

# Groton Daily Independent

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



**Dakota Outdoors**

**Erik Dean**

402 N Main St  
Aberdeen, SD 57401  
605.229.0123

dakoutdoors@midconetwork.com

## Groton Area Schedule of Events

### 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

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It's Region Volleyball Action on GDILIVE.COM



**Milbank  
Bulldogs**

**VS**



**Groton Area Tigers**

Thursday, Nov. 1, 2018  
7:00 p.m. at Groton Area Arena

**Good Luck Lady Tigers from these GDILIVE.COM Sponsors**

Allied Climate Professionals  
Bahr Spray Foam  
Blocker Construction  
Dakota Risk Management  
Groton Ford  
Groton Legion Post #39  
Jungle Lanes  
Lori's Pharmacy  
Milbrandt Enterprises, Inc.  
Mike Nehls for County Commission  
Professional Management Services  
S & S Lumber  
Sanford Health  
Tyson DeHoet Trucking  
Weber Landscaping

## Native American schools consider football conference

By Dana Hess

For the S.D. Newspaper Association

PIERRE —Native American schools in South Dakota are considering forming their own high school football conference.

The conference would be separate from the South Dakota High School Activities Association. The SDHSAA board learned about the proposed All Nations Football Conference at its October meeting on Wednesday.

SDHSAA Executive Director Dan Swartos said the schools are considering the conference in an effort to rebuild their football teams.

"They're trying to do something to get numbers back up in their programs," Swartos said.

Lower Brule head football coach Zeke Prado told the board it was hard to get players to go out for his team when they looked at the schedule and saw that they would face powerhouse teams like Parkston, Bon Homme and Potter County.

Prado said the idea for the conference is an attempt to get "our students the best football experience."

The board saw a proposal for the conference from Lower Brule Superintendent Lance Witte. In the proposal Witte noted that in the 36 years of the SDHSAA football playoffs, a tribal school has never won a state championship.

According to the Witte, the proposal calls for east and west conferences. Teams in the west conference could include Eagle Butte, Little Wound, Crazy Horse, Red Cloud, Pine Ridge and Takini. The east conference could include teams from Crow Creek, Flandreau Indian School, Tiospa Zina, Lower Brule, St. Francis and McLaughlin.

Teams would play an eight-game regular season schedule between Sept. 30 and Nov. 9. Eight teams would be eligible for three weeks of post-season play culminating with a championship game at the Dakota Dome at the University of South Dakota.

"I love the notion that you're trying to get kids involved in activities," said SDHSAA Board Chairman Brian Maher of Sioux Falls.

Even though the proposed conference would be separate from SDHSAA, its existence would have some bearing on the association. Swartos said the association would need figure out how its eligibility standards meshed with the new conference, work out how to schedule officials and decide if the catastrophic insurance purchased by SDHSAA for member schools would apply.

Maher, who came to Sioux Falls from a position at a school in Nebraska, said that for years six-man football in that state was not affiliated with the state's activities association.

"There may be some lessons learned there," Maher said.

Prado acknowledged that there is plenty of work to do before January's SDHSAA board meeting. That's when football conferences are aligned.

Board member Steve Morford of Spearfish noted that the schools interested in the proposed conference impact every football division except for AAA.

"I think there's some real opportunity here," Maher said. "You've got a lot of work to do."

—30—

## Recruiting officials, tournament costs on SDHSAA agenda

By Dana Hess

For the S.D. Newspaper Association

PIERRE — The South Dakota High School Activities Association Board of Directors set some goals at its planning session in August. The board got to work on those goals at its October meeting on Wednesday.

The board wants to develop a strategy for the recruitment and retention of officials and coaches.

"Everybody is in the same boat," said SDHSAA Assistant Executive Director Jo Auch, referring on a mid-west officials' summit she attended.

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According to Auch, ideas offered at the summit included a thank a ref program designed to bring attention to work that officials do at games.

"That has worked very well in some states," Auch said.

Another program, "Battlefields to Ballfields," sought to get veterans involved in officiating.

"What better leadership do we have?" Auch asked.

SDHSAA will also try to have a booth at a state event geared toward recruiting officials.

Meade School District Activities Director Todd Palmer said he thought schools could add officiating to their curriculum so students could get the training they needed to officiate at lower level games.

SDHSAA Executive Director Dan Swartos said the staff will have a report ready for the board by the April or June meeting in 2019.

The staff will also be gathering information to get a better handle on the costs schools face when they host regional or state tournaments.

Swartos said this would be an effort "to make it more equitable to our site hosts."

While gathering the information, Swartos noted that the staff won't always be comparing apples to apples. He said some school districts get funding from their local visitors' bureau while others do not. Some spend as much as \$2,000 on hospitality while others spend nothing.

The third board goal was developing a process for evaluating Swartos. How he will be evaluated was the topic of an executive session after Wednesday's meeting. Swartos will have his evaluation after the January 2019 meeting.

—30—

## Round of 16 changing to SoDak 16

By Dana Hess

For the S.D. Newspaper Association

PIERRE — The playoffs leading to the volleyball and boys' and girls' basketball state tournaments have a new name. Originally called the "Round of 16," they will now be known as the "SoDak 16."

SDHSAA Executive Director Dan Swartos said the name change was a result of a survey of the student bodies of member schools last spring and a vote of those student bodies in the fall.

In other action on Wednesday the board...

...accepted the membership of Elk Mountain School. The school in far west South Dakota has received its high school accreditation.

Swartos said it's unknown at this point which sports the school would offer. Elk Mountain becomes the 181st member school in the association.

...appointed Paul Nepodal of Deubrook to the association's finance committee.

...accepted the resignation of board member Paul Turman effective Dec. 9. Turman, of Pierre, who represented school board members from large schools, has accepted a job as chancellor of the Nebraska State College System.

Nominations to replace the recently elected Turman will be taken at the association's annual meeting in April.

"I was really looking forward to the opportunity," Turman said.

—30—



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## Chicken hitches a ride to Groton from Conde



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)

And now , the rest of the story. Julie Bruckner reported on her Facebook Page the following: Apparently, not all of our chickens are satisfied to stay at home.. This one took a 20-mile semi ride to Groton (truck belonging to a friend who is purchasing grain from us with the hen riding under the trailer in an area above the hitch). When the driver stopped at the Sinclair station for diesel fuel, the chicken hopped out. Thankfully this stowaway is relatively tame and stayed in the area behind the gas station and the Dairy Queen next door. (She was even spotted on DQ's camera!) Anyway, we got a call about this, Cary went up to find her, and when he got there, a worker at the Sinclair station had caught her and kept her confined until someone came for her. (A Groton police officer was even there. Why, we aren't sure.

Bud says that now all the other chickens are going to be mad because they didn't get to go to DQ.

# STAND UP FOR SCHOOL SAFETY.

**ANONYMOUSLY TEXT 'SAFE' TO 82257**

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

PROJECT  
**STANDUP**

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## **YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY, GIVING THANKS AND SPENDING QUALITY TIME**

**By: Patty Hoffman**

**Social Security Public Affairs Specialist**

In November, millions of families gather together to give thanks, share a meal, and spend time together. Sometimes it's hard to find the time to get together, so you want to make every second with the ones you love count. Social Security understands that your time is valuable whether you're working, running your business, or taking time off to be with family and friends.

We put a lot of time and effort into making my Social Security a resource you can depend on — an online tool that saves time and allows you to spend more of it on what you like to do. Even if you're currently receiving benefits, or aren't quite ready to file, Social Security has services to bring you and your family holiday cheer.

With a my Social Security account, those receiving benefits can change their address and direct deposit information, get proof of their benefits, and request replacement documents like a Medicare card. If you aren't currently getting benefits, you can still check your earnings record, get estimates of your future benefits, and view your Social Security Statement. In many states, you can even request a replacement Social Security card online. See everything you can do with a my Social Security account and open one today and at [www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount).

Remember, you don't need a my Social Security account to:

- o Select or change the way you receive information from Social Security if you are blind or visually impaired at [www.socialsecurity.gov/people/blind](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/people/blind).
- o Block electronic and automated telephone access to your personal information at [www.socialsecurity.gov/blockaccess](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/blockaccess).
- o Apply for extra help with your Medicare prescription drug plan costs at [www.socialsecurity.gov/extrahelp](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/extrahelp).

Whether you're waiting for the turkey to roast or just waiting for company arrive, our online services are open 24 hours a day, allowing you to access them on your schedule. There's no need to stand in line or wait on the phone at [www.socialsecurity.gov/onlineservices](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/onlineservices).

So this holiday, don't just pass the gravy, pass on this wealth of information to the ones you love.

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.



## Work continues on historic Trinity church



By mid-morning Wednesday, the crew re-roofing Historic Trinity Church had installed the new rafters and ceiling boards, covering the huge hole where rotted ceiling boards and two rafters were removed the day before.

The original ceiling was not insulated because the church was built to the plans of a world-famous, socially conscious New York architect who in 1852 published a book of plans for churches to be built by poor rural congregations using local materials and volunteer labor. Leaving rafters and ceiling boards exposed saved money and labor. (Photo by Betty Breck)



After installing the new ceiling boards and rafters, the crew covered them with a layer of half-inch plywood to provide a sturdy base for the new steel shingles. The blue layer on the top of everything is a moisture barrier underlayment.

New white soffitt boards were also installed. (Photo by Betty Breck)



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The three layers of old shingles on the South roof, including the original 1884 wooden ones, were removed except for the lower SE corner, which had rotted out so much that light coming through the roof is visible from the inside. The roofing and ceiling boards will be torn off and replaced like the North roof ones were, except in a much smaller area. (Photo

by Betty Breck)



By the end of the work day Wednesday, the Blocker Construction crew had removed the three layers of old shingles from the North entry roof, laid down the moisture barrier underlayment, and installed enough steel shingles to show how well the finished roof will resemble the original wooden roof.

The stone-coated, wooden-look steel shingles are more expensive than asphalt shingles, but a generous grant from the Deadwood Historic Preservation Commission and the City of Deadwood, matched by generous donations from supporters of this historic preservation project, made it possible to protect the entire structure for years to come by installing them.

(Photo by Betty Breck)





## The Little Drummer Boy

Perhaps the most entertaining Halloween costume was this one worn by Kory Khali. Kory was having a blast marching up and down Main Street with his drummer outfit.





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It was a beautiful evening for trick and treaters as the wind had subsided and the temperature hovered in the 50s. The Groton Daily Independent office was all decked out for Halloween. Below, Linda Dobbins is handing out candy to the guests. (Photos by Paul Kosel)

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## Today in Weather History

November 1, 1999: High winds of 30 to 50 mph with gusts to around 55 mph caused some tree and building damage throughout Big Stone and Traverse counties. On Highway 10 west of Browns Valley, the high winds blew a semi-tractor trailer full of 12,000 pounds of meat off the road and into a ditch. High winds from 30 to 50 mph, gusting to near 65 mph also caused building and tree damage throughout central, north central, and northeast South Dakota. In Eureka, the high winds blew down a large part of the ballpark fence. In Mellette, a 250-foot diameter grain bin under construction also received some damage from the winds.

November 1, 2000: A tornado event on the 1st of November was a rare and unusual weather phenomenon to occur so late in the year in North Dakota. Several tornadoes, with five distinct paths, hit south-central North Dakota causing property damage and injuries. The majority of the damage and injuries occurred in the Bismarck area. Forty-two homes suffered minor to moderate damage. The tornadoes were rated F0 and F1, packing winds up to 90 mph. Another unusual phenomenon, these tornadoes traveled from east to west. The track was caused by a strong low-pressure system, centered over north-central South Dakota, spinning counterclockwise, allowing the low-level flow over Bismarck to move east to west. At the same time these tornadoes were occurring, snow began to fall in the far western area of North Dakota. Winter storm watches and warnings were posted across north-west and central North Dakota that afternoon. Before this, the last recorded tornado to occur in the state was October 11th, 1979 in Sargent County in southeast North Dakota.

1755: A magnitude 8.7 earthquake devastated the city of Lisbon, Portugal on this day, killing as many as 50,000 people. The epicenter was located 120 miles west-southwest of Cape St. Vincent. Many individuals who sought safety on the Tagus River were killed by an estimated 20-foot tall tsunami that struck 40 minutes after the earthquake.

1848: When Joseph Henry came to the Smithsonian, one of his priorities was to set up a meteorological program. In 1847, while outlining his plan for the new institution, Henry called for "a system of extended meteorological observations for solving the problem of American storms." By 1849, he had budgeted \$1,000 for the Smithsonian meteorological project and established a network of some 150 volunteer weather observers. A decade later, the project had more than 600 volunteer observers, including people in Canada, Mexico, Latin America, and the Caribbean. Its cost in 1860 was \$4,400, or thirty percent of the Smithsonian's research and publication budget.

1861 - A hurricane near Cape Hatteras, NC, battered a Union fleet of ships attacking Carolina ports, and produced high tides and high winds in New York State and New England. (David Ludlum)

1966 - Santa Anna winds fanned fires, and brought record November heat to parts of coastal California. November records included 86 degrees at San Francisco, 97 degrees at San Diego, and 101 degrees at the International airport in Los Angeles. Fires claimed the lives of at least sixteen firefighters. (The Weather Channel)

1968 - A tornado touched down west of Winslow, AZ, but did little damage in an uninhabited area. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Early morning thunderstorms in central Arizona produced hail an inch in diameter at Williams and Gila Bend, and drenched Payson with 1.86 inches of rain. Hannagan Meadows AZ, meanwhile, was blanketed with three inches of snow. Unseasonably warm weather prevailed across the Ohio Valley. Afternoon highs of 76 degrees at Beckley WV, 77 degrees at Bluefield WV, and 83 degrees at Lexington KY were records for the month of November. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Low pressure brought gales and locally heavy rain to the northeastern U.S. The rainfall total of 1.46 inches at Newark NJ was a record for the date. New York City was soaked with more than two inches of rain. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - A strong cold front ushered snow and arctic air into the north central U.S. Snow whitened North Dakota and the Central High Plains Region. Up to five inches of snow blanketed Denver CO. Yellowstone Park WY was the cold spot in the nation with a morning low of 4 degrees below zero. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)



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Today



Patchy Fog  
then Chance  
Rain

High: 51 °F

Tonight



Chance Rain

Low: 35 °F

Friday



Mostly Cloudy

High: 44 °F

Friday  
Night



Mostly Cloudy  
then  
Rain/Snow  
Likely

Low: 34 °F

Saturday



Rain/Snow  
Likely then  
Rain Likely

High: 43 °F

One More Mild Day  
Rain Showers This Afternoon and Tonight



Highs in the 50s



Overnight lows in  
the mid to upper  
30s



National Weather Service  
**Aberdeen, SD**  
Updated: 11/1/2018 5:31 AM Central

Published on: 11/01/2018 at 5:35AM

We'll see one more mild day across the region today. A frontal boundary will bring scattered rain showers to the area later this afternoon into tonight. Significant amounts are not expected.

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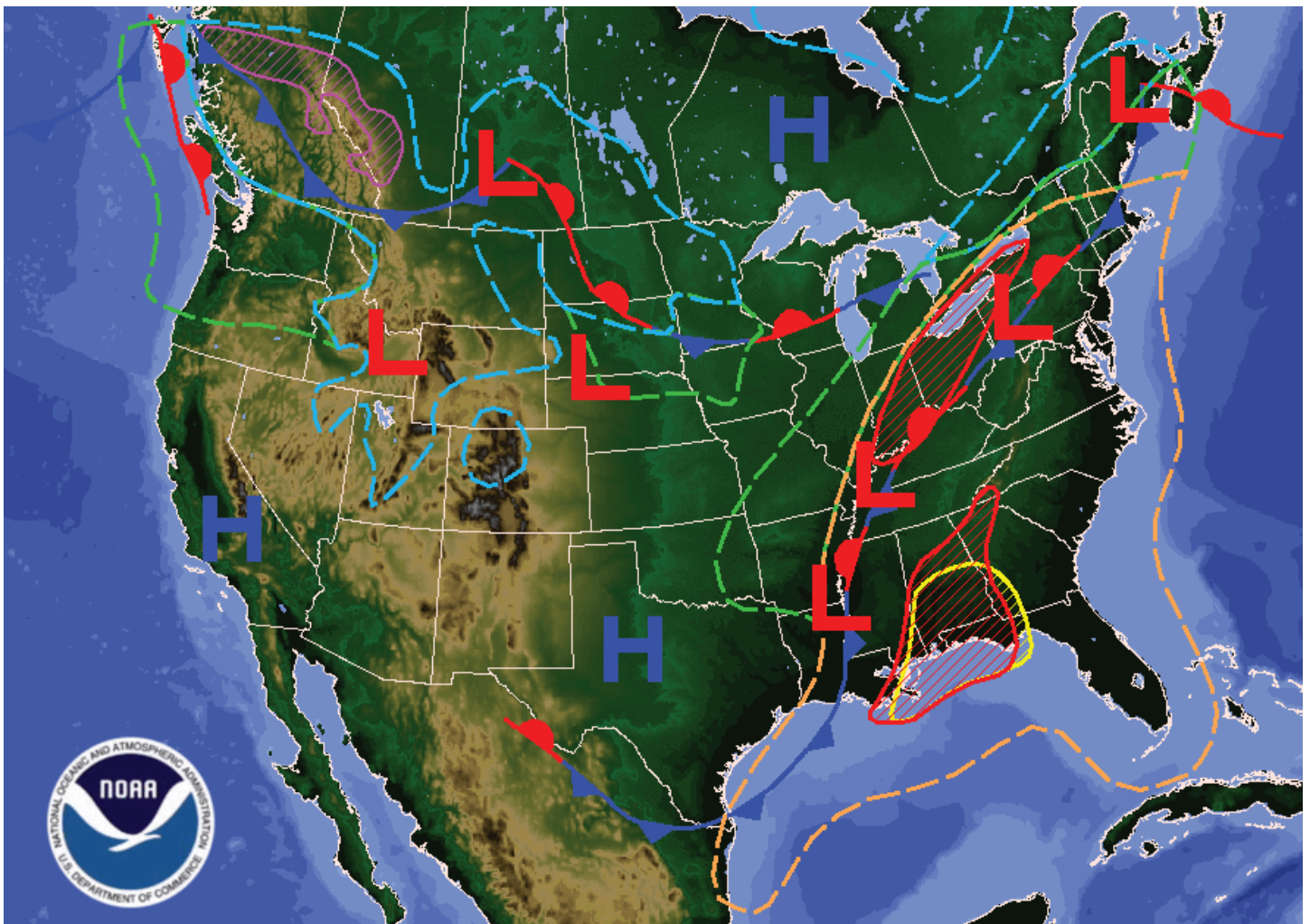
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## Yesterday's Weather

**High Outside Temp: 56 °F at 3:49 PM**  
**Low Outside Temp: 23 °F at 7:13 AM**  
**High Gust: 19 mph at 4:32 PM**  
**Precip: 0.00**

## Today's Info

**Record High: 75° in 1990**  
**Record Low: -3° in 1935**  
**Average High: 49°F**  
**Average Low: 26°F**  
**Average Precip in Oct.: 1.99**  
**Precip to date in Oct.: 1.44**  
**Average Precip to date: 20.47**  
**Precip Year to Date: 15.05**  
**Sunset Tonight: 6:21 p.m.**  
**Sunrise Tomorrow: 8:15 a.m.**



### Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Thu, Nov 01, 2018, issued 4:58 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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## GIVING THANKS

Sometimes it seems as though we have more holidays and days to celebrate people and events than there are days on the calendar. But this month contains a national holiday that has special religious significance. This special day has been set aside for us to pause, ponder, praise, pray and give thanks to God for His blessings.

