

Groton Daily Independent

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ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR WANTED

We are looking for someone with a creative mind and a passion for the elderly. If that is you, here is a great opportunity for YOU!

➤ Interview and assess all residents prior to the initial Care Plan Conference; document this information in the medical record, develop an individual recreation plan based on the assessment and participate in Interdisciplinary Care Plan meetings

➤ Update assessments and plans as needed and required by state or federal regulations

➤ Develop monthly recreation program calendars that reflect and meet the needs of facility residents

➤ Communicate facility programs to residents, staff, family and volunteers

➤ Manage facility Volunteer Program

➤ Maintain departmental documentation that reflects services provided and resident progress towards goals

➤ In coordination with social services facilitate the residents in the organization and continued development of a Resident's Council

➤ Make job assignments and set priorities

➤ Serve as member of QAA committee

We are an equal employment opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status or any other characteristic protected by law.



1106 N 2nd Street ~ Groton, SD ~ 605-397-2365

Colestock, Flihs place at Redfield Golf Meet

The Groton golf team participated at Redfield on Monday. The meet was suppose to be held in Groton, but the golf course is not ready for golfing yet due to flooding.

Peyton Colestock tied for sixth place with a 50 in the front nine and a 45 in the back nine for a total score of 95. There was a three-way tie for eighth which included Ashley Flihs, shooting a 49 in both front and back for a total score of 98. Also golfing were Carly Guthmiller who had a 66 and a 56 for a total score of 122 and Portia Kettering with a 65 and a 61 for a total of 126.

OPEN: Recycling Trailer in Groton

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

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Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

Tuesday, May 7, 2019

2:00pm: Varsity Track Meet @ Britton-Hecla High School

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

*Product Price - Actual retail prices are set by dealer and may vary. Taxes, freight, setup and handling charges may be additional and may vary. Models subject to limited availability. Specifications and programs are subject to change without notice. Images may not reflect dealer inventory and/or specifications. **As rated by Kohler. All power levels are stated in gross horsepower at 3600 RPM per SAE J1940 as rated by engine manufacturer. **See your local Cub Cadet Independent Dealer for warranty details. © 2018 Cub Cadet LP, an ECOMMERCIAL

Groton City Council Meeting Agenda
May 7, 2019 – 7:00pm
Groton Community Center

1. Hire Electric Lineman Apprentice
2. Public comments – pursuant to SDCL 1-25-1
(Public comments will offer the opportunity for anyone not listed on the agenda to speak to the council. Speaking time will be limited to 3 minutes. No action will be taken on questions or items not on the agenda.)
3. Minutes
4. Bills
5. Adjourn 131st Council

-
1. Convene 132nd Council – Oath of Office
 - Ward 1 – 2021 – Vacant (formerly Peterson)
 - Ward 2 – 2020 – Vacant (Formerly McGannon)
 - Ward 2 – 2021 – Shirley Wells
 - Ward 3 – 2021 – Karyn Babcock
 - Mayor – 2022 – Scott Hanlon
 - Appoint vacant council seats
 - Election of officers: President and Vice President
 2. Appoint attorney
 3. Appoint advisory committees
 4. Motion to approve bills each meeting and to authorize the Finance Officer to pay payroll and all regular monthly bills in a timely manner to avoid penalties and take advantage of discounts.
 5. Department reports
 6. 2018 Financial Report
 7. Resolution 2019-3 Implementing a Surcharge for Improvements to the Water System
 8. Second Reading of Ordinance #726 Solid Waste Rates
 9. Litter and Trash in the City
 10. Executive Session – personnel and legal 1-25-2 (1) & (3)
 11. Hire summer employees
 12. Adjournment

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Today in Weather History

May 7, 1896: A strong, estimated F3 tornado moved northeast from 12 miles SSW of Clark to 3 miles west of Watertown, to beyond Lake Kampeska. It was estimated to be on the ground for a distance of 30 miles. Near the start of the path, a woman was killed, and ten people were injured in one home. Parts of a house were found up to two miles away. The tornado also leveled barns near Watertown.

