


# Groton Daily Independent

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



*Check out our portfolio on Facebook at [Schultz-Construction-LLC](#)*  
~ New Construction and Remodeling- renovations, additions, and carpentry work  
~ Concrete- foundations, flatwork, decorative concrete surfaces.

**605-380-1717**  
[www.shawnschultzconstruction.com](http://www.shawnschultzconstruction.com)

## Groton Area Schedule of Events

### Tuesday, October 30, 2018

Volleyball: Girls Varsity Region 1A 7:00 #5 Webster at #4 Milbank, #7 Tiospa Zina at #2 Roncalli, #6 Sisseton at #3 Redfield/Doland. Groton is the #1 Seed and has first round bye

### Wednesday, October 31, 2018

8:30am- 11:35am: MathCounts at Aberdeen Roncalli Middle School

### Thursday, November 1, 2018

ASVAB Testing: Groton Area High School  
Volleyball: Girls Varsity Region 1A (High Seed will Host Region Matches #1 Groton Area hosts #4/#5 winner #2/#7 winner vs #3/#6 winner)

### Friday, November 2, 2018

Debate & Oral Interp at Aberdeen Central High School

### Saturday, November 3, 2018

Debate & Oral Interp at Aberdeen Central High School

Robotics at Mitchell Technical Institute

### Sunday, November 4, 2018

7:00pm: Snow Queen, GHS Gymnasium



## All State Choir

Tylan Glover, AnneMarie Smith, Madeline Schuelke and Mitchell Koens represented Groton Area in All State Choir held over the weekend in Rapid City. In case you missed the performance last night, it will be rebroadcast Thanksgiving Day, November 22nd, at 1pm CT/noon MT. (Photo Angela Glover's Facebook Page)

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## Fourth quarter comeback propels Wolves football over UMary

Bismarck, N.D. – The Northern State University football team snapped their 2-game loss streak on Saturday afternoon with a fourth quarter comeback and 28-23 victory over the University of Mary. With the win, the Wolves improve to 2-6 overall and 2-3 in the NSIC North.

The Wolves trailed through the first 53 minutes of play in the game, however tallied three scores in the fourth quarter to secure the win. Mary opened the game with their first touchdown, a 75-yard reception with just 11 seconds knocked off the game clock. Jacob Wiedrich cut into the lead with his first of two field goals in the game. The senior hit a 38-yard attempt, and later followed that with a 33-yarder in the fourth.

The two teams traded touchdowns to close out the first quarter, leaving the Marauders with a 4-point lead. Dakota Larson tallied the final first quarter score for the Wolves, a 40-yard reception from Hunter Trautman. UMary again scored first in the second, however Colten Drageset and Trautman answered back 7-yard reception at the 1:30 mark. The two teams entered the locker room with a 20-16 Marauder lead at the half.

The University of Mary extended their lead in the third with a made field goal, however that was their last score of the game. Northern opened the fourth with Wiedrich's second field goal of the afternoon, and followed that up with an 81-yard receiving touchdown by Jacob Streit. The touchdown gave NSU the 26-23 lead with just 6:40 remaining in regulation. The Wolves defense stepped on the Marauders final two drives of the game recording three sacks and a safety with just 19 seconds remaining on the clock.

As a team, the Wolves recorded a game high 86 yards rushing and 333 yards passing for 419 yards of total offense. The defense recorded six sacks for a total loss of 42 yards and held the Marauders to just 3-of-16 on third down. Northern also tallied one interception by senior Noah MacPherson.

Trautman completed 19-of-32 attempts in the win, recording three touchdowns and an 81-yard long to Streit. The win marks Trautman's second 300-plus yard game of the 2018 season, after throwing for 397 yards at MSU Moorhead. Chaka Kelly led the rushers with 39 total yards averaging 3.3 yards per carry with a 15-yard long.

Streit led the team with 127 yards receiving, averaging 25.4 yards per reception. He was followed by Larson and Zech Culbreath with 78 and 77 yards respectively.

MacPherson did it all for the Wolves on defense leading the team with 12 total tackles. The senior recorded 2.0 sacks for a total loss of 19 yards, and added one breakup and the interception. Preston Droessler and Zach Mohs followed with eight and seven tackles apiece, while Brayden McNeary led the team with three sacks for a total loss of 11 yards and one forced fumble. Droessler grabbed the final sack for the Wolves, while Alex Gray led the team with two breakups.

Wiedrich recorded 251 yards punting with a 60-yard long, averaging 35.9 yards per punt. He also tallied two over 50 yards and three inside the 20. The senior added 365 yards on kickoffs, averaging 60.0 per boot with five touchbacks. Culbreath and Larson led the returners with 19 and six yards respectively.

Northern returns to the confines of Swisher Field next Saturday for the final home game of the 2018 season. Kick-off is set for 1 p.m. between the Wolves and visiting Golden Eagles of Minnesota Crookston. NSU will also honor their 13 seniors prior to the game.

## Wolves offense bounces back in sweep of St. Cloud State

Aberdeen, S.D. – The No. 5 Northern State University volleyball team bounced back in their final regular season home game of the year, defeating St. Cloud State 3-0. The Wolves improve to 23-3 on the year and 15-3 in the Northern Sun.

The Wolves defeated the Huskies with set scores of 25-14, 25-23, and 25-19, hitting a match high .536 in the third and final set. Northern tallied 45 kills, 39 assists, 56 digs, seven blocks, and one service ace with a .365 attack percentage in the win. Defensively they held the Huskies to a .136 attack percentage with 22 hitting errors.

Morgan Baufield and Hailey Busch led the team with 11 and ten kills respectively. Laura Snyder followed with nine, while Sally Gaul and Jenna Reiff notched six and five apiece. Ashley Rozell and Regan Dennis rounded out the team total with a combined four kills.

Baufield hit a team high .550 in the match, with 20 swings and zero hitting errors. Snyder hit at a .500 clip with just one attack error, while Reiff tallied a .308 hitting percentage as the final Wolf above .300.

Rozell averaged 11.67 assists per set, with 35 total in the win, while adding the team's only service ace. It was another strong net of net defense for the Wolves and Baufield who led the team with four blocks, alongside Gaul. Reiff added three, while Rozell notched two and Snyder recorded one.

Busch led the team's court defense with 14 digs, averaging 4.67 per set in her 11th double-double of the season. Jaiden Langlie and Lexi Boesl also finished the match in double figures with 13 and 11 digs respectively. Bry Goar notched eight digs, while Rozell recorded four and Gaul and Snyder each added three.

The Wolves conclude the NSIC regular season next weekend on the road at Minnesota Crookston and Bemidji State. Start times are schedule for 5 p.m. on Friday versus the Golden Eagles and 3 p.m. on Saturday against the Beavers. Heading into the final week of play, the Wolves sit tied for first in the NSIC standings with Concordia-St. Paul and Minnesota Duluth.

# STAND UP FOR SCHOOL SAFETY.

**ANONYMOUSLY TEXT 'SAFE' TO 82257**

**TO REPORT SUSPICIOUS BEHAVIOR  
THREATS OR VIOLENCE.**

PROJECT  
**STANDUP**



## Grounded in Ag

South Dakota is grounded in agriculture. Our families are rooted in it; our economy relies on it; and I wouldn't have it any other way. But agriculture has had some tough years. We've been hit by floods, droughts, and trade disputes, pushing many operations to the breaking point.

I've fought to make sure producers have a safety net during times like this. Pushing the 2014 Farm Bill across the line was a significant victory. But as the trade situation grew more rocky, I pressed the administration on the need for another safety net. As an initial step, they offered producers short-term support, but my message back to the administration was that we need trade, not aid. We need to be building new markets - in foreign countries, but also here in the U.S.

Ethanol can be a big piece of that. For years, fuel blended with 15 percent ethanol (E-15) could only be sold for 9 months out of the year. After significant pressure from myself and others, President Trump announced this fall that he'd take steps to allow for year-round sales of E-15, potentially bringing about 2 billion bushels of corn into the market. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue was a driving force behind the change, and this month, we were fortunate to welcome him to South Dakota, celebrating the victory at one of the world's largest biofuel producers, South Dakota-based POET.

After touring POET, we traveled to a farm near Lennox for a roundtable discussion with producers across the state. We heard a lot about trade. Many there explained they understood the need to level the playing field for America, but as Secretary Perdue rightly said: "You can't pay the bills with patriotism."

While there's a lot of work to do on the trade front, the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Trade Agreement was a very encouraging step forward. People are coming to the table. They're negotiating with the administration. And American interests are advancing with each deal struck.

Before leaving, Secretary Perdue and I stopped by Brandon Valley Intermediate School for an assembly and to help serve students lunch. As many know, there has been robust discussion around school meals for years now. Under Obama-era regulations, schools' hands were tied. They could hardly serve meat. Cheese and milk was difficult to put on the tray, because of its salt content. And many schools were facing financial straits because of it.

I've been working to ditch the one-size-fits-all model for meal requirements. As one of his first acts as Secretary, Sonny went ahead and loosened the regulations, giving schools much-needed flexibility. I want to make his rules permanent through law and have legislation to do that.

Overall, it was a tremendous visit, where Secretary Perdue was able to get a good glimpse of what grounds us as South Dakotans. That's important because I've always believed what you see with your eyes, you carry in your heart. I have no doubt Secretary Perdue now carries a bit of South Dakota with him.



## 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.

## Do You Think Your Income-Related Medicare Premium Is Incorrect?

By: **Patty Hoffman**

**Social Security Public Affairs Specialist**

Medicare is our country's health insurance program for people age 65 or older. Certain people younger than age 65 can qualify for Medicare, too, including those with disabilities and those who have permanent kidney failure.

If you're a Medicare beneficiary who has been informed that you must pay more for your Medicare Part B or Medicare prescription drug coverage premium because of your income, and you disagree with the decision that you need to pay a higher premium amount, you may request an appeal. The fastest and easiest way to file an appeal of your decision is by visiting [www.socialsecurity.gov/disability/appeal](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/disability/appeal).

You can file online and provide documents electronically to support your appeal. You can also file an appeal online even if you live outside of the United States. You may also request an appeal in writing by completing a Request for Reconsideration (Form SSA-561-U2) at [www.socialsecurity.gov/forms/ssa-561.html](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/forms/ssa-561.html).

If you don't have access to the internet, you can request a copy of the form by calling us at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

Learn more by reading our publication Medicare Premiums: Rules for Higher-Income Beneficiaries at [www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/EN-05-10536.pdf](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/EN-05-10536.pdf).

Know someone who hasn't signed up for Medicare yet? They can use our online Medicare application if they:

- o Are at least 64 years and 9 months old;
- o Want to sign up for Medicare but do not currently have ANY Medicare coverage;
- o Do not want to start receiving Social Security benefits at this time; and
- o Are not currently receiving Social Security retirement, disability, or survivors benefits.

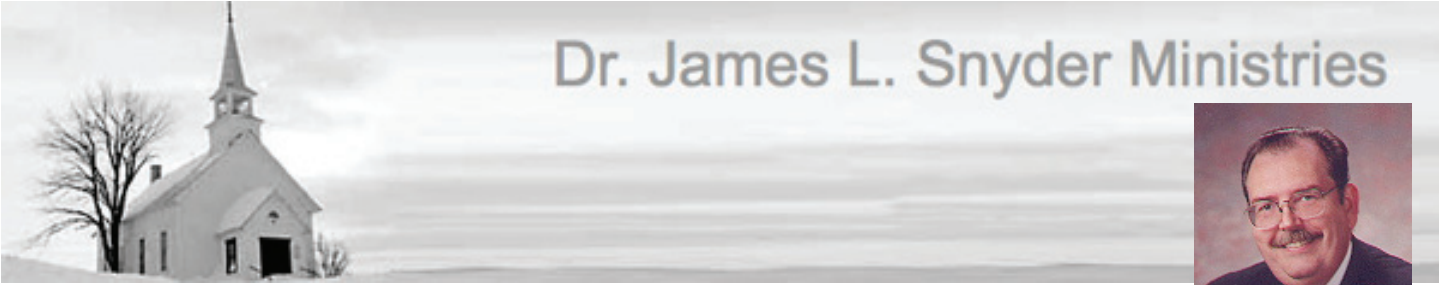
Remind them that they should sign up for Medicare three months before reaching age 65, even if they are not ready to start receiving retirement benefits. They can opt out of beginning to receive retirement benefits now once they are in the online application. Then they can apply online for retirement benefits later.

You can learn all you need to know at [www.socialsecurity.gov/benefits/medicare](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/benefits/medicare) and easily share these resources with family and friends.

Patty Hoffman is the Public Affairs Specialist for ND, SD and Western MN. You can write her c/o Social Security Administration, 4207 Boulder Ridge Road, Ste. 100, Bismarck ND 58503 or via email at [patty.hoffman@ssa.gov](mailto:patty.hoffman@ssa.gov).

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## I'm Dreaming of a Commercial Free World

It was one of those really busy weeks where there was hardly enough time to breathe. For myself, I was glad the week was over and I could relax for the evening.

"What do you want for supper?" The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage queried. "Do you want to go out for supper?"

Going out for supper was the last thing on my mind. All I wanted to do was relax here at the house.

"No," I said rather hesitatingly, "why don't we just order a pizza and stay home tonight?"

That brought a nice smile to her face. It is the one time that I made the right decision.

So, we ordered the pizza and were ready to settle down and enjoy the evening together watching TV. Nothing could be more relaxing after the kind of week we had. It was like two steps forward and five steps backward.

The pizza arrived in good time and we were ready to turn our back on the world, the past week and just enjoy our own little companionship.

Ordering pizza can sometimes be tricky. I like pepperoni, she likes mushroom and the twain never comes together. So we ordered a large pizza half pepperoni and half mushroom. That way I know I will get my half. I know she will not eat any of the pepperoni pizza.

