

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 142 ~ 1 of 47

- 1- Johnson Agency Ad
- 1- Recycling Trailer
- 2- Groton Care & Rehab Supper Ad
- 2- Bowling Scores
- 2- Hunter Schaller Update
- 3- Olive Grove Tour of Homes ad
- 3- Obit: Ardath May
- 4- Dairy Queen Ad
- 5- Creating your Livestream account
- 9- Today in Weather History
- 10- Today's Forecast
- 11- Yesterday's Weather
- 11- National Weather map
- 11- Today's Weather Almanac
- 12- Daily Devotional
- 13- 2018 Groton Community Events
- 14- News from the Associated Press

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

JOHNSON AGENCY

Real Estate & Insurance

Jay Johnson, Broker

www.johnsonagencygroton.com

102 N Main St. Office: 605/397-2424
Groton, SD 57445 Home: 605/397-8565



Groton Area Schedule of Events

Thursday, November 29, 2018

TBD: Basketball: Girls 7th/8th Game vs. Langford @ Langford High School

Friday, November 30, 2018

State Oral Interp at Watertown High School

Saturday, December 1, 2018

State Oral Interp at Watertown High School
10:00am: Basketball: Girls 7th/8th Jamboree vs. Langford, Northwestern, Waubay-Summit, Webster MS @ Groton Area High School Arena

10:00am: Wrestling: Boys Varsity Tournament TBA vs. Clark/Willow Lake @ Clark Junior-Senior High School

Sunday, December 2, 2018

(2:00pm- 6:00pm: Open Gym, GHS Arena
Grades JK-8 2pm - 4pm; Grades 6-12 4pm - 6pm)

Monday, December 3, 2018

7:00 pm: City Council Meeting at the Groton Community Center

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 142 ~ 2 of 47

Groton Coffee Cup League

Nov. 26 Team Standings: James Valley 31½ (winners of the first half), Biker Chix 26½, Kens 24, Ten Pins 22.

High Games: Vickie Kramp 202, 161; Vicki Walter 172; Mary Jane 160.

High Series: Vickie Kramp 472, Vicki Walter 461, Nancy Radke 430.

Conde National League

Nov. 26 Team Standings: Tigers 32, Pirates 29, Cubs 26, Braves 25, Mets 17, Giants 15.

Men's High Games: Russ Bethke 224, 214, 199; Collin Cady 218, Butch Farmen 199.

Men's High Series: Russ Bethke 637, Collin Cady 546, Butch Farmen 536

Women's High Games: Kira Cady 174, Alice Severson 171, Vickie Kramp 169.

Women's High Series: Kira Cady 467, Alice Severson 453, Nancy Radke 450.

Update on Hunter Schaller

**Hunter update:

Hunter got tested again for any sign of seizures just to double check, and he is thankfully cleared again. He has been stable and has little movements from time-to-time. This has been truly an amazing thing to experience! Although it does not guarantee or validate anything, it is progress. And we are so grateful for it.

Once again, words will never be able to express how thankful we are for all of the thoughts, prayers, etc. Hunter and we are truly blessed.

Thank you all again! Please keep those prayers coming!

- Cheyenne Schaller's Facebook Page

The Hunter Schaller gofundme page has generated over \$6,000 so far. If you would like to donate, [click here](#) to go to the page.



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

Groton Care & Rehab

1106 N 2nd St, Groton

Free Will Donation

The Life of Ardath May

Services for Ardath May, 92, of Aberdeen and formerly of Andover will be 11:00 a.m., Friday, November 30th at Zion Lutheran Church, Andover. Rev. Andrew Wolfgram will officiate. Burial will follow in Andover Cemetery under the direction of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton.

Visitation will be held at the chapel in Groton on Thursday from 5-7 with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m.

Ardath passed away November 25, 2018 at Bethesda Home of Aberdeen.

Ardath Patricia Widvey was born on September 14, 1926 in Dunn County, Wisconsin to A.E. and Anna (Halpin) Widvey. She was baptized in Dunn County and later confirmed at Zion Lutheran Church in Andover. Ardath attended school in Andover, graduating in 1944. She continued her education at Northern Normal College where she earned her Teaching Certificate. Ardath taught for several years in Leola, Andover and rural Bristol. On November 23, 1952 she was united in marriage to Norman "Butch" May and together they were blessed with three children. Butch and Ardath spent their lives together on the family farm north of Andover. Butch passed away December 18, 1989. Ardath later moved into Parkside Retirement Community in Aberdeen where she made many new friendships.

As a longtime member of Zion Lutheran Church, Ardath was active in teaching Sunday School, Ladies Aid and Choir. She belonged to the Senior Citizens in Andover and Extension Club. Ardath enjoyed reading and quilting in later years.

Celebrating her life are her children; Diane (Alan) Borchard of Mansfield, Alan (Lisa) May of Sioux Falls, Bruce (Rhonda) May of Groton, her grandchildren; Ginger (Phil) Palm, Chad (Kelsey) Borchard, Alex May, Eric May, Ashley (Eric) Milbrandt, Garrett Stene and three great-grandchildren; Levi and Lucy Palm and Everett Milbrandt. Ardath is also survived by her three brothers; Harold Widvey of Brookings, Norman (Jan) Widvey of Pierre, John (Jessica) Widvey of Worthington, MN and numerous nieces and nephews.

Preceding her in death were her parents, her husband, one sister, Eleanor Lapham and great-grandson, Elliot Milbrandt.

Casketbearers will be Jim Kroll, Chad Borchard, Alex May, Eric May, Eric Milbrandt and Wayne Hein.



Olive Grove's 3rd Annual Christmas Tour of Homes & Holiday Party

**Saturday,
Dec. 1, 2018**

**Tour of Homes
4-7 p.m.**

**Gary & Linda Thurston
Alan Strom and Shelly Lerew
Ron and Dawn Breedlove
Olde Bank 'n Café
J. Simon Photography**

**Coffee, Apple Cider and
goodies at the clubhouse**

**Holiday Party
4 p.m. to Close**

**A variety of snacks served
Silent Basket Items - Bidding
closes at 8:30 p.m.
Live Auction begins at 8:30 p.m.**

**\$15 Tickets Available at
Lori's Pharmacy, Groton
Groton Ford
Hair & Company, Aberdeen**

Come on out for a fun evening!

Support your local golf course!

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 142 ~ 4 of 47

TRY A *New* **HUNGRY UP Deal**

\$4 Hungry-ish Deal
Single
w/Cheese

\$5 Hungry Deal
Double
w/Cheese

\$6 Hangry Deal
Triple
w/Cheese

Includes Fries & Mini Blizzard® TREAT

Royal Blizzard® Treat at an additional charge



 Valid only at:
DQ Grill & Chill Restaurant
11 E Hwy 12
Groton, SD 57445-2175

All trademarks owned or licensed by Am. D.Q. Corp. ©2018. ®, TM, and ©2018 O.J. of Am.

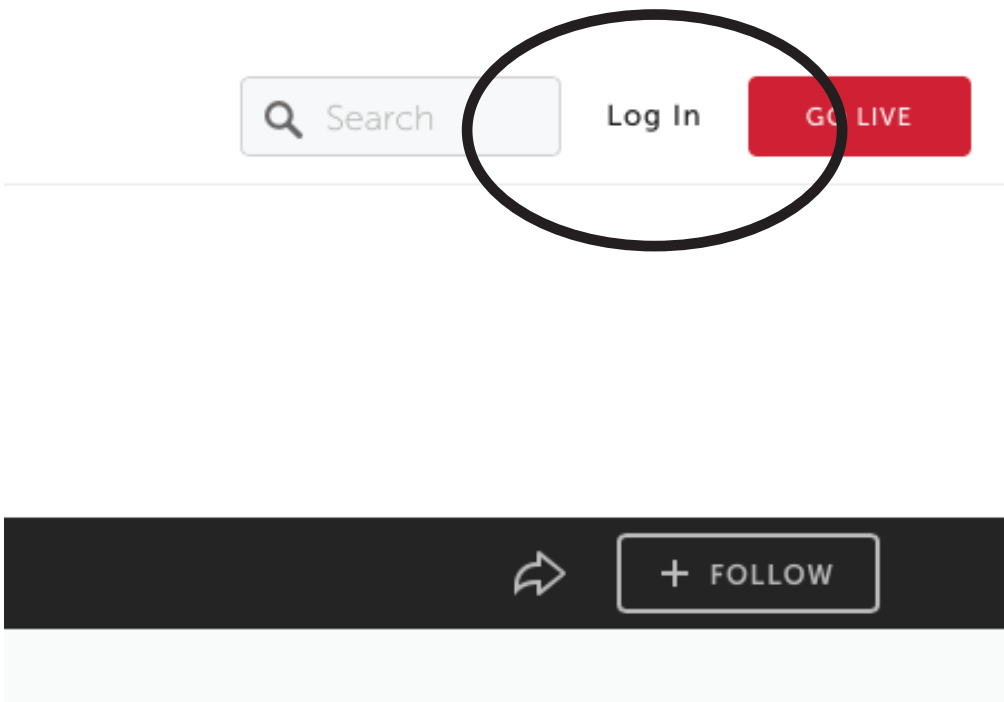
Creating your Livestream account

I know there have been questions out there about our Livestream format. We will not be renewing our Livestream contract; however, with the technology that we are using, we will still use Livestream to broadcast the games. With us not having a contract, that will mean that you will need to either create an account with Livestream or use your Facebook account to log in to view the games on the live feed. The games will still be archived at 397news.com where you, as subscribers of the Groton Daily Independent, will still have access to the archived videos.

So here is what you need to do - and I'll provide diagrams to help you out over the next few pages.

Go to www.gdilive.com.

In the upper right hand corner, you will see Log In. Click on Log In.



Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 142 ~ 6 of 47

There are two options that you can do. If you do not have a Facebook account, you can Join Livestream. Click on that right below the blue bar.

vimeo · livestream

Login to Your Account

Email

Password

LOGIN

Forgot password? [Join Livestream](#)

Login with Facebook

14 days ago

Then it will ask you for an e-mail address. Enter your e-mail address and then click on Sign Up.

vimeo · livestream

Sign Up With Email

We will send you a link to finish your sign up

Email

SIGN UP

or Login

Sign up with Facebook

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 142 ~ 7 of 47

Now go and check your email. it should look like the one below. Click on Activate My Account.

You're almost done signing up to Livestream! Click the link below to activate your account:

[Activate My Account](#)

Enjoy!

The Livestream Team

When you click on Activate my Account, a browser window will open up. This is where you complete creating your account. You will enter you first name, last name and a password. Then click on Create Account. When you do that, it will automatically take you to the GDILIVE.COM web page.

Create Your Account

paperpaul@aol.com

First Name

Last Name

Password

Subscribe to email updates

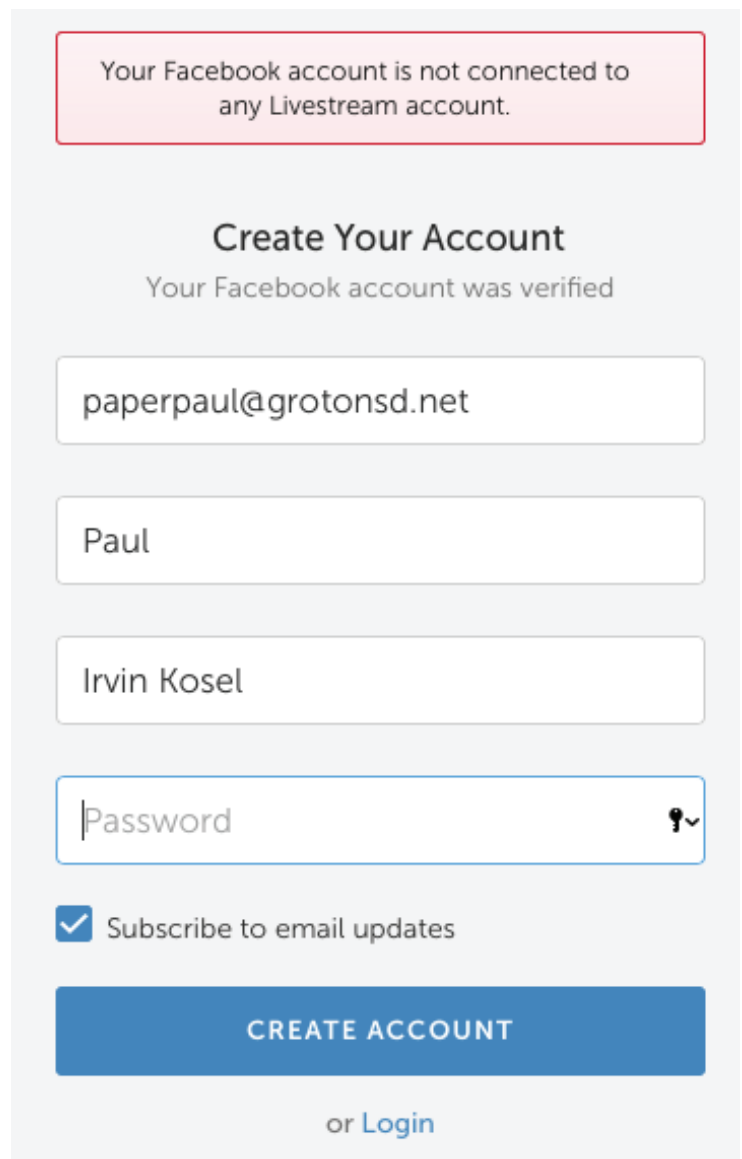
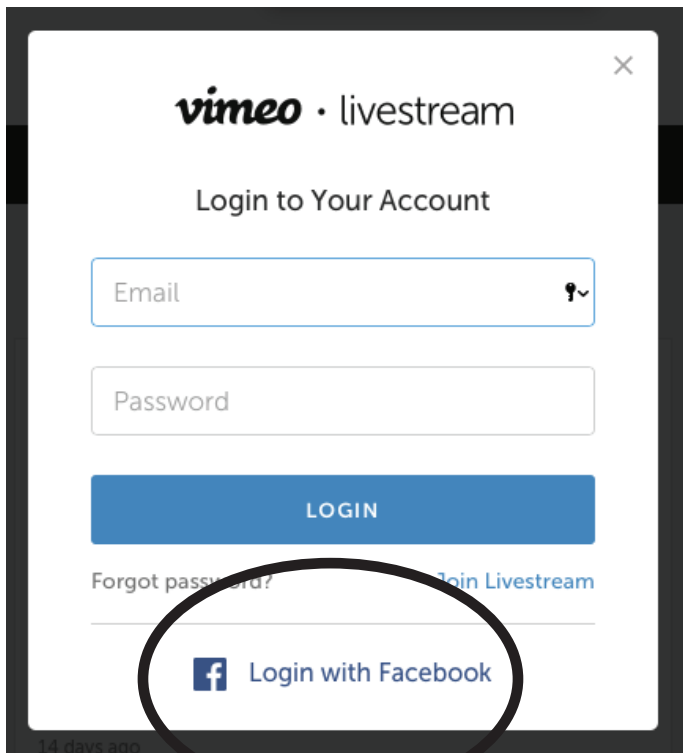
[CREATE ACCOUNT](#)

or [Login](#)

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 142 ~ 8 of 47

Now way back at the beginning on like the snapshot below, instead of Join Livestream, you can Log In with Facebook. Chances are, once you have done that, you will get a screen like that on the right. Now I'm not sure what will happen here, but I think if you enter your Facebook password, then create account, it will link your facebook page to Livestream so the next time, you can simply log in with your facebook page.



We hope these instructions will help you. Basketball will be beginning soon, so get ready!

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 142 ~ 9 of 47

Today in Weather History






November 28, 2000: Heavy snow of 6 to 9 inches fell across parts of northeast South Dakota, causing travel difficulties and school closings. Some snowfall amounts included 6 inches at Britton, Roy Lake, Webster, Waubay, Summit, and Wilmot; 8 inches at Columbia and south of Bristol; and 9 inches at Houghton.

