

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 1 of 44

- 1- Frost Construction Ad
- 1- Recycling Trailer
- 2- Hunter Schaller Page
- 3- Bingo Winner
- 3- Help Wanted Ad
- 3- DPS plans checkpoints for December
- 4- State Library chosen as a NASA@ My Library partner
- 5- Today in Weather History
- 6- Today's Forecast
- 7- Yesterday's Weather
- 7- National Weather map
- 7- Today's Weather Almanac
- 8- Daily Devotional
- 9- 2018 Groton Community Events
- 10- News from the Associated Press

CLOSED: Recycling Trailer in Groton

The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave. It takes cardboard, papers and aluminum cans.



Groton Area Schedule of Events

Thursday, December 6, 2018

Big Question Debate at Watertown High School
7:00pm: MS/HS Christmas Concert at GHS Gymnasium

Saturday, December 8, 2018

Ringneck LD and PF Debate at Aberdeen Central High School
Robotics at Rapid City Stevens High School
10:00am: Wrestling: Boys Varsity Tournament vs. LaMoure/Litchville-Marion @ LaMoure High School
2:00pm: Basketball: Girls Varsity Double Header vs. Leola-Frederick @ Frederick High School (JV Girls game at 2pm JV Boys game at 3pm Varsity Girls game at 4:30pm Varsity Boys game at 6pm)

Sunday, December 9, 2018

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

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 2 of 44

FUNDRAISER

ALLFORHUNT shirts: Defy all odds

December 3-7, 2018

Custom shirt made to help a \$15,000 goal on GOFUNDME.com that has not been reached yet, please help us reach our goal. Thanks.



	Men's	youth	Women's	youth
S			S	
M			M	
L			L	
XL			XL	
XXL			XXL	

\$24/shirt

*20/shirt if you order more than one

Name _____

Thank you for helping a great cause. Your money will go toward Hunter's family. You can also donate money at <https://www.gofundme.com/allforhunt>.

Apply your form of payment with this form to the office, or business office at Groton Area High School by Friday, December, 7.

A GoFundMe page has been established for the Schaller family, started by Peyton Johnson. Thus far, in nine days, \$11,880 has been raised of the \$15,000 goal. To donate, [click here](#).



#allforHunt Fundraiser - Keychains \$10
All proceeds to go to the family. You can order at the Groton High School office, Professional Management Services, Lori's Pharmacy or BK Custom T's



ALL FOR HUNT



HUNTING FOR A BIGGER REASON

I can do all things through Christ
Philippians 4:13
who strengthens me.



This is a Fundraiser for Hunter Schaller and his family organized by Peyton Johnson and family. Designed by Peyton Johnson.

Orders are due by December 19th and will be ready the week of January 7th.

[Click here to place an order](#)

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 3 of 44

Bingo Winner!

Finally, after weeks and weeks of Bingo, Shelly Lerew was the winner of over \$12,000 at Bingo Wednesday evening in Groton.

Help Wanted

Looking for full-time and part-time labor in Hecla area. Pressure washing livestock trailers and hog barns. Also working in hog barns as needed, training is provided. Must be able to lift at least 50 lbs. Would require some evenings. Must have good work ethic and references. Full-time benefits of health insurance and 401K, part-time has 401K. Contact Cole at 994-2201.

DPS Plans Checkpoints for December

PIERRE, S.D. – State Department of Public Safety officials want you to celebrate the holidays, but be careful in doing so.

To discourage people from trying to drive after having too much to drink at a holiday celebration, the department has planned 19 sobriety checkpoints during the month. The checkpoints will be held in 15 different counties.

Monthly checkpoints are funded by the South Dakota Office of Highway Safety and conducted by the South Dakota Highway Patrol. The checkpoints are designed to discourage motorists from drinking and then driving.

Checkpoints will be held in the counties of: Brookings, Brown, Beadle, Brule, Butte, Charles Mix, Clay, Codington, Lincoln, Meade, Pennington, Roberts, Spink, Stanley and Yankton.

Both the Office of Highway Safety and the Highway Patrol are part of the Department of Public Safety.

State Library chosen as a NASA@ My Library partner

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota State Library has been selected to receive resources, training and support through NASA@ My Library, a STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education initiative that aims to increase and enhance STEM learning opportunities for library patrons across the country. South Dakota was one of 14 state libraries to receive the NASA@ My Library grant.

NASA@ My Library strives to engage diverse communities in STEM learning, including communities that are underrepresented in STEM fields. The educational support materials and outreach opportunities provided are part of the STAR Library Network (www.starnetlibraries.org), a hands-on learning program for libraries and their communities.

“I am thrilled that we can join with NASA in bringing hands-on informal science education materials and programming to library patrons, including students throughout the state,” said South Dakota State Librarian Daria Bossman.

Over the next year, the grant will be used to support the following:

- Professional development – State Library staff will offer trainings to school and public librarians to share resources, insights, best practices and lessons learned from participating in the NASA@ My Library initiative. Attendees of these trainings will have the opportunity to earn continuing education credit.
- Enrich library experiences – State Library staff will engage space science experts and volunteers in public library programming through NASA’s Solar System Ambassadors and Night Sky Network.
- Hands-on activities – The State Library will promote and circulate multiple copies of NASA@ My Library earth and space science kits to public libraries. These are designed for people of all ages, with a focus on underserved communities. One kit will include a Lakota perspective, featuring both fiction and scientific literature and information on traditional Lakota star gazing. Several other kits will be adapted for use by the blind and visually impaired with one kit going to the South Dakota School for the Blind.

Earlier this year, the South Dakota State Library was accepted as an affiliate member of the South Dakota Space Consortium. The State Library is already working collaboratively with the South Dakota Discovery Center of Pierre to bring quality programs to rural communities and small towns in South Dakota. Bossman added, “This is an excellent opportunity for public libraries to collaborate with their local school districts. The State Library will encourage and support efforts to bring quality STEM programming to rural areas.” For more information, contact the State Library at 1-800-423-6665.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 5 of 44

Today in Weather History

December 6, 1969: An unusual period of almost continuous snow began in southern Minnesota and eastern South Dakota on the afternoon of the 5th and continued until late on the 10th. The Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport reported 88 2/3 consecutive hours of snowfall, which amounted to 14.2 inches total. The snowfall was 3-9 inches in the western half of Minnesota, with slightly lesser amounts in eastern South Dakota. Two inches snow fell at Summit and Sisseton; 2.5 inches at Watertown and Waubay; 3.0 inches at Clear Lake; 3.1 inches at Aberdeen; and 4.0 inches at Artichoke Lake, Webster, and Milbank.

December 6, 1913: A snowstorm from December 1st through the 6th dumps a record total of 45.7 inches in Denver, Colorado. This storm produced the most snow ever recorded in a single Denver snowstorm.

December 6, 1970: The National Christmas tree in 1970 was a 78 foot spruce from South Dakota. On the way to Washington, the train carrying the tree derailed twice in Nebraska. On the weekend before the lighting event, the tree toppled in gusty winds and required new branches to fill it out.

1886 - A great snowstorm hit the southern Appalachian Mountains. The three day storm produced 25 inches at Rome GA, 33 inches at Asheville NC, and 42 inches in the mountains. Montgomery AL received a record eleven inches of snow. Columbia SC received one to two inches of sleet. (4th-6th) (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1970 - A windstorm toppled the National Christmas Tree at the White House. (Sandra and TI Richard Sanders - 1987)

1987 - Another in a series of storms brought high winds and heavy rain to the northwestern U.S., with heavy snow in some of the higher elevations. In northern California, Crescent City was drenched with 2.58 inches of rain, and winds gusted to 90 mph. Up to fourteen inches of snow blanketed the mountains of northern California, and snow and high winds created blizzard conditions around Lake Tahoe NV. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - The morning low at Bismarck, ND, was eleven degrees warmer than the record low of 25 degrees at Meridian MS, and during the afternoon half a dozen cities in the north central and northwestern U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date, including Alpena MI with a reading of 57 degrees. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Heavy snow blanketed the Central Rocky Mountain Region. Totals in the southern foothills of Colorado ranged up to 17 inches at Rye. Arctic air invaded the north central U.S. Lincoln NE, which reported a record high of 69 degrees the previous afternoon, was 35 degrees colder. International Falls MN was the cold spot in the nation with a morning low of 9 degrees below zero, and temperatures in northern Minnesota hovered near zero through the daylight hours. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 6 of 44

Today

Tonight

Friday

Friday
Night

Saturday



Flurries then
Mostly Sunny



Partly Cloudy



Sunny



Mostly Clear



Mostly Sunny

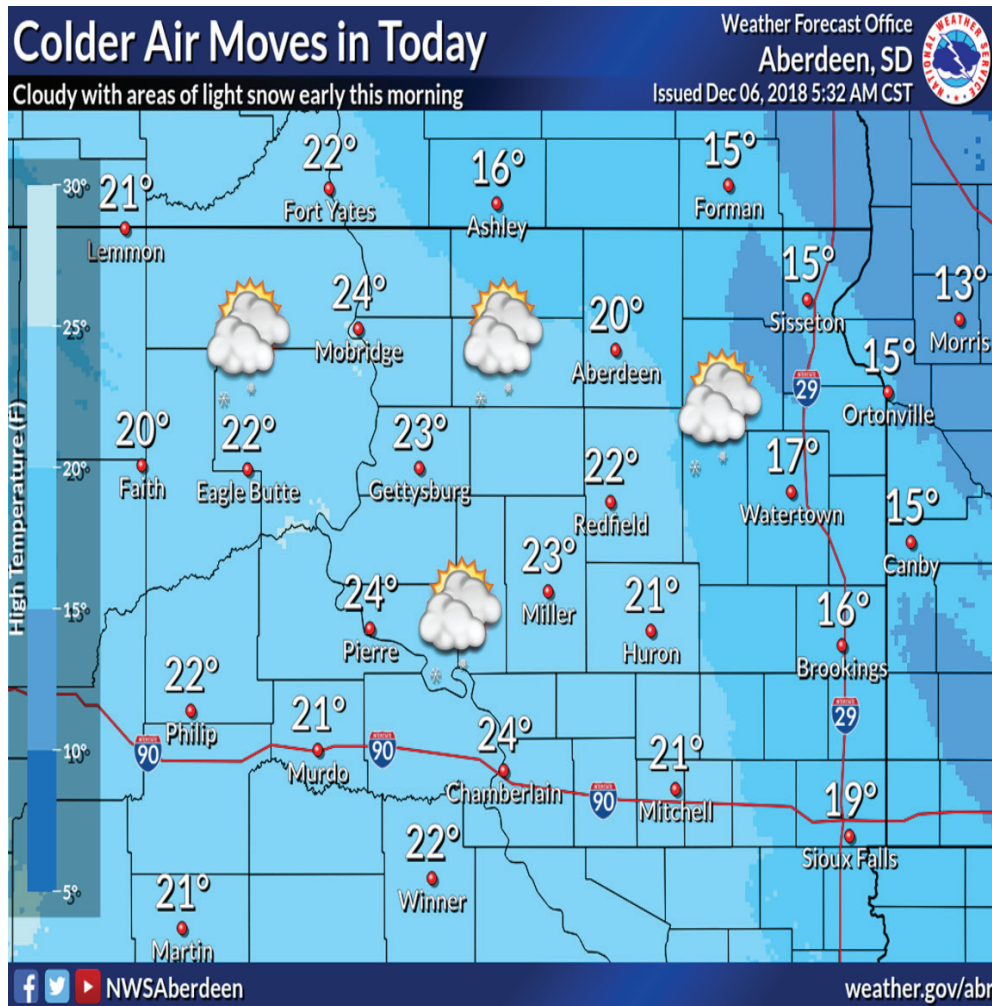
High: 16 °F

Low: 4 °F

High: 24 °F

Low: 8 °F

High: 26 °F



Published on: 12/06/2018 at 5:43AM

Morning clouds and areas of light snow will gradually give way to increasing sunshine later in the day. Temperatures will be colder than what we saw on Wednesday, with highs ranging from the teens east, to the 20s over central South Dakota.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 7 of 44

Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 26 °F at 1:29 PM

Low Outside Temp: 10 °F at 6:26 AM

High Gust: 18 mph at 2:36 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 69° in 1939

Record Low: -30° in 1972

Average High: 28°F

Average Low: 9°F

Average Precip in Dec.: 0.09

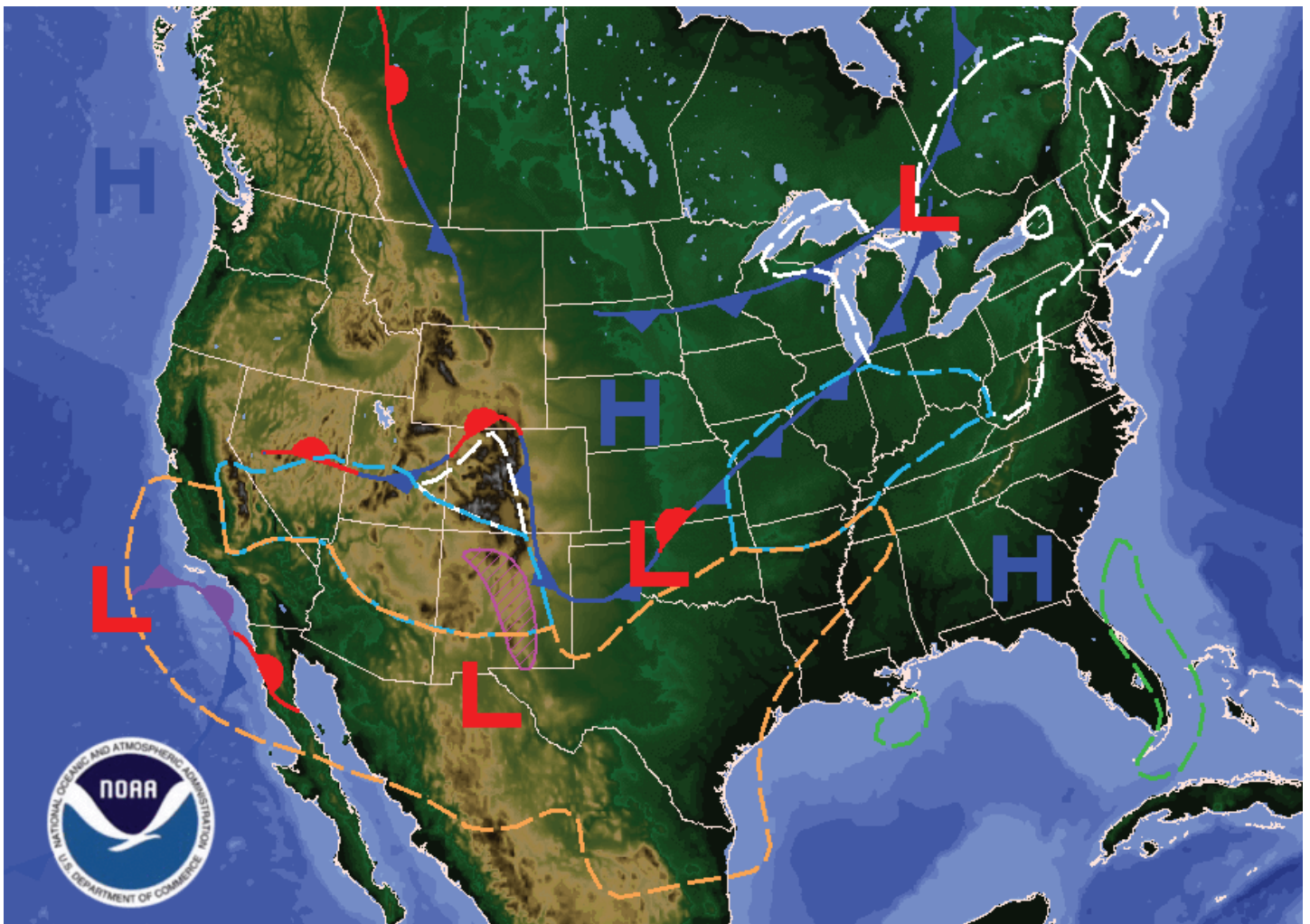
Precip to date in Dec.: 0.00

Average Precip to date: 21.29

Precip Year to Date: 15.81

Sunset Tonight: 4:51 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 8:00 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Thu, Dec 06, 2018, issued 4:33 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)



NEVER MIND, SANTA...