We were all snuggled down in our easy chairs eating pizza, drinking soda and watching TV.

"What do you want to watch tonight?"

"I don't know," she said hesitatingly, "anything is good for me tonight."

We settled on one of those Hallmark movies playing that night and began watching it. If you ever watched a movie on TV, you know that they cannot go long without breaking for commercials.

It was agitating to me, but I just indulged in my pizza and soda.

Then I heard a very deep sighing on the other side of the room. For a while, I pretended not to hear it. I just kept munching on my pizza.

The sighing got louder and I tried to crunch louder. Unfortunately, the sighing won.

The next stage was, "I can't believe all of that."

Again, I tried to mind my own business and focus on the movie. At the next commercial I heard somebody say, and it wasn't me, "I am just about tired of all that."

I am not sure what she was tired of; I was hoping it was not me. I know it wasn't the pizza. You can only handle something for so long.

Finally, I said, "What are you tired of?"



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"I'm tired," she said most exasperatingly, "of all those commercials. I'm tired of them all. I want them to go away."

I had to agree with her at this point. I am so tired of commercials. I am dreaming of some world where there are no commercials.

While watching this movie we decided to do a little bit of research. After every part of the movie, it came to commercial time. When the commercials started coming we started counting them. Between every segment, there were 117 commercials. It seemed that way at least.

The worst part of these commercials was the fact that most of them were political commercials. Personally, I think that should be against the law. And the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage agrees with me. So, if she agrees with me it must be something of consequence.

If I want to see a commercial, I will go and watch a commercial. After all, I do have a computer. But please, do not splatter my TV screen with commercial after commercial after commercial.

When a commercial comes on I can get up, go take a shower, shave and practice my Yogi Berra before the next part of the movie begins.

I have noticed that if I am watching TV while eating something they always have commercials about diarrhea. Why do I want to know about that while I am eating? That is most disgusting.

Even more disgusting are political commercials. Again, I think it should be against the law for any political commercials to be on my television. They should set aside one TV station that runs nothing but commercials 24/7. Then, if I want to watch a commercial, I know where to go.

If a political candidate wants to run for some office, they should write an essay about what they believe and post it on their website. Then, if I want to know anything about them, I know where to go. Only please, stay off my TV set.

While watching our movie, it became very confusing. It is hard to leap across the commercials to follow the story line. We decided to time things. The movie part would last about eight minutes and the commercial part would last over 10 minutes.

Talk about being unfair. I never turn the TV on to watch a commercial. It would be hard for me to find a commercial that I have any interest in whatsoever.

The only place I can find a commercial free environment is the Bible. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

The one pleasure in reading the Bible is that there are no distractions.

(I'm James Snyder and I approve this message.)

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## Today in Weather History

October 28, 1989: The season's first snowfall brought much-needed moisture to the Black Hills and portions of western South Dakota as up to nearly a foot of snow fell in the higher elevations. The storms caused motorists some problems. A build-up of ice and slush in combination with blowing snow prompted the State Highway Patrol to close the portion of Interstate-90 from Rapid City to Wall. Numerous multiple vehicle accidents were reported.

October 28, 1993: Very strong northwest winds gusting to 50 to 60 mph raked South Dakota. A new home under construction southwest of DeSmet collapsed in the winds. Reported peak winds included 56 mph at Huron, 55 mph at Rapid City, and 52 mph at Sioux Falls.

1846: In the spring of 1846, a group of nearly 90 emigrants left Springfield, Illinois, and headed west to California. The Donner party arrived at the Great Salt Lake and still needed to cross the Sierra Nevada Mountains late in the season. On this day, a heavy snowfall blocked the pass, thus trapping the emigrants. Only 45 of the original 89 emigrants reached California the following year.

1999: A Super Typhoon, known as Cyclone 05B reached the equivalent of the Category 5 hurricane on this day. This storm is the strongest tropical cyclone ever record in the North Indian Ocean. Cyclone 05B hit the Indian State of Odisha near the city of Bhubaneswar on October 29. An estimated 10,000 individuals would die from this cyclone, and 1.67 million people were left homeless.

1936 - The temperature at Layton, NJ, dipped to 9 above zero to establish a state record for the month of October. (The Weather Channel)

1971 - A severe early season blizzard raged across the Plateau Region and Rocky Mountain Region. Heavy snow blocked railroads and interstate highways, and record cold accompanied the storm. Lander WY received 27 inches of snow, and the temperature at Big Piney WY plunged to 15 degrees below zero. (David Ludlum)

1987 - Thunderstorms over the San Joaquin Valley of California produced three-quarters of an inch of rain in thirty minutes at Placerville, and caused numerous power outages due to lightning. Rain began to diminish in the northeastern U.S., but some flooding continued in Vermont, eastern New York and northern New Jersey. One inch rains in Vermont clogged culverts and sewers with fallen leaves, resulting in erosion of dirt roads. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Arctic cold invaded the north central U.S. Valentine, NE, dipped to 8 degrees, and Cutbank, MT, reported a morning low of one degree above zero. The temperature at Estes Park CO dipped to 15 degrees, but then soared thirty degrees in less than thirty minutes. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - A storm crossing the western U.S. produced 10 to 20 inches of snow across northern and central Wyoming, with 22 inches reported at Burgess Junction. Seven cities in the Lower Ohio Valley and the Upper Great Lakes Region reported record high temperatures for the date as readings again warmed into the 70s. Alpena MI reported a record high of 75 degrees. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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Today



Mostly Cloudy

High: 64 °F

Tonight



Partly Cloudy  
and Breezy

Low: 35 °F

Sunday



Sunny

High: 58 °F

Sunday  
Night



Partly Cloudy

Low: 36 °F

Monday



Mostly Sunny

High: 60 °F



Published on: 10/28/2018 at 5:46AM

Today will feature sunny skies with highs in the mid-50s, to the mid-60s.

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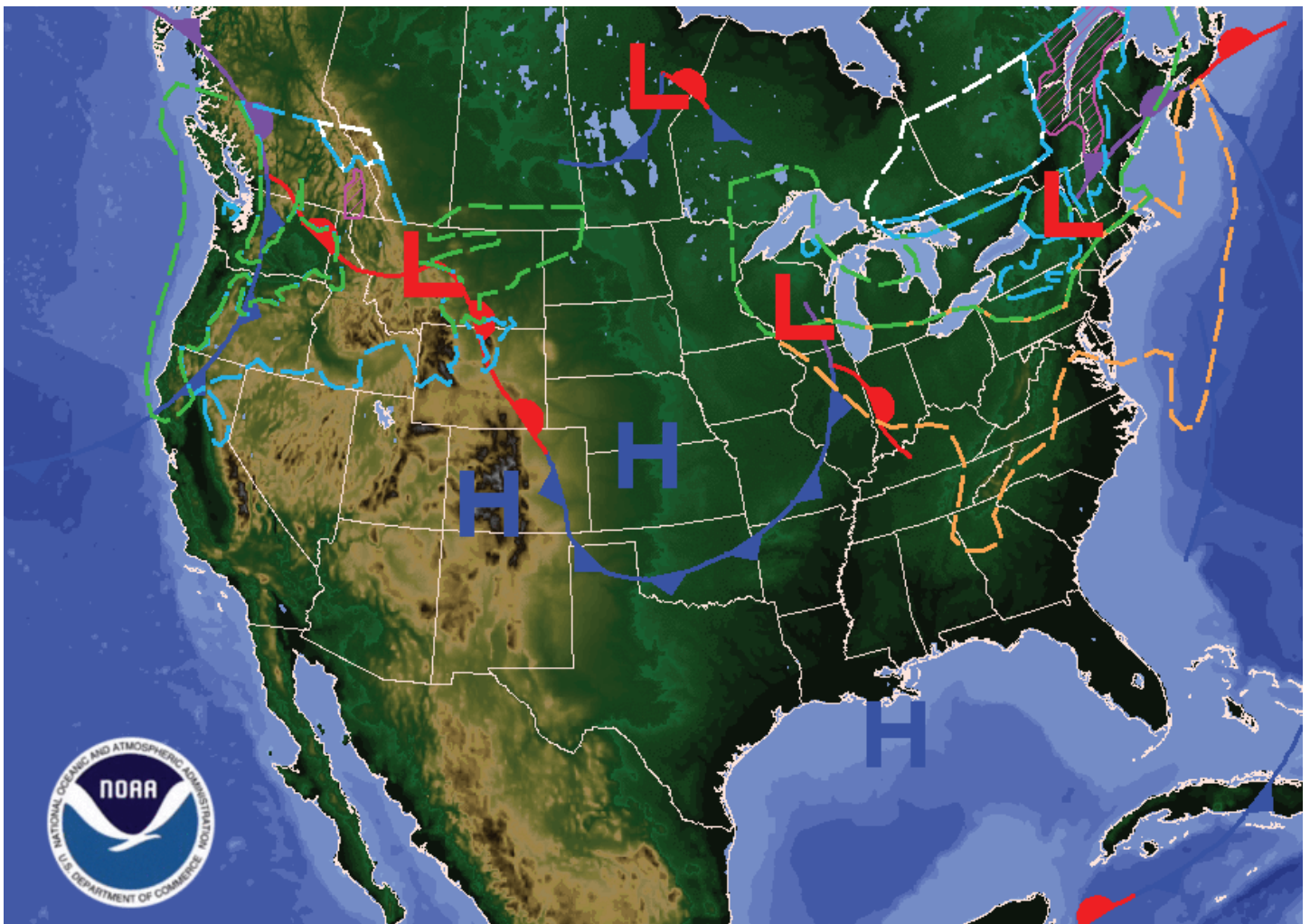
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## Yesterday's Weather

**High Outside Temp: 60 °F at 5:57 PM**  
**Low Outside Temp: 29 °F at 6:53 AM**  
**High Gust: 33 mph at 8:38 PM**  
**Precip: 0.02**

## Today's Info

**Record High: 82° in 1937**  
**Record Low: -6° in 1919**  
**Average High: 51°F**  
**Average Low: 28°F**  
**Average Precip in Oct.: 1.81**  
**Precip to date in Oct.: 1.44**  
**Average Precip to date: 20.29**  
**Precip Year to Date: 15.05**  
**Sunset Tonight: 6:27 p.m.**  
**Sunrise Tomorrow: 8:09 a.m.**



### Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Sun, Oct 28, 2018, issued 4:57 AM EDT  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by Hurley 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)**

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## NEVER FORSAKEN

Their first child was about to be born. The expectant father was standing by the soon-to-be mother when the nurse came into the room and said, O.K. Time to leave. Were taking her to the delivery room.

Not without me, he said defiantly.

Oh yes we are, she said as she tried to push him out of the way.

Suddenly, he pulled a pair of handcuffs from his pocket and snapped one end to the gurney and the other to his arm. Unprepared for such an event, they wheeled him into the delivery room too.

His wife looked at him with compassion and said, I knew you'd never leave me.

The presence of a loved one in times of uncertainty and insecurity can be much more than comforting. They can be essential for maintaining one's sanity.

No doubt David had that in mind when he wrote, For You, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek You.

God will never forsake us when we face the dangers of life. One evening, a powerful storm arose without any warning. High waves sent the small boat high into the air before it came crashing down. Water was sweeping over the sides, and it was about to sink. Don't You care? cried the disciples. We are about to drown!

Quiet down, said Jesus. And the turbulent seas and pounding hearts of the disciples both became as peaceful as a sleeping baby in the arms of its mother.

I'll never leave you nor forsake you, said Jesus.

Prayer: Thank You, Lord, for the power in Your words and the promise of Your presence when life threatens us. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 9:10 For You, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek You.

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## 2018 Groton SD Community Events

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

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## News from the Associated Press

### SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Dakota Cash  
12-20-24-25-33  
(twelve, twenty, twenty-four, twenty-five, thirty-three)  
Estimated jackpot: \$45,000

Lotto America  
17-22-24-47-50, Star Ball: 7, ASB: 2  
(seventeen, twenty-two, twenty-four, forty-seven, fifty; Star Ball: seven; ASB: two)  
Estimated jackpot: \$10.35 million

Mega Millions  
Estimated jackpot: \$45 million

Powerball  
08-12-13-19-27, Powerball: 4, Power Play: 3  
(eight, twelve, thirteen, nineteen, twenty-seven; Powerball: four; Power Play: three)  
Estimated jackpot: \$750 million

### Stick's big day leads NDSU past South Dakota 59-14

VERMILLION, S.D. (AP) — Easton Stick threw three touchdown passes, becoming North Dakota State's all-time leader in scoring tosses, and ran for two more scores as top-ranked North Dakota State breezed to a 59-14 victory over South Dakota in Missouri Valley Football Conference play on Saturday.

Stick finished with 176 yards on 12-of-19 passing. He threw for 161 yards and all three of his TDs in the first half. Stick's record-breaking 73rd TD toss was a 6-yarder to Ben Ellefson with 36 seconds remaining in the second quarter and put the Bison (8-0, 4-0) up 35-7 at halftime. Ellefson's only other catch was a 15-yard hookup with Stick in the opening quarter for the game's first score. Stick added 79 yards rushing on seven carries and scored on a 2-yard run in the first quarter and a 47-yarder in the third quarter.

The victory pushed NDSU's fifth-year coach Chris Klieman past Ron Erhardt and into third place on the school's all-time victory list with his 62nd win. He's lost just six games over that span. The Bison, who sit atop the FCS coaches' poll, have won 14 straight games, the longest active streak among FCS teams.

Austin Simmons passed for 152 yards and led the Coyotes (3-5, 2-3) with 115 yards rushing on 11 carries that included a 62-yard TD run.

Jabril Cox had five tackles, a sack and an interception — all in the first quarter — to help the Bison take a 21-0 lead.

### Christion, Daniel help S. Dakota St. beat Illinois St. 38-28

NORMAL, Ill. (AP) — Taryn Christion passed for 292 yards and three touchdowns and Mikey Daniel scored two rushing touchdowns to help South Dakota State beat Illinois State 38-28 on Saturday.

