23-25, 25-14, 25-18, 25-11
Chester def. Colman-Egan, 25-9, 25-15, 25-17
Dakota Valley def. Vermillion, 25-16, 25-19, 25-21
DeSmet def. Iroquois, 25-6, 25-11, 25-12
Dupree def. Wakpala, 25-9, 25-8, 25-5
Faith def. Potter County, 25-13, 25-15, 25-12
Flandreau def. Deuel, 25-20, 25-21, 25-19
Groton Area def. Milbank Area, 22-25, 25-17, 25-16, 26-24
Hanson def. Viborg-Hurley, 25-18, 21-25, 25-12, 25-12
Huron def. Sioux Falls Roosevelt, 25-15, 25-18, 25-12
Ipswich def. Leola/Frederick, 25-17, 25-20, 25-15
Madison def. Elk Point-Jefferson, 23-25, 25-22, 25-23, 17-25, 15-12
Marty Indian def. Crazy Horse, 25-7, 25-13, 25-16
McCook Central/Montrose def. Canistota, 25-17, 25-22, 25-18
Miller def. Ethan, 26-28, 25-18, 25-12, 25-20
Redfield/Doland def. Clark/Willow Lake, 25-15, 25-19, 22-25, 25-27, 15-9
Sioux Falls Christian def. Jackson County Central, Minn., 25-18, 25-20, 25-21
Sioux Falls Washington def. Mitchell, 27-25, 25-17, 23-25, 25-21
Sully Buttes def. Hitchcock-Tulare, 25-23, 25-23, 14-25, 20-25, 15-11
Timber Lake def. Newell, 23-25, 25-20, 27-25, 25-20
Tri-Valley def. Tea Area, 25-17, 25-17, 10-25, 25-16
Warner def. Mobridge-Pollock, 25-15, 25-9, 25-12
Waverly-South Shore def. Waubay/Summit, 25-12, 25-12, 25-19
Webster def. Tiospa Zina Tribal, 25-12, 25-15, 25-17
East - West Invitational Tournament
Brandon Valley def. Douglas, 25-6, 25-9
Brandon Valley def. Sturgis, 25-19, 25-18
Brookings def. Douglas, 25-9, 25-11
Brookings def. Rapid City Central, 23-25, 25-9, 25-18
Brookings def. Sturgis, 25-11, 25-12
Harrisburg def. Spearfish, 25-20, 25-21
Rapid City Central def. Brandon Valley, 25-27, 25-15, 26-24
Rapid City Stevens def. Harrisburg, 25-14, 25-13
Rapid City Stevens def. Yankton, 25-16, 25-10
Watertown def. Douglas, 25-10, 25-10
Watertown def. Rapid City Central, 25-20, 25-19
Watertown def. Sturgis, 25-10, 25-12
Yankton def. Spearfish, 14-25, 27-25, 26-24

Gregory gears up for South Dakota's booming pheasant season

By JEREMY FUGLEBERG, The Argus Leader

GREGORY, S.D. (AP) — You would have to start pretty early in the year to get a jump on Chad Stevicks. The manager of the Runnings farm and fleet store in Gregory, Stevicks runs "the circus," the store on opening day of ring-necked pheasant hunting season, Oct. 20 this year.

He starts the preparations in February. Now, his racks of blaze-orange clothes are ready. He's got pallets of shotgun shells in the back, ready for a deluge of hunters. It's nearly go time.

The town of Gregory, like Stevicks, is no stranger to the yearly ritual of getting ready to host pheasant season. But during the season, Stevicks might be the busiest man in town.

Black Friday is usually the biggest sales event of the year for most retailers. But not here. Not at Runnings. "Ours is pheasant season," said Stevicks.

Welcome to Gregory, "the ground-zero of pheasantdom," according to a sign under a large pheasant statue at a town crossroads (so dubbed by Fortune magazine in 1992). It's a town that works hard to defend the title as South Dakota enters its 100th year of offering a pheasant hunting season.

The state has earned its reputation as home to a bounty of pheasants. The annual harvest in the state regularly averages more than 1 million birds, according to the state Department of Game, Fish & Parks.

Gregory is a bull's-eye inside the bull's-eye. It is one point in South Dakota's "Golden Triangle," an area defined by the prime pheasant hunting country between Gregory, Winner and Chamberlain.

Here, the color of money is orange — blaze orange. Here, in just a few months, hunters — mostly out-of-state hunters — will infuse millions of dollars into what would otherwise be an economy struggling with all the current woes of farm country. Here for many, hosting hunters is no longer a supplement to farming. Farming is now the side gig.

Hunters are allowed to start downing birds on private preserves seven weeks prior, on Sept. 1. While the hunting season may last to Jan. 6, and preserve hunting stretches to the end of March, weather usually dictates a shorter hunting season that runs from September to November.

These are the area's golden months, and with this year's pheasant count indicating good hunting, Gregory aims to cash in.

"Needless to say, it's a pretty good boom for the area, and it trickles down to everybody," said Scott Anshutz, mayor of Gregory.

Just outside of town is Biggins Hunting Lodge, where the Biggins family runs a busy hospitality, game preserve and hunting service.

It's one of about three dozen lodges in Gregory County. Hunting lodges here have not only multiplied in the last few decades, they've gotten more ornate, their offerings more swank and full service.

Pheasant season in South Dakota is now far more than it used to be — a family hunting event, a place for old friends to meet up again for a day or two of hunting. Now you're more likely to see families running the local hunting businesses than out themselves, in the fields for fun.

Gregg Biggins and his wife, Be, own Biggins Hunting Service. Biggins can trace the evolution of the hunt just by relating his own story. For years he hosted acquaintances at his home. But those friends brought more friends, and soon, Biggins found himself being more of a guide and hotelier than a fellow hunter.

And then, the gift that changed everything. A so-called friend left Biggins a present to thank him for his tireless work on their behalf.

"He left me a cheap box of candy," Biggins said.

No more. The next season, Biggins was charging to guide and lodge hunters. This was the early 1980s. Hunting lodges were still a new concept in the area, but one that proved to be a good cash business for what otherwise was primarily an agricultural economy.

Those pheasants weren't just fun to hunt. They were money in the bank, especially if you could build a lodge.

"You can have all the best hunting in the world, and people will come one day and leave," said Jeff Johnson, a Gregory Country commissioner who also runs a pheasant hunting lodge. "But you have to build it

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 16 of 48

and they will come. You have to have those lodges for them to stay. That brought the onset of all those lodges. And there are some pretty nice lodges around."

Soon, out-of-state hunters weren't just coming by themselves or in small groups. More and more large groups would come to hunt pheasant in South Dakota and relax in those nice lodges. More celebrities started showing up for the hunt: Kevin Costner, Peyton Manning, Kent Hrbek.

Pheasant hunting became a hot destination for a business retreat for companies or colleagues eager for bonding time away from daily life, the Argus Leader reported.

Last year, about 2,800 non-residents hunted pheasant in Gregory County, outnumbering resident hunters nearly 4 to 1.

Johnson told of one local farmer turned pheasant-season entrepreneur.

"He used to hunt to supplement his farming," Johnson said. "Now he says, 'I farm to supplement my hunting.' That's true for a whole bunch of these guys."

Biggins added another, separate lodge to his property in 2005 to handle the growth in large hunting parties.

"We just kept getting companies and groups," Biggins said.

In the open garage of the Biggins' new lodge, hunter Judd Baker sipped his beer and talked about the day. Baker, who works in the construction industry out of McKinney, Texas, near Dallas, has been coming back to hunt pheasants in South Dakota for 19 years.

Baker first came with his dad, nearly two decades ago. Now, he's here with his brother, Cole, and people he knows through work. This is a great place to strengthen relationships with some of his biggest customers, he said.

"You bring them here, you get away," he said. "You take your top customers, you bring them away from the cellphone and the laptop."

Hunting pheasants on the preserves is not necessarily a daylong affair. Maybe a couple of hours between breakfast and lunch, with plenty of time before and after to relax or chase other pursuits.

For many of these hunters, pheasant season is less about the birds and more about the buds.

"It's a fun event, it's not that, 'gotta hunt all day, gotta shoot all day, gotta kill all day,'" said Anshutz, Gregory's mayor. "It's evolved out of that. More of a social event, truly. You get done hunting for a couple of hours and you sit around a fire and have a couple of cocktails and hors d'oeuvres and reminisce."

Entertainment doesn't just mean target shooting, golf, hitting up Sissy's Cafe in downtown Gregory or visiting Pete's Taxidermy in nearby Burke. Entertainment means Dallas, population 152, just a 10-minute drive west of Gregory on U.S. Highway 18.

When people say "Dallas," they mean Frank Day's Bar and Restaurant.

The rest of the year, Frank Day's is a local fixture, a bar and restaurant, serving beers and burgers surrounded by a museum's trove of framed photos and boots of past visitors and denizens — famous, infamous and unknown. It's been a local staple for decades.

But during the pheasant season, Frank Day's adds a new, popular feature: It also opens a strip club in the back, with nude dancers.

Frank Day's night side is a pheasant hunting season institution all its own.

Proprietor Shelly Day, daughter of founder Frank Day, runs the place. She houses the dancers, including many who come back year after year.

They're a big draw. During the season, Frank Day's sees between 200-500 customers every day, many from the 90 lodges Day estimates are within 20 miles of the bar and look to Frank Day's for evening entertainment.

"To go from our regular state to that, it's an adjustment," Day said.

But, she emphasizes, people tend to behave. A pheasant hunter "is your dream hunter," she said.

"We don't even have bouncers," she said.

Many local lodges bus their customers to and from Frank Day's, but Day also runs a Topsy Taxi service to make sure other patrons don't drink and drive.

The crowds don't just swarm Frank Day's. They hit other businesses too, pumping cash into the town

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 17 of 48

and the surrounding area.

Just ask Al Cerny, Gregory's city administrator and finance officer, who has his own seat at the bar in the Gregory bowling alley. Or at least, he has a seat when it's not pheasant season, he says with a laugh.

"It's good for the establishments, but there's times you walk in and say, 'Boy, am I in the right place?' Because I am the stranger and all these other hunters, they're taking over my spot," he said.

The orange crush is crucial to keep Gregory growing and its city budget strong. Cerny said the Gregory airport sells about 70 percent of its annual fuel sales just in the first several months of hunting season. Sales tax more than doubles in September through November.

The town had about 1,300 residents in the last count by the Census Bureau — roughly flat over the past decade. But compared to many struggling rural towns in South Dakota, it's thriving.

Suzanne Braun, director of the Gregory/Dallas Chamber of Commerce, notes that five businesses have opened just this year. One, a boutique downtown, has already expanded and its owner could grow even more.

"She said, 'If I won the lottery, I'd expand my business. It's not big enough for me,'" Braun said.

The hunting business doesn't just buoy the local economy, it keeps young people working here, or encourages them to move back. It fuels a town that is sustaining a critical mass of new blood and a core of professionals.

These are elements that would give the town hope even if hunting went away, said Gregg Drees. He's a retired long-time manager of a local grocery and Gregory's business and industrial development (BID) co-director.

Drees describes himself as one of what he describes as a "progressive group" of residents always looking for opportunities to grow a town already economically blessed by the pheasant season's harvest.

"Would we die without it? It would make a big difference, absolutely. We would be just pretty much like any other town" except for that progressive group of local residents, Drees said. But "we're not sitting still. We're constantly looking."

Back at Runnings, Stevicks, the store manager, is joking with staff and customers. It's a few weeks before the traditional opening day and the store feels like a locker room before a big game — charged with energy and a knowledge of the fray to come.

The rest of the year, Runnings might be a farm and fleet store. But during pheasant season, especially at the opener, it becomes something else.

"It's like old home week," Stevicks said. "We are part of the tradition."

And while the tradition of pheasant season might have evolved over the last several decades, Gregory aims to be ready for what the season still means: big money, with a side of thrill.

"There's just this excitement in town," Drees said. "It's lively again. It brings everybody back in."

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

Deposition uncovers details about South Dakota visa scandal

By **SETH TUPPER**, Rapid City Journal

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A new public document in a lawsuit indicates that the relationship between state government and Joop Bollen — the central figure in South Dakota's fatal and convoluted EB-5 scandal — began to develop and strengthen earlier than previously reported and was cemented during the administration of the late former governor Bill Janklow.

That's one of numerous revelations in the transcript of a four-hour deposition of Bollen that includes previously unknown details about his life, his early involvement with state government, and his role in converting a relatively small, international dairy-recruitment project into a lucrative investment-for-visa processing center. Another revelation was the extent to which Bollen insisted that high-ranking officials in the administration of former Gov. Mike Rounds, and officials at Northern State University and with the state Board of Regents, knew and approved of even the most controversial of his EB-5 activities.

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 18 of 48

The deposition was taken March 20 in Aberdeen, and the transcript became part of a public court file this month when it was attached to another document as an exhibit, the Rapid City Journal reported.

Bollen said in the deposition that he began running a corporation in the 1990s that was housed at Northern State University in Aberdeen. He said the corporation was intended to help boost exports from South Dakota and was the precursor to what eventually became South Dakota's EB-5 regional center. The early work was partially sponsored by state government, Bollen said, and it caught Janklow's eye.

