

# Groton Daily Independent

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## Groton Area Schedule of Events

**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 (Milbank at Groton Area, Redfield/Doland at Aberdeen Roncalli)

**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

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

			
			
Oven Fresh Sandwiches	Hot Desserts	Snack Melts	
11 E Hwy 12, Groton ~ 397-8627			

## Work progresses on Groton historic church



**Ceiling boards and rafters are being stained in the Final Finish workshop of Shirlee Briggs to match the original boards in the interior of the church.** (Photo by Betty Breck)

**Workers from Blocker Construction began tearing off shingles from the South roof of Trinity Church Tuesday. Two layers of asphalt shingles covered the original wooden shingles put on in 1884 when the church was built. The South roof is in much better condition than the North roof.** (Photo by Betty Breck)





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The large hole on the North roof of Trinity Church acts like a skylight, letting daylight stream into the normally darkened sanctuary of the church. (Photo by Betty Breck)

Rotted roofing and ceiling boards were removed back to solid wood on the North roof of Trinity Church Tuesday, leaving an open hole about 12 x 20 feet. Two rotted rafters also had to be removed and will be replaced. (Photo by Betty Breck)





## **Sombke talks at Zonta Club's meeting**

Kiersten Sombke, Groton's middle school / high school principal, was the guest speaker at the Aberdeen Zonta Club's October 23rd meeting. Sombke shared a little of her background as the basis for her belief in the necessity of a good support system for children as they grow and mature. She had been raised to believe that there were no barriers to what she could accomplish, as long as she worked hard! She has been the principal in Groton for the past two years. Before accepting that position, she had been the teacher / counselor for the opportunity classroom, helping to provide that necessary support system for many students. Sombke also reminded the club members that there are many other individuals in a school system, such as janitors, cooks, bus drivers, office personnel, etc., who also help and support our young people as they go through school. She concluded by reminding her listeners that you don't get where you are today without the help of others.

- Dorene Nelson



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## Groton Coffee Cup League

**Oct. 20 Team Standings:** James Valley 22 ½, Biker Chix 18 ½, Ten Pins 17, Kens 14.

**High Games:** Joyce Walter 178, Vickie Kramp 177, Nancy Radke 166.

**High Series:** Joyce Walter 490, Vickie Kramp 475, LaVonne Raap 421, Sam Bahr 421

## Conde National League

**Oct. 29 Team Standings:** Tigers 21, Braves 20, Pirates 17, Cubs 15, Mets 14, Giants 9.

**Men's High Games:** Collin Cady 205, 188; Troy Lindberg 188; Russ Bethke 188; Ryan Bethke 179.

**Men's High Series:** Collin Cady 543, Ryan Bethke 530, Russ Bethke 527.

**Women's High Games:** Nancy Radke 170, Vickie Kramp 168, Deb Fredrickson 158.

**Women's High Series:** Vickie Kramp 463, Nancy Radke 447, Michelle Johnson 420.



The Tuesday Bible Study ladies at the Groton Dairy Queen were having a chuckle about this chicken on the loose at the Dairy Queen. They were thinking that Dale was having fresh chicken on Tuesday and that one chicken wanted nothing to do with that idea!. (Photo by Valerie Baker)

# STAND UP FOR SCHOOL SAFETY.

**ANONYMOUSLY TEXT 'SAFE' TO 82257**

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

PROJECT  
**STANDUP**

## UNDERSTANDING SPOUSES' BENEFITS

By: Patty Hoffman

Social Security Public Affairs Specialist

Marriage is a cultural institution that exists all over the world. Having a partner means sharing many things including a home and other property. Understanding how your future retirement might affect your spouse is important. When you're planning for your fun and vibrant golden years, here are a few things to remember:

If a spouse accepts reduced retirement benefits before starting spouse's benefits (his or her spouse is younger), the spouse will not receive 50 percent of the worker's benefit amount.

Your full spouse's benefit could be up to 50 percent of your spouse's full retirement age amount if you are full retirement age when you take it. If you qualify for your own retirement benefit and a spouse's benefit, we always pay your own benefit first. (For example, you are eligible for \$400 from your own retirement and \$150 as a spouse for a total of \$550.) The reduction rates for retirement and spouses benefits are different. If your spouse is younger, you cannot receive benefits unless he or she is receiving benefits (except for divorced spouses). If you took your reduced retirement first while waiting for your spouse to reach retirement age, when you add spouse's benefits later, your own retirement portion remains reduced which causes the total retirement and spouses benefit together to total less than 50 percent of the worker's amount. You can find out more on at [www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/quickcalc/spouse.html](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/quickcalc/spouse.html).

On the other hand, if your spouse's retirement benefit is higher than your retirement benefit, and he or she chooses to take reduced benefits and dies first, your survivor benefit will be reduced, but may be higher than what your spouse received.

If the deceased worker started receiving reduced retirement benefits before their full retirement age, a special rule called the retirement insurance benefit limit may apply to the surviving spouse. The retirement insurance benefit limit is the maximum survivor benefit you may receive. Generally, the limit is the higher of:

- o The reduced monthly retirement benefit to which the deceased spouse would have been entitled if they had lived, or
- o 82.5 percent of the unreduced deceased spouse's monthly benefit if they had started receiving benefits at their full retirement age (rather than choosing to receive a reduced retirement benefit early).

Knowing how your finances affect your spouse's can help both of you avoid future impacts on your incomes. When it comes to information, we have over 80 years of experience. Access a wealth of useful information as well as our benefits planners at [www.socialsecurity.gov/planners](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/planners).

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).





## 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.

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## Today in Weather History

October 31, 1979: A narrow band of heavy wet snow developed around midnight from Winner to Leola and produced from three to six inches of snow before ending in the afternoon of 31st. The wet snow stuck to power poles and combined with 30 to 50 mph winds broke up to 600 poles. Estimated damage was around \$400,000 dollars. The counties affected were Tripp, Lyman, Buffalo, Hyde, Hand, Faulk, and Edmunds Counties.

October 31, 1991: A blizzard swept through southeastern South Dakota, dropping over 16 inches of snow in places. The snow combined with winds gusting to 60 mph at times, thus producing blizzard conditions. Interstates 29 and 90, as well as most other roads east and south of Sioux Falls were closed due to blowing and drifting snow. There were hundreds of traffic accidents in the Sioux Falls area alone. The hospital emergency rooms were swamped with victims of automobile accidents and injuries sustained while shoveling heavy snow. Two men died from heart problems while shoveling the snow.

1876: The Great Backerganj, also known as the Bengal cyclone of 1876 struck Bangladesh, then part of the province of Bengal in British India on this day. A maximum wind speed of 137 mph along with a storm surge of 10 to 45 feet inundated the coastal region. This storm likely caused 200,000 casualties along with displacing thousands of other individuals.

1991: A severe winter storm, dubbed the Great Halloween Mega Storm, struck the upper Midwest. Minnesota bore the brunt of this storm. Blizzard conditions occurred with winds gusting frequently to 40 and 50 mph. By the time it was all over on November 2nd, Duluth recorded 37 inches, Minneapolis 28 inches, International Falls 18 inches and 11.2 inches in 24-hours at Sioux Falls, SD, their earliest heavy snowfall of 6 inches or more and snowiest October on record. For Duluth and Minneapolis, the snow amounts set new all-time records for the greatest amount of snow in a single storm. The storm gave these two cities nearly half of their average seasonal snowfall.

1846 - Eighty-seven pioneers were trapped by early snows in the Sierra Nevada Mountains that piled five feet deep, with 30 to 40 foot drifts. Just 47 persons survived the "Donner Pass Tragedy". (The Weather Channel)

1950 - Unseasonably warm weather prevailed in the central U.S. for Halloween. The temperature soared to 83 degrees at Minneapolis MN, their warmest reading of record for so late in the season. (The Weather Channel)

1965 - Fort Lauderdale, FL, was deluged with 13.81 inches of rain, which brought their rainfall total for the month of October to an all-time record of 42.43 inches. (30th-31st) (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Halloween was a wet one in the southwestern U.S. Heavy rain in southern California resulted in numerous mudslides. Weather-related auto accidents resulted in three deaths and twenty-five injuries. Mount Wilson CA received 3.14 inches of rain in 24 hours. Yakima WA reported measurable rainfall for the first time since the 18th of July. The 103 day long dry spell was their longest of record. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Twenty-two cities in the northeastern U.S. reported record low temperatures for the date. The low of 19 degrees at Cleveland OH was a record for October, and morning lows of 21 degrees at Allentown PA and Bridgeport CT tied October records. Nine cities in the southwestern U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date, including Phoenix AZ with a reading of 96 degrees. Showers made Halloween a soggy one in the southeastern U.S. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Halloween night was a soggy one in New England. Showers in the northeastern U.S. produced more than an inch and a half of rain in six hours at some locations. An invasion of cold arctic air brought an abrupt end to a week of "Indian Summer" type weather in the Great Lakes Region, and brought snow and subzero wind chill readings to the Northern Plains. In Colorado, Alamosa was the cold spot in the nation with a record low of two degrees above zero, and a Halloween night storm brought 3 to 6 inches of snow to the Front Range, and 5 to 10 inches to the nearby foothills. Icy streets around Denver the next morning made for a rather spooky commute. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)



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Today



Mostly Sunny

High: 54 °F

Tonight



Mostly Clear

Low: 27 °F

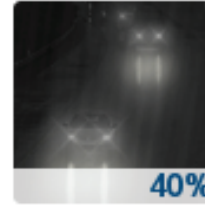
Thursday



Partly Sunny  
then Chance  
Rain

High: 53 °F

Thursday  
Night



Chance Rain

Low: 34 °F

Friday



Mostly Cloudy

High: 44 °F

## A Dry and Mild Halloween

Highs in the 50s  
Evening Temperatures in the 40s



National Weather Service

Aberdeen, SD

Updated: 10/31/2018 4:00 AM Central

Published on: 10/31/2018 at 4:05AM

Dry and mild conditions will make for a pleasant Halloween. After seeing highs in the 50s this afternoon, temperatures will only fall into the 40s during the prime trick-or-treating evening hours.

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## Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 58 °F at 4:26 PM

Low Outside Temp: 31 °F at 8:51 AM

High Gust: 20 mph at 2:47 PM

Precip: 0.00

## Today's Info

Record High: 78° in 1933

Record Low: 8° in 2006

Average High: 49°F

Average Low: 27°F

Average Precip in Oct.: 1.95

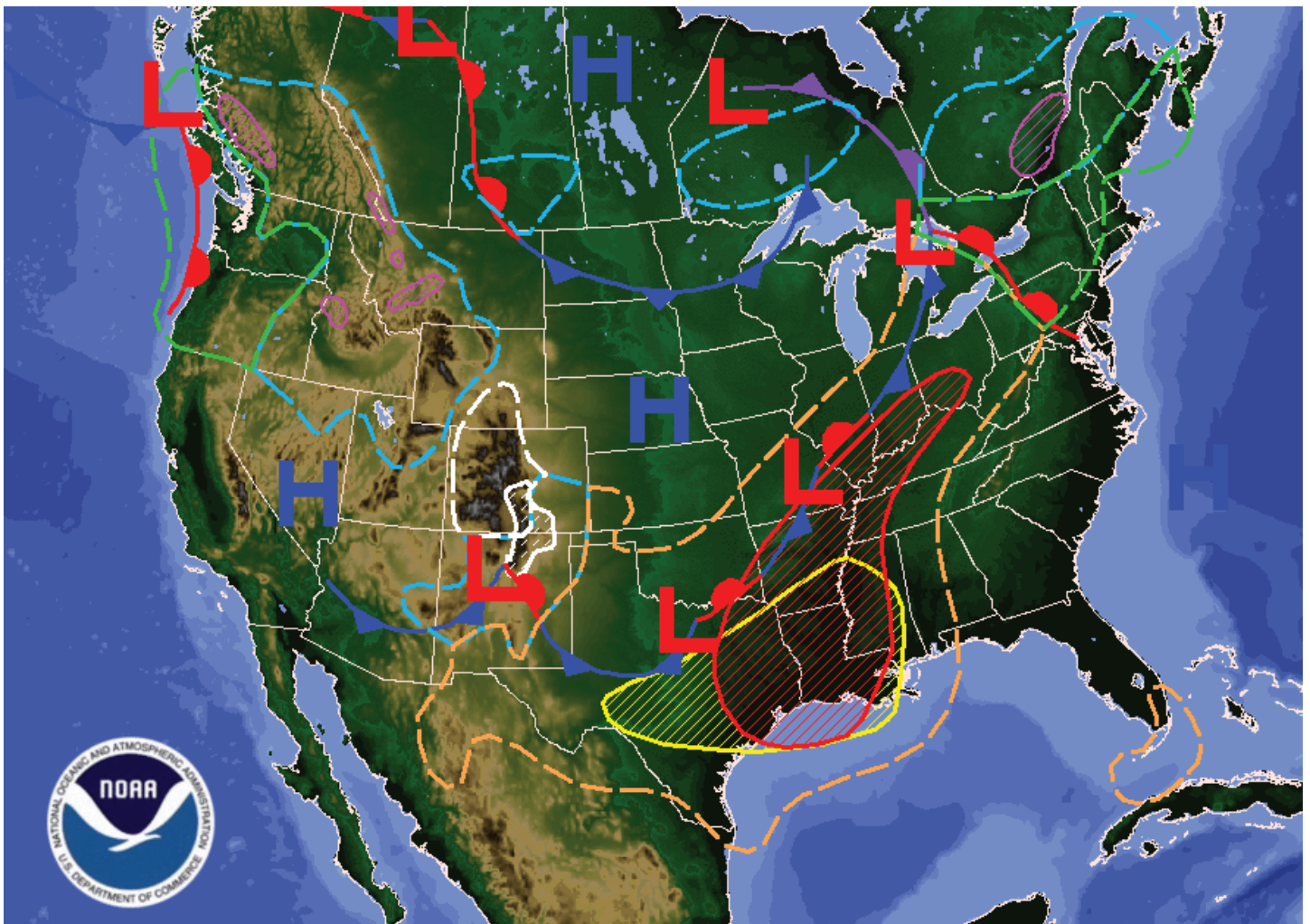
Precip to date in Oct.: 1.44

Average Precip to date: 20.43

Precip Year to Date: 15.05

Sunset Tonight: 6:22 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 8:13 a.m.



### Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Wed, Oct 31, 2018, issued 4:55 AM EDT  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by McCreynolds 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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## INCONCEIVABLE

During the rule of the Roman Empire, each penny was stamped with the image of the Roman Emperor. Anyone who used that coin was expected to obey his laws.

When God created Adam, He implanted His image in and on him. God did not use a penny to remind people whom they were to obey, but a Person. And beginning with Adam, each of us has had His image on us and in us. We are expected to enjoy Him and glorify Him and honor Him at all times and in all circumstances.

In Psalm 8:6 we are reminded of the power of that stamp. You, wrote the Psalmist, made him ruler over the works of Your hands; You put everything under his feet. The simplicity and majesty of that single, simple verse are staggering!

The word ruler means lordship. As the crown of Gods creation, we are the lords of His creation and are to use the gifts and talents He has given us to be masters of everything He created - everything that we see today or ever will be found in the environment.

But, unfortunately, Adam chose not to follow Gods directions. As a result of Adams choice, man and Gods entire creation became corrupted by sin. Fortunately, the story does not end there!

When we repent of our sins and turn our lives over to the Lord, this Lordship returns. Once again, we become His subjects and are responsible to bear His image in our behavior and leave His stamp on everything we do. All things are to become new again.

Prayer: Help us, Father, to live as You planned for us to live - as lords of Your creation and glorify Your name! In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 8:6 You made him ruler over the works of Your hands; You put everything under his feet.

## 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 Tuesday:

#### Mega Millions

20-31-39-46-49, Mega Ball: 23, Megaplier: 2

(twenty, thirty-one, thirty-nine, forty-six, forty-nine; Mega Ball: twenty-three; Megaplier: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$45 million

#### Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$40 million

### Tuesday's Scores

By The Associated Press

#### Volleyball

Aberdeen Central def. Mitchell, 11-25, 25-21, 25-14, 19-25, 15-12

Brookings def. Harrisburg, 24-26, 25-19, 25-14, 25-20

Huron def. Brandon Valley, 23-25, 25-15, 25-19, 25-13

Sioux Falls Roosevelt def. Yankton, 25-12, 25-22, 25-17

Sioux Falls Washington def. Sioux Falls Lincoln, 25-8, 25-12, 25-19

Spearfish def. Douglas, 25-23, 25-18, 25-17

#### Region 1A

##### First Round

Aberdeen Roncalli def. Tiospa Zina Tribal, 25-13, 25-10, 25-8

Milbank def. Webster, 16-25, 25-21, 25-19, 25-19

Redfield/Doland def. Sisseton, 25-14, 25-10, 25-20

#### Region 2A

##### First Round

Flandreau Indian def. Flandreau, 25-18, 25-13, 25-7

Sioux Valley def. Deuel, 25-16, 25-11, 23-25, 25-19

#### Region 3A

##### First Round

Tri-Valley def. Garretson, 25-13, 24-26, 25-19, 25-13

#### Region 4A

##### First Round

Beresford def. Vermillion, 25-17, 18-25, 25-15, 25-21

Dakota Valley def. Canton, 25-17, 25-21, 25-13

Tea Area def. Lennox, 25-22, 25-23, 23-25, 22-25, 25-11

#### Region 5A

##### First Round

Parker def. Parkston, 25-10, 25-21, 25-11

Platte-Geddes def. Mt. Vernon/Plankinton, 25-19, 11-25, 25-21, 25-22

Wagner def. Bon Homme, 25-13, 25-17, 25-17

#### Region 6A

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## First Round

Chamberlain def. Crow Creek, 25-14, 25-21, 25-15  
Cheyenne-Eagle Butte def. McLaughlin, forfeit  
Mobridge-Pollock def. Stanley County, 25-18, 25-10, 25-22

## Region 8A

### First Round

Belle Fourche def. Lead-Deadwood, 20-25, 25-23, 25-14, 25-20  
Hill City def. Custer, 25-18, 25-20, 25-10  
Rapid City Christian def. Hot Springs, 25-6, 25-17, 25-17

## Region 1B

### Quarterfinal

Langford def. Clark/Willow Lake, 25-23, 25-21, 25-17  
Northwestern def. Aberdeen Christian, 25-9, 25-3, 25-8  
Warner def. Wilmot, 25-4, 25-6, 25-11  
Waverly-South Shore def. Great Plains Lutheran, 28-26, 25-27, 25-17, 22-25, 15-13

## Region 2B

### Quarterfinal

Faulkton def. Leola/Frederick, 25-15, 25-20, 25-7  
Herreid/Selby Area def. Edmunds Central, 25-15, 25-15, 25-18  
Ipswich def. Potter County, 25-20, 25-18, 25-23  
Sully Buttes def. Highmore-Harrold, 25-12, 25-19, 25-20

## Region 3B

### Quarterfinal

Arlington def. James Valley Christian, 25-7, 25-9, 25-19  
Castlewood def. Hitchcock-Tulare, 17-25, 25-13, 16-25, 25-17, 15-9  
Deubrook def. Wessington Springs, 25-9, 25-9, 25-9  
Estelline/Hendricks def. Wolsey-Wessington, 25-16, 25-22, 25-18

## Region 4B

### Quarterfinal

Chester def. Mitchell Christian, 25-11, 25-11, 25-8  
Colman-Egan def. Elkton-Lake Benton, 18-25, 26-24, 25-22, 25-23  
Ethan def. Dell Rapids St. Mary, 25-13, 25-8, 25-15  
Hanson def. Sanborn Central/Woonsocket, 25-13, 24-26, 25-22, 25-15

## Region 5B

### Quarterfinal

Bridgewater-Emery def. Freeman Academy/Marion, 25-13, 25-19, 25-10  
Canistota def. Irene-Wakonda, 25-19, 26-24, 22-25, 25-11  
Freeman def. Alcester-Hudson, 25-11, 25-15, 25-8  
Menno def. Gayville-Volin, 25-22, 15-25, 29-27, 20-25, 15-12

## Region 6B

### Quarterfinal

Andes Central/Dakota Christian def. Gregory, 25-10, 25-21, 25-15  
Burke def. Scotland, 25-11, 25-16, 25-11  
Corsica/Stickney def. Avon, 25-11, 25-14, 25-19  
Kimball/White Lake def. Colome, 25-12, 25-11, 25-20

## Region 7B

### Quarterfinal

Kadoka Area def. Jones County, 25-8, 25-16, 25-15  
New Underwood def. Lyman, 25-17, 25-22, 25-18  
Philip def. Edgemont, 25-17, 25-18, 25-16



Wall def. White River, 22-25, 25-23, 25-14, 29-27  
Region 8B  
Quarterfinal  
Faith def. Dupree, 25-15, 25-14, 25-11  
Harding County def. McIntosh, 25-23, 25-19, 25-23  
Lemmon def. Bison, 25-16, 25-15, 25-16  
Timber Lake def. Newell, 25-17, 25-20, 22-25, 25-15

## South Dakota identifies drug used to execute Rodney Berget

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota's Corrections Department has identified the drug used in this week's execution of an inmate who killed a prison guard.

Department spokesman Michael Winder says the state used the barbiturate pentobarbital for the Monday execution of 56-year-old Rodney Berget. Berget was one of two inmates convicted in the 2011 slaying of guard Ronald "R.J." Johnson in a failed escape.