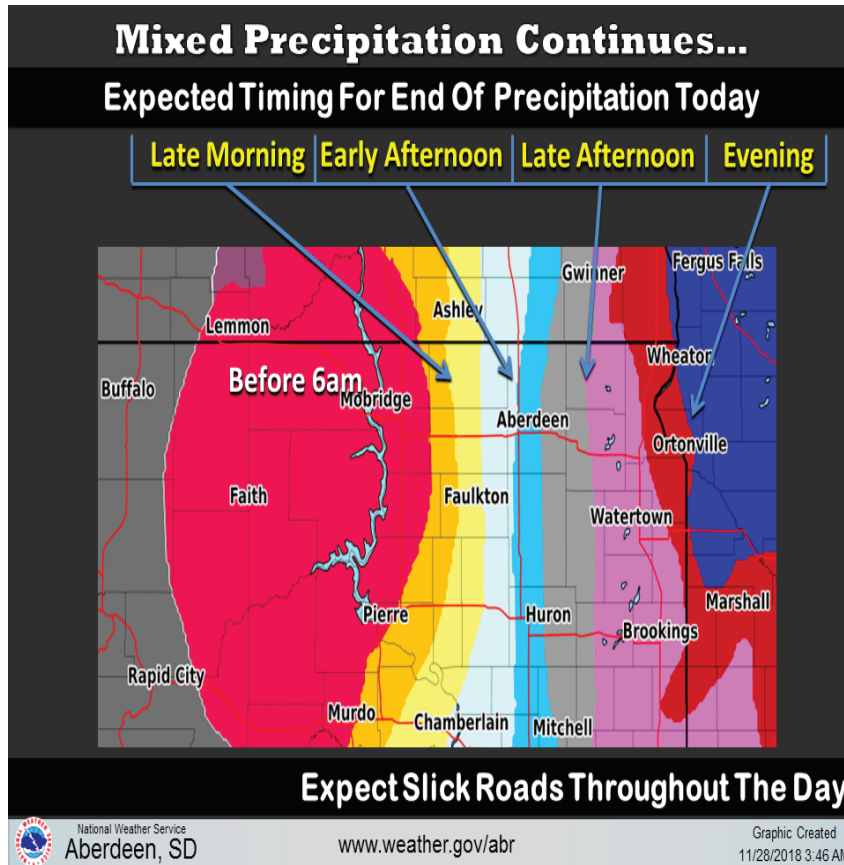
November 28, 2005: A significant winter storm visited the region on November 27-29, 2005, producing a wide range of wintry precipitation across the area. Snow and blizzard conditions occurred across central and north central South Dakota, while freezing rain and ice accumulations took front stage in northeast South Dakota and west central Minnesota. Across most of central and north central South Dakota, snow began in the late afternoon and early evening hours of the 27th, with significant snowfall accumulations occurring by the time the snow ended later in the day on the 28th. Snowfall accumulations ranged from as little as two inches to as much as 20 inches. Strong northwest winds of 30 to 50 mph, with gusts to 70 mph, caused widespread blizzard conditions from the early morning until the late afternoon hours of the 28th. Visibilities were reduced to zero many times across the area with snowdrifts of 5 to 10 feet in some places. Some power lines were also brought down in the Pierre and Fort Pierre area due to snow accumulation and high winds. Many roads, including Interstate 90, were closed due to the treacherous travel conditions. Several accidents occurred during the storm, and many motorists were also stranded. Several people had to be rescued. Schools, businesses, government offices, and many other organizations were closed. FEMA, state officials, and the governor surveyed the storm damage. Some of the significant snowfall amounts included 7 inches at Eureka, 8 inches at Onaka, 10 inches at Onida and Fort Thompson, 11 inches near Presho, 16 inches at Highmore, and 21 inches at Kennebec. To the east of this heavy snow and blizzard area, widespread freezing rain began during the morning to early afternoon of the 27th, creating significant ice accumulations of 1 to over 2 inches. The freezing rain changed to snow on the 28th, and northwest winds increased to 30 to 40 mph, gusting to 60 mph. The high winds and heavy ice accumulations caused several thousand power poles (some steel), along with several thousand miles of power lines, to come down, resulting in widespread power outages. The ice and winds also damaged several hundred miles of high-voltage power lines and towers. Some power substations were also shut down by the ice and wind. Thousands of trees were also either damaged or downed due to the heavy ice accumulations and the wind. Many of the fallen trees and branches caused damage to homes and vehicles. The radio station in Milbank went off the air due to its collapsing radio tower. Tens of thousands of people in many communities and rural areas were without power for several days, with some people without power for as long as two weeks. Telephone and cellular phone service was also down for several days. Countless schools, businesses, government offices, and other organizations were closed for several days. FEMA, state officials, and the governor also toured this damaged area, resulting in a presidential disaster declaration. Hundreds of utility workers from South Dakota, Minnesota, and nine other surrounding states worked 14- to 18-hour days in cold conditions to bring power back to the area. The National Guard also helped with getting generators, cots, blankets, and meals to storm shelters. Generators supplied power to many communities and rural areas, while others continued without power. Shelters were set up for those who did not have generator power or another place to go. There were also problems with livestock with the water supplies cut off for some time. One electric cooperative stated that repairs to the infrastructure would continue for months and years to restore a system that took decades to build. Roads were treacherous with many accidents and rollovers, some resulting in injuries. Due to the icy road conditions, many roads were closed, including Interstate 29. Around noon on the 27th, on US Highway 212 two miles west of Zell in Faulk County, a 59-year old man was killed when his car spun out of control and hit an oncoming pickup truck. Around 1:30pm on the 28th, on Day County Road One about two miles south of Waubay, a 17-year old girl was killed and three others were injured when one vehicle spun out of control and struck a truck in the oncoming lane. Air traffic was also brought to a halt across much of the area. This was one of the largest ice storms in the region's history. One electric cooperative said it was the most damage they had in their 65 years of existence. After the icing came snowfall of 2 to 12 inches, which combined with the high winds to bring blizzard conditions and low wind chills to northeast South Dakota and west central Minnesota from the morning of the 28th until the early morning of the 29th. Some of the significant snowfall amounts included 7 inches at Watertown, 8 inches at Waubay, 10 inches at Redfield, and 12 inches at Sisseton.

Broton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 142 ~ 10 of 47

Winter Weather Advisory

Today	Tonight	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday
				
Wintry Mix Likely	Mostly Cloudy	Partly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Partly Sunny
High: 32 °F	Low: 24 °F	High: 38 °F	Low: 25 °F	High: 35 °F



A wintry mix continues across the area, and snow and freezing rain can be expected for the morning commute. Here is our estimated timing on when precipitation will wind down.

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 142 ~ 11 of 47

Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 23 °F at 2:16 PM

Low Outside Temp: 1 °F at 7:53 AM

High Gust: 14 mph at 4:05 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 59° in 1949

Record Low: -21° in 1985

Average High: 32°F

Average Low: 13°F

Average Precip in Nov.: 0.68

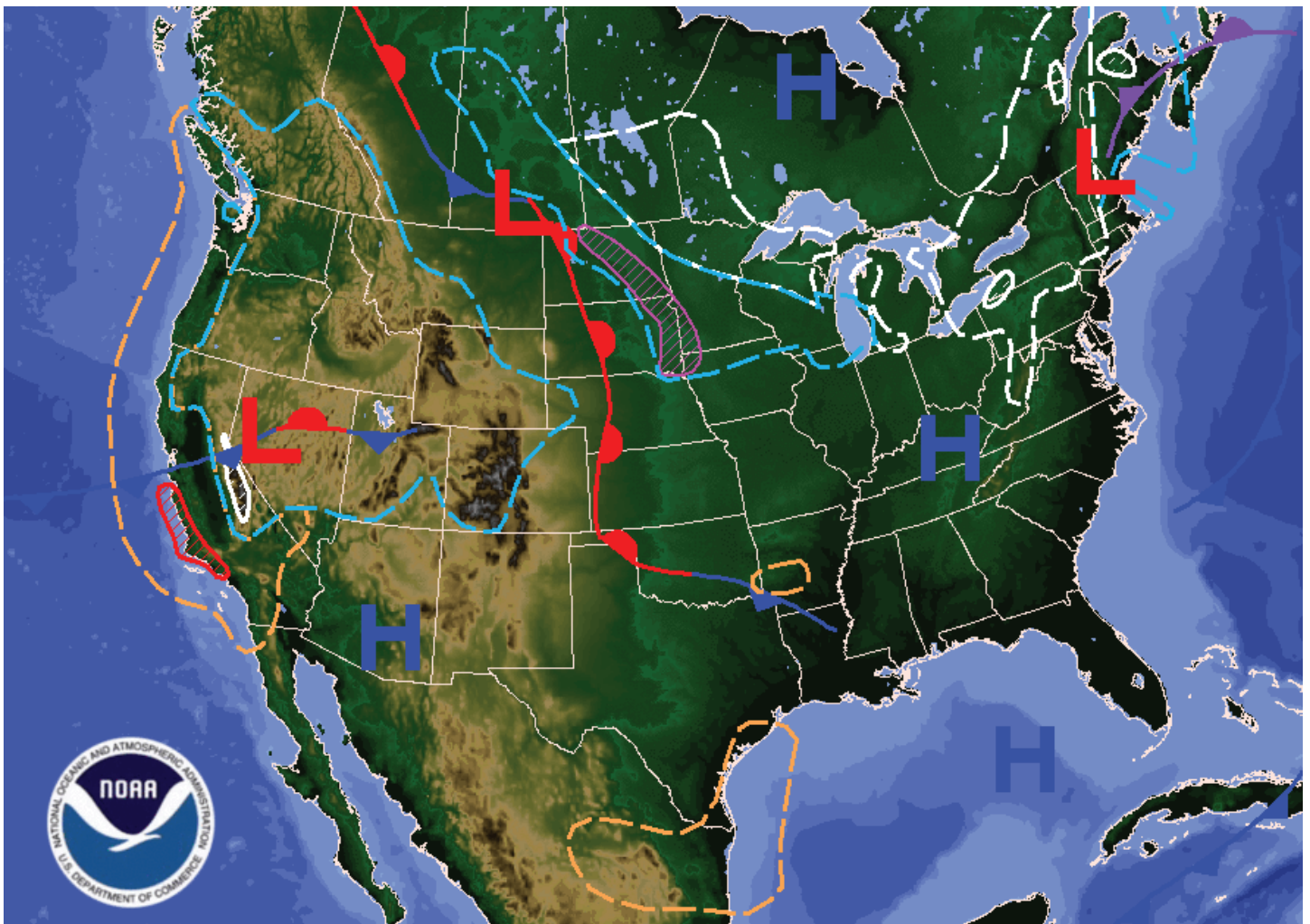
Precip to date in Nov.: 0.76

Average Precip to date: 21.15

Precip Year to Date: 15.81

Sunset Tonight: 4:53 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:51 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Wed, Nov 28, 2018, issued 4:50 AM EST
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds 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)



WAITING FOR WISDOM

You know, he said stroking his beard, I have a problem learning from my past sins.

What do you mean? I asked. Most people say they learn from previous experiences - including sins.

Well, he said with confidence, I can prove them all wrong.

How can you do that? I asked.

Well, he said, stroking his beard once again. Its easy. Have you ever committed the same sin twice?

Unfortunately, I have, I replied.

And before I could explain what I was talking about, he said with great confidence, I rest my case.

Repeating the same sin more than once is common in the lives of many Christians. Others often lose sight of what living the Christian life is all about and are not even aware of sinning. Some become careless about their responsibility to live in obedience to Gods laws and are unconcerned about their lifestyle. We forget that we are accountable to God for everything we have and do. Perhaps it would be helpful if we took some time to do an inventory of the sins we know we frequently commit. To reflect on our past and its problems may keep us close to God and avoid repeating our sins!

The children of Israel had this problem. Listen to the Psalmist: But they soon forgot what He had done and did not wait for His counsel. If we focus on the great things God has done for us, and if we seek His counsel and wait for His guidance, we can avoid repeating our sins.

Prayer: Lord, we want to live a life that honors You and is free from sin. May we look to You for Your guidance. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 106:13 But they soon forgot what He had done and did not wait for His counsel.

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

SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Mega Millions

12-24-37-42-57, Mega Ball: 18, Megaplier: 4

(twelve, twenty-four, thirty-seven, forty-two, fifty-seven; Mega Ball: eighteen; Megaplier: four)

Estimated jackpot: \$172 million

Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$171 million

McLure, Kegler help slow-starting Baylor top S. Dakota 63-57

By JASON ORTS, Associated Press

WACO, Texas (AP) — King McClure scored 15 points, and Baylor finished the game on a 12-0 run in a 63-57 win over South Dakota on Tuesday.

Mario Kegler added 12 points for the Bears (5-2), who won despite missing 20 of their first 24 shots. Kegler, a sophomore transfer from Mississippi State making his Baylor debut, also had six rebounds and blocked three shots.

"It was an ugly (win), but I'm glad we got it," Kegler said. "I'm just happy to be back out there fighting for my team. I came out trying to rush it a little bit, but I slowed down in the second half and just let it come to me, and it worked out for me."

Baylor scored first on a McClure layup but didn't have the lead again until the early stages of the second half. South Dakota's deliberate pace limited Baylor's possessions, and that was magnified by a 19-9 edge in second-chance points for the Coyotes.

"As a coach you couldn't have a better game than this game to win," Baylor coach Scott Drew said. "If you win by 20, it's fool's gold. When you get into Big 12 games and Power Five games they're close games, so you have to have experience in those close games. Nobody likes close games, and nobody likes close game against teams nobody knows about, but we knew how good they were coming in."

Trey Burch-Manning led South Dakota (3-3) with 17 points and 14 rebounds, and his layup with 4:58 remaining put the Coyotes ahead 57-51.

Those were the last points for the Coyotes, who missed their final 10 shots. South Dakota led by as many as nine in the first half and for 30:13 of the game's 40 minutes.

"I was proud of the way our guys played and battled the whole night," South Dakota coach Todd Lee said. "I thought we gave one away in the second half. Up six, you come into a place like this against a well-coached team, very athletic and you don't get many chances to win games like this. Disappointed in the end result, but I was proud of the way the guys played."

Mark Vital tied the game with a layup with 2:55 remaining, and Makai Mason followed with a short jumper in the paint and a 3-pointer that put the Bears in front for good.

Tristan Clark fought through foul trouble to score all of his eight points in the second half to go with six rebounds and six blocks.

THE TAKEAWAY

South Dakota: The Coyotes were 4 for 8 from 3-point range in the first half, but made only one of their 17 tries from distance in the second. The Coyotes appeared to be quicker to loose balls for most of the night and had a 42-41 advantage on the boards but Baylor's length in the lane bothered them to the tune

of 12 blocked shots.

Baylor: The Bears never got the tempo up to the point where they could use their athleticism in the open floor to their advantage. Kegler was anxious to get shots up early, and he missed badly on his first five - including three that missed everything -- before settling into the flow of the game. The Bears pounded the ball inside more in the second half and shot 50 percent (13 for 26).

UP NEXT

South Dakota will host Cal State-Bakersfield on Saturday.

Baylor goes on the road to face Wichita State on Saturday.

More AP college basketball: <https://apnews.com/tag/Collegebasketball> and https://twitter.com/AP_Top25

Record \$26M spent on defeated tobacco tax measure in Montana

By MATT VOLZ, Associated Press

HELENA, Mont. (AP) — The \$26.1 million campaign over whether to keep Montana's Medicaid expansion program alive by hiking the state's tobacco taxes was the most expensive ballot issue in Montana since at least 2002, and likely in state history, according to reports.

The hefty price tag was driven by one tobacco company that spent heavily in Montana and in South Dakota to successfully defeat tobacco tax ballot measures earlier this month, campaign finance reports filed Monday with Montana's political practices commissioner show.

The \$17.2 million in cash, loans and in-kind donations from Altria Client Services, the lobbying arm of the company that makes Marlboro cigarettes, made up 98 percent of all the contributions to Montanans Against Tax Hikes, the committee formed to defeat the ballot measure.

Altria spent at least another \$6.2 million to defeat South Dakota's proposed \$1 tax increase per 20-cigarette pack. The revenue generated by that tax increase would have gone toward lowering tuition at South Dakota's four technical institutes and toward workforce training.

The Montana proposal would have raised cigarette taxes \$2 a pack and taxed vaping products for the first time to partially fund the state's cost of the Medicaid expansion program that provides 96,000 low-income adults with health coverage. The program will expire in 2019 unless state lawmakers extend it.

"The proponents tried and failed to bypass the Legislature and permanently lock into place a program designed to be re-evaluated," said Charles Denowh, the treasurer of Montanans Against Tax Hikes.

Advocates of the measure, mainly hospitals and health professionals, raised \$8.6 million, which is the second-highest amount collected by a Montana ballot committee since 2002, according to data from the National Institute on Money in Politics. But it was still just about half of what the anti-tax group raised, and not enough to counter the onslaught of television, radio and internet ads advocating against the tax hike.

"Clearly, unprecedented spending from large multinational tobacco corporations in Montana ultimately created enough confusion among voters to cast doubt over (the initiative)," said Jesse Laslovich, a spokesman for the measure's advocates. "The fact is, Medicaid expansion is a bipartisan success in Montana".

The \$26.1 million raised is the most for a Montana ballot issue and the fourth-highest in the nation for a tobacco tax ballot measure over the last 16 years, according to the National Institute on Money in Politics, whose data does not go any earlier than 2002.

The top three most expensive tobacco tax ballot measures were in California in 2016, 2006 and 2012.

With the Montana and South Dakota measures defeated, lawmakers in Wyoming are planning to revisit a proposal to increase the state tax on tobacco products.

An interim legislative revenue committee on Wednesday will look at legislation to increase the state tax on cigarettes from 60 cents a pack to \$1.60 a pack, which failed in last winter's budget session along with several other tax increase proposals.