Sometime during the 1990s, according to Bollen, he went to the state capital city of Pierre with John Hutchinson, who was NSU's president from 1993 to 1997, and Clyde Arnold, who was the dean of NSU's business school, where they met with then-Gov. Janklow at his request and discussed Bollen's ideas to boost manufacturing exports.

During deposition questioning by attorney Kasey Olivier, of Heidepriem, Purtell, Siegel & Olivier in Sioux Falls, Bollen described Janklow's reaction.

Bollen: "He liked it. He liked my plans, I think. So he sent me an email if I had an interest to come to Pierre. But I told him, no, I didn't want to go to Pierre."

Olivier: "To go live in Pierre?"

Bollen: "To work. Yeah."

The deposition was taken for a lawsuit in federal court known as SDIF Limited Partnership 2 v. Tentexkota LLC, et al.

Bollen manages SDIF Limited Partnership 2, which in 2009 pooled \$32.5 million invested by 65 foreigners through the federal government's EB-5 program and loaned it to Tentexkota. In exchange, the foreigners were given visas and then green cards granting them permanent residency in the United States.

Tentexkota — comprised of partners including W. Kenneth "Big Kenny" Alphin, of the country music duo Big & Rich — used the money to help convert Deadwood's historic Homestake slime plant into the Deadwood Mountain Grand hotel-and-gaming resort, which opened in 2011.

Bollen is now seeking repayment of the loan, which is in default, but the Tentexkota partners want their personal loan guarantees voided. They claim Bollen duped them into signing the guarantees by falsely claiming they were a requirement of the EB-5 program.

The federal program at the heart of the lawsuit, EB-5, is named for the employment-based, fifth-preference visa. The program allows foreigners to obtain an EB-5 visa, and then permanent U.S. residency in the form of green cards, in exchange for investments of at least \$500,000 in U.S. business projects that generate at least 10 jobs.

EB-5 investments are made with the assistance of regional centers, and Bollen ran a regional center on behalf of South Dakota as a state employee from 2004 to 2009, and then as a private contractor with the state from 2009 to 2013.

South Dakotans knew little about the state's participation in the EB-5 program until 2013, when Richard Benda, a former state employee who worked closely with Bollen, was found dead of what was officially ruled a suicide. It was later revealed that Benda had been facing potential prosecution for his alleged theft of \$550,000 in state grant money that was intended for an EB-5-funded meatpacking plant in Aberdeen. At the time, Benda was leaving state government and going to work for Bollen.

Revelations about the details of EB-5 in South Dakota poured forth for several years in the courts and the media. After the scandal broke in 2013, it dogged the ultimately victorious 2014 U.S. Senate candidacy of Rounds, who succeeded Janklow as governor in 2003.

In February 2017, Bollen pleaded guilty to the little-known crime of "unauthorized disposal of personal property subject to a security interest" and was sentenced to a \$2,000 fine and two years of probation. The charge arose from his diversion of \$1.2 million from an account that was created to protect the state against EB-5 costs and liability. He eventually put most of the money back into the account — all but \$167,000 was accounted for — but not before he had used some of the money to buy Egyptian artifacts.

In the newly revealed deposition taken for the Tentexkota litigation, Bollen, a 55-year-old Dutch immigrant who lives in Aberdeen, revealed details of his life, the beginnings of his involvement with state government, and the growth of the EB-5 program before it ended in scandal.

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 19 of 48

Bollen said he was born in the Netherlands, in the town of Eindhoven, where he decided at the age of 17 that he wanted to immigrate to the United States.

He went to El Camino Real, California, as an exchange student; received a high school diploma from Calabasas High School; graduated from the University of California, Los Angeles, in 1986; earned a master's in business administration in Arizona in 1987; and got a job with Continental Grain in Chicago, he said.

While traveling for Continental Grain, Bollen met his first wife, who was from Aberdeen. He said they married in 1990. That same year, Bollen said, he trained to work in financial securities for J.P. Morgan but opted instead for a business partnership with a man named Pyush Patel in Atlanta, where the two bought a liquor store.

The Patel partnership lasted only three to six months, Bollen said, before the two had a falling out, the details of which Bollen said he could not remember. (Nevertheless, Patel and Bollen later paired up again, and Bollen said during the deposition that he and Patel now jointly own a variety of apartment rentals and gas-convenience stores in Atlanta, plus some title-loan businesses and commercial rental properties.)

Of his move to Aberdeen in 1990, Bollen said, ". my ex-wife was from here so that's how I ended up coming back here."

Bollen said his involvement with state government began during the early 1990s after he bought some real estate from the then-mayor of Aberdeen. Bollen did not say the name of the mayor in the deposition, but 1990 falls within the tenure of Tim Rich.

Bollen said he was encouraged by the mayor to talk with officials at Northern State University who wanted to set up an international outreach program, in part to increase exports from South Dakota.

Bollen said he was hired to run a corporation housed at NSU, and he began conducting workshops for South Dakota businesspeople who were interested in exporting. The workshops generated money for NSU, Bollen said, and the Janklow administration also funded some of the work through the Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED).

"Under the Janklow administration it was very clear that they wanted export promotion first," Bollen said. "It eventually — the effect was that Janklow transferred the international department to Northern for export promotion."

Bollen said that John Hilpert, who was president of NSU from 1997 to 2003, liked the partnership with the state because of the revenue it was bringing to the university and wanted a closer relationship.

"And because Hilpert wanted to anchor the relationship even wider with GOED, they asked me what can I do?" Bollen said. "And I said, 'Well, I know that the state has been trying to attract foreign investment, but they never had any success. So that is something that I think I could contribute.'"

Bollen said that between 2000 and 2003 — which would have included the end of the Janklow administration and the start of the Rounds administration — he began shifting his focus from export promotion to the attraction of foreign investment in South Dakota, with encouragement from then-NSU President Hilpert.

Initially, Bollen recruited dairy farmers from his native country to establish dairies in South Dakota.

"I knew that the Netherlands, the government was pretty much telling these dairies, look, we don't want you here," Bollen said. "I knew the milk quota system was tough, and these Dutch dairy farmers were looking all over the world for alternatives."

Bollen successfully recruited some dairy farmers who came to the United States on E-2 visas, but there was a problem. He said if the farmers ever quit their dairy business, E-2 visa requirements would've forced them to return to the Netherlands.

"And that is why I started searching for something that would give South Dakota comparative advantage over other states, such as Michigan, Ohio, that also were trying to recruit these Dutch dairy farmers," Bollen said.

His search caused him to study different kinds of visas.

"And that is how I — you know, you had EB-1, EB-2, EB-3, EB-4, EB-5. You just kind of go through the employment base visas," Bollen said.

Bollen discovered that he liked the EB-5 program, he said, because it allowed not only foreign investors

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 20 of 48

but also their families to enter the United States and obtain permanent residency. Additionally, the program's requirement that projects create at least 10 jobs could be calculated indirectly — in other words, a dairy that had only four employees could use a multiplier and claim it created additional jobs outside of its own business, such as a milk-truck driver and secretary for the trucking company.

So, Bollen said, in 2002 or 2003, he flew to Washington, D.C., and met with the head of the federal EB-5 program, housed within U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. Up to that point, he said, regional centers that were set up to receive EB-5 investments had been private entities. On behalf of South Dakota, Bollen said, he established the first state-run EB-5 regional center in 2004.

Then, he flew to Europe to recruit more dairy farmers.

"And tell them here, look, you can go to Michigan, you can go to Ohio, but you have an E-2 visa," Bollen said. "If you come to South Dakota, you get a green card. So pretty much checkmate the other states."

Bollen said the program ultimately financed \$90 million worth of dairy farms along the Interstate 29 corridor.

The program eventually morphed into something more than a dairy-recruitment project. Bollen said that when the U.S. Department of Commerce published a new list of EB-5 regional centers, he was immediately inundated with calls from abroad, mostly from South Korea.

"People who wanted to come to the United States and wanted to find a way in," Bollen said.

Before long, Bollen said, regional centers popped up in more states, and South Dakota lost its competitive advantage in foreign dairy recruitment.

"I needed bigger projects," he said. "And dairy farms were no longer cutting it. I knew Mike Rounds was very interested in the certified beef program."

That's how Bollen became involved in attracting EB-5 investments for a proposed meatpacking plant in Aberdeen called Northern Beef Packers, which was intended to process cattle that were certified as bred, born and raised in South Dakota. The project ultimately went through bankruptcy, leaving \$80 million in unpaid debts, before it was reborn recently under new ownership as DemKota Ranch Beef.

When Bollen got involved with the Northern Beef Packers project, he met Richard Benda, who was Rounds' secretary of tourism and state development. Benda's job included oversight of the GOED. Bollen said it was clear that Benda and the state "wanted this beef project."

"So I saw an opportunity from, hey, this is a chance for us to become competitive again," Bollen said.

Bollen said investment in the beef plant came from Korea and China, in two rounds that each yielded about \$35 million. More projects followed, and South Dakota's EB-5 regional center took off.

Bollen said the original EB-5 model involved equity investments, in which banks vetted and financed projects to which foreigners contributed investments. But Bollen said South Dakota's EB-5 center evolved around 2008 or 2009 to a model in which foreign investments were pooled and loaned to projects without the involvement of a bank.

"And the reasons for the loan model were pretty persuasive," Bollen said, "and it had to do with exit strategy. If you're an equity investor and after five years having a permanent green card, it's a little harder to get out of a business than it would be with a loan that is coming due."

It was for similar reasons that Bollen said he created a private company called SDRC Inc. in early 2008 and assigned it some responsibility to help manage South Dakota's EB-5 regional center. That move, when it was later revealed publicly, became a focal point of the EB-5 scandal among critics who described it as self-dealing — Bollen had still been a state employee under the supervision of NSU when he made the deal with his own company.

Bollen said in the deposition that one reason he created SDRC Inc. was to hire people to do the project vetting that was formerly done by banks. He said the intent was for NSU to eventually own SDRC Inc. That plan exploded in mid-2008, Bollen said, when a California company called Darley International, which had been helping to recruit EB-5 investors in China, claimed that Bollen and another investment recruiter had breached several aspects of their collective contract.

"And when Darley started that lawsuit all the bureaucrats just came to a shrieking halt and became scared," Bollen said.

Bollen said he was eventually directed to completely turn over management of South Dakota's EB-5 regional center from NSU to his private firm, SDRC Inc.

"So it was a meeting between the president of Northern and Richard Benda," said Bollen, who did not provide a date for the meeting or say who was the president of NSU at the time (from 2008 to 2009, the university transitioned through three presidents). "They decided that I should go private and do it under contract with the governor's office."

An agreement to that effect between the Governor's Office of Economic Development and Bollen's SDRC Inc. was signed in late 2009. Bollen also left state employment at that time to run SDRC Inc.

"GOED knew what was happening. Northern knew what was happening. Board of Regents knew what was happening," Bollen said. "That was their decision."

To that point, fees collected as part of the EB-5 program had benefited NSU, Bollen said. Those fees then flowed to SDRC Inc. in amounts not fully disclosed in the deposition. Bollen said he and business partner Payush Patel took distributions from SDRC Inc. as stockholders in the company.

Bollen said he became involved in the Deadwood Mountain Grand Project at the behest of one of the project partners, Ron Wheeler, whose long history of involvement with state government includes past service as the secretary of transportation and commissioner of the Governor's Office of Economic Development.

"Ron Wheeler indicates that they're looking for funding for a project," Bollen said. "I like what I hear. I like Ron Wheeler's past connection with Pierre. He is a man with a solid reputation. He advised that he has a group of investors that are very strong business people."

Bollen said he sought personal loan guarantees because the project appeared too risky to sell to foreign investors without the guarantees.

Olivier, the attorney handling the deposition, drew an admission from Bollen that it was the first time he had obtained personal guarantees for an EB-5 project.

Bollen said the Tentexkota partners defaulted on their \$32.5 million loan in 2016, which prompted the lawsuit for which the deposition was taken. Bollen said the investors in the SDIF Limited Partnership 2 decided to sue Tentexkota against his advice, which was to work out a settlement rather than engage in what to this point has been a two-year legal fight.

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

Prison counselor accused of trying to provide gun to inmate

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota State Penitentiary chemical dependency counselor has been arrested for allegedly attempting to provide an inmate with a gun.

Attorney General Marty Jackley said Friday that 68-year-old Willard Allan Dathe, of Sioux Falls, has been charged with attempted possession of an unauthorized article with the intent to deliver it to a prisoner. The felony count is punishable by up to a year in prison.

The attorney general's office said in a statement that Dathe attempted to provide a gun to an inmate on Thursday. The statement doesn't say why authorities believe he planned to give a prisoner a weapon. He was booked Thursday night and is being held on \$40,000 bond.

It wasn't immediately clear if Dathe has an attorney who could comment on his behalf.

Teens with airsoft replica guns trigger school lockdown

HILL CITY, S.D. (AP) — Two teenagers playing with airsoft guns led to a school shutdown in Hill City in the Black Hills of western South Dakota.

The Pennington County sheriff's office says it got a call Friday morning from a school staffer that two people were in a field across the street from the Hill City Schools with what appeared to be a handgun and a rifle.

The school went into lockdown, and then secure status, for around an hour.

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 22 of 48

Deputies caught up with the two males, ages 17 and 18, and determined that the weapons weren't real, they were airsoft guns. The teens were not charged.

Airsoft guns are sometimes mistaken for the real thing, but they aren't capable of firing live ammunition. They typically fire plastic pellets.