After the drug was administered, Berget groaned and pushed out his chest. He drifted off and snored briefly before his eyes closed. He was pronounced dead at 7:37 p.m.

Pentobarbital was also used in the 2012 execution of Eric Robert, Johnson's other attacker.

South Dakota has not had issues with obtaining execution drugs, as some other states have. Lawmakers in 2013 approved hiding the identities of suppliers.

## South Dakota Supreme Court Justice Steven Zinter dies at 68

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota Supreme Court Justice Steven Zinter, who overcame a paralyzing diving accident to rise to the state's highest court, died Tuesday of complications from routine surgery, a court spokesman said. Zinter was 68.

Zinter, who served 16 years on the Supreme Court, died at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, state Supreme Court spokesman Greg Sattizahn told The Associated Press.

Zinter became a quadriplegic after a swimming pool accident and used a motorized wheelchair. Then-Republican Gov. Bill Janklow appointed Zinter the 45th justice of the South Dakota Supreme Court in 2002.

"Justice Zinter was a towering figure in South Dakota law and a consummate public servant. He overcame his disability to reach the pinnacle of his profession and he was a role model and inspiration to many," Republican Gov. Dennis Daugaard said in a statement. Daugaard ordered flags across South Dakota to fly at half-staff until Zinter's burial.

Chief Justice David Gilbertson, friends with Zinter since their first day in law school, said in a statement his friend and colleague "was a giant in South Dakota's legal community and judiciary and possessed a positive personality the likes of which I have never seen."

"He always wanted to get every case right, and he would not quit until he was satisfied he was done to the best of his ability," Gilbertson told the AP in a phone interview.

Gilbertson said Zinter was "healthy right up to the end" and was reading emergency appeals in a South Dakota execution that took place Monday night.

Zinter received his law degree from the University of South Dakota Law School in 1975. Before being named to the five-member Supreme Court, Zinter served as a judge in the 6th Judicial Circuit from 1987 to 2002, including five years as presiding judge, and was Hughes County State's Attorney from 1980-86. He won retention to the Supreme Court in 2006 and 2014, and had four years remaining in an eight-year term.

Zinter said he was humbled to be selected when Janklow surprised him with the appointment in 2002.

"I think I can do a good job carrying on the honor and tradition of the court," Zinter said then. "I look forward to the challenges and responsibility."

Former South Dakota Attorney General Mark Barnett, now a circuit court judge who served with Zinter on the bench and was his law partner in the 1980s, recalled his friend as "an incredibly bright jurist" who never gave up.

"He came back from a catastrophic physical injury, and you will not find anyone who ever heard him complain, ever," Barnett said.

A judicial qualifications commission will receive applications for Zinter's vacant seat and recommend at least two candidates to the governor, Sattizahn said. Since Daugaard cannot run again because of term limits, the appointment likely will fall to the new governor who takes office in January. Three years after the appointment, South Dakota voters would decide whether to retain the replacement justice for another eight years.

Zinter, who lived in Pierre, is survived by his wife, Sandy, two daughters and five grandchildren. Funeral arrangements are pending.

## Sioux Falls group meets \$2.4M goal to complete Arc of Dreams

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A Sioux Falls group building a massive arch sculpture straddling the Big Sioux River has raised \$2.4 million to complete the project.

SculptureWalk announced this week that the organization has commitments from donors to finance the remaining construction and the installation of the Arc of Dreams sculpture, the Argus Leader reported.

"We hit the \$2.4 million level, which pays for everything — construction and installation and the plaza area," Jeff Hansen, SculptureWalk's media relations director.

The 285-foot-long (87-meter-long) stainless steel structure was originally scheduled for installation in Sioux Falls this summer, but was delayed due to a lack of funds and construction complications. The \$2 million sculpture might not get to the city until this spring, Hansen said.

Zimmerman Metals, a metal works company in Denver, Colorado, is building the sculpture pieces and plans to transport them to Sioux Falls by semi-trailers once complete.

Moving those pieces during winter weather could be challenging, according to Hansen.

"As we stare at the weather that we know is coming, we're going to have to make some choices and decisions and see how much risk we want to take on moving it," he said. "You've got two things — the transportation and the installation. It's a two-week period to install."

The group wants to err on the side of caution, Hanson said.

The Arc of Dreams will stand 70 feet (21 meters) above the river once it's finished, representing the risks and uncertainty of pursuing dreams.

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

## Prosecution, defense rest their cases in Dallas death trial

FORT PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Both the prosecution and the defense have rested their cases in the trial of a man accused of killing his former girlfriend in Gregory County.

Chance Harruff faces murder and other charges in the June 2017 death of 38-year-old Kristi Olson following an argument at her home in the town of Dallas. His trial in Fort Pierre began about a week ago.

Authorities say Olson had an on-and-off again relationship with Harruff, and that she was strangled. A forensic pathologist who testified for the defense disputed that.

KCCR radio reports that the case is expected to go to the jury on Thursday.

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Information from: KCCR-AM, <http://www.todaykccr.com/>

## Man arrested in Sioux Falls disturbance involving gunshots

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A man is in custody after allegedly firing shots inside a Sioux Falls home and then trying to set it on fire.

Officers responded late Monday afternoon when a woman in a different home reported receiving threatening voice messages from the man and hearing gunshots. The officers also heard a gunshot when they arrived on scene.



Homes in the area were evacuated as officers talked the man into surrendering. No one was hurt. The man was arrested on several charges including domestic assault, arson and weapons counts.

## **Bridgewater man gets 2 months in federal prison for fraud**

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A Bridgewater man has been sentenced to two months in federal prison for insurance fraud.

The U.S. attorney's office says 57-year-old Steven Krier did not turn over premiums he collected on more than 50 bail bonds that he sold for Dakota Bail Bonds of Sioux Falls. The bonds were guaranteed by Houston-based Financial Casualty and Surety.

Authorities say Krier misappropriated more than \$50,000. He was indicted in May 2017 and pleaded guilty this past July.

He will be on supervised release for 2 ½ years following his prison time and must repay about \$54,625.

## **Man who became unresponsive after stunned dies days later**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Police say a Sioux Falls man who became unresponsive after police used a stun gun on him has died at a hospital.

Twenty-eight-year-old Joshua Jay Langley was arrested last Wednesday at Motel 6 in Sioux Falls after police were called to a disturbance in his room. The Argus Leader says police used a stun gun on Langley when he refused their commands.

He was handcuffed and became unresponsive. Paramedics were able to regain a pulse and he was taken to the hospital. Police spokesman Sam Clemens says Langley died Saturday. Police say officers found methamphetamine in Langley's room.

An autopsy is expected to be done Tuesday.

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

## **Online rants by would-be shooters create dilemma for police**

**By LISA MARIE PANE, Associated Press**

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — Their anger is all over social media for the whole world to see, with rants about minorities, relationships gone bad or paranoid delusions about perceived slights.

The perpetrators of mass shootings often provide a treasure trove of insight into their violent tendencies, but the information is not always seen by law enforcement until after the violence is carried out. In addition, rants and hate speech rarely factor into whether someone passes a background check to buy guns.

The massacre at a Pittsburgh synagogue, the pipe bombing attempts from last week and the Florida high school shooting this year have underscored the dilemma of law enforcement around the country in assessing the risk of people making online rants at a time when social media has become so ubiquitous.

"We can go out on Twitter and there are loads of people saying insane stuff, but how do you know which is the one person? It's always easy after the fact, to go: 'That was clear.' But clearly everyone spouting their mouth doesn't go and shoot up a synagogue," said David Chipman, a retired agent of the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and now senior policy adviser for the Giffords Center.

Robert Bowers, the man accused of opening fire at a synagogue in Pittsburgh, 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 during World War II. Other posts referenced false conspiracy theories suggesting the Holocaust was a hoax.

It was only just before the shooting that the poster believed to be Bowers seemed to cross the line, posting: "I can't sit by and watch my people get slaughtered. Screw your optics, I'm going in." Authorities say Bower killed 11 people and injured six others, including four officers who responded.

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Keeping tabs on social media posts has been used for years by law enforcement to try to identify potential threats. The task is enormous and it's an inexact science. The volume of posts is significant and the question arises: Is something a true threat or free speech?

They are mindful of the fact that the First Amendment protects Americans' right to express even speech that many in society find abhorrent — and have to make often-subjective decisions about what crosses the line.

Among more than 550 police departments across the country surveyed several years ago by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, about three-quarters said they regularly searched social media for potential threats.

Lt. Chris Cook, spokesman for the Arlington, Texas, Police Department, said the searches are often done manually, using keywords to try to identify troubling posts.

"It's very time consuming, it's very staff and resource intensive and you have humans involved in the process so there is the potential that law enforcement can miss something," Cook said, adding that departments can't rely on social media alone. The community needs to be involved to report any suspicious behavior.

"Everyone has to be our extra eyes and ears out there," he said.

In one case where vigilance paid off, authorities say a black woman received troubling racist, harassing messages on Facebook from a man she didn't know, prompting her to call police. The tip from the New Jersey woman led Kentucky police to a home where they found Dylan Jarrell with a firearm, more than 200 rounds of ammunition, a bulletproof vest, a 100-round high-capacity magazine and a "detailed plan of attack." He was arrested just as he was leaving his driveway.

Bowers is not alone among alleged mass shooters in making racist or bigoted comments online.

Dylann Roof, convicted of the 2015 slaying of nine black churchgoers in South Carolina, had posted a 2,000-word racist rant and posed in photos with firearms and the Confederate flag. Nikolas Cruz, the teenager charged in the slaying of 17 students and adults at a high school in Parkland, Florida, hurled online slurs against blacks and Muslims, and went so far as to state he wanted to be a "professional school shooter."

The rants did not affect their ability to buy guns. When purchasing a firearm, criminal background checks only look for any records showing a criminal past or mental health problems that led to an involuntary commitment.

"I always felt as an ATF agent, the way our laws were structured, ATF stood for 'After the Fact,'" Chipman said.

There have been some changes, however, to make it easier to alert authorities to warning signs. "Red flag" laws have been enacted in 13 states in the past couple of years, allowing relatives or law enforcement with concerns about a person's mental health to go to court and seek to have firearms removed at least temporarily.

But Erich Pratt, executive director of Gun Owners of America, cautioned against using social media content to deny someone the constitutional right to own a firearm.

"I abhor hateful comments by the left or the right but I don't think you lose your rights for simply uttering," Pratt said.

He likened it to the Tom Cruise movie "Minority Report," about law enforcement in the future using psychic technology to nab murderers before they commit a crime.

"It's dangerous to go down this road of Minority Report with pre-crime," he said. "Nobody should lose their rights without due process."

## Mourning and protests as Pittsburgh begins victims' burials

By MARYCLAIRE DALE and ALLEN G. BREED, Associated Press

PITTSBURGH (AP) — As thousands in Pittsburgh's Jewish community began burying their dead, President Donald Trump encountered hundreds of protesters when he quietly paid his respects.

Funerals were held Tuesday for a beloved family doctor, a pillar of the congregation, and two 50-some-

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thing brothers known as the Rosenthal "boys." Thousands of mourners jammed a synagogue, a Jewish community center and a third, undisclosed site for the first in a weeklong series of funerals for victims of the deadliest anti-Semitic attack in U.S. history.

Funerals continue on Wednesday with Melvin Wax, Irving Younger and Joyce Fienberg being laid to rest.

Trump, meanwhile, arrived to shouting, chanting protesters with signs such as "It's your fault" and "Words matter," alleging that bigots are being emboldened by his bellicose language. Pennsylvania's governor and the mayor of Pittsburgh declined to join him during the visit.

Dr. Jerry Rabinowitz, Daniel Stein and Cecil and David Rosenthal were among 11 people killed in the shooting rampage at the Tree of Life synagogue Saturday. Robert Gregory Bowers, a 46-year-old truck driver who authorities say raged against Jews, was arrested on federal hate-crime charges that could bring the death penalty.

With Tree of Life still cordoned off as a crime scene, more than 1,000 people poured into Rodef Shalom, one of the city's oldest and largest synagogues, to mourn the Rosenthal brothers, ages 59 and 54.

The two intellectually disabled men were "beautiful souls" who had "not an ounce of hate in them — something we're terribly missing today," Rabbi Jeffrey Myers, a survivor of the massacre, said at their funeral.

"The entire world is sharing its grief with you, so you don't walk alone," Myers, his voice quivering, told the Rosentals' parents and other family members.

The brothers were widely known as "the boys," the Rosentals' sister, Diane Hirt, noted. "They were innocent like boys, not hardened like men," she said.

She said Cecil — a gregarious man with a booming voice who was lightheartedly known as the mayor of Squirrel Hill and the "town crier" for the gossip he managed to gather — would have especially enjoyed the media attention this week, a thought that brought laughter from the congregation.

Rabinowitz's funeral was held at the Jewish Community Center in the city's Squirrel Hill section, the historic Jewish neighborhood where the rampage took place. Two police vehicles were posted at a side door and two at the main entrance.

A line stretched around the block as mourners — some in white medical coats, others wearing yarmulkes, black hats or head scarves — passed beneath blue Romanesque arches into the brick building.

The 66-year-old Rabinowitz was a go-to doctor for HIV patients in the epidemic's early and desperate days, a physician who always hugged his patients as they left his office.

"A lot of people are feeling really angry about this. A lot of rage built up inside about this, because of it being a hate crime. Don't get me wrong; I do. But I'm so overwhelmed with sadness right now that I can't even be angry right now," said Robin Faulkner, whose family had seen Rabinowitz for 30 years and counted him as a dear friend. "It's just such a loss. Just tragic."

A private funeral was also held for Stein, the 71-year-old men's club president at Tree of Life.

Trump and first lady Melania Trump landed in Pittsburgh after the day's services and lit candles at Tree of Life for the victims. Outside, they laid white roses as well as stones for each of the dead, a Jewish burial tradition. The president and first lady later went to a hospital to visit with survivors.

They were joined by Trump's daughter Ivanka and her husband, Jared Kushner, as well as Myers, the Tree of Life rabbi, and Israeli Ambassador Ron Dermer.

Hundreds of protesters gathered near the synagogue and the hospital.

"He didn't pull the trigger, but his verbiage and actions don't help," said Squirrel Hill resident Paul Carberry, 55, wearing anti-Trump patches on his hat and jacket.

Another Squirrel Hill resident, Shayna Marcus, hoped to catch the presidential motorcade with her young sons but just missed it. She said the anger at Trump is misplaced.

"I don't think focusing on Trump is the answer, or on politics," said Marcus, a 34-year-old nurse and Trump supporter.

Democratic Mayor Bill Peduto had asked Trump not to come while the city was burying its dead. He and Gov. Tom Wolf, a fellow Democrat, said they would skip the president's visit.

"Community leaders expressed to the governor that they did not feel it was appropriate for Trump to



come, so the governor made a decision not to join him on his visit out of respect for the families and the community," said Beth Melena, Wolf's campaign spokeswoman.

Among the mourners at the Rosenthal brothers' funeral was Dr. Abe Friedman, who typically sat in the back row of Tree of Life with the two men but was late to synagogue on Saturday and was not there when the gunman opened fire.

As he stood in line at the funeral, Friedman wondered why he had been spared.

"Why did things fall into place for me?" he asked. "I usually sit in the back row. In the last row, everyone got killed."

Associated Press reporter Claudia Lauer reported from Philadelphia. Associated Press journalists Robert Bumsted, Adam Geller and Mark Scolforo in Pittsburgh and Jennifer Peltz in New York contributed.

## Possible seabed position of crashed Lion Air jet located

By NINIEK KARMINI and STEPHEN WRIGHT, Associated Press

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — A massive search effort has identified the possible seabed location of the crashed Lion Air jet, Indonesia's military chief said Wednesday, as experts carried out the grim task of identifying dozens of body parts recovered from a 15-nautical mile-wide search area, and chilling video of passengers boarding the fatal flight emerged.

The 2-month-old Boeing plane plunged into the Java Sea on Monday just minutes after taking off from Jakarta, killing all 189 people on board.

"This morning I've been briefed by the head of Search and Rescue Agency about the strong possibility of the location coordinates" of Flight 610, said armed forces chief Hadi Tjahjanto. "Hopefully that is the main body of the plane that we've been looking for."

Separately, the head of the National Transportation Safety Committee, Soerjanto Tjahjono, told reporters that pings detected by search teams are definitely from the aircraft's flight recorder because of their regular interval.

The disaster has reignited concerns about safety in Indonesia's fast-growing aviation industry, which was recently removed from European Union and U.S. blacklists, and also raised doubts about the safety of Boeing's new generation 737 MAX 8 plane.

Boeing Co. experts are expected to arrive in Indonesia on Wednesday and Lion Air has said an "intense" internal investigation is underway in addition to the probe by safety regulators.

Navy officer Haris Djoko Nugroho said the 22-meter (72-foot) -long object that could be part of the fuselage is at a depth of 32 meters (105 feet). He said divers will be deployed after side-scan sonar has produced more detailed images. He said it was first located on Tuesday evening.

"There are some small objects that we found, but last night, thank God, we found a large enough object," he said.

Data from flight-tracking sites show the plane had erratic speed and altitude in the early minutes of a flight on Sunday and on its fatal flight Monday. Safety experts caution, however, that the data must be checked for accuracy against the plane's black boxes, which officials are confident will be recovered.

Several passengers on the Sunday flight from Bali to Jakarta have recounted problems that included a long-delayed takeoff for an engine check and terrifying descents in the first 10 minutes in the air.

Two interviewed on Indonesian TV recalled details such as a strange engine sound, a smell of burnt cables, and panicked passengers crying out for God to save them as the plane rapidly lost altitude. Later in the flight, a man who was either the captain or first officer walked through the plane and returned to the cockpit with what looked like a large manual.

Lion Air has said maintenance was carried out on the aircraft after the Sunday flight and a problem, which it didn't specify, was fixed.

Officials said searchers have sent 48 body bags containing human remains to police identification experts.

Anguished family members have been providing samples for DNA tests and police say results are ex-

pected within 4-8 days.

Musyafak, the head of Said Sukanto Police Hospital, said nearly 150 samples for testing have been collected but more are still needed, especially from parents and children of victims.

Indonesian TV broadcast a smartphone video of passengers boarding Flight 610, its mundane details transformed into unsettling moments by knowledge of the tragedy that would transpire.

It showed passengers' boarding passes being checked and people walking along a concourse and then down stairs with bright red and white Lion Air jets visible on the tarmac.

At one point, the passenger who shot the video, Paul Ferdinand Ayorbaba, zooms in on the flight number on his boarding pass. A part of the video shows passengers walking up the mobile boarding stairs attached to a Lion jet.

"My husband sent that video to me via WhatsApp. It was his last contact with me, his last message to me," said Inchy Ayorbaba, interviewed at the Jakarta police hospital where she had taken her three children for DNA tests.

The messaging app's timestamps showed the video was sent about 35 minutes before the plane took off, said Ayorbaba, who first saw the message at 6:30 a.m., some 10 minutes after the plane departed, and then went back to sleep.

Indonesia's Transport Ministry has ordered all Boeing 737 MAX 8 planes operated by Lion Air and national carrier Garuda to be inspected. Lion has ordered 50 of the jets, worth an estimated \$6.2 billion, and currently operates nine.

Boeing declined to comment about potential inspections globally.

The aircraft manufacturer told airlines in a bulletin, "Boeing has no recommended operator action at this time," according to two people familiar with the matter.

Lion Air President Edward Sirait told The Associated Press that the timing of a meeting with Boeing experts is still uncertain. Daniel Putut, a Lion Air managing director, said Tuesday evening the airline hopes to meet with Boeing officials on Wednesday afternoon.

"Of course there are lots of things we will ask them, we all have question marks here, 'Why? What's the matter with this new plane,'" Putut said.

The crash is the worst airline disaster in Indonesia since 1997, when 234 people died in the crash of a Garuda flight near Medan. In December 2014, an AirAsia flight from Surabaya to Singapore plunged into the sea, killing all 162 on board.

Indonesian airlines were barred in 2007 from flying to Europe because of safety concerns, though several were allowed to resume services in the following decade. The ban was completely lifted in June. The U.S. lifted a decadelong ban in 2016.

Lion Air, a discount carrier, is one of Indonesia's youngest and biggest airlines, flying to dozens of domestic and international destinations. It has been expanding aggressively in Southeast Asia, a fast-growing region of more than 600 million people.

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Associated Press journalists Andi Jatmiko in Jakarta, Indonesia, and David Koenig in Dallas contributed to this report.

## 10 Things to Know for Today

By The Associated Press

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

### 1. MOURNING, PROTESTS AS PITTSBURGH BURIES VICTIMS

Trump arrived to shouting, chanting protesters with signs such as "It's your fault" and "Words matter," a reference to allegations his bellicose language has emboldened bigots.

### 2. WHAT MASS MURDERERS LEAVE BEHIND

The perpetrators often provide a treasure trove of insight into their violent tendencies on social media,

but oftentimes it's too late for law enforcement to act.

### 3. TEXTING TO 911 NOT QUITE MAINSTREAM

In most parts of the U.S., people still can't reach 911 by texting — an especially important service during mass shootings when a phone call could place someone in danger.

### 4. PINGS FROM LION AIR BLACK BOX DETECTED

An Indonesian transportation official says pings detected at sea in the search for the crashed Boeing jetliner are from its flight recorder because of their regular pattern.