Chris was sitting in Santa's lap and going over a long list of presents that he wanted for Christmas. I want a bicycle, he said, and I also want a wagon, a chemistry set, a telescope, an electric train, a football, a Kindle FIRE and pair of roller blades.

That's a long list, said Santa. I'll have to check carefully to see if you were a good boy.

After thinking for a moment Chris said, Don't bother, Santa, I'll just settle for the roller blades.

Not many of us would be able to stand a really thorough investigation to discover if we were worthy of receiving a long list of gifts. We'd probably be like Chris and settle very quickly for very little. Not many of us would want to have someone investigate our lives and then decide if we deserved a gift or not. We would be nervous if not completely frightened.

But God is so very different. He knows everything there is to know about us and still offers us the most precious gift He has: His Son.

Now, no one is likely to die for a good person, said Paul, though someone might be willing to die for someone who is especially good. But God showed His great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. Christ: the source of eternal life.

There you have it. It is not about whether or not we are good or deserving of eternal life through Him. It is because of the great love that God has for us.

Prayer: May we realize during this Holy Season, our Father, the great Gift we have because of Your love. May Your Son be our main interest and attraction this year. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Romans 5:5-11

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

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 10 of 44

News from the Associated Press

Developer files 2nd suit against Rapid City over water main

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A prominent developer has filed a second lawsuit against Rapid City over a leaky water main.

Hani Shafai, of Dream Design International, claims in the lawsuit filed in Pennington County that a city waterline leak has significantly impacted the cost to develop the Orchard Meadows Subdivision. The suit seeks an unspecified amount in damages due to the leak's impact on the 100-acre subdivision.

Shafai argues the leak of "at least 500 to 600 gallons per minute" continued for years before being discovered and shut off by the city.

The Rapid City Journal says the second complaint follows a similar suit filed by Shafai last month claiming that the same waterline leak created wetlands on another Shafai development, Johnson Ranch Subdivision, and delayed development of that site.

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

SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Dakota Cash

01-05-23-27-33

(one, five, twenty-three, twenty-seven, thirty-three)

Estimated jackpot: \$20,000

Lotto America

09-15-33-40-48, Star Ball: 9, ASB: 3

(nine, fifteen, thirty-three, forty, forty-eight; Star Ball: nine; ASB: three)

Estimated jackpot: \$12.23 million

Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: \$226 million

Powerball

09-11-36-37-38, Powerball: 11, Power Play: 5

(nine, eleven, thirty-six, thirty-seven, thirty-eight; Powerball: eleven; Power Play: five)

Estimated jackpot: \$200 million

Wednesday's Scores

By The Associated Press

GIRLS PREP BASKETBALL

Dakota Christian 64, Marty Indian 59

Some high school basketball scores provided by Scorestream.com, <https://scorestream.com/>

Incoming South Dakota AG fills leadership roles

YANKTON, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota Attorney General-elect Jason Ravensborg has filled three top positions on his team.

Ravensborg said Wednesday that Charles McGuigan will stay on as chief deputy, Faulk County State's Attorney Timothy Bormann will be chief of staff and Brule County State's Attorney David Natvig will serve as director of the state Division of Criminal Investigation.

McGuigan has been chief deputy since 2007. Ravensborg says they are all ready to work for South Dakota.

Ravensborg is taking over for outgoing Attorney General Marty Jackley, who couldn't run again because of term limits.

South Dakota Senate Republicans select leadership

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota Senate Republicans have nominated Brock Greenfield to serve as president pro tempore and elected Kris Langer as their majority leader.

Senate Republicans also voted this week to choose Jim Bolin as assistant majority leader. They selected Sens. Bob Ewing, Joshua Klumb, Al Novstrup and Jordan Youngberg as whips.

The full Senate will vote on Greenfield's nomination on Jan. 8.

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

South Dakota widow fights for husband's prison guard uniform

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The widow of a South Dakota State Penitentiary guard who was killed seven years ago by inmates during a failed escape is fighting to get her husband's corrections uniform.

Lynette Johnson requested at a hearing Wednesday that the belongings of her late husband, correctional officer Ron Johnson, be returned to her since they're no longer needed as evidence for the crimes committed by multiple inmates during the April 2011 escape attempt.

Circuit Court Judge Bradley Zell told Lynette Johnson that the uniform her husband was wearing when he was killed belongs to the state's Department of Corrections, the Argus Leader reported. Zell turned over Ron Johnson's shoes and belt because he had purchased them. But the judge said he was bound by state statute to release the uniform to its rightful owner, which was determined to be the corrections department.

Ron Johnson wasn't supposed to be working on the day of the failed escape, which was also his 63rd birthday. Johnson was beaten with a pipe and his head was covered in plastic wrap. Inmate Eric Robert put on Johnson's uniform and pushed a cart loaded with boxes, carrying another inmate hidden inside, in attempt to flee the prison undetected. The men reached the first of a two-door gate before being apprehended. Robert was executed in 2012.

Lynette Johnson pleaded with the court to release the uniform to her family.

"It's the last thing (Ron wore) when Ron was alive," Johnson said. "It has his blood on it. It is Ron's."

But Zell said he didn't have the authority and directed her to speak to Corrections Department Secretary Dennis Kaemingk.

"The uniform he died in is not Ron," Zell said. "You, your children, your grandchildren, family, friends, that's Ron."

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

Kristi Noem working on state budget, setting up cabinet team

By JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — As Gov. Dennis Daugaard says his farewells and winds down his administration, Kristi Noem is putting together a state budget proposal and planning the policy agenda for her first legislative

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 12 of 44

session as South Dakota's governor.

Noem told The Associated Press this week that she plans to unveil her budget proposal in January. But after a campaign in which Noem released more than 10 policy plans on topics ranging from agriculture to government transparency, she's staying silent for now about her legislative priorities for the 2019 session that convenes in January.

The governor-elect said the process of looking at policies, drafting legislation and working with lawmakers will start in the coming weeks.

"Each of those policy platforms that I laid out were pretty specific in some of the reforms that I want to see and also where I believe that we need to find opportunities to partner in new ways to deliver better results," said Noem, who noted that all likely won't be accomplished in her first session.

Noem said she's looking for opportunities to grow jobs and economic development and invest in the state's biggest challenges, including drugs and mental health. After transparency emerged as a major focus in her campaign against Democrat Billie Sutton, Noem said she believes she'll propose sunshine legislation this session but doesn't yet have bills drawn up.

The incoming governor said she's focused on putting together a budget that balances without raising taxes. She said it won't rely on potential new state revenues after a U.S. Supreme Court ruling in South Dakota's favor opened the door for consumers to see sales tax on more online purchases from out-of-state companies.

South Dakota officials celebrated the decision, and the state on Nov. 1 started requiring many internet retailers outside South Dakota to collect the taxes.

"We will not be spending dollars that we don't know for sure will be here," Noem said of her budget proposal.

Daugaard on Tuesday gave a farewell address and outlined his final budget plan, proposing spending increases for education, state employees and Medicaid providers. Noem said there may be a few changes from Daugaard's plan for K-12, Medicaid providers and public workers, but she didn't anticipate a major shift from his proposal. She'll be working on her budget for the rest of December.

In a statement after the address, Noem said she would work with lawmakers to strengthen communities and families while maintaining the state's AAA credit rating.

Noem will take office Jan. 5 and will give her first State of the State address to the Republican-controlled Legislature on Jan. 8, the first day of the 2019 session. Noem said her administration is setting up its team and cabinet officials.

Noem in late November named her chief of staff and filled key leadership roles for finance and communications. Not long after, she announced a slew of cabinet appointments and a talent search for seven major posts, including secretaries of agriculture, education and social services and commissioner of the Governor's Office of Economic Development.

Police: Armed man threatens officers, woman in Mitchell

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — Police say they've arrested a man armed with a knife who threatened officers and a woman in Mitchell.

Authorities say the 40-year-old man entered the Department of Public Safety building Monday afternoon and threatened three police officers in the lobby and a woman who tried to calm him.

The Argus Leader says officers drew their guns, used a stun gun on the man and he was taken into custody and placed on a mental health hold in the Davison County Jail.

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

3 arrested in shooting that injured teen in Sioux Falls

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Three people have been arrested in a shooting that injured a teenage girl in Sioux Falls.

Police say two groups of teens were in a conflict and decided to meet near an apartment complex Monday night. Police spokesman Sam Clemens says one of five suspects shot the driver of a car, a 17-year-old girl, in the leg. She drove to a gas station and called police.

Clemens says the five suspects left in a car and stopped briefly when another group of teens began following them in an SUV. He says the suspected shooter struck the back of the SUV with a gun, breaking the window, before taking off again.

The five fled on foot when police caught up with their vehicle. Police dogs helped track three who were arrested. Two are still at large.

Trump odd man out as presidents assemble for Bush funeral

By CATHERINE LUCEY and ZEKE MILLER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — There was no mistaking the odd man out.

The Washington funeral service for former President George H.W. Bush served as a rare reunion of the remaining members of the presidents club, but the front-row banter among Barack Obama, Bill Clinton and Jimmy Carter and their spouses came to an end when President Donald Trump and wife Melania arrived.

The Wednesday encounter was a real-time illustration of the uneasy ties between the current occupant of the White House and his predecessors, suggesting Trump as a member-in-name-only of the Oval Office fraternity. While the funeral ceremony itself was a warm celebration of the late president, the relationships between the surviving presidents are considerably cooler.

Trump gave the two Obamas a handshake before taking his seat in Washington's National Cathedral without greeting the others. Hillary Clinton nodded at Melania Trump but then stared straight ahead.

The last of the five presidents to arrive was George W. Bush, who made a point to shake hands with all four couples — and appeared to share a moment of humor with Michelle Obama, slipping something into her hand. Bush then took his seat with the rest of the Bush family, across the aisle from the ex-presidents.

Some discomfort with Trump was perhaps to be expected.

Since his swearing-in, Trump has spurned most contact with his predecessors — and they have snubbed him in return. But while the staid group of Oval Office occupants has been disrupted since Donald Trump's election, the Bushes had made it known to the White House months ago that, despite differences in policy and temperament, the late president wanted Trump to attend the national service.

The ceremony's tributes at times stood as an unspoken counterpoint to Trump's leadership, as historian Jon Meacham eulogized Bush by recounting his life's credo: "Tell the truth, don't blame people, be strong, do your best, try hard, forgive, stay the course." George W. Bush added of his father: "He could tease and needle, but not out of malice."

The late Bush was the de facto chair of the modern incarnation of the president's club, transcending contentious campaigns and party lines to bring together fractious personalities who share that rarified experience.

Trump has sought to meet the elder Bush's passing with grace, a contrast to the rhythms of much of his tumultuous presidency. He came to office after a campaign in which he harshly criticized his Democratic predecessors and co-opted a Republican Party once dominated by the Bush family. Despite the traditional kinship among presidents, Trump's predecessors have all made their discomfort known in different ways.

"It's unusual that a cabal of ex-presidents from both parties dislike a sitting president and that's what you've got happening right now," said Douglas Brinkley, a history professor at Rice University.

The Trump-Obama handshake marked the first direct interaction between the current president and his immediate predecessor since Inauguration Day 2017. Trump has not spoken to Democrats Clinton or Obama since that day.

He did speak with the younger Bush during the contentious confirmation process for Supreme Court

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 14 of 44

Justice Brett Kavanaugh, as the previous Republican president helped lobby for his former aide. Democrat Carter has been briefed by White House officials on North Korea, though it was not clear if he has engaged directly with Trump.

By virtue of health, longevity and opportunities for continued influence, ex-presidents are sticking around longer than ever and staying active in the public eye.

Past presidents often built relationships with their predecessors, Brinkley said. "Bill Clinton would reach out to Richard Nixon for advice on Russia," he said. "Harry Truman leaned heavily on Herbert Hoover. It's endless."

To be sure, Brinkley added, those ties vary from president to president and there have been chilly relationships as well, noting, for example, that "FDR would never talk to Herbert Hoover."

Busy with a mix of personal pursuits, charitable endeavors — and, in some cases, paid speaking gigs — the former leaders don't mingle very often, making a funeral in their group a big occasion. Bonded by the presidency, they tend to exercise caution in their comments about each other. Still, all the living former presidents have aimed barbs — directly or indirectly — at Trump.

In a speech in September, Obama slammed the "crazy stuff" coming out of the White House without directly naming Trump. Last year, the younger Bush made a speech that confronted many of the themes of Trump's presidency without mentioning him by name, cautioning that "bigotry seems emboldened" and the nation's politics "seems more vulnerable to conspiracy theories and outright fabrication."

Over the summer, Carter told The Washington Post that Trump's presidency was a "disaster." And Clinton — stung by Trump's defeat of wife Hillary Clinton in the 2016 presidential race — told a weekly newspaper in New York state after her stunning loss that Trump "doesn't know much."

Even the late Bush's feelings about Trump were harsh at times. In Mark K. Updegrove's book "The Last Republicans," published last year, the elder Bush called Trump a "blowhard."

The late Bush said he voted for Clinton in 2016 while George W. Bush said he voted for "none of the above."

There have been other moments when the ex-presidents offered more sympathetic sentiments for Trump. After Trump's surprise victory, Obama stood in the Rose Garden at the White House and said he was "rooting" for the next president. Carter told The New York Times in 2017 the media had been harder on Trump than other presidents. Clinton said in June that America should be rooting for Trump to succeed in his North Korea talks.

While he has struggled to set the right tone in past moments of national grief, Trump has gone out of his way to address Bush's passing with consideration, issuing kind statements and ensuring that Bush family members have whatever they need for the funeral. On Tuesday, first lady Melania Trump welcomed Laura Bush and other family members for a tour of the White House Christmas decorations. And Trump and the first lady visited with members of the Bush family at Blair House.

Bush, president and patriarch, is home for Texas burial

By WILL WEISSERT, NOMAAN MERCHANT and CALVIN WOODWARD, Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — George H.W. Bush, who shaped history as 41st president and patriarch of a family that occupied the White House for a dozen years, is going to his final rest Thursday in Texas.

More than 11,000 people paid their respects to Bush as his casket lay in repose all night at a Houston church where his family worshipped. Some visitors waited for hours to pay tribute to Bush, who will be buried Thursday following a funeral at St. Martin's Episcopal Church.

The country said goodbye to him Wednesday in a national funeral service that offered high praise for the last of the presidents to have fought in World War II — and a hefty dose of humor about a man once described as a cross between Mister Rogers and John Wayne.

After three days of remembrance in Washington, a plane brought Bush's casket for his funeral's closing ceremonies in Houston and burial Thursday at his family plot on the presidential library grounds at Texas A&M University in College Station. His final resting place is alongside Barbara Bush, his wife of 73 years,

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 15 of 44

and Robin Bush, the daughter they lost to leukemia at age 3.