Sioux Falls official suggests ban on phones while driving

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls drivers could be banned from using cellphones and other electronic devices under a proposed ordinance.

City Councilor Janet Brekke said this week that she plans to propose new restrictions on the use of all handheld electronics while behind the wheel in the coming months, the Argus Leader reported.

Sioux Falls already has distracted driving laws that can penalize unsafe driving caused by cellphones, such as texting while driving. But Brekke said those laws have enforcement challenges.

"It feels like our current laws are inadequate to address the issue, and it's clearly a safety issue," Brekke said.

Brekke hasn't formalized the proposal but said it'll ban all handheld electronics from being used by people operating vehicles on public streets. Bluetooth or other hands-free communication devices would be permitted.

A similar measure was proposed in 2015 but didn't advance.

Brekke hopes to discuss her ideas with colleagues before formally introducing a measure.

Some councilors, such as Pat Starr and Theresa Stehly, have said they're inclined to support Brekke's proposal. But Councilor Curt Soehl expressed concern about the potential for government to interfere too far into residents' daily behavior.

"If we're going to cut down on distracted driving, where do we stop?" Soehl asked. "Do we make it illegal for that person who has their dog on their lap while they're driving too? I haven't formed an opinion on how we should tackle distracted driving."

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

Hamline County crash victim identified

LAKE NORDEN, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Highway Patrol has identified the woman killed in a two-vehicle crash in Hamlin County earlier this week.

The patrol says 69-year-old Betty Knutson died after the SUV she was driving turned in front of a pickup truck on U.S. Highway 81 Monday, east of Lake Norden. The truck was pulling a trailer loaded with construction equipment.

The 17-year-old boy driving the pickup suffered minor injuries, and a 15-year-old male passenger was not hurt. Knutson was pronounced dead at a Watertown hospital.

Excerpts from recent South Dakota editorials

By The Associated Press

Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, Yankton, Oct. 15

Discovery bridge brought changes

It's hard to believe that 10 years have flown by since the completion and opening of the Discovery Bridge at Yankton's south entrance. In some ways, it feels like it was last month.

But on this 10th anniversary of its grand opening, which occurred on Oct. 11, 2008, the changes that came with that new bridge can sometimes be forgotten.

Also, the anniversary allows us to recall and appreciate all the work, worry, planning and even good fortune that went into the entire process.

The Discovery Bridge — or, the replacement for the Meridian Bridge — was many years in the making,

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 23 of 48

and there were a lot of roadblocks along the way.

Indeed, one of the biggest obstacles to building a new bridge was determining what to do with the old bridge. And no, blowing it up, as some people actually proposed, was not a realistic option. (This newspaper editorialized on the situation in the late 1990s, saying that if the Meridian Bridge remains an obstacle to getting a new bridge, it might be time to face letting go of the old bridge and demolishing it. Happily and thankfully, things never came to that.)

As was detailed in a story package published in Saturday's Press & Dakotan, the construction of a replacement bridge required planning and campaigning by interests from both South Dakota and Nebraska.

In fact, Nebraska ultimately took the lead on the project after South Dakota Gov. William Janklow remained unconvinced that Meridian needed to be replaced, according to Matt Michels, who is now South Dakota's lieutenant governor.

Officials from Yankton and from Cedar County made regular trips to Pierre and Lincoln, as well as to Washington, to plead their case for a Meridian Bridge replacement.

As Stephanie Herseth Sandlin, who was a member of Congress when the Discovery Bridge project was finally coming together, noted in Saturday's P&D, the effort to move the project forward in Washington was truly bipartisan — which, 10 years later, we've been trained through weary experience to see as a rare and jarring thing. But common interest created common purpose.

The project also neared completion just as the Great Recession delivered a staggering body blow to the U.S. economy. The grand opening for Discovery Bridge — which came in under budget and ahead of schedule — occurred just weeks after a series of financial institutions collapsed, serving as a tipping point for an economic crisis (which was many months in the making) that overwhelmed this nation for two years. Had that crisis occurred a couple years earlier, the Discovery project could have been delayed for several years.

Once Discovery was opened for business, a new, reliable artery over the Missouri River was added to the local infrastructure. And it was built in such a way that it could eventually support four lanes of traffic should U.S. Highway 81 south of Yankton ever expand in that direction.

Meanwhile, the dispensation of the Meridian Bridge, which saw its last flow of regular traffic on the same day Discovery opened, turned into a deal that converted the structure into the popular pedestrian bridge it is today.

Since then, the Meridian Plaza has been added on the north end, and the current reconstruction of Walnut St. in the 200 and 300 blocks will expand that plaza feel up to Fourth St. Also, there is a park on the south end, and now an RV park has opened near the southern base of the bridge.

Discovery Bridge has probably achieved its ultimate goal since arriving on the scene 10 years ago this month: It's now taken for granted. We don't worry that it might be closed down over safety concerns, as Meridian Bridge was for a time during its final months of highway service. Discovery's wide lanes contrast starkly from the oddly-sized, cramped Meridian lanes. You generally don't even think now about crossing the Discovery Bridge, which is a straight shot south on 81 and north on Broadway; by contrast, you were ALWAYS aware you were driving across the Meridian Bridge.

Discovery does its job, and it has created changes on both sides of the river. And 10 years on, that's still worth acknowledging.

Rapid City Journal, Rapid City, Oct. 18

County treasurer stops rewarding poor behavior

Pennington County Treasurer Janet Saylor is fighting back against the rising abuse of office employees. Saylor — a county employee for three decades — informed the Pennington County Commission on Tuesday that the past year has seen an epidemic of public harassment, including obscene language, yelling and name-calling.

"It seems like everybody's anti-government," she said.

The incivility oozing from both political parties and social media has apparently infected even rural America.

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 24 of 48

Sayler's new office policy warns visitors to be nice or be escorted outside by security. Callers are warned to be civil or be ignored.

Mom would have said it like this: If you don't stop crying, I'll give you something to cry about. That approach didn't always work, but it never rewarded bad behavior.

For some people, bad behavior has become a strategy as much as a reflection of poor parenting and ubiquitous political attacks.

Pennington County Director of Equalization Shannon Rittberger told commissioners, "The idea is that if you can be nasty enough, long enough, and not give up, you'll get what you want."

Where some see jerks, others see squeaky wheels. Today, people often regale others with tales of how they went off on officials or clerks. They think it makes them righteous, when in actuality it makes them appear churlish.

Some public frustration in dealing with government requirements is understandable. Redundant proof of identity for every legal document became the norm after the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, and the rise of sophisticated online fraud. Additional delays and hoops please nobody, but they aren't the fault of office workers.

Recent trips to Sayler's office have shown her staff to be efficient, courteous, helpful and knowledgeable. Conversations start with a list required documents to avoid wasting time. Legal requirements also can be found on office websites, so frustration is avoided by planning ahead.

We all know that babies cry when they don't get their way. Adults are supposed to be able to distinguish discomfort from malice. Adults don't yell at bad weather. They don't blame the faultless. And while they don't blame babies for crying, they also don't reward them.

There was a time when the customer was always right, and government workers must continue to be effective at accommodating frustration. However, they should not be required to stand idly in the face of tantrums. It's time the insolent receive something to cry about.

Madison Daily Leader, Madison, Oct. 15

What will be state's future support for arts?

The race for South Dakota's next governor has included discussion about the state's pressing issues: education, economic development, public safety, transportation and many more. These deserve our next leader's top attention.

One topic that hasn't been discussed much is the future of the arts in South Dakota. Arts education is likely a part of each candidate's overall education platform, but we haven't yet heard about support for the arts at the statewide level or in local communities.

Arts are a broad category, including such wide-ranging topics as music, visual arts, performing arts and writing. Some communities, including Madison, have strong local arts groups. Yet many communities don't have such organizations, and rely on the state.

South Dakota has a special gross receipts tax on certain visitor-oriented businesses, applied only during the month of June through September. Proceeds are used to promote tourism, and arts are an integral part of tourism promotion.

House Bill 1206 was introduced in the 2018 legislative session, which would have reduced the tax and associated spending by one-third. The reduction would have harmed the South Dakota Arts Council, and was defeated in committee.

While we don't know for sure how the governor and legislative candidates will act during the next session, we have read about support for the arts in general terms. That gives us optimism for the future. We certainly believe that the arts are a major factor in quality of life for South Dakotans, and that it contributes to recruitment of businesses, college students and adults to our state.

The arts community in South Dakota has some great people involved, and we hope they are supported to continue growing the arts scene in the state.

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 25 of 48

No Mega Millions winner, jackpot climbs to \$1.6 billion

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — No one won the latest Mega Millions drawing, meaning the jackpot climbs to a staggering \$1.6 billion.

Mega Millions officials say no tickets matched all six numbers to claim the estimated \$1 billion grand prize in Friday night's drawing.

The next drawing will be Tuesday. The \$1.6 billion estimated jackpot would be the largest prize in U.S. history. The second-largest jackpot was a \$1.586 billion Powerball drawing on Jan. 13, 2016.

The Mega Millions jackpot has been growing since July, when a group of California office workers won \$543 million.

It costs \$2 to play the game. The odds of winning the jackpot aren't good. The chance of matching all six numbers and taking home the grand prize is one in 302.5 million.

Mega Millions is played in 44 states, Washington, D.C., and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Candles, flashlights, no AC in Florida's hurricane zone

By **BRENDAN FARRINGTON** and **JAY REEVES**, Associated Press

PANAMA CITY, Fla. (AP) — It's the greatest need after a hurricane and sometimes the hardest one to fulfill: Electricity.

More than a week after Hurricane Michael smashed into the Florida Panhandle on a path of destruction that led all the way to the Georgia border, more than 100,000 Florida customers were still without power, according to the state Department of Emergency Management website.

Martha Reynolds sat outside her mother's sweltering home Friday with relatives, including several young children, in a low-income Panama City neighborhood. The electricity has been off since the day Michael struck.

Candles and flashlights provide light after dark, she said, and they crank up a generator at night to power an air conditioner that cools four adults and five kids.

"We try to eat off the grill and keep as much ice as we can," she said. "We're all looking at each other, we're all here, so that's a blessing."

A few streets over, Justin Ward's family gathered under a canopy set up under a shady tree in front of their hot, powerless home.

"We're making it. The power is on one street over. It's supposed to be on here tomorrow," he said.

While more than half the outages are in Bay County, where the storm came in between coastal Mexico Beach and Panama City, rural counties had a greater percentage of people without power eight days after the storm. That includes Calhoun County, where 86 percent of customers of the local electric cooperative had no electricity.

"We're trying to make sure they understand how widespread the damage was and that we're leveraging every resource that we possibly can to get it on as quickly as we can," said Jeff Rogers, a spokesman for Gulf Power, which serves most of Bay County and seven other counties in the region. It doesn't serve Calhoun. "This was an unprecedented storm."

And it's not an easy problem to solve quickly. In Bay County alone, thousands of utility poles were blown down or snapped in half like toothpicks. Power lines drooped over roadways or were tossed to the ground like piles of spaghetti.

Many transmission line towers — the enormous metal structures that bring electricity to substations that then route it into specific neighborhoods — were left in twisted piles or knocked to the ground.

Several power substations were damaged, and there were countless disrupted connections to individual homes.

New power poles and lines are going up quickly in a visible sign of progress.

Long lines of utility trucks snake through Panama City streets every morning on the way toward areas where service is still out. Workers suspended in buckets from nine trucks strung lines along just one street on Thursday, and the same scene was being repeated countless times each day.

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 26 of 48

Rogers said much of Gulf Power's electricity sources — solar, gas and coal plants — are outside the storm region, so the power is available once transmission lines, substations and utility poles and lines are repaired. It will just be a matter of flipping a switch.

A week after the storm, Gulf Power had replaced 5,600 utility poles, a process that can take as little as 10 minutes or much longer depending on damage to the pole, connections to it, as well as trees and debris that could make access to it more difficult, Rogers said.

Gulf Power has about 1,200 employees working on power restoration, supplemented by 6,200 people from 15 states who are helping out.

But even far from the hurricane-damaged coast, northern rural counties were also struggling. In Jackson County along the Georgia and Alabama borders, more than 80 percent of customers were without power a week after the storm.

"Our electrical grid is totally destroyed," said Rodney Andreasen, the county emergency management director. "Right now our biggest need is getting power back on. Power regeneration."

Rogers said one big concern is that people are getting used to dead power lines lying on the ground or drooped in front of homes. As service is restored, those lines could be deadly.

Told that there were families in Lynn Haven that were using power lines in front of their damaged houses as a makeshift clothes line, he said: "Oh my goodness. That's a little scary. Just stay away."

"We're starting to turn on and people get complacent after being around them a little bit," he said. "It has been a week without power and you get kind of used to not being wary around them."

Farrington contributed from Tallahassee, Florida.



In this Thursday, Oct. 18, 2018 photo, utility crews set up new poles and utility wires in the aftermath of Hurricane Michael in Panama City, Fla. It's the greatest need after a hurricane and sometimes the hardest one to fulfill: Electricity. More than a week after Hurricane Michael smashed into the Florida Panhandle on a path of destruction that led all the way to the Georgia border, more than 100,000 Florida customers were still without power, according to the state Department of Emergency Management website.