### 5. TRUMP RAISES ANTI-IMMIGRATION RHETORIC

The president warns of tent cities for asylum seekers, sending U.S. troops to the Mexican border and the end to the Constitution's guarantee of birthright citizenship.

### 6. PAKISTAN ACQUITS CHRISTIAN WOMAN FOR BLASPHEMY

Asia Bibi, sentenced to death in 2010, is ordered freed in a landmark ruling that sparks protests by hardline Islamists and raises fears of violence.

### 7. 'SPECIAL K' MAKING A COMEBACK

Ketamine is finding new life as an unapproved — and expensive — treatment for depression and suicidal behavior.

### 8. US STEPS UP SCRUTINY ASBESTOS EXPOSURE FUNDS

The White House is concerned that money intended to help people exposed to the hazardous substance are being depleted by fraudulent claims.

### 9. GODZILLA STOMPS BACK INTO THEATERS

The monster returns as a fire-breathing animated character, but filmmakers say the plot is more focused on "human drama."

### 10. WHO ARE TOP 4 TEAMS IN COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF RANKINGS

In selections sure to change, Alabama, Clemson, LSU and Notre Dame would be the four-team semifinal field in early December.

## Trump stokes pre-election fear of immigrants to drive voters

By CATHERINE LUCEY, JILL COLVIN and COLLEEN LONG, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Thousands of U.S. troops to stop an "invasion" of migrants. Tent cities for asylum seekers. An end to the Constitution's guarantee of birthright citizenship.

With his eyes squarely on next Tuesday's elections, President Donald Trump is rushing out hardline immigration declarations, promises and actions as he tries to mobilize supporters to retain Republican control of Congress. His own campaign in 2016 concentrated on border fears, and that's his final-week focus in the midterm fight.

"This has nothing to do with elections," the president insists. But his timing is striking.

Trump says he will send more than 5,000 military troops to the Mexican border to help defend against caravans of Central American migrants who are on foot and still hundreds of miles away. Tent cities would not resolve the massive U.S. backlog of asylum seekers. And most legal scholars say it would take a new constitutional amendment to alter the current one granting citizenship to anyone born in America.

Still, Trump plunges ahead with daily alarms and proclamations about immigration in tweets, interviews and policy announcements in the days leading up to elections that Democrats hope will give them at least partial control of Congress.

Trump and many top aides have long seen the immigration issue as the most effective rallying cry for his base of supporters. The president had been expected to make an announcement about new actions at the border on Tuesday, but that was scrapped so he could travel instead to Pittsburgh, where 11 people were massacred in a synagogue during Sabbath services.

Between the shootings, the deadliest attack on Jews in U.S. history, and the mail bomb scare targeting Democrats and a media organization, the caravan of migrants slowly trudging north had faded from front pages and cable TV.



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But with well-timed interviews on Fox and "Axios on HBO," Trump revived some of his hardest-line immigration ideas:

— An executive order to revoke the right to citizenship for babies born to non-U.S. citizens on American soil.

— And the prolonged detention of anyone coming across the U.S.-Mexico border, including those seeking asylum, in "tent cities" erected "all over the place."

The administration on Monday also announced plans to deploy 5,200 active duty troops — more than double the 2,000 who are in Syria fighting the Islamic State group — to the border to help stave off the caravans.

The main caravan, still in southern Mexico, was continuing to melt away — from the original 7,000 to about 4,000 — as a smaller group apparently hoped to join it.

Trump insists his immigration moves have nothing to do with politics, even as he rails against the caravans at campaign rallies.

"I've been saying this long before the election. I've been saying this before I ever thought of running for office. We have to have strong borders," Trump told Fox News host Laura Ingraham in an interview Monday.

Critics weren't buying it.

"They're playing all of us," said David W. Leopold, an immigration attorney and counsel to the immigration advocacy group America's Voice. "This is not about locking people up. This is not about birthright citizenship. This is about winning an election next week."

Trump's citizenship proposal would inevitably spark a long-shot legal battle over whether the president can alter the long-accepted understanding that the 14th Amendment grants citizenship to any child born on U.S. soil, regardless of his parents' immigration status.

Omar Jadwat, director of the Immigrants' Rights Project at the American Civil Liberties Union in New York, said the Constitution is very clear.

"If you are born in the United States, you're a citizen," he said. He called it "outrageous that the president can think he can override constitutional guarantees by issuing an executive order.

James Ho, a conservative Trump-appointed federal appeals court judge, wrote in 2006, before his appointment, that birthright citizenship "is protected no less for children of undocumented persons than for descendants of Mayflower passengers."

Even House Speaker Paul Ryan, typically a supporter of Trump proposals, said on WVLC radio in Kentucky: "Well you obviously cannot do that. You cannot end birthright citizenship with an executive order."

But Trump says his lawyers have assured him that the change could be made with "just with an executive order" — an argument he has been making since his early days as a candidate, when he dubbed birthright citizenship a "magnet for illegal immigration" and pledged to end it.

"We're the only country in the world where a person comes in and has a baby, and the baby is essentially a citizen of the United States," he said in an Axios interview excerpt released Tuesday.

Not so, according to a 2010 study from the Center for Immigration Studies, a group that supports immigration restrictions, which said at least 30 countries offer birthright citizenship.

Vice President Mike Pence said the administration was "looking at action that would reconsider birthright citizenship."

"We all know what the 14th Amendment says. We all cherish the language of the 14th Amendment. But the Supreme Court of the United States has never ruled on whether or not — whether the language of the 14th Amendment, 'subject to the jurisdiction thereof,' applies specifically to the people who are in the country illegally," he said at a Politico event.

The nonpartisan Migration Policy Institute estimates that more than 4 million U.S.-born children under the age of 18 have an unauthorized immigrant parent.

A person familiar with the internal White House debate said the topic of birthright citizenship has come up inside the West Wing at various times — and not without some detractors. However, White House lawyers expect to work with the Justice Department to develop a legal justification for the action. The

person was not authorized to discuss the policy debate so spoke on condition of anonymity.

In Trump's Monday interview with Fox, he said the U.S. also plans to build tent cities to house migrants seeking asylum, who would be detained until their cases were completed. Right now, some asylum seekers, particularly families, are being released as their cases progress because there isn't enough detention space to house them.

"We're going to put tents up all over the place," Trump said. "They're going to be very nice, and they're going to wait, and if they don't get asylum they get out."

The country is facing a massive backlog of immigration cases — some 700,000 — and there are more and more families coming across the border from Central America — groups who cannot be simply returned over the border. But experts question the legality and practicality of what would amount to indefinite detention.

The options are just two of many possibilities currently under discussion, including asylum law changes and simply barring members of the migrant caravans from entering the country using the same mechanism as the president's much-publicized travel ban for people from certain Muslim countries.

Administration officials say decisions are unlikely until after the midterm elections, in part because of the synagogue shooting and pipe-bomb scare.

But some supporters in Congress are rushing to cheer Trump on.

GOP Rep. Steve King of Iowa, who has introduced legislation to end birthright citizenship, said Trump was deftly seizing on an issue that was sure to help in the midterms.

"That ability to move on instinct without hesitation, that's why he's president," King said.

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Associated Press writers Elliot Spagat in San Diego, Amy Taxin in Santa Ana, California, and Deb Riechmann, Lisa Mascaro, Zeke Miller, Mark Sherman and Eileen Putman in Washington contributed to this report.

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For AP's complete coverage of the U.S. midterm elections: <http://apne.ws/APPolitics>

## **Pakistan acquits Christian woman facing death for blasphemy**

**By ZARAR KHAN and MUNIR AHMED, Associated Press**

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Pakistan's top court on Wednesday acquitted a Christian woman who was sentenced to death on blasphemy charges in 2010, a landmark ruling that sparked protests by hard-line Islamists and raised fears of violence.

Chief Justice Mian Saqib Nisar announced the verdict to a packed courtroom and ordered Asia Bibi released. She has been held at an undisclosed location for security reasons and is expected to leave the country.

The charges against Bibi date back to a hot day in 2009 when she went to get water for her and her fellow farmworkers. Two Muslim women refused to drink from a container used by a Christian. A few days later, a mob accused her of blasphemy. She was tried, convicted and sentenced to death.

The mere rumor of blasphemy can ignite mob violence and lynchings in Pakistan, and combatting alleged blasphemy has become a central rallying cry for hard-line Islamists.

Salman Taseer, the governor of Punjab province, was shot and killed by one of his guards in 2011 for defending Bibi and criticizing the misuse of the blasphemy law. The assassin, Mumtaz Qadri, has been celebrated as a martyr by hard-liners since he was hanged for the killing, with millions visiting a shrine set up for him near Islamabad.

Ahead of the verdict, Khadim Hussain Rizvi, a hard-line cleric who has brought tens of thousands of people into the streets for past rallies, called on his supporters to gather in all major cities to express their love for the prophet and to protest if Bibi is released. Authorities have stepped up security at churches around the country.

Shortly after the ruling, hundreds of Islamists blocked a key road linking the city of Rawalpindi with the capital, Islamabad. Islamists gathered in Pakistan's largest city, Karachi, in the northwestern city of

Peshawar and elsewhere. Police urged demonstrators to disperse peacefully.

In the eastern city of Multan, police arrested several demonstrators after clashes.

Paramilitary troops deployed in Islamabad to prevent protesters from reaching the Supreme Court, where security for the judges was being beefed up.

Bibi's family and her lawyer say she never insulted the prophet. In previous hearings her attorney, Saiful Malook, pointed to contradictions in testimony from witnesses. The two Muslim women who pressed charges against Bibi denied they quarreled with her, saying her outbursts against Islam were unprovoked.

Chaudhry Ghulam Mustafa, a lawyer for one of the plaintiffs, rejected the verdict, saying Bibi had confessed to making derogatory remarks against the prophet to seek pardon.

The three-judge panel upheld the blasphemy law itself, saying it was consistent with verses from Islam's holy book, the Quran. But they said prosecutors had failed to prove that Bibi violated the law. In addition to citing the Quran, the judges also referenced Shakespeare's King Lear, saying Bibi was "more sinned against than sinning."

Critics of the blasphemy law have said it is used to settle personal scores or to attack minority communities. Bibi's case was closely followed internationally amid concern for Pakistan's religious minorities, who have frequently come under attack by extremists in recent years.

Bibi's husband hailed Wednesday's verdict.

"I am very happy. My children are very happy. We are grateful to God. We are grateful to the judges for giving us justice. We knew that she is innocent," said Ashiq Masih.

"My wife spent so many years in jail and we hope that we will soon be together in a peaceful place," he said.

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Associated Press writers Asim Tanveer in Multan and Riaz Khan in Peshawar contributed.

## High hopes & hype for experimental depression drug ketamine

By LINDSEY TANNER, AP Medical Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — It was launched decades ago as an anesthetic for animals and people, became a potent battlefield pain reliever in Vietnam and morphed into the trippy club drug Special K.

Now the chameleon drug ketamine is finding new life as an unapproved treatment for depression and suicidal behavior. Clinics have opened around the United States promising instant relief with their "unique" doses of ketamine in IVs, sprays or pills. And desperate patients are shelling out thousands of dollars for treatment often not covered by health insurance, with scant evidence on long-term benefits and risks.

Chicago preschool teacher Lauren Pestikas long struggled with depression and anxiety and made several suicide attempts before trying ketamine earlier this year.

The price tag so far is about \$3,000, but "it's worth every dime and penny," said the 36-year-old.

Pestikas said she feels much better for a few weeks after each treatment, but the effects wear off and she scrambles to find a way to pay for another one.

For now, ketamine has not received approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for treating depression, though doctors can use it for that purpose.

Ketamine has been around since the 1960s and is widely used as an anesthesia drug during surgery because it doesn't suppress breathing. Compared to opioids such as morphine, ketamine isn't as addictive and doesn't cause breathing problems. And some studies have shown that ketamine can ease symptoms within hours for the toughest cases.

Its potential effects on depression were discovered in animal experiments in the late 1980s and early 1990s showing that glutamate, a brain chemical messenger, might play a role in depression, and that drugs including ketamine that target the glutamate pathway might work as antidepressants.

Conventional antidepressants like Prozac target serotonin, a different chemical messenger, and typically take weeks to months to kick in — a lag that can cause severely depressed patients to sink deeper into despair.



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Ketamine's potential for almost immediate if temporary relief is what makes it so exciting, said Dr. Jennifer Vande Voort, a Mayo Clinic psychiatrist who has treated patients with depression since February.

"We don't have a lot of things that provide that kind of effect. What I worry about is that it gets so hyped up," she said.

The strongest studies suggest it's most useful and generally safe in providing short-term help for patients who have not benefited from antidepressants. That amounts to about one-third of the roughly 300 million people with depression worldwide.

"It truly has revolutionized the field," changing scientists' views on how depression affects the brain and showing that rapid relief is possible, said Yale University psychiatrist Dr. Gerard Sanacora, who has done research for or consulted with companies seeking to develop ketamine-based drugs.

But to become standard depression treatment, he said, much more needs to be known.

Last year, Sanacora co-authored an American Psychiatric Association task force review of ketamine treatment for mood disorders that noted the benefits but said "major gaps" remain in knowledge about long-term effectiveness and safety. Most studies have been small, done in research settings and not in the real world.

When delivered through an IV, ketamine can cause a rapid increase in heart rate and blood pressure that could be dangerous for some patients. Ketamine also can cause hallucinations that some patients find scary.

"There are some very real concerns," Sanacora said. "We do know this drug can be abused, so we have to be very careful about how this is developed."

Dr. Rahul Khare, an emergency medicine specialist in Chicago, first learned about ketamine's other potential benefits a decade ago from a depressed and anxious patient he was preparing to sedate to fix a repeat dislocated shoulder.

"He said, 'Doc, give me what I got last time. For about three weeks after I got it I felt so much better,'" Khare recalled.

Khare became intrigued and earlier this year began offering ketamine for severe depression at an outpatient clinic he opened a few years ago. He also joined the American Society for Ketamine Physicians, formed a year ago representing about 140 U.S. doctors, nurses, psychologists and others using ketamine for depression or other nonapproved uses.

There are about 150 U.S. ketamine clinics, compared with about 20 three years ago, said society co-founder Dr. Megan Oxley.

Khare said the burgeoning field "is like a new frontier" where doctors gather at meetings and compare notes. He has treated about 50 patients with depression including Pestikas. They're typically desperate for relief after failing to respond to other antidepressants. Some have lost jobs and relationships because of severe depression, and most find that ketamine allows them to function, Khare said.

Typical treatment at his clinic involves six 45-minute sessions over about two weeks, costing \$550 each. Some insurers will pay about half of that, covering Khare's office visit cost. Patients can receive "booster" treatments. They must sign a four-page consent form that says benefits may not be long-lasting, lists potential side effects, and in bold letters states that the treatment is not government-approved.

At a recent session, Pestikas's seventh, she leaned back on a reclining white examining-room chair as a nurse hooked her up to a heart and blood pressure monitor. She grimaced as a needle was slipped into the top of her left palm. Khare reached up with a syringe to inject a small dose of ketamine into an IV bag hanging above the chair, then dimmed the lights, pulled the window curtains and asked if she had questions and was feeling OK.

"No questions, just grateful," Pestikas replied, smiling.

Pestikas listened to music on her iPhone and watched psychedelic videos. She said it was like "a controlled acid trip" with pleasant hallucinations. The trip ends soon after the IV is removed, but Pestikas said she feels calm and relaxed the rest of the day, and that the mood boost can last weeks.

Studies suggest that a single IV dose of ketamine far smaller than used for sedation or partying can help many patients gain relief within about four hours and lasting nearly a week or so.

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Exactly how ketamine works is unclear, but one idea is that by elevating glutamate levels, ketamine helps nerve cells re-establish connections that were disabled by depression, said ketamine expert Dr. Carlos Zarate, chief of experimental therapies at the National Institute of Mental Health.

A small Stanford University study published in August suggested that ketamine may help relieve depression by activating the brain's opioid receptors.

Janssen Pharmaceuticals and Allergan are among drug companies developing ketamine-like drugs for depression. Janssen leads the effort with its nasal spray esketamine. The company filed a new drug application in September.

Meanwhile, dozens of studies are underway seeking to answer some of the unknowns about ketamine including whether repeat IV treatments work better for depression and if there's a way to zero in on which patients are most likely to benefit.

Until there are answers, Zarate of the mental health institute said ketamine should be a last-resort treatment for depression after other methods have failed.

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Follow AP Medical Writer Lindsey Tanner at @LindseyTanner .

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## **Why is it so hard to text 911?** **By MAE ANDERSON, AP Technology Writer**

NEW YORK (AP) — People can livestream their every move on Facebook and chatter endlessly in group chats. But in most parts of the U.S., they still can't reach 911 by texting — an especially important service during mass shootings and other catastrophes when a phone call could place someone in danger.

Although text-to-911 service is slowly expanding, the emphasis there is on "slow." Limited funds, piecemeal adoption and outdated call-center technology have all helped stymie growth.

Emergency 911 centers stress that a phone call is still the best way to reach them, since calls provide them with location data and other needed details. But in some cases — for instance, if a person has a hearing disability, or when a call might attract the attention of assailants — texting is a far better way to call for help.

The 911 emergency system was developed for landlines. But now about 80 percent of U.S. 911 calls come from cellphones, according to the federal government's National 911 Program. There is no legal requirement for call centers to offer text-to-911 services.

If a center requests the service from mobile companies like Verizon or Sprint, however, the companies are required to provide it within six months.

More money would speed implementation. "We need a significant federal grant program to modernize 911 systems across the country," said Jeff Cohen, chief counsel at advocacy group the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials.

Congressional legislation could speed adoption of text-to-911, and while there are two bills currently making their way through Congress related to the issue, they need more bipartisan support, Cohen said. Traditionally 911 call centers have been funded by a combination of state and local funding, rather than relying on federal grants. For that reason technology and adoption varies widely between states, cities and counties.

While some areas may have plenty of money to implement text-to-911 service, "others are cash strapped cities or communities that would rather spend money on a police car rather than text-to-911," said Brian Fontes, chief executive officer of the National Emergency Number Association. "When you don't have the money you have to prioritize what you do with the money you have."

The first text-to-911 was sent in 2009 in Iowa. Now, according to data collected by the Federal Communications Commission, more than 1,600 emergency call centers across the nation have configured

systems to receive text message requests for 911 services, up from about 650 two years ago . But that's barely a quarter of the roughly 6,000 overall in the country. Figures are a bit murky since they are self-reported to the FCC.

Implementing text-to-911 service usually starts with a state law requiring emergency centers to support it.

Indiana, for example, has state 911 requirements set by the Indiana General Assembly and a state 911 board that oversees the operation of the statewide 911 network, which routes and delivers 911 voice and text messages from people to their local 911 authority. It pays for 911 from monthly end user surcharges, \$1 for landline, wireless and other types of phones, which are collected by phone service providers.

Four years after Indiana dispatch centers began adopting text-to-911 technology, residents in all 92 of the state's counties can send texts during emergencies if they're unable to speak to dispatchers, the state said in June . Minnesota, Connecticut, Maine and Vermont also offer statewide coverage.

Without state legislation, adopting text-to-911 can be more piecemeal. In California, a plan to raise taxes to pay for modernizing the 911 emergency dispatch system statewide fell one vote short in September in the Senate when Republicans refused to sign onto a tax increase.

But cities and municipalities can decide to support text-to-911 on their own. Los Angeles County, which includes cities like Los Angeles, Burbank and Glendale, has supported text-to-911 since late last year, for example.

Allegheny County in Pennsylvania, where the synagogue shooting took place, does offer text-to-911 service. But high school students hiding from a gunman in Parkland, Florida, last February, had to make whispered 911 calls to authorities. Broward County, which includes Parkland, plans to have text-to-911 in place by the end of this year.

"We will never know where the next active shooter is going to be, whether it's a rural school, synagogue, church or any public place," said Fontes. "Certainly we want people to be able to text 911 for safety purposes."

## Trump targets citizenship, stokes pre-election migrant fears

By CATHERINE LUCEY, JILL COLVIN and COLLEEN LONG, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Thousands of U.S. troops to stop an "invasion" of migrants. Tent cities for asylum seekers. An end for the Constitution's guarantee of birthright citizenship.

With his eyes squarely on next Tuesday's elections, President Donald Trump is rushing out hardline immigration declarations, promises and actions as he tries to mobilize supporters to retain Republican control of Congress. His own campaign in 2016 concentrated on border fears, and that's his final-week focus in the midterm fight.

"This has nothing to do with elections," the president insists. But his timing is striking.

Trump says he will send more than 5,000 military troops to the Mexican border to help defend against caravans of Central American migrants who are on foot hundreds of miles away. Tent cities would not resolve the massive U.S. backlog of asylum seekers. And most legal scholars say it would take a new constitutional amendment to alter the current one granting citizenship to anyone born in America.

Still, Trump plunges ahead with daily alarms and proclamations about immigration in tweets, interviews and policy announcements in the days leading up to elections that Democrats hope will give them at least partial control of Congress.

Trump and many top aides have long seen the immigration issue as the most effective rallying cry for his base of supporters. The president had been expected to make an announcement about new actions at the border on Tuesday, but that was scrapped so he could travel instead to Pittsburgh, where 11 people were massacred in a synagogue on Saturday.

Between the shootings, the deadliest attack on Jews in U.S. history, and the mail bomb scare targeting Democrats and a media organization, the caravan of migrants slowly trudging north had faded from front pages and cable TV.