1840: A powerful tornado wrecked many boats at the Natchez Landing in Mississippi then plowed through the city on the bluff. The tornado killed 317 people and injured 109 others. The storm is currently the second deadliest tornado on record. The actual death toll could be higher as slaves were not counted.

1993: Serious flooding occurred in central Oklahoma following torrential rain and hail on this date through the 8th. Rainfall amounts on this date were generally around one inch. Oklahoma City, OK then recorded 6.64 inches of rain on the 8th, the third greatest daily rainfall amount ever observed in the city. Extensive flooding resulted, which killed four people, and the fire department had to rescue 183 others. More than 2,000 homes and businesses were damaged or destroyed. Damages were estimated at \$8 million.

1989: Thirty-two cities in the central and eastern U.S. reported record low temperatures for the date, and 24-hour snowfall totals of 7.2 inches at Buffalo and 10.7 inches at Rochester New York were records for May.

1840 - A powerful tornado wrecked many boats at the Natchez Landing in Mississippi, then plowed through the city on the bluff. The tornado killed 317 persons, and caused a million dollars damage. The force of the storm caused houses to burst open. The tornado was the most deadly and destructive in early American history. (David Ludlum)

1964 - The temperature at White Mountain 2, located in California, dipped to 15 degrees below zero to set a record for May for the continental U.S. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Thirty-one cities in the western U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date. Highs of 93 degrees at Portland OR and San Jose CA were the warmest of record for so early in the season. The high of 92 degrees at Quillayute WA was a record for the month of May. The temperature at Sacramento CA hit 105 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)






1988 - A powerful storm in the north central U.S. produced up to three feet of snow in the Bighorn Mountains of Wyoming and the mountains of south central Montana. Up to five inches of rain drenched central Montana in less than 24 hours, and flash flooding in Wyoming caused a million dollars damage. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Thirty-two cities in the central and eastern U.S. reported record low temperatures for the date, and 24 hour snowfall totals of 7.2 inches at Buffalo NY and 10.7 inches at Rochester NY were records for the month of May. While northerly winds ushered unseasonably cold air into the eastern U.S., temperatures warmed rapidly in the Great Plains Region, reaching the 90s in Kansas. The temperature at Manhattan KS soared from a low of 30 degrees to a high of 88 degrees. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)


1990 - Gale force winds lashed the northern and central Pacific coast. A wind gust of 52 mph at Eureka CA established a record for the month of May. Strong winds over northeastern Colorado, associated with a fast moving Pacific cold front, gusted to 63 mph at Peetz. Snow developed over the northwest mountains of Wyoming late in the day, and Yellowstone National Park was whitened with 6 to 14 inches. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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Today	Tonight	Wednesday	Wednesday Night	Thursday
				
Fog then Slight Chance Showers	Showers	Chance Showers	Slight Chance Showers	Mostly Sunny
High: 54 °F	Low: 41 °F	High: 54 °F	Low: 38 °F	High: 57 °F

Cool and Rainy



Areas of fog this morning

Rain spreading from southwest to northeast this afternoon and tonight

 National Weather Service Aberdeen, SD 

Published on: 05/07/2019 at 6:27AM

Areas of valley fog across the northern part of the state this morning will give way to rain this afternoon and overnight. Rain will spread from southwest to northeast as low pressure moves into the Plains today. Temperatures will remain well below normal with highs in the mid 40s to mid 50s.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 50 °F at 12:42 PM

Low Outside Temp: 39 °F at 10:27 PM

High Gust: 17 mph at 4:07 AM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 94° in 1928