Many families will gather together and share stories of Gods love, mercy, grace, and salvation. They will talk of Gods peace and presence and tell of His goodness and guidance, hope and healing, power and protection. Gods generous blessings will be the most important topic of their discussions. He will be honored!

There will also be families where God will not be respected or mentioned. It is not that there will be an absence of thanks, but God will not be recognized or respected as the giver of all gifts. They will focus on what they have, have accomplished or achieved -believing that they have done it on my own. They will not recognize His gifts.

Some will resent the day because they feel short-changed or even forgotten by God. They have had trials too tragic to share and losses too great to describe. Their lives seem hopeless with nothing before them but darkness. The consequences of wrong choices have left them scarred for life. However, God still loves them!

But, everyone can join the Psalmist and say, Praise the Lord and give Him thanks! - Even those who feel hopeless and ungrateful. Why? This verse talks of His mercy which is always available to everyone: the humble, the proud and the resentful.

Prayer: Lord, You have given us so very much. Yet, we ask for and need one more thing: A thankful heart! In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 105:1 Give thanks to the Lord and proclaim his greatness. Let the whole world know what he has done.

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## 2018 Groton SD Community Events

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

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## News from the Associated Press

### Winter wheat planting wrapping up in South Dakota

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Winter wheat planting is wrapping up in South Dakota.

The federal Agriculture Department in its weekly crop report says 95 percent of the crop was seeded and 80 percent was emerged, both near average. The crop is rated mostly in fair to good condition.

Late season harvest progress reports include 16 percent for sunflowers, 33 percent for sorghum, 41 percent for corn and 77 percent for soybeans.

Subsoil moisture is rated 66 percent adequate to surplus, and topsoil moisture is 86 percent in those categories, both down slightly over the week.

Pasture and range conditions are rated 43 percent in good to excellent condition, also down over the week.

### SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Dakota Cash

04-08-15-30-33

(four, eight, fifteen, thirty, thirty-three)

Estimated jackpot: \$50,000

Lotto America

18-19-31-32-48, Star Ball: 2, ASB: 3

(eighteen, nineteen, thirty-one, thirty-two, forty-eight; Star Ball: two; ASB: three)

Estimated jackpot: \$10.42 million

Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: \$52 million

Powerball

07-25-39-40-47, Powerball: 20, Power Play: 3

(seven, twenty-five, thirty-nine, forty, forty-seven; Powerball: twenty; Power Play: three)

Estimated jackpot: \$40 million

### Funeral Monday for South Dakota Supreme Court Justice Zinter

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A funeral is scheduled Monday for South Dakota Supreme Court Justice Steven Zinter. Zinter died Tuesday of complications from routine surgery. He was 68.

An online obituary says visitation will be held Sunday from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Central time at Lutheran Memorial Church in Pierre, with a prayer service at 6:30 p.m. Services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday at Lutheran Memorial Church, with burial at Riverside Cemetery.

Zinter had served on South Dakota's highest court since 2002. Gov. Dennis Daugaard has ordered flags across South Dakota to fly at half-staff until Zinter's burial.

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## South Dakota to begin collecting online sales taxes

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Online shoppers in South Dakota: it's time to start coughing up sales tax.

The state on Thursday will start requiring many out-of-state online retailers to collect South Dakota sales taxes under legislation approved earlier this year. It came after a U.S. Supreme Court ruling in South Dakota's favor opened the door for consumers to see sales tax on more online purchases from out-of-state companies.

Some retailers had been voluntarily remitting the taxes. South Dakota's obligation applies to outside sellers who do more than \$100,000 of business in South Dakota or more than 200 transactions annually with residents.

The state announced Wednesday a settlement with three companies it sued in the case that brought the issue to the high court. Online retailers Wayfair, Overstock and Newegg will start collecting Jan. 1.

## Too late to take candidate who died off ballot

FREEMAN, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota state secretary says it's too late to remove the name of a House candidate from the ballot due to his death.

John Koch's name remains on the Nov. 6 general election ballot for House District 19. A published obituary says the 72-year-old Koch died last Friday of a pulmonary embolism during a family visit to Texas.

Secretary of State Shantel Krebs says if Koch wins, a replacement would be named by the governor.

The Press & Dakotan reports Koch was running as a Democrat for one of the district's two House seats, which are currently held by Republicans Kyle Schoenfish and Kent Peterson.

Information from: Yankton Press and Dakotan, <http://www.yankton.net/>

## Clemson's Wilkins among 13 finalists for top scholar-athlete

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Clemson defensive tackle Christian Wilkins and Notre Dame linebacker Drue Tranquill are among the 13 finalists for the William V. Campbell Trophy, given to college football's top scholar-athlete.

The other finalists announced Wednesday are:

Kenneth Brinson, linebacker, Army  
Taryn Christian, quarterback, South Dakota State  
De'Arius Christmas, linebacker, Grambling State  
D'Cota Dixon, safety, Wisconsin  
Ryan Finley, quarterback, North Carolina State  
Piercen Harnish, linebacker, St. Francis, Indiana  
Trace McSorley, quarterback, Penn State  
Dalton Risner, tackle, Kansas State  
Max Scharping, tackle, Northern Illinois  
Eric Stevenson, linebacker, Wheaton  
Easton Stick, quarterback, North Dakota State

The finalists, chosen from all levels of the college football, receive \$18,000 postgraduate scholarship. The winner will be announced Dec. 4 at the National Football Foundation's and College Hall Fame's induction ceremony and awards dinner in New York. The winner receives an additional \$7,000 in scholarship money.

Past winners of the Campbell Trophy, which was established by the NFF in 1990, include Peyton Manning and Tim Tebow.

More AP college football: <https://apnews.com/tag/Collegefootball> and [https://twitter.com/AP\\_Top25](https://twitter.com/AP_Top25)

## **Worker shortage affecting ambulance service in Sioux Falls**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A worker shortage is affecting ambulance service in the Sioux Falls region. At least one of Minnehaha County's licensed ambulance providers has struggled to stay in operation this year, at times due to a lack of volunteers.

Since March, there have been 16 instances where Garretson Community Ambulance had no staff available when emergency services were needed in their coverage area, according to the Argus Leader. Volunteers were tied up at work or in annual training sessions for emergency medical technicians.

During those situations, mutual aid agreements kick in and other area providers respond to the need. Six nonprofits and for-profit ambulance providers serve the county.

Minnehaha County Emergency Manager Lynn DeYoung said funding and staffing rural ambulance services is a problem county officials will soon need to address because of a growing regional population and increasing operational costs.

"There is no doubt about it that rural ambulances, not only in Minnehaha County but across South Dakota, are struggling financially. They're struggling finding people," DeYoung told Minnehaha County Commissioners Tuesday.

Low regional unemployment has other businesses and organizations struggling to find enough workers in a competitive job market. So finding volunteers who are willing to take on the financial and time commitment is difficult.

DeYoung also noted the costs associated with getting certified as an EMT.

"If I want to volunteer for Humboldt ambulance, first I have to go spend \$1,000 to do it and 160 hours of my time to do it, and then I'll still have to go to the calls. So this is a huge ask for a volunteer," DeYoung said.

Minnehaha County Sheriff Mike Milstead said about a third of his patrol deputies are EMT certified and able to supplement the services that rural ambulances provide, but he agreed it's time to take a closer look at medical emergency response and funding.

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

## **Man who led police on 3 chases in 10 days sent to prison**

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — An Alexandria man who led police on three chases over a period of 10 days in July and August has been ordered to spend about nine years in prison.

The Daily Republic reports that 22-year-old Logan Sapp was convicted on drug and eluding charges as well as for violating a protection order and probation violations, and sentenced Tuesday.

Sapp said before his sentencing that he has an anger issue, which led him to turn to drugs. Defense attorney Theresa Maule said the case is "an excellent example to anyone who uses meth of just how far a person can fall."

Sapp also was ordered to pay \$1,000 in fines, \$317 in court costs and \$250 in restitution to Crime Stoppers.

## **Body found in Mitchell parking lot; no foul play suspected**

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — Authorities do not suspect foul play in the death of a man whose body was found in the parking lot of a Mitchell apartment complex.

The Daily Republic reports that police officers conducting a welfare check Tuesday found the body on the ground between two parked cars.

Authorities are continuing to investigate and did not immediately identify the man.

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



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## Roberts County sheriff-elect facing assault charges

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — The sheriff-elect of Roberts County is facing assault charges after an Oct. 6 incident in Aberdeen.

The American News reports that 28-year-old Korey Ware, of Sisseton, was arrested Thursday in Britton for allegedly assaulting a 30-year-old man. Authorities didn't immediately release details.

Ware defeated Tim Farmen in the Republican primary for Roberts County sheriff in June. He's unopposed next week in the general election. A felony conviction could affect his ability to serve as sheriff.

It wasn't immediately clear if Ware has an attorney. A listed telephone number for him couldn't be found. He's free on \$1,000 cash bond.

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

## Bail reduction denied in Rapid City shooting

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A judge has denied a bail reduction request from a Rapid City man accused of shooting and injuring four people while they were in a vehicle.

Twenty-eight-year-old Dwight Quigley was back in court Tuesday afternoon on four counts of attempted first-degree murder and other charges. He has pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity.

KOTA-TV reports Quigley's attorney told Judge Matt Brown they are waiting for the results for his mental evaluation and requested a reduction of his bond from \$1,000,000 to \$20,000.

Authorities allege Quigley used a rifle to fire at the vehicle the night of March 29, in an apparent random shooting. The people inside suffered either gunshot wounds or shrapnel wounds, and some had other injuries when the driver lost control and the vehicle crashed into a pole.

Information from: KOTA-TV, <http://www.kotatv.com>

## \$15M aquatic center in Yankton might go to public vote

YANKTON, S.D. (AP) — Opponents of raising property taxes to pay for a new aquatic center in Yankton have filed petitions to try to refer the matter to a public vote.

The City Commission recently voted unanimously to approve a 20-year opt-out of the state property tax freeze to help pay for a \$15 million aquatic center to replace the 71-year-old Fantle Memorial Park pool.

The Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan reports that the signatures on the petitions need to be verified. Opponents need 426 valid signatures to prompt a referral election.

Information from: Yankton Press and Dakotan, <http://www.yankton.net/>

## S. Korea's Moon: N. Korean leader Kim to visit Seoul 'soon'

By HYUNG-JIN KIM, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korean President Moon Jae-in said Thursday that North Korean leader Kim Jong Un will "soon" visit Seoul as part of a series of high-profile diplomatic efforts aimed at ridding North Korea of its nuclear weapons.

Moon said in a speech to parliament that a second North Korea-U.S. summit is also "near at hand" and that Chinese President Xi Jinping is expected to visit North Korea soon. Moon also said he expects Kim to visit Russia soon and that Kim may meet with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

Moon has previously said that Kim told him he would visit Seoul within this year when the leaders met in Pyongyang, North Korea's capital, in September.

South Korea's presidential office said it had nothing to add to Moon's speech about Kim's trip. His comments were in line with previous statements, it said. They suggest that Moon is determined to push ahead with diplomacy to resolve the nuclear issue.

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"Now, based on firm trust among one another, South and North Korea and the United States will achieve complete denuclearization and lasting peace on the Korean Peninsula," Moon said. "This is an opportunity that has come like a miracle. It's something that we should never miss."

The prospects for a second summit between Kim and U.S. President Donald Trump improved after Secretary of State Mike Pompeo made his fourth visit to North Korea earlier this month. But no breakthrough has followed. U.S. officials have recently said a second Trump-Kim summit will likely happen early next year. Some experts have raised doubts over whether Kim's Seoul trip will occur by December.

Moon, a liberal who took office last year, favors a negotiated resolution to the decades-long international standoff over North Korea's nuclear ambitions. He has facilitated a series of high-level U.S.-North Korea exchanges, including their first summit in Singapore in June.

But Moon has faced growing outside skepticism over whether his engagement policy will eventually settle the nuclear standoff. Many conservatives in South Korea and the United States say North Korea has no intention of fully giving up its nuclear program and only wants to buy time to perfect its weapons.

Since entering nuclear talks earlier this year, North Korea has halted nuclear and missile tests and dismantled its nuclear testing site. The United States suspended some annual military drills with South Korea, but is reluctant to provide North Korea with big political or economic benefits unless it takes more serious disarmament steps.

The two Korea have also been taking steps to reduce conventional military threats along their border as part of deals struck during an inter-Korean summit in September. Seoul officials said the rivals on Thursday put covers on their naval and coastal artillery guns and closed gun ports along their disputed western sea boundary, the scene of several bloody maritime skirmishes between the countries in recent years.

South Korea's military said the two Koreas halted all hostile acts against each other along the land, sea and aerial boundaries as of Thursday. The Koreas have already removed weapons from a shared border village and have begun clearing mines at another border area where they plan their first searches for Korean War dead.

The two Koreas have remained split along the world's most heavily fortified border since the three-year Korean War ended in 1953 with an armistice, not a peace treaty. If Kim, a third-generation hereditary ruler, visits Seoul, he would be the first North Korean leader to do so since the war's end. Last year saw increased fears of a new war on the peninsula as he exchanged threats of destruction and crude insults with Trump over North Korea's push to develop nuclear missiles capable of striking the U.S. mainland.

## 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. US-MEXICO BORDER MOBILIZATION FIGURES CHANGE AT DIZZYING PACE

Defense Secretary Jim Mattis says the Pentagon doesn't "do stunts" when asked if his department is being politicized by Trump's ever-increasing troop deployment numbers.

### 2. PITTSBURGH SYNAGOGUE MASSACRE SUSPECT DUE IN COURT

Robert Bowers faces arraignment in federal court on charges including murder, hate crimes, obstructing in the practice of religion, and other crimes.

### 3. THE GRIM TASK IN KEEPING WITH JEWISH LAW

Rabbis and volunteers undergo the painstaking process of gathering up blood and other remains from the victims of the shooting rampage, as custom calls for the entire body to be buried.

### 4. LION AIR'S FLIGHT DATA RECORDER RECOVERED

It's crucial development in the investigation into what caused a new model Boeing jetliner to plunge into Indonesian seas earlier this week, killing all 189 people on board.

### 5. MIGRANT DEATH TOLL REACHES STAGGERING NUMBERS

An AP tally documents more than 56,800 migrants dead or missing worldwide since 2014 — almost double the number found by a U.N. agency.

## 6. GEORGIA GOVERNOR HOPEFUL FACING STEEP ODDS

Stacey Abrams, trying to become the first black female governor in U.S. history, has to navigate a state that's still steeped in the Deep South divisions over race.

## 7. WHERE #METOO PROVIDES LITTLE RECOURSE

A new report finds that many sexual assault victims in North Korea feel powerless to demand accountability and are ashamed they were abused.

## 8. CHRISTIAN WOMAN ACQUITTED IN BLASPHEMY CASE TO LEAVE PAKISTAN

Longtime death row inmate Asia Bibi plans to leave the country as radical Islamists mount rallies against her.

## 9. GOOGLE EMPLOYEES PLAN WALK OUT

Hundreds of engineers and other workers are expected to walk off the job to protest the tech giant's lenient treatment of executives accused of sexual misconduct.

## 10. WHO HAD A VINTAGE GAME IN THE NBA

Derrick Rose's 50-point night for the Minnesota Timberwolves was a breakout that few probably thought was still possible from the former NBA MVP.

## Divers recover jet's data recorder from Indonesia seafloor

By **NINIEK KARMINI** and **ANDI JATMIKO**, Associated Press

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — Divers recovered the crashed Lion Air jet's flight data recorder from the seafloor on Thursday, a crucial development in the investigation into what caused the 2-month-old plane to plunge into Indonesian seas earlier this week, killing 189 people. Relatives, meanwhile, buried the first victim to be identified and prayed at her flower-covered grave.