Christion was 18-of-28 passing with one interception and moved into first on South Dakota State's career completions list with 740. Daniel finished with 84 yards rushing on 20 carries.

Adam Anderson's 64-yard catch-and-run gave South Dakota State (5-2, 3-2 Missouri Valley) a 7-0 lead

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93 seconds in but, on the next play from scrimmage, Illinois State's Brady Davis hit Andrew Edgar for an 81-yard touchdown. One play after Xavier Ward forced and recovered a fumble, Daniel scored on a 5-yard run that made it 14-7 with 4:39 left in the first half. The Redbirds fumbled again on their next offensive play, setting up a Jacob Brown's 5-yard TD catch and, after an Illinois State punt, Christian's 81-yard touchdown pass to Cade Johnson made it 28-7 at halftime.

Daniel's 7-yard scoring run with 3:19 left in the third quarter gave the Jackrabbits, who came in ranked No. 8 in the FCS coaches poll, a 28-point lead.

Edgar had nine receptions for 202 yards and two touchdowns — all career highs — for ninth-ranked Illinois State (5-3, 2-3).

## Ellsworth base uses cannons to prevent bird collisions

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — An Air Force base near Rapid City has unveiled a new cannon system designed to prevent costly collisions between bombers and birds.

The Ellsworth Air Force Base has implemented a new \$150,000 bird abatement system, which is comprised of a rotating cannon and a 20-gallon propane tank, the Rapid City Journal reported. Igniting a small amount of propane into the cannon produces a shotgun-like sound, which scares birds off.

Some of the new units also have speaker systems to blare the distress calls of eight bird species.

"Birds are a huge problem for our aircraft operations," James McCurdy, a flight safety officer with the 28th Bomb Wing. "In the middle of our migration season (October, November, April and May), it's not abnormal for us to hit and kill a bird at least once a week. They cost us hundreds of thousands of dollars a year."

Each B-1B bomber costs about \$400 million and is capable of speeds close to 1,000 mph.

The base's new system has 24 cannon units that are spread out along the aircraft runway and are operated using computers in the base's flight tower or by remote, handheld devices.

McCurdy said the base's past bird-deterrent strategy was "one or two individuals with a shotgun out there with pyrotechnics."

He said the new technique is "a more reliable, safer system for the birds and the aircraft" that "cuts down on the workload for the individuals involved."

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

## Sioux Falls mayor to suggest \$30M upgrade to training center

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls Mayor Paul TenHaken's administration is preparing to ask the City Council and taxpayers for up to \$30 million to upgrade the city's fire and police training facilities.

A study commissioned last year under former Mayor Mike Huether found that parts of the city's 40-year-old V.L. Crusinberry Regional Training Center are in bad condition, the Argus Leader reported.

The current facility features an open-air shooting range, a five-story burn tower used to simulate a high rise building, classroom space, a search maze house and a course for firefighters and police officers to learn how to maneuver emergency vehicles. But consultants identified mold in the classroom building, falling concrete in the burn tower and environmental concerns at the shooting range.

"The concrete pieces are large enough to kill someone if they released and landed on the head of an unknowing student, staff member, or visitor operating around the structure," said Tommy Abercrombie, owner of Texas-based Abercrombie Planning and Design, which helped perform the review.

The city ceased operations at the burn tower following the report, so the fire department no longer has a dedicated facility for stair climbing or controlled burns.

The shooting range, meanwhile, is open-air site with a gravel floor, a surface that doesn't protect from lead contamination in the ground after rain events.

The training center is located on Sioux Falls Airport Authority land, which requires officers to pass through a high-security check point at the entrance of the South Dakota Air National Guard base. The process to enter and exit the facility can be time-consuming and limits the city's ability to access its training facility



when the base is closed.

Consultants recommended building a new training site on city-owned land.

The project is still in the design phase, with engineers and architects working toward determining what the eventual price tag may be.

T.J. Nelson, deputy chief of staff in the mayor's office, said initial estimates suggest the facility could cost between \$20 million and \$30 million.

Nelson said construction would start in 2020 at the earliest.

"Nothing is budgeted in 2019," he said. "Because it's such a big deal, we're taking our time to plan it to make sure we're doing it right."

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

## Mattis presses Saudi leader for full probe on writer's death

By LOLITA C. BALDOR, Associated Press

PRAGUE (AP) — Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said Sunday he met with Saudi Arabia's foreign minister during an international conference and urged a full and complete investigation into the killing of writer Jamal Khashoggi.

Mattis told reporters traveling with him that Saudi Foreign Minister Adel al-Jubeir "had no reservations at all" about the need for the kingdom to be transparent about the death of the Washington Post columnist at the kingdom's consulate in Istanbul, Turkey.

The two spoke privately at a dinner Saturday during the Manama Dialogue international security conference in Bahrain. Mattis did not detail the conversation they had but said he told Jubeir that "we need to know what happened."

Turkish officials have said that a Saudi team of 15 men tortured, killed and dismembered the writer in a premeditated act. The kingdom initially said it knew nothing about what happened to Khashoggi, but on Thursday said evidence shows the killing was premeditated.

When asked about the killing during a panel discussion at the conference, Jubeir complained about the media "hysteria" and the rush to pin blame on the Saudi royal family before the investigation is complete.

Khashoggi lived in self-imposed exile in the U.S. for the past year and wrote editorial columns for The Washington Post that were critical of Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, the kingdom's heir apparent.

Mattis, in his speech at the conference, said Khashoggi's killing undermines stability in the region, and warned that the U.S. may take additional actions in response to the killing. He did not say what those steps would be.

## Pope Francis grieves for Jewish victims in Pittsburgh

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope Francis is grieving with Pittsburgh's Jewish community following the massacre at a synagogue there, denouncing the "inhuman act of violence" and praying for an end to the "flames of hatred" that fueled it.

Francis led prayers for Pittsburgh on Sunday in St. Peter's Square, a day after a gunman who had expressed hatred of Jews opened fire in the synagogue during Sabbath services, killing 11 people.

Francis prayed for the dead, the injured and their families. He says "all of us are wounded by this inhuman act of violence." He prayed for God "to help us to extinguish the flames of hatred that develop in our societies."

Francis has frequently spoken out against religiously inspired violence and has denounced the easy availability of guns, calling arms manufacturers the "merchants of death."

## How the FBI used science to identify mail bomb suspect

By ERIC TUCKER, MICHAEL BALSAMO and COLLEEN LONG, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — In the hours before his arrest, as federal authorities zeroed in and secretly accumulated evidence, Cesar Sayoc was in his element: spinning classic and Top 40 hits in a nightclub where he'd found work as a DJ.

As he entertained patrons from a dimly lit booth overlooking a stage at the Ultra Gentlemen's Club, where Halloween decorations hung in anticipation of a costume party, he could not have known that investigators that very evening were capitalizing on his own mistakes to build a case against him.

He almost certainly had no idea that lab technicians had linked DNA on two pipe bomb packages he was accused of sending to prominent Democrats to a sample previously collected by Florida state authorities. Or that a fingerprint match had turned up on a separate mailing the authorities say he sent.

And he was probably unaware that investigators scouring his social media accounts had found the same spelling mistakes on his online posts — "Hilary" Clinton, Debbie Wasserman "Shultz" — as on the mailings he'd soon be charged with sending.

In the end, prosecutors who charged Sayoc with five federal crimes Friday say the fervent supporter of President Donald Trump unwittingly left behind a wealth of clues, affording them a critical break in a coast-to-coast investigation into pipe bomb mailings that spread fear of election-season violence. The bubble-wrapped manila envelopes, addressed to Democrats such as Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton and intercepted from Delaware to California, held vital forensic evidence that investigators say they leveraged to arrest Sayoc four days after the investigation started.

"Criminals make mistakes so the more opportunities that law enforcement has to detect them, the greater chance they're going to be able to act on that, and that appears to be what happened here," said former Justice Department prosecutor Alope Chakravarty, who prosecuted the Boston Marathon bombing case.

But it wasn't always clear that such a break would come, at least not on Monday when the first package arrived: a pipe bomb delivered via mail to an estate in Bedford, New York, belonging to billionaire liberal activist George Soros. That same day, Sayoc, still under the radar of law enforcement, retweeted a post saying, "The world is waking up to the horrors of George Soros."

Additional packages followed, delivered the next day for Clinton and Obama and after that to the cable network CNN, former Attorney General Eric Holder, former Vice President Joe Biden and other Democratic targets of conservative ire.

Each additional delivery created more unease. But together they also provided more leads for the FBI, which mined each pipe bomb for clues at a laboratory in Quantico, Virginia.

As the packages rolled in, technicians hit a breakthrough: a fingerprint and DNA left on a package sent to Rep. Maxine Waters, a California Democrat and one of the intended pipe bomb recipients, and DNA on a piece of pipe bomb intended for Obama. The FBI said it had identified no other possible matches on the evidence it had examined.

Besides that, the FBI said, his social media posts that traffic in online conspiracy theories, parody accounts and name-calling include some of the same misspellings as were noticed on the 13 packages he was charged with sending.

The clues, authorities say, led them to a 56-year-old man with a long criminal history who'd previously filed for bankruptcy and appeared to be living in his van, showering on the beach or at a local fitness center.

As the FBI worked around the clock, and as Americans were busy debating the hard-edged political climate and whether Trump had fanned the flames with his rhetoric, it was business as usual for Sayoc as he took to Twitter to denigrate targets like Soros. That was not uncommon for the amateur body builder and former stripper whose social media accounts are peppered with memes supporting Trump and posts vilifying Democrats.

On Thursday from noon to 9 p.m. as law enforcement grew ever closer, descending on a postal sorting facility in Opa-locka, Florida, Sayoc was working as a disc jockey at a West Palm Beach nightclub where he'd found work in the last two months. There, he spun his music from inside a small dimly lit booth overlooking a stage with performers dancing below. Autographed photos of scantily clad and nude adult

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entertainers were plastered across the walls like wallpaper.

"I didn't know this guy was mad crazy like this," said Stacy Saccal, the club's manager. "Never once did he speak politics. This is a bar. We don't talk politics or religion in a bar, you know?"

But Scott Meigs, another DJ at the club, had a different experience.

He said Sayoc had been talking about politics to everybody at the club for the last two weeks, preaching the need to elect Republicans during the November elections. "I just figured he was passionate about the upcoming elections."

The next morning, he was taken into custody near an auto parts store in Plantation, Florida, north of Miami. Across the street, Thomas Fiori, a former federal law enforcement officer, said he saw about 50 armed officers swarm a man standing outside a white van with windows plastered with stickers supporting Trump and criticizing media outlets including CNN.

They ordered him to the ground, Fiori said, and he did not resist.

"He had that look of, 'I'm done, I surrender,'" Fiori said.

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Associated Press writers Laurie Kellman, Ken Thomas, Jill Colvin, Michael Biesecker, Stephen Braun and Chad Day in Washington; Ellis Rua, Terry Spencer, Kelli Kennedy and Curt Anderson in Florida; Jim Mus-tian, Deepti Hajela, Tom Hays and Michael R. Sisak in New York; and Raphael Satter in Paris contributed to this report.

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For the AP's complete coverage of the mail-bomb scare: <https://apnews.com/PipeBombAttacks>

## **Police: Gunman said Jews were committing genocide**

**By MARK SCOLFORO, ALLEN G. BREED and CLAUDIA LAUER, Associated Press**

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The suspect in the mass shooting at a Pittsburgh synagogue told officers that Jews were committing genocide and that he wanted them all to die, according to a charging document made public early Sunday.

Robert Gregory Bowers killed eight men and three women inside the Tree of Life Synagogue on Saturday during worship services before a tactical police team tracked him down and shot him, police said in the affidavit, which contained some previously unreported details on the shooting and the police response.

Calls began coming in to 911 from the synagogue just before 10 a.m. Saturday, reporting "they were being attacked," the document said. Bowers shot one of the first two officers to respond in the hand, and the other was wounded by "shrapnel and broken glass."

A tactical team found Bowers on the third floor, where he shot two officers multiple times, the affidavit said. One officer was described as critically wounded; the document did not describe the other officer's condition.

Two other people in the synagogue, a man and a woman, were wounded by Bowers and were in stable condition, the document said.

Bowers told an officer while he was being treated for his injuries "that he wanted all Jews to die and also that they (Jews) were committing genocide to his people," the affidavit said.

Bowers was charged late Saturday with 11 counts of criminal homicide, six counts of aggravated assault and 13 counts of ethnic intimidation in what the leader of the Anti-Defamation League called the deadliest attack on Jews in U.S. history.

It wasn't clear whether Bowers had an attorney to speak on his behalf. Law enforcement officials planned to discuss the massacre at a news conference Sunday morning.

The nation's latest mass shooting drew condemnation and expressions of sympathy from politicians and religious leaders of all stripes. With the midterm election just over a week away, it also reignited a longstanding and bitter debate over guns.

Pope Francis led prayers for Pittsburgh on Sunday in St. Peter's Square.

"In reality, all of us are wounded by this inhuman act of violence," he said. He prayed for God "to help us

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to extinguish the flames of hatred that develop in our societies, reinforcing the sense of humanity, respect for life and civil and moral values.”

President Donald Trump said the outcome might have been different if the synagogue “had some kind of protection” from an armed guard, while Pennsylvania’s Democratic Gov. Tom Wolf, up for re-election, noted that once again “dangerous weapons are putting our citizens in harm’s way.”

Calling the shooting an “evil anti-Semitic attack,” Trump ordered flags at federal buildings throughout the U.S. to be flown at half-staff in respect for the victims. He said he planned to travel to Pittsburgh, but offered no details.

In the city, thousands gathered for a vigil Saturday night. Some blamed the slaughter on the nation’s political climate.