In the service at Washington National Cathedral, three former presidents and President Donald Trump looked on as George W. Bush eulogized his father as "the brightest of a thousand points of light."

The cathedral service was a tribute to a president, a patriarch and a faded political era that prized military service and public responsibility. It was laced with indirect comparisons to Trump but was not consumed by them, as speakers focused on Bush's public life and character — with plenty of cracks about his goofy side, too.

"He was a man of such great humility," said Alan Simpson, former Republican senator from Wyoming. Those who travel "the high road of humility in Washington, D.C.," he added pointedly, "are not bothered by heavy traffic."

Trump sat with his wife, a trio of ex-presidents and their wives, several of them sharp critics of his presidency and one of them, Hillary Clinton, his 2016 Democratic foe. Apart from courteous nods and some handshakes, there was little interaction between Trump and the others.

George W. Bush broke down briefly at the end of his eulogy while invoking the daughter his parents lost in 1953 his mother, who died in April. He took comfort in knowing "Dad is hugging Robin and holding Mom's hand again."

It was a family that occupied the White House for a dozen years — the 41st president defeated after one term, the 43rd serving two. Jeb Bush stepped up to try to extend that run but fell short when Trump won the 2016 Republican primaries.

The elder Bush was "the last great-soldier statesman," historian Jon Meacham said in his eulogy, "our shield" in dangerous times.

But he also said that Bush, campaigning in a crowd in a department store, once shook hands with a mannequin. Rather than flushing in embarrassment, he simply cracked, "Never know. Gotta ask."

Meacham recounted how comedian Dana Carvey once said the key to doing an impersonation of Bush was "Mister Rogers trying to be John Wayne."

None of those words would be a surprise to Bush. Meacham read his eulogy to him, said Bush spokesman Jim McGrath, and Bush responded to it with the crack: "That's a lot about me, Jon."

The congregation at the cathedral, filled with foreign leaders and diplomats, Americans of high office and others touched by Bush's life, rose for the arrival of the casket, accompanied by clergy of faiths from around the world. In their row together, Trump and former Presidents Barack Obama, Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton stood with their spouses and all placed their hands over their hearts.

Simpson regaled the congregation with stories from his years as Bush's friend in Washington. More seriously, he recalled that when he went through a rough patch in the political game, Bush conspicuously stood by him against the advice of aides. "You would have wanted him on your side," he said.

Simpson said Bush "loved a good joke — the richer the better. And he threw his head back and gave that great laugh, but he never, ever could remember a punchline. And I mean never."

George W. Bush turned the humor back on the acerbic ex-senator, saying of the late president: "He placed great value on a good joke, so he chose Simpson to speak."

Meacham praised Bush's call to volunteerism — his "1,000 points of light" — placing it alongside Abraham Lincoln's call to honor "the better angels of our nature" in the American rhetorical canon. Meacham called those lines "companion verses in America's national hymn."

Trump had mocked "1,000 points of light" last summer at a rally, saying "What the hell is that? Has anyone ever figured that one out? And it was put out by a Republican, wasn't it?"

Former Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney praised Bush as a strong world leader who helped oversee the end of the Cold War and the collapse of the Soviet Union and helped bring about the North American Free Trade Agreement with Canada and Mexico, signed into law by his successor, Clinton.

With Trump, a bitter NAFTA critic, seated in the front row, Mulroney hailed the "largest and richest free trade area in the history of the world." The three countries have agreed on a revised trade agreement pushed by Trump.

On Wednesday morning, a military band played "Hail to the Chief" as Bush's casket was carried down

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 16 of 44

the steps of the U.S. Capitol, where he had lain in state. Family members looked on as servicemen fired off a cannon salute.

His hearse was then driven in a motorcade to the cathedral ceremony, slowing in front of the White House. Bush's route was lined with people much of the way, bundled in winter hats and taking photos.

Waiting for his arrival inside, Trump shook hands with Obama and former first lady Michelle Obama, who greeted him by saying "Good morning." Trump did not shake hands with Bill and Hillary Clinton, who looked straight ahead.

Bill Clinton and Mrs. Obama smiled and chatted as music played. Carter was seated silently next to Hillary Clinton in the cavernous cathedral. Obama cracked up laughing at someone's quip. Vice President Mike Pence shook Carter's hand.

Trump tweeted Wednesday that the day marked "a celebration for a great man who has led a long and distinguished life." Trump and his wife took their seats after the others, briefly greeting the Obamas seated next to them.

Bush's death makes Carter, also 94 but more than 100 days younger, the oldest living ex-president.

Following the cathedral service, the hearse and a long motorcade drove to the National Mall to pass by the World War II Memorial, a nod to the late president's service as a World War II Navy pilot, then transferred his remains at Joint Base Andrews for the flight home with members of his family.

Trump ordered the federal government closed Wednesday for a national day of mourning. Flags on public buildings are flying at half-staff for 30 days.

Weissert reported from Austin, Texas. Woodward reported from Washington. Associated Press writers Laurie Kellman, Ashraf Khalil and Darlene Superville in Washington and Juan A. Lozano and David J. Philip contributed to this report.

Yemen peace talks start in Sweden with prisoner swap deal

By DAVID KEYTON and BRIAN ROHAN, Associated Press

RIMBO, Sweden (AP) — Representatives from Yemen's warring sides sat in the same room for the first time in years on Thursday in Sweden as U.N.-sponsored peace talks aimed at halting a catastrophic three-year war opened to great hopes but also high skepticism.

In a positive sign, the U.N. envoy said the sides had agreed on a prisoner exchange as a first step toward building confidence.

Martin Griffiths also said the two sides have signaled they were serious about de-escalating the fighting through calls they've made in recent weeks, and urged them to work to further reduce the violence in the Arab world's poorest nation, scene of massive civilians suffering.

The talks in the Swedish town of Rimbo, north of Stockholm, aim to setup "a framework for negotiations" on a future peace agreement, Griffiths said, calling the coming days were a milestone nonetheless and urging the parties "to work in good faith ... to deliver a message of peace."

"I'm also pleased to announce the signing of an agreement on the exchange of prisoners, detainees, the missing, the forcibly detained and individuals placed under house arrest," Griffiths said from the venue. "It will allow thousands of families to be reunited, and it is product of very effective, active work from both delegations."

The fighting in Yemen has generated the world's worst humanitarian crisis and claimed at least 10,000 lives, with experts estimating a much higher toll. The conflict pits the internationally recognized government, which is backed by a Saudi-led coalition, against Shiite rebels, known as Houthis.

During the three-year war, Saudi-led airstrikes have hit schools, hospitals and wedding parties, and the Houthis have fired long-range missiles into Saudi Arabia and targeted vessels in the Red Sea.

U.N. officials, however, have sought to downplay expectations from the talks, saying they don't expect rapid progress toward a political settlement but hope for at least minor steps that would help to address Yemen's worsening humanitarian crisis.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 17 of 44

Yemeni voices from both sides continued to make some last-minute demands and accusatory finger-pointing, while minor fighting continued to some extent on the ground.

Griffiths said the talks would address several main points mentioned by both sides: prisoner exchange, the release of funds to the central bank to pay civil servants in rebel-controlled territory, a possible handover of the port city of Hodeida to the U.N., and the reopening of the blockaded airport in the capital, Sanaa, to aid deliveries.

"I believe that we can also here in the coming days find solutions on specific issues that will improve cooperation and reduce suffering," he said.

Both the internationally-recognized government, which is backed by a U.S.-sponsored and Saudi-led coalition, and the Iran-aligned Houthi rebels say they are striving for peace.

The Houthi delegation arrived in Stockholm late Tuesday, accompanied by Griffiths. The government delegation and the head of the rebel delegation travelled to Sweden on Wednesday.

Meanwhile, the U.N. food agency said Thursday it is planning to rapidly scale up food distribution to help another 4 million people in Yemen over the next two months, more than a 50-percent increase in the number reached now — if access can be maintained in the poor, war-stricken country.

World Food Program's spokesman Herve Verhoosel said the "ambitious undertaking" finalizes plans in the works in recent months to reach 12 million people with food and nutritional supplements through January, from between 7-8 million now.

The target population includes some 3 million women and children who need special support to prevent malnutrition. Verhoosel said the rollout will require "safe, immediate and unimpeded access for food and other vital supplies."

Sweden's foreign minister who opened the talks, Margot Wallstrom, wished the Yemen adversaries strength to find "compromise and courage" as they embark on the difficult task ahead.

"Now it is up to you, the Yemeni parties," she said. "You have the command of your future."

Rohan reported from Cairo. Associated Press writer Jamey Keaten in Geneva contributed to this report.

Paris riots show difficulty of fighting warming with taxes

By **SETH BORENSTEIN** and **ANGELA CHARLTON**, Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — The "yellow vests" in France are worrying greens around the world.

The worst riots in Paris in decades were sparked by higher fuel taxes, and French President Emmanuel Macron responded by scrapping them Wednesday. But taxes on fossil fuels are just what international climate negotiators, meeting in Poland this week, say are desperately needed to help wean the world off of fossil fuels and slow climate change.

"The events of the last few days in Paris have made me regard the challenges as even greater than I thought earlier," said Stanford University environmental economist Lawrence Goulder, author of the book "Confronting the Climate Challenge."

Economists, policymakers and politicians have long said the best way to fight climate change is to put a higher price on the fuels that are causing it — gasoline, diesel, coal and natural gas. Taxing fuels and electricity could help pay for the damage they cause, encourage people to use less, and make it easier for cleaner alternatives and fuel-saving technologies to compete.

These so-called carbon taxes are expected to be a major part of pushing the world to reduce carbon dioxide emissions and try to prevent runaway climate change that economists say would be far more expensive over the long term than paying more for energy in the short term.

But it's not so easy for people to think about long-term, global problems when they are struggling to get by.

Macron said the higher tax was his way of trying to prevent the end of the world. But the yellow vest protesters turned that around with the slogan: "it's hard to talk about the end of the world while we are talking about the end of the month."

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 18 of 44

The resistance to the fuel tax is a personal blow to Macron, who sees himself as the guarantor of the 2015 Paris climate accord, its strongest defender on the global stage. He has positioned himself as the anti-Trump when it comes to climate issues.

The French government quietly fears a Trump-led backlash against the accord could spread to other major economies whose commitment is essential to keeping the deal together.

The fuel tax was not originally Macron's idea; it dates back to previous administrations. But he vigorously defended it and won the presidency in part on a promise to fight climate change.

So what went wrong?

Yale University economist William Nordhaus, who won this year's Nobel prize for economics, said the tax was poorly designed and was delivered by the wrong person. "If you want to make energy taxes unpopular, step one is to be an unpopular leader," he said. "Step two is to use gasoline taxes and call them carbon taxes. This is hard enough without adding poor design."

Macron, like French presidents before him, made environmental and energy decisions without explaining to the public how important they are and how their lives will change. He's also seen as the "president of the rich" — his first fiscal decision as president was scrapping a wealth tax. So hiking taxes on gasoline and diesel was seen as especially unfair to the working classes in the provinces who need cars to get to work and whose incomes have stagnated for years.

The French government already has programs in place to subsidize drivers who trade in older, dirtier cars for cleaner ones, and expanded them in an attempt to head off the protests last month. But for many French, it was too little, too late.

The French reaction to higher fuel prices is hardly unique, which highlights just how hard it can be to discourage fossil fuel consumption by making people pay more. In September, protests in India over high gasoline prices shut down schools and government offices. Protests erupted in Mexico in 2017 after government deregulation caused a spike in gasoline prices, and in Indonesia in 2013 when the government reduced fuel subsidies and prices rose.

In the United States, Washington state voters handily defeated a carbon tax in November.

"Higher taxes on fuel have always been a policy more popular among economists than among voters," said Greg Mankiw, a Harvard economist and former adviser to President George W. Bush.

Even proponents of carbon taxes acknowledge that they can disproportionately hurt low-income people. Energy costs make up a larger portion of their overall expenses, so a fuel price increase eats up more of their paycheck and leaves them with less to spend. And because energy costs are almost impossible to avoid, they feel trapped.

It is also not lost on them that it is the rich, unbothered by fuel taxes, who are hardest on the environment because they travel and consume more.

"The mistake of the Macron government was not to marry the increase in fuel taxes with other sufficiently compelling initiatives promising to enhance the welfare and incomes of the 'yellow vests,' said Barry Eichengreen, an economist at the University of California, Berkeley.

Now the question is "How can we address the climate problem while also avoiding producing political upheaval," Goulder said.

The key is giving a good chunk of money back to the people, Wesleyan University environmental economist Gary Yohe said.

Many economists back proposals that would tax carbon, but then use that money to offer tax rebates or credits that would benefit lower-income families.

The protests, while sparked by fuel prices, are also about income inequality, populism and anti-elitism, experts say, not just about carbon taxes.

"Is it a death knell for the carbon tax or pricing carbon? I don't think so," economist Yohe said. "It is just a call for being a little bit more careful about how you design the damn thing."

AP science writer Seth Borenstein reported from Washington. AP economics writer Christopher Rugaber

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 19 of 44

contributed from Washington and Frank Jordans contributed from Katowice, Poland.

Read more stories on climate issues by The Associated Press at <https://www.apnews.com/Climate> .

Follow Seth Borenstein on Twitter at @borenbears and Angela Charlton at @acharlton .

The Associated Press Health and 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. BUSH GOING TO FINAL RESTING PLACE IN TEXAS

The 41st president will be taken by train to his family burial plot on the presidential library grounds at Texas A&M University.

2. CHINA DEMANDS CANADA RELEASE HUAWEI EXECUTIVE

Meng Wanzhou, reportedly accused of trying to evade U.S. curbs on trade with Iran, faces possible extradition to the U.S.; But China vows prompt action on a U.S. trade pact, a sign Beijing wants to keep the arrest from disrupting talks.

3. WHICH WARRING SIDES ARE AT NEGOTIATING TABLE

Sweden's foreign minister opens U.N.-sponsored Yemen peace talks as the country's opposing factions agree on a prisoner exchange as part of confidence building measures for the war-torn nation.

4. HOW MANY MIGRANT KIDS SEPARATED SINCE SUMMER

The Trump administration has separated 81 migrant children from their families at the U.S.-Mexico border since the president stopped large-scale separation policy in June.

5. WHERE FIGHTING GLOBAL WARMING IS PROVING DIFFICULT

French protests against gasoline tax hikes worry environmentalists because experts say taxes are needed to help wean humans off fossil fuels and slow climate change.

6. DOUBLE JEOPARDY ON THE DOCKET

The Supreme Court is set to hear arguments about an exception to the Constitution's ban on being tried for the same offense.

7. FOR PEARL HARBOR FAMILIES, CLOSURE

More than 75 years after the Japanese attack on the U.S. military in Hawaii, the remains of some sailors are finally being laid to rest in cemeteries across the country.

8. WHAT IS COLOR OF THE YEAR

Sea reefs and sunsets: Living Coral is Pantone's choice for top color of 2019.

9. 'QUACKARAZZI' HAS PEOPLE JUST DUCKY

A brightly colored Mandarin duck that appeared suddenly in a Central Park pond turns both New Yorkers and visitors into a new gaggle.

10. WHO'S FAVORED FOR GOLDEN GLOBES NOMS

"A Star Is Born" and "Mary Poppins Returns" could be in for a big morning as the Hollywood awards season ramps up.

