

# 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.



## Groton Area Schedule of Events

**November 21-23, 2018**

No School - Thanksgiving Break

**Monday, November 26, 2018**

6:00pm: Wrestling: Boys JH Tournament v s .  
Faulkton Area @ Faulkton High School

**Tuesday, November 27, 2018**

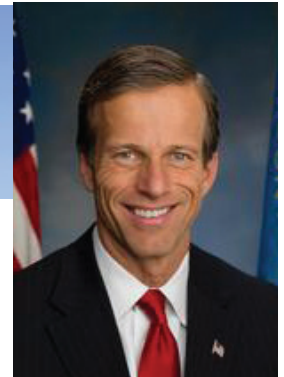
3:30pm: Debate at Groton Area High School (Sippel Novice)

6:00pm: Basketball: Girls 7th/8th Game vs. Clark/Willow Lake @ Clark Junior-Senior High School (7th grade 6pm 8th grade 7pm)

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**John Thune**  
U.S. SENATOR - SOUTH DAKOTA



## South Dakota Supports Its Local Small Businesses

Since 99 percent of South Dakota businesses are classified as small businesses, it's fair to say we treat every day like it's Small Business Saturday, the annual shopping event that occurs shortly after Thanksgiving Day. It's a great way to shine a light on these homegrown establishments that are often pillars in our local communities.

It doesn't matter where you grew up or where you live now, there are always a handful of restaurants, coffee shops, or retailers that become household names in your city or town. Maybe it's a pizza shop where friends meet after school or on the weekends, or it could be a popular store on Main Street where you always buy a birthday gift for your wife or husband.

For me, when I was growing up, one of those places was the Star Family Restaurant in Murdo. If you grew up in Murdo or still live there today, the restaurant's sign is as recognizable as the big McDonald's "M." It was at the Star Family Restaurant where we ended up on many Mother's Days – my dad would treat my mom and the rest of the family to dinner after church.

It's the same restaurant where I spent seven summers working to save money and pay for college. I started as a busboy, showed up at 5:45 in the morning, and made one dollar an hour. I worked my way to the back of the restaurant and washed dishes and even spent time in front of the grill. It was a great place to learn critical life skills like working together as a team, which is important no matter where you are in life.

For every story like mine, there are hundreds or even thousands more across the country, which is why celebrating and honoring the contributions small businesses and their owners make to local communities is so important.

There are more than 85,000 small businesses in South Dakota – a number that climbs each year. These small businesses employ roughly 210,000 people, which is nearly 60 percent of the state's total workforce. According to the U.S. Small Business Administration, that level of employment puts South Dakota in the top four states nationwide for the percent of its employment that comes from small businesses.

There's a wide range of industries that serve as the foundation of the state's strong small business presence, including construction, retail, food services, entertainment, recreation, and more. Bottom line, if

you're looking for anything from a good place to eat to a store where you can whittle down your Christmas shopping list, there's a place in South Dakota that can meet your needs.

I hope you spend this year's Small Business Saturday – and every day until next year's event – by shopping small, as they say, in your community. It can make a big difference to everyone who depends on this local support.



**Thursday,  
Nov. 29  
5:30 p.m.  
to 6:30 p.m.**

**Groton Care & Rehab**  
1106 N 2nd St, Groton

**Free Will Donation**

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## Happy Thanksgiving

This Thanksgiving, I would like to share with all South Dakotans my gratitude for the opportunity to work for you in the United States Senate. It is a privilege that I will never take for granted. I continue to work every day to make decisions that will improve the lives of everyone in South Dakota. Jean and I send our warmest wishes to you this holiday season.

Thanksgiving is a good time to look back on the year and thank the Lord for the blessings that we have received. This year, we welcomed our 10th grandchild, Maverick Michael Rounds, born to my son John and his wife Ashlee. Our kids and grandkids are our greatest gifts and we're so thankful for the time we get to spend with them.

I truly believe the pilgrims intended the first Thanksgiving to be a celebration of the harvest, and most importantly to thank the good Lord for the blessings he gave them in the new world. It is compelling they shared this first Thanksgiving with the Native Americans who had welcomed them.

None of us would be able to enjoy the freedom to celebrate this holiday if not for the service of our military members. We are incredibly thankful to them for the sacrifices they make to protect our way of life in the United States. We are also thankful to their families and friends who support them. Parents, spouses and children of military men and women make great sacrifices too. We pray for those who may not be able to spend the holiday season with their loved ones. We also pray for our first responders who put their lives in danger to protect their neighbors and communities.

We are thankful for our farmers and ranchers who work tirelessly to put food on the tables of families all across the country. South Dakota's farmers and ranchers are some of the hardest working people I know. With trade instability and farm income down, I continue calling for the administration to quickly finalize trade deals that benefit our producers. I also continue calling for a strong farm bill that will provide more stability for the ag industry.

This year for Thanksgiving, we look forward to hosting around 40 of our family members. We'll have two or three turkeys, depending on how many show up, but one is never enough to feed our whole crew. Of course we'll have all the trimmings like potatoes, gravy, dressing and my two favorites—homemade cranberry sauce and pumpkin pie with lots of whipped cream! We also try to fit in some time for pheasant hunting on Thanksgiving Day—one of the many traditions we look forward to each year.

One national tradition that South Dakota has a special role in this year is the president's pardoning of a Thanksgiving turkey. Each year, two live turkeys are sent to Washington, D.C., where they will be pardoned by the president. This year's turkeys come from the Riverside Colony near Huron. After they are pardoned they will be transported to Virginia Tech to live out the rest of their days at Gobbler's Rest.

I hope you enjoy spending time with your loved ones, partaking in your own Thanksgiving traditions this year, whatever they may be. The people of South Dakota are what make our state the best place in the world, and I am grateful for the opportunity to work for you in the Senate. Happy Thanksgiving!

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## LINCOLN'S PROCLAMATION MADE THANKSGIVING OFFICIAL

by Tom Emery

The first Thanksgiving is often associated with the Pilgrims. Over two centuries later, President Lincoln was the first to make it official.

The official designation of 1863 is the most lasting of the nine proclamations for a day of thanks issued by Lincoln during his presidency.

The idea of a thanksgiving was nothing new. On Oct. 3, 1789, George Washington had issued a proclamation for a day of thanksgiving, scheduled for November 26 of that year. It had been celebrated on various days throughout the nation, as many states had their own designations.

"Thanksgiving had much of its actual origins in religious proclamations by bishops," said Dr. James Cornelius, the former Curator of the Lincoln Collection at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield. "Forms of thanksgiving had been celebrated throughout much of New England, and continued through colonial times."

The impetus for an official national day of Thanksgiving came from Sarah Josepha Hale, the 74-year-old editor of Godey's Lady's Book, a popular women's magazine. Hale had written to several previous presidents asking for such a holiday, to no avail.

On Sept. 28, 1863, she wrote Lincoln, urging him to declare "a day of our annual Thanksgiving made a National and fixed Union festival." Noting "an increasing interest felt in our land to have Thanksgiving held on the same day, in all the states...it now needs national recognition and authoritative fixation, only, to become permanently an American custom and institution."

Lincoln had actually made several Thanksgiving proclamations during his administration. On Nov. 28, 1861, he had ordered all government departments to shut down for a local day of thanksgiving, and he requested national days of "humiliation, prayer, and fasting" on multiple occasions. Lincoln also proclaimed thanksgiving for "signal victories" in the Union war effort in April 1862 and another remembrance on Aug. 6, 1863.

On Oct. 3, 1863, Lincoln heeded Hale's call. He issued his own proclamation, declaring the last Thursday in November "as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise." In 1863, that date would have also been Nov. 26.

"It was not only the anniversary of Washington's proclamation, but it also fell on the same day of the week," said Cornelius. "There's a sense of history in Lincoln's effort."

The words were actually penned by Secretary of State William Seward, and the original draft was later sold to benefit Union soldiers. To be sure, the proclamation was certainly heavy with military reference. Passages such as "in the midst of a civil war of unequalled magnitude and severity" and "the advancing armies and navies of the Union" called to light the national tragedy of the war.

Still, 1863 had been productive for the North, with key victories at Gettysburg, Vicksburg, and elsewhere. "There was reason to celebrate the progress of the war," said Cornelius. "Those were important victories, and Lincoln wanted to remember them."

Scholars have long debated the extent of Lincoln's Christianity, but the 1863 proclamation makes repeated religious references. Phrases as the "watchful providence of Almighty God," "the gracious gifts of the Most High God," "our beneficent Father," and "the Almighty Hand" are sprinkled throughout the document.

"Lincoln saw the day as an appropriate time to give national gratitude for God's plan and goodness," said Dr. Cullom Davis, a nationally recognized Lincoln scholar from Springfield. "It was yet another reason to be thankful."

"To top it off, the year of 1863 brought a pretty good harvest," remarked Cornelius. "Lincoln saw plenty of reasons to celebrate, and they are all summarized in the Thanksgiving proclamation. References to historical tribute, the military, religion, and agriculture are all found in the document."

The first official Thanksgiving Day in 1863 would bring even more reason for the North to celebrate.

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On Nov. 25, the day before, Union troops earned an important victory at Chattanooga. The holiday was exactly a week after Lincoln delivered his Gettysburg Address.

Many also credit Lincoln as the first President to ceremoniously pardon a turkey, now an annual White House tradition. Lincoln pardoned the bird at the behest of his young son Tad in 1864.

In 1941, Congress authorized a resolution that switched Thanksgiving from the last Thursday in November to the fourth Thursday of the month.

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## Today in Weather History

November 21, 1985: Winds gusting to over 40 mph caused blizzard conditions over the western and central parts of South Dakota on the 21st and 22nd. In addition to the existing snow cover, 1-2 inches of new snow fell and when blown by the wind, reduced visibilities to zero at times. Many roads were drifted shut by the blowing and drifting snow in the western part of the state.

November 21, 2003: Heavy snow of 6 to 10 inches fell from the late afternoon to the late evening hours of the 21st and into the early morning hours on the 22nd. Some snowfall amounts included 4 inches in Browns Valley, 2S Ashton, and Britton; 5 inches at Timber Lake, Blunt, 6 SE McIntosh, and Pollock; 6 inches at Clark, McLaughlin, 14 NNE Isabel, 17 WSW Fort Pierre and Miller; 7 inches at Castlewood, 1 W Highmore, and 4 NW Onida; and 8 inches north of Goodwin, at Ree Heights, at Eagle Butte, and near Troy. Thirteen inches of snow fell in Watertown.

1992: The November 21st – 23rd tornado outbreak was the 3rd largest outbreak in recorded history and one of the longest continuous outbreaks ever recorded. There was no break in tornado activity from 1:30 pm on the 21st when the tornadoes started in Texas until 7:30 am on the 23rd when the last tornadoes lifted in North Carolina. On this date, severe thunderstorms spawned six tornadoes within 70 minutes in the Houston metro area in Texas. At one time, there were three on the ground in Harris County. The strongest, an F4, tracked 20 miles through the eastern suburbs of Houston destroying 200 homes and damaging 1,000 more. In total, 23 tornadoes struck Mississippi and Alabama. An F4 tornado killed 12 people on a 128-mile track through 7 Mississippi counties. The deadliest tornado of 1992, an F4 tornado killed 12 people on a 128-mile path through 7 counties in Mississippi, one of the bodies was blown a quarter mile into a tree.

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Today



Cloudy

High: 30 °F

Tonight



Mostly Cloudy

Low: 23 °F

Thanksgiving Day



Mostly Sunny

High: 39 °F

Thursday Night



Increasing Clouds

Low: 30 °F

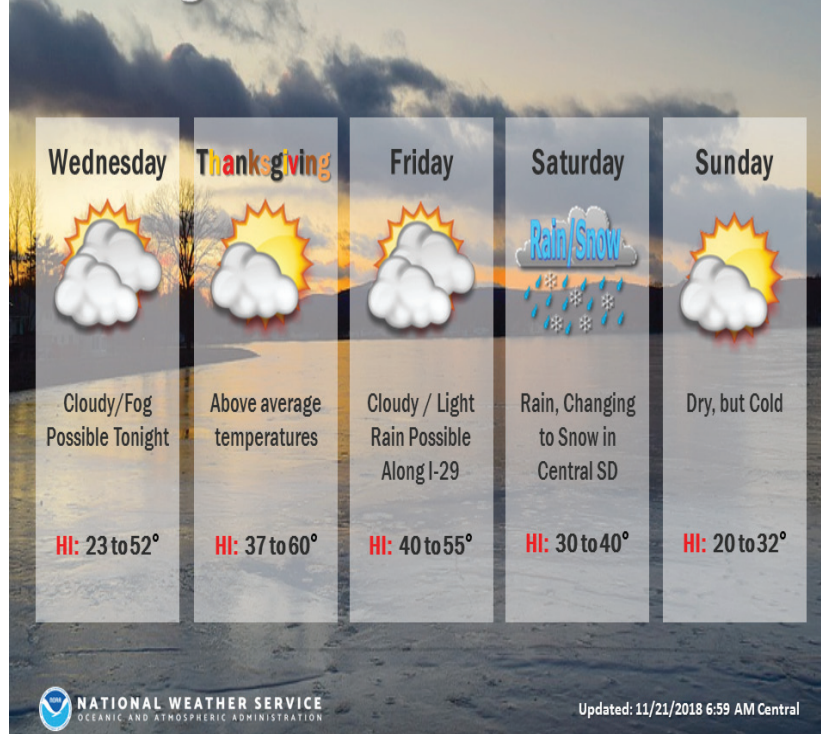
Friday



Mostly Cloudy

High: 42 °F

## 5 Day Forecast Nov 21-25



Cloudy skies today and tonight will give way to a warm Thanksgiving with highs in the 40s and 50s. A storm system passing east of the region on Friday could spread light rain into the far eastern portion of South Dakota and western Minnesota. Another storm system will impact western and southern South Dakota on Saturday, with rain changing over to snow. This storm should impact a good portion of Nebraska and western Iowa Saturday night through Sunday morning. Conditions locally on Sunday should be dry, but cold.