In recent years, the state has seen revenue from its mainstay minerals extraction industry decrease to the point that lawmakers have been forced to look at new ways of raising revenue to meet basic government services like K-12 education.

The Wyoming Legislature convenes in January.

AP writer Bob Moen in Cheyenne, Wyoming, contributed to this report.

This story has been updated to correct that the amount raised by tax proponents was half of the anti-tax group, not a third.

Pierre-based Guard unit to deploy to Middle East

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Nearly 70 soldiers with a South Dakota Army National Guard unit will deploy to the Middle East next summer.

Members of the 152nd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion have received a mobilization order for deployment starting in July.

The unit is based in Pierre and is scheduled to be deployed for nine months providing logistics and support operations.

Before deploying overseas, the unit will report to Fort Hood, Texas, for several weeks of training.

This will be the second mobilization for the 152nd since the 9/11 terrorist attacks. The unit first deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in 2013.

Woman suing over protest injury lost earlier evidence battle

By BLAKE NICHOLSON, Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — A New York City woman who suffered a severe arm injury while protesting the Dakota Access oil pipeline in North Dakota two years ago is suing law enforcement even though she does not yet have evidence that might help her prove law officers were to blame.

Sophia Wilansky was injured during a violent November 2016 clash between protesters and police during the unsuccessful months-long protest in North Dakota against the \$3.8 billion pipeline that began carrying oil to Illinois in June 2017.

Wilansky, who was 21 at the time, suffered a left arm injury in an explosion and has since had five surgeries. Protesters allege the blast was caused by a concussion grenade thrown by officers, but police maintain it was caused by a propane canister that protesters rigged to explode. The cause is still unknown, and no one has been charged in the blast despite a criminal investigation.

Wilansky sued the federal government in February, seeking access to shrapnel and clothing taken from her while she was hospitalized. Her attorney at the time and her father, Wayne Wilansky, both told The Associated Press that she wanted the evidence to bolster an excessive force lawsuit she planned to eventually file against police.

A federal judge in August rejected the request, saying in part that Wilansky didn't have a good argument for why she couldn't file a civil lawsuit without the seized property.

Wilansky on Nov. 19 sued law enforcement officials and Morton County for alleged excessive force, assault, negligence, emotional distress and defamation. The lawsuit seeks "millions of dollars" in damages.

One of Wilansky's attorneys, Benjamin Stoll, declined comment on whether they will seek the shrapnel and clothing through the discovery process, in which attorneys exchange evidence. Calls to Wayne Wilansky were not answered.

Sophia Wilansky alleges that an unknown law officer threw a flashbang device directly at her, and that officers laughed rather than helped her as she lay on the ground in agony after the explosion. She says law enforcement later made untrue and defamatory statements about her injury.

"Despite enduring numerous painful surgeries to save her arm from amputation and a grueling ongoing rehabilitation, Sophia still has almost no feeling in or ability to use her left hand and forearm," another of her attorneys, Edward Barnidge, said in court documents. "She is disabled and disfigured, and she will likely remain so permanently."

Law enforcement hasn't commented on the lawsuit or responded in court. U.S. Magistrate Judge Charles Miller has given defendants until Jan. 22 to do so. Defense attorney Randall Bakke has successfully asked to have a "gruesome" photo of Wilansky's injury that accompanied the complaint sealed from public view, saying it could "inflare" people and possibly taint a jury pool.

Follow Blake Nicholson on Twitter at: <http://twitter.com/NicholsonBlake>

Administrator elected for Madison diocese, funeral set

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — The second-in-command to Bishop Robert Morlino has been elected to temporarily lead the Diocese of Madison following the bishop's death.

The diocese's College of Consultors voted unanimously to elect Monsignor James Bartylla as the diocese's administrator. The 71-year-old Morlino died Saturday at a Madison hospital. Diocese spokesman Brent King says the bishop suffered an apparent heart attack while undergoing medical tests.

Meanwhile, a funeral Mass for Morlino has been set for next Tuesday at St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church in Madison. The State Journal reports Milwaukee Archbishop Jerome ListECKI will preside over the Mass. Bartylla will deliver the homily.

Sioux Falls Diocese Bishop Paul Swain, who has strong ties to the Madison diocese, will lead a prayer vigil for Morlino on Monday at the O'Donnell Chapel at Holy Name Heights.

Information from: Wisconsin State Journal, <http://www.madison.com/wsj>

Mountain lion caught on video in eastern South Dakota

YANKTON, S.D. (AP) — A state wildlife official says a mountain lion captured on video in eastern South Dakota is likely just passing through.

Yankton resident Jim Ryan spotted the big cat on footage from the security camera outside his garage over the weekend. The closest breeding population of lions is in western South Dakotas' Black Hills.

Ryan contacted a game warden with South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks. Warden Dan Altman tells the Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan that the lion probably is a loner seeking new territory. He says the lion is probably a young male who isn't big enough to be the dominant cat in an area and got pushed out.

Altman says it's not unheard of for a mountain lion to travel such long distances. He says a few years ago, a cat confirmed to be from the Black Hills was spotted outside Minnesota's Twin Cities.

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

Guilty plea in large heroin, fentanyl bust

STIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A man accused in what authorities describe as the largest heroin and fentanyl bust in South Dakota has pleaded guilty in federal court.

U.S. Attorney Ron Parsons says Andy Ontiveros of South Gate, California has pleaded guilty to possession with intent to distribute 400 grams or more of a substance containing fentanyl. Parsons says Ontiveros was arrested in Minnehaha County in May after officers say they found 264 grams of heroin and 993 grams of fentanyl hidden inside his vehicle.

The Argus Leader reports Ontiveros is scheduled to be sentenced in federal court on Jan. 14. The minimum sentence for Ontiveros' charge is 10 years in federal prison with a maximum sentence of life in prison and a \$10 million fine.

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

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 142 ~ 18 of 47

Man rescued from Big Sioux River

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Authorities say a man who was unconscious when he was pulled from the Big Sioux River in Sioux Falls is in stable condition.

Sioux Falls police and firefighters responded to a water rescue call about 2:30 p.m. Monday. The Argus Leader reports the man had fallen or jumped off a railroad bridge near Fawick Park.

The man is recovering at a local hospital.

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

Steer too beefy to become burgers reprieved to life on farm

LAKE PRESTON, Australia (AP) — Knickers the steer is huge on the internet — for being huge.

The black-and-white Holstein Friesian won social media fame and many proclamations of "Holy Cow!" after photos surfaced of the 194-centimeter (6-foot-4-inch) steer standing head and shoulders above a herd of brown cattle in Western Australia state.

Owner Geoff Pearson said Knickers was too heavy to go to the slaughterhouse.

"We have a high turnover of cattle, and he was lucky enough to stay behind," Pearson said.

Australian media say Knickers is believed to be the tallest steer in the country and weighs about 1.4 tons.

Instead of becoming steaks and burgers, 7-year-old Knickers will get to live out his life in Pearson's fields in Lake Preston, southwest of Perth.

Divisive race ends with Republican Hyde-Smith victory

By EMILY WAGSTER PETTUS, Associated Press

JACKSON, Miss. (AP) — Republican U.S. Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith returns to Washington as a solidly loyal Trump supporter after the president stumped for her in what was a divisive runoff marked by racial turmoil over a video-recorded remark Hyde-Smith made decried as racist.

Hyde-Smith defeated Democrat Mike Espy, who was vying to become the state's first African-American senator since Reconstruction, during Tuesday's runoff.

The race was rocked by the video, in which Hyde-Smith said of a supporter, "If he invited me to a public hanging, I'd be on the front row." A separate video showed her talking about "liberal folks" and making it "just a little more difficult" for them to vote.

The comments by Hyde-Smith, who is white, made Mississippi's history of racist lynchings a theme of the runoff and spurred many black voters to return to the polls on Tuesday.

In the aftermath of the video, Republicans worried they could face a repeat of last year's special election in Alabama, in which a flawed Republican candidate handed Democrats a reliable GOP Senate seat in the Deep South. The GOP pumped resources into Mississippi, and President Donald Trump made a strong effort on behalf of Hyde-Smith, holding last-minute rallies in Mississippi on Monday.

Speaking to supporters after her win, Hyde-Smith vowed to fight for everyone in the state when she goes to Washington.

"I want everybody to know, no matter who you voted for today, I'm going to always represent every Mississippian. I will work very hard and do my very best to make Mississippi very proud," she said. Speaking to reporters later she said Trump had called to congratulate her and said she'd "been through a storm" and "survived it with grace."

Her supporters said the furor over her comments was overblown. They also stuck by her as a photo was circulated of her wearing a replica Confederate military hat during a 2014 visit to Beauvoir, the last home of Confederate president Jefferson Davis.

"So many things are taken out of context," said Elizabeth Gallinghouse, 84, from Diamondhead, Mississippi. "The fact that she toured Jefferson Davis's house. You or I could have done the same thing. They said, 'Put this cap on. Hold this gun.' It was a fun time. She wasn't trying to send any messages."

The contest caps a campaign season that exposed persistent racial divisions in America — and the willingness of some political candidates to exploit them to win elections. With Hyde-Smith's victory, Republicans control 53 of the Senate's 100 seats. The GOP lost control of the House, where Democrats will assume the majority in January.

In the final weeks of the runoff, Hyde-Smith's campaign said the remark about making voting difficult was a joke. She said the "public hanging" comment was "an exaggerated expression of regard" for a fellow cattle rancher. During a televised debate nine days after the video was publicized, she apologized to "anyone that was offended by my comments," but also said the remark was used as a "weapon" against her.

Democratic opponent Espy, 64, a former U.S. agriculture secretary, replied: "I don't know what's in your heart, but I know what came out of your mouth."

Addressing his supporters Tuesday night, Espy said: "While this is not the result we were hoping for, I am proud of the historic campaign we ran and grateful for the support we received across Mississippi. We built the largest grassroots organization our state has seen in a generation."

The "public hanging" comment also resonated with his supporters. "That really offended me," said Charles Connley, 60, a black voter from Picayune.

Some corporate donors, including Walmart, requested refunds on their campaign contributions to Hyde-Smith after the videos surfaced.

Hyde-Smith was in her second term as Mississippi agriculture commissioner when Republican Gov. Phil Bryant appointed her to temporarily succeed GOP Sen. Thad Cochran. The longtime lawmaker retired in April amid health concerns.

The win makes Hyde-Smith, 59, the first woman elected to Congress from Mississippi.

Hyde-Smith and Espy emerged from a field of four candidates Nov. 6 to advance to Tuesday's runoff. Her win allows her to complete the final two years of Cochran's six-year term.

Shortly after the win Tuesday, Trump tweeted: "Congratulations to Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith on your big WIN in the Great State of Mississippi. We are all very proud of you!"

Associated Press writers Jeff Amy and Janet McConnaughey contributed to this report.

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> .

Scientist claiming gene-edited babies reports 2nd pregnancy

By MARILYNN MARCHIONE, AP Chief Medical Writer

HONG KONG (AP) — A Chinese researcher who claims to have helped make the world's first genetically edited babies says a second pregnancy may be underway.

The researcher, He Jiankui of Shenzhen, revealed the possible pregnancy Wednesday while making his first public comments about his controversial work at an international conference in Hong Kong.

He claims to have altered the DNA of twin girls born earlier this month to try to make them resistant to infection with the AIDS virus. Mainstream scientists have condemned the experiment, and universities and government groups are investigating.

The second potential pregnancy is in a very early stage and needs more time to be monitored to see if it will last, He said.

Leading scientists said there are now even more reasons to worry, and more questions than answers, after He's talk. The leader of the conference called the experiment "irresponsible" and evidence that the scientific community had failed to regulate itself to prevent premature efforts to alter DNA.

Altering DNA before or at the time of conception is highly controversial because the changes can be inherited and might harm other genes. It's banned in some countries including the United States except for lab research.

He defended his choice of HIV, rather than a fatal inherited disease, as a test case for gene editing, and

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 142 ~ 20 of 47

insisted the girls could benefit from it.

"They need this protection since a vaccine is not available," He said.

Scientists weren't buying it.

"This is a truly unacceptable development," said Jennifer Doudna, a University of California-Berkeley scientist and one of the inventors of the CRISPR gene-editing tool that He said he used. "I'm grateful that he appeared today, but I don't think that we heard answers. We still need to understand the motivation for this."

Doudna is paid by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, which also supports AP's Health & Science Department.

"I feel more disturbed now," said David Liu of Harvard and MIT's Broad Institute, and inventor of a variation of the gene-editing tool. "It's an appalling example of what not to do about a promising technology that has great potential to benefit society. I hope it never happens again."

There is no independent confirmation of He's claim and he has not yet published in any scientific journal where it would be vetted by experts. At the conference, He failed or refused to answer many questions including who paid for his work, how he ensured that participants understood potential risks and benefits, and why he kept his work secret until after it was done.

After He spoke, David Baltimore, a Nobel laureate from the California Institute of Technology and a leader of the conference, said He's work "would still be considered irresponsible" because it did not meet criteria many scientists agreed on several years ago before gene editing could be considered.

"I personally don't think that it was medically necessary. The choice of the diseases that we heard discussions about earlier today are much more pressing" than trying to prevent HIV infection this way, Baltimore said.

The case shows "there has been a failure of self-regulation by the scientific community" and said the conference committee would meet and issue a statement on Thursday about the future of the field, Baltimore said.

Before He's talk, Dr. George Daley, Harvard Medical School's dean and one of the conference organizers, warned against a backlash to gene editing because of He's experiment. Just because the first case may have been a misstep "should in no way, I think, lead us to stick our heads in the sand and not consider the very, very positive aspects that could come forth by a more responsible pathway," Daley said.

"Scientists who go rogue ... it carries a deep, deep cost to the scientific community," Daley said.

Regulators have been swift to condemn the experiment as unethical and unscientific.

The National Health Commission has ordered local officials in Guangdong province to investigate He's actions, and his employer, Southern University of Science and Technology of China, is investigating as well.

On Tuesday, Qui Renzong of the Chinese Academy of Social Science criticized the decision to let He speak at the conference, saying the claim "should not be on our agenda" until it has been reviewed by independent experts. Whether He violated reproductive medicine laws in China has been unclear; Qui contends that it did, but said, "the problem is, there's no penalty."

He called on the United Nations to convene a meeting to discuss heritable gene editing to promote international agreement on when it might be OK.

Meanwhile, more American scientists said they had contact with He and were aware of or suspected what he was doing.

Dr. Matthew Porteus, a genetics researcher at Stanford University, where He did postdoctoral research, said He told him in February that he intended to try human gene editing. Porteus said he discouraged He and told him "that it was irresponsible, that he could risk the entire field of gene editing by doing this in a cavalier fashion."

Dr. William Hurlbut, a Stanford ethicist, said he has "spent many hours" talking with He over the last two years about situations where gene editing might be appropriate.

"I knew his early work. I knew where he was heading," Hurlbut said. When he saw He four or five weeks ago, He did not say he had tried or achieved pregnancy with edited embryos but "I strongly suspected"

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 142 ~ 21 of 47

it, Hurlbut said.

"I disagree with the notion of stepping out of the general consensus of the scientific community," Hurlbut said. If the science is not considered ready or safe enough, "it's going to create misunderstanding, discordance and distrust."

Marilynn Marchione can be followed at <http://twitter.com/MMarchioneAP>

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.

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. SCIENTIST REPORTS 2ND GENE-EDITED PREGNANCY

Chinese researcher He Jiankui, who claims to have helped make the world's first genetically edited babies, says a second pregnancy may be underway.

2. MISSISSIPPI MAKES HISTORY WITH SENATE CHOICE

Republican Cindy Hyde-Smith wins a divisive race marked by racial acrimony, becoming the first woman elected to Congress from the state.

3. MANAFORT DENIES WIKILEAKS CONTACTS

Trump's former campaign chairman refutes a British news report that he had met secretly with Julian Assange around March 2016.

4. RUSSIA OPTIMISTIC ON PUTIN-TRUMP SUMMIT

After Trump says he doesn't "like that aggression" against Ukraine, Moscow still expects a meeting between the two leaders to go ahead as planned in Argentina.

5. COLD SHOULDER MAY BE IN STORE FOR SAUDI PRINCE

Mohammed bin Salman could be treated like a pariah by some, but not all, following the gruesome slaying of Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi when he attends the G-20 summit in Argentina.

6. RISE IN US DEATHS IN AFGHANISTAN MUDDLES HOPE FOR PEACE

A spike in American combat deaths puts a spotlight on a stalemated 17-year war, testing Trump's commitment to pursuing peace with the Taliban.

7. INVESTIGATORS ISSUE FINDINGS IN DEADLY LION AIR CRASH

Indonesian safety officials cite faulty sensors and an automatic safety system that repeatedly forced the Boeing 737 MAX 8'S nose down.

8. MARKET TO PARSE FED CHAIRMAN'S WORDS FOR CLUES

Jerome Powell's recent observations suggest that while the U.S. economy remains strong it faces many risks, including a slowing global economy.