“When you spew hate speech, people act on it. Very simple. And this is the result. A lot of people dead. Senselessly,” said Stephen Cohen, co-president of New Light Congregation, which rents space at Tree of Life.

Little was known about Bowers, who had no apparent criminal record but who is believed to have expressed virulently anti-Semitic views on social media. Authorities said it appears he acted alone.

Worshippers “were brutally murdered by a gunman targeting them simply because of their faith,” said Bob Jones, head of the FBI’s Pittsburgh office, though he cautioned the shooter’s full motive was not yet known.

Scott Brady, the chief federal prosecutor in western Pennsylvania, pledged that “justice in this case will be swift and it will be severe.”

The gunman targeted a building that housed three separate congregations, all of which were conducting Sabbath services when the attack began just before 10 a.m. in the tree-lined residential neighborhood of Squirrel Hill, about 10 minutes from downtown Pittsburgh and the hub of Pittsburgh’s Jewish community.

The synagogue door was unlocked on the Sabbath “because people are coming for services, and the bell would be ringing constantly. So they do not lock the door, and anybody can just walk in,” said Marilyn Honigsberg, administrative assistant for New Light. “And that’s what this man did.”

Michael Eisenberg, the immediate past president of the Tree of Life, said synagogue officials had not gotten any threats that he knew of before the shooting. But security was a concern, he said, and the synagogue had started working to improve it.

Zachary Weiss, 26, said his father, 60-year-old Stephen Weiss, was inside the synagogue but was unharmed. Weiss said his father told him that he and Tree of Life’s rabbi helped congregants take shelter and follow the active shooter response training they’d received months earlier. Stephen Weiss made it out of the building and used a janitor’s cellphone to call his family at home.

The attack, his son vowed, “will not define our congregation and will not define our city.”

Breed reported from Raleigh, North Carolina, and Lauer reported from Philadelphia. Contributing to this report were Associated Press writers Mark Gillispie and Gene Puskar in Pittsburgh, Eric Tucker and Michael Balsamo in Washington, Marc Levy in Harrisburg, Michael Kunzelman in Silver Spring, Maryland, and Michael Rubinkam in northeastern Pennsylvania.

For AP’s complete coverage of the Pittsburgh synagogue shootings: <https://www.apnews.com/Shootings>

## Trump calls Pittsburgh synagogue attack ‘evil’ anti-Semitism

By CATHERINE LUCEY, Associated Press

MURPHYSBORO, Ill. (AP) — President Donald Trump mourned the dead and forcefully condemned anti-Semitism after a mass shooting at a Pittsburgh synagogue that left 11 dead. But faced with another national tragedy, he did not long turn his focus away from the midterm elections or himself.

Nine days from elections that will determine the control of Congress, Trump stuck to his plans to appear at an agricultural convention and a political rally Saturday. Throughout the day, he expressed sorrow, called for justice and bemoaned hate, getting regular updates on the shooting. But he also campaigned

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for candidates, took shots at favorite Democratic targets House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi and Sen. Elizabeth Warren and made jokes about his hair.

At a massive rally in southern Illinois for U.S. Rep. Mike Bost, Trump condemned the shooting as an "evil anti-Semitic attack." But he said cancelling his appearance would make "sick, demented people important." He pledged to change his tone for the evening and did cool some of his most fiery rhetoric.

The slaughter at Sabbath services followed a tense week dominated by a mail bomb plot with apparent political motivations and served as another toxic reminder of a divided nation. It also again underscored Trump's reluctance to step into the role of national unifier at tense moments as well as his singular focus heading into elections that could dramatically change his presidency.

Trump acknowledged the weight these moments carry, telling reporters that experiencing such events as president, "it's a level of terribleness and horror that you can't even believe. It's hard to believe."

The White House said Trump was getting regular briefings on the attack. He spoke with the governor of Pennsylvania and the mayor of Pittsburgh. He also spoke with his daughter Ivanka Trump and her husband, Jared Kushner, who are Jewish.

Shortly after returning to Washington late Saturday, Trump ordered flags at federal buildings throughout the country to be flown at half-staff until Oct. 31 in "solemn respect" for the victims.

Trump sought to energize turnout for Bost, who is fighting to hold on to a seat that was once a Democratic stronghold, but turned out for Trump in 2016. To bolster his argument for sticking with the rally, Trump argued that the New York Stock Exchange was opened the day after 9/11, though in fact it was re-opened on September 17.

Speaking to a massive, cheering crowd at an airport hangar in southern Illinois, Trump said "the hearts of all Americans are filled with grief, following the monstrous killing." He told reporters before the rally that he would travel to Pittsburgh, though he did not offer details. He also sought to distance himself from the man arrested in the shooting, calling him "sick" and saying "he was no supporter of mine."

Although his tone was softer, he still targeted Pelosi and Democrats and the crowd gleefully shouted "lock her up," in reference to Hillary Clinton, one of the targets of the bomb plot. And he continued to emphasize his hardline immigration rhetoric. "Republicans want strong borders, no crime, and no caravans," Trump said.

Trump's speech to a convention of the Future Farmers of America had all the hallmarks of a Trump rally, as the president riffed on trade, jobs and some of his political enemies. At one point he also joked about his hair. He said it was ruffled by the rain as he left Washington, adding "I said, 'maybe I should cancel this arrangement because I have a bad hair day.'"

Trump offered an unsparing denunciation of anti-Semitism, which he said was the motive behind the attack, in contrast to remarks after clashes between white supremacists and counterprotesters in Charlottesville last year. Then, he only inflamed tensions by blaming both sides for the violence.

Speaking to young farmers in Indianapolis, Trump called on the country to come together, before inviting a pastor and rabbi on stage to pray.

Earlier in the day, Trump speculated that the death toll in Pittsburgh would have been curbed if an armed guard had been in the building. With both the number of deaths and details of the synagogue's security still to be disclosed, Trump said gun control "has little to do with it" but "if they had protection inside, the results would have been far better."

But the attack did not persuade him that tighter gun controls are needed.

"This is a case where, if they had an armed guard inside, they might have been able to stop him immediately," Trump said. "Maybe there would have been nobody killed, except for him, frankly. So it's a very, very - a very difficult situation."

In previous mass shootings, Trump has at times said he would consider tightening gun laws but in the main has called for more armed guards in places such as schools.

"The world is a violent world," he said before his speech. "And you think when you're over it, it just sort of goes away, but then it comes back in the form of a madman, a wacko. ... They had a maniac walk in

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and they didn't have any protection and that is just so sad to see, so sad to see."

Trump said lawmakers "should very much bring the death penalty into vogue" and people who kill in places such as synagogues and churches "really should suffer the ultimate price."

For AP's complete coverage of the Pittsburgh synagogue shootings: <https://www.apnews.com/Shootings>

## **Istanbul to unveil new airport, seeks to be world's biggest**

**By ZEYNEP BILGINSOY and NEYRAN ELDEN, Associated Press**

ISTANBUL (AP) — Recep Tayyip Erdogan has held plenty of grand opening ceremonies in his 15 years at Turkey's helm. On Monday he will unveil one of his prized jewels — Istanbul New Airport — a megaproject that has been dogged by concerns about labor rights, environmental issues and Turkey's weakening economy.

Erdogan is opening what he claims will eventually become the world's largest air transport hub on the 95th anniversary of Turkey's establishment as a republic. It's a symbolic launch, as only limited flights will begin days later and a full move won't take place until the end of the year.

Tens of thousands of workers have been scrambling to finish the airport to meet Erdogan's Oct. 29 deadline. Protests in September over poor working conditions and dozens of construction deaths have highlighted the human cost of the project.

Istanbul New Airport, on shores of the Black Sea, will serve 90 million passengers annually in its first phase. At its completion in ten years, it will occupy nearly 19,000 acres and serve up to 200 million travelers a year with six runways. That's almost double the traffic at world's biggest airport currently, Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson.

"This airport is going to be the most important hub between Asia and Europe," Kadri Samsunlu, head of the 5-company consortium Istanbul Grand Airport, told reporters Thursday.

The airport's interiors nod to Turkish and Islamic designs and its tulip-shaped air traffic control tower won the 2016 International Architecture Award. It also uses mobile applications and artificial intelligence for customers, is energy efficient and boasts a high-tech security system.

All aviation operations will move there at the end of December when Istanbul's main international airport, named after Turkey's founder Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, is closed down. Ataturk Airport now handles 64 million people a year. On the Asian side of the city, Sabiha Gokcen Airport handled 31 million passengers last year. It will remain open.

Erdogan is expected to announce the official name of the new airport, part of his plan to transform Turkey into a global player.

Turkish Airlines will launch its first flights out of the new airport to three local destinations: Ankara, Antalya and Izmir. It will also fly to Baku and Ercan in northern Cyprus.

Nihat Demir, head of a construction workers' union, said the rush to meet Erdogan's deadline has been a major cause of the accidents and deaths at the site that employs 36,000 people.

"The airport has become a cemetery," he told The Associated Press, describing the pressure to finish as relentless and blaming long working hours for leading to "carelessness, accidents and deaths."

The Dev-Yapi-Is union has identified 37 worker deaths at the site and claimed more than 100 dead remain unidentified.

Turkey's Ministry of Labor has denied media reports about hundreds of airport construction deaths, saying in February that 27 workers had died at the site due to "health problems and traffic accidents." It has not commented since then.

Airport workers in September began a strike against poor working conditions, including unpaid salaries, bedbugs, unsafe food and inadequate transport to the site. Security forces rounded up hundreds of workers and formally arrested nearly 30, among them union leaders. The company said it was working to improve conditions.

Megaprojects in northern Istanbul like the airport, the third bridge connecting Istanbul's Asian and Eu-

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European shores and Erdogan's yet-to-start plans for a man-made canal parallel to the Bosphorus strait are also impacting the environment. The environmental group Northern Forests Defense said the new airport has destroyed forests, wetlands and coastal sand dunes and threatens biodiversity.

These projects are spurring additional construction of transportation networks, housing and business centers in already overpopulated Istanbul, where more than 15 million people live. Samsunlu, the airport executive, said an "airport city" for innovation and technology would also be built.

The five Turkish companies that won the \$29 billion tender in 2013 under the "build-operate-transfer" model have been financing the project through capital and bank loans. IGA will operate the airport for 25 years.

Financial observers say lending has fueled much of Turkey's growth and its construction boom, leaving the private sector with a huge \$200 billion debt. With inflation and unemployment in Turkey at double digits and a national currency that has lost as much as 40 percent of its value against the dollar this year, economists say Turkey is clearly facing an economic downturn.

Despite those dark financial clouds, the airport consortium hopes the world's growing aviation industry will generate both jobs and billions of dollars in returns.

"Istanbul New Airport will remain ambitious for growth and we will carry on mastering the challenge to be the biggest and the best. That's our motto," Samsunlu said.

## High stakes for Merkel's govt as German state of Hesse votes

By GEIR MOULSON, Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — Germany's central region of Hesse was voting Sunday in a state election marked by discontent with infighting in the national government — and its results could help determine whether Chancellor Angela Merkel's administration has a long-term future.

The election for the state legislature in Hesse, which includes Germany's financial center of Frankfurt, comes as support for the country's governing parties is sliding and tensions are high in a federal coalition that has been in office only since March.

Merkel's conservative Christian Democratic Union is defending its 19-year hold on Hesse, previously a stronghold of the center-left Social Democrats, the chancellor's federal coalition partners in Berlin. A disastrous result for either or both parties could further destabilize the national government and ultimately the position of Merkel, Germany's leader for the past 13 years.

Two weeks ago, two of the federal governing parties — the Christian Social Union, the Bavaria-only sister to Merkel's CDU, and the Social Democrats — were battered in a state election in neighboring Bavaria.

That has given extra significance to the election in Hessen, which is home to 6.2 million of Germany's 82 million people.

Hesse's conservative governor, Volker Bouffier, complains that "the election campaign has been completely overshadowed by Berlin." Social Democrat challenger Thorsten Schaefer-Guembel says "we are experiencing a crisis of confidence — that has a lot to do with the fact that too much waffling is going on and too little being done."

Voters appear generally satisfied with Bouffier's government, the first coalition between the CDU and the traditionally left-leaning Greens to last a full parliamentary term, and an unexpectedly harmonious alliance.

But only the Greens, who are in opposition nationally, are benefiting in polls.

Recent surveys have shown support of up to 28 percent for the CDU and up to 21 percent for the Social Democrats, down from 38.3 and 30.7 percent respectively in a 2013 vote. They show the Greens as high as 22 percent, up from 11.1 percent five years ago.

Gains are likely for other smaller parties, and the far-right, anti-migration Alternative for Germany party appears set to enter the last of Germany's 16 state legislatures with support of up to 13 percent. The party entered the national parliament last year and, along with the Greens, has benefited from the federal government's disarray.

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Such results would make various regional coalitions possible, with the Greens potentially joining parties to their right or left or even, if their results are exceptionally good, having a chance to make their local leader Tarek Al-Wazir — currently Bouffier's deputy — the state governor.

Observers believe Bouffier losing power or a disastrous result for Schaefer-Guembel would further destabilize Merkel's federal coalition. The two men are deputy national leaders of their parties.

A loss for Bouffier would make life more difficult for Merkel, who has indicated that she plans to seek another two-year term as CDU leader at a congress in December. The government's frailty has weakened her.

The Social Democrats only reluctantly entered Merkel's national government in March, and many are dismayed by what has happened since. A very poor performance in Hesse could embolden critics to push for the Social Democrats to leave the federal coalition, and endanger the job of party leader Andrea Nahles.

The government has been through two major crises, first over whether to turn back small numbers of migrants at the German-Austrian border and then over what to do with the head of Germany's domestic intelligence service after he was accused of downplaying far-right violence against migrants. It has failed to convince voters that it's achieving much on other matters.

"If this government were to break apart now, it would come down to early elections," CDU general secretary Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer said this week.