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## Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 42 °F at 3:23 PM

Low Outside Temp: 3 °F at 12:00 AM

High Gust: 27 mph at 7:18 AM

Precip: 0.00

## Today's Info

Record High: 65° in 1960

Record Low: -18 in 1964

Average High: 36°F

Average Low: 16°F

Average Precip in Nov.: 0.53

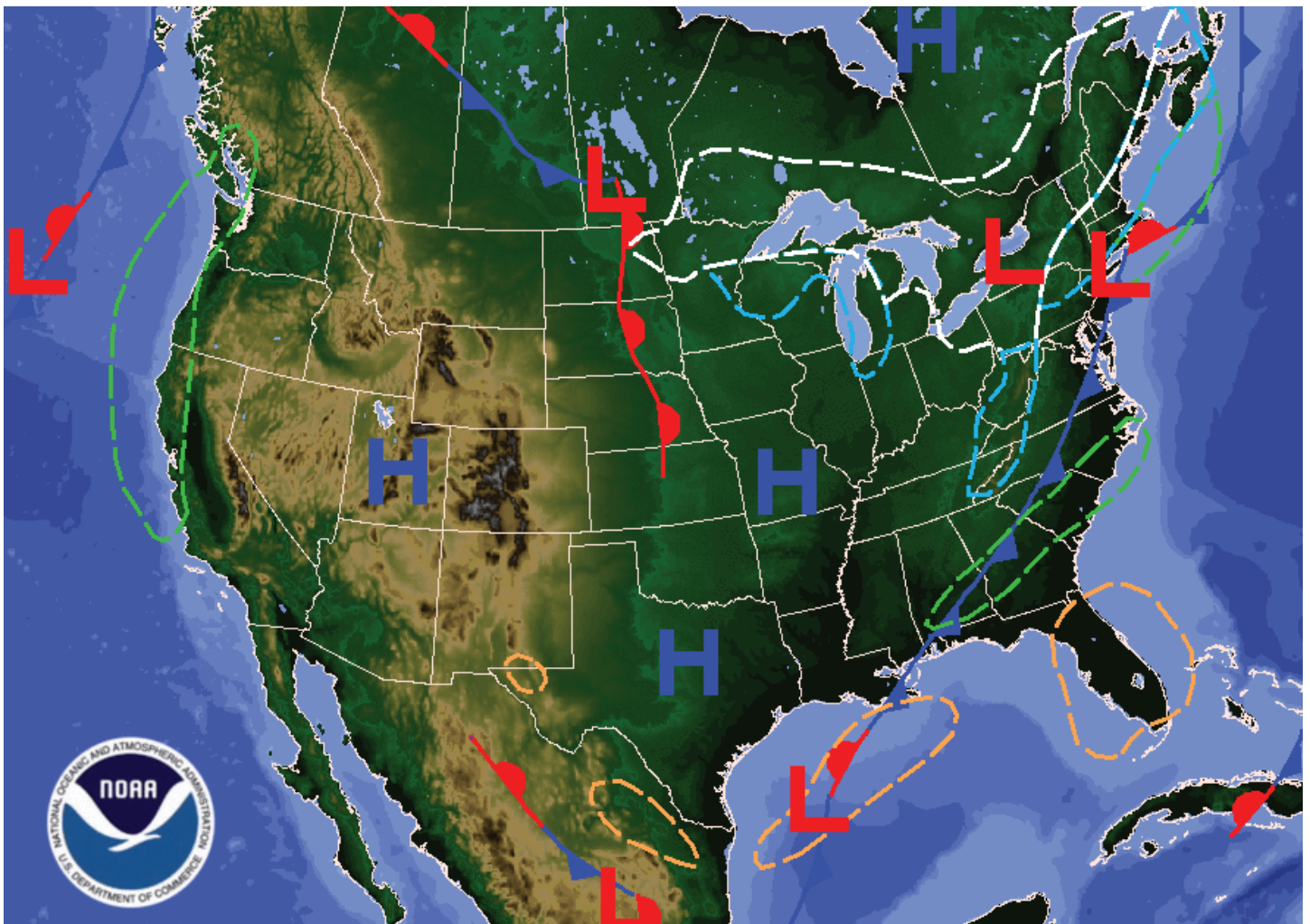
Precip to date in Nov.: 0.76

Average Precip to date: 21.00

Precip Year to Date: 15.81

Sunset Tonight: 4:58 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:42 a.m.



### Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Tue, Nov 20, 2018, issued 4:47 AM EST  
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)





## GRACE FOR OUR GRIEF

Gods grace is greater than any grief we may ever have to endure. Psalm 107 describes the greatness of His grace with the Israelites.

First, like them, we are pilgrims: They wandered in desert wastelands... We are all wandering as pilgrims most of the time. We struggle to determine right from wrong and often make wrong decisions because we have left God out of our thoughts. We have a great example of what to do when this happens: When the children of Israel realized that they were wandering, they returned to the Lord and asked for His directions. He would always welcome them back and point them, once again, in the right direction. Remember, too, the words of Jesus: I am the way. Wherever or whenever we wander, His grace is always available to welcome us back.

Second, we are all prisoners: Some of them (were) prisoners, suffering in chains. Sin fascinates for a while, but it soon fastens us in chains that keep us from enjoying Gods best. Habits are easy to form but difficult to forsake. But when the Israelites called upon God to free them, He always snapped their chains, and they were released from their bondage. Whomever God saves, His grace sets free.

Third, we are often overwhelmed with grief when persons we thought loved us turn on us and hurt and harm us. ...give thanks to the Lord for His unfailing love. We have all suffered unbearable pain when someone whom we thought loved us turned against us and tried to destroy us. Being abandoned is difficult to survive alone. Thank God Jesus said, I will never leave you nor forsake you! We have His promise of His never-ending presence.

Prayer: Thank You, Father, that You love us, care for us and will always be there for us. Thank You for Your grace. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 107:4 Some wandered in the wilderness, lost and homeless.

## 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

## News from the Associated Press

### **Former tribal official convicted of child sexual abuse**

YANKTON, S.D. (AP) — A former Yankton Sioux tribal official has been convicted of child sexual abuse over a span of more than a decade.

The U.S. attorney's office says 55-year-old Quentin Bruguier used fear or force to engage in sexual acts with children between 1992 and 2016. He was recently convicted of 15 counts of sexual abuse offenses involving children.

Bruguier faces up to life in prison. Sentencing is scheduled for next Feb. 11.

### **Crash in Sioux Falls injures sheriff's deputy, 2 others**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A Minnehaha County sheriff's deputy and two other people were injured in a vehicle crash in Sioux Falls.

The sheriff's office says the deputy's car was struck by a Suburban pulling out of a restaurant parking lot about 12:30 p.m. Tuesday.

The deputy and two people in the Suburban were taken to a hospital. The seriousness of their injuries wasn't immediately known.

None of the people involved was immediately identified. Charges are pending against the driver of the Suburban.

### **Sioux Falls teens accused of bringing BB guns into school**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Two students at Roosevelt High School in Sioux Falls are accused of bringing five BB guns into the school, concealed in backpacks.

Police say the 14- and 16-year-old boys planned to sell or trade the guns, not use them.

The boys were arrested Tuesday and charged with having weapons on school grounds.

### **APNewsBreak: Indian Country criminal prosecutions plateau**

**By MARY HUDETZ, Associated Press**

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — The number of Indian Country crimes that the U.S. Justice Department decided to prosecute has not shown significant change in recent years, despite programs and attempts to boost both public safety and prosecutions of sexual assaults and other crimes on reservations, according to federal figures Wednesday.

In an annual report obtained by The Associated Press, statistics showed U.S. attorneys' offices declined to prosecute 37 percent of the Indian Country cases they deemed resolved in 2017, usually citing insufficient evidence. The percentage of cases dropped by prosecutors or sent to other courts was up three points from 2016.

The annual report on prosecution rates marks the first since a government watchdog report from the Office of Inspector General last year issued a critical analysis of the U.S. attorneys' uneven track record with Indian Country cases. It cited data that must be collected under a 2010 law for the annual reports on investigations and prosecutions.

The report also comes amid heightened concerns in Congress and tribal communities over crimes against Native American women, who are disproportionately victimized by sexual assault and domestic assault.

More than half of Native American women have encountered sexual and domestic violence at some point during their lives, according to a National Institute of Justice survey published in 2016.

"This report only confirms that Native victims continue to fall through the cracks of our justice system," U.S. Sen. Tom Udall, a New Mexico Democrat, said in an email to The Associated Press. "We badly need to

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commit greater resources to combatting violence in Indian Country and ensuring that those who victimize Native women and families are brought to justice.”

In the Justice Department’s most recent report, a quarter of the cases U.S. attorney declined to prosecute — or more than 630 — stemmed from reported sexual assaults. A third resulted from other reported assaults, a category that includes domestic violence cases.

Udall, who is the vice chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, said limited data collection and lack of clear protocols for authorities’ handling of cases have, in part, hampered investigations, prosecutions and strategic crime-fighting in Native American communities.

Trent Shores, who is Choctaw and the U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Oklahoma, echoed Udall’s calls for more funding, saying resources were needed across the board to support more investigators, tribal courts and forensic work in crime laboratories — which would help with prosecutions.

More than 70 percent of unprosecuted cases were dropped because of a lack of evidence.

While frustrated with the persistent statistics showing Native Americans victimized at alarming rates, Shores said he also believed the report shows some promising findings.

He said that some of the cases categorized as being declined by federal prosecutors received the designation because they were sent to tribal courts — which actually represents recognition of tribes’ sovereignty and ability to handle cases at a local level.

About 13 percent of the declined cases were referred to different jurisdictions, according to the report’s data.

“I am seeing continued improvement in the department’s ability to better capture the data — to prosecute crimes,” he added.

Shores, who was appointed to his post last year by President Donald Trump, chairs a Justice Department committee on Native American issues and contributed to the prosecutions report.

He said he and others are committed to carrying out a range of initiatives meant to improve policing and prosecutions in tribal communities. They include an Obama-era program that has been expanded under the Trump administration and calls for numerous U.S. Attorneys to staff their offices with special prosecutors who must focus on Indian Country cases. The prosecutors also can handle cases in both tribal and federal courts.

“It certainly is not for a lack of effort, for a lack of want or will,” Shores said of the stagnant crime and prosecution statistics.

## SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Mega Millions

10-16-31-42-66, Mega Ball: 10, Megaplier: 3

(ten, sixteen, thirty-one, forty-two, sixty-six; Mega Ball: ten; Megaplier: three)

Estimated jackpot: \$139 million

Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$139 million

## Trump grants poultry pardons to turkeys Peas and Carrots

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — In an annual Thanksgiving tradition, President Donald Trump used the power of his office Tuesday to save a pair of meaty turkeys from the holiday table.

But Trump jokingly warned a 39-pound bird named Peas and a 41-pound companion named Carrots that, while they are free to live, they may still have to answer to Democrats, who assume control of the House



in January and have promised to investigate the president's actions and business dealings.

The White House held an online contest to determine which bird should be pardoned. Trump identified the "lucky bird" as Peas.

"This was a fair election," joked the president, whose wife, first lady Melania Trump, joined him for the act of mercy in the White House Rose Garden. "Unfortunately, Carrots refused to concede and demanded a recount, and we're still fighting with Carrots. But I will tell you, we've come to a conclusion, Carrots. I'm sorry to tell you, the result did not change. That's too bad for Carrots."

Trump pardoned both gobblers, who will be sent to Virginia Tech to be cared for by poultry science and veterinary students.

"I have warned them that House Democrats are likely to issue them both subpoenas," he said. "Unfortunately, I can't guarantee that your pardons won't be enjoined by the Ninth Circuit." That was a reference to the San Francisco-based federal appeals court that has overturned some of Trump's actions.

Turning serious, Trump said Thanksgiving "is a time for Americans to unite together in a spirit of love, understanding, unity and joy as one very proud American family." He said all "American hearts" are joined with those affected by the devastating California wildfires.

Trump also gave thanks for the "men and women who protect our families and who protect our flag" and for service members stationed overseas.

President George H.W. Bush established the annual turkey pardon tradition in 1989 by sparing a 50-pound bird.

Trump flew to his Florida estate later Tuesday to spend the Thanksgiving holiday with family.

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Follow Darlene Superville on Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/dsupervilleap>

## **Marty Jackley to rejoin law firm after attorney general term**

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Attorney General Marty Jackley plans to return to private practice after finishing his term as the state's chief lawyer and law enforcement officer, the law firm he's rejoining announced Tuesday.

Jackley will become a partner at Gunderson, Palmer, Nelson and Ashmore, LLP, in January at the firm's new location in Pierre. The Republican attorney general was previously a partner at the firm before being nominated in 2006 as U.S. attorney for South Dakota.

Jackley has served as state attorney general since 2009, and his final term is set to wrap up in January. The high-profile office takes on the state's top legal cases and has served as a frequent springboard for gubernatorial hopefuls. Jackley unsuccessfully ran for governor this year, falling short in the Republican primary to Gov.-elect Kristi Noem.

Jackley capped his time as attorney general with a high-profile victory at the U.S. Supreme Court, which sided with South Dakota in a June ruling allowing states to force online shoppers to pay sales tax. Supporters called it a victory for the state and Main Street businesses.