But with well-timed interviews on Fox and "Axios on HBO," Trump revived some of his hardest-line im-



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migration ideas:

— An executive order to revoke the right to citizenship for babies born to non-U.S. citizens on American soil.

— And the prolonged detention of anyone coming across the U.S.-Mexico border, including those seeking asylum, in “tent cities” erected “all over the place.”

The administration on Monday also announced plans to deploy 5,200 active duty troops — double the 2,000 who are in Syria fighting the Islamic State group — to the border to help stave off the caravans.

The main caravan, still in southern Mexico, was continuing to melt away — from the original 7,000 to about 4,000 — as a smaller group apparently hoped to join it.

Trump insists his immigration moves have nothing to do with politics, even as he rails against the caravans at campaign rallies.

“I’ve been saying this long before the election. I’ve been saying this before I ever thought of running for office. We have to have strong borders,” Trump told Fox News host Laura Ingraham in an interview Monday.

Critics weren’t buying it.

“They’re playing all of us,” said David W. Leopold, an immigration attorney and counsel to the immigration advocacy group America’s Voice. “This is not about locking people up. This is not about birthright citizenship. This is about winning an election next week.”

Trump’s citizenship proposal would inevitably spark a long-shot legal battle over whether the president can alter the long-accepted understanding that the 14th Amendment grants citizenship to any child born on U.S. soil, regardless of his parents’ immigration status.

Omar Jadwat, director of the Immigrants’ Rights Project at the American Civil Liberties Union in New York, said the Constitution is very clear.

“If you are born in the United States, you’re a citizen,” he said. He called it “outrageous that the president can think he can override constitutional guarantees by issuing an executive order,

James Ho, a conservative Trump-appointed federal appeals court judge, wrote in 2006, before his appointment, that birthright citizenship “is protected no less for children of undocumented persons than for descendants of Mayflower passengers.”

Even House Speaker Paul Ryan, typically a supporter of Trump proposals, said on WVLC radio in Kentucky: “Well you obviously cannot do that. You cannot end birthright citizenship with an executive order.”

But Trump says he’s been assured by his lawyers that the change could be made with “just with an executive order” — an argument he has been making since his early days as a candidate, when he dubbed birthright citizenship a “magnet for illegal immigration” and pledged to end it.

“We’re the only country in the world where a person comes in and has a baby, and the baby is essentially a citizen of the United States,” he said in an Axios interview excerpt released Tuesday.

Not so, according to a 2010 study from the Center for Immigration Studies, a group that supports immigration restrictions, that said at least 30 countries offered birthright citizenship.

Vice President Mike Pence said the administration was “looking at action that would reconsider birthright citizenship.”

“We all know what the 14th Amendment says. We all cherish the language of the 14th Amendment. But the Supreme Court of the United States has never ruled on whether or not — whether the language of the 14th Amendment, subject to the jurisdiction thereof, applies specifically to the people who are in the country illegally,” he said at a Politico event.

The non-partisan Migration Policy Institute estimates that there are more than 4 million U.S.-born children under the age of 18 who have an unauthorized immigrant parent.

A person familiar with the internal White House debate said the topic of birthright citizenship has come up inside the West Wing at various times — and not without some detractors. However, White House lawyers expect to work with the Justice Department to develop a legal justification for the action. The person was not authorized to discuss the policy debate so spoke on condition of anonymity.

In Trump’s Monday interview with Fox, he said the U.S. also plans to build tent cities to house migrants seeking asylum, who would be detained until their cases were completed. Right now, some asylum seek-

ers, particularly families, are being released as their cases progress because there isn't enough detention space to house them.

"We're going to put tents up all over the place," Trump said. "They're going to be very nice, and they're going to wait, and if they don't get asylum they get out."

The country is facing a massive backlog of immigration cases — some 700,000 — and there are more and more families coming across the border from Central America — groups who cannot be simply returned over the border. But experts question the legality and practicality of what would amount to indefinite detention.

The options are just two of many possibilities currently under discussion, including asylum law changes and simply barring members of the migrant caravans from entering the country using the same mechanism as the president's much-publicized travel ban for people from certain Muslim countries.

Administration officials say decisions are unlikely until after the midterm elections, in part because of the synagogue shooting and pipe-bomb scare.

But some supporters in Congress are rushing to cheer Trump on.

GOP Rep. Steve King of Iowa, who has introduced legislation to end birthright citizenship, said Trump was deftly seizing on an issue that was sure to help in the midterms.

"That ability to move on instinct without hesitation, that's why he's president," King said.

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Associated Press Writers Elliot Spagat in San Diego, Amy Taxin in Santa Ana, California, and Deb Riechmann, Lisa Mascaro, Zeke Miller, Mark Sherman and Eileen Putman in Washington contributed.

For AP's complete coverage of the U.S. midterm elections: <http://apne.ws/APPolitics>

## Indian couple who died in Yosemite took risks for photos

By JOCELYN GECKER and PAUL ELIAS, Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — She was a self-described "adrenaline junkie," and he took "wow-worthy photos" of the couple posing at the edge of cliffs and jumping from planes that appeared on social media and a travel blog that attracted thousands of followers.

In one post at the Grand Canyon this spring, 30-year-old Meenakshi Moorthy even warned daredevils who try to snap selfies from dangerous heights: "Did you know that wind gusts can be FATAL???" The caption accompanies a photo of Moorthy sitting on the edge of the canyon's North Rim.

The couple's latest trip turned out to be their last. Moorthy and her husband, Vishnu Viswanath, 29, who were Indian expats living in California, fell to their deaths in Yosemite National Park last week while taking a selfie, the man's brother said Tuesday.

They set up their tripod near a ledge at a scenic overlook in the California park, Viswanath's brother, Jishnu Viswanath, told The Associated Press. Visitors saw the camera the next morning and alerted park rangers, who "used high-powered binoculars to find them and used helicopters to airlift the bodies," he said.

Rangers found their bodies about 800 feet (245 meters) below Taft Point, where visitors can walk to the edge of a vertigo-inducing granite ledge that offers spectacular views of the Yosemite Valley below.

Their thrill-seeking social media posts foreshadow the couple's link to the growing problem of selfie deaths.

A study published this month in the Journal of Family Medicine and Primary Care said 259 people had died taking selfies between October 2011 and November 2017.

The report, based on findings from researchers in India who scoured worldwide media reports, said the main causes of selfie deaths were drowning, usually involving people being washed away by waves or falling from a boat, followed by people killed while posing in front of a moving train, deaths involving falls from high places or while taking pictures with dangerous animals.

More than 10 people have died at Yosemite this year, some from natural causes and others from falls, park spokesman Scott Gediman said.

Moorthy and Viswanath were born in India and had lived in the United States for a few years, most recently in the San Francisco Bay Area. Cisco India said Viswanath was a software engineer at the company's San Jose, California, headquarters in Silicon Valley.

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They graduated in 2010 from the College of Engineering, Chengannur, in the Alapuzha district of India's Kerala state, one of their professors, Nisha Kuruvilla, told AP. She said Moorthy and Viswanath were both good students who were fond of traveling and had married at a Hindu temple in Kerala in southern India four years ago.

Moorthy described her and her husband as "travel obsessed" on their blog, "Holidays & Happily Ever Afters," which was taken down Tuesday. It was filled with photos of the couple in front of snowy peaks and on romantic trips across Europe, where they took selfies from a gondola in Venice, at the Leaning Tower of Pisa and at the Vatican.

Moorthy wanted to work full time as a travel blogger, her brother-in-law said. She described herself in the blog as a "quirky free spirit" and "an ardent adrenaline junkie — roller coasters and skydiving does not scare me."

She posed at the edge of the Grand Canyon wearing a Wonder Woman costume, writing, "A lot of us including yours truly is a fan of daredevilry attempts of standing at the edge of cliffs — and skyscrapers. But did you know that wind gust can be FATAL??? Is our life just worth one photo?"

Her husband's Facebook cover photo shows the couple smiling, with arms around each other standing at a Grand Canyon precipice. "Living life on the edge," he wrote.

In a post from July 2017, the couple celebrated their wedding anniversary by skydiving in Santa Barbara, California. Moorthy posted a video on Instagram that shows her in a T-shirt saying, "Gimme Danger," and flashing a thumbs-up as she jumps from the plane.

"I believe I can flyyy. I believe i can touch the skyyy," she wrote in the post. "Aaaand touch the sky I did from an effin' 18000 feet thanks to the unconditional love-ninja in my life, Vishnu, who literally took this year's anniversary surprise a notch 'higher' than last year's hot air ballooning adventure, by gifting this adrenaline junkie with one of the highest tandem skydives in the world!"

She also blogged about depression. In a post from April, Moorthy apologized to readers for going silent and "disappearing for more than a year."

"Between battling the tightening tentacles of depression and blustering in the tempest of moving madness, I am afraid social media is taking a back seat??" she wrote.

The couple's pictures indicated they liked to pose in scenic spots at sunset, which was the last time they were seen alive.

In an eerie coincidence, another couple who hiked to Taft Point captured pictures of Moorthy prior to her fall, saying she appears in the background of two of their selfies.

Sean Matteson said Moorthy stood out from the crowd enjoying sunset at the overlook because her hair was dyed bright pink. He said she made him a little nervous because she was close to the edge.

"She was very close to the edge, but it looked like she was enjoying herself," said Matteson of Oakland, California. "She gave me the willies. There aren't any railings. I was not about to get that close to the edge. But she seemed comfortable. She didn't seem like she was in distress or anything."

The travel advice website MyYosemitePark.com posted a photo of Taft Point to illustrate its "bad selfies" list, warning tourists: "Don't pose on top of a huge granite drop-off." It added, "It would only take a loose rock or bad footing to plummet."

Yosemite spokeswoman Jamie Richards said officials were investigating the deaths, which could take several days.

In India, after a rash of selfie-related deaths, the Tourism Ministry in April asked state government officials to safeguard tourists by installing signs in areas where accidents had occurred declaring them "no-selfie zones."

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Associated Press writers Ashok Sharma and Chonchui Ngashangva contributed to this report from New Delhi.

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This story has been corrected to fix spellings of Meenakshi and Viswanath.



## Effort underway to seal old mines, but some want them open

By LINDSAY WHITEHURST, Associated Press

EUREKA, Utah (AP) — Underneath the mountains and deserts of the U.S. West lie hundreds of thousands of abandoned mines, an underground world that can hold serious danger and unexpected wonder. They are a legacy of the region's prospecting past, when almost anyone could dig a mine and then walk away, with little cleanup required, when it stopped producing.

In Utah alone, the state is trying to seal more than 10,000 open mines with cinderblocks and metal grates after people have died in rock falls and all-terrain-vehicle crashes and from poisonous air over the past three decades. Just this month in Arizona, a prospector broke his left leg and ankle after plunging to the bottom of an old mine shaft. He spent nearly three days there with no food or water fending off rattlesnakes before a friend heard his cries for help.

Still, not everyone wants to see the mines closed. For years, a dedicated subculture of explorers has been slipping underground to see tunnels lined with sparkling quartz, century-old rail cars and caverns that open in the earth like buried ballrooms.

"Nobody has walked the path you're walking for 100 years," said Jeremy MacLee, who uses old mining documents and high-tech safety equipment to find and explore forgotten holes, mostly in Utah.

He also lends his expertise to searches for missing people. That's how he got to know Bill Powell, who looked for his 18-year-old son, Riley, for months before the teenager and his girlfriend were found dead in a mine shaft the outside the small town of Eureka.

The teens' families formed a close bond with MacLee and other volunteer searchers. Despite his painful memories, Bill Powell decided to see what draws his friend to those dark recesses deep in the desert.

"It's a whole different life. The underground life," said Powell, who has a gravelly voice, close-cropped gray beard and a quick smile.

On a recent day, he and MacLee joined a group of friends in front of a mountainside opening near Eureka, wearing helmets, oxygen meters and strong lights, and a carrying stash of extra batteries. Cool air blasted from the opening, cutting through the desert heat.

The group walked between metal tracks that once carried ore carts, making their way through a tunnel shored up in places with squared-off timbers. After nearly a mile, the railcar tracks suddenly dropped into an abyss as the tunnel opened wide into a huge cavern. A hundred years ago, it would be a bustling scene lit with candles and carbide lights, as miners climbed a scaffolding the size of a seven-story building to drill out lead and silver.

Now, it is silent and pitch-black, illuminated only by the searching headlamp beams.

Bill Powell thought of his son, and the trips they took through the desert when he was a kid. Sometimes they'd come across an old mine shaft and toss a rock down, trying to imagine how far it fell. He doesn't do that anymore, not since his son's body was found in one of those pits.

Though the teenager never got to explore a mine like the one his father was in, Bill Powell thought he'd like seeing it. "He'd probably wish he was with me, hanging out."

But the dangers of abandoned mines weigh on Utah officials' minds. There have been 11 deaths since 1982 and more than 40 injuries, including people who entered mines to explore and others who fell in by accident, according to state data. Some abandoned mines become filled with tainted water, as in the toxic 2015 spill from Colorado's Gold King mine, but most in Utah are dry.

Legally, entering a mine can be considered trespassing in Utah if it has been closed or there are signs posted outside, but prosecutions are rare. Explorers argue it's no more dangerous than outdoor sports ranging from hiking to skiing, which also claim lives in the West.

But there are hazards specific to mines that can be especially dangerous to the unprepared, from abandoned explosives to the potentially fatal low-oxygen air known to miners as "black damp," reclamation specialist Chris Rohrer said. And while some explorers like MacLee go in prepared, many do not.

"It's just a wide open, Wild West thing," he said. "It's a completely uncontrolled situation."

In Arizona, prospector John Waddell fell to the rocky bottom of a mine shaft after the rigging he used

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to lower himself broke Oct. 15. He survived by sucking moisture out of his shirt before a friend who he'd told about his plans came to check on him.

There are also cases like Riley Powell and his girlfriend, Brelynne "Breezy" Otteson. Prosecutors say an enraged man killed the teenage couple after they visited his girlfriend despite his warning her not to have male visitors. He dumped their bodies in the mine shaft, where they remained for nearly three months before being discovered in March.

Similar cases have occurred in states like Wyoming, Colorado and California. Investigators also searched old mines in Utah and neighboring Nevada after Susan Cox Powell's high-profile 2009 disappearance. The 28-year-old Salt Lake City-area woman — no relation to Bill and Riley Powell — was never found.

"Unfortunately, an abandoned mine is probably a good place to dispose of something like that — a person or something you want to hide forever," said Hollie Brown, spokeswoman for the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining.

For the state, the message is as clear as its skull-and-crossbones signs: Stay out and stay alive. The program has been around more than 30 years, and the division has already sealed some 6,000 abandoned mines.

One of the next projects on its list is a onetime stable near an early-1900s mine that used to house mining mules said to be so accustomed to the dim light underground that they had to be blindfolded when they were brought outside, Rohrer said.

In that case, it plans to seal the opening with a metal gate. At other mines, crews build cinderblock walls, backfill with dirt and rocks, or weld rebar over the openings so bats and other wildlife can still get in and out.

"For 150 years, people have dug holes in the ground and brought wealth out of the ground," Rohrer said. "Unfortunately, after they brought that wealth out of the ground, they left that hole behind."

## Migrant caravan demands transport as 2nd group enters Mexico

By CHRISTOPHER SHERMAN and MARKO ALVAREZ, Associated Press

NILTEPEC, Mexico (AP) — More than 1,000 people in a second migrant caravan that forged its way across the river from Guatemala began walking through southern Mexico on Tuesday and reached the city of Tapachula — some 250 miles behind a larger group and more than 1,000 miles from the closest U.S. border.

Gerbert Hinestrosa, 54, a straw-hatted migrant from Santa Barbara, Honduras, was traveling with his wife and teenage son in the newest group. Hinestrosa said he realized how hard it would be to reach his goal. "Right now I feel good," he said. "We have barely started, but I think it is going to be very difficult."

Members of the latest caravan say they aren't trying to catch up with the first because they believe it has been too passive and they don't want to be controlled. The activist group Pueblo Sin Fronteras has been accompanying the first group and trying to help it organize.

The first, larger caravan of about 4,000 mainly Honduran migrants passed through Tapachula about 10 days ago and set up camp Tuesday in the Oaxaca state city of Juchitan, which was devastated by an earthquake in September 2017.

The two groups combined represent just a few days' worth of the average flow of migrants to the United States. Similar caravans also have occurred regularly over the years, passing largely unnoticed, but the new ones have become a hot-button political issue amid an unprecedented push-back from U.S. President Donald Trump.

With just a week before U.S. midterm elections, the Pentagon announced it will deploy 5,200 troops to the Southwest border in an extraordinary military operation, and Trump has continued to tweet and speak about the migrants.

On Monday he said he wants to build tent cities to house asylum seekers. And on Tuesday he floated the possibility of ending the constitutional right to U.S. citizenship for babies born in the country to noncitizens.

Experts widely dismissed the idea that the president could unilaterally change the rules on who is a citizen and said it's highly questionable whether an act of Congress could do it, either.

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"According to what they say, we are not going to be very welcome at the border," Honduran migrant Levin Guillen said when asked about Trump. "But we are going to try."

The 23-year-old from Corinto, Honduras, was part of the first caravan, whose members set off Tuesday morning walking and hitching rides on the highway through Mexico's narrow, windy southern isthmus. They stuffed themselves into truck beds and sprinted alongside semi-trailer rigs, trying to grab hold and pull themselves up.

Guillen, a farmer, said he had been getting threats in Honduras from the same people who killed his father 18 years ago. He has been on his own since his mom died four years ago, and he hopes to reach an aunt who lives in Los Angeles and have a chance to work and live in peace.

"We just want to a way to get to our final goal, which is the border," he said.

The first caravan was still about 900 miles (1,450 kilometers) from the nearest U.S. crossing at McAllen, Texas, and possibly much farther if it heads elsewhere.

Worn down from long miles of walking and frustrated by the slow progress, many have been dropping out and returning home or applying for protected status in Mexico.

The group is already significantly diminished from its estimated peak at over 7,000-strong. A caravan in the spring ultimately fizzled to just about 200 people who reached the U.S. border at San Diego.

Representatives have demanded "safe and dignified" transportation to Mexico City, but the Mexican government has shown no inclination to assist — with the exception of its migrant protection agency that gave some stragglers rides to the next town over the weekend.

Pueblo Sin Fronteras, the group supporting the caravan, has said it hopes to hold meetings in the Mexican capital with federal lawmakers and authorities as well as representatives of the incoming government that takes office Dec. 1 to discuss migrants' rights and the caravan's future.

But Mexican officials seem intent only on seeing the caravan melt away as it moves through the country. The government regularly reports the number of migrants who have applied for refugee status or agreed for assisted bus trips back to their home countries.

Deputy foreign ministers from El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico met Tuesday and agreed to coordinate "special attention" for the caravan, guaranteeing human rights, humanitarian assistance and "a safe, orderly and regular migration" in accordance with each country's laws.

Mexico's Interior Department said two Hondurans who requested entry were identified as having arrest warrants back home, one drug-related and the other for suspected homicide. They were deported. The department said in a statement that the men were part of "the migrant caravan," but did not say which group or specify when they were detained at checkpoints in the southern state of Chiapas.

The second caravan entered Mexico on Monday, crossing the Suchiate River from Guatemala. That followed a more violent confrontation on the border bridge over the river Sunday night, when migrants threw rocks and used sticks against Mexico police.

Hondurans in the group spoke of fleeing the same conditions: poverty and gang violence in one of the world's deadliest countries by homicide rates. They said asylum in the United States is their primary goal, but some expressed openness to applying for protected status in Mexico if that doesn't work out.

"Continue on to the United States, that is the first objective," said Carlos Enrique Carcamo, a 50-year-old boat mechanic from Choluteca. "But if that's not possible, well, permission here in Mexico to work or stay here."

Dayvin Herrera, a 24-year-old computer teacher from Tegucigalpa, said he can't go back to "the bloodshed (that) is multiplying in our country."

"One becomes a marked man," Herrera said.

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Associated Press writer Christopher Sherman reported this story in Nilitpec, Mexico, and AP video journalist Marko Alvarez reported from Tapachula, Mexico.



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## Alabama, Clemson, LSU, Notre Dame top 1st CFP rankings

By RALPH D. RUSSO, AP College Football Writer

If you don't like the first College Football Playoff selection committee rankings, don't worry. Saturday's slate of huge games guarantees major changes are coming next week.

Alabama, Clemson, LSU and Notre Dame were the top four teams in the initial CFP rankings Tuesday night. After meeting for a day and a half at a hotel outside Dallas, the 13-member selection committee released the first of its five weekly top 25s before the four-team field is set for the semifinals on Dec. 2.

Michigan was fifth, followed by Georgia and Oklahoma. Washington State was eighth, the highest-ranked Pac-12 team. Kentucky was ninth.

Of course, the final rankings are the only ones that matter, but the playoff picture will be reshaped this weekend. Four games matching top-20 teams are on tap Saturday, including Alabama at LSU and Georgia at Kentucky.

West Virginia, 13th in the CFP, is at Texas, which is 17th. Michigan hosts Penn State, which came in at 14.

The first top four teams were no surprise. The same teams are Nos. 1-4 in the latest Associated Press poll, except with Notre Dame third and LSU fourth.

Oregon athletic director Rob Mullens, who is in his first season as committee chairman, said LSU's FBS-leading six victories against teams with winning records gave the Tigers the edge over undefeated Notre Dame. The Irish play at Northwestern (5-3) on Saturday.