9. BIG FELLA SPARED IN AUSTRALIA

Knickers the steer is too beefy to become burgers, so he's won a reprieve to live out his days on the farm.

10. FROM WORST TO FIRST

The Buffalo Sabres, the NHL's worst team a season ago, beat the San Jose Sharks 3-2 in overtime for their 10th straight win and are now atop the league's overall standings.

Prominent Chinese photographer taken by police, wife says

By YANAN WANG, Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — Lu Guang's photos exposed the everyday realities of people on the margins of Chinese society: coal miners, drug addicts, HIV patients.

Now, the award-winning photographer is at the center of his own stark story. He was taken away by state security agents three weeks ago for unknown reasons, Lu's wife, Xu Xiaoli, told The Associated Press late Tuesday.

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 142 ~ 22 of 47

Xu said Lu was traveling in Xinjiang on Nov. 3 when she lost contact with him. He had connected with photographers in Urumqi, the capital, one week before and was scheduled to meet a friend in Sichuan province on Nov. 5, but he never showed up.

A friend of Xu helped her inquire about her husband's whereabouts in his home province of Zhejiang, where authorities said Lu and a fellow photographer had been taken away by Xinjiang state security. They did not give any further details, the friend told Xu.

"I know that he wouldn't have done anything illegal," Xu, 45, said in a phone interview from New York, where she is studying art design and raising their child.

Xinjiang's propaganda department did not immediately respond to a faxed request for comment. When asked about Lu during a regular briefing Wednesday, Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said he was not aware of the situation.

Lu won first prize in the prestigious World Press Photo contest for a series on poor Chinese villagers who became infected with HIV after selling their own blood to eke out a living.

His photos tackle gritty subjects like pollution and industrial environmental destruction — issues traditionally avoided by the Chinese press because they risk punishment for exposing societal problems that the government may consider sensitive.

But Lu never had problems with the police before, according to Xu, who added that she was not aware of any photo projects he had planned for his Xinjiang trip.

"He has a strong sense of social responsibility," she said. "He believed, after confronting the faces of the destitute, that there were things that people should know. At the very least, he believed that (his photos) might motivate them to help others, to trigger change and make things better."

Lu's profile on the World Press Photo website says he is the recipient of numerous other photography honors including Germany's Henri Nannen Prize in Photography and a National Geographic Photography Grant.

It says Lu was the first photographer from China to be invited by the U.S. State Department as a visiting scholar.

Xu said she believes it was Lu's first visit to Xinjiang. A stifling security apparatus has been imposed on the region in recent years as the government combats what it calls terrorist threats from Xinjiang's predominantly Muslim ethnic Uighur and Kazakh populations.

Kremlin says it still expects Putin-Trump summit to go ahead

By ZEKE MILLER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Russia said on Wednesday it still expects a meeting between President Vladimir Putin and President Donald Trump to go ahead as planned.

Trump, in an interview with The Washington Post on Tuesday, said he may cancel the sit-down with Putin in Argentina following Russia's seizure of three Ukrainian naval ships last weekend.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters on Wednesday that the meeting is on and that Russia has not received "any other information from our U.S. counterparts."

The long-simmering conflict between Russia and Ukraine burst into the open on Sunday, when Russian border guards fired on three Ukrainian vessels and seized the ships and the crew.

Trump said he would be receiving a "full report" from his national security team on Russia's recent actions in eastern Ukraine and the Black Sea. He said he would decide on a course afterward.

"Maybe I won't have the meeting," he said. "Maybe I won't even have the meeting."

Trump added: "I don't like that aggression. I don't want that aggression at all."

The comments were Trump's strongest to date in condemnation of Russia's recent actions in Ukraine, where tensions are flaring. But White House aides were still planning for the Putin meeting after Trump's comments.

The meeting between Trump and Putin is set to be just one of several high-profile foreign-policy en-

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 142 ~ 23 of 47

gagements for the U.S. leader on the whirlwind two-day visit to Argentina. Trump also is set meet with Chinese President Xi Jinping over dinner this weekend, in what may be a pivotal session to determining if and how the ongoing trade dispute between their countries could be resolved.

The White House on Tuesday warned Xi against trying to wait out Trump in the ongoing talks, suggesting the Chinese economy was not as resilient to a trade war as would be the U.S. economy.

The warning from Larry Kudlow, director of the National Economic Council, came ahead of the two leaders' high-stakes sit-down on Saturday evening. Over the last year, the two countries have levied a series of tariffs on hundreds of billions of dollars of imports from one another, with the latest round of U.S. duties set to go into force in the new year.

National Security adviser John Bolton said Trump will also be meeting with German Chancellor Angela Merkel, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, Argentine President Mauricio Macri, South Korea's Moon Jae-in, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

White House spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders called the trip an opportunity for the president to cement relations with other world leaders and advance a global economic system based on "free, fair and reciprocal trade."

The Trump-Xi meeting would be the first since the two countries began hitting each other with import taxes earlier this year. The United States targeted \$250 billion in Chinese products, and Beijing lashed back by slapping tariffs on \$110 billion worth of U.S. goods. The two sides have been in negotiations for months, but Kudlow described them as being stalemated until just a few weeks ago.

Kudlow said the administration has been "extremely disappointed" by China's engagement in trade talks but the meeting between Trump and Xi on the sidelines of the Group of 20 summit could be a game-changer. "Perhaps we can break through in Buenos Aires or not," he said.

Kudlow added that if the U.S. doesn't get "satisfactory" responses to its trade positions more tariffs will be imposed. He said Trump is "not going away."

"I hope they understand that," he said.

China's foreign ministry has said a recent phone conversation between Xi and Trump about trade and other issues was "extremely positive."

Associated Press writer Nataliya Vasilyeva contributed from Moscow.

Market to parse Powell words for clues to Fed's future hikes

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER, AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Is the Federal Reserve considering a pullback in its interest rate hikes?

Chairman Jerome Powell's recent observations have suggested that while the U.S. economy remains on firm footing it also faces an array of risks, including a slowing global economy.

Powell's comments and similar remarks from other Fed officials have raised hopes in financial markets that the central bank may be close to slowing its rate increases, which have gradually raised borrowing costs for consumers and businesses. Any such slowdown — or pause — in its rate hikes would be welcome news for a stock market that has been battered by fears that the Fed's continued credit tightening could end the long bull market.

On Wednesday, Powell may reveal more about his thinking when he speaks to the Economic Club of New York.

In an appearance earlier this month, Powell said he was generally pleased with the state of the economy, citing strong annual economic growth above 3 percent and unemployment at a near five-decade low of 3.7 percent. Those trends, he said, were coinciding with inflation remaining "right on target" at the Fed's goal of 2 percent annual price increases.

But Powell also noted a number of looming risks, including the slowdown in global growth and the fading economic benefits of the tax cuts and government spending boost that took effect this year as well as the cumulative effect of the Fed's own rate hikes. Many economists also worry about potential economic

damage caused by President Donald Trump's trade conflicts with China and other nations.

For his part, Trump has sought repeatedly to shift blame for any economic troubles to the Fed and its rate increases. In an interview Tuesday with the Washington Post, the president complained bluntly and at length about Powell, who was Trump's hand-picked choice to lead the Fed.

"So far, I'm not even a little bit happy with my selection of Jay," Trump said, using Powell's nickname. "Not even a little bit. And I'm not blaming anybody, but I'm just telling you I think that the Fed is way off-base with what they're doing."

Trump argued that the Fed's policies were damaging the economy and pointed to the recent stock market declines and General Motors' announcement Monday that it would cut up to 14,000 workers in North America and put five plants up for possible closure.

"I'm doing deals, and I'm not being accommodated by the Fed," Trump said. "They're making a mistake because I have a gut, and my gut tells me more sometimes than anybody else's brain can ever tell me."

After keeping rates at a record low near zero for seven years, the Fed three years ago began gradually raising rates, including three hikes this year. Those increases have raised its benchmark rate to a still-historically-low range of 2 percent to 2.25 percent.

Higher interest rates tend to slow economic growth over time as well as pressure stock prices. For those reasons, this year's hikes have made the Fed the target of unusual public attacks from Trump — criticism that has accelerated with the past month's sharp declines in the stock market. Trump has complained that the Fed is threatening to undo the economic stimulus being provided by the tax cuts and that its rate hikes are unnecessary because inflation has remained relatively low.

In its most recent projections, the Fed forecast that it would raise rates in December for the fourth time this year, followed by three more hikes in 2019.

Analysts think a rate hike next month is all but certain, possibly in part because they think the Fed doesn't want to appear to be bowing to pressure from Trump. But economists say three rate increases for next year are beginning to look less certain.

"When you see that economic growth is decelerating and financial markets are going through significant turbulence not only in the United States but globally, I think a rate pause would be a good idea," said Sung Won Sohn, chief economist at SS Economics.

"I would not be surprised if they go with one more hike in December and then pause indefinitely to see what happens to the economy," Sohn said.

Other Fed watchers still expect at least one or two rate increases in 2019 before the central bank pauses to observe how the economy is performing.

In a speech Tuesday, Vice Chairman Richard Clarida suggested that the Fed would continue to strive to be "data dependent" by using the latest readings on the economy "with a healthy dose of judgment and humility" to determine its interest-rate policy.

New developments put Manafort back in Russia probe spotlight

By ERIC TUCKER, CHAD DAY and JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The breakdown of a plea deal with former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort and an explosive British news report about alleged contacts he may have had with WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange threw a new element of uncertainty into the Trump-Russia investigation.

On Tuesday, a day after prosecutors accused Manafort of repeatedly lying to them, trashing his agreement to tell all in return for a lighter sentence, he adamantly denied a report in the Guardian that he had met secretly with Assange around March 2016. That's the same month Manafort joined the Trump campaign and Russian hackers began an effort to penetrate the email accounts of Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign.

The developments thrust Manafort back into the investigation spotlight, raising new questions about what he knows and what prosecutors say he might be attempting to conceal as they probe Russian election interference and possible coordination with Trump associates in the campaign that sent the celebrity businessman to the White House.

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 142 ~ 25 of 47

All the while, Manafort's lawyers have been briefing Trump's attorneys on what their client has told investigators, an unusual arrangement that could give Trump ammunition in his feud against special counsel Robert Mueller.

"They share with me the things that pertain to our part of the case," Trump's lawyer, Rudy Giuliani, told The Associated Press.

Giuliani also said Trump, who has recently stepped up his attacks on Mueller, has been enraged by the treatment of Manafort.

Other figures entangled in the investigation, including Trump himself, have been scrambling to escalate attacks and allegations against prosecutors who have been working quietly behind the scenes.

Besides denying he'd ever met Assange, Manafort, who is currently in jail, said he'd told Mueller's prosecutors the truth during questioning. And WikiLeaks said Manafort had never met with Assange, offering to bet London's Guardian newspaper "a million dollars and its editor's head."

Assange, whose organization published thousands of emails stolen by Russian spies from Clinton's campaign in 2016, is in Ecuador's embassy in London under a claim of asylum.

It's unclear what prosecutors contend Manafort lied about, though they're expected to make a public filing that could offer answers.

Dissolution of the plea deal could be a devastating outcome for a defendant who suddenly admitted guilt last September after months of maintaining his innocence and who bet on his cooperation getting him a shorter sentence. But it's also a potential setback for investigators, given that Manafort steered the campaign during a vital stretch of 2016, when prosecutors say Russian intelligence was working to sway the election in Trump's favor.

The prosecutors' filing underscored their exasperation not only at Manafort's alleged deception but also at the loss of an important witness present for key moments under scrutiny, including a Trump Tower meeting at which Trump's eldest son expected to receive "dirt" about Clinton from a Kremlin-connected lawyer.

"The fact is, they wanted his cooperation. They wanted him to truthfully reveal what he knew, so they're not getting what they wanted," said Washington defense lawyer Peter Zeidenberg. "This isn't like a good development where they're clapping their hands and saying, 'Now we get to crush this guy.'"

Manafort's motivation, if indeed he lied to prosecutors, also was unclear.

In an interview, Giuliani said Trump and his lawyers agree a presidential pardon should not be considered "now" but added, "The president could consider it at an appropriate time, as Manafort has the same rights as any American."

Giuliani also accused Mueller's team of mistreating Manafort in hopes of getting him to give false testimony against the president. He said Trump "thinks it is outrageous and un-American and sounds like something that would happen under an oppressive dictatorship."

Mueller's filing on Manafort came at a delicate time for investigators, who have gone months without new charges and continue to probe possible links between Trump associates and WikiLeaks, the anti-secrecy website.

As Trump continues raging against the investigation — he tweeted Tuesday that Mueller was doing "TREMENDOUS damage to our Criminal Justice system" and called the investigation "a total disgrace" — others in the crosshairs have filled the vacuum of Mueller's recent silence by publicly declaring their innocence, accusing prosecutors of coercing testimony or tempting fate by turning aside negotiations.

One associate of Trump confidant Roger Stone is contesting a grand jury subpoena in court. Another, Jerome Corsi, said he was rejecting an offer to plead guilty to a false statements charge and has complained in news media interviews about his interrogations by prosecutors.

Stone, under investigation himself for connections to WikiLeaks, has repeatedly disparaged Mueller's investigation and said his friend Corsi was at risk of prosecution "not for lying but for refusing to lie."

A document drafted by Mueller's team as part of a plea offer says Corsi tipped off Stone in August 2016 that WikiLeaks planned to release damaging documents about Clinton. The tip accurately forecast that WikiLeaks would publicly post the material, including messages from Clinton campaign chairman John

Podesta, in October. It is the first known reference by Mueller to Americans close to Trump appearing to have foreknowledge of WikiLeaks' plans.

The draft document was first reported by NBC News, and a copy of it was posted online by The Washington Post. Stone has denied knowing about WikiLeaks' plans in advance.

Manafort, meanwhile, had been quiet since pleading guilty to conspiracy to obstruct justice and conspiracy against the United States. He has met repeatedly since then with investigators.

He remained in the spotlight Tuesday when the Guardian published a report saying he had secretly met Assange around March 2016, when he was brought aboard the Trump campaign. The report suggested a direct connection between WikiLeaks and the Trump campaign.

Manafort called the story "totally false and deliberately libelous," saying in a statement that he had never met Assange or anyone close to him.

The Guardian cited unidentified sources as saying Manafort first met Assange at the embassy in 2013, a year after Assange took refuge there to avoid being extradited to Sweden over sex crime allegations. The newspaper said that Manafort returned in 2015 and 2016 and that its sources had "tentatively dated" the final visit to March.

There was no detail on what might have been discussed.

The Trump campaign announced Manafort's hiring on March 29, 2016, and he served as the convention manager tasked with lining up delegates for the Republican National Convention. He was promoted to chairman that May.

An AP investigation into Russian hacking showed that government-aligned cyberspies began an aggressive effort to penetrate the Clinton campaign's email accounts on March 10, 2016.

Justice Department prosecutors in Virginia recently inadvertently disclosed the existence of sealed criminal charges against Assange, though it's unclear what that case entails. Prosecutors were in court Tuesday arguing against unsealing any charge.

Meanwhile, a judge may soon set a sentencing date for Manafort now that his hopes for leniency appear dashed.

"The cooperating defendant usually is very aware of what's at stake," said Shanlon Wu, who represented Manafort's onetime co-defendant Rick Gates. "What I always say to any client of mine who's contemplating that — there is no going back.

"It's like being a little bit pregnant," he added. "There's no such thing."

Lemire reported from New York. Associated Press writers Raphael Satter in London, Franklin Briceno in Lima, Peru, and Michael Balsamo in Washington contributed to this report.

Northern California sheriff's star rises with relief roles

By PAUL ELIAS, Associated Press

CHICO, Calif. (AP) — Those who had fled a deadly Northern California wildfire were looking for answers at an evacuation center when Sheriff Kory Honea walked in. They jumped to their feet, clapped and cheered.

The Butte County sheriff came to watch a recent briefing by a state official, but as the public face of the force fighting the flames and bringing relief to those who lost everything, he's a star attraction.

"He's become larger than life," said Paradise Councilman Michael Zuccolillo, who stayed behind to help Honea evacuate the town of 27,000 as flames roared in Nov. 8. "He's enormously popular."

Internet memes describing Honea as a hero are sweeping social media, including one saying his "calendar skips April 1 because nobody fools Honea." Residents of the predominantly rural and Republican-leaning region post hundreds of comments of support on the sheriff department's Facebook page. National and international media outlets clamor for interviews.

The 48-year-old was already a well-liked and high-profile figure among many of the 220,000 residents of Butte County, a wooded region in the Sierra Nevada foothills that's a destination for hunters and fishermen about 175 miles (282 kilometers) north of San Francisco.

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 142 ~ 27 of 47

That's because the wildfire is the second major disaster in less than two years in which he's had a major role. In February 2017, a spillway at the nation's tallest dam threatened to collapse and send a torrent of water flooding into downstream communities.

During both disasters, Honea ordered thousands of residents to flee their homes. And both led to complaints of miscommunication, disorganization and an occasional testy exchange with reporters.