Record Low: 24° in 1982

Average High: 66°F

Average Low: 41°F

Average Precip in May.: 0.61

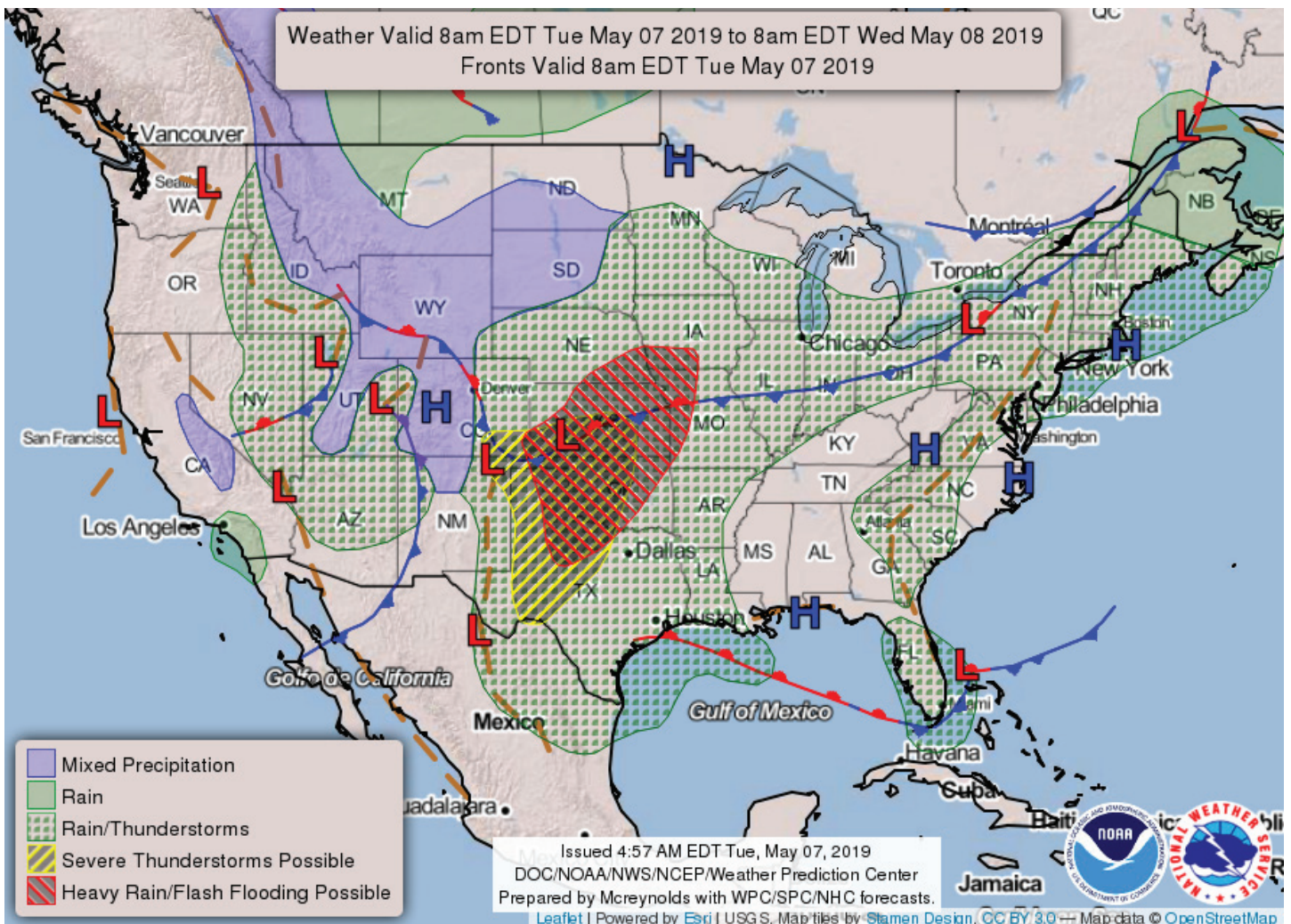
Precip to date in May.: 0.28

Average Precip to date: 4.64

Precip Year to Date: 4.97

Sunset Tonight: 8:48 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:12 a.m.



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MAKES SENSE TO ME!

That's the problem. It may make sense to the person making the decision, but no one else. So, Solomon warns, The way of a fool seems right to him, but a wise man listens to advice. And, that's not always easy!

Taking advice from others is a statement, to some, of being inadequate or incomplete. It is a public admission that You, of all people, could actually keep me from being wrong? You, keep me, from making a mistake? How dare you think I don't know everything!