UCF was the highest ranked team from outside the Power Five conferences at 12th. The highest ranked team from the so-called Group of Five conferences at the end of the regular season is guaranteed a spot in the New Year's Six bowls. The Knights, riding a 20-game winning streak, earned that spot last year, beat Auburn in the Peach Bowl and proclaimed themselves national champions.

UCF has yet to beat a team that currently has a winning record. The strength of schedule held the Knights back, Mullens said. "But you balance that against what you see when you watch the games," he added.

Last season, UCF started 18th and rose to 12th by the final rankings.

### HISTORY LESSON

If form holds, two of the top four teams in the first CFP ranking of the season will go on to play in the national semifinals.

Coaches began downplaying the significance of the rankings even before they were revealed on national television.

"I didn't even know that was tonight. I didn't realize that was going on," Georgia coach Kirby Smart told reporters. "But I should have talked to my team about that. I didn't bring it up to them. So who knows what they'll be thinking tonight."

Ranking teams is a time-honored tradition in college football, going back to first Associated Press poll in 1936. But what, if anything, can be learned from the first four years of CFP rankings?

Of the 16 teams the committee ranked in the top four of its initial rankings from 2014-17, half made the playoff. No team ranked third in the first CFP rankings has ever made the playoff.

The very first committee rankings, in 2014, had just one eventual playoff team. They included three teams from the Southeastern Conference (though not the one that eventually made the playoff) along with Florida State.

That year, the committee first showed its willingness to rank a team that had lost a game ahead of an unbeaten team, like it did Tuesday with LSU and Notre Dame.

In 2014, unbeaten defending champion Florida State dropped to No. 3 behind once-beaten Oregon in the committee's third rankings. It seemed to send a signal the committee would be different from traditional polls that tended to honor win-loss record above all. The second-to-last rankings had Florida State at fourth, behind three teams that had already lost. The Seminoles went into the Rose Bowl semifinal as the No. 3 seed and lost to Oregon.

Among the eight teams over the past four seasons that were part of the initial committee top four but did not make the playoff, only one was unranked on selection Sunday. Texas A&M in 2016 was somewhat

of a surprising No. 4, and then proceeded to lose three of its final four games.

The playoff team that made the longest climb from first committee ranking to final was Ohio State, which started 16th in 2014 and made the semifinals as the fourth seed — and won the championship. Iowa, which has already lost two games, was No. 16 in Tuesday's rankings.

The last two seasons, none of the eventual playoff teams were ranked worse than sixth (Ohio State in 2016) in the committee's first ranking.

Follow Ralph D. Russo at <https://twitter.com/ralphDrussoAP> and listen at <https://www.podcastone.com/AP-Top-25-College-Football-Podcast>

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## Trumps pay tribute at synagogue where 11 were fatally shot

By ZEKE MILLER and JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

PITTSBURGH (AP) — One stone and one white rosebud for each victim.

President Donald Trump and first lady Melania Trump paid homage Tuesday to each of the 11 people slain in the worst instance of anti-Semitic violence in American history. As the Trumps placed their tributes outside the Tree of Life synagogue, protesters nearby shouted that the president was not welcome.

The emotional, dissonant scene reflected the increasingly divided nation that Trump leads, one gripped by a week of political violence and hate and hurtling toward contentious midterm elections that could alter the path of a presidency.

On their arrival in Pittsburgh, the Trumps entered the vestibule of the synagogue, where they lit candles for each victim before stepping outside. Shouts of "Words matter!" and "Trump, go home!" could be heard from demonstrators gathered not far from where a gunman had opened fire on Saturday.

Rabbi Jeffrey Myers, who had been conducting services when the shots rang out, gestured at the white Star of David posted for each victim. At each, the president placed a stone, a Jewish burial tradition, while the first lady added a flower. They were trailed by first daughter Ivanka Trump and her husband, Jared Kushner, who are Jewish.

Near the synagogue, flowers, candles and chalk drawings filled the corner, including a small rock painted with the number "6,000,011," adding the victims this week to the estimated number of Jews killed in the Holocaust.

The Trumps later spent more than an hour at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, where some of the victims are recovering. The couple's motorcade passed several hundred protesters on the street and a sign that said "It's your fault." Inside, Trump visited with wounded police officers and spent an hour with the widow of victim Dr. Richard Gottfried, according to White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders.

Trump stepped into the role of national consoler, a title he wears uncomfortably, with his visit to the Squirrel Hill neighborhood. More at home waging partisan warfare than assuaging America's grief, Trump has shied away from public displays of unity in the wake of other tragedies.

Sanders said Trump did not speak publicly Tuesday to denounce anti-Semitism because he has spoken about it before.

"He wanted today to be about showing respect for the families and the friends of the victims as well as for Jewish Americans," Sanders said.

Questions have long swirled about the president's credibility as a unifier. Since his 2016 Republican campaign for the White House, Trump has at times been slow to denounce white nationalists, neo-Nazis and other hate-filled individuals and groups that found common cause with his nationalistic political rhetoric.

Trump traveled to the historic hub of the city's Jewish community as the first funerals were held for the victims, who range in age from 54 to 97. The dead include a set of brothers, a husband and wife, professors, dentists and a physician.

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Hundreds of protesters assembled to show their displeasure with Trump's presence, some carrying signs that said "Hate has No Home in Squirrel Hill" and "Trump Loves Nazis."

Squirrel Hill resident Paul Carberry said Trump should not have visited until the dead were buried.

"He didn't pull the trigger, but his verbiage and actions don't help," Carberry said.

But Shayna Marcus, a nurse who rushed to the synagogue on Saturday to help with the wounded, said she felt that the president was taking an unfair portion of the blame.

"I don't think focusing on Trump is the answer — or on politics," said Marcus, whose four yarmulke-wearing boys carried signs in support of the president.

White House counselor Kellyanne Conway, back in Washington, told reporters: "If people are there to protest, that's their right. For the president, it was not a moment for politics."

When Air Force One touched down at the airport outside Pittsburgh, the Trumps were not greeted by the usual phalanx of local officials that typically welcomes a visiting president, a reflection of controversy surrounding the visit.

Pittsburgh Mayor Bill Peduto, a Democrat, told reporters before the visit was announced that the White House ought to consult with the families of the victims about their preferences and asked that the president not come during a funeral. Neither he nor Democratic Gov. Tom Wolf appeared with Trump.

Beth Melena, campaign spokeswoman for Wolf, said the governor based his decision to stay away on input from the victims' families, who told him they did not want the president to be there on the day their loved ones were being buried.

As Trump's motorcade wound through downtown Pittsburgh, some onlookers saluted the president with upraised middle fingers and others with downturned thumbs.

The White House had invited the top four congressional leaders to join Trump in Pennsylvania, but none accompanied him.

A spokesman for Republican Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said he already had events in his home state of Kentucky, pushing back on the suggestion that he declined. Republican House Speaker Paul Ryan's office said he could not attend on short notice. Democratic Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer and Democratic House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi also opted not to participate.

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Lemire reported from New York. Associated Press writers Allen G. Breed and Maryclaire Dale in Pittsburgh and Jill Colvin in Washington contributed to this report.

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For AP's complete coverage of the Pittsburgh synagogue shootings: <https://apnews.com/Pittsburghsynagogue-massacre>

## AP Explains: How US birthright citizenship emerged, endured

By **RUSSELL CONTRERAS, Associated Press**

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — President Donald Trump said Tuesday he wants to end a constitutional right that automatically grants citizenship to any baby born in the United States. Trump, in an interview with "Axios on HBO," said his goal is halting guaranteed citizenship for babies of noncitizens and unauthorized immigrants.

U.S. citizenship through birth comes via the 14th Amendment, which was ratified after the Civil War to secure U.S. citizenship for newly freed black slaves. It later was used to guarantee citizenship to all babies born on U.S. soil after court challenges.

Here is a look at the Citizenship Clause and how citizens worked to be included in it throughout U.S. history:

### THE 14TH AMENDMENT

In the aftermath of the Civil War, radical Republicans in Congress sought to push through a series of constitutional protections for newly emancipated black slaves. The 13th Amendment, which was ratified in December 1865, outlawed slavery. The 14th Amendment, ratified in July 1868, assured citizenship for



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all, including blacks. And the 15th Amendment, ratified in February 1870, awarded voting rights to black men, stating those rights should not be denied based on "race, color or previous condition of servitude."

"All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside," the 14th Amendment says. "No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States."

During a debate over the 14th Amendment, U.S. Sen. Edgar Cowan of Pennsylvania said birthright citizenship could result in "a flood of immigration of the Mongol race." He was referring to immigrants from Mongolia and China.

By extending citizenship to those born in the U.S., the amendment nullified the Supreme Court's 1857 decision in *Dred Scott v. Sandford*, which held that those descended from slaves could not be citizens.

Dred Scott and his wife Harriet were slaves who sued for their freedom after they were taken from the slave state of Missouri to the non-slave territories of Wisconsin and Illinois where slavery had been prohibited by the Missouri Compromise.

## FIGHT FOR CITIZENSHIP

Despite the Citizenship Clause and equal protections afforded under the 14th Amendment, Native Americans were consistently denied the benefits of U.S. birthright citizenship and it took decades for them to receive full citizenship, according to the nonpartisan National Constitution Center.

Native Americans who remained under tribal structures were not considered in determining the number of representatives for states in Congress. And if Native Americans left tribal structures, they weren't eligible for naturalization under the general naturalization laws because only whites could become naturalized citizens, Rutgers University School of Law professor Earl M. Maltz told the National Constitution Center in a conversation about citizenship.

Congress finally granted citizenship to all Native Americans born in the U.S. in 1924.

The idea that the children of immigrants born in the U.S. were automatically U.S. citizens remained unclear until 1898. That's when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that San Francisco-born Wong Kim Ark was a U.S. citizen because he was born in the U.S. The federal government had tried to deny the son of Chinese immigrants re-entry in the U.S. after a trip abroad on grounds he wasn't a citizen under the Chinese Exclusion Act.

Still, U.S.-born Mexican-Americans in the 1930s were denied citizenship protections when authorities in California and Texas deported them to Mexico during the Great Depression. U.S.-born Japanese-Americans were denied citizenship protections when they were forced into Japanese internment camps during World War II.

## AN EXECUTIVE ORDER

Geoffrey Hoffman, director of the Immigration Clinic at the University of Houston Law Center, says some proponents of immigration restrictions have argued the words "subject to the jurisdiction thereof" in the 14th Amendment allows the U.S. to deny citizenship to babies born to those in the country illegally.

However, Hoffman said those arguments are false since any person in the U.S., besides diplomats, would be subject to U.S. laws regardless of immigration status.

Any executive order by Trump or any president could be subjected to a judicial challenge and there are many articles in the Constitution that would make a fight against the Citizenship Clause difficult.

Besides the 14th Amendment itself, Hoffman said an executive order banning the Citizenship Clause would violate Article 2 of the Constitution, which states the president "shall take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed."

Hoffman said such an executive order would violate laws of denaturalization and would attempt to strip citizenship retroactively — another violation of the Constitution.

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Associated Press Writer Russell Contreras is a member of the AP's race and ethnicity team. Follow Contreras on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/ruscontreras> .

## 'I'm going to die': Survivors relive horrors at Tree of Life

By ADAM GELLER, ALLEN G. BREED and MARYCLAIRE DALE, Associated Press

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Up in the choir loft, alone, Rabbi Jeffrey Myers whispered to a 911 dispatcher on his cellphone.

Below him, down in the sanctuary, eight of his congregants had been felled by a gunman's bullets. Up here, though, Myers couldn't see them — or any of the other horrors going on beyond his hideaway. He could only listen. He waited for another round of semiautomatic gunfire, but all was silent. Then he heard what he feared even more.

Could that be footsteps?

Myers rushed into the loft's bathroom, barricading himself inside.

Days earlier he had used a blog posting to urge members of his Tree of Life congregation to celebrate life's moments while they had the chance: "None of us can say with certainty that there is always next year," he wrote. Now, Myers wondered if he should hang up with 911 and make a video to tell his wife and children he loved them — while he still had time.

"I'm going to die," he thought.

Saturday morning — the time when Jews in communities like this one come together to celebrate the miracle of the earth's creation and the day of rest that followed — had barely begun.

As a light rain fell over the Tudors and Victorians of Pittsburgh's leafy Squirrel Hill, the parking lot at the Tree of Life Synagogue had been slow to fill in. There was nothing unusual about that. Officially, services begin at 9:45 for Tree of Life and the two other congregations that share its large stone building — New Light and Dor Hadash. Worshippers from all three were filtering in, many of them older, taking their time.

The synagogue has long been one of the touchstones of Squirrel Hill, a rolling neighborhood about five miles east of downtown that is the center of the city's large Jewish community. Founded in 1864, Tree of Life prides itself as a warm, welcoming place, "where even the oldest Jewish traditions become relevant to the way our members live today," it says on its website.

On Saturdays, the day of the Jewish Sabbath, its doors are unlocked and open to all. On this day, the New Light congregation gathered in a basement room. Upstairs, toward the front of the building, the worshippers of Dor Hadash prepared for a ceremony to name a newborn boy. And in the main sanctuary, Myers convened about a dozen of his congregants.

Outside the building, though, Robert Gregory Bowers was also mindful of the Saturday rituals. For months, the 46-year-old truck driver had been posting angry rants against Jews on the Gab social media site, to little apparent notice. He blamed Jews for plotting against society, contaminating it in order to destroy it.

At 9:49 a.m. Saturday, he posted again.

"I can't sit by and watch my people get slaughtered," Bowers wrote. "Screw your optics. I'm going in."

Inside the synagogue, New Light's rabbi, Jonathan Perlman, was just a few minutes into morning prayers when his congregants heard a loud bang. Barry Werber, an Air Force vet who was there to help mark the anniversary of his mother's death, thought at first that someone might have walked into a cart upstairs stacked with glassware and whiskey meant for the baby-naming ceremony. To Myers, it sounded like somebody in the hallway had knocked over a coat rack.

Then the sounds came again, this time in a burst.

Werber and other worshippers opened a door leading into the basement hallway. A body lay on the staircase. Their rabbi quickly closed the door and pushed Werber and fellow congregants Melvin Wax and Carol Black into a large supply closet. As gunshots echoed upstairs, Werber dialed 911 but was too afraid to say anything, for fear of making any noise.

The first call to an emergency dispatcher came in at 9:54: Active shooter at Tree of Life. Twenty shots fired in the lobby, maybe 30.

Nine minutes had passed since worship was scheduled to begin.

In the main sanctuary, Myers told his congregants to drop to the floor. "Don't move. Be quiet."

Although he was their leader, Myers was still new to Tree of Life. A native of Newark, New Jersey, he

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had been trained as a cantor — the clergyman charged with leading Jewish congregations in song. For years, he worked in the New York area, then near Atlantic City. But watching some synagogues close and others consolidate, he decided to broaden his resume and sought ordination.

When his previous congregation eliminated the cantor's post because of budgetary pressures, Myers found his first job as a rabbi in a city he knew little about. He and his wife, Janice, had moved to Pittsburgh a year earlier to start a new and somewhat unlikely chapter for a couple whose two children were already grown.

Now, still near the front of the sanctuary, he led a group of worshippers through some nearby doors that he knew would get them outside, to safety.

Then he turned back. Eight congregants remained inside, near the back of the room closest to the lobby — where the gunfire was getting louder.

"I knew at that point there was nothing I could do," Myers would say later.

From the front of the sanctuary, Myers scrambled up the narrow stairs leading to the choir loft.

Unseen to him, the stocky, square-jawed Bowers stalked the building, armed with an AR-15 assault-style rifle and three handguns.

In an upstairs bathroom, custodian Augie Siriano heard four or five distinctive pops and went to investigate, threading through a sanctuary and lobby toward the chapel where Tree of Life's service had been cut short.

"I turned and looked and there was a gentleman lying face down, coming out of the doors of the chapel, and he had blood coming out of his head," Siriano said in an interview with Pittsburgh television station WTAE. "As soon as I seen that, I turned and headed in the other direction, toward the exit doors."

In the pitch black of the basement closet, all turned silent. Could it be over? Werber and the others hidden there waited, before the elderly Wax decided to check and opened the door. A blast of bullets drove him backward, and those inside the closet watched their friend fall to the floor. The gunman, stepping over his body, moved toward them.

In the darkness, Werber held his breath. He still had the 911 operator on the line. But his old flip phone had no light on it, and he and the others were drawn deep in the shadows.

They could see, framed in a sliver of light from the doorway, the stock of Bower's rifle and his jacket, but little else. Could he see them? As the seconds ticked by, Werber waited for the gunman to spray the closet with bullets. "I'm barely breathing," Werber would later recall. Then Bowers turned his back and walked away.

Outside, police cruisers and tactical vehicles flooded into the blocks around the intersection of Shady and Wilkins avenues. Nearby, Michael Aronson, a long-ago paramedic turned accounts manager, ordered his daughters, ages 6 and 8, into the basement, asking them to remember what they'd learned in school lockdown drills. He flipped through channels on his police scanner, as chatter ramped up in intensity.

"We're under fire," an officer radioed in at 9:59 a.m.

"Every unit in the city needs to get here now!" another officer said minutes later.

Judah Samet, a member of the Tree of Life congregation for 54 years, is almost always on time for services, but his housekeeper had delayed him. The 80-year-old, who survived the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp, was just pulling into a handicapped spot when a man knocked on the window: "You can't go into the synagogue. There's a shooting."

Samet saw what he later realized was a plainclothes officer, pistol drawn, exchanging fire with an assailant. For the second time in his life, Samet was face-to-face with evil.

Back inside, Werber and the others waited. The closet had a back door, Werber recalled, but in the darkness he could not see it. Perlman, the rabbi, managed to find his way out at some point. But the other two remained until police came to lead them out.

"I lost my yarmulke in the process," Werber said. "I still had my prayer shawl."

When police tactical teams entered the synagogue, a spent ammunition magazine lay in the hallway — and four bodies were sprawled across the atrium.

Bowers exchanged more gunfire, then retreated to the third floor. Four officers were wounded before



authorities cornered the gunman.

At 11:08, Bowers, bleeding from wounds, crawled from his hiding place and raised his hands.

"All these Jews need to die," he said to an officer.

In the end, 11 people did lose their lives at Tree of Life in the worst single act of violence against Jews in America since the country's founding. The victims included Dor Hadash congregant Jerry Rabinowitz, who reportedly went in to try to help the wounded, as well as three members of New Light: Richard Gottfried, a dentist looking ahead to retirement; Dan Stein, a new grandfather; and Wax, a retired accountant who was a "gem and gentleman," Werber said.

Seven of the eight Tree of Life congregants who couldn't get out of the sanctuary also were slain, and one was wounded but lived. The killed include brothers Cecil and David Rosenthal, who are to be laid to rest Tuesday, and a couple, Bernice and Sylvan Simon, both in their 80s.

On Monday morning, Myers stood at a street corner outside of the synagogue, where memorials shaped like the Star of David had been placed along the sidewalk — one to honor each of those killed. He talked about the funerals to come and the difficult days and weeks ahead, but vowed: "Here in Pittsburgh, hate will not triumph. Love will win out."

Then he pointed to the building named for the tree at the heart of the Old Testament's Garden of Eden.

"I looked at this and I said, 'Oh my God, this is a giant mausoleum,'" he said. But then, he realized, he was wrong.

"Tree of Life has been in Pittsburgh for 154 years. We're not leaving this corner," he said. "We will be back and will rebuild, even stronger."

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Also contributing were AP reporters Mark Scoloro, Mark Gillispie and Claudia Lauer.

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

## **Pittsburgh begins burying its dead as Trump faces protesters**

**By MARYCLAIRE DALE and ALLEN G. BREED, Associated Press**

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Pittsburgh's Jewish community began burying its dead Tuesday after the synagogue massacre, holding funerals for a beloved family doctor, a pillar of the congregation, and two 50-something brothers known as the Rosenthal "boys."

President Donald Trump, meanwhile, arrived in Pittsburgh to pay his respects and encountered hundreds of shouting, chanting protesters with signs such as "It's your fault" and "Words matter," a reference to allegations his bellicose language has emboldened bigots. Pennsylvania's governor and the mayor of Pittsburgh declined to join him during the visit.

Earlier in the day, thousands of mourners jammed a synagogue, a Jewish community center and a third, undisclosed site for the first in a weeklong series of funerals for victims of the deadliest anti-Semitic attack in U.S. history.

Dr. Jerry Rabinowitz, Daniel Stein and Cecil and David Rosenthal were among 11 people killed in the shooting rampage at the Tree of Life synagogue Saturday. Robert Gregory Bowers, a 46-year-old truck driver who authorities say raged against Jews, was arrested on federal hate-crime charges that could bring the death penalty.

With Tree of Life still cordoned off as a crime scene, more than 1,000 people poured into Rodef Shalom, one of the city's oldest and largest synagogues, to mourn the Rosenthal brothers, ages 59 and 54.

The two intellectually disabled men were "beautiful souls" who had "not an ounce of hate in them — something we're terribly missing today," Rabbi Jeffrey Myers, a survivor of the massacre, said at their funeral.

Myers, his voice quivering, told the Rosentals' parents and other family members: "The entire world is sharing its grief with you, so you don't walk alone."

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The brothers were widely known as “the boys,” the Rosenthals’ sister, Diane Hirt, noted. “They were innocent like boys, not hardened like men,” she said.