Nonetheless, Honea's handling of both crises ultimately burnished his public image as a decisive and a strong leader after just four years with a small law enforcement agency previously tasked largely with cracking down on poaching, illicit drug use and drunken drivers.

That changed as state officials dithered last year over evacuating residents below Oroville Dam in Butte County, The Associated Press reported after obtaining notes from a dramatic meeting of top authorities.

Honea was about to leave a briefing on the damage when he saw drone photos of an emergency spillway that crumbled in recent rain and heard the worried discussion.

Without waiting for California officials, Honea ordered residents living below the dam to evacuate. Other sheriffs issued similar orders affecting nearly 180,000 people.

Residents sat in traffic jams for hours, with some abandoning their cars. Others ran out of gas on the highway. While many local officials and ordinary people rushed to direct traffic and staff emergency shelters, evacuees also reported seeing fistfights on gridlocked roads.

Notes obtained by the AP say Honea called the situation an "ugly, s-----, mess and we are trying to make the best of it."

Eventually, the dam crisis was averted and residents were allowed to return home, though many complained of a lack of communication throughout their ordeal.

"It was the most stressful time of my life," Honea said.

That was until Nov. 8. He was sipping coffee at home that morning, watching his friend, Ventura County Sheriff Geoff Dean, on TV discussing a mass shooting the night before at a country music bar in suburban Los Angeles.

Honea said he was counting his blessings that all was calm in Butte County. Then the office called.

Within hours, he ordered the evacuation of some 40,000 residents living in and around the isolated town of Paradise as an uncontrollable wildfire bore down.

The evacuation was anything but smooth. The sheriff has been criticized for relying on an outdated Code Red system that requires opting in to alerts rather than a mass Amber Alert-style warning that pings nearly every cellphone, TV and radio in the area.

Many residents complained that they didn't receive notice from the sheriff and fled only after neighbors and family warned them.

"My neighbor started screaming for us to run, and that's all the warning we got," said Paradise resident Cora Kolacz. "I left with the clothes on my back, and that's it."

Honea has deflected most questions on the evacuation, saying he will address them later, but conceded that "no system works 100 percent." He also says many more could have died.

"I'm really disheartened by all the loss of life," Honea said of the fire that killed nearly 90 people. "But tens of thousands of residents evacuated safely."

He spent a surreal morning in the burning city, combating one crisis at a time. He enlisted a stranger to help with traffic control. He swapped five Chinese tourists he had picked up for a pregnant woman in labor, whom he managed to hand off to a passing nurse and National Forest Service ranger heading to Chico.

Then he ran into his daughter Cassidy, a Paradise police officer, directing traffic. He helped her until he heard deputies and residents were trapped in a nearby hardware store. Honea hugged his 23-year-old daughter and raced to the store, concerned that he would never see his only child again.

She survived the fire.

Honea joined the sheriff's department in 1993 and worked his way up from jail guard to detective in three years. That caught the eye of longtime District Attorney Mike Ramsey.

"One of his strengths was his ability to get confessions," Ramsey said. "He knows how to talk to people and convince them to act in their best interests."

Ramsey hired Honea as an investigator in 2005 and appointed him chief investigator three years later. Honea passed the notoriously difficult California bar exam on his first try after earning a law degree online. "That is an extraordinarily difficult way to become a lawyer," Ramsey said.

Ramsey says his former protege, who was appointed sheriff in 2014, has come a long way to become the "hero sheriff of Butte County."

Honea received another standing ovation Monday when he walked into a Chico high school gym to give teachers a pep talk as they prepare to restart classes.

"We have a long way to go," he said amid applause. "But we are in this together, and we will get through this together."

US waived FBI checks on staff at growing teen migrant camp

By **GARANACE BURKE AND MARTHA MENDOZA, Associated Press**

TORNILLO, Texas (AP) — The Trump administration has put the safety of thousands of teens at a migrant detention camp at risk by waiving FBI fingerprint checks for their caregivers and short-staffing mental health workers, according to an Associated Press investigation and a new federal watchdog report.

None of the 2,100 staffers at a tent city holding more than 2,300 teens in the remote Texas desert are going through rigorous FBI fingerprint background checks, according to a Health and Human Services inspector general memo published Tuesday.

"Instead, Tornillo is using checks conducted by a private contractor that has access to less comprehensive data, thereby heightening the risk that an individual with a criminal history could have direct access to children," the memo says.

In addition, the federal government is allowing the nonprofit running the facility — BCFS Health and Human Services — to sidestep mental health care requirements. Under federal policy, migrant youth shelters generally must have one mental health clinician for every 12 kids, but the federal agency's contract with BCFS allows it to staff Tornillo with just one clinician for every 100 children. That's not enough to provide adequate mental health care, the inspector general office said in the memo.

BCFS acknowledged to the AP that it currently has one mental health clinician for every 50 children at Tornillo.

Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Oregon, said Tuesday that overriding background checks is "absolutely appalling" and called for the immediate shutdown of the shelter.

The Trump administration announced in June it would open a temporary shelter for up to 360 migrant children in this isolated corner of Texas. Less than six months later, the facility has expanded into a detention camp holding thousands of teenagers — and it shows every sign of becoming more permanent.

By Tuesday, 2,324 mostly Central American boys and girls between the ages of 13 and 17 were sleeping inside the highly guarded facility in rows of bunk beds in canvas tents, some of which once housed first responders to Hurricane Harvey. More than 1,300 teens have arrived since the end of October alone.

Rising from the cotton fields and dusty roads not far from the dark fence marking the U.S.-Mexico border, the camp has rows of beige tents and golf carts that ferry staffers carrying walkie-talkies. Teens with identical haircuts and government-issued shirts and pants can be seen walking single file, flanked by staff at the front and back.

More people are detained in Tornillo's tent city than in all but one of the nation's 204 federal prisons, yet construction continues.

The camp's population may grow even more if migrants in the caravans castigated by President Donald Trump enter the U.S. Federal officials have said they may send teens from the caravans to Tornillo, according to a nonprofit social service provider who spoke on the condition of anonymity because he was not allowed to publicly discuss the matter.

An AP investigation has found that the camp's rapid growth has created serious problems, including costs that appear to be soaring more than 50 percent higher than the government has disclosed. What began as an emergency, 30-day shelter has transformed into a vast tent city that could cost taxpayers

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 142 ~ 29 of 47

more than \$430 million.

Federal plans to close Tornillo by New Years' Eve will be nearly impossible to meet. There aren't 2,300 extra beds in other facilities and a contract obtained by AP shows the project could continue into 2020. Planned closures have already been extended three times since this summer.

The teens at Tornillo weren't separated from their families at the border this summer, but they're held by the government because federal immigration policies have resulted in the detention of a record 14,000 migrant children, filling shelter beds around the country to capacity. Almost all the teens at Tornillo came on their own hoping to join family members in the United States.

Some children have been detained at Tornillo since the tent camp opened in June. As the population inside the tall wire fences swells, the young detainees' anguish has deepened.

"The few times they let me call my mom I would tell her that one day I would be free, but really I felt like I would be there for the rest of my life," a 17-year-old from Honduras who was held at Tornillo earlier this year told AP. "I feel so bad for the kids who are still there. What if they have to spend Christmas there? They need a hug, and nobody is allowed to hug there."

After his family passed extensive background checks, the teen was recently released to them, but said he still has nightmares he's back inside. He spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of reprisal from immigration authorities.

Confining and caring for so many children is a challenge. By day, minders walk the teens to their meals, showers and recreation. At night the area around the camp, that's grown from a few dozen to more than 150 tents, is secured and lit up by flood lights.

The nonprofit social service agency contracted to run Tornillo says it is proud of its work. It says it is operating the facility with the same precision and care used for shelters put up after natural disasters.

"We don't have anything to hide. This is an exceptionally run operation," said Krista Piferrer, a spokeswoman for BCFS Health and Human Services. "This isn't our first rodeo."

She said they have no guidance from the Trump administration regarding what will happen after Dec. 31.

A spokesman for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Mark Weber, said no decisions have been made about whether Tornillo will close by year's end as scheduled.

"Whatever it is we decide to do, in the very near future, we'll do a public notice about that," he said.

NO FINGERPRINTS

In June, as detention centers for migrant children overflowed, Scott Lloyd, director of HHS's Office of Refugee Resettlement, signed a memo granting BCFS a waiver to staff up Tornillo without the required child abuse and neglect checks, which raise a red flag about any job candidate with a record of hurting a child. There were two reasons for the waiver, according to the inspector general: first, the agency was under pressure to open the detention camp quickly, and second, Lloyd's agency assumed Tornillo staff had already undergone FBI fingerprint checks. They had not.

Help-wanted postings quickly popped up, seeking case managers for \$15 an hour, youth care workers for \$11.27 per hour. And many signed up, eager to work the 12-hour shifts in the hot sun to bring the extra money home.

Two days after Lloyd waived the safety checks, BCFS opened the tent city. Lloyd, under fire for his handling of the migrant crisis, was transferred out of the refugee resettlement branch and to a different division of HHS last week. Weber did not immediately respond to questions as to why the department waived background checks, and referred inquiries to the inspector general.

Three service providers who were brought on to work in the camp in recent months told AP they were not fingerprinted, including one who started work there just two weeks ago.

Failing to properly check staffers' backgrounds "can lead to potential abuse and neglect of these kids," according to Dr. Colleen Kraft, president of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Since the facility opened, BCFS has been checking job candidates' national and local criminal histories and doing multi-state sex offender registry checks, Piferrer said.

"Those are pretty comprehensive," she added. "It's no easy feat, but we know what right looks like."

BCFS has filed more than 30 reports on "significant incidents" at Tornillo since June, including some

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 142 ~ 30 of 47

involving interactions between the children and staff, but none of a sexual nature, Piferrer said. Weber did not immediately respond to questions about the incidents Tuesday.

FBI fingerprint background checks can be completed in a few minutes and reveal much more information about job candidates than checks that simply run a person's name against criminal history databases, said Jeffrey Harp, a retired FBI assistant special agent in charge.

"How do you know the person is who they say they are unless you do a fingerprint check? They can't lie about their fingerprints, but they can lie about their name or take on someone else's identity who has a crystal clean record," Harp told AP. "More and more employers are finding out they have an employee who is problematic only after the fact, and that's because their employment screening isn't really comprehensive."

'NOBODY KNOWS'

More than 50 years of research show institutionalizing young people is traumatizing, with harmful impacts on their psyche and life trajectories, prompting policymakers to seek alternatives to locking up children, said Naomi Smoot, executive director of the nonprofit Coalition for Juvenile Justice.

"Hearing that more than 2,000 kids are in any kind of detention facility is alarming to me," she said. "That's not where kids should be around the holidays, particular when they haven't broken the law."

Most of the children locked inside Tornillo are never charged with a crime; crossing illegally into the U.S. is a civil offense. By law, migrant children traveling alone into the U.S. must be sent to a government shelter where they stay until they can be united with relatives or other sponsors while awaiting immigration court hearings. Migrant children's time in government custody has grown longer this year, in part due to the Trump administration's new requirements for deep background checks on sponsors who agree to take in young immigrants.

Tornillo currently has 3,800 beds for the teens, with 1,400 of those on reserve.

Annunciation House director Ruben Garcia, whose El Paso nonprofit works with recent immigrants, said Tornillo is far more secretive than other government shelters, where he and his staff are routinely allowed inside. At Tornillo workers must sign non-disclosure agreements and visitors are rarely allowed.

"What's happening inside? Nobody knows. They cannot speak about what they see," he said. "We've been doing this work for 20 years and we've never seen anything like this."

BCFS says the shelter at Tornillo has actually had more media, elected officials, advocacy organizations, child welfare experts and attorneys tour the site than any other HHS facility. The nonprofit said confidentiality agreements are standard, to protect the privacy and rights of clients and those served.

'COUNTING THE DAYS'

In June, as migrant child detention centers overflowed, HHS announced it was opening a rapidly built tent city at Tornillo, with the idea that most kids would only stay a few days. But within the week there was talk of making a detention camp 10 times as big.

Because the detention camp is on federal property — part of a large U.S. Customs and Border facility — it is not subject to state licensing requirements.

BCFS, a San Antonio nonprofit, runs Tornillo as it operates evacuation centers for hurricanes: There's food, first aid, activities and bunk beds, but no normal-life activities for stressed-out teens, like formal school, therapy or unsupervised stretches.

Federal officials have said repeatedly that only children without special needs were being sent to Tornillo. But facility administrators recently acknowledged that the Tornillo detainees included children with serious mental health issues who needed to be transferred out to facilities in El Paso, according to a person with knowledge of the discussion. The person spoke on a condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk publicly about the discussions.

The inspector general said staffing ratios were "dangerously low" for a population that has experienced significant trauma.

"The disproportionately high number of children to clinicians is especially worrisome in light of the continued increase in the number of children and length of stay at Tornillo," the memo said.

BCFS said the current ratio of clinicians to children is 1 to 50, and that each child sees a mental health specialist every day.

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 142 ~ 31 of 47

"When a child is found to have a mental health need that cannot be best provided for at Tornillo, a request is made to HHS to transfer the child to a more appropriate facility," said Piferrer.

Dr. Ryan Matlow, a Stanford clinical psychologist whose work addresses the impact of early life stress, questions the facility's capacity to identify kids with special mental health needs given the large number of children and their tendency to suppress emotional distress in order to cope.

"The kids are able to get by in there, but the more time they spend in these sorts of facilities, the greater the consequences, especially when it comes to their emotional and psychological well-being," said Matlow, who recently interviewed teens at Tornillo. "It's a dangerous and harmful system for kids to be caught in."

Nonprofit Hope Border Institute advocacy director Camilo Perez-Bustillo and Kristen Torres, who heads the child welfare and immigration division of the nonprofit group First Focus, said they were concerned when Tornillo officials told them they could staff one mental health clinician per 100 kids.

Perez-Bustillo, who served as a Spanish-language interpreter at the camp earlier this month, said most of the two dozen children he met showed signs of depression and anxiety over when, or whether, they would be released. About two thirds are boys, and half of the teens are Guatemalan. There are no on-site interpreters for teens of indigenous origin who speak Spanish as a second language.

"They are all counting the days they are inside the way prisoners do," Perez-Bustillo said. "Many of the kids have the sense of being suspended, and anxiousness about how much longer they will be held there."

Dr. Elizabeth Carll, a teen and trauma specialist who heads the American Psychological Association's Refugee Mental Health resource network, said institutionalizing so many teens in a geographically remote place makes it harder to recruit qualified clinicians.

"You have to find people who are licensed, who are experts in trauma, who speak Spanish and have worked with teens," she said. "Where would you find all these qualified professionals?"

Making things worse, Carll said migrant youth are likely to have higher emotional needs after going through hardship, enduring the journey north and being held in detention. They would do better if placed with trained, bilingual foster families, she said.

One shy 16-year-old from Honduras held at Tornillo told an AP reporter as she awaited her immigration court hearing that she was worried that it was taking so long to reunite her with family in Pennsylvania.

"I'm getting tired of waiting because I've been there three months," said the girl, who spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of retribution by staffers who were monitoring her and other Tornillo detainees. "I'm trying to keep the faith that I will be liberated soon."

\$1,200 PER NIGHT

For each night each child spends at Tornillo, taxpayers spend up to \$1,200 to pay the direct care workers, cooks, cleaners, teachers and emergency services workers, according to information staff at two congressional offices said they were provided on a recent visit. That's well above the \$775 officials have publicly disclosed, and close to five times more than a typical youth migrant shelter costs. The most expensive hotel room in El Paso is about \$200 a night.

BCFS did not dispute the cost, but said on average, actual costs are closer to \$750 a day, which would bring current operations to more than \$12 million a week.

The costs at Tornillo are so high because everything — water, sewage, food, staff and detainees — must be trucked in and out of the remote site. Every few hours, two teams fill up 2,000-gallon tanks of water from a hydrant outside the facility, then drive them back through the fences. Each day, 35,000 gallons of diesel are trucked in as well, to run massive generators that power air conditioners in the summer and heaters on winter nights.

The teens can play soccer during closely watched recreation periods. They are given yarn to pass the time making brightly colored bracelets and scarves. There aren't regular classes, but teens have textbooks and workbooks.

Piferrer said BCFS was not charging the government for the tents, fire trucks and ambulance on site.

"Everything that is being provided has been directed by the federal government to be provided," she said.

Scant details about how those funds are spent motivated New York-based software developer Josh Rubin to set up residence in an RV just outside the gates, where he keeps a vigil on the vehicles going

in and out. In recent weeks, he said, he has spotted new trends: construction trucks moving equipment in to build another tent, a vehicle carrying heaters, more buses with tinted windows taking children to immigration court.

Staffers are transported to the camp from motels near the El Paso airport, where the tour buses take pains to park on side roads, far from view. On a recent evening outside the Hawthorn Suites hotel, Tornillo workers filed off to bed in the darkness, many talking of feeling sick or exhausted.