(AP Photo/Gerald Herbert)

AP FACT CHECK: Trump inflates jobs impact of Saudi arms deal

By HOPE YEN and CALVIN WOODWARD, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump inflated the projected benefits of an arms deal with the Saudis as he defended his wait-and-see attitude about Saudi complicity in the disappearance of a journalist whose apparent murder has sparked world outrage.

On immigration enforcement, the president made the unsubstantiated claim that migrants are being paid to mass at the border and somehow disrupt the Nov. 6 elections in the United States. This claim followed his distortions in an Associated Press interview about climate change and the Russia investigation.

A look at how some of his words over the past week stack up with the facts:

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 27 of 48

MIGRANTS

TRUMP, on a caravan of Central American migrants trying to reach the U.S.: "A lot of money's been passing through people to come up and try to get to the border by Election Day because they think that's a negative for us." — Montana rally Thursday.

TRUMP on the caravan: "Can you believe this, and what Democrats are allowing to be done to our Country?" — tweet Thursday.

THE FACTS: Trump was riffing off of an unsupported allegation by GOP Rep. Matt Gaetz of Florida that people were being paid in Honduras to join the caravan and "storm the border @ election time," as Gaetz tweeted.

Gaetz tweeted a video on Wednesday of men handing out money to people standing in a line, without evidence that it illustrated his claim. Questioned about the video's origin, Gaetz posted a correction on Twitter, saying, "This video was provided to me by a Honduran government official. Thus, I believed it to be from Honduras."

Neither man has produced evidence that the migrants are being paid to come to the border.

Mexico's government says migrants with proper documents can enter Mexico and those who don't either have to apply for refugee status or face deportation.

SAUDI ARMS DEAL

TRUMP: "Frankly they have a tremendous order — \$110 billion. Every country in the world wanted a piece of that order. We got all of it. And what are we going to do? Again, I've had some senators come up and some congressmen that said, 'Well, you know, sir, I think what we should do is we should not take that order.' I said, 'Who are we hurting? It's 500,000 jobs.'" — interview Wednesday with Fox Business News.

TRUMP, on possible action against Saudi Arabia: "I'll be working on this with Congress. ... But I would prefer that we don't use as retribution canceling \$110 billion worth of work, which means 600,000 jobs. ... I went there to get that order." — remarks Friday at a defense event in Arizona.

THE FACTS: Trump's wrong to suggest that he has \$110 billion in military orders from Saudi Arabia. A far smaller amount in sales has actually been signed. His State Department has also estimated much fewer U.S. jobs than Trump's figure of 500,000 to 600,000, projecting "potentially tens of thousands."

Details of the \$110 billion arms package, partly negotiated under the Obama administration and agreed upon in May 2017, have been sketchy. At the time the Trump administration provided only a broad description of the defense equipment that would be sold. There was no public breakdown of exactly what was being offered for sale and for how much.

The Congressional Research Service described the package as a combination of sales proposed by Obama and discussed with Congress and new sales still being developed.

The Pentagon said this month that Saudi Arabia has signed "letters of offer and acceptance" for only \$14.5 billion in sales, including helicopters, tanks, ships, weapons and training. Those letters, issued after the U.S. government has approved a proposed sale, specify its terms.

Regarding economic impact, Trump's claim of about 500,000 jobs involved — he later upped that figure to 600,000 — is questionable given the tenuous nature of the orders. A May 20, 2017, State Department fact sheet on the proposed \$110 billion deal estimated it could end up "potentially supporting tens of thousands of new jobs in the United States."

Trump's repeated claims that he's signed \$110 billion worth of new arms sales to Riyadh are "just not true," said Bruce Riedel, a senior fellow at Brookings Institution and former CIA and Defense Department official. "Very little has changed hands."

Trump has pledged unspecified "severe punishment" should the U.S. determine Saudi involvement in the disappearance of journalist Jamal Khashoggi, who had written columns critical of Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. But Trump has said he does not want to halt the arms sale to Saudi Arabia because it would harm U.S. manufacturers. Saudi Arabia is indeed a major U.S. ally and arms customer.

Trump on Friday called Saudi Arabia's announcement that suspects in Khashoggi's death are in custody

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 28 of 48

a "good first step." Saudi Arabia has claimed that Khashoggi was killed in a "fistfight" at the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul.

Trump said that before he decided what to do next, he wanted to talk to Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman

MONTANA SENATE RACE

TRUMP, speaking about the failed nomination of White House doctor Ronny Jackson to be Veterans Affairs secretary: "Ever since his vicious and totally false statements about Admiral Ron Jackson, the highly respected White House Doctor for Obama, Bush & me, Senator John Tester looks to be in big trouble in the Great State of Montana! He behaved worse than the Democrat Mob did with Justice K!" — tweet Wednesday.

THE FACTS: Trump misleads by seeking to place the blame for Jackson's failed nomination entirely on Tester, the top Democrat on the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee. It also remains unclear whether the late-surfacing allegations against Jackson are "totally false" because the Pentagon inspector general is continuing to review some of them.

Jackson, a Navy rear admiral, withdrew his nomination in April after Tester released results of committee interviews he conducted with military personnel who raised questions about Jackson's prescribing practices and leadership ability. The interviews were done with the knowledge and support of Sen. Johnny Isakson, R-Ga., chairman of the committee considering Jackson's nomination.

The time period covered Jackson's tenure as a White House physician dating to 2006 and involved his current and former colleagues who served in both Republican and Democratic administrations.

Jackson, who broadly denied allegations of bad behavior, had already faced tough questions from several committee Republicans about whether he had the experience to manage the massive VA.

The allegations were referred to the Pentagon's inspector general for evaluation. After an initial assessment and review, the inspector general's office in June decided a formal investigation was warranted. That probe is continuing, according to the office.

CLEANEST AIR

TRUMP: "I want the cleanest air on the planet and our air now is cleaner than it's ever been." — AP interview Tuesday.

THE FACTS: He's wrong about the air being the cleanest ever, according to his own administration. While the air generally has been getting cleaner since the 1970s, the downward trend in pollution has made a bit of a U-turn since Trump took office.

His Environmental Protection Agency released data that showed traditional air pollution — soot and smog — increased in 2017 and that the air is not the cleanest it has ever been.

The days with an unhealthy number of small pollution particles, often called soot and linked to heart and lung problems and deaths, jumped from 2016 to 2017 in 35 major metropolitan areas. In 2017, there were 179 unhealthy soot days, up 85 percent from 97 in 2016. Last year had the most unhealthy soot days since 2011.



In this Oct. 16, 2018 photo, President Donald Trump speaks during an interview with The Associated Press in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington. (AP Photo/

Evan Vucci)

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 29 of 48

The number of days with unhealthy smog levels was down from 2016, but higher than 2015, 2014 and 2013.

The number of days when the air quality index was unhealthy was 729 in 2017. It's higher than a year because it counts each city's unhealthy reading on a certain day as one and there are numerous cities involved. Last year's level was the highest since 2012 and a 21 percent increase over the cleanest air in 2014.

CLIMATE CHANGE

TRUMP, when asked about a dire U.N. report this month on climate change that said dangerous warming has already happened and that with each degree, the many harms to Earth will get even more treacherous: "No, no. Some say that and some say differently, I mean you have scientists on both sides of it." — AP interview Tuesday.

THE FACTS: He's wrong to suggest the scientific community is substantially split. Scientists from around the world wrote the recent report, and it was unanimously accepted by government representatives around the world, including in the United States, said Cornell University climate scientist Natalie Mahowald, a lead author of the report.

The Trump administration last year also released the National Climate Assessment, which painted a similar picture.

University of Illinois climate scientist Donald Wuebbles, a lead author of that national report, emailed that "there is no debate AT ALL going on about this within the scientific community."

"Trump might as well be saying that there are scientists on 'both sides of the gravity debate,'" Pennsylvania State University climate scientist Michael Mann said in an email. "Dangerous climate change impacts are already apparent. Of course there are uncertainties. There always are. There are uncertainties in the science of gravity (we have never measured a graviton, the fundamental unit of gravity). That doesn't make it safe to jump off a cliff."

IMMIGRATION

TRUMP: "We have the worst laws in the history of the world on immigration and we're getting them changed one by one. We've made a lot of progress in the last couple of weeks even, but we're getting them changed one by one." — AP interview Tuesday.

THE FACTS: He's actually failed to achieve changes in immigration laws. All the immigration-related changes pushed by his administration were done by executive order, not legislation, or through policy shifts such as the zero tolerance policy that criminally prosecuted anyone caught crossing illegally and gave rise to family separations. The administration also has used regulations to tighten the rules on how immigrants can receive public benefits. Immigration legislation has failed despite Republican control of the White House and both houses of Congress.

TRUMP, on the separation of children from their parents at the border: "Now President Obama had the same law. He did the same thing." — AP interview Tuesday.

THE FACTS: Obama did not do the same thing as a matter of policy. It's true the underlying laws were the same. But the Trump administration mandated anyone caught crossing the border illegally was to be criminally prosecuted. The policy meant adults were taken to court for criminal proceedings, and their children were separated and sent into the care of the Health and Human Services Department, which is tasked with caring for unaccompanied migrant children. The zero tolerance policy remains in effect, but Trump signed an executive order June 20 that stopped separations.

Jeh Johnson, Obama's homeland security secretary, told NPR there may have been unusual or emergency circumstances when children were taken from parents but there was no such policy.

TRUMP: "And in fact the picture of children living in cages that was taken in 2014 was a picture of President Obama's administration and the way they handled children. They had the kids living in cages. They thought it was our administration and they used it, and then unbeknownst to them and the fake news

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 30 of 48

they found out, 'Oh my God, this is a terrible situation.' This was during the Obama administration." — AP interview Tuesday.

THE FACTS: He's right. Images that circulated online during the height of Trump's family separations controversy were actually from 2014 under the Obama administration. But circumstances for some children have not changed. In June, an Associated Press reporter was part of a group that visited a U.S. Border Patrol holding facility, where hundreds of children were waiting in a series of cages created by metal fencing. One cage had 20 children inside, scattered around were bottles of water, bags of chips and large foil sheets intended to serve as blankets. The cages in each wing opened out into common areas to use portable restrooms.

The children both in 2014 and 2018 were separated temporarily from their parents in the facilities, placed in areas by age and sex for safety reasons.

RUSSIA INVESTIGATION

TRUMP, about special counsel Robert Mueller's Russia investigation: "It's a tremendous waste of time for the president of the United States. To think that I would be even thinking about using Russia to help me win Idaho, we're using Russia to help me win the great state of Iowa or anywhere else is the most preposterous, embarrassing thing." — AP interview Tuesday.

THE FACTS: Trump may be right that he did not need a boost in Idaho and Iowa, states he won in 2016 with comfortable margins of 31 percentage points and 9 percentage points, respectively. But the notion of Russia-backed activities on his behalf "anywhere else" in the U.S. is not far-fetched, according to an indictment in February by Mueller.

The indictment accuses 13 Russians and three Russian entities of seeking to help Trump defeat Democrat Hillary Clinton by running a hidden social media trolling campaign and seeking to mobilize Trump supporters at rallies while posing as American political activists in "purple states like Colorado, Virginia and Florida." According to the indictment, the surreptitious campaign was organized by the Internet Research Agency, a Russian troll farm financed by companies controlled by Yevgeny Prigozhin, a wealthy businessman with ties to President Vladimir Putin.

The indictment says the defendants commonly referred to targeting more closely divided "purple states" after being advised by a Texas-based grass-roots organization in June 2016 to focus efforts there.

The indictment details contacts targeting three unidentified officials in the Trump campaign's Florida operation. In each instance, the Russians used false U.S. personas to contact the officials. The indictment doesn't say if any of them responded.

Trump lost by nearly 2.9 million votes in the popular vote to Clinton, but captured the needed Electoral College votes to win the presidency after prevailing in politically divided states including Florida, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

TRUMP, on his former personal lawyer, Michael Cohen: "By the way, he was in trouble not for what he did for me; he was in trouble for what he did for himself. You do know that? Having to do with loans, mortgages, taxicabs and various other things, if you read the paper." — AP interview Tuesday.

THE FACTS: Cohen was definitely in trouble for what he did for Trump. He stated in open court that Trump directed him to arrange payments of hush money to porn star Stormy Daniels and former Playboy model, Karen McDougal, to fend off damage to Trump's White House bid.

Cohen said one payment was made "in coordination and at the direction of a candidate for federal office," and the other was made "under direction of the same candidate."

It is true that Cohen did not identify Trump, but there was no ambiguity in court documents or in his statement.

Cohen's extraordinary statement at his August plea hearing marked the first time any Trump associate, in open court, has implicated the president himself in a crime.

Trump is, however, correct that other charges which Cohen admitted to didn't involve the candidate or the campaign and were for tax deception.

TRUMP: "Do you know these Russian hackers you're talking about from Moscow? They have nothing to do with me. ... They were hackers from Moscow. Some of them supported Hillary Clinton." — AP interview Tuesday.

THE FACTS: The Mueller indictment offers no evidence or reason to believe that the Russian effort was intended to help elect Clinton — quite the opposite. Some anti-Trump messaging tied to Russians was indeed disseminated online, but investigators believe the motive was to spread confusion and discord in the campaign, not to elect her.

The pro-Trump efforts identified in the indictment were strategic, on the ground in key states as well as online, and included attempts to make contact with Trump campaign officials. Russian President Vladimir Putin, while denying any involvement in Russian interference, has said he wanted Trump to win.