China demands Canada release Huawei executive

By JOE McDONALD and ROB GILLIES, Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — China on Thursday demanded Canada release a Huawei Technologies executive who was arrested in a case that adds to technology tensions with Washington and threatens to complicate trade talks.

Huawei's chief financial officer, Meng Wanzhou, faces possible extradition to the United States, accord-

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 20 of 44

ing to Canadian authorities. The Globe and Mail newspaper, citing law enforcement sources, said she is suspected of trying to evade U.S. trade curbs on Iran.

The timing is awkward following the announcement of a U.S.-Chinese cease-fire in a tariff war over Beijing's technology policy. Meng was detained in Vancouver on Saturday, the day Presidents Donald Trump and Xi Jinping met in Argentina and announced their deal.

Stock markets tumbled on the news, fearing renewed U.S.-Chinese tensions that threaten global economic growth. Hong Kong's Hang Seng lost 2.5 percent and the DAX in Germany sank 1.8 percent.

A Chinese government statement said Meng broke no U.S. or Canadian laws and demanded Canada "immediately correct the mistake" and release her.

Beijing asked Washington and Ottawa to explain the reason for Meng's arrest, said a foreign ministry spokesman, Geng Shuang. He said arresting her without that violated her human rights.

But the Ministry of Commerce signaled Beijing wants to avoid disrupting progress toward settling a dispute with Washington over technology policy that has led them to raise tariffs on billions of dollars of each other's goods.

China is confident they can reach a trade deal during the 90 days that Trump agreed to suspend U.S. tariff hikes, said a ministry spokesman, Gao Feng.

Huawei Technologies Ltd., the biggest global supplier of network gear used by phone and internet companies, has been the target of deepening U.S. security concerns. Under Trump and his predecessor, Barack Obama, Washington has pressured European countries and other allies to limit use of its technology.

The United States sees Huawei and smaller Chinese tech suppliers as possible fronts for spying and as commercial competitors. The Trump administration says they benefit from improper subsidies and market barriers.

Trump's tariff hikes on Chinese imports stemmed from complaints Beijing steals or pressures foreign companies to hand over technology. But American officials also worry more broadly that Chinese plans for state-led creation of Chinese champions in robotics, artificial intelligence and other fields might erode U.S. industrial leadership.

"The United States is stepping up containment of China in all respects," said Zhu Feng, an international relations expert at Nanjing University. He said targeting Huawei, one of its most successful companies, "will trigger anti-U.S. sentiment."

"The incident could turn out to be a breaking point," Zhu said.

Last month, New Zealand blocked a mobile phone company from using Huawei equipment, saying it posed a "significant network security risk." The company was banned in August from working on Australia's fifth-generation network.

On Wednesday, British phone carrier BT said it was removing Huawei equipment from the core of its mobile phone networks. It said Huawei still is a supplier of other equipment and a "valued innovation partner."

The Wall Street Journal reported this year U.S. authorities are investigating whether Huawei violated sanctions on Iran. The Chinese government appealed to Washington to avoid any steps that might damage business confidence.

Huawei's biggest Chinese rival, ZTE Corp., was nearly driven out of business this year when Washington barred it from buying U.S. technology over exports to North Korea and Iran. Trump restored access after ZTE agreed to pay a \$1 billion fine, replace its executive team and embed a U.S.-chosen compliance team in the company.

Huawei is regarded as far stronger commercially than ZTE. Based in Shenzhen, near Hong Kong, Huawei has the biggest research and development budget of any Chinese company and a vast portfolio of patents, making it less dependent on American suppliers.

Its growing smartphone brand is among the top three global suppliers behind Samsung Electronics and Apple Inc. by number of handsets sold.

Meng was changing flights in Canada when she was detained "on behalf of the United States of America" to face unspecified charges in New York, according to a Huawei statement.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 21 of 44

"The company has been provided very little information regarding the charges and is not aware of any wrongdoing by Ms. Meng," the statement said.

A U.S. Justice Department spokesman declined to comment.

Huawei said it complies with all laws and rules where it operates, including export controls and sanctions of the United Nations, the United States and European Union.

Meng's arrest also threatened to inflame disagreements over Iran and Trump's decision to break with other governments and re-impose sanctions over the country's nuclear development.

Geng, the foreign ministry spokesman, said China objects to unilateral sanctions outside the United Nations. China has said it will continue to do business with Iran despite the possible threat of U.S. penalties.

Meng is a prominent member of China's business world as deputy chairman of Huawei's board and the daughter of its founder Ren Zhengfei, a former Chinese military engineer.

Despite that, her arrest is unlikely to derail trade talks, said Willy Lam, a politics specialist at the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

"I think too much is at stake for Xi Jinping. He desperately wants a settlement," said Lam.

Longer term, however, the case will reinforce official Chinese urgency about developing domestic technology suppliers to reduce reliance on the United States, said Lam.

Trump has "pulled out all the stops" to hamper Chinese ambitions to challenge the United States as a technology leader, Lam said. That includes imposing limits on visas for Chinese students to study science and technology.

"If the Chinese need further convincing, this case would show them beyond doubt Trump's commitment," said Lam.

David Mulroney, a former Canadian ambassador to China, said U.S. and Canadian business executives could face reprisals in China.

"That's something we should be watching out for. It's a possibility. China plays rough," Mulroney said. "It's a prominent member of their society and it's a company that really embodies China's quest for global recognition as a technology power."

Gillies reported from Toronto. AP researcher Yu Bing in Beijing contributed.

Democrat says he'll appeal to Walker to veto GOP power play

By SCOTT BAUER and TODD RICHMOND, Associated Press

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — The incoming Democratic governor of Wisconsin says he plans to make a personal appeal to his defeated rival, Gov. Scott Walker, to veto far-reaching GOP legislation that would strip the new administration of some powers. If that doesn't work, he might sue.

Wisconsin Republicans pushed through protests, internal disagreement and Democratic opposition to pass the bills after an all-night session. The measures would shift power to the GOP-controlled Legislature and weaken the authority of the office Republicans will lose in January.

"The will of the people has officially been ignored by the Legislature," Gov. Tony Evers said, adding that the lawmakers' actions "take us back to Nov. 6," before the election was finalized.

"Wisconsin should be embarrassed by this," Evers said.

He said Wednesday that he will talk to Walker as soon as the bills reach his desk and that if he cannot persuade the governor to veto the proposals, he will consider lawsuits and any other option "to make sure that this legislation does not get into practice."

The votes early Wednesday were the height of a rare lame-duck legislative session. Walker has signaled his support for the bills. He has 10 days to sign the package after it's delivered to his office.

The session unfolded a month after Republicans were battered in the midterm election. They lost all statewide races amid strong Democratic turnout. But they retained legislative majorities thanks to what Democrats say are gerrymandered districts that tilt the map.

A Walker spokeswoman said the governor, who was in Washington for former President George H.W.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 22 of 44

Bush's funeral, would not have any public comment Wednesday.

The new legislation tries to protect some of the GOP's achievements in recent years, including a work requirement for some people receiving state health care and the state's role in a lawsuit seeking to overturn the Affordable Care Act. The bills could also make it harder for Evers to renegotiate a \$3 billion subsidy for a Foxconn electronics manufacturing facility, a deal spearheaded by Walker.

In neighboring Michigan, Republicans who control the Legislature voted to advance a measure that strips campaign-finance oversight power from the next secretary of state, a Democrat. They also moved to give lawmakers authority to stand up for GOP-backed laws if they think the incoming Democratic governor and attorney general are not adequately defending the state's interests.

The Wisconsin legislation passed in a session marked by stops and starts as GOP leaders tried to muster enough votes in the Senate. That chamber ultimately approved the package 17-16, with just one Republican voting against it, around sunrise. The Assembly approved it on a 56-27 vote about two hours later, with a single Republican defecting.

In one concession, Republicans backed away from giving the Legislature the power to sidestep the attorney general and appoint their own attorney when state laws are challenged in court.

"This is a heck of a way to run a railroad," Democratic Senate Minority Leader Jennifer Shilling said as the Senate debate resumed at 5 a.m. after a seven-hour impasse. "This is embarrassing we're even here."

Walker is in his final five weeks as governor. Faced with a Democratic governor for the first time in eight years, Republicans came up with a package of lame-duck bills to preserve their priorities and make it harder for Evers to enact his.

"You're here because you don't want to give up power," Democratic Assembly Minority Leader Gordon Hintz said as debate concluded in that chamber. "You're sore losers. Does anybody think this is the right way to do business? If you vote for this, shame on you. You will go down in history as a disgrace."

Assembly Speaker Robin Vos countered that the bills would ensure a balance of power between the Legislature and the executive branch.

"We have allowed far too much authority to flow to the executive," Vos said. "To you, this is all about politics. To me, it's about the institution."

Vos last month cited the desire to protect key Republican achievements from being undone by Evers. Among them: a massive \$3 billion subsidy to bring Foxconn, a key Apple Inc. supplier, to Wisconsin, along with thousands of jobs. Evers has said he would like to renegotiate the deal.

The legislation passed Wednesday would shield the state jobs agency from his control and allow the board to choose its leader until September, likely at least delaying Evers' ability to maneuver on the Foxconn subsidy.

The changes would also weaken the governor's ability to put in place rules that enact laws. And they would limit early voting to no more than two weeks before an election, a restriction similar to what a federal judge ruled was unconstitutional.

The attorney general's office could also be weakened by a proposal to require a legislative committee, rather than the attorney general, to sign off on withdrawing from federal lawsuits. That would stop Evers and Democratic Attorney General-elect Josh Kaul from fulfilling promises to withdraw Wisconsin from a multistate lawsuit seeking repeal of the Affordable Care Act. They made opposition to that lawsuit a central part of both of their campaigns.

Judges could block the proposals if they become law by issuing temporary injunctions. Democrats would likely need a permanent injunction to stop the changes for good, but Republicans would almost certainly pursue appeals all the way to the state Supreme Court, which is controlled by conservative justices.

The Legislature passed another measure to enact Medicaid work requirement rules that Walker recently won a federal waiver to establish. That bill would also give the Legislature oversight over the governor seeking future waivers for health care, a change Democrats said would handcuff the new administration.

Rep. Todd Novak of Dodgeville, the only Republican in the Assembly to vote against the bills, said he did so after hearing from "an overwhelming number of voters" in his district who opposed the legislation.

"It is my job," Novak said, "to cast my vote in the interest of those whom I represent."

Associated Press writer Ivan Moreno contributed to this report.

Follow Scott Bauer on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/sbauerAP> .

China promises prompt action on US trade pact

By JOE McDONALD, AP Business Writer

BEIJING (AP) — China's government said Thursday it will promptly carry out a tariff cease-fire with Washington and is confident they can reach a trade agreement, suggesting Beijing wants to avoid disruptions due to the arrest of a tech executive.

Talks during the 90 day period during which President Donald Trump has agreed to suspend U.S. tariff hikes will start by focusing on farm goods, energy and automobiles, said a Ministry of Commerce spokesman, Gao Feng.

Asked to confirm whether Beijing promised to buy American goods immediately, Gao said China will "immediately implement the consensus reached by the two sides on farm products, cars and energy." He said nothing about purchases.

That optimistic tone contrasted with Chinese criticism of Canada's arrest of an executive of technology giant Huawei who a Toronto newspaper said is accused by the United States of trying to violate trade curbs on Iran. That suggested President Xi Jinping's government sees the trade negotiations as too important to disrupt.

President Donald Trump agreed Saturday to postpone U.S. tariff hikes in a fight over Beijing's technology policy by 90 days while the two sides negotiate.

China has promised to act quickly but failed to release details. That caused global stock markets to sink Tuesday after Trump revived threats of tariff hikes, though share prices rebounded following positive Chinese statements on Wednesday.

The two sides also will discuss intellectual property protection, technical cooperation, market access and their trade balance, Gao said. He said they have a "clear timetable and roadmap."

"China is full of confidence in reaching an agreement within the next 90 days," the spokesman said.

Asked about Trump's statement that Beijing would cancel tariff hikes on U.S.-made autos, Gao referred reporters to the Cabinet's tax commission.

Trade experts have said 90 days is scant time for resolving sprawling conflicts over technology, state industries and other issues that have bedeviled U.S.-Chinese relations for years. They say that suggests China will need to find issues on which it can show progress to persuade Trump to extend his deadline.

Chinese Ministry of Commerce (in Chinese): www.mofcom.gov.cn

Honduran woman in migrant caravan gives birth in US

SAN DIEGO (AP) — A Honduran woman affiliated with a caravan of Central American migrants gave birth on U.S. soil shortly after entering the country illegally amid growing frustration about a bottleneck to claim asylum at official border crossings.

Border Patrol agents arrested the woman Nov. 26 after she entered the country illegally near Imperial Beach, California, across the border from Tijuana, Mexico, Customs and Border Protection said Wednesday. She was arrested with her 20-year-old husband and 2-year-old son.

The woman, who was eight months pregnant, was taken to a hospital after complaining about abdominal pain the day after her arrest, Customs and Border Protection said.

The family was released from custody on Sunday, pending the outcomes of their immigration cases.

Univision reported that the family is seeking asylum and hoped to join family in Columbus, Ohio, while their cases are pending.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 24 of 44

Maryury Serrano Hernandez, 19, told the network giving birth in the U.S. was a "big reward" for the family's grueling journey.

U.S. inspectors at the main border crossing in San Diego are processing up to about 100 asylum claims day, leaving thousands of migrants waiting in Tijuana. Some are crossing illegally and avoiding the wait.

President Donald Trump said in October that he could end birthright citizenship with a swipe of his pen. Most scholars on the left and right share the view that it would take a constitutional amendment to deny automatic citizenship to children born in the U.S. to parents who are in the country illegally.

Of the more than 6,100 migrants staying in a temporary shelter run by the city of Tijuana last week, 3,936 were men, 1,147 were women, and 1,068 were children.

Scores of pregnant women traveled with the caravan through Mexico before reaching the U.S. border. In Pijjiapan in the southern state of Chiapas, Dr. Jesus Miravete, who volunteered his services in the town's plaza, said he treated a few dozen pregnant women, including 16 for dehydration after being on the road for weeks.

In October, a Guatemalan woman gave birth to the first known caravan baby at a hospital in Juchitan. Mexico's governmental National Human Rights Commission said it had arranged for medical attention for the woman, who was 38 weeks pregnant, and the girl was healthy.

Supreme Court to hear closely watched double jeopardy case

By MARK SHERMAN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court is set to hear arguments about an exception to the Constitution's ban on being tried for the same offense. The outcome could have a spillover effect on the investigation into Russian meddling in the 2016 election.

The justices are taking up an appeal Thursday from federal prison inmate Terance Gamble. He was prosecuted separately by Alabama and the federal government for having a gun after an earlier robbery conviction.

The high court is considering whether to overturn a court-created exception to the Constitution's double-jeopardy bar that allows state and federal prosecutions for the same crime. The court's ruling could be relevant if President Donald Trump were to pardon someone implicated in special counsel Robert Mueller's probe and a state wanted to pursue its own charges against that person.

Supreme Court lawyer Tom Goldstein joked at a Washington event before the term began in October that the high court case should be called *New York v. Manafort*, a reference to former Trump campaign manager Paul Manafort. Trump has refused to rule out an eventual pardon for Manafort, who has been convicted of federal financial fraud and conspiracy crimes. It's by no means certain that the high court ruling will affect future prosecutions.

But Trump's Justice Department is urging the court not to depart from what it says is an unbroken line of cases reaching back nearly 170 years in favor of allowing prosecutions by state and federal authorities. Thirty-six states that include Republican-led Texas and Democratic-led New York are on the administration's side, as are advocates for Native American women who worry that a decision for Gamble would make it harder to prosecute domestic and sexual violence crimes.