She said Cecil — a gregarious man with a booming voice who was lightheartedly known as the mayor of Squirrel Hill and the “town crier” for the gossip he managed to gather — would have especially enjoyed the media attention this week, a thought that brought laughter from the congregation.

Rabinowitz’s funeral was held at the Jewish Community Center in the city’s Squirrel Hill section, the historic Jewish neighborhood where the rampage took place. Two police vehicles were posted at a side door and two at the main entrance.

A line stretched around the block as mourners — some in white medical coats, some wearing yarmulkes, black hats or head scarves — passed beneath the blue Romanesque arches into the brick building.

The 66-year-old Rabinowitz was a go-to doctor for HIV patients in the epidemic’s early and desperate days, a physician who always hugged his patients as they left his office.

“A lot of people are feeling really angry about this. A lot of rage built up inside about this, because of it being a hate crime. Don’t get me wrong; I do. But I’m so overwhelmed with sadness right now that I can’t even be angry right now,” said Robin Faulkner, whose family had seen Rabinowitz for 30 years and counted him as a dear friend. “It’s just such a loss. Just tragic.”

A private funeral was also held for Stein, the 71-year-old men’s club president at Tree of Life.

The other victims’ funerals have been scheduled through Friday.

Trump and first lady Melania Trump landed in Pittsburgh after the day’s services and lit candles at Tree of Life for the victims. Outside, they laid white roses as well as stones for each of the dead, a Jewish burial tradition. The president and first lady later went to a hospital to visit with survivors.

They were joined by Trump’s daughter Ivanka and her husband, Jared Kushner, as well as Myers, the Tree of Life rabbi, and Israeli Ambassador Ron Dermer.

Hundreds of protesters gathered near the synagogue and the hospital.

“He didn’t pull the trigger, but his verbiage and actions don’t help,” said Squirrel Hill resident Paul Carberry, 55, wearing anti-Trump patches on his hat and jacket.

Another Squirrel Hill resident, Shayna Marcus, who had hoped to catch the presidential motorcade with her young sons but just missed it, said the anger at Trump is misplaced.

“I don’t think focusing on Trump is the answer, or on politics,” said Marcus, a 34-year-old nurse and Trump supporter.

Democratic Mayor Bill Peduto had asked Trump not to come while the city was burying its dead. He and Gov. Tom Wolf, a fellow Democrat, said they would skip the president’s visit.

“Community leaders expressed to the governor that they did not feel it was appropriate for Trump to come, so the governor made a decision not to join him on his visit out of respect for the families and the community,” said Beth Melena, Wolf’s campaign spokeswoman.

Among the mourners at the Rosenthal brothers’ funeral was Dr. Abe Friedman, who typically sat in the back row of Tree of Life with the two men but was late to synagogue on Saturday and was not there when the gunman opened fire.

As he stood in line at the funeral, Friedman wondered why he had been spared.

“Why did things fall into place for me?” he asked. “I usually sit in the back row. In the last row, everyone got killed.”

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This story has been corrected to show that one of the funerals was held in a Jewish community center, not a synagogue.

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Associated Press reporter Claudia Lauer reported from Philadelphia. Associated Press journalists Robert Bumsted, Adam Geller and Mark Scolforo in Pittsburgh and Jennifer Peltz in New York contributed.

## For Jewish journalists, online harassment goes with the job

By DAVID CRARY, AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — For many Jewish journalists in the U.S., persistent online anti-Semitic harassment has become part of the job.

The phenomenon became pervasive during the 2016 presidential campaign, and there's been a resurgence in recent months ahead of next week's midterm election, according to the Anti-Defamation League.

Targeted journalists have found different ways of responding. CNN commentator Sally Kohn reaches out kindly to some of her online harassers. Michael Duke, an editor at the Houston-based Jewish Herald-Voice, has reduced his use of social media. Yair Rosenberg, a writer with Tablet Magazine, developed a method of tracking down and disrupting anti-Semitic accounts on Twitter.

Rosenberg has written in detail about the vitriol directed at him, including a doctored photo showing him a gas chamber. When the ADL reported that he received the second-most abuse of any Jewish journalist on Twitter during the 2016 campaign, Rosenberg wrote, "My parents didn't raise me to be No. 2; fortunately, there's always 2020."

Twitter, over the past two years, has become more effective at removing certain types of virulent anti-Semitism from its feeds, according to Rosenberg. But he said the company is less effective at blocking the spread of anti-Jewish conspiracy theories in tweets that avoid certain phrases and hashtags that would catch the eye of Twitter monitors.

Rosenberg said he has grown hardened to the constant flow of anti-Semitic material.

"I don't feel like a victim," he said by telephone from Pittsburgh, where he and his Tablet colleagues are covering the aftermath of the synagogue shooting Saturday that killed 11 Jews.

"What some people deal with in real life is worse than what I deal with online," he said. "There's life-and-death stuff, and there's me getting mean tweets."

A few spots below Rosenberg on the ADL's 2016 "Top 10" list was Kohn, a liberal political commentator who appears regularly on CNN.

For a book she published earlier this year, "The Opposite of Hate," she reached out to several of her own Twitter trolls, conversing with them about the reasons for their vitriol and in some cases receiving apologies.

In an interview Tuesday, Kohn said she is now less tempted to engage with her harassers.

"It's all just so negative," she said. "I've stopped paying as much attention to my trolls."

Also on the 2016 Top 10 list was Jonah Goldberg, a senior editor of the conservative National Review. He began receiving a torrent of online anti-Semitic invective in the second half of 2015, after Donald Trump declared his presidential candidacy and Goldberg was among the conservative commentators who expressed misgivings.

"You had endless photoshopped images — Trump in an SS outfit putting me in a gas chamber," he said. "You don't see that stuff very much anymore."

However, he said there was a new surge of anti-Semitic material — much of it generated by bots — after the Pittsburgh massacre.

"They flood the zone in the wake of these kind of controversies ... sowing discord and distrust," he said.

Like Rosenberg and Kohn, Goldberg tries to take the harassment in stride, though he took notice when photos of his dog became vehicles for further anti-Semitic abuse.

One specific episode still stands out: Goldberg said that at one point he made public reference to the death of his brother, and was "pelted with jokes asking if he'd been turned into soap or a lampshade."

"I have a pretty thick skin," he said. "The sheer inhumanity of it — that's stuck with me."

At The Forward, a New York-based Jewish magazine, editor-in-chief Jane Eisner said anti-Semitic harassment directed at her staff surged in 2016, prompting new procedures for reporting particularly menacing threats to the police.

"There's no doubt we've gotten used to this, which in some ways is a tragedy, but we have to do our job," Eisner said. "Just because you accept it and move on doesn't mean it doesn't affect you."

At the ADL, one of the experts tracking anti-Semitic harassment is Daniel Kelley, associate director of the ADL's Center for Technology and Society. Even if some prominent Jewish journalists are able to persevere in the face of such harassment, he worries that some Jews might be deterred from pursuing a journalism career for fear of becoming a target.

In Houston, Duke, a Jewish Herald-Voice associate editor, was targeted with anti-Semitic abuse after the paper reported on a 2016 visit by white nationalist leader Richard Spencer to Texas A&M University. Duke was called a "Zionist Nazi" and was emailed a photo of Auschwitz with the tag, "We're on the march."

But there's been an upside to Duke's subsequent decision to reduce his engagement on social media. "It's made me a little better as a journalist," he said. "With social media, you can be a little lazy. This puts me back in touch with people we write about."

## Holocaust survivor faces evil, cheats death for second time

By ALLEN G. BREED, AP National Writer

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Sitting in the handicapped lane outside Tree of Life synagogue, Judah Samet watched as a plainclothes officer traded gunfire with the man at the temple door. He was caught in a crossfire and, yet, instead of ducking down, he craned his neck to get a glimpse of the gunman.

"The guy was very focused," he said, pointing his finger like the barrel of a gun and mimicking the staccato clacking of semiautomatic fire. "I saw the smoke coming out of his (muzzle)."

The 80-year-old Hungarian native had come face to face with evil once before, in a Nazi concentration camp. He had cheated death then, and on this Sabbath morning, he had a feeling that God was not finished with him just yet.

When the shooting stopped Saturday, 11 people lay dead inside the bunker-like concrete synagogue in Pittsburgh's Squirrel Hill neighborhood, the heart of the city's Jewish community. In the days since, many have expressed shock that a place that seemed so safe for 150 years could become the scene of the worst attack on Jews in the nation's history.

But Samet is surprised that something like this hadn't happened sooner.

"I didn't lose the faith in humanity," he said. "I know not to depend on humanity."

Samet was just 6 years old in the spring of 1944 when the Nazis came to his house around the noon-time meals and told them to pack. They were given 15 minutes to be outside "with our valuables and one change of underwear."

Sitting in his sunny apartment in a jade-green building a few blocks from the synagogue, the retired jeweler recalled the long march to the trains.

"What bothered me most is that there were Hungarians walking both sides, to and fro on the sidewalks," he said, curling his mouth into a grimace and shaking his head. "Nobody paid attention. Nobody cared. They were as bad as the Nazis."

At one point, he watched in horror as a Gestapo sergeant put a pistol to his mother's head — for daring to ask for better treatment for the weary travelers. She was spared only because she spoke fluent German, and the commander wanted to use her as an interpreter.

They were supposed to be going to Auschwitz, but partisans had destroyed the rail lines. After several months of wandering, they arrived at Bergen-Belsen, the northern German camp where Anne Frank died.

"First thing we saw at the gate, there were about almost two stories of corpses, lying on top of each other," he said. "They'd clear them away. Next day, again, they have the same."

Weakened by starvation, the population was ravaged by disease.

"People were actually lying down and dying," he said, "because they lost hope."

Samet did not lie down.

His father died of typhus two days after being liberated. But by some miracle, the rest of his family survived.

After the war, Samet went to Israel, where he served as a paratrooper. He later relocated to Pittsburgh. He has been a member of the Tree of Life synagogue for 54 years.



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Samet tries to go to "shul" — a synagogue — every day, and prides himself on his punctuality. But on Saturday, he was running late.

"My housekeeper kept me for four minutes," he said.

He began pulling into the lot when somebody knocked on his window. In a gentle, hushed voice, the man said: "You can't go in the synagogue. There's a shooting going on."

Samet tried to back out, but there were too many other cars trying to do the same. Suddenly, out the passenger window, he saw what he later realized was a detective.

"He was shooting at the fellow," he said. "And the fellow was shooting back with a rapid fire. Da-da-da-da. Da-da-da-da."

Samet would later be able to identify Robert Bowers to the FBI, so close was he to the action.

Following his surrender, the wounded Bowers reportedly told officers he wanted to "kill all the Jews." In online posts, Bowers hurled Jewish slurs and raged at synagogues like Tree of Life for supporting refugees, calling them "hostile invaders."

"I can't sit by and watch my people get slaughtered," Bowers allegedly posted online shortly before entering the synagogue. "Screw your optics, I'm going in."

Like many, Lauren Bairnsfather thought Pittsburgh was immune from such violence. She's the director of the Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh, located in Squirrel Hill.

"I was shocked. But I also thought, 'Why not here?' It's happening everywhere. Why wouldn't it happen here?"

Bairnsfather said the center's mission is to show the relevance of the Holocaust today. Saturday's massacre was a "stark, concrete example" of how important that work is.

"It's not just Jewish history," she said. "It's human history. And it's still happening obviously. It happened here."

Auschwitz-Birkenau survivor Magda Brown, of Skokie, Illinois, was scheduled to speak at the Pittsburgh center Monday. As she watched news of the tragedy unfold, she turned to her daughter and said she wouldn't dream of canceling.

"Now they need to hear our story even more," she said. "Let's go."

Brown's speech to a large group of high school students also included a live webcast.

On Brown's 17th birthday, she and her family were loaded on cattle cars and shipped to the dreaded camp, located in present-day Poland. Of an extended family of 70, only eight survived.

The Hungarian woman, now a sprightly 91, believes that anti-Semitism never dies, it just goes "dormant," until a leader like Hitler comes along to reawaken it. But unlike Samet, she is counting on humanity.

And that is why she shares her story.

"I still believe there are more good people than bad," she said. "So I'm hoping that the good people are listening."

## Electric chair builder worried Tennessee execution will fail

By TRAVIS LOLLER, Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — If Tennessee electrocutes Edmund Zagorski on Thursday, it will be in an electric chair built by a self-taught execution expert who is no longer welcome in the prison system and who worries that his device will malfunction.

Fred Leuchter (LOOT'-cher) had a successful career in the execution business before his reputation was tainted by his claim that there were no gas chambers at Auschwitz.

Tennessee's chair, which hasn't been used since 2007, is just one of many execution devices that Leuchter worked on between 1979 and 1990, according to an article by Fordham University professor Deborah Denno in the William and Mary Law Review. In addition to electric chairs, Leuchter built, refurbished and consulted on gas chambers, lethal injection machines and a gallows for at least 27 states.

After his comments about the Holocaust, it came to light that he had neither an engineering degree nor a license, even though he promoted himself as an engineer. His rise and fall was portrayed in a 2000

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documentary.

Nonetheless, Leuchter stands behind the electric chair he rebuilt in 1988, relying on skills picked up designing navigational and surveillance equipment and a careful study of documents describing early executions. His concern is that Tennessee's chair will fail because of changes others made to it after he was no longer allowed to service it.

"What I'm worried about now is Tennessee's got an electric chair that's going to hurt someone or cause problems. And it's got my name on it," Leuchter said. "I don't think it's going to be humane."

Gov. Bill Haslam said he is confident the execution can be carried out without problems.

"I have a great deal of confidence in our Department of Correction folks. ... We've spoken with them regularly and they've assured us" the chair is ready.

Leuchter said he was familiar with prisons because he accompanied his father to his job as superintendent of transportation in the Massachusetts state prison in the 1940s and '50s, from about age 4 to age 16.

As a teenager, Leuchter helped his father move the state's old electric chair when the prison relocated, and he remembers they had to do it on a Sunday because the warden didn't want the news media to know.

"I helped put the chair in the truck. We covered it up with canvas," he said.

Years later, when it looked as though Massachusetts might restart capital punishment after a long hiatus, a prison steward who knew Leuchter's father asked Leuchter to come in and see whether the old chair was still usable.

From there, "my name was given to other states," Leuchter said.

He said many of their electric chairs were "decrepit, defunct, didn't work properly — if they ever had in the first place."

Denno, a law professor at Fordham who has studied execution methods for more than 25 years, said Leuchter filled a void. Often "the most qualified people don't want to be involved" in executions, she said.

Even after he was no longer welcome as a prison contractor, Denno said prison officials continued to contact Leuchter for help "because they literally had no one else to go to."

Tennessee asked Leuchter to refurbish its chair in 1988, when it was facing the possibility of its first execution in decades.

"It looked like it was made for a midget or something," Leuchter said.

So he built a new chair that incorporated wood from the original, which he was told was from the old gallows, and replaced the chair's electrodes. He also replaced the old leather straps that tether prisoners to the chair with quick-release nylon belts, to aid guards tasked with removing bodies after executions.

He trained prison workers and gave them certificates as "electrocution technicians."

Leuchter said he sold the original chair. A collector of "murderabilia" listed it on eBay in 2000. It now resides in the Alcatraz East Crime Museum in the Smoky Mountains.

Denno said electric chairs have "a history of botches that has only gotten worse."

In two Florida executions in the 1990s, smoke and flames shot from the condemned inmates' heads. In 1999, blood spilled from under an inmate's mask.

Shortly afterward, the U.S. Supreme Court agreed to decide whether the electric chair violates the 8th Amendment prohibition on cruel and unusual punishment. But the case was dropped after Florida switched to lethal injection.

Tennessee has executed only one person in Leuchter's electric chair. Daryl Holton died that way in 2007.

In preparation, an electrical engineer reduced the voltage from 2,640 to 1,750 and raised the amperage from 5 to 7. The timing was also changed, from two, one-minute jolts with a 10-second pause between, to a 20-second and 15-second jolt with a 15-second pause between.

The execution was successful.

The chair was inspected on Oct. 10 of this year and found to meet the criteria for an execution, state documents show.

But Leuchter said he feels the chair now is "defective and shouldn't be used."

"It worked the first time, but I think they were lucky," he said.

## US troops deployed at the border limited in what they can do

By ASTRID GALVAN, Associated Press

PHOENIX (AP) — The more than 5,200 active-duty troops being sent by President Donald Trump to the U.S.-Mexico border will be limited in what they can do under a federal law that restricts the military from engaging in law enforcement on American soil.

That means the troops will not be allowed to detain immigrants, seize drugs from smugglers or have any direct involvement in stopping a migrant caravan that is still about 1,000 miles from the nearest border crossing.

Instead, their role will largely mirror that of the existing National Guard troops — about 2,000 in all — deployed to the border over the past six months, including providing helicopter support for border missions, installing concrete barriers and repairing and maintaining vehicles. The new troops will include military police, combat engineers and helicopter companies equipped with advanced technology to help detect people at night.

The extraordinary military operation comes a week before the Nov. 6 midterm elections as Trump has sought to transform fears about the caravan and immigration into electoral gains. On Tuesday, he stepped up his dire warnings, calling the band of migrants fleeing poverty and violence in Central America an “invasion.”

“Our Military is waiting for you!” he tweeted.

R. Gil Kerlikowske, Customs and Border Protection commissioner from 2014 to 2017, said the military cannot stop asylum seekers who show up at border crossings to seek protection, and that Border Patrol agents have had no trouble apprehending people who cross illegally.

“I see it as a political stunt and a waste of military resources and waste of tax dollars,” said Kerlikowske, who was at the helm during a major surge of Central Americans migrants in 2014. “To use active-duty military and put them in that role, I think is a huge mistake. I see it as nothing more than pandering to the midterm elections by the president.”

Traveling mostly on foot, the caravan of some 4,000 migrants and a much smaller group of hundreds more are still weeks, if not months, before reaching the U.S. border. Thousands have already dropped out, applying for refugee status in Mexico or taking the Mexican government up on free bus rides back home, and the group is likely to dwindle even more during the arduous journey ahead.

Another smaller caravan earlier this year numbered only a couple hundred by the time it arrived at the Tijuana-San Diego crossing.

And despite the heightened rhetoric, the number of immigrants apprehended at the border is dramatically lower than past years. Border Patrol agents this year made only a quarter of the arrests they made in 2000 at the height of illegal immigration, when the agency had half of the staffing it does today. The demographics have also drastically changed, from mostly Mexican men traveling alone, to Central American families with children.

Migrants arriving at the border will now see a sizable U.S. military presence — more than double the 2,000 who are in Syria fighting the Islamic State group — even though their mission will be largely a support role.

That’s because the military is bound by the Posse Comitatus Act, a 19th-century federal law that restricts participation in law enforcement activities. Unless Congress specifically authorizes it, military personnel can’t have direct contact with civilians, including immigrants, said Scott R. Anderson of The Brookings Institution.

Air Force Gen. Terrence O’Shaughnessy, head of U.S. Northern Command, said Tuesday that at least 5,239 troops were being sent to the Southwest border as the Pentagon works to meet requests from the Department of Homeland Security.

“The 5,239 are going forward and there will be additional forces over and above the 5,239,” he said, adding that number “is not the top line.”

Asked about the use of weapons, O’Shaughnessy said the active-duty troops have been given clear guidance on the use of force and there will be unit and individual training to make sure they know what

they can and can't do. Generally, U.S. troops are authorized to use force in self-defense.

Still, the large troop deployment will be limited to performing similar support functions as the National Guard troops Trump has already sent to the border.

These include 1,500 flight hours logged by about 600 National Guard troops in Arizona since they were deployed this spring. Members of the guard have also repaired more than 1,000 Border Patrol vehicles and completed 1,000 hours of supply and inventory, according to Customs and Border Protection.

In one case, a group of Border Patrol agents tracking drug smugglers in the remote Arizona desert in August called on a National Guard helicopter to keep an eye on the suspects and guide agents on the ground until they had them in custody. That operation resulted in several arrests and the seizure of 465 pounds of marijuana.

O'Shaughnessy said there were about 1,000 troops already in Texas and that will grow to at least 1,800, likely by Wednesday. The deployments to Arizona and California will follow. All are going to staging bases in the states, and there are none at the border yet, he said.

It remains unclear why the administration was choosing to send active-duty troops given that they will be limited to performing the support functions the Guard already is doing.

The California National Guard has pledged up to 400 troops to the president's border mission through March 31. Jerry Brown, the only Democratic governor in the four states bordering Mexico and a frequent Trump critic, conditioned his support on the troops having nothing to do with immigration enforcement or building border barriers.

Brown said the California troops would help fight transnational criminal gangs and drug and firearms smugglers.

In New Mexico, 118 Guard troops have been helping with vehicle maintenance and repair, cargo inspection operations, surveillance and communications.

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott pledged 400 troops to the border in April. Maj. Gen. John Nichols, the head of the Texas National Guard, told Congress in July that his troops served in a "variety of support roles," including driving vehicles, security monitoring, and administration.

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Associated Press writers Lolita Baldor, Robert Burns, Colleen Long and Jill Colvin in Washington; Susan Montoya Bryan in Albuquerque; Elliot Spagat in San Diego and Nomaan Merchant in Houston contributed to this report.

## **CNN goes after Trump in wake of explosive devices**

**By DAVID BAUDER, AP Media Writer**

NEW YORK (AP) — CNN's management has taken an aggressive stance against attacks from President Donald Trump after the network was sent explosive devices from a man who allegedly targeted Trump's perceived enemies.