Associated Press writers Matthew Pennington, Seth Borenstein, Eric Tucker and Colleen Long contributed to this report.

Find AP Fact Checks at <http://apne.ws/2kbx8bd>

Follow @APFactCheck on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/APFactCheck>

Trump space force plan is grounded in real needs but hazy

By **ROBERT BURNS, AP National Security Writer**

WASHINGTON (AP) — With his demand that the Pentagon create a new military service — a Space Force to assure "American dominance in space" — President Donald Trump has injected urgency into a long-meandering debate over the best way to protect U.S. interests in space, both military and commercial.

At the same time, his approach has left many struggling to understand the basics, such as what a Space Force would do and how much it might cost.

The Pentagon is expected to have enough details filled out by early next year to include a Space Force plan in its 2020 budget request to Congress. Until then, the idea has taken on a life of its own at Trump's political rallies, powered at least in part by his conflating of the nation's civilian space program with the military's separate role of providing space-based navigation and communications satellites.

At a June rally in Minnesota, for example, Trump alluded to his decision in December 2017 to refocus the civilian space program to human exploration as a first step toward returning an astronaut to the Moon. This prompted some in the crowd to chant, "Space Force, Space Force!" Trump responded by ticking off the names of the current military services and adding, "Now we're going to have the Space Force. We need it."

Earlier this month Trump told a rally in Kentucky, "One of the biggest applause I get wherever I go is when I talk about the Space Force."

But just what is this thing?

Some may think it would assemble a razzle-dazzle new army for the heavens that would deploy soldiers in space or arm astronauts with galactic superweapons. Analysts say the reality is that building space muscle is more about reordering the way the Pentagon already uses space than about combat.

In fits and starts, the military has been trying for decades to reorganize and accelerate technological advances in space. Some blame the Air Force, which has had the lead, for underinvesting in space because it prefers spending on warplanes.

Details are still in play, but the main idea is this: find more effective ways to defend U.S. interests in space, especially the constellations of satellites that U.S. ground, sea and air forces rely on for navigation, communications and surveillance. These roles make them increasingly tempting military targets even as China and Russia work on ways to disrupt, disable and even destroy American satellites.

"This isn't science fiction. This isn't about creating space marines or some expeditionary space force that is going to go out and conquer the universe," says Todd Harrison, director of the aerospace security project at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. "This is simply a reorganization" of existing

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 32 of 48

space assets so that they can be used more effectively in a unified chain of command with one person in charge.

Still, questions abound as some in the Pentagon talk about someday basing anti-missile weapons in space.

Would a Space Force, which has yet to be authorized by Congress, consume an intelligence agency such as the National Reconnaissance Office, responsible for building and operating reconnaissance satellites? What about the Missile Defense Agency, which runs ground-based anti-missile systems that rely on space to defend U.S. territory?

Also to be determined is how it would connect, if at all, to the security policy goals of U.S. military allies and to U.S. civilian space entities to realize Trump's declared vision of "gleaming new spaceships" built to "conquer the unknown?"

Trump publicly raised the prospect of a Space Force in March. In seemingly offhanded comments to Marines in California he said, "You know, I was saying it the other day, because we're doing a tremendous amount of work in space. I said maybe we need a new force. We'll call it the Space Force. And I was not really serious. Then I said, 'What a great idea.'"

Three months later, on June 18, the "great idea" became an order. Trump told the Pentagon to immediately get started on building a Space Force. Since then, "Space Force" has become a staple at Trump political rallies.

William D. Hartung, director of the arms and security project at the Center for International Policy and a longtime Pentagon critic, has written that "Space Force" could become the rhetorical equivalent of "the Wall" — "a big idea that appeals to Trump's base but would be wildly impractical and hugely expensive to implement."

Just how expensive it might be is a matter of debate.

The Air Force has estimated that it might cost \$13 billion in the first five years. Others, including Harrison, say that's an exaggeration. In late August, Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said he was awaiting staff work on an estimate to be included in next year's defense budget request.

Tom Nichols, an author and professor of national security affairs at the U.S. Naval War College at Newport, Rhode Island, said no one should think a Space Force will produce an economic windfall of space contracts.

"People who think a 'space force' will create a new economic boom don't realize that our space infrastructure already exists," he wrote an email, stressing that he was speaking in a private capacity. "Any additional spending will likely be concentrated in research and knowledge-centric areas, not depressed manufacturing states." More to the point, he wrote, new weaponry is not in the offing.



FILE - In this Aug. 9, 2018 file photo, Vice President Mike Pence, center, is greeted by Deputy Secretary of Defense Pat Shanahan, left, and Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis before speaking at an event on the creation of a United States Space Force at the Pentagon. With his demand that the Pentagon create a new military service -- a Space Force to assure "American dominance in space" -- President Donald Trump has injected urgency into a long-meandering debate over the best way to protect U.S. interests in space, both military and commercial. (AP Photo/Evan Vucci)

"Put simply: We are not going to start building Klingon battle cruisers or the Moonraker fleet in West Virginia or Ohio."

Misconceptions aside, Harrison and many other defense analysts argue that a Space Force is needed.

In Harrison's view, it's about consolidating authority and responsibility for national security space in a single chain of command: reorganization, in other words, and building a bigger cadre of space strategy professionals. He argues that the space workforce now is so scattered across the military services and the intelligence agencies that it has not been possible to create a viable career path that will attract the right people.

He likens the Space Force proposal to the creation of the Air Force in 1947. It was not built from scratch. It was made a separate military department after having resided in the Army as the Army Air Corps.

Although a Space Force would require its own civilian and military leadership and presumably its own uniforms and additional personnel, other steps to consolidate the space chain of command would be bureaucratic.

In fact, one of the main moves already in motion is to recreate U.S. Space Command, which existed from 1985 to 2002, when it was disbanded to establish U.S. Northern Command in the aftermath of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Although Space Command went away, its functions did not. They were absorbed by U.S. Strategic Command, and the Air Force retained its lead role in space through Air Force Space Command.

Trump: Saudi arrests in Khashoggi death 'a good first step'

By ZEKE MILLER and ASHLEY THOMAS, Associated Press

LUKE AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz. (AP) — President Donald Trump on Friday called Saudi Arabia's announcement that suspects are in custody in the death of journalist Jamal Khashoggi a "good first step" and said he would work with Congress on a U.S. response.

The president spoke to the media at a defense roundtable in Arizona hours after Saudi Arabia claimed that Khashoggi, a Washington Post contributor last seen on Oct. 2, was killed in a "fistfight" at the Saudi consulate in Istanbul. The kingdom also said that 18 suspects were in custody and that intelligence officials had been fired.

Asked by a reporter whether he thought Saudi Arabia's explanation for Khashoggi's death was credible, Trump said, "I do. I do." But he said before he decided what to do next, he wanted to talk to Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.

"Saudi Arabia has been a great ally, but what happened is unacceptable," Trump said. Regarding the Saudi arrests, he said, "It's a big first step. It's only a first step, but it's a big first step."

On Capitol Hill, lawmakers including Trump ally Sen. Lindsey Graham expressed skepticism of the Saudi account, which was vastly different than that given by Turkish officials, who had said an "assassination



President Donald Trump waves after speaking at a campaign rally Friday, Oct. 19, 2018, in Mesa, Ariz. Trump is in Arizona stumping for Senate candidate Martha McSally. (AP Photo/Matt York)

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 34 of 48

squad" sent by the kingdom had killed and dismembered Khashoggi.

"First we were told Mr. Khashoggi supposedly left the consulate and there was blanket denial of any Saudi involvement," Graham, R-S.C., tweeted Friday. "Now, a fight breaks out and he's killed in the consulate, all without knowledge of Crown Prince."

Khashoggi, a prominent journalist and royal court insider for decades in Saudi Arabia, had written columns critical of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and the kingdom's direction while living in self-imposed exile in the U.S. He went to the Saudi consulate to obtain paperwork for his upcoming marriage.

"The Saudi 'explanation' for murdering journalist and Virginia resident Jamal Khashoggi in a consulate_a fistfight gone wrong_is insulting," tweeted Sen. Tim Kaine, the 2016 Democratic vice presidential nominee. "Since the Trump Administration won't stand up against atrocity, Congress must."

Democratic Rep. Adam Schiff of California said Saudi Arabia's claim that Khashoggi died in a brawl wasn't credible.

"If Khashoggi was fighting inside the Saudi consulate in Istanbul, he was fighting for his life with people sent to capture or kill him," said Schiff, the ranking member of the House intelligence committee.

"The Kingdom and all involved in this brutal murder must be held accountable, and if the Trump Administration will not take the lead, Congress must," Schiff said.

In a statement Friday night, White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said the U.S. will closely follow international investigations into Khashoggi's death and will advocate for justice that is "timely, transparent and in accordance with all due process."

Earlier Friday, Sanders said Secretary of State Mike Pompeo had spoken to the crown prince and briefed the president and John Bolton, Trump's national security adviser. Trump dispatched Pompeo earlier in the week to Saudi Arabia and Turkey to speak to officials about the case.

Thomas contributed from Washington.

Turkish reaction: we won't allow "cover-up" in Saudi killing

By **CHRISTOPHER TORCHIA, ZEYNEP BILGINSOY and SARAH EL DEEB, Associated Press**

ISTANBUL (AP) — Turkey will "never allow a cover-up" of the killing of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi in Saudi Arabia's consulate in Istanbul, a senior official in Turkey's ruling party said Saturday after Saudi Arabia announced hours earlier that the writer died during a "fistfight" in its consulate.

The critical reaction by Numan Kurtulmus, deputy head of the Justice and Development Party, suggested that Turkey, which started its own investigation amid pro-government media reports that a Saudi hit squad killed Khashoggi, was not prepared to go along with the Saudi version of what happened to the writer.

"It's not possible for the Saudi administration to wiggle itself out of this crime if it's confirmed," Kurtulmus said. He also said that Turkey would share its evidence of Khashoggi's killing with the world and that a "conclusive result" of the investigation is close.

Another Turkish ruling party official also criticized Saudi Arabia, saying the kingdom should have given its explanation "before the situation reached this point."

Leyla Sahin Usta, a human rights official in the ruling party, said it would have been "more valuable" if Saudi officials had earlier admitted that Khashoggi was killed in its diplomatic post.

Saudi Arabia initially denied any knowledge of the disappearance of Khashoggi, who vanished after entering its consulate on Oct. 2. But early Saturday, it admitted that he was killed there and said 18 Saudi suspects were in custody and intelligence officials had been fired.

The overnight announcements in Saudi state media came more than two weeks after Khashoggi, 59, entered the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul for paperwork required to marry his Turkish fiancée, and never came out. They also contradicted assertions in Turkish media leaks that Khashoggi was tortured, killed and dismembered inside the consulate, claims the kingdom had rejected as "baseless."

But growing international pressure and comments by U.S. officials up to President Donald Trump forced the kingdom to acknowledge Khashoggi's death.

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 35 of 48

While it fired officials close to Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, Saudi Arabia stopped short of implicating the heir-apparent of the world's largest oil exporter. King Salman, his father, appointed him to lead a committee that will restructure the kingdom's intelligence services after Khashoggi's slaying. No major decisions in Saudi Arabia are made outside of the ultraconservative kingdom's ruling Al Saud family.

The kingdom also offered a far different version of events than those given by Turkish officials, who have said an "assassination squad" from the kingdom including an official from Prince Mohammed's entourage and an "autopsy expert" flew in ahead of time and laid in wait for Khashoggi at the consulate. Beyond its statements attributed to anonymous officials, Saudi Arabia offered no evidence to support its claims.

Khashoggi, a prominent journalist and royal court insider for decades in Saudi Arabia, had written columns for The Washington Post critical of Prince Mohammed and the kingdom's direction while living in self-imposed exile in the U.S.

"God have mercy on you my love Jamal, and may you rest in Paradise," Khashoggi's fiancée, Hatice Cengiz, tweeted following the Saudi announcements.

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres is "deeply troubled" by the confirmation of the violent death of Khashoggi, a spokesman said.

Guterres "stresses the need for a prompt, thorough and transparent investigation into the circumstances of Mr. Khashoggi's death and full accountability for those responsible," spokesman Stephane Dujarric said in a statement.

Standing outside the Saudi consulate in Istanbul, the head of a media group said the "authority that gave the orders" in the killing of Khashoggi should be punished.

Turan Kislakci, president of the Turkish Arab Media Association, said Khashoggi was "slaughtered by bloody murderers" and that his group wants "true justice" for its slain colleague.

In a statement Friday night, White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said the U.S. will closely follow international investigations into Khashoggi's death and will advocate for justice that is "timely, transparent and in accordance with all due process."

Trump meanwhile called the Saudi announcement a "good first step," but said what happened to Khashoggi was "unacceptable."

The announcements came in a flurry of statements carried by the state-run Saudi Press Agency early Saturday morning.

"Preliminary investigations conducted by the Public Prosecution showed that the suspects had traveled to Istanbul to meet with the citizen Jamal Khashoggi as there were indications of the possibility of his returning



The Saudi Arabia's flag flies atop the country's in Istanbul, Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018. Saudi Arabia claims Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi died in a "fistfight" in consulate, finally admitting that the writer had been slain at its diplomatic post. The overnight announcements in Saudi state media came more than two weeks after Khashoggi, 59, entered the building for paperwork required to marry his Turkish fiancée, and never came out.(AP Photo/Lefteris Pitarakis)

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 36 of 48

back to the country," the statement read. "Discussions took place with the citizen Jamal Khashoggi during his presence in the consulate of the kingdom in Istanbul by the suspects (that) did not go as required and developed in a negative way, leading to a fistfight. The brawl led to his death and their attempt to conceal and hide what happened."