TV showed footage of two divers after they surfaced, swimming to an inflatable vessel and placing the bright orange device into a large container that was transferred to a search-and-rescue ship.

"I was desperate because the current below was strong but I am confident of the tools given to me," said navy 1st Sgt. Hendra, who uses a single name. After narrowing the possible location, "I started digging and cleaning the debris until I finally found an orange object," he told TV, standing on the deck of a ship next to his diving mate.

The Boeing 737 MAX 8 plane crashed early Monday just minutes after takeoff from the Indonesian capital Jakarta. It was the worst airline disaster in Indonesia in more than two decades and renewed concerns about safety in its fast-growing aviation industry, which was recently removed from European Union and U.S. blacklists.

Navy Col. Monang Sitompul told local TV an object believed to be the aircraft's fuselage was also seen on the seafloor.

The device recovered by divers is the flight data recorder and the search for the cockpit voice recorder continues, said Bambang Irawan, an investigator with the National Transport Safety Commission.

"We will process the data contained in this FDR as part of the investigation process to find out the cause of the crash," he said. "We cannot say how long it takes to process data in a black box, but of course we will try as soon as possible."

The flight data recorder was recovered from a depth of 30 meters (98 feet), about 500 meters (1,640 feet) northwest from where the plane lost contact, said search and rescue agency head Muhammad Syaugi.

"The currents below the sea are still strong which make it difficult for divers, but they persistently face it," he said.

Relatives of 24-year-old Jannatun Cintya Dewi, whose remains were identified Wednesday, carried her in a coffin covered in green cloth along a road in an East Java district to the burial place, followed by a solemn procession of dozens.

Her father and others knelt by the grave, which was sprinkled with red and yellow flowers, and prayed.

Other families face a longer wait to bury loved ones. Police medical experts say results from DNA tests needed for identification in many cases will take 4-8 days.

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U.S. investigators on Thursday visited the Jakarta port and picked through debris collected from the sea including pieces of aircraft and passenger belongings.

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 flight data recorder.

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.

Lion Air has ordered 50 of the MAX 8 planes and one of its subsidiary airlines was the first to operate the new generation jet last year.

Transport Minister Budi Karya Sumadi said inspections of Boeing MAX 8 planes operated by Lion Air and national carrier Garuda have found no problems but the examination was continuing.

He said the Directorate-General of Air Transportation has asked Lion Air to remove four key officials from duty — its director of maintenance and engineering, quality control manager, flight maintenance manager and release manager — so they can assist the investigation. He said their aircraft maintenance engineer licenses have been suspended.

Investigators say a preliminary report into the accident could be released within a month but complete findings will take several months more.

The Lion Air crash is the worst airline disaster in Indonesia since 1997, when 234 people died on 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.

## Christian woman acquitted in Pakistan to leave country

By **MUNIR AHMED, Associated Press**

ISLAMABAD (AP) — A Christian woman acquitted in Pakistan after eight years on death row for blasphemy plans to leave the country, her family said Thursday as radical Islamists mounted rallies for a second day against the verdict, blocking roads and burning tires in protest.

The developments followed a landmark move by Pakistan's Supreme Court on Wednesday that overturned the 2010 conviction against Asia Bibi for insulting Islam's Prophet Muhammad. The charge of blasphemy carries the death penalty in this majority Muslim nation.

Bibi's acquittal immediately raised fears of religious violence — and presented a challenge to the government of new Prime Minister Imran Khan who came to power this summer partly by pursuing the Islamist agenda. Khan warned Islamist protesters on Wednesday night not to "test the patience of the state."

Bibi remained at an undisclosed location Thursday where the 54-year-old mother of five was being held for security reasons, awaiting her formal release, her brother, James Masih told The Associated Press.

Masih said his sister simply would not be safe in Pakistan.

"She has no other option and she will leave the country soon," he said. Masih would not disclose the country of her destination but both France and Spain have offered asylum.

Bibi's husband, Ashiq Masih, had returned from Britain with their children in mid-October and was waiting for her to join them, the brother added.

Meanwhile, more than 1,000 Islamists blocked a key road linking the capital, Islamabad with the garrison city of Rawalpindi on Thursday, demanding Bibi be publicly hanged. Authorities deployed paramilitary troops, signaling they could move in to clear the roads.

Hundreds also blocked another key motorway, linking Islamabad with major cities such as Lahore and



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Peshawar, chanting slogans against Bibi and demanding her execution.

Meanwhile, opposition lawmakers in parliament called Thursday for reforming the judicial system and Pakistan's controversial blasphemy law — so that innocents like Bibi wouldn't spent years languishing in jail.

Hafiz Saeed, a radical cleric wanted by the United States, urged followers to hold rallies across Pakistan on Friday to condemn Bibi's release. Saeed is the founder of the outlawed Lashkar-e-Taiba group, which was blamed for the 2008 Mumbai attacks that killed 166 people.

Protesters, rallied by firebrand cleric Khadim Hussain Rizvi, also set up roadblocks and burned tires in the southern port city of Karachi while hundreds clashed Thursday with police in various parts of eastern Punjab province.

Many parents kept their children from school, fearing more violence.

The Islamists also called for the killing of the three judges, including Chief Justice Mian Saqib Nisar, who acquitted Bibi.

The three are on the hit list of Rizvi's Tehreek-e-Labbaik party, which has demanded a public execution for Bibi. Rizvi has managed to turn out tens of thousands of supporters in the past, often forcing authorities to bow to his demands on religious matters.

Tehreek-e-Labbaik claimed Thursday that two of its supporters were killed by police fire during overnight clashes in Karachi. No government official could immediately confirm any casualties.

In his televised speech, Prime Minister Khan warned the Islamists: "Let me make it very clear to you that the state will fulfil its responsibility."

Bibi's lawyer, Saiful Malook, has gone into hiding as the extremists had threatened his life as well.

On Wednesday, cleric Afzal Qadri, with Rizvi by his side, urged a crowd of supporters outside the Punjab provincial parliament in the city of Lahore to revolt against army chief Gen. Qamar Javed Bajwa and overthrow Khan's government.

Bibi's acquittal, however, has been seen as a hopeful sign by Christians in Pakistan, where the mere rumor of blasphemy can spark lynchings. Religious minorities, who have been repeatedly targeted by extremists, fear the law because it is often used to settle scores and to pressure minorities.

In 2011, Salman Taseer, the governor of Punjab, was shot and killed by one of his guards for defending Bibi and criticizing the misuse of the blasphemy law. The assassin, Mumtaz Qadri, was hanged for the crime, but later was hailed by religious hard-liners as a martyr, with millions visiting a shrine set up for him near Islamabad.

Shahbaz Bhatti, Pakistan's minister for minorities was also killed in 2011 after he demanded justice for Bibi.

Bibi was arrested in 2009 after she was accused of blasphemy following a quarrel with two fellow female farm workers who refused to drink from a water container used by a Christian. A few days later, a mob accused her of insulting Islam's prophet, leading to her 2010 conviction.

Bibi's family has always maintained her innocence and says she never insulted the prophet.

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Associated Press writer Asim Tanveer in Multan, Pakistan, contributed to this report.

## The global lost: 56,800 migrants dead and missing in 4 years

LORI HINNANT and BRAM JANSSEN, Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — One by one, five to a grave, the coffins are buried in the red earth of this ill-kept corner of a South African cemetery. The scrawl on the cheap wood attests to their anonymity: "Unknown B/Male."

These men were migrants from elsewhere in Africa with next to nothing who sought a living in the thriving underground economy of Gauteng province, a name that roughly translates to "land of gold." Instead of fortune, many found death, their bodies unnamed and unclaimed — more than 4,300 in Gauteng between 2014 and 2017 alone.

Some of those lives ended here at the Olifantsvlei cemetery, in silence, among tufts of grass growing over tiny placards that read: Pauper Block. There are coffins so tiny that they could only belong to children.



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As people worldwide flee war, hunger and a lack of jobs, global migration has soared to record highs, with more than 258 million international migrants in 2017. That is an increase of 49 percent from the turn of the century, according to the United Nations.

Far less visible, however, has been the toll of this mass migration: The tens of thousands of people who die or simply disappear during their journeys, never to be seen again. A growing number of migrants have drowned, died in deserts or fallen prey to traffickers, leaving their families to wonder what on earth happened to them. At the same time, anonymous bodies are filling cemeteries around the world, like the one in Gauteng.

In most cases, nobody is keeping track: Barely counted in life, these people don't register in death, as if they never lived at all.

An Associated Press tally has documented at least 56,800 migrants dead or missing worldwide since 2014 — almost double the number found in the world's only official attempt to try to count them, by the U.N.'s International Organization for Migration . The IOM toll as of Oct. 1 was more than 28,500. The AP came up with almost 28,300 additional dead or missing migrants by compiling information from other international groups, requesting forensic records, missing persons reports and death records, and sifting through data from thousands of interviews with migrants.

The AP's tally is still low. Bodies of migrants lie undiscovered in desert sands or at the bottom of the sea. And families don't always report loved ones as missing because they migrated illegally, or because they left home without saying exactly where they were headed.

The official U.N. toll focuses mostly on Europe, but even there cases fall through the cracks. The political tide is turning against migrants in Europe just as in the United States, where the government is cracking down heavily on caravans of Central Americans trying to get in. One result is that money is drying up for projects to track migration and its costs.

For example, when more than 800 people died in an April 2015 shipwreck off the coast of Italy, Europe's deadliest migrant sea disaster, Italian investigators pledged to identify them and find their families. More than three years later, under a new populist government, funding for this work is being cut off.

Beyond Europe, information is even more scarce. Little is known about the toll in South America, where the Venezuelan migration is among the world's biggest today, and in Asia, the top region for numbers of migrants.

The result is that governments vastly underestimate the toll of migration, a major political and social issue in most of the world today.

"No matter where you stand on the whole migration management debate...these are still human beings on the move," said Bram Frouws, the head of the Mixed Migration Centre , based in Geneva, which has done surveys of more than 20,000 migrants in its 4Mi project since 2014. "Whether it's refugees or people moving for jobs, they are human beings."

They leave behind families caught between hope and mourning, like that of Safi al-Bahri. Her son, Majdi Barhoumi, left their hometown of Ras Jebel, Tunisia, on May 7, 2011, headed for Europe in a small boat with a dozen other migrants. The boat sank and Barhoumi hasn't been heard from since. In a sign of faith that he is still alive, his parents built an animal pen with a brood of hens, a few cows and a dog to stand watch until he returns.

"I just wait for him. I always imagine him behind me, at home, in the market, everywhere," said al-Bahari. "When I hear a voice at night, I think he's come back. When I hear the sound of a motorcycle, I think my son is back."

## EUROPE: BOATS THAT NEVER ARRIVE

Of the world's migration crises, Europe's has been the most cruelly visible. Images of the lifeless body of a Kurdish toddler on a beach, frozen tent camps in Eastern Europe, and a nearly numbing succession of deadly shipwrecks have been transmitted around the world, adding to the furor over migration.

In the Mediterranean, scores of tankers, cargo boats, cruise ships and military vessels tower over tiny,

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crowded rafts powered by an outboard motor for a one-way trip. Even larger boats carrying hundreds of migrants may go down when soft breezes turn into battering winds and thrashing waves further from shore.

Two shipwrecks and the deaths of at least 368 people off the coast of Italy in October 2013 prompted the IOM's research into migrant deaths. The organization has focused on deaths in the Mediterranean, although its researchers plead for more data from elsewhere in the world. This year alone, the IOM has found more than 1,700 deaths in the waters that divide Africa and Europe.

Like the lost Tunisians of Ras Jebel, most of them set off to look for work. Barhoumi, his friends, cousins and other would-be migrants camped in the seaside brush the night before their departure, listening to the crash of the waves that ultimately would sink their raft.

Khalid Arfaoui had planned to be among them. When the group knocked at his door, it wasn't fear that held him back, but a lack of cash. Everyone needed to chip in to pay for the boat, gas and supplies, and he was short about \$100. So he sat inside and watched as they left for the beachside campsite where even today locals spend the night before embarking to Europe.

Propelled by a feeble outboard motor and overburdened with its passengers, the rubber raft flipped, possibly after grazing rocks below the surface on an uninhabited island just offshore. Two bodies were retrieved. The lone survivor was found clinging to debris eight hours later.

The Tunisian government has never tallied its missing, and the group never made it close enough to Europe to catch the attention of authorities there. So these migrants never have been counted among the dead and missing.

"If I had gone with them, I'd be lost like the others," Arfaoui said recently, standing on the rocky shoreline with a group of friends, all of whom vaguely planned to leave for Europe. "If I get the chance, I'll do it. Even if I fear the sea and I know I might die, I'll do it."

With him that day was 30-year-old Mounir Aguida, who had already made the trip once, drifting for 19 hours after the boat engine cut out. In late August this year, he crammed into another raft with seven friends, feeling the waves slam the flimsy bow. At the last minute he and another young man jumped out.

"It didn't feel right," Aguida said.

There has been no word from the other six — yet another group of Ras Jebel's youth lost to the sea. With no shipwreck reported, no survivors to rescue and no bodies to identify, the six young men are not counted in any toll.

In addition to watching its own youth flee, Tunisia and to a lesser degree neighboring Algeria are transit points for other Africans north bound for Europe. Tunisia has its own cemetery for unidentified migrants, as do Greece, Italy and Turkey. The one at Tunisia's southern coast is tended by an unemployed sailor named Chamseddin Marzouk.

Of around 400 bodies interred in the coastal graveyard since it opened in 2005, only one has ever been identified. As for the others who lie beneath piles of dirt, Marzouk couldn't imagine how their families would ever learn their fate.

"Their families may think that the person is still alive, or that he'll return one day to visit," Marzouk said. "They don't know that those they await are buried here, in Zarzis, Tunisia."

## AFRICA: VANISHING WITHOUT A TRACE

Despite talk of the 'waves' of African migrants trying to cross the Mediterranean, as many migrate within Africa — 16 million — as leave for Europe. In all, since 2014, at least 18,400 African migrants have died traveling within Africa, according to the figures compiled from AP and IOM records. That includes more than 4,300 unidentified bodies in a single South African province, and 8,700 whose traveling companions reported their disappearance en route out of the Horn of Africa in interviews with 4Mi.

When people vanish while migrating in Africa, it is often without a trace. The IOM says the Sahara Desert may well have killed more migrants than the Mediterranean. But no one will ever know for sure in a region where borders are little more than lines drawn on maps and no government is searching an expanse as large as the continental United States. The harsh sun and swirling desert sands quickly decompose and bury bodies of migrants, so that even when they turn up, they are usually impossible to identify .

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With a prosperous economy and stable government, South Africa draws more migrants than any other country in Africa. The government is a meticulous collector of fingerprints — nearly every legal resident and citizen has a file somewhere — so bodies without any records are assumed to have been living and working in the country illegally. The corpses are fingerprinted when possible, but there is no regular DNA collection.

South Africa also has one of the world's highest rates of violent crime and police are more focused on solving domestic cases than identifying migrants.

"There's logic to that, as sad as it is....You want to find the killer if you're a policeman, because the killer could kill more people," said Jeanine Vellema, the chief specialist of the province's eight mortuaries. Migrant identification, meanwhile, is largely an issue for foreign families — and poor ones at that.

Vellema has tried to patch into the police missing persons system, to build a system of electronic mortuary records and to establish a protocol where a DNA sample is taken from every set of remains that arrive at the morgue. She sighs: "Resources." It's a word that comes up 10 times in a half-hour conversation.

So the bodies end up at Olifantsvlei or a cemetery like it, in unnamed graves. On a recent visit by AP, a series of open rectangles awaited the bodies of the unidentified and unclaimed. They did not wait long: a pickup truck drove up, piled with about 10 coffins, five per grave. There were at least 180 grave markers for the anonymous dead, with multiple bodies in each grave.

The International Committee of the Red Cross, which is working with Vellema, has started a pilot project with one Gauteng morgue to take detailed photos, fingerprints, dental information and DNA samples of unidentified bodies. That information goes to a database where, in theory, the bodies can be traced.

"Every person has a right to their dignity. And to their identity," said Stephen Fonseca, the ICRC regional forensic manager.

## THE UNITED STATES: "THAT'S HOW MY BROTHER USED TO SLEEP"

More than 6,000 miles (9,000 kilometers) away, in the deserts that straddle the U.S.-Mexico border, lie the bodies of migrants who perished trying to cross land as unforgiving as the waters of the Mediterranean. Many fled the violence and poverty of Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador or Mexico. Some are found months or years later as mere skeletons. Others make a last, desperate phone call and are never heard from again.

In 2010 the Argentine Forensic Anthropology Team and the local morgue in Pima County, Ariz., began to organize efforts to put names to the anonymous bodies found on both sides of the border. The "Border Project" has since identified more than 183 people — a fraction of the total.

At least 3,861 migrants are dead and missing on the route from Mexico to the United States since 2014, according to the combined AP and IOM total. The tally includes missing person reports from the Colibrí Center for Human Rights on the U.S. side as well as the Argentine group's data from the Mexican side. The painstaking work of identification can take years, hampered by a lack of resources, official records and coordination between countries — and even between states.

For many families of the missing, it is their only hope, but for the families of Juan Lorenzo Luna and Armando Reyes, that hope is fading.

Luna, 27, and Reyes, 22, were brothers-in-law who left their small northern Mexico town of Gomez Palacio in August 2016. They had tried to cross to the U.S. four months earlier, but surrendered to border patrol agents in exhaustion and were deported.