Civil rights scholars at Howard University adopt a sort of middle ground that urges the court to at least preserve the federal government's ability to lead civil rights prosecutions against people who have been acquitted of state charges. Civil rights charges to fight crimes of racial violence have been a key tool for federal prosecutors, especially when Southern juries were unwilling to convict defendants. The most recent example the scholars cited is the successful federal prosecution of Los Angeles police officers who had been acquitted of state charges in the beating of Rodney King.

On the other side, liberal and conservative groups say that the huge growth in federal criminal prosecutions in recent decades makes it urgent for the court to rein in successive prosecutions for the same crime.

Reinforcing the seemingly odd alliances in play on this issue, the unlikely high court duo of Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Clarence Thomas first suggested in 2016 that the topic "bears fresh examination in

an appropriate case.”

At least four justices — the minimum required to hear arguments — felt Gamble’s situation is that appropriate case.

There is no dispute that Gamble’s arrest in 2015 for possessing a 9 mm handgun led to state and federal charges. He pleaded guilty in state court and tried to have the federal charge dismissed. When that failed, he pleaded guilty in federal court as well, with the idea of mounting the constitutional challenge that is now before the Supreme Court.

Gamble is not scheduled for release from prison until 2020, nearly three years later than he would have been freed from conviction on state charges alone, his lawyer, Louis Chaiten, wrote in court papers.

The relevant portion of the Constitution’s Fifth Amendment says that no person shall “be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb.”

Chaiten said the language is clearly on Gamble’s side. “The text of the Double Jeopardy Clause contemplates no exceptions to its blanket guarantee of protection from double prosecution and punishment for the same offense,” Chaiten wrote.

The administration countered that the American legal system has long viewed violations of state and federal law as separate offenses, even if they result from the same conduct. The court should not “invite the serious practical consequences of categorically precluding politically accountable officials from ever determining that a separate prosecution is warranted — which would hamstring state, tribal and federal law enforcement,” Deputy Solicitor General Jeffrey Wall wrote.

A decision in *Gamble v. United States*, 17-646, is expected by late June.

2 US warplanes crash off Japan; 2 found, 5 missing

By MARI YAMAGUCHI, Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — A Marine refueling plane and a fighter jet crashed into the Pacific Ocean off Japan’s southwestern coast after colliding early Thursday, and rescuers found two of the seven crew members, one of them in stable condition, officials said.

The U.S. Marine Corps said that the 2 a.m. crash involved an F/A-18 fighter jet and a KC-130 refueling aircraft during regular refueling training after the planes took off from their base in Iwakuni, near Hiroshima in western Japan.

The crash took place 320 kilometers (200 miles) off the coast, according to the U.S. military. Japanese officials said it occurred closer to the coast, about 100 kilometers (60 miles), and that’s where the search and rescue mission found two crew members.

The two aircraft were carrying seven crew members in total, two in the F/A-18 and five others in the KC-130, when they collided and crashed into the sea south of the Muroto Cape on Shikoku island in southwestern Japan. The cause of the crash is under investigation.

The Maritime Self-Defense Force, which dispatched aircraft and vessels to join in the search operation, said Japanese rescuers found one of the crew from the fighter jet in stable condition. The Marines said that the rescued crew was taken to a hospital on the base in Iwakuni, but did not provide any other details.

Details of the second crew, including his or her condition, were unknown immediately.

The crash is the latest in recent series of accidents involving the U.S. military deployed to and near Japan. Last month, a U.S. Navy F/A-18 Hornet from the aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan crashed into the sea southwest of Japan’s southern island of Okinawa, though its two pilots were rescued safely. In mid-October, a MH-60 Seahawk also belonging to the Ronald Reagan crashed off the Philippine Sea shortly after takeoff, causing non-fatal injuries to a dozen sailors.

More than 50,000 U.S. troops are based in Japan under the bilateral security pact.

Follow Mari Yamaguchi on Twitter at <https://www.twitter.com/mariyamaguchi>

Presidential funeral train will be first in nearly 50 years

By WILL WEISSERT, Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The locomotive was painted to resemble Air Force One, but George H.W. Bush joked that if it had been around during his presidency, he may have preferred to ride the rails rather than take to the skies.

"I might have left Air Force One behind," Bush quipped during the 2005 unveiling of 4141, a blue and gray locomotive commissioned in honor of the 41st president and unveiled at Texas A&M University.

On Thursday, that same 4,300-horsepower machine will carry Bush's casket, along with relatives and close friends, for around 70 miles (113 kilometers). The journey through five small Texas towns was expected to take about two and a half hours. It will deliver the casket from suburban Houston to College Station.

There, a motorcade will take Bush to his presidential library at the university, where he will be laid to rest at a private ceremony next to his wife, Barbara, who died in April, and his daughter Robin, who died at age 3 in 1953.

The train's sixth car, a converted baggage hauler called "Council Bluffs," has been fitted with transparent sides to allow mourners lining the tracks on Thursday views of Bush's flag draped coffin.

It will be the eighth funeral train in U.S. history and the first since Dwight D. Eisenhower's body traveled from the National Cathedral in Washington through seven states to his Kansas hometown of Abilene 49 years ago. Abraham Lincoln's funeral train was the first, in 1865.

Robert F. Kennedy was never president, but he was running for the White House when he was assassinated in Los Angeles in 1968. His body was later transported to New York City for a funeral Mass and then taken by private train to Washington for burial at Arlington National Cemetery. Thousands of mourners lined the tracks for the 200-plus-mile journey.

Union Pacific originally commissioned the Bush locomotive for the opening of an exhibit at his presidential library titled "Trains: Tracks of the Iron Horse." It was one of the few times the company has painted a locomotive any color other than its traditional yellow. After a brief training session during 4141's unveiling 13 years ago, Bush took the engineer's seat and helped take the locomotive for a 2-mile excursion.

"We just rode on the railroads all the time, and I've never forgotten it," Bush said at the time, recalling how he took trains, and often slept on them, during trips as a child with his family. He also called the locomotive "the Air Force One of railroads."

Bush, who died last week at his Houston home at age 94, was eulogized Wednesday at a funeral service at the National Cathedral. By evening, his casket was at St. Martin's Episcopal Church in Houston.

The funeral train has been part of the official planning for his death for years, Bush spokesman Jim McGrath said.



FILE - In this Oct. 18, 2005, file photo, a new locomotive numbered 4141 in honor of the 41st president, George H.W. Bush, is unveiled at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas. The locomotive unveiled for the special exhibit at George H.W. Bush's presidential library will be used to pull the late president's funeral train. The 4,300-horsepower machine will carry Bush's remains Thursday, Dec. 6, 2018, to his final resting place at his presidential library.

(AP Photo/Pat Sullivan, File)

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 27 of 44

Union Pacific was contacted by federal officials in early 2009 and asked, at Bush's request, about providing a funeral train at some point, company spokesman Tom Lange said.

"We said, 'Of course and also we have this locomotive that we would want to have obviously be part of it,'" Lange said. He noted that trains were the mode of transportation that first carried Bush to his service as a naval aviator in World War II and back home again.

Eisenhower was the last president to travel by train regularly. A key reason was his wife, Mamie, who hated to fly. During the 1952 campaign, Eisenhower traveled more than 51,000 miles and made 252 stops. And while he often flew, his wife rode the train the whole time, Union Pacific said.

Still, when Bush beat Democrat Michael Dukakis and won the presidency in 1988, both candidates used trains to make some campaign stops. Bush also occasionally traveled by train in 1992, when he was defeated by Democrat Bill Clinton, including making Midwest stops aboard a train dubbed "The Spirit of America."

Canada arrests CFO of China's Huawei Technologies

By **ROB GILLIES, Associated Press**

TORONTO (AP) — Canadian authorities said Wednesday that they have arrested the chief financial officer of China's Huawei Technologies for possible extradition to the United States.

China demanded her immediate release, and a former Canadian envoy to China warned the case might lead to retaliation by the Chinese against American and Canadian executives.

Justice Department spokesman Ian McLeod said Meng Wanzhou was detained in Vancouver, British Columbia, on Saturday.

The arrest took place on the same day Trump met with Chinese President Xi Jinping to discuss the trade war after the close of the G-20 summit in Argentina. They agreed to a 90-day truce in an escalating trade war that is threatening world economic growth and has set global investors on edge.

Meng is a prominent member of Chinese society as deputy chairman of the board and the daughter of company founder Ren Zhengfei.

McLeod said a publication ban had been imposed in the case and he could not provide further details. The ban was sought by Meng, who has a bail hearing Friday, he said.

The Wall Street Journal reported earlier this year that U.S. authorities are investigating whether Chinese tech giant Huawei violated sanctions on Iran.

Huawei issued a statement saying Meng was changing flights in Canada when she was detained "on behalf of the United States of America" to face "unspecified charges" in New York.

"The company has been provided very little information regarding the charges and is not aware of any wrongdoing by Ms. Meng," the statement said.

Huawei said it complies with all laws and rules where it operates, including export controls and sanctions of the United Nations, the U.S. and European Union.

The Chinese Embassy in Ottawa said her human rights were violated and demanded she be freed.

"The Chinese side firmly opposes and strongly protests over such kind of actions which seriously harmed the human rights of the victim," the statement said.

A U.S. Justice Department spokesman declined to comment.

In April, China appealed to Washington to avoid damaging business confidence following the Wall Street Journal report that U.S. authorities were investigating whether Huawei violated sanctions on Iran amid spiraling technology tensions.

A foreign ministry spokeswoman, Hua Chunying, said then that China hoped the U.S. would refrain from taking actions that could further undermine investor confidence in the U.S. business environment and harm its domestic economy.

That same month Washington barred Huawei rival ZTE Corp. from exporting U.S. technology in a separate case over exports to Iran and North Korea

Trump has threatened to raise tariffs on Chinese goods in response to complaints that Beijing improperly pressures foreign companies to hand over technology. That is widely seen as part of a broader effort by

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 28 of 44

Washington to respond to intensifying competition with Chinese technology industries that Trump says benefit from improper subsidies and market barriers. The escalating trade war is threatening world economic growth and has set global investors on edge.

David Mulroney, a former Canadian ambassador to China, said U.S. and Canadian business executives could face reprisals in China.

"That's something we should be watching out for. It's a possibility. China's plays rough," Mulroney said. "It's a prominent member of their society and it's a company that really embodies China's quest for global recognition as a technology power."

Mulroney said Canada should be prepared for "sustained fury" from the Chinese and said it will be portrayed in China as Canada kowtowing to Trump. He also said the Iran allegations are very damaging to Huawei and said China will push back hard.

Wenran Jiang, a senior fellow at the Institute of Asian Research at the University of British Columbia, said the Chinese will read the arrest on the same day as the Trump meeting with the Chinese leader as a planned conspiracy to do damage

"She was in transit though Vancouver. That means the intelligence agencies in Canada and the U.S. were tracking her and planning to arrest her for some time," he said.

He foresees a crisis in relations between the three countries if she is extradited and said any talk of free trade agreement between Canada and China would be over.

U.S. Sen. Ben Sasse, a Republican member of the Senate Armed Services and Banking committees, said Huawei is an agent of China's communist party and applauded Canada for the arrest.

"Americans are grateful that our Canadian partners have arrested the Chief Financial Officer of a giant Chinese telecom company for breaking U.S. sanctions against Iran," he said.

Residents return to California town leveled by wildfire

By **DON THOMPSON** and **OLGA R. RODRIGUEZ**, Associated Press

PARADISE, Calif. (AP) — Joyce and Jerry McLean sifted through twisted metal and broken glass Wednesday on the property where their mobile home once stood, hoping to find precious family possessions that might have survived the devastating California wildfire that leveled Paradise.

They were among hundreds of residents who were finally allowed back into neighborhoods on the east side of town a month after the blaze killed at least 85 people and destroyed about 14,000 homes.

The couple, wearing white hazmat suits and leather gloves, searched for his gold wedding band, a Bible that belonged to his great-grandmother and Christmas ornaments their son made when he was a boy.

"We didn't own expensive things, but we had a lot of memory things," said Joyce McLean, 73. "If I can find a little piece of his family or just a little piece of my son, I would be happy."

Earlier in the day, a long line of cars waited in a cold drizzle at a checkpoint to enter areas where evacuation orders had been lifted for an area where 4,700 people once lived.

Crews in yellow rain slickers were still clearing debris from burned homes and removing trees from streets littered with melted plastic trash cans and hollowed vehicles on tireless rims.

Some residents have been allowed back into nearby communities in the fire zone, but Wednesday marked the first time residents of Paradise got a firsthand look at what was left of their town of 27,000 people that was hit the hardest by the blaze.

More than 50,000 people in Paradise and the neighboring communities of Magalia and Concow were forced to quickly flee the towering, wind-driven flames that charred 240 square miles (622 square kilometers). Authorities said 10 people were still unaccounted Wednesday for in what was the deadliest U.S. wildfire in at least a century.

Joyce McLean said she had seen photos on social media of her burned home and knew one of the only things that survived was an American flag still flying on its pole.

"We lost everything but the clothes on our backs," she said about their harrowing dash for safety.

In their search Wednesday, they found tools that belonged to Jerry McLean's father and a set of souvenir

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 29 of 44

spoons that belonged to Joyce McLean's mother, but there was no sign of the precious items they had hoped to find.

"I don't think we're going to find the Bible, not much chance," said Jerry McLean, 72.

Joyce McLean said the thought of returning after the fire had made her nervous and emotional, but she wanted to at least recover the flag.

"I think something was telling us to be there," she said about the images she saw on social media. "The only thing that was standing was the flagpole, with the flag still flying, and our welcome sign with our name and address."

Rebecca Rogers of Chico came to support her friend, Jennifer Christensen, who lost her Paradise home in the fire.

Rogers believes she found the remains of Christensen's cat, Marble, under what used to be her friend's bed. Rogers was in tears when she approached the McLeans to ask for a bag to gather the remains.

"I don't want her to look. It's just too much," Rogers sobbed before burying the remains in the front yard of her friend's home. "I've got to be strong; I've got to do this for her."

The communities will have very limited services for the immediate future, and authorities urged returning residents to bring food, water and fuel for vehicles.

Pacific Gas & Electric Co. spokesman Dennis MacAleese said the utility has 4,000 people in the area working to restore electric and gas service to those who can receive it. He said the utility hopes to restore electrical service by the end of the month and gas by the first quarter of next year.

Residents returning Wednesday were given kits with gloves and hazmat suits and warned that they should not move back into homes until ash and hazardous waste have been cleared, and that rain could increase the risk of flash floods and mudslides.

The McLeans are temporarily renting a house in the region, but they plan to move back to Paradise and have already bought a two-bedroom mobile home to replace the one they lost.

They also intend to keep searching the rubble for their precious possessions.

"Today was just kind of a come-to-Jesus meeting to see what's here, what's not — mostly not," Jerry McLean said.

Before leaving for the day, he took down the flag and folded it.

"When we come back, she'll go up again," he said.

Rodriguez reported from San Francisco.

This story has been corrected to show the sheriff's office said the general public will be allowed to the areas in now open in Paradise on Thursday, not that all evacuation orders will be lifted Thursday.

Quackarazzi: Mandarin duck holds NYC in its spell

By VERENA DOBNIK, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — It took just days for the brightly colored Mandarin duck that appeared suddenly in a Central Park pond to turn both New Yorkers and visitors into a new gaggle: the quackarazzi.