David Lust, a partner at the law firm, said in a statement that Jackley has distinguished himself in public service. Jackley said in the statement that returning to the firm will give him the chance to continue what he has enjoyed in private practice and public office: serving South Dakota residents.

Jackley told The Associated Press that he would like to serve clients' needs in business transactions and litigation, working in areas including construction, agriculture and real estate.

"It's a good opportunity," Jackley said. "Obviously, I'm going to miss public service, but I'll have that opportunity to continue to still serve clients in the state and be active."

Jackley said he isn't ruling out future political opportunities, but has no immediate plans to re-enter politics. He said his focus will be on helping elect good candidates and serving his clients' needs. State law prohibits Jackley from lobbying in South Dakota for two years after leaving office.

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## Daum breaks South Dakota State's career scoring record

ESTERO, Fla. (AP) — Mike Daum had 41 points, 10 rebounds and four assists, and set South Dakota State's career scoring record as the Jackrabbits beat UTSA 99-79 on Tuesday in the second round of the Gulf Coast Showcase.

The two-time Summit League player of the year entered with 2,347 career points, needing 16 to tie Nate Wolters' mark of 2,363. Daum hit two first-half free throws to tie Wolters and sank a fade-away jumper from the free-throw line to set the mark. He also moved into third on the Summit League's scoring chart, trailing leader Caleb Green of Oral Roberts (2003-07) with 2,504 points.

Daum was 14 of 25 from the floor, including 5 of 12 from 3-point range, and made all eight of his free throws. It was his third career 40-point game.

"We're really happy for Mike," SDSU coach T.J. Otzelberger said. "Especially with him being a fifth-year senior and taking a great amount of pride in being a Jackrabbit. He's got a lot of respect for Wolters, a guy he looks up to. This says a lot about Mike with his accomplishments, but really you can't say enough positive things about who he is and the type of character he has."

Daum needed just 110 games to break the record. He also moved into the top 100 on the NCAA's scoring chart.

Sixth-year senior Skyler Flatten made 10 of 11 shots, finishing with a career-high 28 points and six 3-pointers for SDSU (4-2). David Jenkins chipped in with 10 points.

Keaton Wallace scored 21 points for UTSA (0-5). Nick Allen added 12 points, Atem Bior 11 and Jhivvan Jackson 10.

## Excerpts from recent South Dakota editorials

By The Associated Press

### American News, Aberdeen, Nov. 14

#### Some suggestions for the new governor

The ballots have been counted and Republican Kristi Noem has emerged from a tightly contested race as our next governor.

Thankfully, as a couple of other states continue to sort out election results, there was no controversy in South Dakota, there were no claims of a rigged election.

All we had was a rare close gubernatorial race. Democrat Billie Sutton is to be commended for a well-run race, but the GOP's dominance in the state was not disrupted.

And so we congratulate Noem and offer a few issues — likely not even controversial — that she should address early in her term.

— Promote use of a 15-percent ethanol blend in the state's fleet of vehicles, at least whenever possible. And maybe even E-30.

This task should be made easier by the fact that President Donald Trump has proposed a rule that would allow the use of E-15 all year long instead of just during the winter months. With that, the fuel should become more widely available, especially in a corn- and ethanol-producing state like South Dakota.

Increased E-15 and E-30 use was also popular among our local legislative candidates.

— Find more money for community service providers. These are places like nursing homes and agencies like Aspire that work with people who are developmentally disabled.

The philosophy is an easy one to back, obviously. Those who work with our fellow citizens who are at risk or vulnerable certainly deserve better pay than what they've been making. It's difficult and sometimes heartbreaking work. The problem, of course, is money.

We urge Noem to establish a reliable source of revenue for these agencies. That might mean not rolling back the state's 4.5-percent sales tax even though a Supreme Court decision has cleared the way for the collection of more sales tax from online transactions.

— Clamp down on South Dakota's addiction problems. Plural.

Methamphetamine. Opioids. Alcohol. And more.

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Dealing with addiction must be a priority for our state. And that probably means investing in treatment facilities and counseling services. That's how big the scope of the problem is.

It's prescribed pills in white-collar circles, alcohol on reservations, young people using meth and the growing availability of fentanyl, which experts say might be the most addictive and problematic drug of them all.

This last problem is certainly the most challenging. Especially in a state like South Dakota where government budgets are generally tight — exactly how most people want them.

It's hard to interpret whether the close race with Sutton is a call for Noem to reach across party lines in looking for solutions. Alone, it might seem so. But in a larger sense, Republicans swept statewide races for constitutional offices and increased their hefty majorities in both the state House and Senate.

Ultimately it shouldn't matter where the good ideas come from. We have some problems that need fixing. And that work needs to begin, with as much help as possible, shortly after January's inauguration.

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## Argus Leader, Sioux Falls, Nov. 19

### Time to get rid of 'alienation of affection' law

This board has repeatedly urged South Dakota lawmakers to tighten up language in proposed bills to avoid precious time wasted in post-passage tidying.

That impulse also needs to be applied to reviewing and repealing anachronisms in our contemporary legal code.

To wit: the state's alienation of affection law, which is well past its use-by date, its relevance long since curdled.

South Dakota statute gives a married person the right to sue a third party for financial damages for luring their spouse away from their marriage.

Nationally, all but seven states have consigned such statutes, which have their origins in English common law dating back to the 1400s, to the dust bin of history. These "heart balm" laws originate from the antiquated view of women as property.

Proponents, including past South Dakota Supreme Court justices, argue that the state's alienation of affection statute is a necessary weapon in the fight to protect the institution of marriage. In 1981, Justice Francis G. Dunn bemoaned the "loose morals" of the age in his majority opinion upholding the law.

Scant evidence points to the effectiveness of these provisions in deterring infidelity, however.

As Watertown legislator Melissa Magstadt noted in 2011 when her attempt to repeal South Dakota's alienation of affection law failed in committee, 13 states had lower divorce rates than ours at the time — and none allowed alienation of affection suits.

Adultery isn't a crime. But many South Dakota legislators seem to see the state's alienation of affection law as a civil-suit opportunity to legislate sexual morality.

They held that door open in 2002, hijacking former state senator Stan Adelstein's repeal bid while defending the law against accusations of sexism. They updated the law's language to give both men and women equal right to bring suit against someone who "steals" their husband or wife.

The late Roger Hunt headed the House Judiciary Committee that rejected Magstadt's 2011 effort. "This is a matter of taking away a very valuable right," he said of the ability to sue someone for coming between a husband and wife to break up a marriage.

But nobody has a right to another person's affection, marriage vows or no.

In an Iowa Supreme Court ruling that struck down that state's alienation of affection law in 1981, Justice K. David Harris wrote that "spousal love is not property which is subject to theft ... the plaintiffs in such suits do not deserve to recover for the loss of or injury to 'property' which they do not, and cannot, own."

Current defenders often try to distance themselves from the law's archaic spouse-as-property basis. They argue that marriage is a contract, and that outside interference in that contract can lead to financial compensation.

But clear-headed observation yields the conclusion that these suits are vindictive in nature and do not

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serve to prevent broken marriage contracts. The net effect of the suits that do make it to trial is that the outside paramour is punished financially while the "alienated" spouse is luridly shamed as the public eagerly watches.

The colonial Puritan days of public shaming over infidelity that 19th-century American novelist Nathaniel Hawthorne wrote about in "The Scarlet Letter" are well behind us, and thankfully so.

It's time for South Dakota to join the 21st century.

## Rapid City Journal, Nov. 15 Constant gardening fights wildfires

California's tragic fires remind us that nothing human can stop a wildfire being pushed by headlong winds into dry fuel.

The raging Camp Fire in northern California has destroyed nearly 8,000 structures, most of them homes, and killed at least 48 people, some as they fled along clogged highways. Hundreds of others remain missing. Photos of the destroyed city of Paradise, population 27,000, recall Hiroshima.

Each year, South Dakota works hard to reduce the fuels available to fires at the woodland-urban interface, the front yard of potential tragedy. These efforts — along with prescribed burns — greatly diminish the chances of runaway fires harming people unless Mother Nature bends the odds with a mix of drought and frontal winds. That scenario played out locally in the Alabaugh Canyon Fire of July 7, 2007, when a 10,324-acre blaze roared out of a canyon near Hot Springs to kill one person, destroy 33 homes and send two firefighters to a Colorado burn center.

Strong winds help lift flames to the forest crown, where they become a juggernaut. In California, strong winds have driven flames across eight lanes of freeway. No firefighting effort can stand before that kind of moving inferno.

Climate change has increased the odds of these disasters. Warming temperatures increase the frequency and duration of drought, bake fuels and add to the severity of storms. The average number of U.S. acres burned by wildfires has doubled over the level from 30 years ago. People may argue over the causes of global warming, but longtime firefighters know in their gut that the blazes are getting bigger and nastier. The cost of fighting wildfires is also growing.

Rising fire suppression costs over the past three decades nearly destroyed the U.S. Forest Service's budget. Overall funding for the agency, which does most of the federal firefighting, remained flat while fire suppression costs grew dramatically.

Earlier this year Congress passed a fire funding fix changing the way the federal government pays for large fires in expensive fire seasons, but that doesn't affect the underlying issues of climate change or the expanding urban interface. We can expect the fire problem will grow.

Each year, states like South Dakota must fight for a share of the less than \$400 million in federal funding available to reduce fuels at the urban interface. Fuel reduction requires constant attention. Droughts are not infrequent here, and the pine bark beetle increases the fuel available for fires daily.

South Dakota has a strong, experienced firefighting force. There is good cooperation among agencies to quickly mobilize crews and equipment. The Great Plains Wildland Fire Protection Agreement of a few decades ago allows us to rely on help from the region when federal resources are stretched thin.

But eventually, drought and wind will align to drive flames up a populated Black Hills canyon. The outcome will be all the worse if the flames find a welcoming path all the way to our front doors.

As the costs and demands of firefighting increase out west, South Dakota must remain vigilant that the means of reducing hazardous fuels remains funded. Our lives and our homes will depend upon it.

## Authorities ID Redig man killed in Harding County rollover

BUFFALO, S.D. (AP) — Authorities have identified a Redig man who died in a one-vehicle crash in Harding County.

The Highway Patrol says 21-year-old Rhett Fox was driving a pickup truck that rolled in the ditch off U.S.



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Highway 85 the night of Nov. 14.

The crash happened about 8 miles south of Buffalo. Fox was alone in the vehicle. He was pronounced dead at a Spearfish hospital.

## South Dakota Democrats elect legislative leadership

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota Democrats have chosen their legislative leaders, selecting Rep. Jamie Smith and Sen. Troy Heinert to head their House and Senate caucuses.

Senate Democrats have also chosen Craig Kennedy as assistant leader and Reynold Nesiba as whip. In the House, Steven McCleerey will be assistant leader and Erin Healy and Oren Lesmeister will be whips.

Republicans control both legislative chambers. Earlier in November, House Republicans nominated Rep. Steven Haugaard to serve as House speaker and elected Rep. Lee Qualm to another term as their majority leader.

They also nominated Rep. Spencer Gosch to be speaker pro tempore and elected Rep. Arch Beal to be assistant majority leader.

Reps. Michael Diedrich, Tim Goodwin, Jon Hansen, Kevin Jensen and Chris Karr were elected majority whips.

## \$5.2 million lottery winner admits to scamming people

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A California woman who won \$5.2 million in a lottery has pleaded guilty in federal court in South Dakota to scamming six people in the wake of her win.

Judy Carroll, 59, of El Cajon, California, and her husband won the California lottery in 1989. Authorities say Carroll later scammed people, including a friend in South Dakota, in part by telling them the IRS had frozen her assets because she owed taxes, the Rapid City Journal reported.

Authorities say Carroll ran the scheme from about 2000 to 2016. The IRS did freeze her accounts, once, for a period in 2007 and 2008. Authorities say she also scammed people by telling them she needed money to help her husband, falsely claiming that his identity had been stolen.

Carroll originally was charged with 35 counts of wire fraud. She recently reached a deal with prosecutors and pleaded guilty Friday to four counts of wire fraud and one count of tax evasion, for underreporting income for nearly two decades.

She could face decades in prison. The agreement also calls for her to pay nearly \$1.6 million in restitution to victims and the IRS.

"It's been a long time coming, and she deserves punishment for what she did for several victims," said victim Kelly Lhotak, who met Carroll when they were neighbors in California in the mid-1990s. "My heart is broken. I have had the worst betrayal of a friendship that anyone can ever experience."

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

## UND won't renew offensive coordinator, offensive line coach

GRAND FORKS, N.D. (AP) — The University of North Dakota football team is not renewing the contracts of offensive coordinator Paul Rudolph and offensive line coach Luke Knauf.

Both coaches are in their fifth season with the program. Head coach Bubba Schweigert says he thinks a change is needed.

UND finished the season 6-5 and did not make the 24-team playoff field in the NCAA Football Championship Subdivision.

## Hospital gunman fired at least 30 times before killing self

CHICAGO (AP) — Moments before her ex-fiance fatally shot her in the parking lot of the hospital where she worked, a Chicago doctor called 911 to report that she had spotted the man and feared for her life.

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As investigators tried to piece together the events that ended with the deaths of the doctor, a police officer, a hospital employee and the gunman, they were able to fill in details about the attack Monday at Mercy Hospital on the city's South Side.

Dr. Tamara O'Neal had recently called off her engagement to Juan Lopez so when she saw him, she called for help. She also told an acquaintance in the parking lot that she was afraid before that person retreated to the hospital to call 911 as well.

When Lopez confronted her, the former couple argued about O'Neal calling off the engagement, and Lopez demanded that she return the engagement ring. Then, police said, people inside and around the hospital heard gunfire.

O'Neal fell to the ground. Witness James Gray looked out of the hospital window to see where the gunshots had come from and watched as Lopez "stood over her and shot her three more times," he told reporters.