It is sometimes difficult to admit our limitations. No, perhaps most of the time it is difficult to admit we cannot handle things by ourselves and have limited information about choices that confront us. We think and reason, talk and ask questions, but if what we hear does not agree with what we already have in mind, we readily dismiss it, whether it could keep us from disaster.

Closed minded, stubborn, insecure and threatened individuals who refuse advice, or counsel, are usually very defensive. They are quick to argue and anger, usually impatient and insecure, closed and lonely people. They are self-destructive, and in the process usually destroy others because every decision impacts the lives of others.

Looking to others for insight and understanding, for knowledge and information requires humility. And that may be the real problem. To be humble is to admit that I don't have all the answers! Only God does.

If after searching His Word and praying, we do not have His peace, He'll send the right advisor if we ask.

Prayer: Help us, Father, to be strong enough to become weak, wise enough to seek advice, and then trust You. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Proverbs 12:15 The way of a fool seems right to him, but a wise man listens to advice.

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2019 Groton SD Community Events

- 01/27/2019 Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm (Last Sunday of January)
- 03/17/2019 Legion Post #39 Spring Fundraiser (Sunday closest to St. Patrick's Day, every other year)
- 04/13/2019 Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
- 04/27/2019 Fireman's Stag (Same Saturday as GHS Prom)
- 05/04/2019 Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday in May)
- 05/27/2019 Legion Post #39 Memorial Day Program (Memorial Day)
- 06/13/2019 Transit Fundraiser (Thursday Mid-June)
- 06/14/2019 SDSU Golf Tournament at Olive Grove Golf Course
- 06/15/2019 Triathlon (Saturday before Father's Day)
- 06/21/2019 Best Ball Golf Tourney
- 06/22-23/2019 Groton Junior Legion Tournament
- 06/29/2019 Groton U10/U12 Round Robin Tournament
- 07/04/2019 Firecracker Golf Tourney (4th of July)
- 07/14/2019 Summer Fest/Car Show (Sunday Mid-July)
- 07/18/2019 Olive Grove Golf Course Pro Am Tournament
- 07/21/2019 Granary Ice Cream Social & Family Music Fest
- 08/02/2019 Olive Grove Golf Course Wine on Nine
- 08/09-11/2019 State Junior Legion Tournament in Groton
- 08/22/2019 First Day of School
- 09/07/2019 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
- 09/08/2019 Sunflower Classic at Olive Grove Golf Course
- 09/08/2019 Granary Living History Fall Festival
- 10/12/2019 Pumpkin Fest (Saturday before Columbus Day)
- 10/11/2019 Lake Region Marching Band Festival (2nd Friday in October)
- 10/31/2019 Trunk or Treat/Halloween on Main (Halloween)
- 11/09/2019 Legion Post #39 Turkey Shoot (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)
- 12/07/2019 Olive Grove Golf Course Holiday Party
- 12/07/2019 Santa Claus Day at Professional Management Services
- Bingo: every Wednesday at the Legion Post #39

2020 Groton SD Community Events

- 4/4/2020 Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
- 4/25/2020 Fireman's Stag (Same Saturday as GHS Prom)
- 5/2/2020 Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday in May)

News from the Associated Press

3rd suspect convicted in 2017 Pine Ridge Reservation slaying

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A federal jury has convicted a man accused in a fatal shooting on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in 2017.

Clarence Yellow Hawk was found guilty of first-degree murder and a weapons offense in the slaying of 42-year-old Chris Janis during a drug deal.

Yellow Hawk was one of three men charged in the slaying. Jamie Shoulders pleaded guilty to second-degree murder in March, and Scott Benson pleaded guilty a year ago to being an accessory. Shoulders is awaiting sentencing in July; Benson is serving 10 years in prison.

Yellow Hawk could face life in prison or the death penalty. Sentencing wasn't immediately scheduled.

Sioux Falls police defend decision to use dog during arrest

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls police are defending an officer's decision to use a police dog on a man who was suspected of choking his girlfriend.

Police spokesman Sam Clemens says the man was given many instructions to lie down or risk being bitten by the dog as officers were trying to arrest him on Friday. Clemens tells the Argus Leader that the dog did what it was supposed to do.

A bystander filmed the arrest and video has circulated on Facebook. The video also shows an officer kicking the man.