Twice a day, the desolate stretch of highway outside Tornillo comes alive as more than a dozen tour buses pull up. Bells sound, lights flash. Workers walk in two by two, wearing khaki pants, neon jackets and backpacks, some wrapped in scarves to guard against the cool desert air.

Many days, Rubin is there alone, holding up a sign saying "Free Them" at the tent city's entrance. Sometimes the train rumbles by, or cotton drifts in the wind. Black birds fly in geometric patterns in the sky above.

Protests began at Tornillo almost as soon as it opened. State and federal elected officials joined local activists and Hollywood stars deriding the administration's immigration policies. But public attention turned elsewhere, and now demonstrations are rare.

On a recent afternoon, a group of about 60 activists including rabbis from Ann Arbor, Michigan, and students from a local Catholic girls' school assembled to pray for the teens' release and sang a throaty version of "Let My People Go."

After a Department of Homeland Security official blocked them, the group ventured through a fence onto a private dirt road behind the facility. A group of teen boys could be seen across marshland, and a hole in the wire fence had been visibly patched.

"You are not alone!" the activists cried out in Spanish to the youth being led between tents. Some of the teens waved back. One protester wiped away a tear as another banged on a plastic drum, calling out "We love you! We miss you!"

Dalila Reynoso-Gonzalez, a program director for the Methodist immigration advocacy group Justice for our Neighbors of East Texas, said she was moved to demonstrate at Tornillo after helping an immigrant father reunite with his son held there. The boy told her stories of a stark and lonely place and spoke of isolation, fear, disorientation.

He still has a foil blanket issued to him when he first was taken into custody, she said.

"It's really heavy on my heart," said Reynoso-Gonzalez. "How did we get to this place, why do we have so many children out there?"

Pilots struggled to control plane that crashed in Indonesia

By NINIEK KARMINI and DAVID KOENIG, Associated Press

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — Black box data collected from their crashed Boeing 737 MAX 8 show Lion Air pilots struggled to maintain control as the aircraft's automatic safety system repeatedly pushed the plane's nose down, according to a preliminary investigation into last month's disaster.

The investigators are focusing on whether faulty information from sensors led the plane's system to force the nose down. The new 737 MAX 8 plunged into the Java Sea on Oct. 29, killing all 189 people on board.

Information from the Lion Air jet's flight data recorder was included in a briefing for the Indonesian Parliament. Indonesian authorities released the findings Wednesday but were not expected to draw conclusions from the data they presented.

Peter Lemme, an expert in aviation and satellite communications and a former Boeing engineer, wrote an analysis of the data on his blog.

The MAX aircraft is the latest version of Boeing's popular 737 jetliner. It is equipped with an automated system that pushes the nose down if a sensor detects that the nose is pointed so high that the plane could go into an aerodynamic stall.

Lemme described "a deadly game of tag" in which the plane pointed down, the pilots countered by manually aiming the nose higher, only for the sequence to repeat about five seconds later. That happened

26 times during the 11-minute flight, but pilots failed to recognize what was happening and follow the known procedure for countering incorrect activation of the automated safety system, Lemme told The Associated Press.

Lemme said he was also troubled that there weren't easy checks to see if sensor information was correct, that the crew of the fatal flight apparently wasn't warned that similar problems had occurred on previous flights, and that the Lion Air jet wasn't fully repaired after those flights.

"Had they fixed the airplane, we would not have had the accident," he said. "Every accident is a combination of events, so there is disappointment all around here," he said.

Boeing spokesman Charles Bickers said the company is "taking every measure to fully understand all aspects of this accident."

The company said last week that it remains confident in the safety of the 737 MAX and had given airlines around the world two updates to "re-emphasize existing procedures for these situations."

"We are deeply saddened by the loss of Lion Air Flight 610. We extend our heartfelt condolences and sympathies to the families and loved ones of those onboard. We will analyze any additional information as it becomes available," the company said in a statement.

Pilots at American Airlines and Southwest Airlines complained this month that they had not been given all information about the new system on the MAX. More than 200 MAX jets have been delivered to airlines around the world.

The Indonesian investigation is continuing with help from U.S. regulators and Boeing. Searchers have not found the plane's cockpit voice recorder, which would provide more information about the pilots' actions

Koenig reported from Dallas, Texas.

Trump tests presidential limits by threat to General Motors

By JONATHAN LEMIRE and ZEKE MILLER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump tested the limits of his presidential authority and political muscle as he threatened to cut off all federal subsidies to General Motors because of its planned massive cutbacks in the U.S.

Trump unloaded on Twitter on Tuesday, a day after GM announced it would shutter five plants and slash 14,000 jobs in North America. Many of the job cuts would affect the Midwest, the politically crucial region where the president promised a manufacturing rebirth. It was the latest example of the president's willingness to attempt to meddle in the affairs of private companies and to threaten the use of government power to try to force their business decisions.

"Very disappointed with General Motors and their CEO, Mary Barra, for closing plants in Ohio, Michigan and Maryland. Nothing being closed in Mexico & China," Trump tweeted. "The U.S. saved General Motors, and this is the THANKS we get!"

He added that his administration was "looking at cutting all GM subsidies, including for electric cars."

Trump's tweets came shortly after National Economic Council Director Larry Kudlow said the White House's reaction to the automaker's announcement was "a tremendous amount of disappointment, maybe even spilling over into anger." Kudlow, who met with Barra on Monday, said Trump felt betrayed by GM.

"Look, we made this deal, we've worked with you along the way, we've done other things with mileage standards, for example, and other related regulations," Kudlow said, referencing the recently negotiated U.S.-Mexico-Canada trade agreement. "We've done this to help you and I think his disappointment is it seems like they kind of turned their back on him."

The White House rebuke appears to fly in the face of long-held Republican opposition to picking winners and losers in the marketplace. A day earlier, Trump issued a vague threat to GM to preserve a key plant in the presidential bellwether state of Ohio, where the company has marked its Lordstown plant for closure.

"That's Ohio, and you better get back in there soon," he said.

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 142 ~ 34 of 47

It's not clear precisely what action against GM might be taken, or when, and there are questions about whether the president has the authority to act without congressional approval.

Buyers of electric vehicles made by GM and other automakers get federal tax credits of up to \$7,500, helping reduce the price as an incentive to get more of the zero-emissions vehicles on the road. But GM is on the cusp of reaching its subsidy limit.

White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said she did not have any additional information on the president's threat.

Trump has long promised to return manufacturing jobs to the United States and particularly the Midwest. At a rally near GM's Lordstown plant last summer, Trump told people not to sell their homes because the jobs are "all coming back."

In a statement Tuesday afternoon, GM tried to appease the Trump administration while justifying the decisions it announced Monday. "We appreciate the actions this administration has taken on behalf of industry to improve the overall competitiveness of U.S. manufacturing," the statement said.

Many of the workers who will lose jobs if the plants close could transfer to another GM factory where production is being increased, spokesman Patrick Morrissey said. For instance, GM plans to add hundreds of workers at its pickup truck assembly plant in Flint, Michigan, Morrissey said. Workers also will be added at an SUV factory in Arlington, Texas.

But those expansions aren't enough to accommodate all the roughly 3,300 U.S. factory workers who could lose their jobs.

GM said it has invested more than \$22 billion in U.S. operations since 2009, when it exited bankruptcy protection.

Trump has made direct negotiation with business leaders a centerpiece of his administration, including talks with defense contractor CEOs on bringing down prices on new systems, including the upcoming replacement to the aircraft that serves as Air Force One. He has never been shy about voicing his frustration with their decisions.

But Trump's deal-making image is far from flawless. Three weeks after his election, Trump traveled to Indianapolis to announce a tax-incentive agreement partially reversing the closure of a Carrier factory, which was set to close, cutting about 1,400 production jobs.

Trump frequently criticized the closure plans during the 2016 campaign and promised to prevent similar occurrences. Under the tax-incentive deal, Carrier pledged to keep nearly 1,100 jobs in Indianapolis, including some 800 furnace production jobs it planned to cut with outsourcing. But about 550 jobs were still eliminated at the plant.

GM's attempt to close the factories still must be negotiated with the United Auto Workers union, which has promised to fight them legally and in collective bargaining.

The factory announcements likely represented GM's opening bid in contract talks with the union that start next year, said Kristen Dzikczek, vice president of labor and industry with the Center for Automotive Research, an industry think tank in Ann Arbor, Michigan. The factories slated for closure could get new products in exchange for items the company wants from the union, she said.

Keeping open a plant slated for closure is not without precedent for GM. In 2009, GM announced that it intended to close a huge assembly plant in Orion Township, Michigan, north of Detroit. But it later negotiated concessions from the union and reopened the plant to build the Chevrolet Sonic subcompact car. The factory is still in operation and now builds the Sonic and the Bolt electric car.

The reductions could amount to as much as 8 percent of GM's global workforce of 180,000 employees.

The restructuring reflects changing North American auto markets as manufacturers continue to shift away from cars toward SUVs and trucks. In October, almost 65 percent of new vehicles sold in the U.S. were trucks or SUVs. That figure was about 50 percent cars just five years ago.

Jerry Dias, president of the Canadian trade union UNIFOR, said Tuesday that GM's CEO had insulted the president of the United States and the prime minister of Canada.

"If you are going to have a company that's going to show us their middle finger, then I think our government should show them our middle finger as well," Dias said.

Lemire reported from New York. Associated Press writers Tom Krisher in Detroit, Rob Gillies in Toronto and Jill Colvin in Washington contributed reporting.

Follow Lemire on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/@JonLemire> and Miller at <http://twitter.com/@zekejmilller>

Venezuela's next generation of opposition plays a long game

By SCOTT SMITH, Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Roberto Patino, a rising star in Venezuela's unravelling opposition movement, pushes through a crowd of children clutching spoons and waiting to eat.

The 30-year-old organizes a crew that hands out hundreds of meals each day in slums throughout the capital. It's the only solid nourishment of the day for many of the children in La Vega neighborhood of western Caracas. And while it doesn't come with a serving of explicit political indoctrination, there's no doubt it's a sharp rebuke to the government's narrative that it alone can feed the poor.

"We've found fertile ground in these slums," Patino said of the lunches financed by Venezuelan donors at home and abroad, "for the message of change and creating a new Venezuela."

As President Nicolas Maduro cracks down on opponents amid an unprecedented economic crisis, desperation has driven some critics, especially those in exile, to openly support violent shortcuts to removing him from power. There was an apparent attempt on Maduro's life in August with explosives-laden drones and some critics have welcomed recent suggestions by the Trump administration favoring a military coup.

But many of the beleaguered opposition figures remaining in the country see their best hopes in capitalizing on widespread discontent with Maduro's rule playing out in rough neighborhoods long considered his strongholds.

It's there where Patino, a former student leader, and other grassroots organizers in their 20s and 30s have been feeding children, encouraging women to become community activists and organizing protests to demand public services like reliable drinking water and electricity.

Twenty-eight-year-old Marialbert Barrios, the National Assembly's youngest member, has been giving talks at empowerment workshops urging women in a working-class section of Caracas to replace their passive complaints with action toward making their neighborhood better for everyone.

It's a long-term strategy in a country where citizens are increasingly giving up on democracy and when the opposition's old guard is increasingly discredited.

"It's time that this generation took a step forward against totalitarianism and took the reins in the fight," Manuela Bolivar, a 35-year-old opposition lawmaker, tweeted recently.

Years of strong-armed government tactics — and internal battles over egos and strategy — have left Venezuela's opposition divided and feckless.

Things looked up briefly when the opposition won control of congress in 2015. But it quickly found itself outmaneuvered when Maduro began to ignore its dictums and target its leaders for promoting street protests last year seeking his resignation that left more than 120 people dead.

Things took a turn for the worse this year with the breakdown of negotiations between Maduro's government and the opposition aimed at laying the groundwork for fair elections. Maduro barred many top critics from the ballot in May presidential elections, leaving the opposition divided over whether to boycott the vote. Amid widespread allegations of vote rigging, Maduro easily won re-election despite polls showing overwhelming unpopularity.

The failures helped turn sentiment against the opposition's traditional leaders. On social media, figures including former National Assembly President Julio Borges and former presidential candidate Henrique Capriles are routinely denounced — with little direct evidence — as sellouts who have cut secret deals to coexist with Maduro.

Other opposition figures have been jailed, banned from politics by government-controlled courts or exiled, like Borges and former Caracas Mayor Antonio Ledezma.

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 142 ~ 36 of 47

In addition to a generational divide, exile is also driving internal frictions. Some leaders still in Venezuela like Capriles and former presidential candidate Henri Falcon have recently hinted they are open to a new attempt at dialogue, saying the tough talk from abroad will only lead to more bloodshed and consolidate Maduro's grip on power.

Allegations that several prominent opposition leaders, along with government officials, received payments from graft networks inside the state oil company or from a Brazilian construction giant also stained their credibility.

"Venezuela needs absolutely different leadership," said Luis Vicente Leon, head of the Caracas-based polling firm Datanalisis, citing polling that shows the opposition is just as unpopular as Maduro. "I'm not sure if that means young. It means fresh, which is different."

Among the young is Miguel Pizarro, a 30-year-old with shaggy black hair and heavily tattooed arms who was elected to the National Assembly at age 21.

He recently brought local TV cameras to the sprawling slum of Petare to call attention to crumbling and abandoned government apartment buildings that house hundreds but have been condemned as unsafe.

Like Patino, he's focused on bread-and-butter issues rather than confrontations in the streets.

"The challenge for political leaders is to win back the right to listen to the country," Pizarro said. "This has been lost because we haven't been fighting for and talking about what the majority of people need."

The opposition's overall unpopularity and sharp internal divides indicate that government officials' crack-down has been successful.

"They're not successful at dealing with the economic crisis and hyper-inflation," said Michael Penfold, a Caracas-based fellow for the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington. "But they are quite good at playing the divisive game with the opposition."

Patino, meanwhile, said that he's deferred his political ambitions to focus on feeding 1,800 children five days a week in 21 slums of Caracas.

He believes it's his best chance at influencing his country by providing a vision of Venezuela's future different from the one featured in incessant government propaganda.

He's also founded other projects, like one that collects data on murdered Caracas residents in an attempt to fill the void left by the government's refusal to publish crime statistics.

Patino comes from a wealthy family and says he could have made a career abroad, with several job offers upon completing his master's degree at Harvard University. But he says the struggle is at home in Venezuela, feeding children one meal at a time.

"I launched this initiative, first out of a sense of humanity, a sense of what is needed right now," Patino said. "But also out of the thought that this is what service should be about."

Follow Scott Smith on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/ScottSmithAP>

Mexico accepts housing migrants, seeks US development aid

By CHRISTOPHER SHERMAN and E. EDUARDO CASTILLO, Associated Press

TIJUANA, Mexico (AP) — As Mexico wrestles with what to do with more than 5,000 Central American migrants camped out at a sports complex in the border city of Tijuana, President-elect Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador's government signaled Tuesday that it would be willing to house the migrants on Mexican soil while they apply for asylum in the United States — a key demand of U.S. President Donald Trump.

Mexico's new foreign minister also called on the Trump administration to contribute to development projects to help create jobs in Central America to stem the flow of migrants from the impoverished region, suggesting an appropriate figure would start at \$20 billion.

"We cannot determine at what pace people are interviewed" by U.S. officials as part of the asylum process, the incoming foreign relations secretary, Marcelo Ebrard, told a news conference in Mexico City. U.S. border inspectors are processing fewer than 100 asylum claims a day at Tijuana's main crossing to San Diego, creating a backlog of thousands.

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 142 ~ 37 of 47

"So, what do we have to do?" Ebrard asked. "Prepare ourselves to assume that a good part of them are going to be in this area of Mexico for the coming months."

"We have to support local authorities" in housing and feeding the migrants, he said, adding: "That is not a bilateral negotiation. That is something we have to do."

Lopez Obrador, who won a crushing July 1 election victory and takes office on Saturday, built his political career on defending the poor. He now faces the difficult task of placating Trump on the migrant issue while upholding Mexico's longstanding position of demanding better treatment for migrants.

Ebrard told reporters Tuesday a key administration goal is securing a U.S. commitment to development projects in Honduras, where the vast majority of the migrants in the caravan come from, as well as neighboring Guatemala, El Salvador and elsewhere in Central America.

"What are we negotiating with the United States? We want them to participate in the project I just mentioned" to create jobs in Central America. Asked how much the U.S. should contribute, Ebrard suggested the figure should be at least \$20 billion.

"Mexico by itself is going to invest in our own territory during the next administration, more than \$20 billion, and so any serious effort regarding our brothers in El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, should be for a similar amount," Ebrard said.

Ebrard's statements came as anxious Tijuana residents closed down a school next to a sports complex where thousands of migrants have been camped out for two weeks.

The move came after U.S. border agents fired tear gas into Mexico to turn back a group of migrants who had breached the border over the weekend. The incident prompted Mexican authorities to step up the police presence around the shelter.