As a squad car pulled up, Lopez turned his Glock semi-automatic handgun on police, striking the vehicle multiple times before he ran into the hospital. Officers gave chase.

Once inside the medical center, he kept firing at officers and at one point turned and fired at Dayna Less, a first-year resident in the hospital's pharmacy, when the doors of the elevator she was on opened.

Officer Samuel Jimenez was struck in the neck, just above the bulletproof vest he was wearing, and soon died. Jimenez had been delivering his station's mail to the post office when he turned and followed other squad cars racing to the hospital.

There were indications that Lopez wanted to shoot even more people, including an account from one witness, Jennifer Eldridge, who was hiding in the pharmacy, when she heard the gunfire and the sound of the gunman jiggling the handle of the locked door, an apparent effort to get in.

During the exchange of gunfire, Lopez was shot once in the abdomen. It was then that Lopez, who fired a total of more than 30 shots and had reloaded his weapon, put the gun to his head and killed himself, police spokesman Anthony Guglielmi said Tuesday.

Investigators said they found nothing to indicate that Lopez had a criminal record. At the time of his death, he was an employee with the Chicago Housing Authority, and officials there said there had been no reports of any problems in his nine months on the job.

But there were other signs of trouble in recent years.

In 2014, Lopez was kicked out of the city's firefighting academy after threatening a female cadet. When the fire department learned of the threats, Lopez was told he would be disciplined. But instead of returning to the academy to meet with department officials, Lopez went AWOL and was fired, fire department spokesman Larry Merritt said Tuesday.

Records from that same year indicate that a girlfriend of Lopez sought an order of protection against him because he was incessantly texting her. When she reported the texts to police, officers told her to change her phone number and seek an order of protection. Records show that she sought the order but not whether she ultimately received one, Guglielmi said.

Lopez had a permit to possess a concealed firearm, and it was unclear if officials knew about the 2014 complaint when the permit was granted, said Guglielmi, who said Lopez had legally purchased four guns in the last five years. It was also unclear whether an order of protection, if granted, would have forbidden Lopez from owning weapons.

When it was over, the Chicago Police Department was grieving just days before Thanksgiving for the second officer in less than a year to be killed in the line of duty. Cmdr. Paul Bauer was fatally shot in February while pursuing a suspect in the Loop business district.

Police Superintendent Eddie Johnson wanted the city to know just how heroic Jimenez and the other officers who chased Lopez were.

"They saved a lot of lives because we just don't know how much damage he was prepared to do," Johnson said late Monday.

Mayor Rahm Emanuel, speaking at the same news conference at the hospital, reminded the city of what had been lost.

The three victims were "all going about their day, all doing what they loved," he said. "This just tears at

the soul of our city. It is the face and a consequence of evil.”

Associated Press Writer Michael Tarm contributed to this report.

## South Korean named Interpol president in blow to Russia

By AYA BATRAWY and ANGELA CHARLTON, Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — South Korea’s Kim Jong Yang was elected as Interpol’s president on Wednesday, edging out a veteran of Russia’s security services who was strongly opposed by the United States, Britain and other European nations.

Kim’s surprise election was seen as a victory for the White House and its European partners, who had lobbied up until the final hours before the vote against Alexander Prokopchuk’s attempts to be named the next president of the policing organization.

The U.S. and others expressed concern that if Russia’s candidate had been elected, that would have led to further Kremlin abuses of Interpol’s red notice system to go after political opponents and fugitive dissidents.

Russia accused its critics of running a “campaign to discredit” its candidate, calling Prokopchuk a respected professional.

Groups campaigning to clean up Interpol celebrated the win, as did South Korea. South Korea’s police and Foreign Ministry issued a joint statement saying Kim’s election is a “national triumph” that could elevate South Korea’s international standing.

Kim’s win means he secured at least two-thirds of votes cast at Interpol’s general assembly in Dubai on Wednesday. He will serve until 2020, completing the four-year mandate of his predecessor, Meng Hongwei, who was detained in China as part of a wide anti-corruption sweep there.

Kim, a police official in South Korea, was serving as interim president after Meng’s departure from the post and was senior vice president at Interpol.

Russia’s Interior Ministry said after the vote that Prokopchuk, who is one of three vice presidents at Interpol, will remain in that position. Spokeswoman Irina Volk told the Interfax news agency that Prokopchuk will “focus on advancing the stature of Interpol in the international police community and making its work more effective.”

Most of Interpol’s 194 member-countries attended the organization’s annual assembly this year, which was held in an opulent Dubai hotel along the Persian Gulf coast.

Interpol was facing a pivotal moment in its history as delegates decided whether to hand its presidency to Prokopchuk or Kim, who were the only two candidates vying for the post.

Based in the French city of Lyon, the 95-year-old policing body is best known for issuing “red notices” that identify suspects pursued by other countries, effectively putting them on the world’s “most-wanted” list.

Critics say countries like Russia, Turkey, Egypt, Iran and China have used the system to try to round up political opponents, journalists or activists, even though its rules prohibit the use of police notices for political reasons.

The agency faced criticism two years ago when Interpol’s member-states approved Meng as president for a four-year term. Amnesty International has criticized “China’s longstanding practice of trying to use Interpol to arrest dissidents and refugees abroad.”

In 2016, Interpol introduced new measures aimed at strengthening the legal framework around the red notice system. As part of the changes, an international team of lawyers and experts first check a notice’s compliance with Interpol rules and regulations before it goes out. Interpol also says it enhanced the work of an appeals body for those targeted with red notices.

Still, member countries can issue requests, known as diffusions, directly to other countries using Interpol’s communication system, without going through the centralized Interpol vetting that’s in place for red notices. Watchdog groups are urging Interpol to reform the diffusion system too.

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Bill Browder, who runs an investment fund that had once operated in Moscow, says Russia used the diffusion system against him, which led to his brief arrest in Spain earlier this year.

Browder and another prominent Kremlin critic, oligarch-turned-dissident Mikhail Khodorkovsky, warned Tuesday that electing Prokopchuk— who has ties to President Vladimir Putin— would have undermined the international law enforcement agency and politicized police cooperation across borders. Prokopchuk was in charge of facilitating Interpol warrants on behalf of Russia.

Browder and Khodorkovsky — who are reviled by the Kremlin — celebrated the result of the Interpol vote. Browder told The Associated Press on Wednesday that “Common sense has prevailed in a dark world. This is a real humiliation for Putin, who thought he’d get away with it.”

A lawyer who wrote a book on Interpol, Christopher David, hailed Kim’s election as “a solid, uncontroversial choice.” He said in a statement that if Interpol is to be a credible crime-fighting resource, Kim must increase transparency “to demonstrate and maintain its political neutrality.”

A day before the Interpol vote, the White House had come out publicly against the election of Prokopchuk, with National Security Council spokesman Garrett Marquis saying “the Russian government abuses Interpol’s processes to harass its political opponents.” U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said Washington was encouraging all nations and organizations that are part of Interpol to choose Kim.

Russia, however, secured a win for its ally Serbia on Tuesday when Kosovo’s bid to join Interpol failed to garner enough votes at the general assembly in Dubai. The move would have boosted Kosovo’s efforts at recognition of its statehood. Kosovo declared independence from Serbia in 2008.

Charlton reported from Paris. Associated Press writers Nataliya Vasilyeva in Moscow and Danica Kirka in London contributed.

## **Aid group: 85,000 children may have died of hunger in Yemen**

**By SAMY MAGDY, Associated Press**

CAIRO (AP) — An estimated 85,000 children under age 5 may have died of hunger and disease since the outbreak of Yemen’s civil war in 2015, an international aid group said Wednesday.

Save the Children based its figures on mortality rates for untreated cases of severe acute malnutrition, or SAM, in young children. The United Nations says more than 1.3 million children have suffered from SAM since a Saudi-led coalition went to war with Yemen’s Houthi rebels in March 2015.

The group said its “conservative estimate” was that 84,701 children may have died, based on historical studies that find that 20 to 30 percent of untreated cases lead to death. It says it calculated the figure based on the number of cases reported in areas where aid groups were unable to intervene.

“For every child killed by bombs and bullets, dozens are starving to death and it’s entirely preventable,” said Tamer Kirolos, Save the Children’s Yemen director. “Children who die in this way suffer immensely as their vital organ functions slow down and eventually stop.”

The war has given rise to the world’s worst humanitarian crisis. Three-quarters of Yemen’s people require life-saving assistance and more than 8 million are at risk of starvation. Tens of thousands of people are believed to have been killed in the fighting.

The Associated Press has reported from areas of Yemen that are on the brink of famine.

Save the Children blamed the widespread starvation on a Saudi-led blockade that was tightened a year ago after the Iran-aligned rebels fired a ballistic missile at the Saudi capital, Riyadh.

The charity also cited recent fighting in and around the port city of Hodeida, a lifeline through which Yemen imports some 70 percent of its food and humanitarian aid.

It said commercial imports through the rebel-held port have fallen by more than 55,000 metric tons a month — enough to meet the needs of 4.4 million people. Save the Children said it had been forced to bring supplies for the northern Yemen through the southern port of Aden, slowing aid deliveries.

The fallout from the killing of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi at the kingdom’s Istanbul consulate has drawn renewed attention to the war and devastation in Yemen. The U.S. has scaled back its support for



the coalition and called for a cease-fire by the end of this month.

U.N. envoy Martin Griffiths says both sides have agreed to attend peace talks "soon," and he visited the rebel-held capital, Sanaa, for talks with Houthi leaders on Wednesday.

But the fighting is still raging in Hodeida and other areas, and previous peace efforts have failed to produce any agreement to stop the violence.

## Trump team turns over written answers to Mueller's questions

By ERIC TUCKER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump has provided the special counsel with written answers to questions about his knowledge of Russian interference in the 2016 election, his lawyers said Tuesday, avoiding at least for now a potentially risky sit-down with prosecutors. It's the first time he has directly cooperated with the long investigation.

The step is a milestone in the negotiations between Trump's attorneys and special counsel Robert Mueller's team over whether and when the president might sit for an interview.

The compromise outcome, nearly a year in the making, offers some benefit to both sides. Trump at least temporarily averts the threat of an in-person interview, which his lawyers have long resisted, while Mueller secures on-the-record statements whose accuracy the president will be expected to stand by for the duration of the investigation.

The responses may also help stave off a potential subpoena fight over Trump's testimony if Mueller deems them satisfactory. They represent the first time the president is known to have described to investigators his knowledge of key moments under scrutiny by prosecutors.

But investigators may still press for more information.

Mueller's team months ago presented Trump's legal team with dozens of questions they wanted to ask the president related to whether his campaign coordinated with the Kremlin to tip the 2016 election and whether he sought to obstruct the Russia probe by actions including the firing of former FBI Director James Comey. The investigators agreed to accept written responses to questions about potential Russian collusion and tabled, for the moment, obstruction-related inquiries.

Mueller left open the possibility that he would follow up with additional questions on obstruction, though Trump's lawyers — who had long resisted any face-to-face interview — have been especially adamant that the Constitution shields him from having to answer any questions about actions he took as president.

Trump attorney Jay Sekulow offered no details on the current Q&A, saying merely that "the written questions submitted by the special counsel's office ... dealt with issues regarding the Russia-related topics of the inquiry. The president responded in writing." He said the legal team would not release copies of the questions and answers or discuss any correspondence it has had with the special counsel's office.

Another of Trump's lawyers, Rudy Giuliani, said the lawyers continue to believe that "much of what has been asked raised serious constitutional issues and was beyond the scope of a legitimate inquiry." He said Mueller's office had received "unprecedented cooperation from the White House," including about 1.4 million pages of materials.

"It is time to bring this inquiry to a conclusion," Giuliani said.

The president told reporters last week that he had prepared the responses himself.

Trump said in a Fox News interview that aired Sunday that he was unlikely to answer questions about obstruction, saying, "I think we've wasted enough time on this witch hunt and the answer is, probably, we're finished."

Trump joins a list of recent presidents who have submitted to questioning as part of a criminal investigation.

In 2004, President George W. Bush was interviewed by special counsel Patrick Fitzgerald's office during an investigation into the leaked identity of a covert CIA officer. In 1998, President Bill Clinton testified before a federal grand jury in independent counsel Ken Starr's Whitewater investigation.

"It's very extraordinary if this were a regular case, but it's not every day that you have an investigation that touches upon the White House," Solomon Wisenberg, a Washington lawyer who was part of Starr's

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team and conducted the grand jury questioning of Clinton, said of a prosecutor accepting written answers.

Mueller could theoretically still try to subpoena the president if he feels the answers are not satisfactory.

But Justice Department leaders, including acting Attorney General Matthew Whitaker — who now oversees the investigation and has spoken pejoratively of it in the past — would have to sign off on such a move, and it's far from clear that they would. It's also not clear that Mueller's team would prevail if a subpoena fight reached the Supreme Court.

"Mueller certainly could have forced the issue and issued a subpoena, but I think he wants to present a record of having bent over backwards to be fair," Wisenberg said.

The Supreme Court has never directly ruled on whether a president can be subpoenaed to testify in a criminal case. Clinton was subpoenaed to appear before the Whitewater grand jury, but investigators withdrew the subpoena after he agreed to appear voluntarily.

Other cases involving Presidents Richard Nixon and Clinton have presented similar issues for the justices that could be instructive now.

In 1974, for instance, the court ruled that Nixon could be ordered to turn over subpoenaed recordings, a decision that hastened his resignation. The court in 1997 said Clinton could be questioned under oath in a sexual harassment lawsuit brought by Paula Jones.