They knew they were risking their lives — Reyes' father died migrating in 1995, and an uncle went missing in 2004. But Luna, a quiet family man, wanted to make enough money to buy a pickup truck and then return to his wife and two children. Reyes wanted a job where he wouldn't get his shoes dirty and could give his newborn daughter a better life.

Of the five who left Gomez Palacio together, two men made it to safety, and one man turned back. The only information he gave was that the brothers-in-law had stopped walking and planned to turn themselves in again. That is the last that is known of them.

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Officials told their families that they had scoured prisons and detention centers, but there was no sign of the missing men. Cesaria Orona even consulted a fortune teller about her missing son, Armando, and was told he had died in the desert.

One weekend in June 2017, volunteers found eight bodies next to a military area of the Arizona desert and posted the images online in the hopes of finding family. Maria Elena Luna came across a Facebook photo of a decaying body found in an arid landscape dotted with cactus and shrubs, lying face-up with one leg bent outward. There was something horribly familiar about the pose.

"That's how my brother used to sleep," she whispered.

Along with the bodies, the volunteers found a credential of a boy from Guatemala, a photo and a piece of paper with a number written on it. The photo was of Juan Lorenzo Luna, and the number on the paper was for cousins of the family. But investigators warned that a wallet or credential could have been stolen, as migrants are frequently robbed.

"We all cried," Luna recalled. "But I said, we cannot be sure until we have the DNA test. Let's wait."

Luna and Orona gave DNA samples to the Mexican government and the Argentine group. In November 2017, Orona received a letter from the Mexican government saying that there was the possibility of a match for Armando with some bone remains found in Nuevo Leon, a state that borders Texas. But the test was negative.

The women are still waiting for results from the Argentine pathologists. Until then, their relatives remain among the uncounted.

Orona holds out hope that the men may be locked up, or held by "bad people." Every time Luna hears about clandestine graves or unidentified bodies in the news, the anguish is sharp.

"Suddenly all the memories come back," she said. "I do not want to think."

## SOUTH AMERICA: "NO ONE WANTS TO ADMIT THIS IS A REALITY"

The toll of the dead and the missing has been all but ignored in one of the largest population movements in the world today — that of nearly 2 million Venezuelans fleeing from their country's collapse. These migrants have hopped buses across the borders, boarded flimsy boats in the Caribbean, and — when all else failed — walked for days along scorching highways and freezing mountain trails. Vulnerable to violence from drug cartels, hunger and illness that lingers even after reaching their destination, they have disappeared or died by the hundreds.

"They can't withstand a trip that hard, because the journey is very long," said Carlos Valdes, director of neighboring Colombia's national forensic institute. "And many times, they only eat once a day. They don't eat. And they die." Valdes said authorities don't always recover the bodies of those who die, as some migrants who have entered the country illegally are afraid to seek help.

Valdes believes hypothermia has killed some as they trek through the mountain tundra region, but he had no idea how many. One migrant told the AP he saw a family burying someone wrapped in a white blanket with red flowers along the frigid journey.

Marta Duque, 55, has had a front seat to the Venezuela migration crisis from her home in Pamplona, Colombia. She opens her doors nightly to provide shelter for families with young children. Pamplona is one of the last cities migrants reach before venturing up a frigid mountain paramo, one of the most dangerous parts of the trip for migrants traveling by foot. Temperatures dip well below freezing.

She said inaction from authorities has forced citizens like her to step in.

"Everyone just seems to pass the ball," she said. "No one wants to admit this is a reality."

Those deaths are uncounted, as are dozens in the sea. Also uncounted are those reported missing in Colombia, Peru and Ecuador. In all at least 3,410 Venezuelans have been reported missing or dead in a migration within Latin America whose dangers have gone relatively unnoticed; many of the dead perished from illnesses on the rise in Venezuela that easily would have found treatment in better times.

Among the missing is Randy Javier Gutierrez, who was walking through Colombia with a cousin and his aunt in hopes of reaching Peru to reunite with his mother.

Gutierrez's mother, Mariela Gamboa, said that a driver offered a ride to the two women, but refused to



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take her son. The women agreed to wait for him at the bus station in Cali, about 160 miles (257 kilometers) ahead, but he never arrived. Messages sent to his phone since that day four months ago have gone unread. "I'm very worried," his mother said. "I don't even know what to do."

## ASIA: A VAST UNKNOWN

The region with the largest overall migration, Asia, also has the least information on the fate of those who disappear after leaving their homelands. Governments are unwilling or unable to account for citizens who leave for elsewhere in the region or in the Mideast, two of the most common destinations, although there's a growing push to do so.

Asians make up 40 percent of the world's migrants, and more than half of them never leave the region. The Associated Press was able to document more than 8,200 migrants who disappeared or died after leaving home in Asia and the Mideast, including thousands in the Philippines and Indonesia.

Thirteen of the top 20 migration pathways from Asia take place within the region. These include Indian workers heading to the United Arab Emirates, Bangladeshis heading to India, Rohingya Muslims escaping persecution in Myanmar, and Afghans crossing the nearest border to escape war. But with large-scale smuggling and trafficking of labor, and violent displacements, the low numbers of dead and missing indicate not safe travel but rather a vast unknown.

Almass was just 14 when his widowed mother reluctantly sent him and his 11-year-old brother from their home in Khost, Afghanistan, into that unknown. The payment for their trip was supposed to get them away from the Taliban and all the way to Germany via a chain of smugglers. The pair crammed first into a pickup with around 40 people, walked for a few days at the border, crammed into a car, waited a bit in Tehran, and walked a few more days.

His brother Murtaza was exhausted by the time they reached the Iran-Turkey border. But the smuggler said it wasn't the time to rest — there were at least two border posts nearby and the risk that children far younger travelling with them would make noise.

Almass was carrying a baby in his arms and holding his brother's hand when they heard the shout of Iranian guards. Bullets whistled past as he tumbled head over heels into a ravine and lost consciousness.

Alone all that day and the next, Almass stumbled upon three other boys in the ravine who had also become separated from the group, then another four. No one had seen his brother. And although the younger boy had his ID, it had been up to Almass to memorize the crucial contact information for the smuggler.

When Almass eventually called home, from Turkey, he couldn't bear to tell his mother what had happened. He said Murtaza couldn't come to the phone but sent his love.

That was in early 2014. Almass, who is now 18, hasn't spoken to his family since.

Almass said he searched for his brother among the 2,773 children reported to the Red Cross as missing en route to Europe. He also looked for himself among the 2,097 adults reported missing by children. They weren't on the list.

With one of the world's longest-running exoduses, Afghans face particular dangers in bordering countries that are neither safe nor welcoming. Over a period of 10 months from June 2017 to April 2018, 4MI carried out a total of 962 interviews with Afghan migrants and refugees in their native languages around the world, systematically asking a series of questions about the specific dangers they had faced and what they had witnessed.

A total of 247 migrant deaths were witnessed by the interviewed migrants, who reported seeing people killed in violence from security forces or starving to death. The effort is the first time any organization has successfully captured the perils facing Afghans in transit to destinations in Asia and Europe.

Almass made it from Asia to Europe and speaks halting French now to the woman who has given him a home in a drafty 400-year-old farmhouse in France's Limousin region. But his family is lost to him. Their phone number in Afghanistan no longer works, their village is overrun with Taliban, and he has no idea how to find them — or the child whose hand slipped from his grasp four years ago.

"I don't know now where they are," he said, his face anguished, as he sat on a sun-dappled bench.

"They also don't know where I am."

Hinnant reported from Ras Jebel, Tunisia, along with Mehdi El Arem. Contributors include Kristen Ge-lineau in Sydney, Australia; Niniek Karmini in Jakarta, Indonesia; Jim Gomez in Manila, Philippines; Lotfi Bouchouchi in Algiers; Mehdi Christine Armario in Bogota, Colombia, and Maria Verza in Mexico City.

## Rabbis gather up traces of Pittsburgh victims for burial

By ADAM GELLER, AP National Writer

PITTSBURGH (AP) — As the first funerals for the victims of the Pittsburgh massacre began, two rabbis and five other volunteers approached the sawhorses cordoning off the Tree of Life synagogue, and an FBI agent led them into the crime scene. Inside the desecrated temple, the men donned white forensic coveralls, face masks and gloves, and set to work.

Judaism asks the living to take special care of the dead, and this group had a last, sacred duty to fulfill: gather up every drop of blood and other bodily traces of the 11 people killed in the deadliest attack against Jews in U.S. history.

"The Jewish law is that everything that belonged to the body needs to be buried, so we do our best," one of the group's leaders, Rabbi Elisar Admon, said Tuesday.

The work is meticulous and mentally taxing, carried out with implements as ordinary as wipes and paper towels.

Judaism is very specific about death and how it should be handled, whatever the circumstances. When a loved one dies, religious law requires that representatives of the living accompany the body until burial. In a ritual known as tahara, the remains are carefully washed and placed in a white shroud. Jewish law mandates that the burial take place as soon as possible.

But the scale of the violence wreaked by a gunman last Saturday has placed an extraordinary responsibility on those dedicated to this work, all volunteers. The victims included one of their own, Jerry Rabinowitz, a doctor who had worked with the group in the past to prepare bodies for burial.

Recovering and preparing a body for burial are traditionally done by the local chapter of the burial society called Chevra Kadisha, led in Pittsburgh by an Orthodox rabbi, Daniel Wasserman. He works alongside Admon, who, as a member of Israel-based Zaka International, spent many years in his home country recovering bodies at the scenes of accidents and terrorist attacks.

All those volunteering earn their living doing other jobs. In addition to Wasserman and Admon, who teaches at a local religious school, the group at the Tree of Life included a doctor, a house painter and a paramedic.

Their work began hours after Saturday's attack. Late that night, the FBI allowed Wasserman and Admon inside the synagogue. The men drew themselves a map, showing the precise spot where each of the victims was killed. Then they spent most of the night accompanying the bodies as they were removed to the medical examiner's office.

"I'll tell you the truth, Saturday night was very tough. I came home and I just started crying," said Admon, choking back tears.

"I've been to a lot of scenes, but these are people you know very well," he said. "It was very hard to see, like, people coming on a Saturday morning to a peaceful place ... to get a connection with God and the same moment they got a connection with God, an evil person came and in and said, 'Guys, just because you're Jewish, I'm going to kill you.'"

The task of recovering remains, he said, is best undertaken with a minimum of thinking, and a focus on the work itself. FBI agents went to great lengths to accommodate the volunteers, bringing additional lighting into the room they were working in on Tuesday and providing safety clothing and other equipment, Admon said.

As the investigation continued all around them, the volunteers finished removing remains from one room Tuesday but will be going back as allowed by the FBI.



Most of the funerals will be over before the volunteers can complete their work. That means that the remnants recovered from the synagogue will probably not be placed in the victims' caskets. They will instead be buried separately at the cemetery, with markers listing the names of the dead.

For the volunteers, it provides the satisfaction of performing a crucial task. In the end, Jewish law will be fulfilled. But just as important, Admon said, recovering all traces of victims and making them whole will "give these people the respect they need, because it's the minimum we can do."

## **Pittsburgh synagogue suspect due in federal court Thursday**

**By MARYCLAIRE DALE, Associated Press**

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The suspect in the Pittsburgh synagogue massacre is expected to make a brief appearance in court Thursday to be arraigned on an indictment that charges him with murder, hate crimes, obstructing in the practice of religion, and other crimes.

Robert Bowers had been set for a preliminary hearing on the evidence Thursday, but federal prosecutors instead took the case to a grand jury. The panel issued the 44-count indictment Wednesday as funerals continued for the 11 people gunned down Saturday at the Tree of Life Synagogue.

Jared Younger of Los Angeles told mourners that he waited for hours Saturday for his father to pick up his phone or let them know he was alright. The dread built all day until his sister learned their father, Irving Younger, had indeed been shot and killed.

"That waiting stage was just unbearable," Jared Younger said at his father's funeral Wednesday. "Saturday was the most lonely day of my life."

Funerals were planned Thursday for Bernice and Sylvan Simon, husband and wife, and Dr. Richard Gottfried, a dentist who worked part-time at a clinic treating refugees and immigrants. The oldest victim, 97-year-old Rose Mallinger, will be honored at a service Friday. Her daughter was injured in the attack.

Friends recalled Irving Younger, 69, as a "kibbitzing, people-loving" man. He was one of the first people Rabbi Jeffrey Myers met when he came to town last year from New Jersey to lead Tree of Life.

Myers, who survived the massacre, is presiding over five funerals for seven congregants this week. He ran a few minutes late to Younger's service because he was still at the burial for another victim, Joyce Fienberg.

"I can't imagine the stress he's under," said his predecessor, Rabbi Charles "Chuck" Diamond.

As Younger's service was wrapping up, Myers momentarily forgot to read a letter to the family that another rabbi had sent.

"After preparing for five funerals, you get a little verklempt," Myers said.

Bowers, a 46-year-old truck driver who authorities say raged against Jews in the attack, remained jailed without bail.

## **Trump says border troops could hit 15K, surprising Pentagon**

**By ZEKE MILLER and ROBERT BURNS, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump says the number of military troops deployed to the U.S.-Mexican border could reach 15,000 — roughly double the number the Pentagon said it currently plans for a mission whose dimensions are shifting daily.

The Pentagon says "more than 7,000" troops were being sent to the southwest border to support the Customs and Border Protection agents. Officials said that number could reach a maximum of about 8,000 under present plans.

The troop numbers have been changing at a dizzying pace, with Trump drawing a hard line on immigration in the lead-up to the midterm elections.

Just last week officials were indicating that about 800 to 1,000 might be sent. On Monday, officials announced that about 5,200 were being deployed. The next day, the Air Force general running the operation said more than the initially announced total were going, and he pointedly rejected a news report that it

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could reach 14,000, saying that was "not consistent with what's actually being planned."

Gen. Terrence O'Shaughnessy, the commander of U.S. Northern Command, told reporters the number would exceed the initial contingent of 5,200, but he offered no estimate of the eventual total.

Just 24 hours later, Trump thrust new uncertainty into the picture, catching the Pentagon by surprise.

With his eyes squarely on Tuesday's contests, Trump has rushed a series of immigration declarations, promises and actions as he tries to mobilize supporters to retain Republican control of Congress. His own Republican campaign in 2016 concentrated on border fears, and that's his focus in the final week of the midterm fight.

"As far as the caravan is concerned, our military is out," Trump said. "We have about 5,800. We'll go up to anywhere between 10,000 and 15,000 military personnel on top of Border Patrol, ICE and everybody else at the border."

Later Wednesday, Trump told ABC News, "We have to have a wall of people."

His comments were the latest twist in a story that has pushed the Pentagon unhappily into the political space, prompting questions about whether Defense Secretary Jim Mattis was allowing the military to be leveraged as a political stunt.

"We don't do stunts," Mattis said Wednesday.

Trump rejected the idea he was "fearmongering" or using the issue for political purposes, but his escalating rhetoric in the waning days of the campaign season calls that denial into question. Trump has railed against illegal immigration, including several caravans of migrants from Central America slowly moving on foot toward the U.S. border. The caravan of an estimated 4,000 people is still nearly 1,000 miles (1,600 kilometers) from the border. Several smaller groups, estimated at a combined 1,200 people, are farther away.

Trump insisted the media is underestimating the caravans. "You have caravans coming up that look a lot larger than it's reported actually. I'm pretty good at estimating crowd size. And I'll tell you they look a lot bigger than people would think," he told ABC.

He has also promised to end so-called catch-and-release policies by erecting tent cities to hold those crossing illegally. And this week he is asserting he could act by executive order to unilaterally end birthright citizenship for the children of non-U.S. citizens.

Trump's comments left some in the Pentagon scratching their heads. Officials said they had no plans to deploy as many as 15,000 troops. The number conceivably could reach 10,000, counting the 2,100 National Guard soldiers who have been operating along the border for months as part of a separate but related mission. The number of active-duty troops tapped for deployment stood at 7,000 as of Wednesday but could reach 8,000.

A deployment of 15,000 would bring the military commitment on the border to roughly the same level as in war-torn Afghanistan. And it would more than double the number of people thought to be in the caravans.

Trump did not back down Wednesday from his proposal to upend the very concept of American citizenship. In a morning tweet, he said the right to citizenship for babies born to noncitizens on American soil "will be ended one way or the other."

He also claimed that what he terms "so-called Birthright Citizenship" is "not covered by the 14th Amendment."

However, the text of the amendment's opening Citizenship Clause is this: "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 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.

House Speaker Paul Ryan asserted Tuesday that "obviously" Trump could not upend that policy by executive order, drawing a tweeted rebuke from Trump. He said Wednesday that Ryan "should be focusing on holding the Majority rather than giving his opinions on Birthright Citizenship, something he knows nothing about!"

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Speaking to reporters before leaving the White House for a campaign rally in Florida, Trump compared his plan to act by executive order to President Barack Obama's much-maligned decision to use executive action to provide protections from prosecution and a path to work status for some people brought to the U.S. illegally as children.

"If he can do DACA, we can do this by executive order," Trump said, using the acronym for the Obama-era Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program. Trump and his Justice Department have argued that Obama action was unlawful.

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 announce 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.

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

## Supply shortages plague Canada's new cannabis marketplace

By **ROB GILLIES** and **TRACEY LINDEMAN**, Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — The name of the store is High North, but it might as well be named High and Dry because for all but about four hours of the first two weeks since marijuana was legalized in Canada, there was no pot to sell.

Trevor Tobin, one of the owners of the Labrador City shop in Newfoundland and Labrador, said they went 10 straight days without supply.