In a statement, CNN chief executive Jeff Zucker was critical of the White House's "complete lack of understanding about the seriousness" of its attacks against the media, and it was followed up by another statement this week calling on Press Secretary Sarah Sanders to understand that "words matter."

The network has responded to specific provocations in the past. Yet it's still considered unusual for a news organization, as opposed to an individual commentator or columnist, to take on a president. It's the first time Zucker has done so this year.

Two of its former leaders applauded the approach on Tuesday.

"When it happens to you, it's difficult to maintain a veneer of objectivity and restraint," said Jonathan Klein, CNN president from 2004 to 2010. "It wouldn't make sense for them not to respond in this way. The bomber had 'CNN sucks' stickers on his van and it's clear who has been pushing that idea."

Zucker's statement was justifiable, and handling it any other way "would come off as false or a bit odd," he said.

Zucker spoke on the day that Florida resident Cesar Sayoc allegedly sent the first of three devices to



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CNN offices. Another statement on Monday, issued through the network's public relations Twitter feed, addressed Sanders in saying CNN did not suggest that Trump was responsible for the device sent to its office "by his ardent and emboldened supporter.

"We did say that he, and you, should understand that your words matter," CNN said. "Every single one of them. But so far, you don't seem to get that."

The statement followed an exchange in Monday's White House press briefing between Sanders and CNN's Jim Acosta, who tried to get Sanders to say specifically who the president meant when he made comments about "fake news" and declared the media "the enemy of the people." Sanders had said it was irresponsible of any news organization, like CNN, to blame the president for Sayoc's actions.

"There are a lot of reasons to hold your fire. One of which is you hope people mature," said Rick Kaplan, CNN's president from 1997 to 2000. But at some point when you realize that nothing's going to change, it can make you look wimpy not to respond, he said.

"They've been patient and professional," Kaplan said. "I'm proud of Jeff."

CNN, which declined comment on Tuesday, generally responds through its Twitter feed when it has specific points to make. In recent months, for example, CNN issued statements when Trump criticized CNN reporter Carl Bernstein and barred CNN reporter Kaitlan Collins from a White House event.

"Jeff has been pretty circumspect about his public statements," Klein said. "They've been few and far between. I would expect that he would continue to keep his counsel and not make any further statements unless there were other extreme provocations."

CNN's best bet is to catch its breath and continue to cover the administration objectively, and "I have no doubt they will do that," he said.

CNN's coverage also contains plenty of on-air commentary — journalists like Jeff Greenfield have criticized the network for being too Trump-centric — and the commentary is most likely what has gotten on the president's nerves.

Trump's biggest supporter in the media, Fox News Channel's Sean Hannity, has kept up a steady drumbeat of criticism of CNN. "CNN fake news president Jeff Zucker is lecturing the president on civility?" Hannity said on his show Monday night. He said that a weekend discussion between CNN's Brian Stelter and Margaret Sullivan of the Washington Post about the impact of Hannity's words is "crossing lines into slander."

"If you call out lies, call fake news for what it is, if you point out a political agenda under the guise of so-called news, that is not a call for violence," Hannity said. "It is a simple, fundamental truth the media doesn't want to hear."

CNN hasn't officially taken on Fox News Channel, although some of its commentators and show hosts have. For Zucker to do so, like he has with the president, would not be wise, said both Kaplan and Klein.

"If you attack them back, you're just getting down in the mud with them," Kaplan said. "You should just hold your ground. It's one thing to have an exchange of views with the president and another to do it with a group of would-be journalists."

Meanwhile on Tuesday, Brian Kilmeade and Steve Doocy, hosts of Trump's favorite morning show "Fox & Friends," suggested the president should cool it with his criticisms of the press as enemies of the people.

"It doesn't help anybody," Kilmeade said. "Too many people get shrapnel with that statement."

## Rejection of mail-in ballots raises alarm ahead of election

By CHRISTINA A. CASSIDY, Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Drawing on her years of military experience, Maureen Heard was careful to follow all the rules when she filled out an absentee ballot in 2016.

She read the instructions thoroughly, signed where she was supposed to, put the ballot in its envelope and dropped it off at her county elections office in New Hampshire. She then left town so she could return to a temporary federal work assignment in Washington, D.C.

"I have learned over the years, many years in the military of filling out forms, how to fill out forms — and I was very intimidated by the process," said Heard, who served in the Air Force and was a lieutenant in

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the U.S. Coast Guard. "I was like, 'Oh my gosh, I have to make sure I get it absolutely right.' And then it didn't count."

Heard, 57, discovered last year that she was among roughly 319,000 voters across the country whose absentee ballots were rejected during the last presidential election. The reasons varied, ranging from missed deadlines to failure to sign the return envelope.

Heard's ballot was tossed out because her signature did not match the one on file at her local election office.

More people than ever are returning their ballots by mail or dropping them off at a local election location rather than voting in a booth on Election Day. Those developments make it easier to cast ballots and are designed to boost turnout.

The trend also is raising concerns about whether voters can be assured their ballots will count or be notified in time if there is a problem. Voting rights activists want to ensure that voters are given a reasonable chance to fix any problems.

Earlier this month, the ACLU and other groups filed lawsuits in Georgia after an Atlanta-area county reported a comparatively high rate of rejected absentee ballots during the start of early voting. Those actions followed similar lawsuits in New Hampshire and California.

"It's hard to see what is missing," said Kim Alexander, president of the California Voter Foundation, which advocated for changes to California law. "People are all focused on what is the vote count. They are not focused on what ballots weren't counted."

Nearly one of every four ballots cast in 2016 came through the mail or was handed in at a drop-off location, according to the U.S. Election Assistance Commission. The commission's data show that 99 percent of completed absentee and mailed ballots are eventually counted.

Election officials use signature matching to verify a person's identity, but advocates say many election offices lack training and standards. Matching signatures is particularly fraught because a person's handwriting can change over time and be affected by age or disability.

In August, a federal judge ruled that New Hampshire's signature-matching process was "fundamentally flawed" because voters are not given notice if it's the reason a ballot was rejected. She also said the election office workers inspecting the signatures did not receive training in handwriting analysis or signature comparisons.

"For the most part, signature variations are of little consequence in a person's life," U.S. District Judge Landya McCafferty wrote. "But in the context of absentee voting, these variations become profoundly consequential."

A judge in California sided with the ACLU in a similar lawsuit in March.

Last month, California Gov. Jerry Brown signed into law the "Every Vote Counts Act," which requires local election officials to notify voters of mismatched signatures at least eight days before election results become certified. Voters then have several days to resolve the issue.

In Georgia, the ballot rejections in Gwinnett County were running well ahead of the other large counties ringing Atlanta. Gwinnett County had rejected 9.6 percent of all absentee mail ballots as of Oct. 12, while DeKalb County had rejected 1.9 percent and Fulton County had rejected none, according to court filings.

Candice Broce, spokeswoman for the secretary of state's office, said state officials were aware of the concerns and opened an investigation.

Georgia law requires voters to be told "promptly" of a problem, but does not specify a time period. In Gwinnett County, this means sending a voter notice in the mail within three days, according to county officials.

Voters who are notified of a problem can request a new ballot or vote in person, but the law does not provide time after the election to resolve the problems. That potentially affects voters who drop off their ballots on or near Election Day.

A federal judge ruled last week that Georgia election officials cannot reject ballots for a signature mismatch without providing voters an opportunity to verify their identity; they would have almost a week to

do so under the ruling. The state plans to appeal.

"We're not attacking signature-matching as a way to do something, as a tool for confirming identity," said Sophia Lakin, a staff attorney with the ACLU. "We are concerned about making sure that it's not something that prevents someone from voting. It all depends on how it's being implemented."

Three states — Colorado, Oregon and Washington — send ballots in the mail to all registered voters.

Oregon allows voters 14 days after an election to resolve a signature mismatch and provides training to local election officials about how to verify signatures.

Part of the training includes an acknowledgement that signatures can change over time, said Nancy Blankenship, clerk of Deschutes County in Bend, Oregon. Any time voters correspond with her office, their signatures are added to their file so election workers have a history of signatures to use for comparison.

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Associated Press writer Kathy McCormack in Concord, New Hampshire, contributed to this report.

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## Kepler telescope dead after finding thousands of worlds

By **MARCIA DUNN, AP Aerospace Writer**

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — NASA's elite planet-hunting spacecraft has been declared dead, just a few months shy of its 10th anniversary.

Officials announced the Kepler Space Telescope's demise Tuesday.

Already well past its expected lifetime, the 9 1/2-year-old Kepler had been running low on fuel for months. Its ability to point at distant stars and identify possible alien worlds worsened dramatically at the beginning of October, but flight controllers still managed to retrieve its latest observations. The telescope has now gone silent, its fuel tank empty.

"Kepler opened the gate for mankind's exploration of the cosmos," said retired NASA scientist William Borucki, who led the original Kepler science team.

Kepler discovered 2,681 planets outside our solar system and even more potential candidates. It showed us rocky worlds the size of Earth that, like Earth, might harbor life. It also unveiled incredible super Earths: planets bigger than Earth but smaller than Neptune.

NASA's astrophysics director Paul Hertz estimated that anywhere from two to a dozen of the planets discovered by Kepler are rocky and Earth-sized in the so-called Goldilocks zone. But Kepler's overall planet census showed that 20 to 50 percent of the stars visible in the night sky could have planets like ours in the habitable zone for life, he said.

The \$700 million mission even helped to uncover last year a solar system with eight planets, just like ours.

"It has revolutionized our understanding of our place in the cosmos," Hertz said. "Now we know because of the Kepler Space Telescope and its science mission that planets are more common than stars in our galaxy."

Almost lost in 2013 because of equipment failure, Kepler was salvaged by engineers and kept peering into the cosmos, thick with stars and galaxies, ever on the lookout for dips in the brightness of stars that could indicate an orbiting planet.

"It was like trying to detect a flea crawling across a car headlight when the car was 100 miles away," said Borucki said.

The resurrected mission became known as K2 and yielded 350 confirmed exoplanets, or planets orbiting other stars, on top of what the telescope had already uncovered since its March 7, 2009, launch from Cape Canaveral.

In all, close to 4,000 exoplanets have been confirmed over the past two decades, two-thirds of them thanks to Kepler.

Kepler focused on stars thousands of light-years away and, according to NASA, showed that statistically there's at least one planet around every star in our Milky Way Galaxy.

Borucki, who dreamed up the mission decades ago, said one of his favorite discoveries was Kepler 22b, a water planet bigger than Earth but where it is not too warm and not too cold — the type “that could lead to life.”

A successor to Kepler launched in April, NASA’s Tess spacecraft, has its sights on stars closer to home. It’s already identified some possible planets.

Tess project scientist Padi Boyd called Kepler’s mission “stunningly successful.”

Kepler showed us that “we live in a galaxy that’s teeming with planets, and we’re ready to take the next step to explore those planets,” she said.

Another longtime spacecraft chasing strange worlds in our own solar system, meanwhile, is also close to death.

NASA’s 11-year-old Dawn spacecraft is pretty much out of fuel after orbiting the asteroid Vesta as well as the dwarf planet Ceres. It remains in orbit around Ceres, which, like Vesta, is in the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter.

Two of NASA’s older telescopes have been hit with equipment trouble recently, but have recovered. The 28-year-old Hubble Space Telescope resumed science observations last weekend, following a three-week shutdown. The 19-year-old Chandra X-ray Telescope’s pointing system also ran into trouble briefly in October. Both cases involved critical gyroscopes, needed to point the telescopes.

Hertz said all the spacecraft problems were “completely independent” and coincidental in timing.

Now 94 million miles from Earth, Kepler should remain in a safe, stable orbit around the sun. Flight controllers will disable the spacecraft’s transmitters, before bidding a final “good night.”

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Science Writer Seth Borenstein contributed to this report from Washington.

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## Guitarist Jimmy Page looks back at 50 years of Led Zeppelin

By ANDREW DALTON, AP Entertainment Writer

CORONA, Calif. (AP) — Jimmy Page once painted a dragon, and used it to slay.

The guitar guru was so bursting with creative inspiration 50 years ago that he felt compelled to pick up a brush and use his skills from art school to take poster paints to his favorite instrument, a 1959 Fender Telecaster, and decorate it with a psychedelic beast.

He calls the axe “the Excalibur” that he wielded through the wildly eventful year of 1968, when his old band, the Yardbirds, crashed, and his new band, Led Zeppelin, was born just two months later.

“My whole life is moving so fast at that point,” Page, now 74, said as he reflected on Led Zeppelin’s 50th anniversary in an interview with The Associated Press at the Fender guitar factory in California. “Absolutely just a roller-coaster ride.”

Page said he had Led Zeppelin’s sound, and first songs, fully formed in his mind before the Yardbirds were even done.

“I just knew what way to go,” Page said. “It was in my instinct.”

He found his first ally in singer Robert Plant, whom he invited to his house to thumb through records and talk music.

Page said he used an unlikely bit of folkie inspiration — Joan Baez — to show Plant the sound he wanted, playing her recording of the song “Babe I’m Gonna Leave You” and telling him to emulate the way she sang the top line of the song. Zeppelin would put the tune on its first album.

Page still marvels at how fast the whole thing took off after Plant brought on drummer John Bonham and Page pulled in his friend John Paul Jones to play bass.

“The whole journey of Led Zeppelin and the rise of Led Zeppelin, each tour was just extraordinary, and the growth and the respect and love of the band, and the people that were flooding to see us,” Page said.



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The first record also included "Dazed and Confused," with Page famously using a violin bow on the dragon guitar, which he played on every electric song on the record.

The guitar had been a cherished gift that guitarist Jeff Beck had given Page to thank him for recommending Beck for a job in the Yardbirds, which had brought a handsome payday.

"He'd bought a Corvette Stingray, and came roaring up my driveway with it," Page remembered. "He said, 'This is yours.' I was absolutely thrilled to bits. It was given to me with so much affection."

Page said he made immediate and intense use of the instrument, and wanted to "consecrate" it, so he went at it with paints that were used at the time for psychedelic posters, and summoned the dragon.

Page later left the guitar behind at his home in England on an early U.S. tour with Led Zeppelin in 1969. He'd come to regret it.

When he returned, exhausted and abuzz, he found that a ceramicist friend who had been serving as his house-sitter had painted over the dragon in his own mosaic style as a "gift" for Page.

"It was a disaster," he said.

Page angrily stripped off all the paint and he placed it in storage, where it sat for decades.

Flash forward 50 years. Page was assembling a book for the band's anniversary, and the dragon guitar kept popping up in pictures.

Page felt that maybe it was time to bring the old beast back to life. He worked with a graphic artist who helped illustrate the book, using photos to repaint the guitar, and recreate its old look.

He loved the result so much that he approached Fender, guitar maker happily signed on to make an anniversary rendition for the public. The design will be unveiled in January.

"It's absolutely identical," Page said. "You wouldn't see any difference. If anything, the colors were just slightly richer."

Four different versions of the guitar will be released next year.

Along with the book, the instruments are a tribute to the band's 50-year legacy.

Asked what kind of gift one might get for his bandmates for such a milestone, Page said, "I might give them a paintbrush, and the body of a guitar, and see if they can do something with it."

Follow Andrew Dalton on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/andyjamesdalton> .

## AP FACT CHECK: Trump off track on birthright citizenship

By MARK SHERMAN and CALVIN WOODWARD, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump has astonished legal scholars with his claim that he can end birthright citizenship with a swipe of his pen. No, they say, he can't.

Trump also went far off track in asserting that the U.S. is the only country that automatically grants citizenship to anyone born in the country. Many do.

His comments in an interview with "Axios on HBO":

TRUMP: "It was always told to me that you needed a constitutional amendment. Guess what? You don't. ... Well, you can definitely do it with an act of Congress. But now they're saying I can do it just with an executive order."

THE FACTS: Scholars widely pan the idea that Trump could unilaterally change the rules on who is a citizen. It's highly questionable whether an act of Congress could do it, either, though it is conceivable that legislators could change the rules regarding children born in the U.S. of parents who are in the country illegally.

Peter Schuck is perhaps the most prominent advocate of the idea that birthright citizenship is not conveyed by the Constitution to children of parents who are living illegally in the U.S. Even he says "Trump clearly cannot act by" executive order.

"I feel confident that no competent lawyer would advise him otherwise," he said by email Tuesday. "This is just pre-election politics and misrepresentation and should be sharply criticized as such."

Schuck, of Yale, and colleague Rogers Smith of the University of Pennsylvania have argued since the

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mid-1980s that Congress can set the rules for providing citizenship to U.S.-born children of parents who came illegally.

But most scholars on the left and right share the view that it would take a constitutional amendment to deny automatic citizenship to children born in the U.S. to parents who are in the country illegally.

James Ho, a conservative Trump-appointed federal appeals court judge, wrote in the Green Bag legal journal in 2006 that birthright citizenship "is protected no less for children of undocumented persons than for descendants of Mayflower passengers."

Stephen Yale-Loehr, a Cornell university immigration expert, said the case against Trump's authority is "not open and shut, but the better view is it would require a constitutional amendment."

The Constitution's citizenship clause was part of the post-Civil War amendments that enshrined the rights of African-Americans. The citizenship clause, in particular, was intended to overturn the Supreme Court's notorious Dred Scott decision of 1857 that held African-Americans were not citizens.

The Supreme Court has never ruled squarely about the clause's application to children of immigrants who are in the U.S. illegally. Trump did not make a distinction between legal and illegal status in his remarks. An 1898 Supreme Court decision held that the U.S.-born son of legal Chinese immigrants was a citizen under the 14th Amendment; a footnote in a 1982 decision suggests there should be no difference for children of foreign-born parents whether they are in the U.S. legally or illegally.

TRUMP: "We're the only country in the world where a person comes in, has a baby and the baby is essentially a citizen of the United States for 85 years with all of those benefits. It's ridiculous. It's ridiculous. And it has to end."

THE FACTS: That's flat-out wrong.

The U.S. is among about 30 countries where birthright citizenship — the principle of jus soli or "right of the soil" — is applied, according to the World Atlas and other sources. Most are in the Americas. Canada and Mexico are among them. Most other countries confer citizenship based on that of at least one parent — jus sanguinis, or "right of blood" — or have a modified form of birthright citizenship that may restrict automatic citizenship to children of parents who are on their territory legally.

More broadly, Trump's view that U.S.-born children of foreigners live a lifetime of taking "all those benefits" ignores the taxes they pay, the work they do and their other contributions to society.

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## Amid global uproar, some US colleges rethink Saudi ties

By COLLIN BINKLEY and CHAD DAY, Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — U.S. colleges and universities have received more than \$350 million from the Saudi government this decade, yet some are rethinking their arrangements in the wake of the killing of a journalist that has ignited a global uproar against the oil-rich nation.

The Associated Press analyzed federal data and found that at least \$354 million from the Saudi government or institutions it controls has flowed to 37 American schools since 2011. Much of the money was provided through a scholarship program that covers tuition for Saudis studying in the U.S., but at least \$62 million came through contracts or gifts from the kingdom's nationally owned companies and research institutes, the AP found.

Those benefiting the most from Saudi contracts include Northwestern University, which has received \$14 million from a top Saudi research center since 2011, and the University of California, Los Angeles, which accepted \$6 million from the same institute, known as the King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology.

Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia's national oil company, Saudi Aramco, has channeled \$20 million to American universities, including \$9 million to Texas A&M University and \$4 million to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. A national chemical company known as SABIC steered another \$8 million to U.S. schools.

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Although some of the contracts halted before last year, questions surrounding Saudi writer Jamal Khashoggi's death at the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul have spurred some schools to reconsider current or future deals.

On Oct. 22, MIT announced it will undertake a "swift, thorough reassessment" of the institute's partnerships with Saudi Arabia, calling Khashoggi's disappearance a "grave concern." Richard Lester, an associate provost, said faculty who work with the kingdom can "make their own determinations as to the best path forward."

The institute pairs with Saudi universities on numerous research projects and has a long history working with Saudi Aramco. In March, the oil company pledged \$25 million to MIT for research in areas including renewable energy and artificial intelligence.

Officials at the Saudi Embassy in Washington could not immediately be reached for comment by telephone on Tuesday.

At Babson College near Boston, which has received \$2.5 million through a contract with the SABIC chemical company, officials told the AP they are "monitoring events closely and gathering input from our community regarding potential paths forward." The school's deal provides leadership training to Saudi business managers, and it joins several other research and training partnerships between Babson and Saudi universities.

But many other schools have given no indications they're reconsidering ties.

Officials at the University of California, Berkeley, said they are not reviewing their Saudi funding, which includes a \$6 million contract to develop nanomaterials that can be used to support renewable energy. Spokesman Roqua Montez said the kingdom's support represents only a small fraction of the contracts and grants that go to campus researchers.

Northwestern University refused to say whether any of its funding is under review. Spokesman Bob Rowley said only that the "vast majority" of the \$14 million is for science grants but did not respond to further questions.

Tufts University spokesman Patrick Collins said school officials are closely following the "deeply concerning news" but remain committed to global engagement. The school has received about \$42 million from the Saudi government, including \$2.9 million from Saudi Aramco, records show.

Others, including the University of Michigan, did not provide details about their Saudi funding.

The AP analysis examined data from the Education Department's Foreign Gift and Contracts Report, which details foreign funding to any U.S. university that received \$250,000 or more in a given year. The self-reported data covers funding from 2011 through 2017.