Follow Eric Tucker on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/etuckerAP>

## Trump defies calls to punish crown prince for writer's death

By DEB RIECHMANN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump has declared he will not further punish Saudi Arabia for the killing of U.S.-based columnist Jamal Khashoggi, making clear in an exclamation-filled statement that the benefits of good relations with the kingdom outweigh the possibility its crown prince ordered the killing.

The president condemned the brutal slaying of Khashoggi inside the Saudi consulate in Istanbul as a "horrible crime ... that our country does not condone." But he rejected calls by many in Congress, including members of his own party, for a tougher response, and he dismissed reports from U.S. intelligence agencies that Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman must have at least known about such an audacious and intricate plot.

"It could very well be that the crown prince had knowledge of this tragic event," the president said Tuesday. "Maybe he did and maybe he didn't!"

In many ways, the statement captured Trump's view of the world and foreign policy, grounded in economic necessity. It began with the words "America First!" followed by "The world is a very dangerous place!"

It came after weeks of debate over whether the president would or should come down hard on the Saudis and the crown prince in response to the killing of the Saudi columnist for The Washington Post who had criticized the royal family.

The U.S. earlier sanctioned 17 Saudi officials suspected of being responsible for or complicit in the Oct. 2 killing, but members of Congress have called for harsher actions, including canceling arms sales.

Trump said "foolishly canceling these contracts" worth billions of dollars would only benefit Russia and China, which would be next in line to supply the weapons. Critics, including high-ranking officials in other countries, denounced Trump's statement, saying he ignored human rights and granted Saudi Arabia a pass for economic reasons.

Asked by a reporter if he was saying that human rights are too expensive to fight for, Trump responded, "No, I'm not saying that at all." But then he switched the subject to the "terrorist nation" of Iran rather than any actions by Saudi Arabia.

The U.S. needs a "counterbalance" to Iran, "and Israel needs help, too," he said. "If we abandon Saudi Arabia, it would be a terrible mistake."

The mistake was Trump's, said Republican Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky, contending the administration has "blinders on" in comparing Iran and Saudi Arabia.

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"It's a sign of weakness not to stand up to Saudi Arabia," Paul said. "Sometimes when you have two evils, maybe you don't support either side."

Republican Lindsey Graham, the South Carolina senator who is close to Trump, also disagreed with the president's statement, saying America must not lose its "moral voice" on the international stage.

"It is not in our national security interests to look the other way when it comes to the brutal murder of Mr. Jamal Khashoggi," Graham said.

Likewise, Rep. Adam Schiff, ranking Democrat on the House intelligence committee, said that to suggest that U.S. silence can be bought with arms sales "undermines respect for the office of the presidency, the credibility of our intelligence community and America's standing as a champion of human rights."

Trump's statement, issued just before he pardoned the Thanksgiving turkey at the White House and left for the long holiday weekend in Florida, underscored his world view of putting U.S. interests — both financial and geopolitical — above all else.

He told reporters on the South Lawn that oil prices would "skyrocket" if the U.S. broke with the Saudis, and he was not going to "destroy" the world's economy by being "foolish with Saudi Arabia."

Asked about any personal financial involvement, he said: "Saudi Arabia has nothing to do with me. What does have to do with me is putting America first."

Iran's foreign minister, Mohammad Javad Zarif, mocked Trump's announcement, tweeting that Trump "bizarrely devotes the FIRST paragraph of his shameful statement on Saudi atrocities to accuse IRAN of every sort of malfeasance he can think of."

Zarif went on to joke that "perhaps we're also responsible for the California fires, because we didn't help rake the forests— just like the Finns do?" He appeared to be referring to recent remarks in which Trump suggested raking the forest floor prevented fires in Finland and would have helped to prevent California's devastating wildfires.

Turkey's foreign minister, Mevlut Cavusoglu, called Khashoggi's killing "a humanitarian issue" and said it should not be covered up for the sake of maintaining trade ties with Saudi Arabia.

"It concerns a murder," Cavusoglu said. "It is not possible to say, 'Our trade will increase. Let's cover this up. Let's ignore it.'"

Trump said that King Salman and Crown Prince Mohammed both "vigorously deny" any knowledge of the planning or execution of the killing. He also said the CIA has not made a conclusive determination about whether the crown prince ordered it.

A U.S. official familiar with the case told The Associated Press last week that intelligence officials had concluded that the crown prince, the kingdom's de facto leader, did order the killing. Others familiar with the case, however, have cautioned that while it's likely the crown prince had a role there continue to be questions about the degree.

"We may never know all of the facts surrounding the murder of Mr. Jamal Khashoggi," Trump said. "In any case, our relationship is with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. They have been a great ally in our very important fight against Iran."

Saudi prosecutors say a 15-man team sent to Istanbul exceeded its authority when the lead negotiator in the team decided to kill Khashoggi for refusing orders to return. The Saudis say the agents dismembered his body, which has not been found.

Democrats on Capitol Hill called on the CIA and other top intelligence agencies to publicly report what it has learned about the killing.

The CIA had no comment on the president's statement. However, former Director John Brennan, a frequent Trump critic, tweeted: "Since Mr. Trump excels in dishonesty, it is now up to members of Congress to obtain & declassify the CIA findings on Jamal Khashoggi's death. No one in Saudi Arabia — most especially the Crown Prince — should escape accountability for such a heinous act."

Trump said he knew some members of Congress would disagree with his decision. He said he would listen to their ideas, but only if they were focused on U.S. national security.

Late last week, a bipartisan group of senators introduced legislation that calls for suspending weapons

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sales to Saudi Arabia, for sanctions on people who block humanitarian access in Yemen or support the Houthi rebels, and mandatory sanctions on those responsible for Khashoggi's death.

Democrats harshly criticized Trump's decision Tuesday and called on Congress to cut off arms sales to Saudi Arabia and end support for Saudi Arabia's war against the Iran-backed Houthi rebels in neighboring Yemen, which is facing a humanitarian crisis.

"Standing with Saudi Arabia is not 'America First!'" said Democratic Sen. Tim Kaine of Virginia, where Khashoggi lived. "President Trump has sided with a murderous regime over patriotic American intelligence officials."

Democrat Dianne Feinstein of California, a member of the Senate intelligence committee, said Khashoggi was killed by agents of the Saudi government in a "premeditated murder, plain and simple," and she said she would introduce legislation requiring intelligence agencies to release an unclassified public assessment.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo defended Trump's decision, saying, "We are determined to ensure that we continue to make sure that we take care of the American people in all of the strategic decisions we make about with whom we work with around the world."

The president opened his eight-paragraph statement chastising Iran for its proxy war against Saudi Arabia in Yemen, its activities in Iraq, its backing of the Syrian government of Bashar Assad and its support of militant groups, which Riyadh has pledged billions to fight.

## 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. TRUMP DEFIANT OVER SAUDI NON-ACTION

In not punishing Riyadh over a journalist's killing, the president makes clear that good relations with the kingdom outweigh the possibility its crown prince ordered the killing and sparks heavy bipartisan criticism in Congress.

### 2. TRUMP DIRECTLY COOPERATES FOR 1ST TIME IN MUELLER PROBE

The president provides the special counsel's office with written answers to questions about his knowledge of Russian interference in the 2016 election.

### 3. WHO INTERPOL ELECTED AS PRESIDENT

South Korea's Kim Jong Yang edges out a longtime veteran of Russia's security services strongly opposed by the U.S., Britain and other European nations.

### 4. MALNUTRITION LEADS TO STAGGERING DEATH TOLL IN YEMEN

An international aid group says an estimated 85,000 children under age 5 may have died of hunger and disease since the outbreak of civil war in 2015.

### 5. CHINA'S VISION FOR ETHNIC UNITY SHOWS CRACKS

There are no mosques in sight for Uighur Muslims in a village in China's Xinjiang region and Han Chinese and Uighur residents do not mix socially, AP finds.

### 6. FEDS SCRUTINIZE STUDENT LOAN PROVIDER

Navient may have driven tens of thousands of borrowers struggling with their debts into high-cost repayment plans, a government audit finds.

### 7. NISSAN CHAIRMAN TO REMAIN HELD

Carlos Ghosn will be detained for another 10 days following his arrest on suspicion of falsifying income reports by millions of dollars and misusing company assets for personal gain, reports say.

### 8. WHAT COULD HELP, HAMPER WILDFIRES FIGHT

Rain in the forecast could aid crews battling California's deadly blazes while raising the risk of flash floods and complicating efforts to recover remains of those killed.

### 9. WHERE INVESTORS ARE PUTTING THEIR MONEY

Since stocks began tumbling two months ago, investors have been buying shares in utilities, everyday products and other stocks less volatile than the rest of the exchange.



10. 'MAYBE I WILL GO'

Trump hints that he might attend next year's White House Correspondents Dinner now that the event is no longer featuring a comedian.

## Reports say Japan prosecutors to hold Ghosn for 10 more days

By YURI KAGEYAMA, AP Business Writer

TOKYO (AP) — Nissan Motor Co. chairman Carlos Ghosn will be detained for another 10 days following his arrest on suspicion of falsifying income reports by millions of dollars and misusing company assets for personal gain, Japanese media reported Wednesday.

Nissan's board of directors is due to meet Thursday and decide if it will dismiss Ghosn and the company's representative director, Greg Kelly. He also arrested Monday on suspicion of collaborating in the wrongdoing.

Their detention was extended Wednesday for another 10 days, Kyodo News service reported. It cited the Tokyo District Court, which declined to comment.

Under Japanese law, suspects can be held for 20 days per possible charge without an official indictment. Additional charges can be tagged on, resulting in longer detentions. Neither Ghosn nor Kelly has been charged so far.

Ghosn is suspected of under-reporting \$44.6 million in income from 2011 to 2015, according to Tokyo prosecutors.

The maximum penalty, upon conviction for violating finance and exchange laws is 10 years in prison, a 10 million yen (\$89,000) fine, or both.

Despite the high-profile arrests, analysts said the impact on Nissan auto sales would likely be minimal.

"I'd be surprised if it impacts car sales very much," said Christopher Richter, auto analyst for CLSA Securities Japan Co. "Consumers are discerning enough to say: This car, the wheels might fall off so I'm not going to buy it. This car company, the executive might have done something kind of dodgy, but do I like the car or not."

Richter noted sales dips that hit after previous Nissan scandals were temporary. The deviations the automaker acknowledged in those scandals were more directly related to product quality, such as mileage, emissions and plant inspections.

Renault SA of France, a partner since the late 1990s and now holding a 43 percent stake in Nissan, retained Ghosn as chief executive in an emergency board meeting Tuesday, while naming the company's chief operating officer, Thierry Bollere, in his place. Renault's board also is requesting that Nissan share details of its internal investigation into Ghosn, which the company says was sparked by a whistleblower.

From the start, Nissan has sought to distance itself from the arrests.

Chief Executive Hiroto Saikawa denounced Ghosn and Kelly as "the masterminds," and made clear he thought they should be removed at Thursday's board meeting.

Ghosn, 64, is credited with turning around Nissan from near-bankruptcy after he was sent to Nissan by Renault in 1999. He served as Nissan's chief executive from 2001 until last year. He became chief executive of Renault in 2005, leading the two major automakers simultaneously. In 2016, he became chairman of Mitsubishi Motors Corp. after Nissan took it into the alliance to help it recover from an inspections scandal at the smaller automaker.

Kelly, 62, joined Nissan in the U.S. in 1988, and became a board member from 2012. His background over the years has been in human resources and alliance management. He has a law degree from Loyola University School of Law and a bachelor's degree in public administration from Augustana College.

When Saikawa was asked how such actions could have gone undetected for five years, perhaps longer, he blamed a murky system of checks and balances at Nissan and emphasized that he believed Ghosn had too much power.

Nissan's overall performance won't be hurt by the absence of Ghosn, "as long as the executive team pulls together," said Janet Lewis, an analyst at Macquarie Research.

The fact the case was initially raised by a whistleblower shows the system was working, she said.

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Nissan shares tanked Tuesday after the scandal surfaced, falling 5.5 percent. The stock recovered moderately in Wednesday's trading on the Tokyo Stock Exchange, closing up 0.4 percent.

Masahiro Akita, auto analyst with Credit Suisse, said he was stunned by the news of Ghosn's arrest.

But he believes operations at Nissan will mainly remain business as usual, while uncertainties about brand image remain.

"It's not realistic to think the alliance will suddenly change as it is now already operating," he said, noting the automakers share platforms, or the basic parts on which vehicles are built, as well as parts purchasing.

"You can't go back on it that easily."

Yuri Kageyama is on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/yurikageyama>

On Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/yurikageyama/?hl=en>

## She's everywhere: Ocasio-Cortez puts trek to Congress online

By LAURIE KELLMAN and LISA MASCARO, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — She's cooked bean soup live and done laundry in public. She narrated much of what she calls "Congress camp" on Capitol Hill. We know what's in her bank account — less than \$7,000 — and what she thinks of reviews of her clothing.

Such intimate details have kept Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's star on the rise since she upset Democratic veteran Joe Crowley in New York's June primary. By the time she takes her seat in the House on Jan. 3 as the youngest woman ever elected to Congress, the 29-year-old Ocasio-Cortez will have blazed a new, more public trail to Washington and literally shed light on the maze of Capitol Hill.

"Guys there are secret underground tunnels between all of these government buildings," she mock-whispers in one social media post.

The passageways are hardly secret, as she notes — everyone from tourists to reporters and lawmakers jostle through them. But they can be hard to follow, much like the twists and turns of congressional business. So Ocasio-Cortez is posting not just about mundane tasks at home, but also about her life as a congresswoman-elect. And even though her Instagram stories don't stay online for long, she intends to keep up the posts in an effort to "humanize our government."