There's been no indication Khashoggi had any immediate plans to return to the kingdom.

The Saudi statements did not identify the 18 Saudis being held by authorities and did not explain how so many people could have been involved in a fistfight. The statement also did not shed any light on what happened to Khashoggi's body after his death.

"The kingdom expresses its deep regret at the painful developments that have taken place and stresses the commitment of the authorities in the kingdom to bring the facts to the public opinion, to hold all those involved accountable and bring them to justice," the statement said.

The kingdom at the same time announced the firing of four top intelligence officials, including Maj. Gen. Ahmed bin Hassan Assiri, a one-time spokesman for the Saudi military's campaign in Yemen who later became a confidant of Prince Mohammed.

Saud Qahtani, a powerful adviser to Prince Mohammed, also was fired. Qahtani had led Saudi efforts to isolate Qatar amid a boycott of the country by the kingdom and three other Arab nations as part of a political dispute.

On Twitter, where Qahtani had launched vitriolic attacks against those he saw as the kingdom's enemies, he thanked the Saudi government for the "great opportunity they gave me to serve my country all those years."

"I will remain a loyal servant to my country for all times," he wrote.

Assiri had no immediate comment.

Earlier this week, the Turkish pro-government newspaper Yeni Safak, citing what it described as an audio recording of Khashoggi's slaying, said a Saudi assassination squad seized the journalist after he entered the consulate, cutting off his fingers and later decapitating him. On Thursday, a leaked surveillance photo put Maher Abdulaziz Mutreb, a member of Prince Mohammed's entourage on trips to the U.S., France and Spain this year, at the consulate just ahead of Khashoggi's arrival.

Trump's campaign mode revives fiery immigration talk

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

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (AP) — Donald Trump fueled his 2016 campaign with fiery immigration rhetoric, visions of hordes flowing across the border to assault Americans and steal their jobs. Now, in the final weeks before midterm elections, he's back at it as he looks to stave off Democratic gains in Congress.

It's an approach that offers both risks and rewards. He could energize Democratic foes as well as the Republicans he wants to rouse to the polls.

But for the president, the potential gains clearly win out. In campaign stops and on Twitter in recent days, he has seized on a huge caravan of Central American migrants trying to reach the United States through Mexico as fresh evidence that his tough immigration prescriptions are needed.

He tweeted that the caravan was an "assault on our country at our Southern Border." Then, Thursday night in Montana, he told cheering supporters, "This will be an election of Kavanaugh, the caravan, law and order and common sense. ... Remember it's gonna be an election of the caravan."

His assertions got a visual boost Friday when some members of the caravan broke through a Guatemalan border barrier with Mexico. A few then got through to Mexican territory, but most were repelled by police with riot shields and pepper spray.

Trump signaled Friday he thought the strategy was working, telling reporters in Scottsdale, Arizona, that immigration was "a great issue for the Republicans."

On an aggressive campaign blitz, Trump has sought to cast the midterms as a referendum on his presidency, believing that he must insert himself into the national conversation in order to bring Republicans out to vote. Perhaps no issue was more identified with his last campaign than immigration, particularly

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 37 of 48

his much-vaunted — and still-unfulfilled — promise to quickly build a U.S.-Mexico border wall. To Trump, his pledges are still rallying cries.

"I think it's a big contrast point. All the Democrats are refusing to build the wall. It's a good contrast," said former Trump campaign aide Barry Bennett, who said the caravan was "perfectly timed" for Trump's midterm pitch.

But some warn that as Trump seeks to pump up his base, he could energize opposition. Matt Barreto, co-founder of the research firm Latino Decision, said an elevated immigration message could hurt Trump, too.

"I think you run the risk of angering minority voters across the board, Latino, black and Asian-Americans and also alienating and distancing from whites, including conservatives and moderates, now that they see what's happening with the family separations," said Barreto, a professor at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Thursday night, the migrant caravan of at least 3,000, many waving Honduran flags and chanting slogans, arrived at the Guatemalan border with Mexico. On Friday, they broke down Guatemalan gates and streamed toward a bridge to Mexico. Most were repelled by Mexican police, but about 50 got through.

Mexico's dispatching of additional police to its southern border seemed to please Trump. On Thursday night, he retweeted a BuzzFeed journalist's tweet of a video clip showing the police deployment, adding his own comment: "Thank you Mexico, we look forward to working with you!"

Earlier in the day, Trump railed against the caravan on Twitter and declared it was "Democrats fault for weak laws!" He also threatened to deploy the military to the border if Mexico did not stop the migrants and appeared to threaten a revamped trade deal with Canada and Mexico.

Until days ago, immigration appeared to be unlikely to repeat its central role of 2016, as Trump heeded congressional Republican requests to avoid a government shutdown over funding for the border wall ahead of the midterms. And an internal GOP poll presented to the White House last month found that other issues — particularly opposing the "Medicare for All" policy of some Democrats — would better resonate with voters.

While Trump did focus for a time on some Democrats calling for the abolition of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency, he largely discussed it as a warning against Democratic control of Washington. But the renewed embrace of the polarizing issue reflects a consensus view in both parties that control of Congress will be determined more by turning-out party loyalists than winning over centrist voters.

A vigorous immigration push will likely be well-received in many of the deep-red areas where Trump is campaigning, like his stop in Montana Thursday night. Republicans acknowledge it could play differently in other parts of the country — and might even harm GOP candidates in some selected districts — but they are wagering that as in 2016 it is still a net-win issue for the president's party.

Trump campaigns Friday night in Arizona, an increasingly competitive state where the message could



President Donald Trump looks the the cheering audience as he leaves a campaign rally at Minuteman Aviation Hangar, Thursday, Oct. 18, 2018, in Missoula, Mont. Trump's 2016 campaign was defined by his fiery immigration rhetoric, visions of the undocumented flowing across the border to assault Americans and steal their jobs. Now, in the final weeks before midterm elections, he's back at it as he looks to stave off Democratic gains in Congress. (AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

have a mixed result. He won Arizona by 3.5 percentage points two years ago, compared with Republican Mitt Romney's 9-point margin in 2012.

Ahead of the midterms, polls continue to show that voters consider immigration among the most important issues, though generally falling behind the economy and health care.

However, Republican and Democratic voters have distinctly different views of immigration as a problem facing the country. A recent Pew Research Center survey found a majority of Democratic voters — 57 percent — think the treatment of immigrants in the country illegally is a very big problem in the U.S., compared with just 15 percent of Republican voters who say the same. By contrast, three-quarters of Republican voters call illegal immigration a very big problem, ranking the highest for Republicans among the long list on Pew's survey, while just 19 percent of Democratic voters say the same.

Recently, surveys from CNN and The Washington Post/ABC News found voters were slightly more likely to think the Democratic Party would do a better job handling immigration than the Republican Party.

AP writer Catherine Lucey reported from Washington.

Silenced forever: Saudi Arabia admits Khashoggi is dead

By SARAH EL DEEB, Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — Two days after Jamal Khashoggi vanished into the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul, The Washington Post published a column featuring his byline and the headline "A missing voice." The space below it was blank.

That influential voice on Saudi affairs has been silenced forever after three decades as a writer, editor, commentator and media adviser.

Eighteen days after Khashoggi disappeared, Saudi Arabia acknowledged early Saturday that the 59-year-old writer has died in what it said was a "fistfight" inside the Saudi consulate in Istanbul.

The Saudi announcement shed little light on the mystery of Khashoggi's disappearance and contradicted leaks from Turkish media that he was tortured, killed and dismembered.

Once close to the royal family and an adviser to the country's former intelligence chief, Khashoggi became a sharp critic of its young and ambitious crown prince, Mohammed Bin Salman, for cracking down on any opposition and miring the country in a conflict in neighboring Yemen that killed thousands of people.

His disappearance and death ignited a diplomatic firestorm and shook Saudi Arabia's alliances with its partners, brought calls for sanctions against the oil-rich kingdom and horrified free speech advocates and people around the world who never read his work.

In a final column for the Post, which the newspaper said it received from his assistant on Oct. 3 and was published Oct. 17, Khashoggi warned that governments in the Middle East "have been given free rein to continue silencing the media at an increasing rate."

He noted that some Middle East leaders were blocking internet access so they could tightly control what their citizens can see.

"The Arab world is facing its own version of an Iron Curtain, imposed not by external actors but through domestic forces vying for power," Khashoggi wrote.

Born into a family of wealth and connections — he was the nephew of Saudi arms dealer Adnan Khashoggi and a cousin of Princess Diana's boyfriend Dodi Fayed — Khashoggi was a voice of moderation in a kingdom at war with terrorism in the aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks in the United States.

He spent years explaining its policies to outsiders, but made himself unpopular at home, saying the Saudi-led intervention in Yemen "would validate" those who compared the kingdom's actions to what Russia and Iran were doing in Syria. He also was critical of Riyadh's diplomatic break with Qatar.

After Khashoggi criticized the kingdom's celebration of Donald Trump's election as president in 2016, a royal court official who was close to him advised him to stop tweeting and publishing stories, a sign that his opinion was no longer welcome.

Khashoggi went into a self-imposed exile, moving to Washington in 2017, writing regular columns for

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 39 of 48

the Post and pursuing pro-democracy projects.

The crown prince's crackdown intensified after Khashoggi left, reaching some of his friends and associates. A former boss, Saudi billionaire Alwaleed bin Talal, was among dozens of businessmen and royals put under house arrest in an upscale hotel in November 2017 in a crackdown on corruption that soon resembled a shakedown of the kingdom's most powerful people.

"Saudi royals view themselves as The Party, sharing power and ruling by consent, in an arrangement that is largely opaque," Khashoggi wrote after the crackdown, adding that the crown prince "is upending this arrangement and centralizing all power within his position."

But he told the Economist in May that he did not agree with Saudis who were "calling for regime change and stuff like that. ... I believe in the system. I just want a reform system. Actually, I want the system to give me a voice to allow me to speak."

While he supported fighting corruption, he described what was happening in Saudi Arabia as "selective justice." He argued that corruption was so entrenched that royals monopolize land ownership and fewer than 40 percent of Saudis can own their homes.

"The crown prince is engaging in a major economic transformation. And since there is no one to debate it, he will not see the (mistakes) of these transformations," he told the Economist.

A British-Palestinian friend, Azzam Tamimi, said Khashoggi spoke to Westerners in a language they understand.

Prince Mohammed "spent millions on PR and wanted to present himself as a modernist savior who brings rights to women," Tamimi said. "Jamal used to show the other face that Mohammed bin Salam didn't want to show."

Jamal Ahmad Khashoggi was born in Medina in 1958 and graduated from Indiana State University. He began his career as a journalist in the 1980s, covering the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan and the decade-long war that followed for the English-language daily, the Saudi Gazette. He covered Algeria's 1990s war against Islamic militants, the Balkan wars and the rise of Islamists in Sudan.

In his youth, according to one friend, Khashoggi briefly joined the Muslim Brotherhood, the strongest organization of political Islam in the region. He soon left it, wanting to remain outside organized groups, but throughout his life kept good relations with all sides.

He was editor of Medina's Islamist-leaning paper for nine years.

While in Afghanistan, he interviewed Osama bin Laden before he became the leader of al-Qaida. They later met again in Sudan in 1995.

"He could have done much better for himself, his family and his religion if he remained moderate," Khashoggi said after bin Laden was killed by a U.S. raid in Pakistan in 2011.

In a column for The Daily Star in Lebanon on Sept. 10, 2002, Khashoggi wrote: "Osama bin Laden's hijacked planes not only attacked the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. They also



In this image made from a March 2018 video provided by Metafora Production, Jamal Khashoggi speaks during an interview at an undisclosed location. Eighteen days after Khashoggi disappeared, Saudi Arabia acknowledged early Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018, that the 59-year-old writer has died in what it said was a "fistfight" inside the Saudi consulate in Istanbul. (Metafora Production via AP)

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 40 of 48

attacked Islam as a faith. They attacked the values of tolerance and coexistence that Islam preaches.”

He had a brief stint in 2003 as editor of a liberal Saudi paper, Al-Watan, founded after 9/11, and he was often quoted in the West as a reformist voice and expert on Islamic radicals. But after two months, he was fired when the kingdom’s ultra-conservative clerics pushed back against his criticism of the powerful religious police.

Khashoggi served as media adviser to Turki Al-Faisal, the country’s former spy chief, who was at the time the ambassador to Britain and then the United States.

He returned to Al-Watan in 2007, where he continued his criticism of the clerics as the late King Abdullah began cautious reforms to try to shake their hold. Three years later, he was forced to resign after a series of articles critical of Salafism, the ultra-conservative Sunni movement.

In 2010, he was tapped to lead the new Bahrain-based broadcaster Al-Arab, touted as a rival to the Qatari-funded Al-Jazeera, a harsh critic of the kingdom. But it was shut down hours after its launch for hosting a Bahraini opposition figure.

After the Arab Spring uprisings in 2011, he was critical of the crackdowns by various Arab governments on the Muslim Brotherhood, a group that Saudi Arabia considers an existential threat.