A horde of photographers has been gathering daily in the park off Fifth Avenue for well over a month, hoping to catch a glimpse of the exotic bird with pink, purple, orange and emerald green plumage and markings that admirer Joe Amato compares to "a living box of crayons."

"So many people are drawn to this bird because its vibrant, vivid colors are associated with sunsets and rainbows," says Amato, who comes almost daily from his Queens home with his expensive camera equipment in tow.

Bird lovers and sightseers have dutifully documented the bird's every move through social media postings and videos that have noted its gentle glides across the water, its sniping at the ordinary mallards and even a vacation, of sorts, to a lake in nearby New Jersey.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 30 of 44

This week, New York's latest rising star didn't disappoint — with the feathery showboat preening its wings in the shadow of the historic Plaza Hotel as people on shore jostled for a better look.

Leesa Beckmann commuted two and a half hours from her home in Vernon Township, New Jersey, to see the duck that her 90-year-old mother has been talking about since its arrival.

"I've got to see this magnificent duck," Beckmann said to her mother.

She plans to shoot and frame photos for her mother to hang on the wall.

Ornithologist Paul Sweet, however, who heads a vast collection of bird specimens at the New York-based American Museum of Natural History, isn't as throttled as others are about the duck.

Sweet says there's nothing special about a Mandarin duck in Central Park. Not only is there another one (albeit captive) a short walk away at the Central Park Zoo, but such ducks are often imported from Asia for use on private property. From time to time, they escape into the wild.

"This bird is clearly not a vagrant," said Sweet, adding that there are no records of actual wild Mandarin ducks in North America. If that actually happened in New York, of all places, "birders would be very excited." For now, he says, they're not.

"A lot of non-birders tend to see gaudy birds as more beautiful," Sweet said. "But to me it's no more beautiful than, say, a sparrow."

In this case, expertise is not the point: Beauty is in the eyes of the New York beholders — humans for whom the carefree creature that has made Central Park its home offers some kind of balm in a troubled, chaotic world.



A Mandarin duck walks in Central Park in New York, Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2018. In the weeks since it appeared in Central Park, the duck has become a celebrity. (AP Photo/

Seth Wenig)

Nation bids goodbye to Bush with high praise, cannons, humor

By CALVIN WOODWARD, LAURIE KELLMAN and ASHRAF KHALIL, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The nation bid goodbye to George H.W. Bush with high praise, cannon salutes and gentle humor Wednesday, celebrating the life of the Texan who embraced a lifetime of service in Washington and was the last president to fight for the U.S. in wartime. Three former presidents looked on at Washington National Cathedral as a fourth — George W. Bush — eulogized his dad as "the brightest of a thousand points of light."

After three days of remembrance in the capital city, the Air Force plane with Bush's casket left for a final service in Houston and burial Thursday at his family plot on the presidential library grounds at Texas A&M University in College Station. His final resting place is alongside Barbara Bush, his wife of 73 years, and Robin Bush, the daughter who died of leukemia at age 3.

His plane, which often serves as Air Force One, arrived at Ellington Field outside Houston in late afternoon. As a motorcade subsequently carried Bush's remains to the family church, St. Martin's Episcopal, along a closed interstate, hundreds of people in stopped cars on the other side of the road, took pictures

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 31 of 44

and shot cell phone video. One driver of a tanker truck climbed atop the hulking vehicle for a better view, and at least 15 firefighters scaled a pair of stopped firetrucks to salute.

Upon its arrival at the church, Bush's casket was met by a military band and Houston Democratic Mayor Sylvester Turner.

The national funeral service at the cathedral was a tribute to a president, a patriarch and a faded political era that prized military service and public responsibility. It was laced with indirect comparisons to President Donald Trump but was not consumed by them, as speakers focused on Bush's public life and character — with plenty of cracks about his goofy side, too.

"He was a man of such great humility," said Alan Simpson, a former Republican senator from Wyoming. Those who travel "the high road of humility in Washington, D.C.," he added pointedly, "are not bothered by heavy traffic."

Trump sat with his wife, a trio of ex-presidents and their wives, several of the group sharp critics of his presidency and one of them, Hillary Clinton, his 2016 Democratic foe. Apart from courteous nods and some handshakes, there was little interaction between Trump and the others.

George W. Bush broke down briefly at the end of his eulogy while invoking the daughter his parents lost in 1953 and his mother, who died in April. He said he took comfort in knowing "Dad is hugging Robin and holding Mom's hand again."

The family occupied the White House for a dozen years — the 41st president defeated after one term, the 43rd serving two. Jeb Bush stepped up to try to extend that run but fell short when Trump won the 2016 Republican primaries.

The elder Bush was "the last great-soldier statesman," historian Jon Meacham said in his eulogy, "our shield" in dangerous times.

But he took a lighter tone, too, noting that Bush, campaigning in a crowd in a department store, once shook hands with a mannequin. Rather than flushing in embarrassment, he simply quipped, "Never know. Gotta ask."

Meacham recounted how comedian Dana Carvey once said the key to doing an impersonation of Bush was "Mr. Rogers trying to be John Wayne."

None of that would be a surprise to Bush. Meacham had read his eulogy to him, said Bush spokesman Jim McGrath, and Bush responded to it with the crack: "That's a lot about me, Jon."

The congregation at the cathedral, filled with foreign leaders and diplomats, Americans of high office and others touched by Bush's life, rose for the arrival of the casket, accompanied by clergy of faiths from around the world. In their row together, Trump and former Presidents Barack Obama, Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton stood with their spouses and all placed their hands over their hearts.

Simpson regaled the congregation with stories from his years as Bush's friend in Washington. More seriously, he recalled that when he went through a rough patch in the political game, Bush conspicuously stood by him against the advice of aides. "You would have wanted him on your side," he said.

Simpson said Bush "loved a good joke — the richer the better. And he threw his head back and gave that great laugh, but he never, ever could remember a punchline. And I mean never."

George W. Bush turned the humor back on the acerbic ex-senator, saying of the late president: "He placed great value on a good joke, so he chose Simpson to speak."

Meacham praised Bush's call to volunteerism, placing his "1,000 points of light" alongside Abraham Lincoln's call to honor "the better angels of our nature" in the American rhetorical canon. Meacham called those lines "companion verses in America's national hymn."

Trump had mocked "1,000 points of light" last summer at a rally, saying: "What the hell is that? Has anyone ever figured that one out? And it was put out by a Republican, wasn't it?"

Former Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney praised Bush as a strong world leader who helped oversee the end of the Cold War and the collapse of the Soviet Union and helped bring about the North American Free Trade Agreement with Canada and Mexico, signed into law by his successor, Clinton.

With Trump, a bitter NAFTA critic, seated in the front row, Mulroney hailed the "largest and richest free trade area in the history of the world." The three countries have agreed on a revised trade agreement

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 32 of 44

pushed by Trump.

Earlier, a military band played "Hail to the Chief" as Bush's casket was carried down the steps of the U.S. Capitol, where he had lain in state. Family members looked on as servicemen fired off a cannon salute.

His hearse was then driven in a motorcade to the cathedral ceremony, slowing in front of the White House, the route lined with people much of the way, bundled in winter hats and taking photos.

Waiting for his arrival inside, Trump shook hands with Obama and former first lady Michelle Obama, who greeted him by saying "Good morning." Trump did not shake hands with Bill and Hillary Clinton, who looked straight ahead.

Bill Clinton and Mrs. Obama smiled and chatted as music played. Carter was seated silently next to Hillary Clinton in the cavernous cathedral. Obama cracked up laughing at someone's quip. Vice President Mike Pence shook Carter's hand.

Trump tweeted Wednesday that the day marked "a celebration for a great man who has led a long and distinguished life."

Bush's death makes Carter, also 94 but more than 100 days younger, the oldest living ex-president.

Following the cathedral service, the hearse and its long motorcade drove to the National Mall to pass by the World War II Memorial, a nod to the late president's service as a World War II Navy pilot, then transferred his remains at Joint Base Andrews for the flight home to Texas with members of his family.

Bush is set to lie in repose at St. Martin's Episcopal Church before boarding a special funeral train to be carried to his burial Thursday.

On Tuesday, soldiers, citizens in wheelchairs and long lines of others on foot wound through the Capitol Rotunda to view Bush's casket and honor a president whose legacy included a landmark law affirming the rights of the disabled. Former Sen. Bob Dole, a compatriot in war, peace and political struggle, steadied himself out of his wheelchair and saluted his old friend and one-time rival.

Trump ordered the federal government closed Wednesday for a national day of mourning. Flags on public buildings are flying at half-staff for 30 days.

Associated Press writer Darlene Superville in Washington and Juan A. Lozano, David J. Phillip and Nomaan Merchant in Houston contributed to this report.

Documents show Facebook used user data as competitive weapon

By **DANICA KIRKA, FRANK BAJAK and BARBARA ORTUTAY, Associated Press**

Internal Facebook documents released by a U.K. parliamentary committee offer the clearest evidence yet that the social network has used its enormous trove of user data as a competitive weapon, often in ways designed to keep its users in the dark.

Parliament's media committee accused Facebook on Wednesday of cutting special deals with some app developers to give them more access to data, while icing out others that it viewed as potential rivals.

In other documents, company executives discussed how they were keeping the company's collection and exploitation of user data from its users. That included quietly collecting the call records and text messages of users of phones that run on Google's Android operating system without asking their permission.

The U.K. committee released more than 200 pages of documents on the tech giant's internal discussions about the value of users' personal information. While they mostly cover the period between 2012 and 2015 —the first three years after Facebook went public — they offer a rare glimpse into the company's inner workings and the extent to which it used people's data to make money while publicly vowing to protect their privacy.

The company's critics said the new revelations reinforced their concerns over what users actually know about how Facebook treats their data.

"These kinds of schemes are exactly why companies must be required to disclose exactly how they are collecting and sharing our data, with stiff penalties for companies that lie about it," Sen. Ron Wyden, an Oregon Democrat, said in a statement.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 33 of 44

Facebook called the documents misleading and said the information they contain is "only part of the story." "Like any business, we had many internal conversations about the various ways we could build a sustainable business model for our platform," the company said in a statement. "But the facts are clear: We've never sold people's data."

In a Facebook post, company CEO Mark Zuckerberg sought to put the documents in context. "Of course, we don't let everyone develop on our platform," he wrote. "We blocked a lot of sketchy apps. We also didn't allow developers to use our platform to replicate our functionality or grow their services virally in a way that creates little value for people on Facebook."

The U.K. committee seized the documents from app developer Six4Three, maker of a now-defunct bikini-picture search app. Six4Three acquired the files as part of a U.S. lawsuit that accuses Facebook of deceptive, anti-competitive business practices. The documents remain under court seal in the U.S.

In a summary of key issues pertaining to the documents, the committee said Facebook "whitelisted," or made exceptions for companies such as Airbnb and Netflix, that gave them continued access to users' "friends" even after the tech giant announced changes in 2015 to end the practice.

"Facebook have clearly entered into whitelisting agreements with certain companies, which meant that after the platform changes in 2014/15 they maintained full access to friends data," the committee said in a statement. "It is not clear that there was any user consent for this, nor how Facebook decided which companies should be whitelisted or not."

The documents "raise important questions about how Facebook treats users' data, their policies for working with app developers, and how they exercise their dominant position in the social media market," said committee chair Damian Collins. "We don't feel we have had straight answers from Facebook on these important issues, which is why we are releasing the documents."

The cache includes emails from Zuckerberg and other key members of his staff. The emails show Zuckerberg and other executives scheming to leverage user data to favor companies not considered to be threats and to identify potential acquisitions.

Collins said the emails raise important issues, particularly around the use of the data of Facebook users. "The idea of linking access to friends' data to the financial value of the developers' relationship with Facebook is a recurring feature of the documents," Collins said.

The committee's summary said Facebook collected data about the mobile apps its users favored to help it decide which companies to acquire. It also said Facebook knew that an update to its Android mobile app phone system — which allowed the Facebook app to Hoover up user call logs and text messages — would be controversial.

"To mitigate any bad PR, Facebook planned to make it as hard as possible for users to know that this was one of the underlying features of the upgrade of their app," the summary said.

In a post Wednesday, Facebook continued to stand by its stance that the feature was "is opt in for users and we ask for people's permission before enabling."

The Android data collection practice was unearthed in April as the Cambridge Analytica scandal roiled Facebook. The data mining firm, employed by the 2016 Trump campaign, exploited lax Facebook data-sharing policies to obtain data on millions of users without their consent.

Facebook executives clearly understand the material is valuable. An unsigned memo setting policy for a system upgrade known as "Platform 3.0" laid out a case for shutting out any app developer who could be construed as a competitor.

"There are a small number of developers whom no amount of sharing to FB or monetary value can justify giving them access to Platform," the memo said. "These developers do not want to participate in the ecosystem we have created, but rather build their own ecosystem at the expense of our users, other developers and, of course, us. That is something that we will not allow."

The documents also suggest Facebook would jealously safeguard its interests. In a January 2013 email exchange, Zuckerberg signed off on cutting access to Twitter's Vine video-producing app, which had allowed users to find their friends on Vine by pulling in data from Facebook.

"Unless anyone raises objections," Facebook Vice President Justin Osofsky wrote, the company would

cut Vine's access to users' friend networks. "We're prepared reactive PR."

"Yup, go for it," Zuckerberg replied.

The documents also suggest robust internal discussions about linking data to revenue.

"There's a big question on where we get the revenue from," Zuckerberg said in one email. "Do we make it easy for (developers) to use our payments/ad network but not require them? Do we require them? Do we just charge a (revenue) share directly and let (developers) who use them get a credit against what they owe us? It's not at all clear to me here that we have a model that will actually make us the revenue we want at scale."

Next governor will ask Walker to veto lame-duck legislation

By SCOTT BAUER and TODD RICHMOND, Associated Press

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — The incoming Democratic governor of Wisconsin said Wednesday that he plans to make a personal appeal to his defeated rival, Gov. Scott Walker, to veto far-reaching GOP legislation that would strip the new administration of some powers. If that doesn't work, he might sue.

Wisconsin Republicans pushed through protests, internal disagreement and Democratic opposition to pass the bills after an all-night session. The measures would shift power to the GOP-controlled Legislature and weaken the authority of the office Republicans will lose in January.

"The will of the people has officially been ignored by the Legislature," Gov. Tony Evers said, adding that the lawmakers' actions "take us back to Nov. 6," before the election was finalized.

"Wisconsin should be embarrassed by this," Evers said.

He said he will talk to Walker as soon as the bills reach his desk and that if he cannot persuade the governor to veto the proposals, he will consider lawsuits and any other option "to make sure that this legislation does not get into practice."

The early morning votes were the height of a rare lame-duck legislative session. Walker has signaled his support for the bills. He has 10 days to sign the package after it's delivered to his office.

The session unfolded a month after Republicans were battered in the midterm election. They lost all statewide races amid strong Democratic turnout. But they retained legislative majorities thanks to what Democrats say are gerrymandered districts that tilt the map.

A Walker spokeswoman said the governor, who was in Washington for former President George H.W. Bush's funeral, would not have any public comment Wednesday.

The new legislation tries to protect some of the GOP's achievements in recent years, including a work requirement for some people receiving state health care and the state's role in a lawsuit seeking to overturn the Affordable Care Act. The bills could also make it harder for Evers to renegotiate a \$3 billion subsidy for a Foxconn electronics manufacturing facility, a deal spearheaded by Walker.