"A lot of times we'll tune in to cable news or watch what's going on on TV and all we're reading about is bills and all we're reading about is legislation or the political dynamics," she said Monday night on MSNBC. "But I think it's really important that we actually show people that government is a real thing, that it's something that you can be a part of."

In her first week, Ocasio-Cortez, a democratic socialist, did give a glimpse inside the power games of Congress when she appeared with protesters in the office of the woman fighting to become House speaker, Nancy Pelosi of California. Pelosi, who had not yet won Ocasio-Cortez's support in the leadership fight, permitted the demonstration. Video of the event was posted to social media. Over the weekend, Ocasio-Cortez signaled she would vote for Pelosi for speaker.

That episode and others offered clues to how Ocasio-Cortez and her social media practices fit into a national legislature that's slowly becoming younger, less male and more diverse. The approach Ocasio-Cortez is modeling — and the political world is studying — gives her a measure of control by communicating directly with constituents and responding to critics in close to real time.

"She knows how to navigate this space in a way that others don't," said Yvette Simpson, incoming CEO of Democracy for America, a progressive political action committee. Also, Simpson pointed out, "She's not accountable to that power structure" in Congress. "She's accountable to the group that put her there."

The Ocasio-Cortez approach carries risks. Every word she utters and writes will be scrutinized in the big arena of Congress and the 2020 re-election campaigns that have effectively already begun.

She's already gotten a taste of that scrutiny on policy, to which she is a newcomer compared to some in her class who were state legislators or staffers in previous administrations. Asked on PBS on July 13 about her views on capitalism considering the strong economy and the low unemployment rate, Ocasio-

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Cortez responded:

"We look at these figures and we say, oh, unemployment is low because everyone has two jobs."

Fact checkers pounced. Employed people are only counted once when the unemployment rate is determined — no matter how many jobs they hold. And the percentage of people working multiple jobs has fallen slightly since the mid-2000s, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

There have been other tangles.

"People keep giving me directions to the spouse and intern events instead of the ones for members of Congress," Ocasio-Cortez tweeted Nov. 14.

Questioned about that claim on Twitter, she reiterated that she'd been sent to an intern lunch and added: "Next time try believing women + people of color when they talk about their experiences being a woman or person of color."

Her high profile has come with criticism.

"If I walked into Congress wearing a sack, they would laugh & take a picture of my backside," she posted on Nov. 15, after a reporter posted just such a photo and questioned whether her clothing choice was that of a "girl who struggles." "If I walk in with my best sale-rack clothes, they laugh & take a picture of my backside."

Conservatives, too, questioned her claim that she can't pay rent in pricey Washington. A spokesman for Ocasio-Cortez said Tuesday that she has less than \$7,000 in her bank account to get her through the first congressional payday in January. She and each rank-and-file member will make \$174,000 a year.

Another spat ensued when Ocasio-Cortez misspoke and referred to "three chambers of government," rather than three branches. Former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, a Republican not immune to gaffes herself as John McCain's 2008 vice presidential running mate, tweeted that the congresswoman-elect had fumbled basic civics.

For now, Ocasio-Cortez posted that her appearance Monday night will be the last "before we go dark" to set up two congressional offices — one in New York and one in Washington. But even that announcement raised questions among her followers.

"Don't worry, I'll still be on insta, twitter, etc.," she reassured them.

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Associated Press writer Josh Boak contributed to this report.

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Follow Kellman and Mascaro on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/APLaurieKellman> and <http://www.twitter.com/LisaMascaro>

## APNewsBreak: Indian Country criminal prosecutions plateau

By MARY HUDETZ, Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — The number of Indian Country crimes that the U.S. Justice Department decided to prosecute has not shown significant change in recent years, despite programs and attempts to boost both public safety and prosecutions of sexual assaults and other crimes on reservations, according to federal figures Wednesday.

In an annual report obtained by The Associated Press, statistics showed U.S. attorneys' offices declined to prosecute 37 percent of the Indian Country cases they deemed resolved in 2017, usually citing insufficient evidence. The percentage of cases dropped by prosecutors or sent to other courts was up three points from 2016.

The annual report on prosecution rates marks the first since a government watchdog report from the Office of Inspector General last year issued a critical analysis of the U.S. attorneys' uneven track record with Indian Country cases. It cited data that must be collected under a 2010 law for the annual reports on investigations and prosecutions.

The report also comes amid heightened concerns in Congress and tribal communities over crimes against Native American women, who are disproportionately victimized by sexual assault and domestic assault.

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More than half of Native American women have encountered sexual and domestic violence at some point during their lives, according to a National Institute of Justice survey published in 2016.

"This report only confirms that Native victims continue to fall through the cracks of our justice system," U.S. Sen. Tom Udall, a New Mexico Democrat, said in an email to The Associated Press. "We badly need to commit greater resources to combatting violence in Indian Country and ensuring that those who victimize Native women and families are brought to justice."

In the Justice Department's most recent report, a quarter of the cases U.S. attorney declined to prosecute — or more than 630 — stemmed from reported sexual assaults. A third resulted from other reported assaults, a category that includes domestic violence cases.

Udall, who is the vice chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, said limited data collection and lack of clear protocols for authorities' handling of cases have, in part, hampered investigations, prosecutions and strategic crime-fighting in Native American communities.

Trent Shores, who is Choctaw and the U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Oklahoma, echoed Udall's calls for more funding, saying resources were needed across the board to support more investigators, tribal courts and forensic work in crime laboratories — which would help with prosecutions.

More than 70 percent of unprosecuted cases were dropped because of a lack of evidence.

While frustrated with the persistent statistics showing Native Americans victimized at alarming rates, Shores said he also believed the report shows some promising findings.

He said that some of the cases categorized as being declined by federal prosecutors received the designation because they were sent to tribal courts — which actually represents recognition of tribes' sovereignty and ability to handle cases at a local level.

About 13 percent of the declined cases were referred to different jurisdictions, according to the report's data.

"I am seeing continued improvement in the department's ability to better capture the data — to prosecute crimes," he added.

Shores, who was appointed to his post last year by President Donald Trump, chairs a Justice Department committee on Native American issues and contributed to the prosecutions report.

He said he and others are committed to carrying out a range of initiatives meant to improve policing and prosecutions in tribal communities. They include an Obama-era program that has been expanded under the Trump administration and calls for numerous U.S. Attorneys to staff their offices with special prosecutors who must focus on Indian Country cases. The prosecutors also can handle cases in both tribal and federal courts.

"It certainly is not for a lack of effort, for a lack of want or will," Shores said of the stagnant crime and prosecution statistics.

## Rains could help firefight but complicate search for remains

By KATHLEEN RONAYNE, Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Rain in the forecast starting Wednesday could aid crews fighting California's deadly wildfires while raising the risk of flash floods and complicating efforts to recover remains of those killed.

Residents in communities charred by the Los Angeles-area fire stacked sandbags as they prepared for possible downpours that threatened to unleash runoff from hillsides left barren by flames.

In Northern California, teams continued sifting through ash and debris as they searched for bodies in and around the decimated town of Paradise.

"The task is arduous," said Rick Crawford with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. "And the possibility exists that some people may never be found."

With the death toll at 81 in the state's most destructive wildfire, there are still nearly 870 people still unaccounted for.

Authorities trying to identify the scores of people killed are using rapid DNA testing that produces re-



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sults in just two hours. The system can analyze DNA from bone fragments or other remains, then match it to genetic material provided by relatives of the missing. But the technology depends on people coming forward to give a DNA sample via a cheek swab, and so far, there are not nearly as many volunteers as authorities had hoped for.

As of Tuesday, nearly two weeks after the inferno, only about 60 people had provided samples to pop-up labs, said Annette Mattern, a spokeswoman for ANDE, the Longmont, Colorado, company that is donating the technology.

"We need hundreds," Mattern said. "We need a big enough sample for us to make a positive ID on these and to also give a better idea of how many losses there actually are."

The burned area surrounding Paradise, which is about 140 miles (225.3 kilometers) northwest of San Francisco, will see rain starting Wednesday. The precipitation could help knock out the flames, but it could also hinder the search by washing away fragmentary remains and turning ash into a thick paste.

The National Weather Service issued a flash flood watch for Paradise and nearby communities and for those areas charred by wildfires earlier this year in Lake, Shasta, Trinity and Mendocino counties.

The Camp Fire, which has burned an area about the size of the city of Chicago — nearly 238 square miles (616 square kilometers) — and destroyed around 13,000 homes, was 75 percent contained on Tuesday.

In Southern California, people who worried days earlier that their homes might be consumed by flames were now taking action to guard against possible debris flows caused by the Pacific storm set to come ashore the day before Thanksgiving. Residents filling sandbags at Malibu's famous Zuma Beach were mindful of the disaster that struck less than a year ago when a downpour on a fresh burn scar up the coast sent home-smashing debris flows through Montecito, killing 21 people and leaving two missing.

The 151-square-mile (391-square-kilometer) Woolsey Fire was almost entirely contained, with 1,500 buildings destroyed and 341 damaged. The major remaining closed area was centered in the rugged Santa Monica Mountains that rise high above the Malibu coast.

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Associated Press journalists Christopher Weber and John Antczak in Los Angeles contributed to this report.

## Cracks show in China's vision for model ethnic unity village

By EMILY WANG, Associated Press

HOTAN UNITY NEW VILLAGE, China (AP) — In this corner of China's far west, rows of identical white concrete houses with red metal roofs rise abruptly above the sand dunes of the harsh Taklamakan Desert. A Chinese flag flutters above the settlement, and a billboard at the entrance says, "Welcome to the Hotan Unity New Village."

This is a Communist Party showcase for its efforts to tame Xinjiang province, the heartland of China's often restive Uighur Muslim minority and an unforgiving terrain. The free or low-cost houses are assigned alternately to Uighurs and Han Chinese, who work side-by-side in greenhouses and send their children to school together. It is the future the party envisions for Xinjiang after a massive security crackdown that has sent by some estimates more than a million Muslims to internment camps, and many of their children to orphanages.

But a closer look at what the party calls "ethnic unity" reveals what isn't there: mosques for Muslim worshippers, or traditional Uighur brick homes, often adorned with pointed arches and carved decorations. In their place are colorful murals of what authorities consider to be scenes of unity, such as a Uighur man and his family holding a Chinese flag.

In the village's new public square, Uighur children banter with Han Chinese children in fluent Mandarin, the language of the Han majority, rather than in their native tongue. Young Uighur women wear Western clothing without the headscarves that are part of traditional Muslim dress.

While these are voluntary settlements with economic benefits, experts and Uighur activists believe they are part of an aggressive government campaign to erode the identities of the Central Asian groups who called the region home long before waves of Han migrants arrived in recent decades.

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“Ethnic unity’ is a euphemism for taming, breaking the Uighur people,” says Joanne Smith Finley, an expert in Uighur identity at Newcastle University in the U.K. “This is putting flowery bright wallpaper over a damp wall, a rotting wall.”

Construction of the village began in 2014 with a planned investment of 1.7 billion yuan (\$247 million). The goal was to build 5,000 homes and 10,000 greenhouses, according to local reports, to turn a large swath of desert into farmland and create a shared prosperity among Uighurs and Han Chinese.

Around the same time, the Communist Party came forth with a new strategy focused on ethnic mingling. Subsequently, at least one county offered financial incentives for Uighur-Han intermarriages, while others have launched programs encouraging Uighur families to move into Han Chinese residential areas.

China is building several such mixed settlements in Xinjiang. A similar village is under construction as a tourist attraction near Kuqa, around 600 kilometers (372 miles) from Hotan. A concrete yurt known as the “solidarity farmhouse” already has been completed, and a giant sculpture of a pomegranate is prominently placed at the center of the village to symbolize unity.

In Hotan, there are signs that the government’s experiment is making inroads. Uighur farmers toil alongside Han Chinese to farm crops in what was once barren desert land, and both groups live in modern houses equipped with gas, electricity and water. A billboard displays a picture of President Xi Jinping and a group of Uighur elders joining hands and, according to the caption, “linking hearts.”

Yet there are also signs of enduring mistrust. As elsewhere in Xinjiang, high walls around homes are topped with barbed wire, and police officers stand guard from behind fences at the entrance of the village. Adults don’t mix socially — at night, a group of Han Chinese dance in the square while the Uighur residents chat among themselves on the sidelines.

A Uighur farmer who moved to the village last September says authorities provided him with free housing and utilities, two greenhouses, a small orchard with grapevines and a barn with sheep, chickens, and pigeons. But the crackdown on Muslims in Xinjiang has made it risky for ordinary Muslims to discuss their religious practices, and when speaking to reporters in front of government observers, he insists he was never a Muslim. Another Uighur farmer in his early seventies, Muzitohtahon, says he is no longer a Muslim.

Uighur and Han villagers do seem united by at least one factor — their desire to escape poverty. Rural areas in Xinjiang, including Hotan, rank among the poorest in China, with many families lacking even the most basic utilities and food. The financial incentives are also a key draw for Han Chinese from other impoverished regions of China.

Last May, 58-year-old Xiao Erying, who is Han Chinese, moved to this village from her hometown in the southern province of Hunan, over 4,000 kilometers away. “It is better than our hometown,” she says, as she rakes sheep, chicken and cow manure inside her greenhouse.

For 60,000 yuan (\$8,700), her family bought a two-bedroom home with a small orchard and two greenhouses. The two grandchildren she lives with are given free tuition, school lunches, and even a free set of clothes. Xiao admits she doesn’t speak Uighur and cannot communicate with her Uighur neighbors, but she says the layout encourages interaction.

In a greenhouse a few dozen meters away, Uighur Abudu Mijiti has just begun planting chili with his wife. He moved to the village three years ago to make a more stable living. Two of his three children go to the local school and are fluent in Chinese, he says, as a government minder looks on.