She argued that the three governing parties should instead, after the Hesse vote, prioritize a few policies and implement them as "an important signal" to Germans of the government's effectiveness.

## Rally Sox! Boston on brink of title after 9-6 win over LA

By GREG BEACHAM, AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — An 18-inning loss in Game 3 of the World Series couldn't wear out the Boston Red Sox. A four-run deficit late in Game 4 definitely didn't faze them.

This plucky powerhouse just kept getting big hits to move to the brink of another championship.

Steve Pearce hit a tying homer in the eighth inning and a three-run double in the ninth, and the Red Sox emphatically rallied for a 9-6 victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers on Saturday.

Pinch-hitter Rafael Devers singled home Brock Holt with the tiebreaking run in the ninth as Boston roared to a 3-1 lead in the best-of-seven matchup.

Less than a day after a wrenching, 440-minute defeat ended well past midnight, the Red Sox trailed 4-0 in the seventh inning before they shook off that heartbreak, warmed up their bats and sped away from LA.

"I've never been on a team where you just get punched in the face and then come back tomorrow and act like they are totally fine," Red Sox slugger J.D. Martinez said. "It's impressive."

Game 5 is Sunday at Dodger Stadium, where the Red Sox can close out a spectacular season with their fourth title in 15 years. Boston picked Game 2 winner David Price to start on short rest over Chris Sale against fellow lefty Clayton Kershaw.

Soon after Yasiel Puig's three-run homer in the sixth put the Dodgers up by four, Boston's incredible surge began with pinch-hitter Mitch Moreland's three-run homer in the seventh. By the time they were done decimating the Dodgers' bullpen, six Red Sox had combined for seven hits — four for extra bases.

"It was just a great night, all the way around," Pearce said. "A great team win. A much-needed win, especially after what happened (in Game 3). I just love this team's fight."

The Red Sox scored just two runs in their first 24 innings at Dodger Stadium, but added nine more in the final three innings of Game 4. Sale's motivational screams in the dugout might have played a role, but whatever the reason, Boston responded splendidly to a perilous situation.

"Sometimes in October we talk about mechanics, and how you feel at the plate and all that, (but) sometimes it's will," rookie manager Alex Cora said. "You will yourself to do great things. And it started very simple. A few good at-bats, and then the big swing, and we kept rolling and we didn't stop playing."

The Red Sox overcame a three-run deficit in a World Series game for the second time. Boston also rallied from three down against Cincinnati in 1975 in Game 6, best known for Carlton Fisk's dramatic homer



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in the 12th after Bernie Carbo tied it with a three-run shot.

Pearce was an unlikely candidate to join that lineage as the latest postseason hero in Boston's long October history, but the 12-year veteran acquired in June did it twice.

The 35-year-old journeyman connected off All-Star closer Kenley Jansen for a tying homer in the eighth, and cleared the bases one inning later with a double to the gap. Pearce joined Carl Yastrzemski in 1967 and David Ortiz in 2004 as the only Boston players to homer while driving in four runs in a World Series game.

"(Puig's homer) was a big blow, but everybody was pulling for each other, trying to get each other riled up," Pearce said. "This team has a lot of fight, and it was great to see how we responded. Our offense went silent for about 20-plus innings, so our pitchers did a great job."

The superlative Boston roster that won 108 regular-season games and then rolled through the 100-win New York Yankees and defending champion Houston Astros to win the AL pennant is now one win from this formerly tormented franchise's ninth World Series crown.

Enrique Hernandez hit a two-run homer in the ninth for Los Angeles, which could become the first team to lose the World Series on its home field in back-to-back seasons since the New York Giants lost at the Polo Grounds to the Yankees in 1936 and 1937. The Dodgers' bullpen flopped after manager Dave Roberts pulled starter Rich Hill, who dazzled for 6 1/3 innings of one-hit ball.

Los Angeles must overcome a 3-1 deficit to end its 30-year championship drought. Only six teams have accomplished the feat in a best-of-seven World Series, although the Chicago Cubs did it just two years ago.

"We're not out yet," Roberts said. "Our guys aren't done. We've got our best going tomorrow and we're expecting to win a baseball game."

Less than 17 hours after Max Muncy's 18th-inning homer for the Dodgers ended the longest game in World Series history at 7 hours, 20 minutes, the teams were back on the field in Chavez Ravine. Game 4 took only 3 hours, 57 minutes, but had at least as many twists and turns.

After Hill left to a standing ovation, Boston's feast on the Dodgers' relievers began. By the time the Red Sox were done, all five relievers used by Roberts had yielded at least one run.

Moreland got the comeback started with his three-run shot off Ryan Madson — only Boston's second hit of the game — after Xander Bogaerts and Holt walked.

Pearce then repeated the Game 3 feat of Jackie Bradley Jr., who also hit a tying homer in the eighth off Jansen. The longtime Dodgers closer has three blown saves and an extra-inning loss during the past two World Series.

Dodger Stadium was already rumbling with tension and fear when Holt doubled in the ninth off losing pitcher Dylan Floro. Devers sent him home with a go-ahead single — and three batters later, Pearce cleared the bases.

After Pearce arrived at second and Martinez was intentionally walked, Martinez used his hands to make a heart and mouthed "I love you!" to Pearce. Both players cracked up.

Pearce even scored Boston's ninth run on Bogaerts' single, celebrating wildly with teammates in somnolent Chavez Ravine.

Devers added a big defensive play in the ninth when he slid to stop Manny Machado's hard grounder behind third before throwing across the diamond for the second out. Craig Kimbrel retired Cody Bellinger to end it, leaving Puig in the on-deck circle.

After throwing six pitches in relief the night before, left-hander Eduardo Rodriguez largely stymied the Dodgers until giving up Puig's homer in the sixth. Rodriguez slammed his glove on the mound in frustration.

Los Angeles opened the scoring on a throwing error by catcher Christian Vazquez.

Joe Kelly was the winner after tossing two shutout innings.

## HOLLYWOOD LIGHTS

The stands were packed with iconic Los Angeles athletes from Sandy Koufax and Magic Johnson to Kobe Bryant, who read the Dodgers' starting lineup before watching from the front row in a Machado jersey. Hollywood luminaries also attended, including Charlize Theron, Ben Affleck, Jennifer Garner, James Franco, Don Johnson and Rob Lowe. For the first pitch, Dennis Eckersley took the mound in an Athletics jersey

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for a toss to Kirk Gibson, whose game-ending homer off Eck in the 1988 World Series still looms larger than Muncy's drive in Dodgers history.

## STARTING FROM ZERO

Rodriguez, who threw 93 pitches, became the first pitcher to start a World Series game on zero days' rest since Firpo Marberry for the Washington Senators in 1924.

## UP NEXT

Red Sox: Price gave up two runs and three hits over six innings in Game 2 for his second consecutive postseason win. He also pitched in relief in Game 3.

Dodgers: Kershaw makes his fourth World Series start. He was charged with five runs and seven hits over four-plus innings in a Game 1 loss at Boston.

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

## AP Explains: How Brazil's Bolsonaro used Trump tactics

By SARAH DILORENZO and PETER PRENGAMAN, Associated Press

SAO PAULO (AP) — Observers have long flirted with the idea that far-right Brazilian congressman Jair Bolsonaro, the front-runner in Sunday's presidential runoff, was a "tropical" Trump. Bolsonaro has presented himself as someone who tells it like it is while promising to dismantle a dysfunctional political system and seeking to capture the imagination of many citizens afraid of losing their place in an increasingly diverse and inclusive society.

While Trump and Bolsonaro have many differences — before running, Trump was a billionaire businessman while Bolsonaro was long-time congressman with few legislative victories — many tactics used in their campaigns were remarkably similar.

## 'STRAIGHT TALK'

Perhaps the biggest similarity and likely the one that initially gave rise to the comparisons between Bolsonaro and Trump is that neither man appears to measure his words. In the 2016 U.S. elections, Trump often billed himself as the man who wasn't afraid to say what everyone else was thinking. Bolsonaro shares the same lack of filter. Some of the comments that have gotten him in trouble reflect longstanding ideological positions, like his repeated praise for Brazil's 1964-1985 military dictatorship. Other comments may be more off the cuff and a wink at his reputation for shunning the "politically correct," like when he told an audience that he had a daughter "in a moment of weakness" after four sons. Both men "enjoy being outrageous and making statements for shock value," said Paulo Sotero, the director of the Brazil Institute at the Wilson Center think tank in Washington.

## BASH MAINSTREAM MEDIA

Bolsonaro and his three oldest sons, who are also politicians, have hammered away at Brazil's main media organizations, accusing them of everything from telling outright lies about the candidate to ignoring his rise in the polls and endorsements from other politicians. Like Trump, they accuse the media of propping up the country's traditional elite and of trying to derail a campaign that might threaten it. Carlos Bolsonaro, who is a city councilman in Rio de Janeiro, recently tweeted that the media and a major pollster "ignore growing rallies in favor of Bolsonaro, including in the farthest corners of Brazil, and they try to create a narrative of Bolsonaro's stagnation (in the polls). They really believe the population is blind and stupid!"

## SOCIAL MEDIA MESSAGING

For candidates who don't trust the media, social networks provide the perfect outlet. Bolsonaro, like Trump, has made heavy use of Twitter and Facebook to talk directly to voters. That became especially important after the candidate was stabbed on Sept. 6 and confined to the hospital for more than three weeks. Last week, even after being released from the hospital, Bolsonaro skipped the most important

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televised debate on major network Globo, citing his doctors' orders. Instead he held nightly Facebook live sessions with political allies and did interviews with friendly stations. "The idea that you would skip the debate on health grounds but then have three 10-minute interviews with a friendly TV networks is very Trumpian at its core," said Matthew Taylor, associated professor of Latin American politics at American University, adding that for both men such a heavy reliance on social media helped them overcome initial resistance to their candidacies.

## FLOATING FRAUD

Bolsonaro has raised the specter of fraud and said it could rob him of the election. A week before the vote, he told a television station he would not accept any result but his own victory, implying that the size of support he had seen at street rallies indicated he would win, even though the polls were close. A few days later, he backed off those comments, saying he would accept the election results but wouldn't call his rival to concede. Sound familiar? Trump trod a very similar path. "Bolsonaro is essentially saying, 'Fairness means that I win. Anything else is fraud,'" said Jason Stanley, author of "How Fascism Works: The politics of us and them."

## USE OF PROXIES

Similar to how Trump's campaign had Donald Trump Jr. and other children sometimes speak for their dad, Bolsonaro has often depended on his three eldest sons to float ideas, deny critical press reports and make outlandish claims. The latest example: On Sunday, while Brazilians were going to the polls, Flavio Bolsonaro, who is running for the senate, shared a video on Twitter that purportedly appeared to show a voting machine that had been tampered with. Within hours, the country's electoral court announced that it was a false report. However, by then it had surely been seen by millions of people on Twitter and the messaging group WhatsApp. "The technique is to use people who speak for you but don't speak for you," said Taylor. "Trump or Bolsonaro can always say, 'I didn't or would never say that.'"

Follow Sarah DiLorenzo: [twitter.com/sdilorenzo](https://twitter.com/sdilorenzo)

Follow Peter Prengaman: [twitter.com/peterprengaman](https://twitter.com/peterprengaman)

## Pittsburgh synagogue massacre leaves 11 dead, 6 wounded

By MARK SCOLFORO and MARK GILLISPIE, Associated Press

PITTSBURGH (AP) — A gunman who's believed to have spewed anti-Semitic slurs and rhetoric on social media barged into a Pittsburgh synagogue on Saturday and opened fire, killing 11 people in one of the deadliest attacks on Jews in U.S. history.

The 20-minute attack at Tree of Life Congregation in the Squirrel Hill neighborhood left six others wounded, including four police officers who dashed to the scene, authorities said.

The suspect, Robert Bowers, traded gunfire with police and was shot several times. Bowers, who was in fair condition at a hospital, was charged late Saturday with 29 federal counts, including hate crimes and weapons offenses. It wasn't immediately known if Bowers had an attorney to speak on his behalf.

"Please know that justice in this case will be swift and it will be severe," Scott Brady, the chief federal prosecutor in western Pennsylvania, said at a news conference, characterizing the slaughter as a "terrible and unspeakable act of hate."

The mass shooting came amid a rash of high-profile attacks in an increasingly divided country, one day after a Florida man was arrested and charged with mailing a series of pipe bombs to prominent Democrats and little more than a week before the midterm elections.

The killings also immediately reignited the longstanding national debate about guns: President Donald Trump said the outcome might have been different if the synagogue "had some kind of protection" from an armed guard, while Pennsylvania's Democratic Gov. Tom Wolf noted that once again "dangerous weapons are putting our citizens in harm's way."

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Trump ordered flags at federal buildings throughout the U.S. to be flown at half-staff in "solemn respect" for the shooting victims. He said he planned to travel to Pittsburgh, but offered no details.

Authorities say that just before 10 a.m., Bower entered the large synagogue with an assault-style rifle and three handguns. Three separate congregations were conducting Sabbath services in different areas of the large building, according to Michael Eisenberg, the immediate past president of the Tree of Life. The Pennsylvania attorney general's office said it was told by victims that a brit milah — a ritual circumcision ceremony at which a baby boy also receives his Hebrew name — was also taking place, though law enforcement officials later said no children were among the dead or wounded.

"It is a very horrific crime scene," said a visibly moved Wendell Hissrich, the Pittsburgh public safety director. "It's one of the worst that I've seen."

The survivors included Daniel Leger, 70, a nurse and hospital chaplain who was in critical condition after undergoing surgery, his brother, Paul Leger, told the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. Daniel Leger was scheduled to lead a service Saturday morning, he said.

The mass shooting raised immediate alarm in Jewish communities around the country. Authorities in New York City, Chicago and elsewhere increased security at Jewish centers.