Citing fears for their children's safety, the parents' association of the Gabriel Ramos Milan elementary school bought their own lock and chain and closed the school's gates. A sign said the school would remain closed until further notice.

Carmen Rodriguez said parents had been calling for authorities to do something since the migrants arrived, adding that her 9-year-old daughter wouldn't be returning to classes until they are gone.

"We are asking that they be relocated," Rodriguez said, noting that some migrants had approached the school grounds to ask children for money and use the school's bathrooms. Some even smoked marijuana around its perimeter walls, she said.

She said the parents worry about anti-migrant protesters converging on the sports complex again, as they did last week. "If they come here and there is a confrontation, we will be caught in the middle," she said.

The migrants themselves were urgently exploring their options amid a growing feeling that they had little hope of making successful asylum bids in the United States or of crossing the border illegally.

Most were dispirited after the U.S. agents fired tear gas on the group of migrants trying to cross into the U.S. on Sunday. They saw the clash and official response as hurting their chances of reaching the U.S. Mexico's National Migration Institute reported that 98 migrants were being deported after trying to breach the U.S. border. The country's Interior Department said about 500 people attempted to rush the border, while U.S. authorities put the number at 1,000.

There was a steady line Tuesday outside a tent housing the International Organization for Migration, where officials were offering assistance to those who wanted to return to their home countries.

Officials also reported more interest from migrants wanting to start the process of staying in Mexico. A job fair matching migrants with openings in Baja California saw a growing number of inquiries.

"What happened yesterday harms all of us," Oscar Leonel Mina, a 22-year-old father from San Salvador, said of Sunday's border clash.

Mina, his wife and their toddler daughter avoided the protest and were glad they did after hearing others recount what unfolded, he said.

The events made Mina rethink his family's plan of making it to the U.S. He says he's heard people talk of Rosarito, a beach town popular with U.S. tourists about a 40-minute drive south of Tijuana.

There "you can earn money and live well" if you're willing to work, he said. He set a goal of trying to move his family out of the sports stadium in another week.

Mexican security forces stepped up their presence at the sports complex, apparently seeking to avoid a repeat of Sunday's ugly scene.

Tijuana public safety secretary Marco Antonio Sotomayor Amezcua told a news conference that Mexican police would be prudent in their use of force, but "we have to guard at all cost that the border posts are not closed again."

Sotomayor said he hopes migrants who had thought of entering the U.S. illegally learned from Sunday's events that that won't be possible.

Castillo reported from Mexico City.

Fox disciplines employees who set up Trump aide appearance

By DAVID BAUDER, AP Media Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Fox News Channel said Tuesday that it is disciplining employees involved in an email exchange with an aide to President Trump's former EPA administrator Scott Pruitt to craft a "Fox & Friends" interview with the environmental chief last year.

The emails showed one of Pruitt's aides suggesting the interview, passing along "talking points" and given the chance by a Fox producer to approve a script written to introduce Pruitt.

The messages were uncovered through a Freedom of Information Act request by the Sierra Club and first reported by The Daily Beast. It's another example of closeness between Fox News and the Trump administration, where the president's communications director is a former Fox executive. Fox's most popular personality, Sean Hannity, appeared onstage at a Trump rally shortly before the midterm election.

Fox would not say who was being disciplined, noting that it was a personnel matter, and what that discipline involved. Earlier, the network had said that "this is not standard practice whatsoever and the matter is being addressed internally with those involved."

In May 2017, former Environmental Protection Agency press representative Amy Graham wrote to Fox, saying Pruitt would be in New York and able to come to Fox's studio to talk about reforms Pruitt was making to help communities poorly served by President Barack Obama's administration.

"Pruitt has been outspoken about the lack of environmental accomplishments under the Obama administration, calling President Obama 'no environmental savior' and he would like to expand on these comments," Graham wrote.

"Fox & Friends" producer Andrew Murray agreed to the interview. When Graham wrote back that "we really need to stick with this as the topic" and needed confirmation that would be the case, Murray agreed. He assigned the segment to another producer, Diana Aloï.

Pruitt resigned 14 months after the interview took place, following a flurry of stories about ethical lapses including excessive spending for travel and security, trying to get his wife a job and circumventing the White House to get raises for top aides.

Aloï asked for "bullet points" on what Pruitt would like to discuss and Graham wrote back with several. Later, Aloï sent her a four-paragraph introductory script, asking "would this be OK as the setup to the segment?"

The script talked about a new direction at the EPA "after the Obama administration left behind a huge toxic mess. More than 1,300 Superfund sites, which are heavily contaminated, still require clean-ups. So why was President Obama touted as an environmental savior if all these problems still exist?"

Graham wrote back, "Yes — perfect."

It's not uncommon for journalists and representatives for newsmakers to talk in advance about topics that may be covered in an interview. Promises not to address certain subjects are considered off limits by most reporters, with script approval an even greater ethical lapse.

When Pruitt appeared the next day, "Fox & Friends" host Brian Kilmeade said that "President Trump is doing his best to drain the swamp and much of that draining happened at the Environmental Protection Agency after the Obama administration left behind — get this — a huge toxic mess."

Host Ainsley Earhardt continued, "more than 1,300 Superfund sites, which are heavily contaminated, still require cleanup."

The third host, Steve Doocy, said to Pruitt, "the press made President Obama out to be the environmental savior and yet when you look at the number of toxic dumps left on your plate, it's a big number." "Absolutely," Pruitt said.

During congressional testimony earlier this year, Pruitt said that Trump's EPA in 2017 had removed more polluted sites across the country than the previous administration had the previous year. The EPA had declared seven Superfund site cleanups to be complete in 2017, compared to two in 2016. Yet records showed that construction work at all seven of those sites were completed years before Pruitt became EPA chief in February 2017.

At one point in the interview, Earhardt said that "we're talking about memos and what's happening in the White House. This is what the American public really needs to be focused on, right? Jobs, our personal safety, protecting our kids from cancer."

It wasn't exactly clear what she was referring to, although on the day the interview was arranged a big story was about a memo former FBI director James Comey had written to himself about Trump asking him to stop an investigation into former national security adviser Michael Flynn.

Kilmeade did end the interview with a question that had not been discussed during the arrangements, about the Trump administration and its views about the Paris climate change accord.

Associated Press correspondents Michael Biesecker and Ellen Knickmeyer in Washington contributed to this report.

North Korea criticizes US for seeking UN meeting on rights

By EDITH M. LEDERER, Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — North Korea is accusing the Trump administration and some supporters of trying to "stoke confrontation" instead of promoting peace efforts by calling for a U.N. Security Council meeting to discuss human rights in the country.

North Korea's U.N. Ambassador Kim Song said in a letter obtained Tuesday by The Associated Press that the United States and other unnamed countries "are trying to employ all possible wicked and sinister methods" to hold a council meeting on Dec. 10 and have U.N. human rights chief Michelle Bachelet address it.

Kim sent letters to all council members except the United States urging them to vote against holding a meeting on human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, or DPRK, the country's official name. He sent similar letters to Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and General Assembly President Maria Espinosa Garces.

The Security Council has discussed human rights in the DPRK for the past four years. Each meeting went ahead only after a procedural vote in the 15-member council, where at least nine "yes" votes are needed to hold the session.

Earlier this month, the U.N. General Assembly's human rights committee adopted a resolution by consensus condemning North Korea's "longstanding and ongoing systematic, widespread and gross violations of human rights" and strongly urging its government to immediately end the abuses. It is certain to be approved by the 193-member assembly in December.

In October, the U.N. independent investigator on human rights in the isolated Asian nation said North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's summits with the presidents of South Korea and the United States have not changed his country's abysmal human rights record. Tomas Ojea Quintana pointed to reports of "systematic, widespread abuses" of human rights and a U.N. commission of inquiry's findings in 2014 that possible crimes against humanity have been committed in the DPRK.

Relations between the two Koreas have improved since Kim Jong Un reached out to South Korea and the United States early this year with a vague promise to achieve the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. U.S.-North Korea talks on the North's nuclear program haven't produced much progress since Kim

and U.S. President Donald Trump held the countries' first summit in Singapore in June. A second summit is expected to take place next year.

Ambassador Kim's letter recalled that "until last year, the Korean peninsula was a region where possibility of an armed conflict and a nuclear war ran higher than any other region in the world."

"But, thanks to the peace-loving efforts of the DPRK, the atmosphere of peace and stability has recently settled down in the Korean peninsula," he said.

"Nonetheless, to our deep surprise and regret, the Security Council is about to swim against the current trend by way of seeking to irritate a dialogue counterpart and stoke confrontation, instead of encouraging and promoting the ongoing positive developments," the DPRK ambassador said.

Kim called the U.S. move to put the issue on the council agenda "a provocation."

He demanded that human rights be discussed at the Geneva-based Human Rights Council, not at the Security Council, "far away from its mission and mandate for maintaining world peace and security."

Trump backs use of 'very safe' tear gas on crowd of migrants

By COLLEEN LONG and ELLIOT SPAGAT, Associated Press

SAN DIEGO (AP) — President Donald Trump is strongly defending the U.S. use of tear gas at the Mexico border to repel a crowd of migrants that included angry rock-throwers and barefoot, crying children.

On Tuesday, U.S. authorities lowered the number of arrests during the confrontation to 42 from 69. Rodney Scott, chief of the Border Patrol's San Diego sector, said the initial count included some arrests in Mexico by Mexican authorities who reported 39 arrests.

Scott also defended the agents' decisions to fire tear gas into Mexico, saying they were being assaulted by "a hail of rocks."

"That has happened before and, if we are rocked, that would happen again tomorrow," he told reporters.

Critics denounced the action by border agents as overkill, but Trump kept to a hard line.

"They were being rushed by some very tough people and they used tear gas," Trump said Monday of the previous day's encounter. "Here's the bottom line: Nobody is coming into our country unless they come in legally."

At a roundtable in Mississippi later Monday, Trump seemed to acknowledge that children were affected.

"Why is a parent running up into an area where they know the tear gas is forming and it's going to be formed and they were running up with a child?" the president asked.

He said it was "a very minor form of the tear gas itself" that he was assured was "very safe."

Without offering evidence, Trump claimed some of the women in Sunday's confrontation are not parents but are instead "grabbers" who steal children so they have a better chance of being granted asylum in the U.S.

The showdown at the San Diego-Tijuana border crossing has thrown into sharp relief two competing narratives about the caravan of migrants who hope to apply for asylum but have gotten stuck on the Mexico side of the border.

Trump portrays them as a threat to U.S. national security, intent on exploiting America's asylum law. Others insist he is exaggerating to stoke fears and achieve his political goals.

The sheer size of the caravan makes it unusual.

"I think it's so unprecedented that everyone is hanging their own fears and political agendas on the caravan," said Andrew Selee, president of the Migration Policy Institute, a nonpartisan think tank that studies immigration. "You can call it scary, you can call it hopeful, you can call it a sign of human misery. You can hang whatever angle you want to on it."

Trump rails against migrant caravans as dangerous groups of mostly single men. That view figured heavily in his speeches during the midterm election campaign, when several were hundreds of miles away, traveling on foot.

The city of Tijuana said that as of Monday, 5,851 migrants were at a temporary shelter, 1,074 were women, 1,023 were children and 3,754 were men, including fathers traveling with families, along with single men.

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 142 ~ 41 of 47

The U.S. military said Monday that about 300 troops who had been deployed in south Texas and Arizona as part of a border security mission have been moved to California for similar work.

The military's role is limited largely to erecting barriers along the border and providing transportation and logistical support to Customs and Border Protection.

Democratic lawmakers and immigrant rights groups blasted the tactics of border agents.

"These children are barefoot. In diapers. Choking on tear gas," California Gov.-elect Gavin Newsom tweeted. "Women and children who left their lives behind — seeking peace and asylum — were met with violence and fear. That's not my America."

U.S. Customs and Border Protection Commissioner Kevin McAleenan said the administration's concerns about the caravan "were borne out and on full display" Sunday.

McAleenan said hundreds — perhaps more than 1,000 — people attempted to rush vehicle lanes at the San Ysidro crossing. Mexican authorities estimated the crowd at 500. The chaos followed what began as a peaceful march to appeal for the U.S. to speed processing of asylum claims.

McAleenan said four agents were struck with rocks but were not injured because they were wearing protective gear.

Border Patrol agents launched pepper spray balls in addition to tear gas in what officials said were on-the-spot decisions made by agents. U.S. troops deployed to the border on Trump's orders were not involved in the operation.

"The agents on scene, in their professional judgment, made the decision to address those assaults using less lethal devices," McAleenan told reporters.

The scene was reminiscent of the 1980s and early 1990s, when large groups of migrants rushed vehicle lanes at San Ysidro and overwhelmed Border Patrol agents in nearby streets and fields.

The scene on Sunday left many migrants feeling they had lost whatever possibility they might have had for making asylum cases.

Isauro Mejia, 46, of Cortes, Honduras, looked for a cup of coffee Monday morning after spending Sunday caught up in the clash.

"The way things went yesterday ... I think there is no chance," he said.

Mexico's Interior Ministry said in a statement it would immediately deport the people arrested on its side of the border and would reinforce security.

Border Patrol agents have discretion on how to deploy less-than-lethal force. It must be "objectively reasonable and necessary in order to carry out law enforcement duties" and used when other techniques are insufficient to control disorderly or violent subjects.

Long reported from Washington. Associated Press writers Robert Burns in Washington; Julie Watson in San Diego; Jill Colvin in Biloxi, Miss.; and Christopher Sherman in Tijuana, Mexico, contributed to this report.

'SpongeBob' creator Stephen Hillenburg dies at 57

By **ANDREW DALTON, AP Entertainment Writer**

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Stephen Hillenburg, who used his dual loves of drawing and marine biology to spawn the absurd undersea world of "SpongeBob SquarePants," has died, Nickelodeon announced Tuesday.

Hillenburg died Monday of Lou Gehrig's disease, also known as ALS, the cable network said in a statement. He was 57.

He had announced he had the disease in March 2017. His death comes just weeks after the passing of another cartoon hero in Marvel creator Stan Lee.

Hillenburg conceived, wrote, produced and directed the animated series that began in 1999 and bloomed into hundreds of episodes, movies and a Broadway show.

The eternally, obviously jolly SpongeBob and his yell-along theme song that opened "Who lives in a pineapple under the sea?!" quickly appealed to college kids and parents as much as it did kids.

"The essence of the show is that SpongeBob is an innocent in a world of jaded characters," Hillenburg

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 142 ~ 42 of 47

told The Associated Press in 2001. "The rest is absurd packaging."

Its vast cast of oceanic creatures included SpongeBob's starfish sidekick Patrick, his tightwad boss Mr. Krabs, and his always-exasperated neighbor Squidward Tentacles.

Hillenburg's undersea world of Bikini Bottom was a realm like no other, real or fictional. SpongeBob can play his nose like a flute and could not possibly be happier to work his fast-seafood job of flipping Krabby Patties.

But he has his troubles, too. He constantly fails his boat-driving test, forcing his frightened blowfish teacher to inflate. In one episode he suffers a broken butt and is afraid to leave his pineapple home for days.

"I don't want to face my fears," SpongeBob, voiced by Tom Kenny, says in another episode. "I'm afraid of them!"

Kenny presented Hillenburg with a special honor at the Daytime Emmy Awards in April, and said in his speech that Hillenburg himself is the embodiment of his main character.

"SpongeBob's vocal cords might be mine," Kenny said. "But SpongeBob's playful spirit of gentle anarchy, his humor and the joy he takes in his vibrant, colorful, music-filled world come directly, directly, 100 percent from my good buddy, Mr. Stephen Hillenburg."

Born at his father's army post in Lawton, Oklahoma, Hillenburg graduated from Humboldt State University in California in 1984 with a degree in natural resource planning with a marine emphasis, and went on to teach marine biology at the Orange County Marine Institute.

While there he drew a comic, "The Intertidal Zone," that he used as a teaching tool. It featured anthropomorphic ocean creatures that were precursors to the characters on "SpongeBob."

Hillenburg shifted to drawing and earned a master of fine arts degree in animation from the California Institute of the Arts in 1992.

He worked on the Nickelodeon show "Rocko's Modern Life," from 1993 to 1996 before he began to build SpongeBob's universe, which showed off his knowledge of marine life and willingness to throw all the details out the window.

"We know that fish don't walk," he told the AP in 2001. "And if you know much about sponges, you know that living sponges aren't square."

The show was an immediate hit that has lost no momentum in the nearly 20 years since its creation and helped define the culture of Nickelodeon.

"He was a beloved friend and long-time creative partner to everyone at Nickelodeon," the network's statement said. "His utterly original characters and the world of Bikini Bottom will long stand as a reminder of the value of optimism, friendship and the limitless power of imagination."

Its nearly 250 episodes have won four Emmy Awards and led to an endless line of merchandise to rival any other pop cultural phenomenon of the 2000s.

"When you set out to do a show about a sponge, you can't anticipate this kind of craze," Hillenburg told the AP in 2002.