“For us, it’s good, it helps learning our national language,” he says. “And because our next-door neighbor is Chinese, as we go in and out, it helps improve ethnic unity.”

On the surface, the picture presented at the Hotan Unity New Village reflects the government’s vision of an “idealized place,” says David O’Brien, an expert at the University of Nottingham.

“Every single part of it is the official narrative,” O’Brien says. “The narrative is, water will flow to the desert. The narrative is, if you come here great opportunity awaits you. The narrative that people will be secular, they will learn Mandarin.”

Yet the settlement remains only partly inhabited. The city says there are 534 households in the compound, but most of the houses are empty. A drive through reveals rows of empty greenhouses and house

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after house with a sign that says "sealed off" patched onto padlocked or chained gates.

Under the sweltering desert sun, one Han Chinese farmer tending to her plot of Chinese chives complains that water is scarce and her previous batch of chives had to be thrown out. Even when the crops work out, the chives sell for less than one yuan (14 cents) per kilogram.

"Not even enough for food," she grumbles. "You cannot feed yourself just working on greenhouses."

In the absence of government minders, the woman goes on.

"Ordinary people are not able to eat meat. The officials can, but not the ordinary people," says the woman, who declines to give her name out of fear of retaliation.

As dusk approaches and temperatures fall, residents slowly make their way out onto the streets to enjoy the evening breeze. On the Uighur side of the street, a young Uighur woman rests on an electric bike after a day's work, looking at her cell phone.

Asked what she thinks of unity, she looks up.

"Unity?" she asks. Silently and slowly, she shakes her head, and returns to her phone.

## Thanksgiving air-travel rush gets off to a good start

By The Associated Press

Thanksgiving travelers got help from favorable weather in most of the U.S. Tuesday, but flight delays piled up at airports around the country by day's end.

Wet and frigid forecasts threaten to make driving more challenging in the next day or two.

By late Tuesday afternoon, fewer than 150 U.S. flights had been canceled — a low number all things considered. But 3,000 flights were delayed, according to tracking service FlightAware.

The largest number of delays — about 400 — was at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, where dense fog slowed the pace of departures and arrivals. Flights going to Boston and Newark, New Jersey, were also more likely to be delayed, according to the Federal Aviation Administration. So were flights to San Francisco, where visibility has been reduced due to smoke from the wildfire in Paradise, California.

Driving was difficult in parts of New England. The remnants of a recent snowstorm left messy road conditions across much of the region, and the forecast called for more snow on Wednesday followed by blustery winds and high temperatures in the teens on Thanksgiving Day in northern New England.

Rain, with snow in the higher elevations, could slow traffic Wednesday in much of California, Oregon and Washington.

The AAA auto club predicts that 54.3 million Americans will travel at least 50 miles from home between Wednesday and Sunday, the highest number since 2005 and about a 5 percent increase over last year. AAA says 48 million will drive and 4.7 million will fly.

Looking at a longer, 12-day period, the airline industry trade group Airlines for America predicts that a record 30.6 million people will fly on U.S. carriers, up from 29 million last year. That's more than 2.5 million per day.

The airline group expects that Wednesday will be the second busiest day of the holiday period behind only Sunday, when many travelers will be returning home.

Travelers should prepare for long lines at airport checkpoints. The Transportation Security Administration expected to screen about 25 million people between Monday and next Monday, an increase of 5 percent over last year.

The airline group's numbers are bigger because its forecast covers an extra day and it counts connecting passengers again, while TSA only counts those people once when they pass the checkpoint.

TSA says the holiday rush really started last Friday — similar to last year but earlier than in previous years. The Sunday following Thanksgiving is expected to be one of TSA's 10 busiest days ever.

## US senator apologizes to anyone offended by 'hanging' remark

By EMILY WAGSTER PETTUS, Associated Press

JACKSON, Miss. (AP) — A white Republican U.S. senator from Mississippi said during a debate with her African-American Democratic opponent Tuesday night that she apologizes to people who were offended when she complimented a supporter by saying she would attend a "public hanging" if the supporter invited her.

Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith's remark was caught on video that was released last week. It has brought widespread criticism both inside and outside Mississippi, a state with a history of racially motivated lynchings.

"For anyone that was offended by my comments, I certainly apologize. There was no ill will, no intent whatsoever in my statement," Hyde-Smith said Tuesday during a televised debate with Democrat Mike Espy.

The apology was a new approach for Hyde-Smith, who repeatedly refused to answer questions about the hanging comment at a news conference Nov. 12, the day after the publisher of a liberal-leaning news site posted the video on Facebook and Twitter.

The clip shows Hyde-Smith praising a cattle rancher at a Nov. 2 campaign event in Tupelo by saying: "If he invited me to a public hanging, I'd be on the front row." Shortly after the video's release, she said in a statement that the expression was an "exaggerated expression of regard" and said it is "ridiculous" to read any negative connotation into it.

"There has never been anything, not one thing, in my background to ever indicate I had ill will toward anyone," Hyde-Smith, a former state agriculture commissioner, said Tuesday night. "I've never been hurtful to anyone. I've always tried to help everyone. I also recognize that this comment was twisted and it was turned into a weapon to be used against me, a political weapon used for nothing but personal and political gain by my opponent. That's the type of politics Mississippians are sick and tired of."

Espy responded during the debate: "No one's twisted your comments because your comments were live, you know, it came out of your mouth. I don't know what's in your heart but I know what came out of your mouth. It went viral in the first three minutes around the world. And so it's caused our state harm. It's given our state another black eye that we don't need. It's just rejuvenated those stereotypes that we don't need anymore."

Hyde-Smith is the first woman to represent Mississippi in Congress. Espy is a former congressman and U.S. agriculture secretary, is seeking to become the state's first African-American senator since Reconstruction.

During the debate, Hyde-Smith questioned a \$750,000 lobbying contract Espy had in 2011 with the Cocoa and Coffee Board of the Ivory Coast. She noted that the country's ex-president, Laurent Gbagbo, is being tried in the International Criminal Court for crimes against humanity, including, Hyde-Smith said, "murder, rape and unspeakable things against young girls."

"I don't know how many Mississippians can really relate to an income that can command a \$750,000 check from one person for a lobbying job," said Hyde-Smith, who is a cattle rancher.

Espy, who is an attorney, said: "I found out later that this guy, the president, was a really bad guy. I resigned the contract."

Federal registration papers show Espy terminated the contract two weeks before its scheduled end.

Hours before Tuesday's debate, President Donald Trump defended Hyde-Smith's "public hanging" remark, saying at the White House that she loves the people of Mississippi and the U.S.

"It was just sort of said in jest," Trump said. "She's a tremendous woman and it's a shame that she has to go through this."

Walmart asked Hyde-Smith to return a \$2,000 campaign contribution because of the hanging remark. Walmart spokeswoman LeMia Jenkins said Tuesday that the company donated to Hyde-Smith Nov. 8, three days before the release of the video with the "public hanging" remark.

"Sen. Hyde-Smith's recent comments clearly do not reflect the values of our company and associates," Jenkins said in a statement. "As a result, we are withdrawing our support and requesting a refund of all campaign donations."

Hyde-Smith's campaign did not respond to questions from The Associated Press about whether it would



refund Walmart's contribution.

Senate races rarely gain national attention in Mississippi, a deeply conservative state. But this matchup — the last major race of the 2018 midterms — has drawn scrutiny after Hyde-Smith's remarks.

Trump is traveling to Mississippi for two Hyde-Smith rallies Monday on the eve of the election. Former Vice President Joe Biden has endorsed Espy.

Hyde-Smith was appointed to the Senate to temporarily succeed longtime Sen. Thad Cochran, who retired in April amid health concerns. She is the first woman to represent Mississippi in Congress.

Hyde-Smith and Espy each received about 41 percent of the vote when four candidates were on the ballot Nov. 6. If she wins the Nov. 27 runoff, Hyde-Smith would give Republicans a 53-47 majority in the Senate.

Associated Press writer Zeke Miller contributed from Washington. For AP's complete coverage of the U.S. midterm elections: <http://apne.ws/APPolitics> . Follow Emily Wagster Pettus on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/EWagsterPettus> .

## Americans, Canadians are warned not to eat romaine lettuce

By **CANDICE CHOI, AP Food & Health Writer**

NEW YORK (AP) — Health officials in the U.S. and Canada told people Tuesday to stop eating romaine lettuce because of a new E. coli outbreak.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration said it is working with officials in Canada on the outbreak, which has sickened 32 people in 11 states and 18 people in the Canadian provinces of Ontario and Quebec.

The strain identified is different than the one linked to romaine earlier this year but appears similar to last year's outbreak linked to leafy greens.

FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb said the agency doesn't have enough information to ask suppliers for a recall, but he suggested that supermarkets and restaurants should withdraw romaine until the source of the contamination can be identified. People are also being advised to throw out any romaine they have at home.

The contaminated lettuce is likely still on the market, Gottlieb told The Associated Press in a phone interview.

He said FDA wanted to issue a warning before people gathered for Thanksgiving meals, where the potential for exposure could increase.

"We did feel some pressure to draw conclusions as quickly as we could," he said.

In Canada, officials issued similar warnings to the two provinces where people were sickened. They said there was no evidence to suggest people in other parts of the country had been affected.

Most romaine sold this time of year is grown in California, Gottlieb said. The romaine lettuce linked to the E. coli outbreak earlier this year was from Yuma, Arizona. Tainted irrigation water appeared to be the source of that outbreak, which sickened about 200 people and killed five.

The FDA's blanket warning in the current outbreak is broader and more direct than the ones issued in the earlier outbreak, said Robert Whitaker, chief science officer for the Produce Marketing Association. In the earlier outbreak, the warnings about romaine from Yuma might have been confusing, he said.

Whitaker said the industry group told members they should cooperate with the FDA and stop supplying romaine lettuce, especially since people have been told to stop buying and eating it.

No deaths have been reported in the current outbreak, but 13 people in the U.S. and six in Canada have been hospitalized. The last reported U.S. illness was on Oct. 31, while the most recent illness in Canada was early this month.

Tracing the source of contaminated lettuce can be difficult because it's often repackaged by middlemen, said Sarah Sorscher, deputy director of regulatory affairs at the Center for Science in the Public Interest. That can mean the entire industry becomes implicated in outbreaks, even if not all products are contaminated.

"One of the problems with produce is that it can be very hard to trace back," she said.

She said washing contaminated lettuce won't ensure that harmful germs are killed.

Infections from E. coli can cause symptoms including severe stomach cramps, diarrhea and vomiting. Most people recover within a week, but some illnesses can last longer and be more severe.

Health officials have also been reminding people to properly handle and cook their Thanksgiving birds amid a widespread salmonella outbreak linked to raw turkey. Last week, Hormel recalled some packages of Jennie-O ground turkey that regulators were able to tie to an illness.

But unlike with romaine lettuce, regulators are not warning people to avoid turkey. Salmonella is not prohibited in raw meat and poultry, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which oversees raw meat, said cooking should kill any salmonella.

The Associated Press Health & Science Department receives support from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Department of Science Education. The AP is solely responsible for all content.

## 'We need hundreds': Fire victims' families urged to give DNA

By KATHLEEN RONAYNE, Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Authorities are using a powerful tool in their effort to identify the scores of people killed by the wildfire that ripped through Northern California: rapid DNA testing that produces results in just two hours.

The system can analyze DNA from bone fragments or other remains, then match it to genetic material provided by relatives of the missing. But the technology depends on people coming forward to give a DNA sample via a cheek swab, and so far, there are not nearly as many volunteers as authorities had hoped for.

As of Tuesday, nearly two weeks after the inferno devastated the town of Paradise and surrounding areas, the number of confirmed dead stood at 81, and the sheriff's list of those unaccounted for had about 700 names.

But only about 60 people had provided samples to pop-up labs at the Butte County Sheriff's office in Oroville and an old Sears building in Chico, where the Federal Emergency Management Agency set up a disaster relief center, said Annette Mattern, a spokeswoman for ANDE, the Longmont, Colorado, company that is donating the technology.

"We need hundreds," Mattern said. "We need a big enough sample for us to make a positive ID on these and to also give a better idea of how many losses there actually are."

Confusion and conflicting information, the inability of relatives to travel to Northern California and mistrust of the government may be contributing to the low number.

Tara Quinones hadn't heard anything from her uncle, David Marbury, for eight days before she drove north from the San Francisco Bay Area to give a sample Friday. A worker used a small tool to scrape her cheek, took three swabs of skin and asked her detailed questions about who she was looking for and their relationship.

The uncle's landlord confirmed his house burned down with his vehicle still in the garage, but Quinones had no idea if any remains were found. Marbury's name keeps going on and off the ever-changing list of the missing.

"I did it just to be proactive," Quinones said Monday. "This is the one way I could contribute to helping find my uncle."

Some of those who have given DNA came forward, like Quinones, after learning about the identification effort in their desperate search for a loved one, others after the sheriff's office called to say that remains that probably belonged to a family member had been found.

Mattern declined to say Tuesday how many victims ANDE's technology has helped identify. Sheriff Kory Honea's office did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

The fire was 75 percent contained Tuesday. Rain in the forecast for Wednesday through Thanksgiving weekend could aid in fighting the fire but could also bring flash floods and complicate efforts to recover remains.

Once DNA is extracted from the remains, it is placed in a vial that goes into a black machine that looks

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like a bulky computer printer. It takes just two hours to process the material and get a DNA profile; traditional methods can take days or weeks. If a relative's DNA is already in the system, a match will pop up right away.

Mattern said it has been surprisingly easy to get DNA from remains, despite the devastating damage done by the flames.

"We went in with pretty measured expectations, we didn't know what we were walking into," she said. "We have a tremendous database now of the victims of the fire."