In neighboring Michigan, Republicans who control the Legislature voted to advance a measure that strips campaign-finance oversight power from the next secretary of state, a Democrat. They also moved to give lawmakers authority to stand up for GOP-backed laws if they think the incoming Democratic governor and attorney general are not adequately defending the state's interests.

The Wisconsin legislation passed in a session marked by stops and starts as GOP leaders tried to muster enough votes in the Senate. That chamber ultimately approved the package 17-16, with just one Republican voting against it, around sunrise. The Assembly approved it on a 56-27 vote about two hours later, with a single Republican defecting.

In one concession, Republicans backed away from giving the Legislature the power to sidestep the attorney general and appoint their own attorney when state laws are challenged in court.

"This is a heck of a way to run a railroad," Democratic Senate Minority Leader Jennifer Shilling said as the Senate debate resumed at 5 a.m. after a seven-hour impasse. "This is embarrassing we're even here."

Walker is in his final five weeks as governor. Faced with a Democratic governor for the first time in eight years, Republicans came up with a package of lame-duck bills to preserve their priorities and make it harder for Evers to enact his.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 35 of 44

"You're here because you don't want to give up power," Democratic Assembly Minority Leader Gordon Hintz said as debate concluded in that chamber. "You're sore losers. Does anybody think this is the right way to do business? If you vote for this, shame on you. You will go down in history as a disgrace."

Assembly Speaker Robin Vos countered that the bills would ensure a balance of power between the Legislature and the executive branch.

"We have allowed far too much authority to flow to the executive," Vos said. "To you, this is all about politics. To me, it's about the institution."

Vos last month cited the desire to protect key Republican achievements from being undone by Evers. Among them: a massive \$3 billion subsidy to bring Foxconn, a key Apple Inc. supplier, to Wisconsin, along with thousands of jobs. Evers has said he would like to renegotiate the deal.

The legislation passed Wednesday would shield the state jobs agency from his control and allow the board to choose its leader until September, likely at least delaying Evers' ability to maneuver on the Foxconn subsidy.

The changes would also weaken the governor's ability to put in place rules that enact laws. And they would limit early voting to no more than two weeks before an election, a restriction similar to what a federal judge ruled was unconstitutional.

The attorney general's office could also be weakened by a proposal to require a legislative committee, rather than the attorney general, to sign off on withdrawing from federal lawsuits. That would stop Evers and Democratic Attorney General-elect Josh Kaul from fulfilling promises to withdraw Wisconsin from a multi-state lawsuit seeking repeal of the Affordable Care Act. They made opposition to that lawsuit a central part of both of their campaigns.

Judges could block the proposals if they become law by issuing temporary injunctions. Democrats would likely need a permanent injunction to stop the changes for good, but Republicans would almost certainly pursue appeals all the way to the state Supreme Court, which is controlled by conservative justices.

The Legislature passed another measure to enact Medicaid work requirement rules that Walker recently won a federal waiver to establish. That bill would also give the Legislature oversight over the governor seeking future waivers for health care, a change Democrats said would handcuff the new administration.

Rep. Todd Novak of Dodgeville, the only Republican in the Assembly to vote against the bills, said he did so after hearing from "an overwhelming number of voters" in his district who opposed the legislation. "It is my job," Novak said, "to cast my vote in the interest of those whom I represent."

Associated Press Writer Ivan Moreno contributed to this report.

Follow Scott Bauer on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/sbauerAP>.

Macron scraps French fuel tax hike amid violent protests

By SYLVIE CORBET, SAMUEL PETREQUIN and ANGELA CHARLTON, Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — French President Emmanuel Macron scrapped a fuel tax rise Wednesday amid fears of new violence, after weeks of nationwide protests and the worst rioting in Paris in decades.

Protesters celebrated the victory, but some said Macron's surrender came too late and is no longer enough to quell the mounting anger at the president, whom they consider out of touch with the problems of ordinary people.

Macron decided Wednesday to "get rid" of the tax planned for next year, an official in the president's office told The Associated Press. Prime Minister Edouard Philippe told lawmakers the tax is no longer included in the 2019 budget.

The decision has ramifications beyond France, since the fuel tax rise was part of Macron's efforts to wean France off fossil fuels in order to reduce greenhouse gases and help slow climate change. Its withdrawal is both a blow to broader efforts to fight climate change and a warning to other world leaders trying to do the same thing.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 36 of 44

The "yellow vest" protests began Nov. 17 over the government plan to raise taxes on diesel and gasoline, but by the time Macron bowed to three weeks of violence and abandoned the new fuel tax, protesters were demanding much more. Many workers in France are angry over the combination of low wages, high taxes and high unemployment that have left many people struggling financially.

On Tuesday, the government agreed to suspend the fuel tax rise for six months. But instead of appeasing the protesters, it spurred other groups to join in, hoping for concessions of their own. The protests took on an even bigger dimension Wednesday with trade unions and farmers vowing to join the fray.

Police warned of potential violence during demonstrations in Paris on Saturday, with one small security forces union threatening a strike.

So after nightfall Wednesday, as parliament debated the 2019 budget, Macron's government suddenly gave in.

"I have no problem with admitting that on such or such question we could have done differently, that if there is such a level of anger ... it's because we still have a lot of things to improve," the prime minister told legislators.

Philippe said "the tax is now abandoned" in the 2019 budget, and the government is "ready for dialogue." The budget can be renegotiated through the year, but given the scale of the recent protests, Macron is unlikely to revive the added fuel tax idea anytime soon.

Jacline Mouraud, one of the self-proclaimed spokespeople for the disparate yellow vest movement, told the AP that Macron's concession "comes much too late, unfortunately."

"It's on the right path, but in my opinion it will not fundamentally change the movement," she said.

Three weeks of protests have caused four deaths, injured hundreds and littered central Paris with burned cars and shattered windows.

The sweep of the protests and their wide support by citizens of all political stripes has shocked Macron's government. In the last few days, Paris saw the worst anti-government riot since 1968, French students set fires outside high schools to protest a new university application system, small business owners blocked roads to protest high taxes, and retirees marched to protest the president's perceived elitism.

Macron's popularity has slumped to a new low since the demonstrations began. The former investment banker, who has pushed pro-business economic reforms to make France more competitive globally, is accused of being the "president of the rich" and of being estranged from the working classes.

On Wednesday, France's largest farmers union said it will launch anti-government protests next week, after trucking unions called for a rolling strike.

Trade unions so far have not played a role in the yellow vest protest movement but are now trying to capitalize on growing public anger. A joint statement from the CGT and the FO trucking unions called for action Sunday night to protest a cut in overtime rates.

The FNSEA farmers union said it would fight to help French farmers earn a better income but would not officially be joining forces with the "yellow vests" — protesters wearing the high-visibility vests that motorists are required to keep in their cars.

French police have cleared most of the fuel depots that protesters blocked earlier in the week, but fuel shortages still hit parts of France on Wednesday, affecting hundreds of gas stations.

Demonstrators also blocked toll booths, letting drivers pass without paying, to press demands that ranged from higher incomes and pensions to the dissolution of the National Assembly, France's parliament.

At Tolbiac University in downtown Paris, students took over a school building and classes were canceled. "We need taxes, but they are not properly redistributed," protester Thomas Tricottet told BFM television.

The high school students' FIDL union called for "massive" protests Thursday and urged France's education minister to step down.

One student was injured during protests at a high school in Saint-Jean-de-Braye in north-central France. BFM said he was shot in the head with a rubber bullet. Julien Guiller, a spokesman for the regional school administration, told the AP that the student was expected to survive.

Until he scrapped the fuel tax rise, Macron's actions after returning from the G-20 summit in Argentina

had done little to persuade protesters that he was listening to their concerns.

He has refrained from speaking publicly about the protests and has largely remained in his palace. On Tuesday night, he was jeered as he traveled to a regional government headquarters that was torched by protesters over the weekend.

One activist said Wednesday that he fears more deaths if Saturday's yellow vest demonstration in Paris goes ahead and urged Macron to speak out and calm the nation.

"If not there will be chaos," said Christophe Chalencon.

Chalencon, a 52-year-old blacksmith from southern France, told the AP the French public needs Macron to "admit he made a mistake, with simple words ... that touch the guts and heart of the French."

In a disparaging tweet, U.S. President Donald Trump claimed that Macron's decision Tuesday to delay the gas tax hike showed that the French leader doesn't believe in the 2015 Paris global climate accord.

The Trump tweet came as thousands of climate experts were meeting in Poland to work out national responsibilities in the fight to reduce emissions and slow global warming.

Associated Press writers Elaine Ganley, Alex Turnbull and Catherine Gaschka contributed to this report.

Julia Roberts finds life (and her roles) get better with age

By JAKE COYLE, AP Film Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Julia Roberts is sitting on a couch in a Soho hotel when Lucas Hedges bursts in and begins frantically searching for his phone, sending pillows flying.

"This is what I say to Finn," Roberts says, referencing one of her three children as she instructs her 21-year-old co-star. "Where did you go from here, honey?"

Roberts' motherly instincts play a big part of her latest film, "Ben Is Back." Written and directed by Peter Hedges ("Dan in Real Life," and the father of Lucas), "Ben Is Back" is about a son (Lucas) home from rehab for Christmas. The short visit resurrects past demons and present temptations for Ben, testing his mother's anxious balance of trust and suspicion.

It's the second standout performance this fall for Roberts, who also stars in Amazon's acclaimed conspiracy thriller "Homecoming" as a government-sponsored caseworker coaxing soldiers back into civilian life. It's a more dramatic chapter for Roberts, the most quintessential of movie stars, who at 51 is stretching in new directions that are increasingly further afield from the frothier romantic comedies she built her career on.

"With age comes more complexity of possible parts," Roberts said in a recent interview. "You know, I'm happy and I have fun at home, so it would take a lot for someone to say: 'Look, you can play this part where you're happy and have fun.' Well, I just do that at home!"

It can take a lot to get Roberts away from home. Hedges at one point jokingly suggested shooting "Ben Is Back" in her backyard. She's notoriously picky, generally acting in one film a year, and that's become iffier considering, as she says, there's "a whole lot of math" that needs to factor her kids' school schedule and that of her husband, cinematographer Danny Moder. Roberts has, quite contentedly, largely withdrawn from the limelight. She knits. She plays Mahjong with girlfriends once a week. She will watch "Point Break" anytime it's on TV.

But she still wears the role of movie star about as comfortably as anyone ever has, and in person she is — to an almost disarming degree — precisely as you'd expect. She remains genuinely, breezily, unaffectedly herself, a quality that has made countless feel as if they know — really know — her. Roberts grants that the public's impression of her is "probably relatively accurate," something few who have graced so many tabloid covers in their lifetime can do. "I mean, I'm not interested in trying to seem cooler than I am or something," she says.

Still, Roberts, a four-time Oscar nominee and one-time winner ("Erin Brockovich"), is also indelibly linked to the '90s and '00s pre-digital movie era when stars, not superheroes, still ruled the box office. Times have changed; her breakthrough film, 1990's "Pretty Woman," is now a Broadway musical. Roberts recently had the out-of-body experience attending it alongside Barbara Marshall, wife of the film's late

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 38 of 44

director Garry Marshall.

"I wasn't prepared for how profoundly it made me miss Garry," she said, choking up.

"I wasn't prepared for how all of the improvs that I created are in a Broadway book now," she says. "People are saying things that I was just making up, just vamping."

And long before pay equality became an industry-wide concern, Roberts was among Hollywood's highest paid stars. Asked about the #MeToo movement and Hollywood gender parity, Roberts replied, "You can never rest."

"You think that's sorted and you come around a corner and then how is it not sorted suddenly? How is it not fair?" she says, noting a few advancements that hit home for her and her family: equal pay for women surfers and Manchester United launching a women's team. "Things like this give me hope that our business can keep making strides, because every year that it's 'the year of the woman,' you kind of go: Again? Let's just have it always be the year of the artists. If we have to keep spotlighting the gender of this and the gender of that, we're kind of blowing it."

Lately, Roberts has been trying some new things. She joined Instagram in June. "Homecoming" is her first foray into a TV series. Roberts insisted Sam Esmail ("Mr. Robot") direct all the episodes and that all the scripts be completed before shooting began.

She similarly helped shape "Ben Is Back," pushing for Peter Hedges to cast his son, the in-demand breakout star of "Manchester by the Sea," a tall task because Lucas has deliberately sought to establish himself outside of his father's shadow.

"When Julia read the script and met with me, I came with a list of actors that I thought would be good for the part, and Lucas wasn't on that list," Peter Hedges said by phone. "Before I could even share that list with her she said: 'Lucas needs to play this part.' I said, 'One, I don't think he's available, and, two, I don't think he would ever want to do a film with me.' Once she signed on, she began a very persuasive and I think classy campaign. She made effort to let him know that she thought he should do the film with her."

It is, alas, hard to say no to Julia Roberts. The actress later invited Lucas to her Malibu home where she says he became part of the family, hanging out and taking her kids to the beach. Making "Ben Is Back" was for her less about channeling her own parental nightmares than fostering a relationship with her fictional son.

"Spending time with Lucas meant that I had heart-space with him, and that is what I called upon and relied upon for the movie," says Roberts. "Separation is important. Especially in the middle of the night when you're playing a scene over and over again, you just have to have so much clarity about that jumping off point. I think that helps it be super clear and fair. I don't want to drag my kids through this crap."

Like much of Roberts' best recent work, including "Wonder" and "August: Osage County" (for which she received an Oscar nomination), "Ben Is Back" revolves around family, both on and off screen. While her next film, "Little Bee," is a drama, too, Roberts hasn't turned away from romantic comedies for good.

"It's just two delicious things put together," says Roberts. "It's like spending months wrapping a present for people. They're really hard to make well, so I don't begrudge their absence because I'd rather not see a bunch of really bad ones."

But "Ben is Back" and "Homecoming" have allowed Roberts to expand on the dramatic work she did with Steven Soderbergh ("Erin Brockovich") and Mike Nichols ("Closer," "Charlie Wilson's War"), who once said of the actress: "Her face is made by God to express thought and feeling."

What's left for Roberts to prove? To her, that's not the question.

"I've never been in the proving business, but I do reside very humbly in the I-want-to-impress-you business," says Roberts, noting her husband is at the top of that list. "I just remember the feeling of walking on the set everyday with my beloved Mike Nichols and thinking: What can I do in my work today that he'll go: 'I didn't see that coming.'"

Follow AP Film Writer Jake Coyle on Twitter at: <http://twitter.com/jakecoyleAP>

Former CBS chief Moonves accused of more sexual misconduct

By MAE ANDERSON, AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — An internal investigation of former CBS chief Les Moonves has turned up more evidence of sexual misconduct, as well as lying and destruction of evidence, throwing into jeopardy his \$120 million severance package, The New York Times reported Wednesday.

A look at what's known about the scandal so far:

THE LATEST

Lawyers hired by the network allege in a draft report that the TV executive committed "multiple acts of serious nonconsensual sexual misconduct" before and after he came to CBS in 1995, according to the Times. He also deleted numerous text messages and was "evasive and untruthful at times" under questioning, the report says.

Among other things, investigators received reports about a network employee who was "on call" to perform oral sex on Moonves. Investigators also found that he received oral sex from at least four CBS employees "under circumstances that sound transactional and improper to the extent that there was no hint of any relationship, romance, or reciprocity."

The investigators say they interviewed 11 of the 17 women they knew had accused Moonves of misconduct and found their accounts credible.

The 59-page report is to be presented to CBS's board of directors before the company's annual meeting next week, the Times said.