The video has generated comments both supporting and criticizing the use of force. Clemens says the man wasn't listening to officers' commands and it wasn't clear if he had a weapon. He says an internal investigation will be completed to determine whether use of force was appropriate.

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

Body found in Nebraska may be that of Sioux Falls woman, 76

SIOUX FALLS, Wis. (AP) — Authorities believe a body found in Nebraska is that of a Sioux Falls woman who has been missing for nearly two weeks.

Seventy-six-year-old Kathryn Ann Butler left her home on April 24 without her heart medication.

She was last seen in Orange City, Iowa, that same day.

Her vehicle was found Saturday in a field in Saunders County, Nebraska — about 40 miles west of Omaha.

A body was found nearby and an autopsy is being conducted to confirm whether it is Butler and determine the cause of death. Police in Sioux Falls say they don't believe foul play was involved.

Tribe helps 2 students attend South Dakota technical schools

WAGNER, S.D. (AP) — A Native American tribe is helping send two students to South Dakota technical schools on the condition that they stay and work in the state for three years after graduation.

The Yankton Sioux Tribe has entered an agreement with the Build Dakota Scholarship program to help cover the costs for tribal members Joi Zephier and Kobe Weverka to attend vocational programs.

Zephier plans to study nursing at Southeast Technical Institute in Sioux Falls and Weverka will pursue a diesel power technology program at Mitchell Technical Institute, the Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan reported.

Each scholarship covers \$18,000 over two years, which will go toward tuition, fees, books, laptops and other required resources.

Both Zephier and Weverka want to return to the reservation after graduation, though they're not required to do so.

"After college, I plan on either working with a local operation or start my own shop where I can fix trac-

tors," Weverka said.

Zephier will first complete licensed practical nurse training before advancing to a nine-month program to transition to a registered nurse.

"This is a huge step for all of us," said Clayton Deuter, Mitchell Tech's admissions director. "At the end of this (training for the two students), we'll have a nurse and a trained technician go out and work, hopefully, in the community."

It's the first time that the two technical schools and Lake Area Technical Institute of Watertown are "entering into an agreement as true partners for the Build Dakota Scholarship with one of the tribes," Deuter said.

Lake Area Tech wants to expand the program to tribes in the Watertown area, said Dana Sanderson, a former Wagner High School counselor who was involved in developing the partnership.

Sanderson hopes the program will grow to include all tribes in the state.

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

Two South Dakota youth honored for volunteerism at national award ceremony in Washington, D.C.

WASHINGTON, May 6, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- South Dakota's top two youth volunteers of 2019, Abby Neff, 17, of Sioux Falls and Owen Ponto, 13, of Rapid City, were honored in the nation's capital last night for their outstanding volunteer service during the 24th annual presentation of The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards. Abby and Owen – along with 100 other top youth volunteers from across the country – received a \$1,000 award and personal congratulations from award-winning actress Viola Davis at an award ceremony and gala dinner reception held at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History.

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, sponsored by

Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), named Abby and Owen South Dakota's top high school and middle level youth volunteers in February. In



Award-winning actress Viola Davis congratulates Abby Neff, 17, of Sioux Falls (center) and Owen Ponto, 13, of Rapid City (right) on being named South Dakota's top two youth volunteers for 2019 by The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards. Abby and Owen were honored at a ceremony on Sunday, May 5 at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History, where they each received a \$1,000 award.

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addition to their cash awards, they each received an engraved silver medallion and an all-expense-paid trip with a parent to Washington, D.C., for four days of recognition events.

Abby, a junior at Lutheran High School of Sioux Falls, has provided more than 25,000 recycled crayons and other art and educational materials to an estimated 10,000 children in need in 46 states and overseas. While volunteering as a teen teacher at an after-school program for low-income youth, Abby saw how excited the children were to do art projects. When they ran out of time, "I would tell them to just finish it at home," Abby said. Then she learned that many of her students couldn't finish their projects because they didn't have crayons at home. "My heart hurt, so I decided to make sure that all of these kids in the program had adequate art supplies," she said. That was the genesis of her "Recycled Rainbows" nonprofit organization.