Bob Jones, head of the FBI's Pittsburgh office, said that worshippers "were brutally murdered by a gunman targeting them simply because of their faith," though he cautioned the shooter's full motive was not yet known.

Bowers, who had no apparent criminal record, expressed virulently anti-Semitic views on a social media site called Gab, according to an Associated Press review of an archived version of the posts made under his name. The cover photo for his account featured a neo-Nazi symbol, and his recent posts included a photo of a fiery oven like those used in Nazi concentration camps used to cremate Jews during World War II.

Other posts referenced false conspiracy theories suggesting the Holocaust — in which an estimated 6 million Jews perished — was a hoax. He wrote of a Jewish "infestation," using a slur for Jews.

Gab confirmed Bowers had a profile on its website, which is popular with far-right extremists.

Before the shooting, the poster believed to be Bowers also wrote that "HIAS likes to bring invaders in that kill our people. I can't sit by and watch my people get slaughtered. Screw your optics, I'm going in."

HIAS is a nonprofit group that helps refugees around the world find safety and freedom. The organization says it is guided by Jewish values and history.

Jonathan Greenblatt, chief executive officer of the Anti-Defamation League, said the group believes Saturday's attack was the deadliest on the Jewish community in U.S. history.

"Our hearts break for the families of those killed and injured at the Tree of Life Synagogue, and for the entire Jewish community of Pittsburgh," Greenblatt said.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he was "heartbroken and appalled" by the attack.

"The entire people of Israel grieve with the families of the dead," Netanyahu said. "We stand together with the Jewish community of Pittsburgh. We stand together with the American people in the face of this horrendous anti-Semitic brutality. And we all pray for the speedy recovery of the wounded."

Thousands of people, some holding candles, gathered for a vigil in the Squirrel Hill neighborhood on Saturday night in honor of the victims, whose names were not immediately released. A chant of "vote, vote, vote" broke out during the emotional gathering. Some attendees blamed the shooting on the nation's political climate, and said they took little solace in the planned visit by Trump.

At a political rally in Murphysboro, Illinois, Trump said "the evil anti-Semitic attack is an assault on all of us."

The president — who, at times, has been accused by critics of failing to adequately condemn hate, such as when he blamed "both sides" for the violence at a Charlottesville, Virginia, white supremacist rally in 2017 — said that anti-Semitism must be "confronted and condemned everywhere it rears its very ugly head." He called for the imposition of the death penalty for "crimes like this."

The synagogue is located in the tree-lined residential neighborhood of Squirrel Hill, about 10 minutes from downtown Pittsburgh and the hub of Pittsburgh's Jewish community. The facade of the fortress-like concrete building is punctuated by rows of swirling, modernistic stained-glass windows illustrating the story of creation, the acceptance of God's law, the "life cycle" and "how human-beings should care for

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the earth and one another," according to its website. Among its treasures is a "Holocaust Torah," rescued from Czechoslovakia.

Its sanctuary can hold up to 1,250 people.

Eisenberg, the former synagogue president, said officials at Tree of Life had not gotten any threats that he knew of before the shooting. But he said security was a concern, and the synagogue had started working to improve it.

Chuck Diamond, a former rabbi at the synagogue who retired more than a year ago, said the building is locked during the week, and is outfitted with security cameras. "But on Sabbath it's an open door," he said.

"You know, you're always worried that something would happen," said Myron Snider, head of the cemetery committee for New Light Congregation, which meets at Tree of Life. Snider just got out of the hospital on Thursday and missed Saturday's service.

"But you never dream that it would happen like this," Snider added. "Just never ever dream that it would happen like this."

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Associated Press writers Eric Tucker and Michael Balsamo in Washington, Claudia Lauer in Philadelphia, Gene Puskar in Pittsburgh, Marc Levy in Harrisburg and Allen G. Breed in Raleigh, N.C., and Michael Kunzelman in Silver Spring, Maryland, contributed to this report.

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For AP's complete coverage of the Pittsburgh synagogue shootings: <https://www.apnews.com/Shootings>

## The Latest: Trump orders flags be flown at half-staff

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The Latest on a deadly shooting at a Pittsburgh synagogue (all times local):  
10:35 p.m.

President Donald Trump has ordered flags at federal buildings throughout the United States to be flown at half-staff in "solemn respect" for the shooting victims at a Pittsburgh synagogue.

Trump issued the proclamation late Saturday, shortly after returning to Washington from speaking at the Future Farmers of America convention in Indianapolis and a campaign rally in Murphysboro, Illinois.

Throughout the day, he expressed sorrow, called for justice and bemoaned hate, getting regular updates on the shooting. But he also campaigned for candidates and took shots at favorite Democratic targets. Trump said cancelling his appearance would make "sick, demented people important."

In the proclamation, Trump called for the flags to be lowered until Oct. 31. Earlier in the day he told reporters he would travel to Pittsburgh, but offered no details.

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9:50 p.m.

The man suspected of killing 11 people at a synagogue in Pittsburgh has been charged with obstructing the exercise of religious beliefs resulting in death.

Federal prosecutors say Robert Bowers was charged Saturday night in a 29-count criminal complaint. It wasn't immediately known if he has an attorney.

The charges also include 11 counts of using a firearm to commit murder, weapons offenses and charges alleging Bowers seriously injured police officers while obstructing the exercise of religious beliefs.

Authorities said six people, including four police officers, were also wounded during Saturday's shooting at the Tree of Life Congregation in Pittsburgh's Squirrel Hill neighborhood.

The charging documents were not immediately available in a federal court records database. Prosecutors have scheduled a Sunday morning news conference to discuss the case.

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9:20 p.m.

Federal prosecutors have charged the suspected gunman in a massacre that killed 11 people at Pittsburgh synagogue with 29 charges, including using a firearm to commit murder.

Scott W. Brady, the U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania, announced the charges late

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Saturday, about 12 hours after they say Robert Bowers opened fire inside the Tree of Life synagogue. A news conference was scheduled Sunday to discuss the charges.

8:50 p.m.

A nurse and chaplain at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center is among the survivors of a gunman's deadly rampage through a synagogue on Saturday.

His brother tells the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette that Daniel Leger was in critical condition Saturday after undergoing surgery at UPMC Presbyterian in Oakland, Pennsylvania.

Paul Leger says his brother may need a second surgery.

Daniel Leger, who is married and has two sons, was scheduled to lead a service Saturday morning at the Tree of Life synagogue where 11 people died. He was among six injured, including four police officers.

7:40 p.m.

Thousands of people jammed an intersection amid a light rain for a vigil Saturday evening for the victims of a shooting at a Pittsburgh synagogue earlier in the day. The gathering included prayers and singing in memory of those killed and wounded.

A "vote, vote, vote" chant broke out during the emotional gathering where some derided the nation's political climate.

Several attendees blamed the shooting on the nation's political climate and said they took little solace in a planned visit by President Donald Trump.

Democratic Gov. Tom Wolf attended the vigil, suspending a campaign bus trip after learning of the attack.

State Rep. Dan Frankel, who represents the district that includes the synagogue, was speaking at a house party about a block away when the shooting occurred. The Democrat said other attendees heard the gunfire.

"We'll be dealing with this for months and years," Frankel said. "It leaves an indelible mark."

Frankel called the area the heart of Pittsburgh's Jewish community, estimating about 20 synagogues are located within a couple miles of the vigil site.

6:45 p.m.

President Donald Trump says "the hearts of all Americans are filled with grief, following the monstrous killing" at a synagogue in Pittsburgh on Saturday.

Trump told a crowd at a political rally in Murphysboro, Illinois, that "the evil anti-Semitic attack is an assault on all of us." He said: "This was an anti-Semitic attack at its worst."

The president said it must be "confronted and condemned everywhere it rears its very ugly head" Trump said "through the centuries the Jews have endured terrible persecution" and said "When you have crimes like this... we have to bring back the death penalty."

Trump is hoping to help vulnerable Republicans in the Nov. 6 elections that will determine which party controls Congress. He's planning at least 10 rallies over the five-day stretch before Election Day.

The Saturday shooting killed 11 people and left 6 injured at the Tree of Life synagogue. The shooter is in custody.

6:25 p.m.

President Donald Trump is condemning the attack on a Pittsburgh synagogue as "an assault on humanity," and calling on Americans to "unite to conquer hate."

In a pair of tweets, Trump said, "All of America is in mourning over the mass murder of Jewish Americans at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh. We pray for those who perished and their loved ones, and our hearts go out to the brave police officers who sustained serious injuries."

"This evil Anti-Semitic attack is an assault on humanity. It will take all of us working together to extract the poison of Anti-Semitism from our world. We must unite to conquer hate."

The Saturday shooting killed 11 people and left 6 injured at the Tree of Life synagogue. The shooter is

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in custody.

6:10 p.m.

President Donald Trump says he will be going to Pittsburgh in the wake of a mass shooting at a synagogue. Speaking to reporters in southern Illinois before a rally, Trump confirmed he would go but did not offer details.

Trump said he chose to continue with a campaign rally because he did not want "evil people" to control his life. But he said he would change his tone.

The suspect, Robert Bowers, is believed to have spewed anti-Semitic slurs and rhetoric on social media shortly before barging into a baby-naming ceremony at a Pittsburgh synagogue on Saturday and opening fire. He is in custody at a local hospital.

Eleven people were killed and six injured in one of the deadliest attacks on Jews in U.S. history.

5:50 p.m.

The founder and CEO of the social media site Gab.com has posted that PayPal has banned his site from using the online payment service.

The social media site is popular with far-right extremists and is where the alleged shooter at a Pittsburgh synagogue had a profile.

PayPal spokesman Justin Higgs confirmed it canceled the Gab's account.

Higgs wrote in an email: "The company is diligent in performing reviews and taking account actions. When a site is explicitly allowing the perpetuation of hate, violence or discriminatory intolerance, we take immediate and decisive action."

Earlier, Gab said it has suspended the alleged gunman's account, backed up the content and notified the FBI.

Gab says its mission is to defend free expression and individual liberty online for all people.

5:15 p.m.

Attorney General Jeff Sessions says the Justice Department intends to file hate crime and other charges against the man accused in a Pittsburgh synagogue shooting that killed 11 people.

In a statement Saturday, Sessions said the killings were "reprehensible and utterly repugnant to the values of this nation."

That echoes earlier comments from President Donald Trump, who said such shooters should receive the death penalty and "suffer the ultimate price."

"The United States attorney in Pittsburgh said federal charges could be filed as soon as Saturday."

5:10 p.m.

Police departments in several Phoenix-suburbs are stepping up visibility and patrols around houses of worship in their communities in the wake of a shooting at a Pittsburgh synagogue in which 11 people were killed.

Television stations KTVK/KPHO report that cities where police said Saturday they're stepping up patrols and taking other steps include Chandler, Mesa, Tempe and Scottsdale and that several police departments' spokesmen said synagogues will get special attention.

Sgt. Ben Hoster of the Scottsdale Police Department said there weren't any credible threats against religious institutions in the area but that the extra precautions being taken are intended to ensure their safety.

Hoster said police are encouraging residents to be aware of their surroundings and to say something if they see anything suspicious.

4:25 p.m.

An FBI official says the man suspected of killing 11 people at a Pennsylvania synagogue was not known to law enforcement.

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Bob Jones, the special agent in charge of the FBI's office in Pittsburgh, says investigators believe Robert Bowers was acting alone.

He says Bowers' full motive still isn't known.

Jones said the scene of Saturday's shooting at the Tree of Life Congregation was "the most horrific crime scene I have seen" in 22 years with the FBI.

Police say 11 people were killed and six people, including four police officers, were injured.

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3:50 p.m.

President Donald Trump has decided to go ahead with his Illinois political rally on Saturday.

He'd considered canceling it because of the Pittsburgh synagogue attack in which at least 10 people were killed.

But in remarks to young farmers in Indiana, Trump said "we can't let evil change our life and change our schedule."

He says he'll go with a "heavy heart."

Earlier, the president called the attack at a baby naming ceremony on Saturday morning a "wicked act of mass murder" that "is pure evil, hard to believe and frankly something that is unimaginable."

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3:40 p.m.

The social media site Gab.com says the shooter at a Pittsburgh synagogue had a profile on their website.

The company says the account was verified after Saturday's shooting and matched the name of the gunman mentioned on police radio communications.

A law enforcement official identified the shooter to The Associated Press as Robert Bowers.

A man with the same name posted on Gab before the shooting that "HIAS likes to bring invaders in that kill our people. I can't sit by and watch my people get slaughtered. Screw your optics, I'm going in."

HIAS is a nonprofit group that helps refugees around the world find safety and freedom. The organization says it is guided by Jewish values and history.

President and CEO Mark Hetfield says he wasn't aware of the shooter's "obsession with HIAS until this morning."

Gab said in a statement that it suspended the alleged gunman's account, backed up the content and notified the FBI.

Gab says its mission is to defend free expression and individual liberty online for all people.

The social media site is popular with far-right extremists.

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3:30 p.m.

President Donald Trump is condemning the Pittsburgh synagogue shooting in which at least 10 people were killed, saying "there must be no tolerance for anti-Semitism in America."

Trump is addressing the shooting as he speaks at a Future Farmers of America convention in Indianapolis.

Trump is calling the attack at a baby naming ceremony Saturday a "wicked act of mass murder" that "is pure evil, hard to believe and frankly something that is unimaginable."

He says the nation and the world are "shocked and stunned" by grief and is calling on the country to come together.

Trump has at times been accused by critics of failing to adequately condemn hate, such as when he blamed "both sides" for the violence at a Charlottesville white supremacist rally.

He says that anti-Semitism "must be confronted anywhere and everywhere it appears"

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3 p.m.

People with knowledge of the investigation are telling The Associated Press that at least 10 people have died in the shooting at Pittsburgh synagogue.