THE REACTION

A lawyer for Moonves, Andrew J. Levander, said in a statement that Moonves said he cooperated "extensively and fully" with investigators.

The former CEO "vehemently denies having any non-consensual sexual relations. He never put or kept someone on the payroll for the purpose of sex," the attorney said.

CBS declined to comment.

THE BACKSTORY

Moonves, largely credited with turning CBS around, was forced out in September, after The New Yorker published allegations from 12 women who said he subjected them to mistreatment that included forced oral sex, groping and retaliation if they resisted.

Moonves denied the accusations, though he said he had consensual relations with some of the women.

Moonves, 69, is one of the most powerful entertainment industry figures to be brought down by the #MeToo movement. Others include Hollywood studio boss Harvey Weinstein, NBC "Today" show host Matt Lauer and PBS talk show host Charlie Rose.

Moonves made his mark at CBS with sitcoms such as "Two and a Half Men" and "The Big Bang Theory," reality TV such as "Survivor" and procedural dramas like "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation" and "NCIS."

THE CONTRACT

Moonves was one of the highest-paid executives in the nation, making a total of nearly \$140 million in the two years before he lost his job.

In a move that appalled women's activists and others, CBS said at the time of his departure that it set aside \$120 million in severance for him. But the network warned he will lose the money if the board concludes it had cause to terminate him.

In their report, the lawyers say the network has grounds to deny him his severance. They say his pattern of behavior "arguably constitutes willful misfeasance and violation of the company's sexual harassment policy."

THE INVESTIGATORS

The investigation began in August and is being led by two former federal prosecutors now with highly regarded law firms: Nancy Kestenbaum and Mary Jo White, who was also head of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

In a statement to the Times, the investigators said: "Our work is still in progress and there are bound

to be many facts and assessments that evolve and change as the work is completed.”

Climate reality check: Global carbon pollution up in 2018

By **SETH BORENSTEIN, AP Science Writer**

WASHINGTON (AP) — After several years of little growth, global emissions of heat-trapping carbon dioxide experienced their largest jump in seven years, discouraging scientists.

World carbon dioxide emissions are estimated to have risen 2.7 percent from 2017 to 2018, according to three studies released Wednesday from the Global Carbon Project, an international scientific collaboration of academics, governments and industry that tracks greenhouse gas emissions. The calculations, announced during negotiations to put the 2015 Paris climate accord into effect, puts some of the landmark agreement’s goals nearly out of reach, scientists said.

“This is terrible news,” said Andrew Jones, co-director of Climate Interactive, which models greenhouse gas emissions and temperatures but was not part of the research. “Every year that we delay serious climate action, the Paris goals become more difficult to meet.”

The studies concluded that this year the world would spew 40.9 billion tons (37.1 billion metric tons) of carbon dioxide, up from 39.8 billion tons (36.2 billion metric tons) last year. The margin of error is about one percentage point on either side.

The Global Carbon Project uses government and industry reports to come up with final emission figures for 2017 and projections for 2018 based on the four biggest polluters: China, the United States, India and the European Union.

The U.S., which had been steadily decreasing its carbon pollution, showed a significant rise in emissions — up 2.5 percent — for the first time since 2013. China, the globe’s biggest carbon emitter, saw its largest increase since 2011: 4.6 percent.

Study lead author Corinne Le Quere, a climate change researcher at the University of East Anglia in England, said the increase is a surprising “reality check” after a few years of smaller emission increases. But she also doesn’t think the world will return to the even larger increases seen from 2003 to 2008. She believes unusual factors are at play this year.

For the U.S., it was a combination of a hot summer and cold winter that required more electricity use for heating and cooling. For China, it was an economic stimulus that pushed coal-powered manufacturing, Le Quere said.

John Reilly, co-director of MIT’s Joint Program on the Science and Policy of Global Change, said the results aren’t too surprising because fossil fuels still account for 81 percent of the world’s energy use. The burning of coal, oil and gas release carbon dioxide, which warms the Earth. Reilly, who wasn’t part of the study, praised it as impressive.

Global Carbon Project chairman Rob Jackson, a Stanford University climate scientist, said he was discouraged.

The Paris accord set two goals. The long-held goal would limit global warming to no more than 1.8 degrees (1 degree Celsius) from now, with a more ambitious goal of limiting warming to 0.9 degrees (0.5 degrees Celsius) from now.

The trend is such that the world would have to be lucky to keep warming to 1.8 degrees, let alone the lower goal, Le Quere said.

China increased its emissions to 11.4 billion tons (10.3 billion metric tons), while the U.S. jumped to a shade under 6 billion tons (5.4 metric tons). The European Union spewed 3.9 billion tons (3.5 billion metric tons) and India soared to 2.9 billion tons (2.6 billion metric tons). Overall, the world is spewing about 1,300 tons (1,175 metric tons) of carbon dioxide into the air every second.

Use of coal — the biggest carbon emitter — is rising. And while countries are using more renewable fuels and trying to reduce carbon from electricity production, emissions from cars and planes are steadily increasing, Le Quere said.

Global carbon dioxide emissions have increased 55 percent in the last 20 years, the calculations show.

At the same time, Earth has warmed on average about two-thirds of a degree (0.38 degrees Celsius), according to the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Read more stories on climate issues by The Associated Press at <https://www.apnews.com/Climate>

Follow Seth Borenstein on Twitter at @borenbears .

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

Trump's push for tariffs squeezes a weakening global economy

By JOSH BOAK, AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The global economy was already showing signs of a slowdown when President Donald Trump reminded the world of his love of tariffs and sent a chill through financial markets.

"I am a Tariff Man," Trump announced Tuesday to signal his devotion to import taxes — a remark that served to downplay the likelihood of ending his trade war with China. Stocks sank across the world, in part over fear that an escalation in tariffs would choke off economic growth and possibly send a global slowdown into a recession.

By Wednesday, Tariff Man had tweaked his message to suggest more optimism on the odds of forging a deal with President Xi Jinping. Their meeting last weekend at an economic conference in Argentina produced a 90-day truce, a suspension of further increases in U.S. tariffs on Chinese goods and a pledge by Beijing to buy more U.S. goods.

"Not to sound naive or anything, but I believe President Xi meant every word of what he said at our long and hopefully historic meeting," Trump tweeted. "ALL subjects discussed!"

Still, Trump's rattling of the global economy came at a precarious moment, with the economic outlook for 2019 dimming and concerns about a potential recession — if not next year then soon thereafter — rising.

The economic stimulus from U.S. tax cuts is beginning to fade. Britain is struggling to leave the European Union. Italy's debt is widening. China is trying to navigate a slowdown after decades of unsustainably fast growth. Germany, Europe's largest economy, shrank in its most recent quarter.

Global growth was already slated to slip to 3.5% next year from 3.7% even without accounting for the risks of escalating U.S. tariffs and China's counter-tariffs, according to estimates by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, an intergovernmental think tank of 36 nations.

Now, businesses, consumers and nations must account for the chaotic confusion injected by Trump's evolving and conflicting messages about his administration's trade relationship with Beijing, said Ian Shepherdson, chief economist at Pantheon Macroeconomics.

Shepherdson worries that the president's fondness for tariffs might itself be enough to further suppress growth.

"The uncertainty caused by the whipsawing of his trade stance means that business investment will be delayed or canceled, marginal hiring decisions will be postponed and potential overseas business partners will look elsewhere," Shepherdson said.

Trump imposed tariffs of 10% on \$200 billion worth of Chinese goods in September. Those tariffs were set to rise to 25% on Jan. 1. The president had also threatened to impose tariffs on essentially all the remaining goods from China that aren't already subject to his higher tariffs. The Trump-Xi dinner negotiations, though, led the two sides to hit pause and agree to 90 days of negotiations.

Trump says he wants to shrink a gaping \$336 billion U.S. trade deficit with Beijing — the gap between how much America buys from China and how much it sells — and stop the Chinese from stealing or forcing the handover of U.S. technology and intellectual property.

Complicating the problem is that all this is happening against the backdrop of weakening growth around the world. The economy of the 19 countries that use the euro currency, for example, stumbled in the

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 42 of 44

July-September period. Its quarterly growth halved to 0.2%. Worries escalated after data showed that the economies of Italy and Germany, which relies on global exports, shrank during the quarter.

"The global picture is getting murkier, and that'll impact the eurozone via trade and sentiment," Erik Nielsen, chief economist at UniCredit bank, said in a note to clients.

Italy is suffering from uncertainty over its economic outlook under a new populist government. The government wants to raise public spending, thereby adding to its huge debt load of over 130% — and even rekindling concerns of a return of Europe's debt crisis.

Brexit, meanwhile, is an unknown, with Britain in the midst of political turmoil. It's possible that it could leave the EU without any deal on future relations involving trade. That's a worst-case scenario that would immediately establish tariffs and customs checks on hundreds of billions of dollars in exports between Britain and the 27 other EU nations.

White House aides have suggested that Trump is promoting tariffs merely as a tool to forge agreements that would actually eliminate all import taxes. And at the opening of this week, the administration was already claiming progress with China on the purchase of \$1.2 trillion worth of U.S. goods — even though White House officials couldn't supply any meaningful details.

"President Trump regards himself as a trade reformer," Larry Kudlow, director of the White House National Economic Council, told reporters Monday. "He wants a world of zero tariffs and zero non-tariff barriers and zero subsidies."

Then, on Tuesday, Trump seemed to thumb his nose at that White House talking point by dubbing himself "Tariff Man."

"When people or countries come in to raid the great wealth of our Nation," he tweeted, "I want them to pay for the privilege of doing so."

Those words helped trigger a dizzying sell-off Tuesday. The Dow Jones Industrial Average shed about 800 points — 3.1%.

U.S. financial markets were closed Wednesday for the funeral of former President George H.W. Bush. But stock indexes in Britain, Germany, France, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Japan, Australia, South Korea and India tumbled.

The problem for the global economy is that tariffs tend to inflate prices, depress trade and reduce the incomes of everyday workers. That's because companies must either absorb the higher costs created by tariffs or pass them on to their customers.

The Tax Foundation, a conservative think tank, studied the \$42 billion of tariffs already imposed by Trump, which include taxes on steel, aluminum, washing machines and the duties being charged on Chinese imports. Its analysis, released Wednesday, concluded that these tariffs had reduced incomes by an average of \$146 for taxpayers who earn between \$27,740 and \$43,800. The tariffs also cut U.S. hiring by the equivalent of 94,300 full-time jobs.

If Trump proceeds with the additional tariffs he has threatened, the Tax Foundation analyst Erica York estimates that middle-income households would lose an additional \$453.

"The bottom line: Tariffs don't in fact make Americans richer," York said. "Tariffs reduce incomes for American taxpayers, and the effect is greater for middle and lower-income families."

AP business writers David McHugh in Frankfurt, Carlo Piovano in London and Joe McDonald in Beijing contributed to this report.

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Thursday, Dec. 6, the 340th day of 2018. There are 25 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On Dec. 6, 1907, the worst mining disaster in U.S. history occurred as 362 men and boys died in a coal

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 43 of 44

mine explosion in Monongah, West Virginia.

On this date:

In 1790, Congress moved to Philadelphia from New York.

In 1865, the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, abolishing slavery, was ratified as Georgia became the 27th state to endorse it.

In 1884, Army engineers completed construction of the Washington Monument by setting an aluminum capstone atop the obelisk.

In 1917, some 2,000 people were killed when an explosives-laden French cargo ship, the Mont Blanc, collided with the Norwegian vessel Imo at the harbor in Halifax, Nova Scotia, setting off a blast that devastated the Canadian city. Finland declared its independence from Russia.

In 1923, a presidential address was broadcast on radio for the first time as President Coolidge spoke to a joint session of Congress.

In 1947, Everglades National Park in Florida was dedicated by President Harry S. Truman.

In 1957, America's first attempt at putting a satellite into orbit failed as Vanguard TV3 rose about four feet off a Cape Canaveral launch pad before crashing down and exploding.

In 1973, House minority leader Gerald R. Ford was sworn in as vice president, succeeding Spiro T. Agnew.

In 1982, 11 soldiers and six civilians were killed when an Irish National Liberation Army bomb exploded at a pub in Ballykelly, Northern Ireland.

In 1989, 14 women were shot to death at the University of Montreal's school of engineering by a man who then took his own life.

In 1998, in Venezuela, former Lt. Col. Hugo Chavez (OO'-goh CHAH'-vez), who had staged a bloody coup attempt against the government six years earlier, was elected president.

In 2001, The House of Representatives, by a one-vote margin, gave President George W. Bush more power to negotiate global trade deals. President Bush dedicated the national Christmas tree to those who had died on Sept. 11 and to service members who had died in the line of duty.

Ten years ago: President-elect Barack Obama said in a Saturday radio and Internet address that he'd asked his economic team for a recovery plan that would save or create more than 2 million jobs. Indicted Democratic U.S. Rep. William Jefferson was ousted from his New Orleans area district in a special election won by Republican attorney Anh "Joseph" Cao, who became the first Vietnamese-American in Congress. Heiress Martha "Sunny" von Bulow, who'd spent the last 28 years of her life in a coma, died in New York City at age 76.

Five years ago: A day after Nelson Mandela's death at 95, South Africans of all colors erupted in song, dance and tears in emotional celebrations of the life of the man who had bridged the country's black-white divide and helped avert a race war. The Fender Stratocaster that Bob Dylan played at the 1965 Newport Folk Festival was sold at Christie's for nearly \$1 million — the highest price ever paid for a guitar at auction.

One year ago: President Donald Trump declared Jerusalem to be Israel's capital, defying warnings from the Palestinians and others around the world that he would be destroying hopes for Mideast peace. Time magazine named as its Person of the Year the "Silence Breakers" - those who had shared their stories about sexual assault and harassment. A wildfire erupted in the exclusive Bel-Air section of Los Angeles, the latest neighborhood of Southern California to find itself under siege from an outbreak of wind-driven blazes. Russian President Vladimir Putin announced that he would seek re-election, putting him on track to become Russia's longest-serving ruler since Soviet dictator Josef Stalin.

Today's Birthdays: Comedy performer David Ossman is 82. Actor Patrick Bauchau is 80. Country singer Helen Cornelius is 77. Actor James Naughton is 73. Former Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood is 73. Rhythm-and-blues singer Frankie Beverly (Maze) is 72. Former Sen. Don Nickles, R-Okla., is 70. Actress JoBeth Williams is 70. Actor Tom Hulce is 65. Actor Wil Shriner is 65. Actor Kin Shriner is 65. Actor Miles Chapin is 64. Rock musician Rick Buckler (The Jam) is 63. Comedian Steven Wright is 63. Country singer Bill Lloyd is 63. Singer Tish Hinojosa is 63. Rock musician Peter Dinklage (R.E.M.) is 62. Rock musician David Lovering (Pixies) is 57. Actress Janine Turner is 56. Rock musician Ben Watt (Everything But The Girl) is 56. Writer-director Judd Apatow is 51. Rock musician Ulf "Buddha" Ekberg (Ace of Base) is 48. Writer-director

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Dec. 06, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 150 ~ 44 of 44

Craig Brewer is 47. Actress Colleen Haskell is 42. Actress Lindsay Price is 42. Actress Ashley Madekwe is 37. Actress Nora Kirkpatrick is 34. Christian rock musician Jacob Chesnut (Rush of Fools) is 29. Tennis player CoCo Vandeweghe is 27. Football quarterback Johnny Manziel is 26.

Thought for Today: "Disconnecting from change does not recapture the past. It loses the future." — Kathleen Norris, American author (1880-1960).