"The producers keep saying there will be some bumps in the road, but right now it's not a bump in the road. It's a big pothole," he said.

His mother, Brenda Tobin, is a part-owner and said that after she tells customers there's nothing to buy, "a lot of them are saying, 'Oh, well. I guess it's back to the black market.'"

Legalization arrived Oct. 17, and Canada became the world's largest national marketplace for so-called recreational marijuana. But for now, it's a superlative in name only.

The first weeks have felt more like a soft opening with few retail outlets operating and rampant supply shortages. It's not because Canada can't produce enough cannabis products — licensing those producers has been slow, and the federal government is taking steps to speed up the process.

The provinces are handling the sales and most of the regulations. Reports from around the country are similarly discouraging when it comes to supply.

Quebec closed its government-run shops for three days this week because of a lack of pot and will continue to keep them shut Mondays through Wednesdays until availability is stabilized. Manitoba Liquor & Lotteries said it expects product shortages in both brick-and-mortar and online stores could last six months.

Ontario, Canada's most populous province, won't have any stores open until April at the earliest as the new conservative government writes regulations. Meantime, police have shut down at least 11 illegal dispensaries in the province.

Ontario residents who want to make legal purchases are flooding the online government store. At least 150,000 orders arrived in the first week, more than all other provinces combined, and the store can't keep up.

Contributing to the delivery problem is a strike by workers at Canada Post, the nation's postal service that handles online marijuana orders that are legal countrywide.

British Columbia, the third-largest province by population and a place that historically supplied of much of the country's illegal weed, still has just one retail store.

Across Canada, people are returning to the black market. And some never left.

Corey Stone, a 32-year-old bar-restaurant manager in Montreal, and his friend were first in line at Quebec's government-run cannabis store on Oct. 17, but he hasn't been back because of the supply problems and has been getting his pot illegally.



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In the capital of Ottawa, Ontario Capital Buds is one of the last holdouts after most of the illegal dispensaries in town closed on Oct. 16 so they could file for legal operating licenses. Business is booming — at 11 a.m. on a recent chilly, gray day, the waiting room was packed.

Blake Murchison, 62, was among the customers. He didn't try visiting the government's online store. "Why? There's a postal strike!" he laughed. "I'm not patient. It's a matter of convenience, really. Or inconvenience."

Devyn Stackhouse, a 30-year-old student at Ottawa's Algonquin College, did go to the government website on Oct. 17 and placed two orders for five pre-rolled joints and a gram each of four cannabis strains. After waiting more than a week to get a delivery, Stackhouse went to an illegal dispensary.

"If (the government) were serious about access, serious about smothering the black market, then more resources would have been allocated to the OCS," Stackhouse said, referring to the Ontario Cannabis Store website.

In Newfoundland, 25-year-old technician Elwood White has been to three legal shops and found little selection. He said the marijuana is more expensive but better quality.

"It definitely has better buzz," he said.

Private and government retailers are dependent on licensed producers to send them products. But so far, of 132 marijuana producers approved by Health Canada, only 78 have sales licenses.

FSD Pharma Inc., an Ontario-based producer, received a cultivation license a year ago but still is waiting for a sales license.

"There is a lot of red tape," said Dr. Raza Bokhari, co-chairman and interim chief executive of FSD Pharma. "Some of the obstacles are unnecessary. It is quite burdensome."

Many that did get sales licenses are smaller operations, said Cam Battley, a top executive at Aurora Cannabis Inc., one of Canada's large-scale producers.

Health Canada has hired 300 additional staff to evaluate applications for producers. Thierry Belair, a spokesman for Canada's health minister, said the government has streamlined the licensing process and production is increasing.

"The implementation of the new legal regime that will better protect Canadians is not an event, it's a process," Belair said in an email.

Tammy Jarbeau, a spokeswoman for Health Canada, said it is important to note that Oct. 17 marked the launch of an entirely new regulated industry in Canada.

"As with any new industry where there is considerable consumer demand, we expect there may be periods where inventories of some products run low or, in some cases, run out," Jarbeau said.

She added that given the longstanding illegal status of cannabis, there were no established benchmarks to determine which products would be in high demand and which would not, or to precisely estimate demand levels.

"As the overall supply chain gains experience in the Canadian marketplace, it is expected that such localized and product-specific shortages will become far fewer in number," she said.

The rollout problems have been felt in Canada's financial markets. Cannabis company stocks that soared as legalization arrived have been hammered since.

Aurora's stock price lost about half its value since peaking at \$15.16 per share Canadian (US \$11.68), but Battley remains optimistic.

He acknowledged some companies with sales licenses stumbled getting their products to the provinces amid demand that topped expectations. But Battley said high demand is a good thing and customers who have gotten what they wanted are satisfied.

"A lot of people have been purchasing nondescript cannabis in a baggy, and who knows how that was cultivated," he said. "Once they get ahold of professionally cultivated cannabis and value-added products like the pre-rolls and capsules, they are pretty darned pleased."

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Lindeman reported from Ottawa. Associated Press writer Jim Morris in Vancouver, British Columbia, contributed to this report.

Follow AP's marijuana coverage here: <https://apnews.com/LegalMarijuana>

## Parade fetes Red Sox; trophy, manager Cora hit by beer cans

By PHILIP MARCELO and BOB SALSBERG, Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — Confetti cannons boomed and huge crowds of fans cheered wildly on Wednesday as the Boston Red Sox rumbled through downtown aboard duck boats to mark the team's fourth World Series championship in the past 15 years.

One of the team's championship trophies and team manager Alex Cora were hit by flying cans of beer that Boston fans have made a practice of offering their sports heroes during recent victory parades. Neither was seriously injured and it didn't take any varnish off the shining celebration.

The rolling rally set off from venerable Fenway Park and wound its way through major city streets lined by fans numbering in the hundreds of thousands, some who arrived before dawn.

Bits of red, white and blue paper rained down as team officials, players, and their families waved from the amphibious, World War II-era vehicles. Some autographed balls and drank beers tossed to them from the jubilant throng.

Many in the sea of Red Sox jerseys and ball caps took advantage of the fact that the parade coincided with Halloween.

Young children dressed up as comic book and Disney characters, 20-somethings from the city's numerous colleges sported full-body panda and dinosaur outfits, and fans took selfies with a doppelganger of pro wrestler Hulk Hogan roaming the crowd.

"It's been nothing but love. We're out here having a good time. We're turnd up," said Jarrick Fidalgo, a New Bedford, Massachusetts, native with his face painted in the diabolical red, white and black of the Joker from "Batman."

But it wasn't all carefree fun. Team manager Alex Cora, one of the team's four World Series trophies and a bystander were among those hit by errant beer cans. Cora and the trophy were barely scathed, but the bystander was urged to get treatment for a gash on her nose, The Boston Globe reported.

Patrick Connolly, a 19-year-old from Sandwich, Massachusetts, was charged with assault and disorderly conduct for allegedly hitting Cora with an unopened beer.

Connolly told the arresting officers, according to the Globe: "I love Cora. I didn't mean to hit him."

Police Commissioner William Gross said there were five other parade-related arrests, including a 17-year-old charged with illegal firearm and drug possession.

Security was tight along the route, which took the team past the site of the deadly 2013 Boston Marathon bombings.

Public drinking, in theory, was banned, but many fans still liberally swigged from small vials of liquor and cans of beer.

Throughout the day, spontaneous anti-Yankees chants rang out, a nod to the long-running rivalry between the American League squads.

Countless Boston-area youths skipped class to take in the parade.

"I heard there were six people in my history class today. Everyone is here," said Max Colognesi, a 16-year-old from nearby Chestnut Hill who joined friends near the ballpark. "I have a lot of homework when I get back, but it's worth it."

During a pre-parade ceremony at Fenway, Cora thanked fans for supporting the team as it won a team-record 108 games before beating the New York Yankees, Houston Astros and Los Angeles Dodgers in the playoffs.

"I've been saying since Day One, this is crazy, this is madness," he said.

Boston fans learned even more good news Wednesday when pitcher David Price announced before the start of the parade that he planned to stay in Boston, declining a contract option that would have enabled him to become a free agent.

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On Tuesday, the team announced they were exercising their \$15 million option for next season to retain another star pitcher, Chris Sale.

Though some fans were enjoying their first championship parade, many others, like 23-year-old Derek Safford, were veterans.

The North Attleborough, Massachusetts, resident and his family have attended every parade since 2004, including celebrations of titles for the New England Patriots, Boston Celtics and Boston Bruins.

"I know people had doubts at the start of the season with Cora being a first-time manager, but he really made a family-like atmosphere and brought this team together," Safford said from his prime vantage point on Boylston.

Bob Gardner traveled up from Newtown, Connecticut, with his wife and their 17-year-old grandson, Andrew. They took in the spectacle from near Fenway.

"It's an incredible thing because the team itself reflects so many good things — redemption, pride, teamwork — especially at this point in our country's history," he said.

Andrew agreed, saying: "It's just a special team. I'll tell my kids about this team. My grandkids. I'll never forget this moment."

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Associated Press journalists William J. Kole and Rodrique Ngowi contributed to this report.

## Trump, Democrats kick off final midterm campaign blitz

By KEN THOMAS, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump launched an eight-state campaign blitz on Wednesday, seeking to shore up Senate Republicans and GOP gubernatorial candidates against an onslaught of Democratic surrogates, including entertainment icon Oprah Winfrey.

Trump will crisscross the nation, landing him in Senate battlefields such as Indiana, Missouri and Florida along with nail-biter contests for governor in Georgia and Ohio.

Winfrey, who offered crucial support to President Barack Obama during his 2008 rise, will campaign Thursday for Georgia Democratic gubernatorial candidate Stacey Abrams, who is attempting to become the nation's first black female governor.

Obama plans to campaign Friday for Abrams in Atlanta and in Miami to boost Florida Sen. Bill Nelson and Tallahassee mayor Andrew Gillum, who is running for governor. On Sunday, the former president will be in Gary, Indiana, for Sen. Joe Donnelly, who is among the most endangered Senate Democrats, and in his hometown of Chicago for J.B. Pritzker, who is the favorite in Illinois' race for governor.

Democrats are defending several Senate incumbents in Republican-leaning states in their quest to narrow the GOP's 51-49 majority. The terrain is more favorable in the House, where Democrats need a net pickup of 23 seats to recapture the majority, and in several states with vulnerable Republican governors.

A look at midterm campaign activities Wednesday:

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RYAN

Trump slammed outgoing House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., tweeting that Ryan "should be focusing on holding the Majority" instead of weighing in on the president's push to end the Constitution's guarantee of birthright citizenship.

Trump tweeted that Ryan shouldn't offer "his opinions on Birthright Citizenship, something he knows nothing about!"

Trump has said he can end the right to citizenship for babies born to non-U.S. citizens on American soil with an executive order. And he has argued that the right isn't covered by the 14th Amendment, even though the text of the constitutional amendment says that "all persons born or naturalized" in the U.S. are citizens.



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Ryan, who is retiring, said Tuesday that Trump couldn't "end birthright citizenship with an executive order."

## FLORIDA GOVERNOR

Former Rep. Ron DeSantis suggested during a rally with President Donald Trump that his Democratic opponent in the race for Florida governor should be impeached over ethics questions in his role leading the city of Tallahassee.

DeSantis criticized his Democratic opponent, Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillum, at length during his speech at the rally, bringing up an ongoing ethics investigation involving Gillum.

Gillum has asserted he paid his way on trips to Costa Rica and New York City, but newly released documents appear to contradict him.

Gillum has steadfastly denied any wrongdoing in the ethics probe, which is separate but related to an ongoing FBI investigation into city government.

DeSantis said maybe Gillum should be impeached. That prompted the crowd to chant, "Lock him up. Lock him up."

## MONTANA SENATE

The Libertarian candidate in Montana's Senate race threw his support behind Republican Matt Rosendale in response to an election mailer from an unknown group that appears aimed at undermining Rosendale's support among conservatives.

Rick Breckenridge said Wednesday that he doesn't know the source of the mailer promoting him as a "true conservative" and claiming that Rosendale supports using drones to spy on private citizens.

Breckenridge said it was an attempt by so-called dark money groups to influence Montana's election. He said he has decided to back Rosendale, who is in a tight race against two-term Democratic Sen. Jon Tester.

The mailer is reminiscent of tactics used by Democratic-friendly groups in Tester's 2012 race to promote the Libertarian candidate and peel away Republican voters.

## PENCE-IMMIGRATION

Vice President Mike Pence said during a stop in Ohio that the caravan of Central Americans walking toward the U.S. southern border represents "an assault on our country" and Republicans are "determined to end this crisis of illegal immigration once and for all."

An estimated 4,000 Central American migrants have been walking across Mexico toward the U.S. border. The Defense Department has authorized the deployment of 5,200 troops to help along the U.S. border.

Pence was accompanied by Jared Kushner, Trump's son-in-law and senior adviser, for a rally attended by several hundred people inside a hangar at an airport in Mansfield, Ohio.

It was aimed at helping Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine, who is running for governor, Senate candidate Jim Renacci and Republican members of Congress.

## OHIO VOTERS

Federal judges ordered Ohio to allow voters who had been purged for not voting over a six-year period to participate in this year's election.

A divided 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals panel granted an emergency motion sought by voting-rights groups. The ruling overturned in part an Oct. 10 ruling by a federal judge that said voters haven't been illegally purged from Ohio's rolls.

Plaintiffs, led by the A. Philip Randolph Institute, lost their broader challenge in June to Ohio's election administration process as unconstitutional. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in favor of Ohio's practices.

Republican Secretary of State Jon Husted said he wouldn't fight the order, aiming to avoid "an unnecessary source of contention with election only five days away."

## PELOSI PREDICTS

House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi declared late Tuesday that Democrats will win the House major-

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ity, predicting a "great night for America."

Pelosi said in an interview with Stephen Colbert on "The Late Show" that "up until today, I would have said, 'If the election were held today, we would win.'" Asked what had changed, Pelosi said, "What now I'm saying is we will win. We will win. We will win."

Pelosi, who was the nation's first female House speaker, could be in position to reclaim the gavel in House leadership elections after the midterms.

## FLORIDA VOTES

More than 3.4 million people in Florida have already voted, surpassing the number who voted early or by mail four years ago.

New statistics released Wednesday by the state Division of Elections show registered Republicans still have the edge, casting 1.43 million ballots compared to nearly 1.37 million by registered Democrats. More than 592,000 voters with no party affiliation have voted.

More than 1.48 million people have voted early, and more than 1.9 million people have voted by mail.

During the last midterm election, nearly 3.19 million Floridians cast their ballots before Election Day. More than 6.6 million voted early or voted by mail in the 2016 presidential election.

Florida has more than 13 million registered voters.

Associated Press writers Gary Fineout in Tallahassee, Fla.; Jill Colvin in Estero, Fla.; Matthew Brown in Billings, Mont.; and Dan Sewell in Cincinnati contributed to this report.

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

## Rare drop in NRA election spending as gun-limit groups rise

By **JULIE PACE** and **LISA MARIE PANE**, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The National Rifle Association — long seen as a kingmaker in Republican politics — is taking a lower profile in this year's high-stakes midterm campaign, a sign of the shifting dynamics of the gun debate as the GOP fights to maintain its grip on Congress.

The NRA has put \$11 million into midterm races this year — less than half what it spent four years ago in a campaign that gave Republicans full control of Congress. This year's totals are also far below the \$54 million the group spent in 2016 on both the presidential and congressional races.

The shift comes as spending to support tougher gun control measures has surged. Everytown for Gun Safety, a group founded by former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, pledged \$30 million for this year's election, and has continued to put new money into competitive races in the final days. A political action committee formed by Gabby Giffords, the former congresswoman wounded in a shooting, is spending nearly \$5 million.

It's the first time under current campaign finance laws that the NRA might be outspent by gun control groups, though the organization often ramps up spending late in the campaign. That money won't show up in federal financial reports until after Election Day.

It all underscores a changing political landscape on guns after a series of election year mass shootings, including the February massacre at a Parkland, Florida, high school that left 17 people dead, and Saturday's deadly attack at a Pittsburgh synagogue.

"The politics of guns has changed," said Jim Kessler, the senior vice president for policy at Third Way, a centrist think tank. "The groups supporting more gun safety restrictions are smarter than in the past and have more resources, both in terms of people and money, than in the past."

With polls showing that the majority of Americans now support at least some tightening of gun laws, the issue is no longer taboo in swing districts, particularly the suburban areas that could determine which party controls the House next year. Everytown and Giffords' group are on the air in competitive districts in Texas, Virginia, Kansas and elsewhere.

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After the Pittsburgh shooting, a Bloomberg aide said Everytown bought another \$700,000 in advertisements aimed at ousting Rep. Mike Coffman, a vulnerable Republican who represents a suburban Denver district — a significant sum to spend on a single House race in one week.

The group has also spent about \$4 million in the Atlanta suburbs to back Democrat and gun control advocate Lucy McBath, whose son was shot and killed in 2012.

Despite the public polling, there are no guarantees that sending more pro-gun control lawmakers to Washington would result in tougher legislation. Modest measures have repeatedly been blocked in Congress, even as Americans have grown more supportive of steps like banning assault weapons and tightening background checks.

Bloomberg, who is weighing a run for president as a Democrat in 2020, promises to keep up the pressure on lawmakers and candidates he's backing if they end up on Capitol Hill.

"I've put an awful lot of my money and an awful lot of my time into this," he said in an interview with The Associated Press. "I'm not going to forget it. I'm not going to walk away."

He continued: "The nice thing about the House, it may be a stupidly designed system but if they don't do what they said they were going to do, you get another crack at deciding to support them or somebody else two years from now."