In 2004, the show shifted to the big screen with "The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie" and a 2015 sequel, "The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water." David Bowie, Johnny Depp and Scarlett Johansson are among the dozens of major stars who provided guest voices to the show or movies.

Intensely involved in every aspect of the show initially, Hillenburg after the 2004 film stepped back into an executive producer role on the show, where he remained for the rest of his life.

A musical stage adaptation debuted on Broadway in 2017, with music from such stars as Steven Tyler, Sara Bareilles and John Legend. It earned 12 Tony Award nominations, including one for best performance by a leading actor for Ethan Slater.

"I am heartbroken to hear of the passing of Stephen Hillenburg," Slater said in an email Tuesday. "Through working on 'SpongeBob,' I got to know him not only as a creative genius, but as a truly generous and kind person. He warmly embraced us on Broadway as the newest members of his wonderful 'SpongeBob' family, and made it so clear from the get-go why he is so beloved: genuine kindness."

Hillenburg is survived by his wife of 20 years Karen Hillenburg, son Clay, mother Nancy Hillenburg, and

a brother, Brian Kelly Hillenburg.

Follow Andrew Dalton on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/andyjamesdalton> .

'Tis the season for more TV Christmas movies than ever

By ALICIA RANCILIO, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Have you heard the one about the girl who didn't care about Christmas but found herself in a small town for the holidays surrounded by decorations, cookies and carolers, and found a new boyfriend and her Christmas spirit by Dec. 25? Hallmark Channel has, and they're airing 22 original movies this year built around plots similar to that. The premise may vary, but the themes are the same and Hallmark is very OK with that.

"Yes, you can pretty much guarantee that when you meet our two leads in the first 10 minutes of a Hallmark movie, it's guaranteed that they will end up together," said Michelle Vicary, the executive vice president of programming and network publicity for Crown Media and Family Networks.

While regular network prime-time programming tends to take a hiatus during the holiday season, it's Hallmark Channel's time to shine. Their holiday movies are so popular, they begin airing Christmas movies Oct. 26 and wrap up Jan. 1.

"When viewers kept telling us by virtue of the ratings that they wanted more (Christmas), it was a natural to extend the time that we were programming for them," said Vicary.

Hallmark sells shirts that say, "All I want to do is drink hot cocoa and watch Hallmark Channel." This year there's also an app called Countdown to Christmas to keep track of the programming on Hallmark Channel and its sister channel, Hallmark Movies and Mysteries (which offers more spiritual fare). There's an option to set alerts on your phone and add the movie start times to your calendar. On launch day, it had 140,000 downloads.

This year, Hallmark Channel has films starring LeAnn Rimes, Kellie Pickler and Patti LaBelle, but the network also features recurring actresses, dubbed the "Christmas queens" internally by Hallmark, who front a new movie a season on the network: Candace Cameron Bure, Lacey Chabert, Danica McKellar and Lori Loughlin.

Bure reigns supreme. "For the last three years she has had the No. 1 Christmas movie on the Hallmark Channel with very, very stiff competition from Chabert and Loughlin," Vicary said.

Bure said the reaction to her Hallmark Christmas movies encourages her to keep making them but also find interesting ways to tell stories that fit the formula.

"It's a big deal to decide which movie to do," she said. "The competitive side of me says, 'Hey, I want to keep topping those charts and helping the company improve and helping my numbers.'" This year's film, "A Shoe Addict's Christmas," is based on a novel by best-selling author Beth Harbison.

Loughlin, who developed her own film for Hallmark this year, admits to also trying to push the envelope a little bit.

"They definitely have a formula and you do have to follow it. If you don't, they rein you back in. As actors we want a little bit of drama so you try to put some highs and lows in there, but you can't argue with (Hallmark). Their format is 100 percent working."

The biggest motivation for returning to Hallmark year after year is the fans, said Bure. She recalled a letter from an older man whose wife had passed away after more than 50 years of marriage. She loved Christmas and would decorate for the season early, and particularly loved Bure's Christmas movies. He forced himself to not only keep up his wife's tradition of decorating but also sat down to watch Bure's movie that year because it's what they would have done as a couple, and it made him feel closer to her.

"It's more than ratings. It's more than a cheesy holiday spirit. There's a deep meaning behind (these movies) for some people. I love all of them, and that's why I keep doing them," Bure said.

Chabert, who is also known for roles in "Party of Five" and "Mean Girls," said she considers it "an honor" to keep making Christmas movies for Hallmark.

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 142 ~ 44 of 47

"I've been in this business a long time but the fans of Hallmark are some of the most devoted and some of the most kind," she said.

She also said the movies speak to important themes: "Disconnecting from the world, spending time with family, and just being in touch with what's most important and I think that's always a good reminder."

McKellar agreed: "I really believe these movies encourage connection," she said, joking that she can't count the number of times she's said "family traditions" in her films, adding that's the point. "It's not about ratings. It's about sticking to a set of values that the brand holds dear."

She's especially excited about her offering this year, "Christmas at Grand Valley," because it reunites her with her former "The Wonder Years" co-star, Dan Lauria, who plays her dad in the movie.

Hallmark Channel isn't the only network airing holiday fare. Lifetime does it, too, and begins airing mostly holiday programming after Nov. 21. Films this year include "Every Day is Christmas" starring Toni Braxton. They also have their own crop of "go to" talent, including Tatyana Ali of "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air" and Melissa Joan Hart of "Sabrina the Teenage Witch." Tia Mowry-Hardrict of "Sister Sister" has the distinction of appearing on both Hallmark Channel and Lifetime with new movies this season. She stars in Lifetime's "My Christmas Inn" and "A Gingerbread Romance" on Hallmark Channel.

"There's certain talent that our audience really connects with around the holidays," said Meghan Hooper, a senior vice president at Lifetime. "We like bringing back some of the same performers like Tatyana Ali that viewers grew up with on 'The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air.' They now see her on our air year after year. It's leaning into that comfort and nostalgia."

Hart's "A Very Nutty Christmas" debuts on Lifetime on Nov. 30. "I don't want to make Christmas movies just my thing," said Hart. "But it's the only place where TV movies still thrive. ... Just having something to watch that's uplifting and light and romantic. I think it's something really missing in theaters and mainstream television these days."

Netflix has also followed suit with its own original holiday movies. Last year it offered "A Christmas Prince" starring Rose McIver and this year there's a sequel, "A Christmas Prince: The Royal Wedding." They've also added new movies starring Kurt Russell, Kat Graham and Vanessa Hudgens.

Online:

<http://www.hallmarkchannel.com/christmas>

<https://www.mylifetime.com/its-a-really-really-cozy-christmas>

Follow Alicia Rancilio online at <http://www.twitter.com/aliciar>

US to appeal judge's order barring asylum restrictions

By NOMAAN MERCHANT, Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — President Donald Trump's administration on Tuesday said it would appeal a judge's order barring it from enforcing a ban on asylum for any immigrants who illegally cross the U.S.-Mexico border, after the president's attack on the judge prompted an extraordinary rebuke from the nation's chief justice.

The Justice Department filed a notice Tuesday saying it will appeal the order to the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. It also asked the judge to stay his order pending the appeal.

Trump criticized the 9th Circuit last week as biased and dismissed the judge who ruled against him — an appointee of Trump's predecessor — as an "Obama judge."

Chief Justice John Roberts responded with a statement that the federal judiciary doesn't have "Obama judges or Trump judges, Bush judges or Clinton judges." It was the first time Roberts has hinted at any criticism of the president, as judges ordinarily avoid making any public statements on politics.

Roberts and the rest of the Supreme Court may end up deciding the asylum case. The 9th Circuit, seen as liberal leaning, has already ruled against Trump in several major immigration cases.

U.S. District Judge Jon S. Tigar in San Francisco issued a temporary restraining order Nov. 19 against

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 142 ~ 45 of 47

Trump's Nov. 9 proclamation that automatically barred anyone who crossed the U.S.-Mexico border between official ports of entry from seeking asylum .

Trump issued the proclamation in response to the caravans of migrants approaching the border that he's claimed are a national security threat.

But Tigar sided with legal groups who sued hours after the proclamation was issued. The groups argued that federal law unambiguously says immigrants in the United States can request asylum regardless of whether they entered the country lawfully.

"Whatever the scope of the President's authority, he may not rewrite the immigration laws to impose a condition that Congress has expressly forbidden," the judge said in his order.

In its request for a stay Tuesday, the Justice Department said Tigar's order "immediately harms the government and jeopardizes important national interests."

Lee Gelernt, a lawyer for the American Civil Liberties Union, said in a statement that the group would "vigorously oppose the stay request, so that people's lives are not put in danger."

In issuing the proclamation, Trump invoked the same national security powers that he used to impose a travel ban on citizens of countries with overwhelmingly Muslim populations.

The 9th Circuit ruled the administration couldn't withhold money from so-called "sanctuary cities," end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program for younger immigrants brought to the U.S. by their parents or impose the travel ban.

In the case of the travel ban, the Supreme Court ultimately reversed the 9th Circuit's decision when it ruled that Trump had the authority to impose it.

Asylum is intended for people who have fled their countries of origin because they have suffered persecution or fear that they will be persecuted if they are forced to return.

Crossing the U.S.-Mexico border between ports of entry is a federal crime, but that does not typically preclude someone from requesting asylum. Tigar noted that federal law says someone may seek asylum if they have arrived in the United States, "whether or not at a designated port of arrival."

By the estimates of the Department of Homeland Security, around 70,000 people a year claim asylum after crossing illegally. DHS alleges that many of those people make false claims and take advantage of loopholes in the system.

Meanwhile, at least 3,000 people have arrived in Tijuana, Mexico, across the border from San Diego, California, with hopes of requesting asylum at a port of entry there. DHS has said it's prepared for as many as 10,000 or more people to arrive in various caravans.

U.S. agents on Sunday fired tear gas at hundreds of migrants after some of them tried to get through the fence separating the two countries.

Asian stocks mixed after wobbly trading on Wall Street

By YURI KAGEYAMA, AP Business Writer

TOKYO (AP) — Asian shares were mixed Wednesday after a wobbly day of trading on Wall Street, and uncertainty loomed as investors looked toward the G-20 meeting of world leaders later in the week.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 rose 0.9 percent in morning trading to 22,140.95, while Australia's S&P/ASX 200 edged down 0.2 percent to 5,717.50. South Korea's Kospi was little changed, inching down to 2,098.23. Hong Kong's Hang Seng added 0.6 percent to 26,498.33, while the Shanghai Composite gained 0.3 percent to 2,581.64. Southeast Asian benchmarks were also mixed, with shares down in the Philippines but higher in Indonesia.

WALL STREET: The S&P 500 index rose 8.72 points, or 0.3 percent, to 2,682.17. The index jumped 1.6 percent Monday. The Dow Jones Industrial Average added 108.49 points, or 0.4 percent, to 24,748.73. The Nasdaq composite inched up 0.85 points to 7,082.80 after surging 2.1 percent a day earlier.

EYES ON G-20: World leaders are arriving in Buenos Aires for this week's G-20 summit, where a variety of issues are gaining attention, from trade worries to the presence of Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. His possible involvement is under scrutiny in the slaying of Washington Post columnist

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 142 ~ 46 of 47

Jamal Khashoggi.

TRADE WORRIES: Worries remain about pan-Pacific trade tensions, which could hurt Asian economic growth. President Donald Trump told the Wall Street Journal this week he expects to raise tariffs on \$200 billion in Chinese imports on Jan. 1. His administration recently imposed a 10 percent tax on those imports, and at the start of the year that's scheduled to rise to 25 percent. Trump has also threatened to place tariffs on all remaining U.S. imports from China.

THE QUOTE: "Traders had been hoping that we would have seen an improved tone between the two powers by now," said Fiona Cincotta, senior market analyst at City Index, about U.S.-China talks. "Any market optimism of easing trade tensions is misplaced."

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude rose 33 cents to \$51.80 per barrel. It fell 0.1 percent to \$51.56 a barrel in New York Tuesday. Brent crude, the international standard, added 34 cents to \$60.74 a barrel.

CURRENCIES: The dollar edged up to 113.80 yen from 113.48 yen late Tuesday in Asia. The euro felt to \$1.1292 from \$1.1340.

AP Markets Writer Marley Jay, who contributed to this report, can be reached at <http://twitter.com/MarleyJayAP>

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

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

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, Nov. 28, the 332nd day of 2018. There are 33 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 28, 1943, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Soviet leader Josef Stalin began conferring in Tehran during World War II.

On this date:

In 1520, Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan reached the Pacific Ocean after passing through the South American strait that now bears his name.

In 1861, the Confederate Congress admitted Missouri as the 12th state of the Confederacy after Missouri's disputed secession from the Union.

In 1905, Sinn Fein (shin fayn) was founded in Dublin.

In 1907, future movie producer Louis B. Mayer opened his first movie theater, in Haverhill, Massachusetts.

In 1909, Sergei Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 3 in D minor, Op. 30 had its world premiere in New York, with Rachmaninoff at the piano.

In 1942, fire engulfed the Coconut Grove nightclub in Boston, killing 492 people in the deadliest nightclub blaze ever. (The cause of the rapidly-spreading fire, which began in the basement, is in dispute; one theory is that a busboy accidentally ignited an artificial palm tree while using a lighted match to fix a light bulb.)

In 1961, Ernie Davis of Syracuse University became the first African-American to be named winner of the Heisman Trophy.

In 1964, the United States launched the space probe Mariner 4 on a course toward Mars, which it flew past in July 1965, sending back pictures of the red planet.

In 1975, President Ford nominated Federal Judge John Paul Stevens to the U-S Supreme Court seat vacated by William O. Douglas.

In 1979, an Air New Zealand DC-10 en route to the South Pole crashed into a mountain in Antarctica, killing all 257 people aboard.

In 1990, Margaret Thatcher resigned as British prime minister during an audience with Queen Elizabeth II, who then conferred the premiership on John Major.

In 2001, Enron Corp., once the world's largest energy trader, collapsed after would-be rescuer Dynegy

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 142 ~ 47 of 47

Inc. backed out of an \$8.4 billion takeover deal. (Enron filed for bankruptcy protection four days later.)

Ten years ago: Indian forces fired grenades at the landmark Taj Mahal hotel, the last stand of suspected Muslim militants, just hours after elite commandos stormed a Jewish outreach center and found six hostages dead. (The 60-hour rampage in Mumbai came to an end the following day.) Super Bowl hero Plaxico Burress (PLEK'-sih-koh BUR'-ihs) accidentally shot himself in the right thigh with a gun tucked into his waistband at a New York nightclub (Burress was later sentenced to two years in prison for a weapons conviction).

Five years ago: China said it had sent warplanes into its newly declared maritime air defense zone, days after the U.S., South Korea and Japan all sent flights through the airspace in defiance of rules Beijing said it had imposed in the East China Sea.

One year ago: A Libyan militant was convicted in federal court in Washington of terrorism charges stemming from the 2012 Benghazi attacks that killed the U.S. ambassador and three other Americans, but the jury found Ahmed Abu Khattala not guilty of murder. (Khattala was sentenced the following June to 22 years in prison.) Jay-Z led the 2018 Grammy Award nominations as the top four categories were heavily dominated by rap and R&B artists.

Today's Birthdays: Recording executive Berry Gordy Jr. is 89. Former Sen. Gary Hart, D-Colo., is 82. U.S. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross is 81. Singer-songwriter Bruce Channel is 78. Singer Randy Newman is 75. CBS News correspondent Susan Spencer is 72. Movie director Joe Dante is 71. Former "Late Show" orchestra leader Paul Shaffer is 69. Actor Ed Harris is 68. Former NASA astronaut Barbara Morgan is 67. Actress S. Epatha (eh-PAY'-thah) Merkerson is 66. Former Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff is 65. Country singer Kristine Arnold (Sweethearts of the Rodeo) is 62. Actor Judd Nelson is 59. Movie director Alfonso Cuarón (kwahr-OHN') is 57. Rock musician Matt Cameron is 56. Actress Jane Sibbett is 56. Comedian Jon Stewart is 56. Actress Garcelle Beauvais (gar-SEHL' boh-VAY') is 52. Actor/comedian Stephenie (cq) Weir is 51. Rhythm-and-blues singer Dawn Robinson is 50. Actress Gina Tognoni is 45. Hip-hop musician apl.de.ap (Black Eyed Peas) is 44. Actor Malcolm Goodwin is 43. Actor Ryan Kwanten is 42. Actress Aimee Garcia is 40. Rapper Chamillionaire is 39. Actor Daniel Henney is 39. Rock musician Rostam Batmanglij (bot-man-GLEESH') is 35. Rock singer-keyboardist Tyler Glenn (Neon Trees) is 35. Actress Mary Elizabeth Winstead is 34. R&B singer Trey Songz is 34. Actress Scarlett Pomers is 30. Actor-rapper Bryshere Gray is 25.

Thought for Today: "Happiness is a sort of atmosphere you can live in sometimes when you're lucky. Joy is a light that fills you with hope and faith and love." — Adela Rogers St. Johns, American journalist (1894-1988).