Ruth Dickover, director of the forensic science graduate program at the University of California-Davis, said that scientists have long been able to extract DNA from bone — a process that involves pulverizing the bone — but things can become more complicated if the remains of multiple people are mixed together.

"What's left may not give you a nice beautiful profile," she said.

ANDE won a contract in 2009 to do research and development for federal agencies, and the company's technology has been used in pilot programs for several years. Over the summer, it won FBI approval for use in accredited labs. Law enforcement agencies in Utah, New York and Miami have used the technology, as has the military.

This is the first time ANDE has helped identify victims after a natural disaster. The company has donated seven machines and about a dozen workers to the effort.

Sarah Warren drove an hour and a half from Redding on Monday to report her uncle, Devan Ruel, as missing. The sheriff's office gave her a number to call about missing people, and when she called, she was told authorities would contact her if they needed her DNA, she said.

She said no one told her about the collection desk at the old Sears, so she returned home without providing one.

"I could have done that so easily, just to be safe," she said.

Warren hadn't talked to Ruel in about eight years and said the family did not have an address for him.

"He was just an off-the-grid type of guy," she said. "If he did perish that way it would be horrific. It deeply, deeply saddens me to even consider that being a possibility."

Mattern said the sheriff's office is looking for a way to make it easier for families who don't live in Northern California to provide samples. And in hopes of easing fears that the DNA will be misused, the sheriff's office and the company gave assurances it will be deleted once it is no longer needed.

## Mistrial declared in case of slain NYC runner Karina Vetrano

NEW YORK (AP) — The trial of a man accused of killing a woman who was sexually attacked while running near her family's New York City home ended in a hung jury late Tuesday.

Judge Michael Aloise in Queens granted a mistrial after the jury sent him a note saying it was split after just a day and a half of deliberations.

"It doesn't seem like we can make progress. We feel that we have exhausted all of our options," the jury wrote.

Chanel Lewis, 22, was accused of killing 30-year-old Karina Vetrano as she ran on a park trail in Howard Beach, Queens, in August 2016. Prosecutors said Vetrano had been sexually abused and strangled. Her father discovered the body.

The closely watched case caused fear among women who run alone and baffled investigators, who for months were unable to find anyone who matched DNA that was found under the victim's fingernails as she fought back. The DNA also was found on her neck and phone.

Robert Boyce, New York Police Department chief of detectives, said the break came after police went back through 911 calls and found one reporting a suspicious person in the area near the attack. Lewis was tested and linked to DNA found at the scene and on the victim, Boyce said.

In his taped confession, Lewis told police that he was upset with a neighbor and that when he came across Vetrano on a secluded section of a marshland park, he "just lost it." He said he beat and strangled her but did not molest her.

"This girl jogging ... and you know, one thing led to another," he told detectives. "Hitting her and stuff

like that.”

His attorneys said the confession was wrongly obtained and should not have been admissible in the trial. They said he confessed only because he wanted to go home after waiting hours in an interrogation room.

Defense attorney Robert Moeller said the case was based on circumstantial evidence. He argued that the crime scene was corrupted and that DNA evidence was suspect.

“This case is far from conclusive, and the jury’s deadlock proves this,” the Legal Aid Society, which helped provide defense for Lewis, said in a statement. “The death of Karina Vetrano is tragic and our hearts go out to her family, but the rush to criminalize our client is not the answer nor is it justice.”

Prosecutors said they’ll move to retry Lewis, who is expected back in court on Jan. 20. He will be held in custody.

## **Suicide bomber targets clerics in Afghan capital, 50 killed**

**By RAHIM FAIEZ, Associated Press**

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — A suicide bomber targeted a gathering of hundreds of Islamic scholars in the Afghan capital on Tuesday, killing at least 50 people as Muslims marked the birthday of the Prophet Muhammad.

Another 83 people were wounded in the attack, with 20 of them in critical condition and the toll likely to rise, Public Health Ministry spokesman Wahid Majroh said.

The suicide bomber was able to sneak into a wedding hall in Kabul where hundreds of Muslim religious scholars and clerics had gathered to mark the holiday. No one immediately claimed the attack, but both the Taliban and a local Islamic State affiliate have targeted religious scholars aligned with the government in the past.

“The victims of the attack unfortunately are all religious scholars who gathered to commemorate the birthday of Prophet Muhammad,” said Basir Mujahid, spokesman for the Kabul police chief. He said police had not been asked to provide security for the event, and that the bomber had easily slipped into the hall. Most wedding halls have private security.

Mohammad Muzamil, a waiter at the wedding hall, said he had gone into the back to fetch water for the guests when he heard the explosion.

“Everything was covered with smoke and dust,” he said. “There were dead bodies all around on the chairs, in large numbers.”

Police sealed off roads leading to the scene. Hundreds of family members and relatives gathered at hospitals, looking at lists of those killed and wounded that were posted outside.

Afghan President Ashraf Ghani condemned the bombing, calling it “an attack on Islamic values and followers of the Prophet Muhammad,” and declaring Wednesday a day of mourning.

“It is an attack on humanity,” Ghani said.

The U.N. Security Council also condemned the attack and expressed sympathy to the families of the victims.

Pakistan’s Prime Minister Imran Khan also condemned the bombing and expressed condolences to the victims. Afghanistan and the United States have long accused Pakistan of harboring the Taliban, whose leadership is based there. Pakistan denies the allegations, and says it uses its limited influence over the group to encourage peace efforts.

The Islamic State group claimed a suicide bombing in June that killed at least seven people and wounded 20 at a meeting of top clerics in the capital. The body of religious leaders, known as the Afghan Ulema Council, had issued a decree against suicide attacks and called for peace talks. IS said it had targeted “tyrant clerics” who were siding with the U.S.-backed government.

The Taliban denied involvement in the June attack but they also denounced the gathering.

Both militant groups want to overthrow the U.S.-backed government and impose a harsh form of Islamic rule, but they are bitterly divided over leadership and ideology, and have clashed on a number of occasions.

Afghan security forces have struggled to combat the twin insurgencies since the U.S. and NATO formally



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ended their combat mission in 2014, shifting to a support and counterterrorism role. President Donald Trump's decision last year to send in additional U.S. forces has had little if any impact on the ground.

The Taliban carry out near-daily attacks targeting security forces and government officials across the country, while the IS affiliate has bombed gatherings of minority Shiites, killing hundreds of civilians.

## Asian shares fall on sign of escalating US-China tensions

By ANNABELLE LIANG, Associated Press

SINGAPORE (AP) — Asian markets fell on Wednesday after a trade dispute between the U.S. and China stalled a weekend meeting, dimming hopes that it could be resolved once their leaders meet.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 dropped 0.6 percent to 21,447.53 and the Kospi in South Korea was down 0.9 percent at 2,064.34. Hong Kong's Hang Seng index slipped 0.4 percent to 25,745.55. The Shanghai Composite lost 0.3 percent to 2,638.77. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 fell 0.6 percent to 5,636.50. Shares fell in Taiwan, Indonesia and the Philippines but rose in Singapore.

WALL STREET: Broad losses by the world's largest technology companies pulled U.S. indexes lower on Tuesday and into the red for the year. They were reacting to new national security regulations proposed by the Trump administration, which could limit exports of high-tech products in fields like quantum computing, machine learning and artificial intelligence. Apple plunged 4.8 percent, Microsoft lost 2.8 percent and IBM gave up 2.6 percent. The S&P 500 index fell 1.8 percent to 2,641.89 and the Dow Jones Industrial Average tumbled 2.2 percent to 24,465.64. The tech-heavy Nasdaq composite shed 1.7 percent to 6,908.82. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks dropped 1.8 percent to 1,469.01.

US-CHINA TENSIONS: Over the weekend, a meeting of 21 nations at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in Papua New Guinea ended without a final communique. That put the spotlight on a trade dispute between China and the U.S. that shows no signs of abating. Draft versions of the communique showed that the U.S. wanted strong language against what it says are unfair Chinese trade practices, while China wanted clear opposition to protectionism and unilateralism. U.S. President Donald Trump and his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping are scheduled to meet at Group of 20 summit later this month, but it is unclear if the talks will spur a reduction in tensions.

ANALYST'S TAKE: Attempts by the U.S. to condemn certain trade practices were a "surprise" as many expected that "the heat may have come out of the issue" after the midterm elections, Michael McCarthy, chief market strategist at CMC Markets in Sydney, said in an interview. "The simultaneous pressure on industrial commodities and shares points to an escalation of global growth concerns," he added.

ENERGY: Oil prices rebounded Wednesday after plunging on worries of rising supplies and softening global growth. Benchmark U.S. crude added 65 cents to \$54.08. The contract dropped \$3.77 to close at \$53.43 in New York, its lowest price in more than a year. Brent crude, the international standard, rose 71 cents to \$63.24. It fell \$4.26 to \$62.53 in London.

CURRENCIES: The dollar rose to 112.91 yen from 112.76 yen late Tuesday. The euro strengthened to \$1.1372 from \$1.1367.

## Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, Nov. 21, the 325th day of 2018. There are 40 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 21, 1980, 87 people died in a fire at the MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada.

On this date:

In 1789, North Carolina became the 12th state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

In 1922, Rebecca L. Felton, a Georgia Democrat, was sworn in as the first woman to serve in the U.S. Senate; her term, the result of an interim appointment, ended the following day as Walter F. George, the

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winner of a special election, took office.

In 1927, picketing strikers at the Columbine Mine in northern Colorado were fired on by state police; six miners were killed.

In 1931, the Universal horror film "Frankenstein," starring Boris Karloff as the monster and Colin Clive as his creator, was first released.

In 1967, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Air Quality Act.

In 1969, the Senate voted down the Supreme Court nomination of Clement F. Haynsworth, 55-45, the first such rejection since 1930.

In 1979, a mob attacked the U-S Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan, killing two Americans.

In 1985, U.S. Navy intelligence analyst Jonathan Jay Pollard was arrested, accused of spying for Israel. (Pollard later pleaded guilty to espionage and was sentenced to life in prison; he was released on parole on Nov. 20, 2015.)

In 1992, a three-day tornado outbreak that struck 13 states began in the Houston area before spreading to the Midwest and eastern U.S.; 26 people were killed. Sen. Bob Packwood, R-Ore., issued an apology but refused to discuss allegations that he'd made unwelcome sexual advances toward ten women over the years. (Faced with a threat of expulsion, Packwood ended up resigning from the Senate in 1995.)

In 1995, Balkan leaders meeting in Dayton, Ohio, initialed a peace plan to end three and a-half years of ethnic fighting in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

In 1997, U.N. arms inspectors returned to Iraq after Saddam Hussein's three-week standoff with the United Nations over the presence of Americans on the team.

In 2001, Ottilie (AH'-tih-lee) Lundgren, a 94-year-old resident of Oxford, Conn., died of inhalation anthrax; she was the apparent last victim of a series of anthrax attacks carried out through the mail system.

Ten years ago: Wall Street staged a comeback, with the major indexes jumping more than 5 percent and the Dow Jones industrials surging nearly 500 points. Somali pirates released a hijacked Greek-owned tanker, MV Genius, with all 19 crew members safe and the oil cargo intact after payment of a ransom. (The ship had been seized almost two months earlier.) Madonna and Guy Ritchie were granted a preliminary decree of divorce by a London court.

Five years ago: Sweeping aside a century of precedent, Democrats took a chunk out of the Senate's hallowed filibuster tradition, clearing the way for speedy confirmation of controversial appointments made by President Barack Obama; Republicans warned Democrats would regret their actions once political fortunes were reversed and they could no longer block appointments made by a GOP president. Fifty-four people were killed in a supermarket roof collapse in Riga, Latvia. Three women were freed after being held captive 30 years in a south London home.

One year ago: President Donald Trump, who'd been silent for more than a week about the sexual assault allegations against Alabama Republican Senate candidate Roy Moore, discounted those allegations and said voters must not support Moore's "liberal" rival. Former teen pop idol David Cassidy, star of the 1970s sitcom "The Partridge Family," died at the age of 67; he'd announced earlier in the year that he had been diagnosed with dementia. Zimbabwe's 93-year-old president Robert Mugabe resigned; he was facing impeachment proceedings and had been placed under house arrest by the military.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Laurence Luckinbill is 84. Actress Marlo Thomas is 81. Actor Rick Lenz is 79. Singer Dr. John is 78. Actress Juliet Mills is 77. Basketball Hall of Famer Earl Monroe is 74. Television producer Marcy Carsey is 74. Actress Goldie Hawn is 73. Movie director Andrew Davis is 72. Rock musician Lonnie Jordan (War) is 70. Singer Livingston Taylor is 68. Actress-singer Lorna Luft is 66. Actress Cherry Jones is 62. Rock musician Brian Ritchie (The Violent Femmes) is 58. Gospel singer Steven Curtis Chapman is 56. Actress Nicollette Sheridan is 55. Singer-actress Bjork (byork) is 53. Pro and College Football Hall of Famer Troy Aikman is 52. Rhythm-and-blues singer Chauncey Hannibal (BLACKstreet) is 50. Rock musician Alex James (Blur) is 50. Baseball Hall of Famer Ken Griffey Jr. is 49. TV personality Rib Hillis is 48. Rapper Pretty Lou (Lost Boyz) is 47. Football player-turned-TV personality Michael Strahan (STRAY'-han) is 47. Actress Rain Phoenix is 46. Country singer Kelsi Osborn (SHeDAISY) is 44. Actor Jimmi Simpson is 43. Singer-actress Lindsey Haun is 34. Actress Jena Malone is 34. Pop singer Carly Rae Jepsen is 33.

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Actor-singer Sam Palladio is 31.

Thought for Today: "Never confuse motion with action." — Ernest Hemingway, American author (1899-1961).