An NRA spokeswoman would not comment on the group's election spending compared to organizations pushing for stricter gun laws.

Bloomberg, who is spending \$120 million on the midterms, has helped pro-gun control groups level a playing field long dominated by the NRA.

The organization was riding high after the 2016 election, with a strong supporter in the White House and Republicans in charge of both the House and Senate.

But 2018 has proved to be a tumultuous year for the NRA, which has been faced with boycotts from parts of corporate America in the wake of mass shootings and an investigation into what federal authorities allege were covert Russian agents seeking to influence the 2016 election to benefit Trump by courting NRA officials and funneling money through the group.

Publicly, the NRA has portrayed itself as being in financial distress because of deep-pocketed liberal opposition to guns and what it calls the mainstream media "spewing toxic lies" about the group. Over the summer, the organization raised its annual dues fees from \$40 to \$45 — the second increase in two years.

NRA watchers dismiss the notion that the organization is in trouble and say it's more of a ploy to energize its ardent supporters, which in turn could help bring in more donations.

"It's in the NRA's interests to exaggerate how much trouble it's in," said Robert J. Spitzer, chairman of political science at the State University of New York at Cortland and an expert on guns and the Second Amendment.

Indeed, the group's political fundraising is up this year compared to the last midterm election. According to data provided by an NRA official, the group's Political Victory Fund has raised more than \$12 million this year compared to nearly \$11 million at this same point in the 2014 midterms.

While the NRA is not pumping the same levels of money into this year's elections, it still has much at its disposal to try to sway campaigns: its NRATV media arm, social media and an ability to mobilize its millions of members to get them to the polls.

The NRA's membership rolls and finances are not public, but the organization has said it has about 6 million in its ranks. Those who closely watch the group believe its membership is closer to 4 million.

Both the NRA and groups such as Everytown can also quietly influence elections with money that doesn't have to be reported in publicly available campaign finance reports.

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Pane reported from Boise, Idaho. AP writer Brian Slodysko in Indianapolis contributed to this report.

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



## Official: Mafia hit man suspected in Whitey Bulger's slaying

By ALANNA DURKIN RICHER and DENISE LAVOIE, Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — A Mafia hit man who is said to hate "rats" is under suspicion in the slaying of former Boston crime boss and longtime FBI informant James "Whitey" Bulger, who was found dead hours after he was transferred to a West Virginia prison, an ex-investigator briefed on the case said Wednesday.

The former official said that Fotios "Freddy" Geas and at least one other inmate are believed to have been involved in Bulger's killing. The longtime investigator was not authorized to discuss the matter and spoke on condition of anonymity.

Authorities have not disclosed the cause of death.

Among the many unanswered questions after Bulger was found dead on Tuesday: Why was he moved to the prison? And why was a frail 89-year-old like Bulger — a known "snitch" — placed in the general population instead of more protective housing?

Attorney Hank Brennan said Bulger had a hip injury and was in a wheelchair when he was attacked. Brennan represented Bulger during his 2013 trial.

Geas, 51, and his brother were sentenced to life in prison in 2011 for their roles in several violent crimes, including the 2003 killing of Adolfo "Big Al" Bruno, a Genovese crime family boss who was gunned down in a Springfield, Massachusetts, parking lot.

Private investigator Ted McDonough, who knew Geas, told The Boston Globe: "Freddy hated rats."

"Freddy hated guys who abused women. Whitey was a rat who killed women. It's probably that simple," McDonough told the newspaper, which first reported that Geas was under suspicion.

It was not clear whether Geas has an attorney. Several other lawyers who represented him over the years didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

An FBI spokeswoman in Pittsburgh declined to comment on Geas. Federal officials said only that they are investigating the death as a homicide.

"What I don't understand is why the Federal Bureau of Prisons would transfer a super high-publicity inmate, who is a known snitch, to general population of a high-security prison," said Cameron Lindsay, a former federal prison warden who now works as a jail security consultant. "You've got to be smarter than that."

He added: "If I was the warden of Hazelton, I would have never, ever allowed him to be put within my general population. It is just too risky."

Bulger's death was the third killing in the past six months at the prison, where union officials have raised concerns about dozens of vacant jobs. Two inmates were killed in fights with other prisoners in September and April.

Five members of Congress wrote to Attorney General Sessions last week about what they saw as chronic understaffing at USP Hazelton and other federal prisons.

Bulger led South Boston's Irish mob for decades and became an FBI informant who supplied information on the New England Mafia, his gang's main rival, in an era when bringing down the Italian mob was a top national priority for the bureau.

Tipped off that he was about to be indicted, Bulger became a fugitive and eluded authorities for 16 years before being captured in 2011. He was convicted in 2013 in 11 underworld slayings and a long list of other crimes and was sentenced to spend the rest of his life behind bars.

He had just arrived Monday at USP Hazelton, a high-security prison in Bruceton Mills, West Virginia. He had previously been in a prison in Florida, with a stopover at a transfer facility in Oklahoma City. Federal Bureau of Prisons officials and his attorney declined to comment on why he was being moved.

Bulger's attorney, J.W. Carney Jr., blamed his death on prison officials, saying Bulger "was sentenced to life in prison, but as a result of decisions by the Federal Bureau of Prisons, that sentence has been changed to the death penalty."

Bureau of Prison officials had no comment on Carney's remarks.

The Geas brothers were not made members of the Mafia because they were Greek, not Italian. But they were close associates of the mob and acted as enforcers.

Associated Press reporters Eric Tucker and Mike Balsamo in Washington and John Raby in Charleston, West Virginia, contributed to this report.

## Turkish prosecutor says Saudi writer strangled, dismembered

By MEHMET GUZEL and SUZAN FRASER, Associated Press

ISTANBUL (AP) — Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi was strangled as soon as he entered the Saudi consulate in Istanbul as part of a premeditated killing, and his body was dismembered before it was removed, a top Turkish prosecutor said Wednesday.

Chief Istanbul prosecutor Irfan Fidan's office also said in a statement that discussions with Saudi chief prosecutor Saud al-Mojeb over the killing yielded "no concrete result" despite Turkey's "good-intentioned efforts to reveal the truth."

The statement was the first public confirmation by a Turkish official that Khashoggi was strangled and mutilated after he entered the Saudi Consulate on Oct. 2. It also pointed to a lack of cooperation from Saudi officials in the investigation of the slaying.

"In accordance with plans made in advance, the victim, Jamal Khashoggi, was strangled and killed immediately after entering the Consulate General of Saudi Arabia," the prosecutor's office said.

"The victim Jamal Khashoggi's body was dismembered and destroyed following his death by suffocation, again in line with the advance plans," the two-page statement read.

The prosecutor's statement that Khashoggi was killed immediately conflicts with a report by pro-government newspaper Yeni Safak earlier this month, which cited what it described as an audio recording of Khashoggi being tortured before being killed. The newspaper claimed that his fingers were cut off and that he was killed by being beheaded.

On Wednesday, U.S. President Donald Trump said he doesn't feel "betrayed" by Saudi Arabia over Khashoggi's death.

Trump, who made Saudi Arabia the destination of his first foreign trip as president, said the Saudis didn't betray him but "maybe they've betrayed themselves." Trump told reporters at the White House on Wednesday: "I just hope it all works out."

Turkey is seeking the extradition of 18 suspects in the journalist's slaying who were detained in Saudi Arabia. It also is pressing Saudi Arabia for information about who ordered Khashoggi's killing and the location of his remains.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has called on Riyadh to disclose the identity of an alleged local collaborator said to have been involved in getting rid of Khashoggi's body.

Saudi chief prosecutor al-Mojeb met with Fidan twice and also visited the Turkish intelligence agency's Istanbul headquarters this week before leaving for Riyadh on a private jet Wednesday.

Saudi Arabia has not commented directly on the prosecutor's visit and al-Mojeb did not respond to journalists' questions at the airport as he departed.

Fidan's office said the Saudi delegation submitted a written statement and invited the Turkish delegation to come to Saudi Arabia bringing "evidence obtained during the course of the investigation."

The Saudi representatives said the whereabouts of Khashoggi's remains and whether the killing was premeditated or not would only come to light through a joint interrogation by Turkish and Saudi investigators, according to the statement.

The statement said Turkey renewed its request for the 18 suspects to be extradited. It did not say if Turkish officials would travel to Saudi Arabia.

On Wednesday, a lawmaker and spokesman for Turkey's ruling party again called on Saudi Arabia to reveal where Khashoggi's body is, who gave the orders for the killing and who the alleged Turkish collaborator is.

"Instead of trying to find out what (evidence) Turkey has, Saudi authorities should give the answers to these questions," Omer Celik told reporters. "This is not an incident that could have taken place without a high-level order."

Celik added: "We are not blaming anyone in advance but we will not allow anything to be covered up."

Khashoggi, a 59-year-old columnist for The Washington Post, vanished after entering the consulate in Istanbul to pick up paperwork he needed for his upcoming marriage. His Turkish fiancée was waiting for him outside. A critic of the Saudi crown prince, Khashoggi had been living in exile in the United States.

Turkey alleges a hit squad from Saudi Arabia — including a member of Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's entourage during a trip to the United States— went to Istanbul to kill the journalist and then tried to cover it up.

Under mounting pressure, Saudi Arabia changed its narrative about Khashoggi's killing several times, eventually admitting Khashoggi died inside the consulate. Saudi Arabia only recently acknowledged Turkish evidence showed the slaying was premeditated.

Hurriyet newspaper columnist Abdulkadir Selvi, who is known to be close to the Turkish government, said the Saudi prosecutor revealed nothing new to Turkish investigators during his three-day visit and left with several questions unanswered.

"Rather than share the information he has, the Saudi prosecutor tried to learn what information and evidence Turkey has in its hands," Selvi wrote Wednesday.

He added: "The chief prosecutor is not trying to shed light on the murder, he is trying to save the crown prince."

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Associated Press writer Mehmet Guzel reported this story in Istanbul and AP writer Suzan Fraser reported from Ankara, Turkey. AP writer eyran Elden in Istanbul contributed to this report.

## **Suspect in grocery store shooting indicted on murder charges**

**By BRUCE SCHREINER, Associated Press**

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — The white man accused of opening fire in a Kentucky grocery store and parking lot, killing two black people, was indicted Wednesday on murder charges, but it's too soon to determine if the death penalty will be sought, a prosecutor said.

The suspect, Gregory A. Bush, was indicted by a grand jury on two counts of murder, one count of criminal attempted murder and two counts of first-degree wanton endangerment stemming from the attack at a Kroger store in suburban Louisville last week.

Jefferson County Commonwealth's Attorney Tom Wine told reporters Wednesday that he first wants to talk to the victims' families before deciding whether to pursue the death penalty against Bush, 51.

"Quite frankly, it is too early to talk to them about that weighty decision," Wine said.

The prosecutor said he'll talk to the families "at the appropriate time," after they've had time to grieve.

Bush's indictment means his case will proceed to Jefferson County Circuit Court in Louisville.

Bush was seen on surveillance video trying to enter a historically black church minutes before the Kroger shootings but was not able to enter the church, police said. The police chief of the town outside Louisville where the shooting happened said he believes the killings were racially motivated.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., on Monday denounced the Pittsburgh synagogue massacre and Kentucky grocery store shooting as hate crimes and said the death penalty should be applied.

Meanwhile, prosecutors on Wednesday identified the man they say first confronted Bush during the shooting as Dominic D. Rozier. The attempted murder charge against Bush stemmed from their exchange of gunfire, authorities said.

Rozier does not face any charges for firing at Bush, Wine said.

"There is no indication that he acted other than in self-protection for himself and for others," Wine said of Rozier.

The wanton endangerment charges stemmed from the threats posed against Rozier's wife and the 12-year-old grandson of one of the victims during the shooting, prosecutors said.

According to an arrest report, Bush walked into the Kroger, pulled a gun from his waist and shot a man in the back of the head, then kept shooting him multiple times. The report says Bush then reholstered his



gun, walked outside and killed a woman in the parking lot. Each victim died of multiple gunshot wounds. The victims were identified as Maurice Stallard, 69, and Vicki Lee Jones, 67. Bush, who is being held in a local jail, did not know either victim, Wine said.

Federal investigators are examining if there were any violations of federal law, including potential civil rights violations such as hate crimes, U.S. Attorney Russell M. Coleman in Louisville said.

Coleman said in a statement Wednesday that the investigation will be "thorough and prompt, aimed at collecting the evidence necessary to meet the standards required for charging under the federal hate crimes and related laws."

## More deaths seen for less invasive cervical cancer surgery

By CARLA K. JOHNSON, AP Medical Writer

New evidence about a cancer operation in women finds a higher death rate for the less invasive version, challenging standard practice and the "less is more" approach to treating cervical cancer.

The unexpected findings are prompting changes at some hospitals that perform radical hysterectomies for early-stage disease.

The more rigorous of the two studies was conducted at more than 30 sites in a dozen countries. It found women who had the less invasive surgery were four times more likely to see their cancer return compared to women who had traditional surgery. Death from cervical cancer occurred in 14 of 319 patients who had minimally invasive surgery and 2 of 312 patients who had open surgery.

Results were published online Wednesday by the New England Journal of Medicine.

Radical hysterectomy is standard treatment for women with early-stage cervical cancer. Rates are declining because of widespread screening. The number of operations has fallen, too, to several thousand a year in the United States. Some women with early-stage cervical cancer are choosing fertility-sparing techniques, treatments not included in the new research.

In both studies, researchers compared two methods for radical hysterectomy, an operation to remove the uterus, cervix and part of the vagina. The surgery costs around \$9,000 to \$12,000 with the minimally invasive version at the higher end.

Traditional surgery involves a cut in the lower abdomen. In a newer method, a surgeon makes small incisions for a camera and instruments. Patients recover faster, so laparoscopic surgery, which has been around for more than a decade, gained popularity despite a lack of rigorous long-term studies.

It's not clear why it failed to measure up. Experts suspect there may be something about the tools or technique that spreads the cancer cells from the tumor to the abdominal cavity.

Some hospitals went back to traditional hysterectomy after the results were presented at a cancer meeting in March.

"We immediately as a department changed our practice and changed completely to the open approach," said Dr. Pedro Ramirez of the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston.

Ramirez led the more rigorous study, which randomly assigned 631 patients to one of two surgeries. After 4½ years, the rate of those still living without disease was 86 percent with less invasive surgery and 96 percent with traditional surgery.

The experiment was halted early last year when the higher death and cancer recurrence rates showed up. The original plan was to enroll 740 patients in the study, which was funded in part by surgical device maker Medtronic.

For 33-year-old Alicia Ackley, who was diagnosed with cervical cancer in July, the recommendation for traditional surgery came as a surprise, but she followed the advice of her doctor at MD Anderson after hearing about the research. Tests following her September operation show no signs of cancer.

"I'm very glad I went that route," Ackley said. "The open hysterectomy got everything."

The other study looked at 2,461 women with cervical cancer who had radical hysterectomies from 2010 through 2013. It found a 9.1 percent death rate after four years among women who got minimally invasive surgery compared to 5.3 percent for traditional surgery.

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"We're rethinking how we approach patients," said study co-author Dr. Jason Wright of New York-Presbyterian Hospital. "There's a lot of surprise around these findings."

The research is "a great blow" to the technique and the findings are "alarming," said Dr. Amanda Fader of Johns Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center. She said Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore has stopped doing less invasive hysterectomies for cervical cancer until there is more data.

While some patients with small tumors might do as well with minimally invasive surgery, "surgeons should proceed cautiously" and discuss the new information with patients, Fader wrote in an accompanying editorial.

AP video journalist Federica Narancio contributed to this report from Washington, D.C.

Follow AP Medical Writer Carla K. Johnson on Twitter: @CarlaKJohnson

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## Under Trump, federal death penalty cases are ticking up

By JIM MUSTIAN, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Before a suspect was even publicly named, President Donald Trump declared that whoever gunned down 11 people in a Pittsburgh synagogue should "suffer the ultimate price" and that the death penalty should be brought back "into vogue."

Trump has largely gotten his wish, at least on the federal level, with death penalty cases ticking back up under his Justice Department after a near-moratorium on such prosecutions in President Barack Obama's last term, when he directed a broad review of capital punishment and issues surrounding lethal injection.

Trump's attorney general, Jeff Sessions, has so far approved at least a dozen death penalty prosecutions over the past two years, according to court filings tracked by the Federal Death Penalty Resource Counsel, with cases ranging from the high profile to the relatively obscure.

They include the man charged with using a rented truck to fatally mow down eight people on a New York City bike path a year ago; three men charged in a fatal armored truck robbery in New Orleans; a gang suspect in Detroit charged with "murder in aid of racketeering"; and a man charged with fatally shooting a tribal police officer in New Mexico on the nation's largest American Indian reservation.

The tally could grow higher over the next two months as federal prosecutors await Sessions' decision in several other cases, including against the alleged synagogue shooter, Robert Bowers, who faces federal hate crime charges and 11 counts of murder.

By comparison, in Obama's final year in office the Justice Department authorized just one capital prosecution, that of Dylann Roof, the white supremacist who fatally shot nine black people in 2015 during a church service in Charleston, South Carolina.

But while the Justice Department under Trump has increased death penalty prosecutions, the numbers are not entirely out of line with those earlier in the Obama administration under Attorney General Eric Holder, who approved 11 capital prosecutions in 2009 and at least 13 in 2012.

And both the Trump and Obama administrations pale in comparison to that of President George W. Bush and his attorney general John Ashcroft, who in 2003 alone signed off on capital prosecutions against more than three dozen defendants, at times overruling his own prosecutors when they recommended against seeking capital punishment.