Abby recalled that many restaurants provide small boxes of crayons to keep youngsters busy while their families eat, and then throw them away. So she called local restaurants and within a few weeks, she had a number of eateries saving their used crayons for her. Abby also created a website and addressed community groups to ask for donations of old crayons. With the help of her younger sister, she sanitized, dried, melted and then remolded the crayons into shapes such as animals, flowers and even robots. She then offered her recycled crayons to hospitals, Boys and Girls Clubs, park programs, and other nonprofit organizations that serve children in need. In addition to her crayons, Abby assembled more than 300 bags filled with science, math, art, reading and technology/engineering activities for children. She also sold her crayons to the public in order to donate the proceeds to charities that focus on art and the environment, and she speaks at schools about recycling and the importance of dreaming big to change the world.

Owen, a seventh-grader at Saint Thomas More High School, initiated an annual hill-climbing event that has raised \$17,000 so far to help find a cure for Parkinson's disease. Owen has seen firsthand what it's like to have this disease; two grandparents — one from each side of his family — are living with Parkinson's. "It pains me to see that they both are not able to do the things they used to do," said Owen. One day in early 2017, he was playing golf with his family when the idea of a fundraiser occurred to him. He and his parents started thinking about ways to raise money and Owen, who loves to hike, decided it would be fun to invite community members to hike up a well-known hill in Rapid City.

After he had settled on the location and date for his first "Climb for a Cure" event, Owen began writing letters seeking sponsorships and personally delivering them to local businesses. He also called and asked people to donate money, gift baskets and other items that could be auctioned off on the day of the climb. He arranged for family and friends to cook food and bake desserts for the fundraiser, worked with a local T-shirt company to design a shirt for participants to wear, and organized yard games such as corn hole, Frisbee, horseshoes and football for after the hike. On the day of the climb, Owen and his family set up tables, decorations, games and food. Owen led the climb, the auction and raffles. He has conducted his fundraiser for two years now, and plans to continue. "I want people with Parkinson's to know that there are people in the world who are trying hard to help find a cure for their terrible disease," said Owen.

"We're impressed and inspired by the way these honorees have identified problems facing their communities and stepped up to the challenge to make a difference," said Charles Lowrey, chairman and CEO of Prudential Financial, Inc. "It's a privilege to celebrate their leadership and compassion, and we look forward to seeing the great things they accomplish in the future."

"These students have not only done important work in support of people in need — they've also shown their peers that young people can, and do, create meaningful change," said Christine Handy, president of NASSP. "We commend each of these young volunteers for all they've contributed to their communities."

Youth volunteers in grades 5-12 were invited to apply for 2019 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards last fall through schools, Girl Scout councils, county 4-H organizations, American Red Cross chapters, YMCAs and affiliates of Points of Light's HandsOn Network. More than 29,000 middle level and high school students nationwide participated in this year's program.

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program was created in 1995 to identify and recognize young people for outstanding volunteer service — and, in so doing, inspire others to volunteer, too. In the past 24

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years, the program has honored more than 125,000 young volunteers at the local, state and national level. For more information about The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards and this year's honorees, visit <http://spirit.prudential.com> or www.nassp.org/spirit.

About NASSP

The National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) is the leading organization of and voice for principals and other school leaders across the United States. NASSP seeks to transform education through school leadership, recognizing that the fulfillment of each student's potential relies on great leaders in every school committed to the success of each student. Reflecting its long-standing commitment to student leadership development, NASSP administers the National Honor Society, National Junior Honor Society, National Elementary Honor Society, and National Student Council. Learn more at www.nassp.org.

About Prudential Financial

Prudential Financial, Inc. (NYSE: PRU), a financial services leader, has operations in the United States, Asia, Europe, and Latin America. Prudential's diverse and talented employees are committed to helping individual and institutional customers grow and protect their wealth through a variety of products and services, including life insurance, annuities, retirement-related services, mutual funds and investment management. In the U.S., Prudential's iconic Rock symbol has stood for strength, stability, expertise and innovation for more than a century. For more information, please visit www.news.prudential.com.