Friends recalled him as a devout Muslim who loved his homeland, an avid history buff and a humble man with a sense of humor, fond of video games, which he sometimes played while waiting to conduct an interview.

A first marriage that produced two sons and two daughters fell apart, and Khashoggi told friends that it failed because of pressure from the Saudi government over his criticism.

His visit to the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul on Oct. 2 was to get documents needed for his wedding scheduled for the next day to Hatice Cengiz, who waited for him in vain to emerge from the compound.

Khashoggi said he had no plans to return to Saudi Arabia because he didn’t “want to risk losing my freedom. I really don’t like being in jail. ... I just want to be a free writer. I think I am serving my people, my country.”

Sherif Mansour of the Committee to Protect Journalists said Khashoggi was one of the few Saudis who helped track news of missing or detained journalists and activists.

“Saudi was always a black hole in terms of information, and now after Jamal’s case, it is even harder to get any,” Mansour said. “Those journalists depended on Khashoggi to tell their stories. It is up to us now to tell his story and make sure the risks he took on those journalists’ behalf were not in vain.”

Seeking to frame election, Trump calls Dems ‘too extreme’

By ZEKE MILLER, Associated Press

MESA, Ariz. (AP) — President Donald Trump, seeking to frame the choices for voters in the midterm elections, said Friday that Democrats are “too extreme and too dangerous” to take control of Congress.

On a three-day swing out West to make his closing arguments for Republican candidates, Trump sought to hone in on immigration as one of the defining election issues this fall by falsely accusing Democrats of wanting “open borders” and encouraging illegal immigration.

“Anybody who votes for a Democrat now is crazy,” Trump said.

Rallying thousands of supporters in an Arizona aircraft hangar for GOP Senate candidate Rep. Martha McSally, Trump warned of dire consequences if her opponent, Democratic Rep. Kyrsten Sinema, is victorious.

Trump, trying to hold onto Republicans’ narrow 51-49 advantage in the Senate, said a vote for Sinema “is dangerous” because it would empower Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi.

“The Democrat Party has become too extreme and too dangerous to be trusted with power,” he claimed.

Trump also had harsh words for Central American migrants trying to travel through Mexico and reach the U.S. border, declaring they aren’t “little angels” but “hardened criminals.”

Asked what evidence he had that they were “hardened criminals,” Trump told a reporter: “Oh, please. Please. Don’t be a baby.”

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 41 of 48

Thousands of the migrants have fled poverty and violence in their home countries. Others are in search of work and help for their families.

Trump also claimed without evidence that Democrats want them to enter the U.S. because "they're gonna vote Democrat."

Earlier Friday, during a roundtable at Luke Air Force Base, Trump said McSally, a former Air Force colonel and combat fighter pilot, is "brilliant and brave" and has a "very, very strange opponent."

The two congresswomen are vying for the seat of Republican Sen. Jeff Flake, who is retiring. McSally was a Trump critic in 2016 and represents a Tucson district that voted for Democrat Hillary Clinton.

McSally has now embraced the president and hopes his visit to Arizona will unite Republicans against Sinema.

Trump campaigned Thursday in Montana on behalf of GOP Senate candidate Matt Rosendale and on Saturday will visit Elko, Nevada, to support Sen. Dean Heller, considered the most vulnerable Republican incumbent this fall.



President Donald Trump arrives as the sun sets to speak at a campaign rally at Minuteman Aviation Hangar, Thursday, Oct. 18, 2018, in Missoula, Mont. (AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

Alaska's independent governor drops re-election bid

By BECKY BOHRER, Associated Press

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP) — Alaska Gov. Bill Walker dropped his re-election bid Friday, three days after the sudden resignation of his lieutenant governor over what Walker described as an inappropriate overture toward a woman.

Walker's announcement, made at the Alaska Federation of Natives conference in Anchorage shortly before he was to participate in a debate, was met with gasps and cries of "No!" from the audience.

"Alaska First' is and cannot be just a campaign slogan," he said. With less than three weeks until the election, Walker, an independent, said it became clear he could not win a three-way race against Republican former state Sen. Mike Dunleavy and Democratic former U.S. Sen. Mark Begich.

Alaskans deserve a competitive race, "and Alaskans deserve a choice other than Mike Dunleavy," he said.

Walker, a former Republican and the only independent governor in the country, told reporters he doesn't agree with Begich on a lot of things. But he said Begich would be better for Alaska than Dunleavy.

On Friday night, Brett Huber, Dunleavy's campaign manager, issued a statement blasting Walker. "Governor Walker could have chosen a dignified, graceful exit to his campaign. Instead, he opted to bow out with a bitter, partisan attack on Mike Dunleavy. It's too bad — Alaskans deserve better," Huber said.

Walker was showered with praise and hugs by conference attendees after his announcement. The debate went on without him. Begich called Walker's action courageous. Dunleavy did not acknowledge it in his opening statements.

Walker's campaign was rocked Tuesday by the resignation of Lt. Gov. Byron Mallott, a Democrat who was replaced by former state health commissioner Valerie Davidson.

Throughout the campaign, some Democrats and independents worried that Walker and Begich would split the vote, giving the election to Dunleavy. Walker was elected in 2014 with Democratic support.

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 42 of 48

Walker's campaign manager earlier this week said Walker and Begich had been in talks about a "path forward for Alaska" but would not elaborate. On Thursday, they both sought to downplay any suggestions of a potential deal ahead of the Nov. 6 election.

A Division of Elections spokeswoman said ballots have already been printed. Early voting in the state starts Monday.

Casey Steinau, chairwoman of the state Democratic party, lauded Walker for "stepping aside for the greater good."

Mallott, in a resignation letter, apologized for "inappropriate comments I made that placed a person whom I respect and revere in a position of vulnerability."

Few details have been released because Walker said he is honoring the wishes of the woman involved.

The partnership of Walker and Mallott — and blurring of partisan lines — was a central theme of their administration and campaign. Walker said he considers Mallott his closest friend and "soul mate."

In 2014, Walker and Mallott were each running for governor, trying to unseat Republican Gov. Sean Parnell. Walker was a Republican mounting an outsider bid. Mallott was the Democratic candidate and an Alaska Native leader.

With the support of the Democratic party, the two men, who had developed a friendship, combined their campaigns and defeated Parnell. Walker changed his affiliation from Republican to undeclared, and Mallott became Walker's running mate.

This year, their desire to run together helped seal what some had already seen as an uphill battle for Walker because of the three-way race. Though Democrats now allow independents to run in their primaries, Walker opted against that when it appeared Begich would run. He instead gathered signatures to appear on the general election ballot, which ensured that he and Mallott could run together. Libertarian Billy Toien also is running for governor.

Walker, 67, is no stranger to the underdog role and embraced it through much of the campaign. He often speaks of the emotional and financial toll of rebuilding his hometown of Valdez after a devastating 1964 earthquake. As a kid, he worked odd jobs to help make ends meet and helped his father with his construction business. He said the quake changed him — teaching him lessons about faith, perseverance and working together.

In 2014, oil prices, which had reached around \$110 a barrel, began a freefall, bottoming out at \$26 a barrel in early 2016. For a state heavily reliant on oil, the impact was severe, creating a multibillion-dollar budget deficit. Alaska fell into a recession.

As governor, Walker faced criticism for halving the size of the check Alaskans received from the state's oil-wealth fund in 2016. He defends his decision as proper; it came amid legislative gridlock over how to address the deficit. But critics labeled him a thief.



Alaska Gov. Bill Walker announces he will drop his re-election bid while addressing the Alaska Federation of Natives conference Friday, Oct. 18, 2018, in Anchorage, Alaska. Walker's re-election plans were dealt a blow earlier in the week after his running mate, Lt. Gov. Byron Mallott, resigned after making an inappropriate overture toward a woman. (AP Photo/Mark Thiessen)

"I ran for the job to do the job, not to keep the job," he said in a recent interview, describing that and other difficult decisions.

Russian woman charged in first 2018 election meddling case

By DEB RIECHMANN and ERIC TUCKER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. accused a Russian woman on Friday of helping oversee the finances of a sweeping, secretive effort to sway American public opinion through social media in the first federal case alleging foreign interference in the 2018 midterm elections.

The criminal complaint against Elena Alekseevna Khusyaynova alleges that Russians are using some of the same techniques to influence U.S. politics as they relied on ahead of the 2016 presidential election, methods laid bare by an investigation from special counsel Robert Mueller into possible coordination between Russia and Donald Trump's campaign.

Justice Department prosecutors claim that Khusyaynova, of St. Petersburg, helped manage the finances of a hidden but powerful Russian social media effort aimed at spreading distrust for American political candidates and causing divisions on hot-button social issues like immigration and gun control.

The Justice Department unsealed the criminal complaint on the same day that U.S. intelligence agencies, in a rare public statement, asserted that Russia, China, Iran and other countries are engaged in continuous efforts to influence American policy and voters in the upcoming elections and beyond. National security adviser John Bolton heads to Russia on Saturday.

The U.S. is concerned about the foreign campaigns "to undermine confidence in democratic institutions and influence public sentiment and government policies," said the statement from national security officials. The statement, which provided no details about any such efforts, said, "These activities also may seek to influence voter perceptions and decision-making in the 2018 and 2020 U.S. elections."

The national security agencies said they currently do not have any evidence that voting systems have been disrupted or compromised in ways that could result in changing vote counts or hampering the ability to tally votes in the midterms, which are 2½ weeks away.

"Some state and local governments have reported attempts to access their networks, which often include online voter registration databases, using tactics that are available to state and nonstate cyber actors," they said.

But so far, they said, state and local officials have been able to prevent access or quickly mitigate these attempts.

Prosecutors allege that Khusyaynova worked for the same social media troll farm that was indicted earlier this year by Mueller, and the social media effort they outlined Friday largely mirrors the special counsel's criminal case against three Russian companies, including the Internet Research Agency, and 13 Russians



Christopher Krebs, undersecretary of the Department of Homeland Security's National Protection and Programs Directorate, speaks during a news conference on election cyber security, Friday, Oct. 19, 2018, in Arlington, Va. (AP

Photo/Evan Vucci)

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 44 of 48

— including a close ally to Russian President Vladimir Putin.

The conduct singled out Friday runs afoul of criminal laws that bar foreign nationals from attempting to influence American elections or from engaging in political activities without first registering with the attorney general, prosecutors said. The new prosecution was brought not by Mueller but by the Justice Department's national security division and prosecutors from the Eastern District of Virginia. There is no allegation in the complaint of coordination with the Trump campaign.

Asked about the new accusation against the Russians, Trump responded that it had "nothing to do with me."

The court papers pull back the court papers on a Russian effort to use thousands of fake social media profiles, and email accounts that appeared to be from people inside the U.S., to influence American politics. The goal was not necessarily to espouse one political ideology over another, prosecutors say, but rather "create and amplify divisive social and political content" including on significant current events such as deadly shootings in South Carolina and Las Vegas, prosecutors said.

One fake persona, registered to "Bertha Malone," made over 400 Facebook posts containing inflammatory content. One post falsely alleged ties between President Barack Obama and the Muslim Brotherhood. Another fake Facebook account, in the name of "Rachell Edison," made more than 700 posts focused on gun control and the Second Amendment.

The Russian organizers of the conspiracy advised that the posts should reflect various viewpoints, and they gave specific instructions to only share articles from certain news websites to correspond to specific political views, prosecutors said.

"If you write posts in a liberal group...you must not use Breitbart titles," one of the group's members warned, court papers say. "On the contrary, if you write posts in a conservative group, do not use Washington Post or BuzzFeed's titles."

After one news article targeting Republican Sen. John McCain appeared online with the headline "McCain Says Thinking a Wall Will Stop Illegal Immigration is 'Crazy,'" members of the group were told to brand him as "an old geezer who has lost it and who long ago belonged in a home for the elderly." They were also told to say that McCain had a "pathological hatred toward Donald Trump and toward all his initiatives."

McCain, a longtime foe of Putin's, died in August of brain cancer.

After another article appeared about Mueller, members of the troll farm were told to share the article and say Mueller was a "puppet of the establishment" who had connections to the Democratic Party and "who says things that should either remove him from his position or disband the entire investigation commission."

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov said recently that Russia has no intention of interfering in the midterm elections.

Friday's separate statement about foreign influence in U.S. elections was issued just weeks before the Nov. 6 elections by the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, the Justice Department, the FBI and the Department of Homeland Security.

Given the breadth of alleged interference by Russia, which includes the hacking of Democratic email accounts ahead of the 2016 presidential election, it was notable that the intelligence community identified two other nations, China and Iran, in the same statement.

Vice President Mike Pence recently blasted China in a speech, saying Russia's influence efforts in America pale in comparison with the covert and overt activities of the Chinese to interfere in the midterms and counter Trump's tough trade policies against Beijing. But top administration officials have provided little evidence that China's activities are comparable to Russia's massive covert measures spelled out in previous indictments obtained by Mueller.

The officials have cited largely public steps taken by China, such as aiming tariffs at politically important states and pressuring U.S. businesses to speak out against the Trump administration.

Other countries are using social media to amplify divisive issues in American society and sponsor content in English-language media, such as Russia's RT and Sputnik news outlets, the security agencies' statement said. They also distribute propaganda and plant disinformation against political candidates, the depart-

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 45 of 48

ments said.