Besides money directly from the Saudi government or entities controlled by it, U.S. universities received a combined \$140 million from private Saudi sources, universities and hospitals.

Another \$114 million could not be accounted for because schools did not report the specific source of the funding within Saudi Arabia. That included about \$40 million at Johns Hopkins University and \$28 million at Harvard University. Officials at Johns Hopkins and Harvard did not provide further details.

The largest sums of money came through a Saudi scholarship program that sends thousands of students to U.S. schools every year. George Washington University received \$73 million from the program, followed by George Mason University, with \$63 million.

Those schools said they won't refuse the scholarship money because it would force them to reject the students it covers.

"Refusing payment would result in us denying an educational opportunity to otherwise qualified students. This would run counter to our mission of serving students," Michael Sandler, a spokesman for George Mason, said in a statement.

The public school in Virginia hosts about 250 Saudi students through the program each fall and spring term.

America's ties with Saudi Arabia have come under intense scrutiny in the wake of Khashoggi's killing in Turkey, which President Donald Trump called "the worst cover-up ever." Activists and some politicians have called on the U.S. and its industries to break with the nation, and some have.

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Turkey is seeking the extradition of 18 Saudi suspects detained in Saudi Arabia for the Oct. 2 killing of Khashoggi, who had written critically of Saudi Arabia's crown prince in columns for The Washington Post. Saudi Foreign Minister Adel al-Jubeir has said the kingdom will try the perpetrators and bring them to justice after an investigation is completed.

Three Washington lobbying firms recently canceled contracts hiring them to represent Saudi interests, and several other businesses have suspended work in the kingdom, including those owned by billionaire investor Richard Branson.

More recently, the pressure to break ties has expanded to college campuses, including at the University of New Haven in Connecticut, which partners with a Saudi police college to provide a degree in security studies in Riyadh.

Despite protests from a human rights group in New Haven, the university says it plans to continue the program. In a statement, the school said its work in the kingdom "is something we believe should be supported and fostered."

The turmoil has rippled through campuses in other ways, too. At Columbia University, for example, officials recently canceled a planned lecture with Saudi artist Ahmed Mater. Columbia separately received a \$1.1 million grant from the Saudi agriculture ministry in 2016, records show, but officials said the school has no further funding scheduled from the kingdom.

In some ways, the ties between American colleges and the kingdom were created to ease tensions between the nations. The scholarship program was created in 2005 after leaders of both countries met to lighten the diplomatic strain following the Sept. 11 attacks.

Since then, the program has sent tens of thousands of Saudis to study in the U.S. It reached its height in 2015, when more than 120,000 Saudis came to study in the U.S., but numbers have fallen sharply since 2016, when the kingdom scaled back the program amid a budget shortfall tied to falling oil prices.

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Day reported from Washington.

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Follow Collin Binkley on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/cbinkley> and Chad Day at <http://twitter.com/ChadS-Day>

## Progress? Gridlock? How midterm vote could affect US economy

By JOSH BOAK, AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump has warned that if Democrats regain political power in the midterm elections, the U.S. economy would essentially implode.

Democrats, he insists, would push tax hikes and environmental restrictions that stifle growth. Undocumented immigrants would steal jobs and unleash a crime wave that would halt commerce. Health insurance would devolve into a socialist program offering shoddy care at unsustainable cost.

"At stake in this election," Trump declared at a rally in Houston, "is whether we continue the extraordinary prosperity that we've all achieved or whether we let the radical Democrat mob take a giant wrecking ball and destroy our country and our economy."

Almost no private economist agrees with Trump's portrait of a financial apocalypse.

If Democrats win control of the House in next week's congressional elections, their legislative priorities wouldn't likely much alter a \$20 trillion economy. For one thing, Trump would remain able to block Democratic initiatives — just as they could stop his plans for more tax cuts and a 5 percent cut to Cabinet department budgets.

What instead would likely result is continued gridlock — perhaps even more entrenched than what exists now in Washington. Arrayed against a stout Republican majority in the Senate, a Democratic House majority couldn't do much to reorder the economy, which typically hinges more on the willingness of consumers and businesses to spend and on the state of the global economy than on government policy priorities.

"It's probably not that much of a change," Beth Ann Bovino, chief U.S. economist at S&P Global, said of



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the likely outcome. "While you might see further gridlock if the Democrats take the House, that doesn't mean it would tip the boat and slow growth."

Many polls and analyses suggest — though hardly assure — that the Democrats could regain a majority in the House if their voters turn out in sufficient numbers in key races. If so, Trump would have to contend with a divided government instead of one with Republicans in complete control. Yet depending on voter turnout, it's also possible that the Republicans could maintain their hold on both the House and the Senate.

Analysts at Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley foresee a divided government as most probable. So do their peers at Oxford Economics and Keefe Bruyette & Woods.

"The most likely political consequences would be an increase in investigations and uncertainty surrounding fiscal deadlines," Goldman Sachs concluded in a client note.

Oxford Economics' senior economist, Nancy Vanden Houten, has suggested that the Republicans' legislative agenda would stall if they lost the House.

"A Democrat-controlled House would, in our view, be a line of defense against further tax cuts, reduced entitlement spending and efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act," she said

The economy has enjoyed an acceleration in growth this year — to a gain estimated to be 3 percent after deficit-funded tax cuts. Unemployment is at a 49-year low of 3.7 percent, and employers continue to post a record number of jobs openings. The economic expansion is already the second-longest on record.

But annual growth is widely expected to dip back to its long-term average of near 2 percent by 2020. It's even possible that the economy could slip into a recession within a few years as growth inevitably stalls — for reasons unrelated to who controls the White House or Congress. A global slowdown could, for example, spill over into the United States. Or higher interest rates, spurred by the Federal Reserve, might depress economic activity.

Trump would still have plenty of discretion on some key economic issues. His trade war with China and his drive to reduce regulations are two of them. The president has managed to pursue those priorities without Congress' involvement, though his updated trade agreement with Canada and Mexico would need congressional approval.

"Trade stuff is being done administratively; regulatory stuff is being done administratively," said Douglas Holtz-Eakin, president of the right-of-center American Action Forum. "There's just not that much on the table legislatively."

In an appearance this month at Harvard University, the House Democratic leader, Nancy Pelosi, outlined her agenda should her party regain the chamber's majority and she the speakership.

Within the first 100 days, Pelosi said, she would seek to reduce the influence of large campaign donors and groups that aren't legally required to disclose their funding sources. She would also push for infrastructure funding — to rebuild roadways, rail stations or airports, for example — and seek protections for undocumented immigrants who came to the United States as children, among other priorities.

Any such initiatives, though, could be blocked by a Republican Senate — or by Trump.

Budget and deficit issues will also surface after the election. Congress will likely need to raise the government's debt limit and approve spending packages before October 2019. And mandatory government spending caps are set to kick in for the 2020 fiscal year after having been suspended for two years. Those spending limits could dampen economic growth.

Lewis Alexander, chief U.S. economist at Nomura, said Republicans might renew their focus on reducing the national debt, after having approved tax cuts last year that swelled annual budget deficits by \$1.5 trillion over the next decade.

Alexander noted that shrinking the deficit has historically become a higher priority when competing parties have controlled the White House and Congress. If the government seeks to pare the deficit, it could possibly slow the economy, which in the past year has been fueled in part by government spending.

It's likely Trump would blame Democrats if growth falters, just as he might absorb criticism for his economic stewardship as Democratic presidential campaigns accelerate into a higher gear.

The hostile rhetoric makes it unlikely that Democrats and Republicans would join to pass any meaningful legislation for the economy, such as for infrastructure rebuilding.

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"The way parties are talking about it right now, I don't think anybody is dying to cooperate," said Michael Madowitz, chief economist at the Center for American Progress, a liberal think tank.

Still, if Democrats regain the House, the president might feel pressure to produce some tangible legislative results ahead of his own quest for re-election in 2020.

"Trump is the wild card here," said Jason Rosenstock, a financial industry lobbyist with Thorn Run Partners. "He may want to be seen as a deal-cutter going into the 2020 election."

## A look at the 14th Amendment's Citizenship Clause

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump says he wants to order the end of the constitutional right to citizenship for babies of non-citizens and unauthorized immigrants born in the United States.

Section 1, which contains the Citizenship Clause, of the 14th Amendment guarantees that right for all children born in the U.S.

A look at the 14th Amendment:

WHAT CITIZENSHIP CLAUSE SAYS:

"All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside."

The second sentence contains two of the most important clauses in the Constitution, the due process and equal protection clauses. They apply to everyone in the U.S., not just citizens:

"No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty or property, without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

HISTORY:

The 14th Amendment was passed by Congress in 1866 after the Civil War and during the period of Reconstruction. The amendment was ratified on July 9, 1868 by three-fourths of the states. By extending citizenship to those born in the U.S., the amendment nullified an 1857 Supreme Court decision (*Dred Scott v. Sandford*), which had held that those descended from slaves could not be citizens.

*Dred Scott* and his wife Harriet were slaves who sued for their freedom after they were taken from the slave state of Missouri to the non-slave territories of Wisconsin and Illinois where slavery had been prohibited by the Missouri Compromise.

Scott argued that because he had lived in a free part of the country, he should be declared free.

The Supreme Court disagreed on March 6, 1857, with Supreme Court Justice Roger Brooke Taney writing that slaves were property that could not be taken away from their owners. He reasoned that when the Constitution was framed, educated whites generally regarded "negroes" as "beings of an inferior order, and altogether unfit to associate with the white race."

However, Scott's owner had died and his widow's new husband, an abolitionist, emancipated Scott and his family in May 1857. Scott lived the last year of his life as a free man.

## Online rants by would-be shooters create dilemma for police

By LISA MARIE PANE, Associated Press

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — Their anger is all over social media for the whole world to see, with rants about minorities, relationships gone bad or paranoid delusions about perceived slights.

The perpetrators of mass shootings often provide a treasure trove of insight into their violent tendencies, but the information is not always seen by law enforcement until after the violence is carried out. In addition, rants and hate speech rarely factor into whether someone passes a background check to buy guns.

The massacre at a Pittsburgh synagogue, the pipe bombing attempts from last week and the Florida high school shooting this year have underscored the dilemma of law enforcement around the country in assessing the risk of people making online rants at a time when social media has become so ubiquitous.

"We can go out on Twitter and there are loads of people saying insane stuff, but how do you know which

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is the one person? It's always easy after the fact, to go: 'That was clear.' But clearly everyone spouting their mouth doesn't go and shoot up a synagogue," said David Chipman, a retired agent of the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and now senior policy adviser for the Giffords Center.

Robert Bowers, the man accused of opening fire at a synagogue in Pittsburgh, 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 during World War II. Other posts referenced false conspiracy theories suggesting the Holocaust was a hoax.

It was only just before the shooting that the poster believed to be Bowers seemed to cross the line, posting: "I can't sit by and watch my people get slaughtered. Screw your optics, I'm going in." Authorities say Bower killed 11 people and injured six others, including four officers who responded.

Keeping tabs on social media posts has been used for years by law enforcement to try to identify potential threats. The task is enormous and it's an inexact science. The volume of posts is significant and the question arises: Is something a true threat or free speech?

They are mindful of the fact that the First Amendment protects Americans' right to express even speech that many in society find abhorrent — and have to make often-subjective decisions about what crosses the line.

Among more than 550 police departments across the country surveyed several years ago by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, about three-quarters said they regularly searched social media for potential threats.

Lt. Chris Cook, spokesman for the Arlington, Texas, Police Department, said the searches are often done manually, using keywords to try to identify troubling posts.

"It's very time consuming, it's very staff and resource intensive and you have humans involved in the process so there is the potential that law enforcement can miss something," Cook said, adding that departments can't rely on social media alone. The community needs to be involved to report any suspicious behavior.

"Everyone has to be our extra eyes and ears out there," he said.

In one case where vigilance paid off, authorities say a black woman received troubling racist, harassing messages on Facebook from a man she didn't know, prompting her to call police. The tip from the New Jersey woman led Kentucky police to a home where they found Dylan Jarrell with a firearm, more than 200 rounds of ammunition, a bulletproof vest, a 100-round high-capacity magazine and a "detailed plan of attack." He was arrested just as he was leaving his driveway.

Bowers is not alone among alleged mass shooters in making racist or bigoted comments online.

Dylann Roof, convicted of the 2015 slaying of nine black churchgoers in South Carolina, had posted a 2,000-word racist rant and posed in photos with firearms and the Confederate flag. Nikolas Cruz, the teenager charged in the slaying of 17 students and adults at a high school in Parkland, Florida, hurled online slurs against blacks and Muslims, and went so far as to state he wanted to be a "professional school shooter."

The rants did not affect their ability to buy guns. When purchasing a firearm, criminal background checks only look for any records showing a criminal past or mental health problems that led to an involuntary commitment.

"I always felt as an ATF agent, the way our laws were structured, ATF stood for 'After the Fact,'" Chipman said.

There have been some changes, however, to make it easier to alert authorities to warning signs. "Red flag" laws have been enacted in 13 states in the past couple of years, allowing relatives or law enforcement with concerns about a person's mental health to go to court and seek to have firearms removed at least temporarily.

But Erich Pratt, executive director of Gun Owners of America, cautioned against using social media content to deny someone the constitutional right to own a firearm.

"I abhor hateful comments by the left or the right but I don't think you lose your rights for simply ut-

tering," Pratt said.

He likened it to the Tom Cruise movie "Minority Report," about law enforcement in the future using psychic technology to nab murderers before they commit a crime.

"It's dangerous to go down this road of Minority Report with pre-crime," he said. "Nobody should lose their rights without due process."

## Asian shares climb on strong US earnings; BOJ stands pat

By ANNABELLE LIANG, Associated Press

SINGAPORE (AP) — Asian markets were mostly higher on Wednesday after big American companies reported strong earnings for the third quarter, soothing fears that rising interest rates may deter corporate investment.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's Nikkei 225 index jumped 1.8 percent to 21,841.65 and the Shanghai Composite index added 1.1 percent to 2,597.05. Hong Kong's Hang Seng rose 0.6 percent to 24,732.97. Australia's S&P-ASX 200 slipped 0.2 percent to 5,795.04 and the Kospi in South Korea dropped 0.1 percent to 2,012.11. Shares were higher in Taiwan and throughout Southeast Asia.

WALL STREET: Earnings reports lifted major benchmarks on Tuesday, as smaller and more U.S.-focused companies including basic materials makers showed strong gains. The S&P 500 index rallied 1.6 percent to 2,682.63, a day after closing at a five-month low. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was 1.8 percent higher at 24,874.64 and the Nasdaq composite advanced 1.6 percent to 7,161.65. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks rebounded 2 percent to 1,506.64.

U.S. EARNINGS: Big companies including Mondelez, which makes Oreos, Cadbury chocolates and Trident gum, reported strong quarterly earnings on Tuesday. Mondelez's stocks rose by the most in a year, gaining 5 percent to \$42.12, after it announced third-quarter profits that surpassed market expectations. Athletic apparel maker Under Armour also posted strong quarterly earnings. Even Facebook's shares inched higher in after-hours trading after it reported revenue that was slightly under projections. This dimmed fears over steady interest rate hikes by the Federal Reserve that raise the cost of borrowing. Another increase is expected later this year, with more to come in 2019.

ANALYST'S TAKE: "U.S. fundamentals keep driving the U.S. dollar as other major economies struggle to keep up," Alfonso Esparza, senior market analyst at OANDA, said in a commentary. Data backing consumer confidence and spending "keep validating the Fed's decision to keep hiking rates despite the negative comments from the Trump administration," he added.

CHINESE PMI: On Wednesday, China reported that its official manufacturing purchasing managers' index slowed to 50.2 in October from 50.8 a month earlier. Figures had declined across the board except for production outlook, which was unchanged. Readings above 50 indicate expansion, while lower numbers indicate contraction on the index's 100-point scale. Still, sentiment was supported by an open call from the Chinese government to funds to support the equity markets.

BANK OF JAPAN: As expected, Japan's central bank kept its monetary stance intact as it wrapped up its latest policy meeting. The Bank of Japan kept the key interest rate at minus 0.1 percent and its target for long-term bond rates at around zero. The bank also downgraded its GDP forecast for the fiscal year through March, to 1.4 percent from 1.5 percent, with an estimate of 0.8 percent for the following fiscal year.

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude added 25 cents to \$66.43 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract dropped 86 cents to settle at \$66.18 a barrel in New York. Brent crude, used to price international oils, gained 49 cents to \$76.44 per barrel. In the previous session, it dropped \$1.42 to \$75.95 a barrel.

CURRENCIES: The dollar strengthened to 113.20 yen from 113.13 yen late Tuesday. The euro slipped to \$1.1342 from \$1.1343.

AP Markets Writer Marley Jay contributed to this report.



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## Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, Oct. 31, the 304th day of 2018. There are 61 days left in the year. This is Halloween.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 31, 1984, Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was assassinated by two Sikh (seek) security guards.

On this date:

In 1517, Martin Luther sent his 95 Theses denouncing what he saw as the abuses of the Catholic Church, especially the sale of indulgences, to the Archbishop of Mainz, Germany (by some accounts, Luther also posted the Theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg), marking the start of the Protestant Reformation.

In 1864, Nevada became the 36th state as President Abraham Lincoln signed a proclamation.

In 1926, magician Harry Houdini died in Detroit of peritonitis resulting from a ruptured appendix.

In 1941, the Navy destroyer USS Reuben James was torpedoed by a German U-boat off Iceland with the loss of some 100 lives, even though the United States had not yet entered World War II. Work was completed on the Mount Rushmore National Memorial in South Dakota, begun in 1927.

In 1961, the body of Josef Stalin was removed from Lenin's Tomb as part of the Soviet Union's "de-Stalinization" drive.

In 1968, President Lyndon B. Johnson ordered a halt to all U.S. bombing of North Vietnam, saying he hoped for fruitful peace negotiations.

In 1975, the Queen single "Bohemian Rhapsody" was released in the United Kingdom by EMI Records.

In 1992, Pope John Paul II formally proclaimed that the Roman Catholic Church had erred in condemning the astronomer Galileo for holding that the Earth was not the center of the universe.

In 1994, a Chicago-bound American Eagle ATR-72 crashed in northern Indiana, killing all 68 people aboard.

In 1998, a genetic study was released suggesting President Thomas Jefferson did in fact father at least one child by his slave Sally Hemings.

In 1999, EgyptAir Flight 990, bound from New York to Cairo, crashed off the Massachusetts coast, killing all 217 people aboard.

In 2001, New York hospital worker Kathy T. Nguyen (nwen) died of inhalation anthrax, the fourth person to perish in a spreading wave of bioterrorism.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush signed an executive order restoring the Libyan government's immunity from terror-related lawsuits and dismissing pending compensation cases. Pulitzer Prize-winning author Studs Terkel died in Chicago at age 96.

Five years ago: The Federal Aviation Administration issued new guidelines allowing airline passengers to keep their electronic devices turned on throughout the entire flight, but not to talk on their cellphones. A federal appeals court ruled that most of Texas' tough new abortion restrictions could take effect immediately.

One year ago: Eight people were killed when a man drove a truck along a bike path in New York City in an attack that authorities immediately labeled terrorism; the driver, identified by authorities as Uzbek immigrant Sayfullo Saipov, was shot and wounded by police. (His trial is scheduled for October, 2019.) Netflix said it was suspending production on "House of Cards" following sexual harassment allegations against its star, Kevin Spacey. (Spacey would later be fired from the show, and production resumed without him.) Wendy Williams passed out during a live broadcast of her syndicated chat show; she'd been wearing a Statue of Liberty Halloween costume and told the audience minutes later that she'd become overheated in it.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Lee Grant is 93. Former astronaut Michael Collins is 88. Former CBS anchorman Dan Rather is 87. Folk singer Tom Paxton is 81. Actor Ron Rifkin is 80. Actress Sally Kirkland is 77. Actor Brian Doyle-Murray is 73. Actor Stephen Rea is 72. Olympic gold medal long-distance runner Frank Shorter is 71. Actress Deidre Hall is 71. TV show host Jane Pauley is 68. Actor Brian Stokes Mitchell is 61. Movie director Peter Jackson is 57. Rock musician Larry Mullen is 57. Actor Dermot Mulroney is 55. Rock musician Mikkey Dee is 55. Rock singer-musician Johnny Marr is 55. Actor Rob Schneider is 54. Country singer Darryl Worley is 54. Actor-comedian Mike O'Malley is 53. Rap musician Adrock is 52. Songwriter

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Adam Schlesinger (SHLES'-in-ger) is 51. Rap performer Vanilla Ice (aka Rob Van Winkle) is 51. Rock singer Linn Berggren (Ace of Base) is 48. Reality TV host Troy Hartman is 47. Gospel singer Smokie Norful is 45. Actress Piper Perabo (PEER'-uh-boh) is 42. Actor Brian Hallisay is 40. Actress Samaire (SAH'-mee-rah) Armstrong is 38. Folk-rock musician Tay Strathairn (Dawes) is 38. Actor Eddie Kaye Thomas is 38. Rock musician Frank Iero (My Chemical Romance) is 37. Actor Justin Chatwin is 36. Actor Scott Clifton is 34. Actress Vanessa Marano is 26. Actress Holly Taylor is 21. Actress-singer Willow Smith is 18.

Thought for Today: "Even a Proverb is no proverb to you till your Life has illustrated it." — John Keats (1795-1821).