Authorities say the gunman opened fire during a baby naming ceremony Saturday morning at the Tree of Life Congregation in Pittsburgh's Squirrel Hill neighborhood. Six people were wounded, including six



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police officers.

The people spoke to the AP anonymously because they were not authorized to speak publicly about the shooting.

— Marc Levy in Harrisburg, Pa., and Eric Tucker in Washington.

14:50 p.m.

Authorities say they've increased security at Jewish centers in New York City and elsewhere in the state in response to the deadly shooting at a Pittsburgh synagogue.

New York Police Department officials say they are dispatching heavy weapons teams and squad cars to check on houses of worship across the city.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo is saying in a statement that he also was directing state police to increase patrols at synagogues throughout the state.

The Democratic governor and the NYPD said that there were no specific threats and that the security measures were a precaution.

Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel says authorities there are doing the same.

14:40 p.m.

President Donald Trump says he may cancel a political rally in Illinois on Saturday after a deadly shooting at a Pittsburgh synagogue.

He tells reporters aboard Air Force One: "You can say we're considering it." Trump has arrived in Indianapolis to speak at the Future Farmers of America convention.

Trump says he has spoken with Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf and Pittsburgh Mayor Bill Peduto. He also has discussed the shooting with his daughter and son-in-law, Ivanka Trump and Jared Kushner.

Before departing Andrews Air Force Base, Trump told reporters that the shooting was "devastating" and suggested that the outcome would have been different if the synagogue employed an armed guard.

14:30 p.m.

President Donald Trump says "a lot of people" were killed in the shooting at a Pittsburgh synagogue Saturday and it "looks definitely like it's an anti-Semitic crime."

Trump tells reporters at the airport in Indianapolis that what "happened today is a horrible, horrible thing."

He says the FBI is now involved and there were "a lot of people killed" and "a lot of people very badly wounded." He also says the crime scene is one of the worst many professionals have seen.

Police have a suspect in custody after Saturday's attack at the Tree of Life Congregation.

A shooter opened fire during a baby-naming ceremony, killing an unknown number of people and wounding six others, including four police officers who dashed to the scene.

2:15 p.m.

Shocked reactions are pouring in in response to the deadly shooting at a synagogue in Pittsburgh.

Richard Cohen, president of the Southern Poverty Law Center, is deploring "another horrific act of hate at a house of worship."

He says the Saturday morning shooting is reminiscent of "the slaughter of nine African American worshippers at Charleston's Mother Emmanuel Church in 2015, the killings of six Sikh worshippers at a temple in Oak Creek, Wisconsin, in 2014, and, of course, the bombing of Birmingham's 16th Street Baptist Church in 1963 that left four young African American girls dead."

Anti-Defamation League CEO Jonathan Greenblatt has tweeted: "We are devastated. Jews targeted on Shabbat morning at synagogue, a holy place of worship, is unconscionable. Our hearts break for the victims, their families, and the entire Jewish community."

1:50 p.m.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has condemned the attack on Pittsburgh's Tree of Life syna-

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gogue.

"I was heartbroken and appalled by the murderous attack on a Pittsburgh synagogue today," Netanyahu said in a video message posted on Twitter shortly after the attack, which has killed at least two people and injured six.

Netanyahu says all of Israel is grieving with the families of the dead.

He adds: "We stand together with the Jewish community of Pittsburgh. We stand together with the American people in the face of this horrendous anti-Semitic brutality. And we all pray for the speedy recovery of the wounded."

Netanyahu posted the same message in Hebrew on Twitter minutes later.

1:30 p.m.

A law enforcement official has identified the suspect in a shooting at a Pittsburgh synagogue as Robert Bowers.

The official said Bowers was in his 40s.

The official wasn't authorized to discuss an ongoing investigation and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

Authorities said the gunman opened fire during a baby naming ceremony Saturday morning at the Tree of Life Congregation in Pittsburgh's Squirrel Hill neighborhood.

City officials said six people, including four police officers, were injured. They said several people were also killed.

The synagogue is located about 10 minutes from downtown Pittsburgh in a neighborhood that is the hub of Pittsburgh's Jewish community.

By Michael Balsamo in Washington.

1:25 p.m.

City officials say the shooting at the synagogue in Pittsburgh is being investigated as a federal hate crime. A visibly moved Wendell Hissrich, Pittsburgh's Public Safety Director, says six people were injured, including four police officers.

Hissrich called it "a very horrific crime scene" and said it is one of the worst he has seen, including some plane crashes.

Hissrich says there is no active threat to this community now that the shooter has been taken into custody.

1:10 p.m.

Pennsylvania's Attorney General Josh Shapiro is saying that the shooter at the synagogue in Pittsburgh 'shooter claimed innocent lives — and injured first responders — at a baby naming.'

Three officers were shot in the Saturday morning attack at the Tree of Life Congregation in the city's Squirrel Hill neighborhood, and a local hospital said it was treating multiple victims.

It was not immediately known how many people had been injured or killed, though Shapiro's statement appeared to show that at least two people had died.

12:50 p.m.

President Donald Trump is responding to what he's calling the "devastating" shooting at a Pittsburgh synagogue, saying: "It's a terrible thing what's going on with hate in our country."

Trump spoke to reporters at Andrews Air Force Base before traveling to Indianapolis.

He told reporters the violence "has to stop."

Trump also said the outcome might have been different if the synagogue "had some kind of protection" from an armed guard and suggested that might be a good idea for all churches and synagogues.

He also said such shooters should receive the death penalty and "suffer the ultimate price."

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Three officers were shot in the Saturday morning attack at the Tree of Life Congregation in Pittsburgh's Squirrel Hill neighborhood. It was not immediately known how many people had been shot or killed.

12:30 p.m.

Israel is expressing its shock and concern and offering assistance to the local community following the shooting at the synagogue in Pittsburgh.

Minister Naftali Bennett, Israel's Cabinet minister for diaspora affairs, made the comments following a Saturday morning shooting that police say has left several people dead.

Bennet says he is "following the news with concern," and has instructed Israel's Ministry of Diaspora Affairs to prepare to assist the community in every possible way.

He adds: "Our hearts go out to the families of those killed and injured. May the memory of the murdered be blessed."

12:15 p.m.

The University of Pittsburgh Medical Center system says it's treating multiple victims from a shooting at a Pittsburgh synagogue.

Paul Wood, the chief communications officer for the hospital system, said the patients are receiving care at UPMC Presbyterian, but he would not say how many.

Pittsburgh police say a shooter is in custody after an attack at the Tree of Life synagogue that left multiple casualties, including several injured officers.

12:05 p.m.

Pittsburgh's sports teams, the Pittsburgh Steelers and Pittsburgh Penguins, are expressing their condolences for the deadly shooting at a synagogue in Pittsburgh.

Authorities say the Saturday morning shooting caused "multiple casualties," and a suspect is in custody.

The Pittsburgh Steelers and the Pittsburgh Penguins are saying in separate statements on their Twitter pages that their "thoughts and prayers" are with all those affected by the shooting.

A police spokesman says police have no more information at this time because they were still trying to clear the building and determine if any more threats exist.

11:50 a.m.

President Donald Trump says he's been monitoring a shooting at a Pittsburgh synagogue that police say has left multiple people dead.

In a tweet Saturday, Trump encouraged people to shelter in place and says "looks like multiple fatalities."

Trump ended the tweet by saying "God Bless All!"

The shooting happened at the Tree of Life Synagogue in the city's Squirrel Hill neighborhood.

11:40 a.m.

Police are reporting a suspect is in custody after a shooting that caused "multiple casualties" at a Pittsburgh synagogue on Saturday.

Three officers were also shot in the attack at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh's Squirrel Hill neighborhood.

Police spokesman Chris Togneri says police have no more information at this time because they are still trying to clear the building and figure out if any more threats exist.

The synagogue is located at the intersection of Wilkins and Shady avenues. The tree-lined residential neighborhood of Squirrel Hill, about 10 minutes from downtown Pittsburgh, is the hub of Pittsburgh's Jewish community.

President Donald Trump says he's been monitoring the shooting. In a tweet, Trump encouraged people to shelter in place and said "looks like multiple fatalities."

## Flush North Carolina Democrats hope to reverse GOP control

By ALEX DEROSIER and GARY D. ROBERTSON, Associated Press

MEBANE, N.C. (AP) — North Carolina's energized and financially flush Democratic Party is casting its get-out-the-vote net this year into areas once ceded to rivals as it strives to wrest the legislature from Republicans and end a long-running battle between lawmakers and the executive branch.

The party has its work cut out for it: Although North Carolina has come to be seen as a swing state nationally, its state legislature is as deeply Republican as anywhere in the South, with veto-proof GOP supermajorities in both houses — aided by favorable redistricting — and many seats Democrats never even bothered to contest.

For the first time in recent history, Democrats offered candidates for all 170 state seats, echoing a strong push by Democrats across the country to tap into voter dissatisfaction with President Donald Trump's presidency and anger over the confirmation of Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh. The party is trying to flip nearly two dozen U.S. House seats to regain control of the chamber. Republicans are trying to maintain a slim Senate majority and defend several governors' mansions.

In North Carolina, some hope for a large-enough wave to take control of the legislature for the first time since 2011. A more attainable goal would be to end the veto-proof majorities, which would require them to gain four seats in the House or six in the Senate. To gain control of both chambers, they would need to win 16 House and 11 Senate seats.

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Editors: After decades of losing ground across most of the South, Democrats are finding unexpected energy in the region during the 2018 midterm elections. Even in states traditionally seen as deeply red, the party is finding hope for a resurgence — in local and state races as well as on a national stage. In this four-part series Southern Inroads , The Associated Press looks at a few key areas of Southern states where Democrats are focusing energy as Election Day approaches.

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Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper, long at odds with Republican majorities who have steadily eroded his power while pushing right-leaning policies, has led the way in the North Carolina Democrats' "Break the Majority" effort. Cooper isn't up for re-election until 2020 and there are no high-profile statewide races on this year's ballot.

Political consultant Morgan Jackson said the governor and his fundraising team have raised \$7 million for the state Democratic Party to help legislative candidates. He's also raised several hundred thousand dollars for three dozen individual candidates, Jackson said.

Time spent on the Hurricane Florence recovery has curbed some of Cooper's in-person fundraising, but his wife filled in for him during an event benefiting House district candidate Erica McAdoo. Her candidacy in Alamance County is reflective of the Democrats' efforts to "expand the map" beyond the traditional swing districts around the capital of Raleigh and the state's largest city of Charlotte.

Republicans have held the Alamance County district for most of this decade, and the incumbent, three-term state representative and former Burlington Mayor Stephen Ross, hasn't faced an opponent since 2014.

McAdoo spent a recent weekend day in the district, knocking on doors in the working-class suburban subdivision of Mebane (MEB-un), a town along Interstate 85 previously known for textile mills and farms.

Since the year 2000, Mebane's population has more than doubled to 15,000, with vacant lots and farmland giving away to outlet malls, hastily built middle-class subdivisions, and newcomers who lack the baggage of the state's previous political tussles.

The area now comprises rows of matching-color family homes with manicured lawns, occupied by families who moved in from elsewhere in response to the boom in high-tech and health-based industries between Research Triangle Park and Greensboro.

Democrats also are making a push for House and Senate seats held by Republicans in and around coastal Wilmington. Favored by beachgoers and transplanted out-of-state retirees, the region became fixated last year on the presence of a little-studied chemical compound, GenX, in the Cape Fear River, which provides

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drinking water to many.

In campaign ads, Democrats and environmental groups are blaming GOP incumbents for passing budgets that reduced staff in the state environmental department responsible for water quality, and for failing to do enough for the river cleanup.

The North Carolina Free Enterprise Foundation, which analyzes state politics for business interests, identified 10 Republican-held seats, including in Ross' district, as being in "emerging suburban swing districts" where Democrats are gaining ground.

"They are just growing and changing demographically — period," said foundation Executive Director Jonathan Kappler.

Republicans have responded to the Democratic push by offering candidates in nearly all legislative districts and driving get-out-the-vote efforts, but they've lagged behind in fundraising in many key districts.

Still, state GOP Executive Director Dallas Woodhouse said party leaders feel "very confident" they will hold "governing majorities" in both chambers and say Republican voters are now energized after Kavanaugh's confirmation.

Democrats are "better funded and they're louder, and there's always a natural energy in the first midterms against the party that holds the White House," Woodhouse said. "It's probably true that the Democrats' most ardent supporters are really, really mad, but their votes are only going to count once."

GOP incumbents are promoting their agenda of lower taxes, fewer regulations and socially conservative values. In addition to passing laws eroding Cooper's powers, the lawmakers have extended the waiting period to obtain an abortion, restricted bathroom access for transgender people and expanded school-choice options. They've also tried to counter arguments that Republicans have cut funding for public schools and teacher pay, noting that teacher salaries have grown by more than 9 percent while spending on overall K-12 education has increased \$800 million over the past two years alone.

McAdoo, a first-time candidate, has been talking about public schools, health care and the environment, accusing Ross of failing to expand Medicaid coverage to more of the working poor and spend more on education. McAdoo's campaign said recently the candidate and her volunteers had knocked on 10,000 doors.

"We've had to ... make sure we are reaching these folks, because that hasn't been the standard strategy in (the) county," McAdoo said. Ross declined to be interviewed.

As volunteers gathered recently to help McAdoo, Democratic activist Elaine Berry reminded them that "we don't just need the people who always vote."

"We need the people that need a little persuading. ... A little bit of persuading might be all we need to get them to come out and vote in this midterm election."

McAdoo is hoping that her willingness to go door-to-door will motivate people like Arrowhead Estates resident Brad Holloway, who said he hasn't cast a ballot in more than 15 years.

"You've actually got me thinking about ... going out and doing this," Holloway told the candidate after she showed up on his doorstep.

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Robertson reported from Raleigh, North Carolina.

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Find the full series at <https://apnews.com/SouthernInroads> .