Intelligence agencies have not publicly released evidence of Iran working to meddle in U.S. elections. In March, however, the Trump administration announced criminal charges and sanctions against Iranians accused in a hacking scheme to pilfer sensitive information from hundreds of universities, private companies and American government agencies.

Lawmakers said the newest criminal complaint is proof that Russian meddling did not stop in 2016.

"Russian disinformation efforts are ongoing and sophisticated, and they are intent on dividing us and weakening our society and political system," said California Rep. Adam Schiff, the ranking Democrat on the House intelligence committee.

Associated Press writers Michael Balsamo and Colleen Long contributed to this report.

US stocks wobble at the end of another shaky week of trading

By MARLEY JAY, AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. stocks gave up an early rally Friday and struggled to another mixed finish as investors continued to sell former favorites like retailers. Household goods makers rose again as a week of choppy trading concluded.

Stocks surged in early trading after better-than-expected reports from companies including Procter & Gamble, American Express and PayPal. Procter & Gamble, the world's largest consumer products maker, had its biggest rally in 10 years. But the gains for indexes faded after a report showed U.S. home sales fell for the sixth month in a row. That hurt smaller and more U.S.-focused companies.

The market settled back into its usual pattern from the last two weeks, as companies that depend on economic growth struggled and those with more "defensive" qualities such as high dividends did better, a sign investors are worried about a few threats to growth: rising interest rates, trade tensions between the U.S. and China, and this week, some sluggish reports about housing construction and sales.

"We don't see too many other yellow or red flags right now, but (housing is) certainly one of them," said Mona Mahajan, U.S. investment strategist for Allianz Global Investors. Mahajan said that company earnings aren't doing much for the stock market right now because investors know the next two quarters should be strong, and they're concerned that growth in 2019 will be worse than expected.

The S&P 500 index lost 1 point to 2,767.78. The Dow Jones Industrial Average gave up most of an early gain. It jumped as much as 229 points early on but finished 64.89 points higher, or 0.3 percent, at 25,444.34.

Tuesday was the best gain in six months for U.S. stocks, but the S&P 500 fell every other day this week and ended the week up just 0.02 percent. That was good enough to end a three-week run of losses, but most of the market's recent gains have been swiftly followed by declines.

The S&P 500 hasn't risen two days in a row since Sept. 20. It finished at a record high that day, which was the last in a three-day string of gains. The benchmark index is down 5.6 percent since then.

The Nasdaq composite sagged 36.11 points, or 0.5 percent, to 7,449.03. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks lost 18.71 points, or 1.2 percent, to 1,542.04. The Russell 2000 is at its lowest in almost six months as investors worry that the U.S. economy could slow and interest rates could rise, a bigger challenge for smaller companies.

Procter & Gamble, which makes Tide, Pampers and Gillette razors, soared 8.8 percent to \$87.30 after reporting that sales of fabric and home care products rose in its latest quarter while beauty products revenue jumped 20 percent.

Other household goods companies also rose. Pepsi gained 2.2 percent to \$110.29 and Coca-Cola added 1.6 percent to \$46.33. Electric utility Duke Energy rose 1.8 percent to \$82.75.

Aerospace and building components maker Honeywell posted a bigger profit than analysts expected, but said it is seeing more signs of inflation in its business as a result of the tariffs the U.S. and China have placed on imported goods. Honeywell slid 1.1 percent to \$153.47. Industrial companies have skidded recently as investors worried about the results of those trade tensions.

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 46 of 48

Bond prices slipped. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note rose to 3.19 percent from 3.17 percent.

China said economic growth sank to a post-financial crisis low of 6.5 percent in the third quarter. Chinese finance officials launched a media blitz to shore up confidence in the country's sagging stock market. China's economy has gradually slowed for years, even before a trade dispute between Beijing and U.S. President Donald Trump led to higher tariffs. The Chinese government tightened controls on lending last year to rein in a debt boom, but that, too, has affected the economy.

Hong Kong's Hang Seng rose 0.4 percent Seoul's Kospi added 0.4 percent. Tokyo's Nikkei 225 shed 0.6 percent.

Germany's DAX lost 0.3 percent and France's CAC 40 sank 0.6 percent. London's FTSE 100 gained 0.3 percent and the FTSE MIB was little changed. Tensions between European Union officials and Italy's new government sent Italian stocks and government bond prices lower Thursday. Italian bond prices turned higher Friday and yields slipped.

Benchmark U.S. crude rose 0.7 percent to \$69.12 per barrel in New York. Brent crude, used to price international oils, gained 0.6 percent to \$79.78 a barrel in London.

Wholesale gasoline rose 1.2 percent to \$1.91 a gallon. Heating oil inched up 0.3 percent to \$2.30 a gallon. Natural gas added 1.6 percent to \$3.25 per 1,000 cubic feet.

Gold dipped 0.1 percent to \$1,228.70 an ounce. Silver rose 0.3 percent to \$14.65 an ounce. Copper gained 1.1 percent to \$2.78 a pound.

The dollar rose to 112.60 yen from 112.20 yen. The euro rose to \$1.1510 from \$1.1465.

AP Markets Writer Marley Jay can be reached at <http://twitter.com/MarleyJayAP>

Chinese broadens its propaganda drive to heartland America

By JOSH FUNK, AP Business Writer

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — China's propaganda machine has taken aim at American soybean farmers as part of its high-stakes trade war with the Trump administration.

The publication last month of a four-page advertising section in the Des Moines Register opened a new battle line in China's effort to break the administration's resolve. U.S. farmers are a key political constituency for Trump, and Beijing has imposed tariffs on American soybeans as retaliation for Trump's tariffs on hundreds of billions in Chinese imports.

China regularly disseminates propaganda in the West through its China Daily newspaper to try to influence public opinion. But the advertorial in the Register was unusual for deploying not a national publication in New York or Washington but a newspaper in the farm state of Iowa.

"It's the first time I've ever seen anything like this in a heartland city," said Matt Schrader, who edits the China Brief newsletter for the Jamestown Foundation, a Washington research institute that monitors China's actions.

The Iowa newspaper section was explicitly labeled a product of China Daily, China's official English language newspaper. The articles were clearly geared to try to soften the image of China and its president, Xi Jinping. With headlines ranging from "Dispute: Fruit of a president's folly" and "Book tells of Xi's fun days in Iowa" to "Kung Fu skill helps light up life path" and "China seeks pacts on robotics," the message was a not-very-subtle one about the friendly way Beijing wants to be seen in the farm belt.

Ken Doctor, a longtime media analyst, noted that newspapers have been struggling to replace revenue lost from declining subscriptions and print advertisements moving online. He suggested that when publications run propaganda like the "China Watch" sections, they should take care to be fully explicit about the source.

"I'd like to see newspapers that run this include an editor's note to be transparent about what this is," said Doctor, who runs the Newsonomics website.

Many experts say they doubt the propaganda drive in the United States will likely succeed. Chinese officials are used to operating at home, where the central government controls all major media outlets.

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 47 of 48

"U.S. farmers and manufacturers are... Economy of the Council on Foreign Rel... how to think about the relationship bet...

Stanley Chao, a business consultant w... surprising that China would try to take... have been hit by Beijing's retaliatory ta...

"This is the norm for the Chinese pro...

Chao noted that when a Chinese dissi... Nobel Committee and an embarrassme... Scandinavian newspapers.

In addition to its connection to the ta... is also home to Terry Branstad, a form... jing. And in the past, President Xi has... presidential election year.

Trump tweeted a photo of the "China... asserting that Beijing was trying to inte...

Chinese officials defended the adverti... a spokesman for the foreign ministry, sa... internal affairs or elections.

"I think there has been a long-stand... effort to influence Americans across the United States," said Sarah Cook, a research analyst with the Freedom House watchdog group. "Just this particular form of influence — the China Watch paid supplement — may only be appearing in places like Iowa now."

Other countries, like Saudi Arabia and Taiwan, typically hire public relations firms and place ads to try to improve their images, in contrast to China's more direct approach of placing ads in newspapers or posting videos online. The 2016 elections brought attention to foreign influence after U.S. intelligence agencies concluded that Russia had meddled in the elections. Federal prosecutors have charged a Russian firm with interfering through bogus Facebook posts.

It's not yet clear whether or how much Beijing will continue to try to shape public sentiment in the farm belt states.

"I imagine we will see some additional efforts by the Chinese government to directly influence public opinion in the heartland," said Walter Hutchens, a global business professor at the University of Redlands in California. "However, it seems more likely their economic muscle, rather than their clumsy PR efforts, will have actual impact."



This Friday, Oct. 19, 2018, photo shows a copy of the four-page advertising section Chinawatch along with a copy of The Des Moines Register in Des Moines, Iowa. China's propaganda machine has taken aim at American soybean farmers as part of its high-stakes trade war with the Trump administration. The publication last month of the four-page advertising section in the Register opened a new battle line in China's effort to break the administration's resolve. (AP Photo/Charlie Neibergall)

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Saturday, Oct. 20, the 293rd day of 2018. There are 72 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 20, 1973, in the so-called "Saturday Night Massacre," special Watergate prosecutor Archibald Cox was dismissed and Attorney General Elliot L. Richardson and Deputy Attorney General William B. Ruckelshaus resigned.

On this date:

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 103 ~ 48 of 48

In 1803, the U.S. Senate ratified the Louisiana Purchase.

In 1936, Helen Keller's teacher, Anne Sullivan Macy, died in Forest Hills, New York, at age 70.

In 1944, during World War II, Gen. Douglas MacArthur stepped ashore at Leyte (LAY'-tee) in the Philippines, 2 1/2 years after saying, "I shall return."

In 1947, the House Un-American Activities Committee opened hearings into alleged Communist influence and infiltration in the U.S. motion picture industry.

In 1967, a jury in Meridian, Mississippi, convicted seven men of violating the civil rights of slain civil rights workers James Chaney, Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner; the seven received prison terms ranging from 3 to 10 years.

In 1968, former first lady Jacqueline Kennedy married Greek shipping magnate Aristotle Onassis.

In 1976, 78 people were killed when the Norwegian tanker Frosta rammed the commuter ferry George Prince on the Mississippi River near New Orleans.

In 1977, three members of the rock group Lynyrd Skynyrd, including lead singer Ronnie Van Zant, were killed along with three others in the crash of a chartered plane near McComb, Mississippi.

In 1987, 10 people were killed when an Air Force jet crashed into a Ramada Inn hotel near Indianapolis International Airport after the pilot, who was trying to make an emergency landing, ejected safely.

In 1990, three members of the rap group 2 Live Crew were acquitted by a jury in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., of violating obscenity laws with an adults-only concert in nearby Hollywood the previous June.

In 2001, officials announced that anthrax had been discovered in a House postal facility on Capitol Hill.

In 2011, Moammar Gadhafi, 69, Libya's dictator for 42 years, was killed as revolutionary fighters overwhelmed his hometown of Sirte (SURT) and captured the last major bastion of resistance two months after his regime fell.

Ten years ago: A rising wave of optimism lifted Wall Street, propelling the Dow Jones industrials up more than 400 points on more signs of a reviving credit market and hints from Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke that the government would take more steps to help the economy. Arkansas TV anchorwoman Anne Pressly was found severely beaten in her Little Rock home; she died several days later. (Curtis Vance is serving a life sentence for Pressley's murder.) Taliban gunmen in Kabul, Afghanistan, killed Christian aid worker Gayle Williams, a British-South African national. Sister Emmanuelle, a Belgium-born nun who'd lived for years in Cairo's slums, died in Callian, France, at age 99.

Five years ago: One year ago: A suicide bomber slammed his explosives-laden car into a busy cafe in Baghdad, killing some three dozen people. In Egypt, masked gunmen fired on a Coptic church holding a wedding in the Cairo district of Warraq, killing five people.

One year ago: The U.S. government said 24 of its workers had now been confirmed to be victims of invisible attacks in Cuba. Suicide bombers struck two mosques in Afghanistan during Friday prayers, killing more than 60 people.

Today's Birthdays: Japan's Empress Michiko is 84. Rockabilly singer Wanda Jackson is 81. Former actress Rev. Mother Dolores Hart is 80. Actor William "Rusty" Russ is 68. Actress Melanie Mayron is 66. Retired MLB All-Star Keith Hernandez is 65. Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse, D-R.I., is 63. Movie director Danny Boyle is 62. Former Labor Secretary Hilda Solis is 61. Actor Viggo Mortensen is 60. Rock musician Jim Sonefeld (Hootie & The Blowfish) is 54. Rock musician David Ryan is 54. Rock musician Doug Eldridge (Oleander) is 51. Journalist Sunny Hostin (TV: "The View") is 50. Political commentator and blogger Michelle Malkin is 48. Actor Kenneth Choi is 47. Rapper Snoop Dogg is 47. Singer Dannii Minogue is 47. Singer Jimi Westbrook (country group Little Big Town) is 47. Country musician Jeff Loberg is 42. Rock musician Jon Natchez (The War on Drugs) is 42. Actor Sam Witwer is 41. Actor John Krasinski is 39. Rock musician Daniel Tichenor (Cage the Elephant) is 39. Actress Katie Featherston is 36. Actress Jennifer Nicole Freeman is 33.

Thought for Today: "Next to ingratitude, the most painful thing to bear is gratitude." -- Henry Ward Beecher, American clergyman (1813-1887).