What makes Trump different, death penalty experts say, is that he publicly advocates for the ultimate punishment in specific cases.

"I think they should very much bring the death penalty into vogue," Trump told reporters Saturday shortly after news came of the synagogue shooting. "Anybody that does a thing like this to innocent people that are in temple or in church. We had so many incidents with churches. They should really suffer the

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ultimate price.”

And he took to Twitter just a day after last year’s Manhattan bike path attack to call suspect Sayfullo Saipov a “Degenerate Animal” and argue he “SHOULD GET DEATH PENALTY!”

Trump also said this year that capital punishment should be used to prosecute drug traffickers. Sessions followed a day later with a memo urging prosecutors to seek the death penalty “for certain drug-related crimes,” including killings occurring during drug trafficking.

“If we’re to be a nation of laws, then the legal process has to be allowed to play itself out without being subject to political manipulation,” said Robert Dunham, executive director of the Washington-based Death Penalty Information Center. “Charging decisions should be made based on the evidence, not based on politics and not based on political pressure.”

The Justice Department did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Trump was a vocal proponent of the death penalty for decades before taking office, most notably in 1989 when the real estate magnate took out full-page advertisements in New York City newspapers urging elected officials to “BRING BACK THE DEATH PENALTY” following the rape of a jogger in Central Park. “If the punishment is strong,” he wrote at the time, “the attacks on innocent people will stop.”

Five Harlem teenagers were convicted in the Central Park case but had their convictions vacated years later after another man confessed to the rape. The city agreed to pay the so-called Central Park Five \$41 million more than a decade after their exoneration — a settlement Trump blasted as “outrageous.”

Polls show a majority of Americans still back the death penalty, but support has been declining in recent years. A 2017 Gallup poll showed 55 percent of Americans supported the death penalty for a person convicted of murder, the lowest percentage in 45 years.

The death penalty remains legal in 30 states, but only a handful regularly conduct executions. Texas has executed 108 prisoners since 2010, far more than any other state.

But such executions on the federal level have been rare. The government has put to death only three defendants since restoring the federal death penalty in 1988, the most recent of which occurred in 2003, when Louis Jones was executed for the 1995 kidnapping, rape and murder of a young female soldier.

In 2014, following a botched state execution in Oklahoma, Obama directed the Justice Department to conduct a broad review of capital punishment and issues surrounding lethal injection drugs. It remains unclear today what came of that review and whether it will change the way the federal government carries out executions.

The U.S. Bureau of Prisons did not respond to requests for comment.

Trump himself railed against this disconnect between prosecutions and actual executions in his comments after the Pittsburgh attack.

“They shouldn’t have to wait years and years,” he said. “Now the lawyers will get involved, and everybody’s going to get involved, and we’ll be 10 years down the line.”

## Accusers: State blew chance to stop predator pediatrician

By MICHAEL RUBINKAM, Associated Press

JOHNSTOWN, Pa. (AP) — Nearly two decades ago, Pennsylvania regulators were confronted with evidence that a well-regarded pediatrician had fondled the genitals of two small children during office visits. Instead of holding him accountable, regulators let the doctor keep his medical license. He went on to molest at least a dozen more young patients, victimizing children right up until the time of his arrest in January, prosecutors say.

Now, as Dr. Johnnie “Jack” Barto sits in jail awaiting trial on sexual assault charges involving more than 30 children, his 1990s-era patients and their parents say the state Board of Medicine failed to stop him when it had the chance and bears responsibility for what investigators are calling a “pervasive and prolonged pattern of abuse.” Police, prosecutors and Barto’s own colleagues also deserve blame for looking the other way, they say.

“It could’ve stopped with me,” Lee Ann Berkebile, 28, of Johnstown, said in an interview with The As-



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sociated Press. "Instead they chose to cover for him and stick up for him, and now look what happened. All you did was let a sicko touch other girls."

Barto, 71, was arrested in January and charged with groping a 12-year-old girl during an office visit several weeks earlier. Suspecting she might not be alone, the Pennsylvania attorney general's office put out a call for other accusers to come forward — and they did, by the dozen, with claims going back to the late 1980s.

Barto has pleaded not guilty. If the charges hold up, the case will represent another black mark against a profession that's long had trouble policing itself over sexual misconduct.

There have been more than 1,000 cases across the nation in which doctors were sanctioned for sexual misconduct but held onto their medical licenses, according to a 2016 investigation by The Atlanta Journal-Constitution. A study by the consumer group Public Citizen that same year found state regulators often failed to punish abusive doctors at all. More than two-thirds of doctors with sexual misconduct reports in the National Practitioner Data Bank, a federal government database, faced no discipline from their states' medical boards, the study found.

"Without consequences, we cannot really solve the problem. You don't have enough deterrence out there," Public Citizen health researcher Azza AbuDagga said. Referring to Barto, she added, "This physician was let loose and was able to hurt other people. The interest of the physician superseded the interest of the public and that's not acceptable."

The Pennsylvania Department of State, which provides legal and administrative support to the board and prosecutes administrative cases of doctor misconduct, said in a statement that "the Board of Medicine takes allegations of sexual misconduct by professional licensees very seriously." But the board does not keep statistics on how often it punishes doctors accused of sexual misconduct, so it's difficult to judge how seriously it has treated sexual abuse — either then or now.

Current board members were not in office when Barto's case was considered.

Lee Ann Berkebile was just 4 years old when her mother took her to see the pediatrician in 1994 for a runny nose and cough. At the end of the appointment, Barto offered to walk Lee Ann down the hall to a medicine closet. It was then, Berkebile said, that Barto shoved his hand down her pants and inserted his finger in her vagina.

The little girl immediately told her mother, who went to the county child welfare agency. The case was referred to Johnstown police. A sergeant interviewed Lee Ann and her parents but did not file charges, citing her age, according to documents obtained by the AP from state archives.

Lee Ann's father, Sam McAdams, believes it was Barto's prominence, the strong support he had in Johnstown and the family's own poverty that helped him avoid criminal prosecution.

"We got treated like we were garbage for even saying something or suggesting something," McAdams said.

Four years after Berkebile says she was molested, another patient, 3-year-old Kelsey Bowman, had an appointment with Barto. At the end of it, Barto sat Kelsey — who wore a T-shirt, socks and nothing else — on his lap.

Her mother, Kelli Bowman, who was also in the exam room, said Kelsey gave a sudden jerk, and she saw Barto's hand on her daughter's vagina for at least a minute. Bowman grabbed her daughter and left. Afterward, she said, Kelsey cried and said the "mean doctor touched me on my monkey."

Johnstown police and the Cambria County district attorney's office investigated. This time, authorities took action. Barto faced administrative charges — not only for touching Kelsey, but for the earlier incident involving Berkebile.

Testifying at the equivalent of a trial, young Lee Ann described what she says Barto did to her, and Bowman told a hearing examiner how Barto fondled her daughter. Barto denied the allegations, but hearing examiner Suzanne Rauer found the accusers to be credible and consistent — calling Lee Ann's testimony "heart-stopping." Rauer concluded that Barto "sexually assaulted two of his very young patients" and committed a "grave abuse of his position," according to her March 2000 ruling that stripped him of his

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medical license.

Facing the imminent loss of his career, the pediatrician appealed to the Board of Medicine, an independent body that's comprised primarily of doctors and is in charge of licensing and discipline. The board dismissed the accusers' accounts on a 7-2 vote and said Barto could resume his career. The allegations, it said, were "incongruous to his reputation."

Vivian Lowenstein, one of the two votes to strip Barto of his license, blasted the physician members of the board for letting him off the hook. "I'm sick about it," she told the AP recently.

Lowenstein, a nurse practitioner, said the case serves as an example of how Pennsylvania's physician-regulators typically looked out for their own. "It was my perception that there was a pattern that physicians were protective of other physicians, and didn't always make the best decisions," she said.

Kishor Mehta, who served on the board with Lowenstein, disputed that physician members were biased. "They never favored doctors. They were very objective," said Mehta, who is not a doctor. He said he had no memory of the Barto case but added that accused doctors are entitled to due process like anyone else: "Unless there is good evidence, you don't want to take the livelihood of somebody."

The 1990s accusers and their parents, meanwhile, remain bitter that regulators took his word over theirs. "I was livid. I was appalled they gave him back his license," Kelli Bowman said. Of the later accusers, she added. "I feel sorry for those kids. It's all the medical board's fault."

The two practices for which Barto worked also might have missed the warning signs — or been willfully ignorant. Parents complained to office staff and other physicians over the years about Barto's sexual misconduct toward their children, and, at one point, Barto promised he would no longer examine teenage girls, according to court documents. But he continued seeing and abusing patients, prosecutors say.

Court documents do not indicate whether Barto's medical practices ever took any steps to protect patients, but one doctor tried to explain away his behavior by telling an upset parent that Barto had an "odd bedside manner," according to an affidavit. The doctor also speculated Barto might have Asperger's syndrome, a milder form of autism.

Neither practice offered any comment when contacted by the AP.

Berkebile said the assault affected her in profound ways. She became self-destructive. She doesn't trust people, especially men, and remains in therapy.

"He ruined my life," Berkebile said. She said she feels for the other girls whom prosecutors say Barto assaulted, "because I know what it's going to do their lives and how it's going to affect them."

Cambria County District Attorney Kelly Callihan, who referred the ongoing criminal prosecution to the Pennsylvania attorney general's office because staffers in her office had Barto as their children's pediatrician, said the older accusers are right to be angry.

"It looks like a missed opportunity here to file charges, get a conviction and stop this happening to the many other victims who have now come forward," said Callihan, who joined the DA's office in 1996 but said she wasn't involved in Barto's case. "The system failed them, whether it was the criminal system or the administrative process they went through."

## Radical plans, risks in foreign policy of Brazil's Bolsonaro

By MAURICIO SAVARESE, Associated Press

SAO PAULO (AP) — Brazil's President-elect Jair Bolsonaro has often expressed admiration for Donald Trump and appears poised to follow the U.S. president in a radical overhaul of his nation's foreign policy — a move that experts warn could ultimately isolate and hurt Brazil.

Bolsonaro, who takes office Jan. 1, has promised to pull Latin America's largest nation out of the Paris climate accord, join the handful of countries that have moved their embassies in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem and take a hard line against President Nicolas Maduro in neighboring Venezuela.

The former army captain, who gained notoriety as a congressman for violence-laden language and offensive comments, has also frequently bashed China, Brazil's largest foreign investor.

The broad brushes of his plans have diplomats, political analysts and former government officials warning

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that such moves could isolate the regional powerhouse instead of opening new markets, which Bolsonaro has said he wants to do by enacting widespread privatization of state industries.

"If Bolsonaro does what he says, Brazil will quickly become a pariah in the global community," said Rubens Ricupero, a former finance and environment minister. "Brazil has 50,000 problems to solve. He wants to give us problems we don't have in exchange for nothing."

A deeply polarizing figure at home, Bolsonaro has also ruffled feathers abroad. He called refugees fleeing to Europe "human waste," raising eyebrows in African and Middle Eastern countries, and irritated China by visiting Taiwan, which Beijing considers to be a breakaway province.

And, like Trump, he has also said Brazil would scrap or try to renegotiate trade treaties, including the South American common market Mercosur.

Besides Bolsonaro's aggressive statements, analysts don't know exactly how he will operate. He has not said who he might name as foreign minister, and aside from his hyperbolic campaign rhetoric, his official platform was heavy on generalities but light on actual policy.

"The structure of the Foreign Ministry needs to be at the service of values that were always associated with the Brazilian people," it reads. "The other front is to foster foreign trade with countries that can add economic and technologic value to Brazil."

As a backbench congressman with a lackluster record over 27 years — only two of his proposals ever made it into law — Bolsonaro often asserted that Brazil's foreign policy was driven by the "leftist ideology of the Workers' Party", which governed from 2003 to 2016. He promised to remove political bias from his international platform by "not dealing with dictatorships," an apparent reference to leftist leaders like Maduro and Cuban President Raul Castro.

Leaving the Paris Agreement is the potential decision that will be most closely watched. Brazil agreed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 37 percent below 2005 levels by 2025. For that to happen, it needs to increase biofuels as a part of its energy infrastructure and sharply reduce deforestation.

Similar to Trump, who pulled the U.S. out of the accord, Bolsonaro has said it's a bad deal for Brazil, home to the lion's share of the Amazon rainforest. In September, the then candidate said the agreement put "Brazil's sovereignty at stake" because to meet emissions and deforestation goals it would not be able to develop millions of acres of Amazon territory.

Days before Sunday's election, Bolsonaro back-peddled slightly, saying he would not pull the country out if Brazil's sovereignty was maintained — which could be interpreted in many ways.

Leaving the agreement would trigger widespread international condemnation and could also have financial consequences, including lost foreign investment and the blocking of a trade agreement Brazil is negotiating with the European Union.

Oliver Stuenkel, a professor of international relations at the Fundacao Getulio Vargas university in Sao Paulo, says Bolsonaro's decisions will reverberate in a way they don't necessarily for a leader like Trump.

"Picture German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who is a voice for moderation in the world. She has to meet Trump because the U.S. is a big partner," he said. "Why would she meet Bolsonaro, a man who could cause her trouble simply for the things he has already said? Adding troubles will only make it worse."

Bolsonaro will also be starting his administration amid friction with China, which has invested billions of dollars in energy, infrastructure and oil projects in Brazil. During the campaign, he complained that "the Chinese are not buying in Brazil. They are buying Brazil itself."

In February, Bolsonaro, then a presidential candidate, joined a group of Brazilian lawmakers in a visit to Taiwan to meet local business and political leaders.

Soon after, Chinese President Xi Jinping's administration sent Bolsonaro a letter saying the tour caused "possible turbulence in the strategic partnership between Brazil and China."

Charles Tang, chairman of the Brazil-China chamber of commerce in Rio de Janeiro, said he believes Bolsonaro will moderate his positions once in office, and that the president-elect's attempts to forge closer ties to the Trump administration should not harm relations with China.

But Tang also warned that China could retaliate if the rhetoric is not softened. For example, Brazil is



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set to host a summit next year of the so-called BRICS nations, the emerging economies of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.

"Mr. Xi could decide not to come if he doesn't feel welcome," Tang said.

During the campaign, Bolsonaro frequently held up Venezuela as a cautionary tale of what the left-leaning policies of Workers Party candidate Fernando Haddad could bring, promising to take a hard line and "block communism," though he never detailed what he would actually do.

How that tough talk might translate into policy is not clear. Current President Michel Temer has already largely broken off relations with Venezuela, where millions have fled economic and political collapse in recent years. Tens of thousands have crossed into Brazil on its northern border.

Rubens Barbosa, a former Brazilian ambassador to Washington, believes that ultimately Bolsonaro will backtrack on his most radical foreign policy positions.

"In the case of recognizing Jerusalem as the Israeli capital, for example, it would be throwing away \$6 billion per year in poultry sales to Arab countries," Barbosa said, noting that Brazil is one of the world's largest poultry and beef exporters.

"There will be people to advise him on the impacts and he will listen," he said.

## President Claire Underwood takes charge in 'House of Cards'

By LYNN ELBER, AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The spirit of Francis Underwood and misdeeds past haunt the sixth season of "House of Cards" and its new U.S. president, the widowed Claire Underwood.

Francis is very much dead when the Netflix series opens its final, eight-episode run Friday, as an image of Claire bending tenderly over his coffin makes clear.

But there's no suggestion from the producers or cast that killing off Francis — after the Me Too-triggered firing of star Kevin Spacey — took a storytelling toll on Netflix's political satire. It's following the path of Claire's rise signaled at the end of season five, this despite the upheaval that halted production a year ago when Spacey was accused of sexual misconduct.

"Ultimately, the only response that we could have was the one that we had," said executive producer Frank Pugliese. "Which is the cast and crew and everyone involved decided to put their heads down and respond by telling the best story that we possibly could. It was the only way that we could answer anything, any circumstance."

At least 24 men have accused Spacey, a two-time Oscar winner and a five-time Emmy nominee for his portrayal of Francis, of sexual misconduct or assault. In response to the first claim, from an actor who alleged that Spacey made inappropriate advances toward him when he was 14, Spacey said he didn't recall the alleged encounter but said it would have been "deeply inappropriate drunken behavior."

Robin Wright, now flying solo as Claire, says it required a group effort to rebound after losing Spacey and his character.

"We all really collaborated well and wanted the best for the show. So I think it was a reunion of, 'Come on, let's pull up our bootstraps and forge ahead,'" said Wright, who declined to comment on whether Spacey was missed on set (Wright has also received five Emmy nominations for her work on the show).

When Netflix and the studio OK'd the show's resumption without him, it avoided an unresolved end for the drama that put Netflix on the map as a destination for original fare. "House of Cards" also heralded the rise of streaming platforms and more such acclaimed shows, including Netflix's "Orange Is the New Black" and Hulu's "The Handmaid's Tale."

That Francis would be gone but not forgotten was inevitable, said Pugliese: "To deny the weight or the importance of Francis Underwood, you can't do it so easily. It was such a big part of the story for so many seasons, and at the core of whatever Claire is going through and whatever the series is about."

Last season ended with Francis out of the Oval Office and Vice President Claire Underwood in, wielding both power and Francis' direct pipeline to viewers through the camera. "My turn," she told the audience. What preceded it was her husband "basically telling her that he was going to be controlling her presidency

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from behind the scenes," said executive producer Melissa James Gibson.

"It was clear at the end of season five that no matter what, season six was going to be an exploration of who owns the White House," said Pugliese.

Added James Gibson: "Who owns the White House, who owns the narrative. And those things continue to be true. She's just grappling with them in a different way, and not just with the legacy of Francis but also the characters to whom he made promises."