## Sometimes a ballot issue isn't really about the issue

By JAMES MacPHERSON, Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — The outcome of one of the nation's most critical Senate races could come down to an unrelated question: how North Dakota residents feel about blocking noncitizens from voting — even though such voting is already illegal.

Conservatives have placed the issue on the November ballot and are promoting it heavily, hoping to bring out a flood of conservative voters who, at the same time, would boost Republican Kevin Cramer to victory in his close Senate race with Democratic Sen. Heidi Heitkamp .

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The hardball tactic is also on display this cycle in California, where Republicans hope a proposal to repeal a gasoline tax increase attracts the kind of voter who will help them hang on to some House seats. In other states, marijuana legalization measures could gin up turnout for Democratic candidates even if the measures themselves fizzle.

"Initiatives are a good thing overall," said Aaron Scherb, director of legislative affairs for the government watchdog group Common Cause. "But nefarious tactics are sometimes used by both parties to try and hijack the process ... to get a certain outcome in certain elections."

The use of citizen initiatives, allowed in two dozen states, has been rising along with dissatisfaction with gridlocked government. Ballotpedia, an organization that analyzes electoral data, counted 75 such measures in 2016, the most in nearly 40 years. This year Ballotpedia counted 69.

Scherb said partisan use of the measures is growing. It's a tactic that can be especially potent in mid-term elections, where turnout is smaller — typically 40 percent, compared with 60 percent in a general election nationally.

In Oklahoma, Gov. Mary Fallin opted to schedule a medical marijuana measure for the primary ballot in June — a move widely seen as making sure it didn't wind up on the general election ballot in November. The measure triggered a spike in progressive turnout.

In California, Republicans say their campaign to repeal a recent gasoline tax increase didn't start out that way, but then they saw an opportunity.

"The gas tax repeal was not done for pure political motive from day one," Jennifer Jacobs, a Republican strategist from San Diego, said. "But subsequently, the (GOP) realized very quickly it motivated voters, and as a way to try and get independent and working-class voters to vote Republican."

Democrats, too, see opportunities to get their voters to the polls with left-leaning measures. In Michigan, where voters will consider legalizing marijuana, Democrats endorsed the measure at their summer convention. Randy Richardville, a former state Senate majority leader leading an opposition group, said there was "no question" Democrats see marijuana as a liberal turnout booster.

Brandon Dillon, the state's Democratic Party chairman, conceded as much.

"When politics and policy come together it's a beautiful thing, and we are hoping this is one of those occasions," he said.

Marijuana is on the ballot in North Dakota this year, too, and so is a measure that would make sweeping government ethics changes that Democrats have pursued for years. The chief sponsors of both measures say they stem from a desire to change law, not shape the electorate.

But Gary Emineth, a former state GOP chairman, isn't buying it.

"These are a big play by the left," Emineth said. "It's going to have some impact."

It was Emineth who brought forward the measure on noncitizen voting, saying frankly that he hoped it would "neutralize" the other two questions that he sees as attempts "to drive the liberal vote ... and help Heidi."

He's sinking \$43,000 of his own money into the measure. North Dakota's constitution already defines a voter as a U.S. citizen, but Emineth argues the wording should specifically prohibit voting by noncitizens.

Ladd Erickson, a prosecutor in western North Dakota's McLean County who says he has no party affiliation, called the measure "pointless" and said it "unnecessarily plays politics" with the constitution.

Clyde Ereth, 64, a Republican who said he is backing the Democrat Heitkamp, called the noncitizen voting initiative "a wolf in sheep's clothing" that was clearly designed to woo Cramer supporters.

"It doesn't even matter because you already can't vote unless you are a citizen," he said. "So, if we say it twice, does that make it any better?"

But the gaming of the ballot doesn't always work.

In 2012, Republican legislators in Minnesota put a constitutional amendment on the ballot that would have banned same-sex marriage. John Kriesel, a GOP House member at the time, said some lawmakers pushed the measure from sincere conviction, but there also was also a clear desire to activate the conservative base for Republican candidates.

Instead, the measure sparked a massive opposition movement. Democrats took control of both the

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House and Senate.

"That was the worst political decision that could have been made," said Kriesel, now a motivational speaker and author. "That was the biggest butt-kicking I've seen since I've been involved in politics for sure."

Associated Press writers Sean Murphy in Oklahoma City, Doug Glass in Minneapolis and David Eggert in Lansing, Michigan, contributed to this story.

Sign up for "Politics in Focus," a weekly newsletter showcasing the AP's best political reporting from around the country leading up to the midterm elections: <https://bit.ly/2ICer3D>

## Oklahoma prosecutors resist push for prison alternatives

By SEAN MURPHY, Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Since the days of frontier justice, lawmakers in conservative Oklahoma have viewed harsh prison sentences as the politically expedient solution to crime, including nonviolent offenses.

That approach has imposed a high price, leaving the state with the nation's highest incarceration rate, overcrowded prisons and skyrocketing costs. Now, after years of steady debate, there's growing agreement — even among conservatives — that changes are needed.

But the fragile consensus has crashed headlong into a towering obstacle: the entrenched ideology of the state's top prosecutors, many of whom have made political careers out of padding their conviction rates.

The powerful elected district attorneys are lagging "behind the will of the people," said state Rep. Cory Williams, a five-term Democrat who is running to be one of the state's 27 district attorneys. "I think the public thinks we can do things differently, and I think our current DAs do not."

The current Republican governor, Mary Fallin, backs the push to steer more nonviolent offenders into alternatives to prison. And in 2016, a ballot measure to reduce penalties for drug possession and property crimes passed with nearly 60 percent support, even though district attorneys and law enforcement were fiercely opposed.

Those changes and others the Legislature approved this year are expected to slow the prison population's growth. But it is still on pace to expand by 25 percent by 2026.

Many of the conservative lawmakers who opposed changes to the criminal justice system in the past have left office. And both major candidates running to replace the term-limited Fallin have voiced strong support for lowering Oklahoma's incarceration rate.

"Right now, we're incarcerating people we're mad at. We're not really afraid of them," said Tulsa businessman Kevin Stitt, the Republican candidate for governor. "I'll lead on this effort to turn that around."

Kris Steele, a Baptist minister and former Republican speaker of the Oklahoma House, is leading a coalition of political, business and community leaders dedicated to reducing the state's prison population. The group spearheaded the 2016 ballot question, and he said another initiative is possible.

Still, the district attorneys wield tremendous power and influence over state lawmakers and policymakers. Although district attorneys stand for election every four years, they often don't draw an opponent. Of the 27 in office, only eight are being challenged in this year's election.

After a package of bills aimed at reducing the prison population gained bipartisan support last year, a prosecutor-turned-legislator managed to bottle them up in a committee, despite the objections of the governor. When similar bills were introduced again this year, district attorneys worked to water them down.

Steele agrees that DAs are thwarting changes, but he expressed optimism about future proposals that could include reducing or eliminating mandatory sentences, particularly for drug and property crimes, offering more lenient bail and pre-trial release options and improving funding for substance abuse and mental health treatment, among other things.

Brian Hermanson, a prosecutor in northern Oklahoma who heads the state DA's association, said prosecutors want to be part of a solution but fears that some of the suggested changes could threaten public safety.

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"Does it help improve public safety, or are you just letting people out of prison because there are too many bodies in there?" Hermanson asked.

He said people he sends to prison are either violent offenders or have extensive criminal records.

But more than half of those sentenced to prison in Oklahoma for nonviolent offenses have one or zero prior felony convictions, according to a state task force report from last year. The study also found that 75 percent of Oklahoma prisoners were sentenced for nonviolent crimes.

The state's aging prisons are at 113 percent of capacity, and many of their classrooms and recreational areas were long ago converted into bed space. The head of the prison system has requested a state appropriation of more than 20 percent of the overall budget, including more than \$800 million to build two new prisons.

The cost to families is harder to calculate. Angela Nelson had three children when she did her first 18-month stint in an Oklahoma prison at age 24 for writing a bogus check. The kids ended up scattered among relatives, and her daughter ended up in foster care.

With no driver's license or job prospects and still facing steep fines and fees after she got out of prison, Nelson got trapped in a cycle of poverty, crime and addiction that eventually landed her back in prison, she said.

"It felt like one day I was a kid, the next day I was a pregnant teenager, and things just went from bad to worse," said Nelson, who finished her most recent stint in March and now works two jobs.

Now 44, Nelson said the situation behind bars is noticeably worse.

"The first time I went to prison, they had classes and programs and things like that," Nelson said. "This time I went in, I was just warehoused."

Oklahoma's incarceration rate of 990 inmates per 100,000 residents recently surpassed Mississippi's and Louisiana's to become highest in the nation, according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics. Those and other red states, like Georgia, Kentucky and Texas, all have implemented changes that have slowed and reversed prison growth.

Generally, those changes included alternatives to sentencing, such as treatment or rehabilitation programs, especially for nonviolent offenders.

Faced with ballooning incarceration costs that were expected to rise by an additional \$264 million over the next five years, lawmakers in Georgia began making changes to the state's prison system in 2011, including improving the state's re-entry and felony probation programs and diverting nonviolent offenders to alternative programs. As Georgia's prison population dropped over the next several years, its felony crime rate also fell by 10 percent, according to federal statistics.

Follow Sean Murphy on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/>

## Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Sunday, Oct. 28, the 301st day of 2018. There are 64 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 28, 1962, Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev informed the United States that he had ordered the dismantling of missile bases in Cuba; in return, the U.S. secretly agreed to remove nuclear missiles from U.S. installations in Turkey.

On this date:

In 1726, the original edition of "Gulliver's Travels," a satirical novel by Jonathan Swift, was first published in London.

In 1858, Rowland Hussey Macy opened his first New York store at Sixth Avenue and 14th Street in Manhattan.

In 1886, the Statue of Liberty, a gift from the people of France, was dedicated in New York Harbor by



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President Grover Cleveland.

In 1922, fascism came to Italy as Benito Mussolini took control of the government.

In 1936, President Franklin D. Roosevelt rededicated the Statue of Liberty on its 50th anniversary.

In 1940, Italy invaded Greece during World War II.

In 1958, the Roman Catholic patriarch of Venice, Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli, was elected Pope; he took the name John XXIII. The Samuel Beckett play "Krapp's Last Tape" premiered in London.

In 1965, Pope Paul VI issued a Declaration on the Relation of the Church with Non-Christian Religions which, among other things, absolved Jews of collective guilt for the crucifixion of Jesus Christ.

In 1976, former Nixon aide John D. Ehrlichman entered a federal prison camp in Safford, Arizona, to begin serving his sentence for Watergate-related convictions (he was released in April 1978).

In 1980, President Jimmy Carter and Republican presidential nominee Ronald Reagan faced off in a nationally broadcast, 90-minute debate in Cleveland.

In 1991, what became known as "The Perfect Storm" began forming hundreds of miles east of Nova Scotia; lost at sea during the storm were the six crew members of the Andrea Gail, a swordfishing boat from Gloucester, Massachusetts.

In 2002, American diplomat Laurence Foley was assassinated in front of his house in Amman, Jordan, in the first such attack on a U.S. diplomat in decades. A student flunking out of the University of Arizona nursing school shot three of his professors to death, then killed himself.

Ten years ago: Former Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick was sentenced to four months in jail for his part in a sex-and-text scandal. (Kilpatrick ended up serving 99 days.)

Five years ago: Penn State said it would pay \$59.7 million to 26 young men over claims of child sexual abuse at the hands of former assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky. The Boston Red Sox beat the St. Louis Cardinals 3-1 for a 3-2 World Series edge.

One year ago: During a visit to South Korea, U.S. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis warned that the threat of nuclear missile attacks by North Korea was accelerating; he accused the North of illegal and unnecessary missile and nuclear programs. Houston Astros first baseman Yuli Gurriel was suspended for the first five games of the 2018 season for making a racist gesture toward Dodgers pitcher Yu Darvish after hitting a home run in Game 3 of the World Series off of Darvish, who was born in Japan.

Today's Birthdays: Jazz singer Cleo Laine is 91. Actress Joan Plowright is 89. Musician-songwriter Charlie Daniels is 82. Actress Jane Alexander is 79. Actor Dennis Franz is 74. Pop singer Wayne Fontana is 73. Actress Telma Hopkins is 70. Olympic track and field gold medalist Caitlyn Jenner is 69. Actress Annie Potts is 66. Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates is 63. The former president of Iran, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad (ah-muh-DEE'-neh-zahhd), is 62. Rock musician Stephen Morris (New Order) is 61. Country/gospel singer-musician Ron Hemby (The Buffalo Club) is 60. Rock singer-musician William Reid (The Jesus & Mary Chain) is 60. Actor Mark Derwin is 58. Actress Daphne Zuniga is 56. Actress Lauren Holly is 55. Talk show host-comedian-actress Sheryl Underwood is 55. Actress Jami Gertz is 53. Actor Chris Bauer is 52. Actor-comedian Andy Richter is 52. Actress Julia Roberts is 51. Country singer-musician Caitlin Cary is 50. Actor Jeremy Davies is 49. Singer Ben Harper is 49. Country singer Brad Paisley is 46. Actor Joaquin Phoenix is 44. Actress Gwendoline Christie is 40. Singer Justin Guarini (TV: "American Idol") is 40. Pop singer Brett Dennen is 39. Rock musician Dave Tirio (Plain White T's) is 39. Actor Charlie Semine is 38. Actor Matt Smith is 36. Actor Finn Wittrock is 34. Actress Troian Bellisario is 33. Singer/rapper Frank Ocean is 31. Actress Lexi Ainsworth (TV: "General Hospital") is 26. Actor Nolan Gould is 20.

Thought for Today: "We are continually faced with a series of great opportunities brilliantly disguised as insoluble problems." — John W. Gardner, U.S. government official and founder of Common Cause (1912-2002).

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