The final season begins with Claire ready for battle, as demonstrated by her military-inspired fashion choices and steely demeanor. When told insults and claims of intended violence are flooding in against the first female president, she insists on hearing the ugly details.

"Lots of threats involving the c-word, ma'am. Lots and lots of the c-word, unfortunately," she's told.

Her reply, coolly delivered: "You mean 'Claire'?"

But there's more afoot than misogyny, starting with an eerie tapping coming from the walls of the White House. There's also something found on Francis' former bed that, although it falls short of the bloody horse's head of "The Godfather," has its own menacing shock value.

Claire's frenemies include the billionaire brother-and-sister power team Annette and Bill Shepherd (Diane Lane, Greg Kinner). They expect her to toe the policy line they dictate and abandon any post-Francis illusions of independence. The new president has other ideas.

And there's staunch Francis loyalist and fixer Doug Stamper, who took the fall for a murder Francis committed and is awaiting his fate, psychiatric and legal.

"This is obviously the biggest thing he's had to deal with," said Michael Kelly, who plays Stamper. "At the beginning of season six, you see for the first time an incredibly lost man."

Whether he finds himself in the post-Francis Underwood world remains to be seen. That is not an issue for the show itself, say its makers.

Pugliese said Francis' absence "provided an opportunity" to see what characters fill the void as Claire's rival or ally or both, while James Gibson calls it a chance for the new president to "explore bargains, compromises, how she arrived where she is."

"Claire's a complicated figure," she said. "That was really important to us, that she got to be just as contradictory and layered and complex and as much of an anti-hero as her dead husband."

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AP Entertainment Writer Ryan Pearson contributed to this report.

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## Appendix removal is linked to lower risk of Parkinson's

By LAURAN NEERGAARD, AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Scientists have found a new clue that Parkinson's disease may get its start not in the brain but in the gut — maybe in the appendix.

People who had their appendix removed early in life had a lower risk of getting the tremor-inducing brain disease decades later, researchers reported Wednesday.

Why? A peek at surgically removed appendix tissue shows this tiny organ, often considered useless, seems to be a storage depot for an abnormal protein — one that, if it somehow makes its way into the brain, becomes a hallmark of Parkinson's.

The big surprise, according to studies published in the journal *Science Translational Medicine*: Lots of people may harbor clumps of that worrisome protein in their appendix — young and old, people with healthy brains and those with Parkinson's.

But don't look for a surgeon just yet.

"We're not saying to go out and get an appendectomy," stressed Viviane Labrie of Michigan's Van Andel Research Institute, a neuroscientist and geneticist who led the research team.

After all, there are plenty of people who have no appendix yet still develop Parkinson's. And plenty of

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others harbor the culprit protein but never get sick, according to her research.

## THE GUT CONNECTION

Doctors and patients have long known there's some connection between the gastrointestinal tract and Parkinson's. Constipation and other GI troubles are very common years before patients experience tremors and movement difficulty that lead to a Parkinson's diagnosis.

Wednesday's research promises to re-energize work to find out why, and learn who's really at risk.

"This is a great piece of the puzzle. It's a fundamental clue," said Dr. Allison Willis, a Parkinson's specialist at the University of Pennsylvania who wasn't involved in the new studies but says her patients regularly ask about the gut link.

Parkinson's Foundation chief scientific officer James Beck, who also wasn't involved, agreed that "there's a lot of tantalizing potential connections."

He noted that despite its reputation, the appendix appears to play a role in immunity that may influence gut inflammation. The type of bacteria that live in the gut also may affect Parkinson's.

But if it really is common to harbor that Parkinson's-linked protein, "what we don't know is what starts it, what gets this whole ball rolling," Beck said.

For years, scientists have hypothesized about what might cause the gut-Parkinson's connection. One main theory: Maybe bad "alpha-synuclein" protein can travel from nerve fibers in the GI tract up the vagus nerve, which connects the body's major organs to the brain. Abnormal alpha-synuclein is toxic to brain cells involved with movement.

There have been prior clues. People who decades ago had the vagus nerve cut as part of a now-abandoned therapy had a reduced risk of Parkinson's. Some smaller studies have suggested appendectomies, too, might be protective — but the results were conflicting.

Labrie's team set out to find stronger evidence.

First, the researchers analyzed Sweden's huge national health database, examining medical records of nearly 1.7 million people tracked since 1964. The risk of developing Parkinson's was 19 percent lower among those who had their appendix surgically removed decades earlier.

One puzzling caveat: People living in rural areas appeared to get the benefit. Labrie said it's possible that the appendix plays a role in environmental risk factors for Parkinson's, such as pesticide exposure.

Further analysis suggested people who developed Parkinson's despite an early-in-life appendectomy tended to have symptoms appear a few years later than similarly aged patients.

## A COMMON PROTEIN

That kind of study doesn't prove that removing the appendix is what reduces the risk, cautioned Dr. Andrew Feigin, executive director of the Parkinson's institute at NYU Langone Health, who wasn't involved in Wednesday's research.

So next, Labrie's team examined appendix tissue from 48 Parkinson's-free people. In 46 of them, the appendix harbored the abnormal Parkinson's-linked protein. So did some Parkinson's patients. Whether the appendix was inflamed or not also didn't matter.

That's a crucial finding because it means merely harboring the protein in the gut isn't enough to trigger Parkinson's, Labrie said. There has to be another step that makes it dangerous only for certain people.

"The difference we think is how you manage this pathology," she said — how the body handles the buildup.

Her team plans additional studies to try to tell.

The reservoir finding is compelling, Feigin said, but another key question is if the abnormal protein also collects in healthy people's intestines.

And Penn's Willis adds another caution: There are other unrelated risks for Parkinson's disease, such as suffering a traumatic brain injury.

"This could be one of many avenues that lead to Parkinson's disease, but it's a very exciting one," she said.

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## America's gender, racial divides on display in House races

By LISA MASCARO, AP Congressional Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — Perhaps nowhere is the choice facing voters next Tuesday more vividly on display than in the battle for control of the U.S. House. Democrats are fielding more women and minority candidates than ever, while Republicans are trying to hold their majority with mostly white men.

The disparity highlights a trend that has been amplified under President Donald Trump, with the two parties increasingly polarized along gender and racial lines as much as by issues. The result is that, in an election season playing out against the backdrop of bomb threats, violence and a charged immigration debate, the parties are presenting voters starkly different pictures of American leadership.

Democrats have nominated more than 180 female candidates for the House, a new record. But while voters could send more than 100 of them to victory, Republicans could have fewer women than now in their ranks next year due to retirements and tough races, according to election analysts. Overall, nearly 9 in 10 House Republicans will be white men when the new Congress convenes in January.

The racial divide is even starker. House Republicans now count just over a dozen minority members, a number that's not expected to change much after the election. The lack of minorities in the conference comes into sharp visual focus when House Republicans gather in a large group, as they did last December when they celebrated the passage of tax cuts with Trump at the White House.

Meanwhile, African-American, Latino and Asian-American lawmakers make up almost half the House Democratic caucus. And for the first time, less than half the Democratic candidates for the House are white men, and the Democrats are poised to send the first Native American and Muslim-American women to the House. It's what the Reflective Democracy Campaign calls a "historic shift."

After Tuesday's election, it's likely that 87 percent of Republicans in the House will be white men, compared to just 37 percent for Democrats, said David Wasserman, who analyzes races for the Cook Political Report.

Marc Hetherington, a professor of political science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, said the trend began long before this year's election. "There's a relatively easy explanation — the Republican Party over the past 20 years has become the party of white men," he said. At the same time, "Democrats have come to be seen as the party of minorities."

Political scientists have been debating whether Congress' low approval rating — now 21 percent — has something to do with lawmakers not seeming to reflect the country they represent, said Matt Barreto, a professor at UCLA who is also a pollster working to mobilize Latino voters this cycle. Overall, while the House is closer to reflecting the makeup of the country, which is still majority white, the representation is lopsided between the parties.

"Everyone wants a representative from their community to stand up for their issues," Barreto said. For the House, he said, "It's the entire point: They're representatives."

Democrats need a net gain of 23 seats to win back the House in the election on Tuesday. Enthusiasm has seemed to be on their side, especially in fundraising, but it's unclear if that energy will be enough to win districts that swung to Trump in 2016 or have traditionally favored Republicans.

The outcome could hinge on the suburbs, where Democrats are hoping that a voter backlash against Trump and GOP policies will help carry their candidates to victory.

One closely watched race is outside of Richmond, Virginia, where Republican Rep. Dave Brat, a one-time tea party favorite, is facing a stiff challenge from political newcomer Abigail Spanberger, a former CIA operative.

Brat was campaigning over the weekend at the Innsbrook Pumpkin Palooza, pausing to watch a pumpkin catapult as he mingled with voters. Trump supporter Jen Dodge from nearby Glen Ellen said she's all for bringing more diversity to Congress. But as an employment recruiter, she said she also wants the best candidate for the job. And she said she appreciates what the president and the Republican Congress have done for the economy, especially by passing tax cuts.

"We really need people in the Congress who are going to speak the best for the people," she said. Brat,

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she said, "does what he says he's going to do."

Down the road at a community forum with Spanberger, optometrist Lisa Bennett said she wants lawmakers who listen to voters.

"American people are frustrated," she said, recalling the protesters who confronted senators on Capitol Hill over Brett Kavanaugh's confirmation to the Supreme Court. "You shouldn't have to stand in an elevator and yell at your representative."

The diversity gap between the parties has been growing since the civil rights battles of the 1960s, when white voters shifted toward Republicans and the party's support from African-Americans plummeted.

Republicans set out to attract more votes from minorities and particularly Latinos after their election losses in 2012, but Trump turned that political strategy on its head in 2016, showing they could win by pulling white voters away from Democrats. Now the president's coalition is being put to the test.

After conducting a poll of 72 competitive House districts, the Cook Political Report and LSU Manship School said this year's election "feels like 2010, in reverse." Almost half of Americans, 49 percent "feel frustrated" about Trump's presidency. That's the same share who said they felt frustrated about President Barack Obama during that year's midterm elections, when Democrats lost the majority in a wave election fueled by conservative newcomers eager to confront the White House.

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

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## Asian shares rise on hopes for Chinese stimulus for economy

By ANNABELLE LIANG, Associated Press

SINGAPORE (AP) — Asian markets were mostly higher Thursday on hopes for Chinese government help for the economy as manufacturing slows.

KEEPING SCORE: Hong Kong's Hang Seng gained 1.6 percent to 25,386.77 and the Shanghai Composite index added 1 percent to 2,628.34. The KOSPI in South Korea was 0.7 percent higher at 2,042.83. Australia's S&P-ASX 200 gained 0.1 percent to 5,834.00. Japan's Nikkei 225 index bucked the regional trend, dropping 0.8 percent to 21,749.78. Shares were higher in Taiwan and throughout Southeast Asia.

WALL STREET: A rally by retailers and technology and internet companies led major indexes higher on Wednesday. Companies like Facebook and General Motors posted strong earnings, boosting investor confidence amid rising interest rates. The S&P 500 index gained 1.1 percent to 2,711.74. The Dow Jones Industrial Average edged up 1 percent to 25,115.76 and the Nasdaq composite jumped 2 percent to 7,305.90. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks rose 0.3 percent to 1,511.41. Despite the push, U.S. stocks finished October with their worst monthly loss in seven years.

CHINESE STIMULUS: Manufacturing in China slowed in October, according to official data, triggering concerns over the effects of tariffs on businesses despite official assurances. In a statement on Wednesday, the State Council, China's Cabinet, said there was a need for "timely countermeasures" and that "some policy effects needs to be further released". The hint of more stimulus lifted markets in Asia.

ANALYST'S TAKE: Fiscal stimulus by the Chinese government is a tricky affair as it would weaken its currency, Michael Every, senior Asia-Pacific strategist at RaboResearch, said in a commentary. "That is something they don't want, partly to prevent capital flight, and partly because Washington is watching like a hawk on that front," he added.

ENERGY: Oil prices continued to weaken on news that U.S. crude stockpiles increased for the sixth straight week. Benchmark U.S. crude dropped 18 cents to \$65.13 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract dropped 87 cents to settle at \$65.31 a barrel in New York. Brent crude, used to price international oils, shed 21 cents to \$74.83 per barrel. In the previous session, it dropped 91 cents to \$75.04 a barrel.

CURRENCIES: The dollar fell to 112.86 yen from 112.94 yen late Wednesday. The euro strengthened to

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\$1.1342 from \$1.1312.

## Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Thursday, Nov. 1, the 305th day of 2018. There are 60 days left in the year. This is All Saints Day.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 1, 1952, the United States exploded the first hydrogen bomb, code-named "Ivy Mike," at Eniwetok (en-ih-WEE'-tahk) Atoll in the Marshall Islands.

On this date:

In 1512, Michelangelo's just-completed paintings on the ceiling of the Vatican's Sistine Chapel were publicly unveiled by the artist's patron, Pope Julius II.

In 1765, the Stamp Act, passed by the British Parliament, went into effect, prompting stiff resistance from American colonists.

In 1861, during the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln named Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan General-in-Chief of the Union armies, succeeding Lt. Gen. Winfield Scott.

In 1870, the United States Weather Bureau made its first meteorological observations.

In 1936, in a speech in Milan, Italy, Benito Mussolini described the alliance between his country and Nazi Germany as an "axis" running between Rome and Berlin.

In 1949, an Eastern Airlines DC-4 collided in midair with a Lockheed P-38 fighter plane near Washington National Airport, killing all 55 people aboard the DC-4 and seriously injuring the pilot of the P-38.

In 1950, two Puerto Rican nationalists tried to force their way into Blair House in Washington, D.C., in a failed attempt to assassinate President Harry S. Truman. (One of the pair was killed, along with a White House police officer.)

In 1968, the Motion Picture Association of America unveiled its new voluntary film rating system: G for general, M for mature (later changed to GP, then PG), R for restricted and X (later changed to NC-17) for adults only.

In 1973, following the "Saturday Night Massacre," Acting Attorney General Robert H. Bork appointed Leon Jaworski to be the new Watergate special prosecutor, succeeding Archibald Cox.

In 1989, East Germany reopened its border with Czechoslovakia, prompting tens of thousands of refugees to flee to the West.

In 1991, Clarence Thomas took his place as the newest justice on the Supreme Court.

In 1995, Bosnia peace talks opened in Dayton, Ohio, with the leaders of Bosnia, Serbia and Croatia present.

Ten years ago: Democrat Barack Obama and Republican John McCain plunged through the final weekend of their marathon race for the White House; McCain poked fun at his campaign's financial shortcomings and his reputation as a political maverick in an appearance on NBC's "Saturday Night Live." Machinists union members ratified a new contract with The Boeing Co., ending an eight-week strike.

Five years ago: A man carrying a bag with a note that said he "wanted to kill TSA" opened fire with a semi-automatic rifle at a security checkpoint at Los Angeles International Airport, killing a TSA officer and wounding two others. (Gerardo Hernandez, 39, became the first TSA officer in the agency's 12-year history to be killed in the line of duty. Paul Ciancia pleaded guilty to murder and 10 other charges in exchange for prosecutors dropping efforts to seek the death penalty; he was sentenced to life plus 60 years.) A U.S. drone strike killed Hakimullah Mehsud (hah-kee-MUH'-lah meh-SOOD'), leader of the Pakistani Taliban.

One year ago: Federal prosecutors brought terrorism charges against the man accused in the Manhattan truck rampage a day earlier that left eight people dead; prosecutors said Sayfullo Saipov had asked to display the Islamic State group's flag in the hospital room where he was recovering from police gunfire. President Donald Trump tweeted that the suspect in the truck attack should get the death penalty. Prompting celebrations in a city still recovering from Hurricane Harvey, the Houston Astros won their first World Series championship, beating the Dodgers 5-1 in Game 7 in Los Angeles.



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Today's Birthdays: World Golf Hall of Famer Gary Player is 83. Country singer Bill Anderson is 81. Actress Barbara Bosson is 79. Actor Robert Foxworth is 77. Magazine publisher Larry Flynt is 76. Country singer-humorist Kinky Friedman is 74. Actress Jeannie Berlin is 69. Music producer David Foster is 69. Actress Belita Moreno is 69. Rhythm-and-blues musician Ronald Khalis Bell (Kool and the Gang) is 67. Country singer-songwriter-producer Keith Stegall is 64. Country singer Lyle Lovett is 61. Actress Rachel Ticotin is 60. Rock musician Eddie MacDonald (The Alarm) is 59. Apple CEO Tim Cook is 58. Actress Helene Udy is 57. Rock singer Anthony Kiedis (Red Hot Chili Peppers) is 56. Pop singer-musician Mags Furuholmen (aha) is 56. Rock musician Rick Allen (Def Leppard) is 55. Country singer "Big Kenny" Alphin (Big and Rich) is 55. Singer Sophie B. Hawkins is 54. Rapper Willie D (Geto Boys) is 52. Country musician Dale Wallace (Emerson Drive) is 49. Actress Toni Collette is 46. Actress-talk show host Jenny McCarthy is 46. Rock musician Andrew Gonzales is 46. Actor David Berman is 45. Actress Aishwarya Rai (ash-WAHR'-ee-ah rye) is 45. Rock singer Bo Bice is 43. Actor Matt Jones is 37. Actress Natalia Tena is 34. Actor Penn Badgley is 32. Actor Max Burkholder is 21. Actor-musician Alex Wolff is 21.

Thought for Today: "Good taste is the worst vice ever invented." — Dame Edith Sitwell, English poet (1887-1964).