Editors: For pictures of the Spirit of Community Awards program logo and medallions, visit <https://spirit.prudential.com/resources/media>.

For B-roll of South Dakota's honorees at the 2019 national recognition events, contact Prudential's Harold Banks at (973) 216-4833 or harold.banks@prudential.com.

View original content to download multimedia: <http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/two-south-dakota-youth-honored-for-volunteerism-at-national-award-ceremony-in-washington-dc-300844127.html>

SOURCE Prudential Financial, Inc.

No foul play suspected in death of Brown County Jail inmate

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — No foul play is suspected in the death of an inmate at the Brown County Jail in Aberdeen who was found unresponsive in his cell and died three days later.

Chief Deputy Dave Lunzman tells the American News that the inmate was discovered Thursday, and jail staff performed CPR.

The man was taken to a local hospital and then flown to a Sioux Falls hospital, where he died Sunday. His name wasn't immediately released.

The state Division of Criminal Investigation is looking into the death. An autopsy is being performed.

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

Excerpts from recent South Dakota editorials

By The Associated Press

Madison Daily Leader, May 2

States all over are watching FoxConn

States all over the country are watching the ever-changing economic development deal between Foxconn Technology Group and the state of Wisconsin.

Touted as one of the nation's biggest economic impact deals, Foxconn committed to building a new \$10 billion display screen manufacturing facility and hiring 13,000 people in southeast Wisconsin. State and local governments committed to about \$4 billion in tax credits in incentives.

Almost immediately after the deal was announced, there was uncertainty about the project, with concerns about whether it would happen at all or change substantially.

Groundbreaking took place last summer, but construction was halted in the fall. Foxconn later said they

stopped construction because of weather, but most observers feel uncertainty around the project was the primary factor.

All states, including South Dakota, have economic development staffs who work to recruit jobs and investment. Academic studies show that final results range from working out extremely well to outright disasters.

Companies love being recruited, of course, and states love the boost in jobs, property taxes, sales taxes and other economic benefits. Part of the challenge is that the companies want or need the financial incentives right away to build and hire, while the economic benefits usually come over a long stretch of time.

So if a company doesn't do well, or the market for its products changes, or if there is unscrupulous management, the state could lose a lot of taxpayer money.

The bigger the project, like Foxconn, the bigger the risk. An appropriate adage might be "don't put all your eggs in one basket."

South Dakota, and Madison as well, has typically made more deals of modest size, and that strategy has paid off. There isn't the huge splash like a big deal, but the diversification and risk control has worked very well.

If the Foxconn project succeeds, states may be willing to do more large-scale deals. If it fails, it may put a damper on similar undertakings all across the country.

Argus Leader, May 3

Theresa Stehly's city council antics harm process

The presence of contrarian voices - people willing to ask hard questions that challenge majority positions - is vital to the health of any decision-making body. Such voices prevent important matters from being decided too hastily, forcing a step back to consider issues from other angles.

But what's also necessary among decision-makers is the discipline to work within established parameters, even in the process of trying to spark change. It is essential to keep discussions focused on values, interests and positions without attacking peers.

Recent incidents make clear that the Sioux Falls City Council is not meeting that bar. Instead, we've seen a flurry of backbiting and personal feuds played out in public through robocalls, radio shows and press releases.

The call went out to hundreds of registered voters with addresses in Sioux Falls. It was a response to the Audit Committee recommending Shana Nelson to fill the city's internal audit manager position. Argus Leader staff, Sioux Falls Argus Leader

This current spasm of dysfunction stems from a city committee's personnel recommendation for internal audit manager. The committee, among its number three city councilors, unanimously identified city finance business analyst Shana Nelson as the best person to fill the vacant position.

Unhappy that there would only be four days between Nelson's nomination and the council vote to confirm her, council member Theresa Stehly bought a robocall urging registered voters in Sioux Falls to contact Greg Neitzert, who chaired the hiring committee, and other councilors to oppose Nelson's appointment. Stehly pointed out the "conflict of interest" caused by Nelson being married to the city's public parking facilities manager.

Two days after the call, councilors Neitzert, Christine Erickson, Marshall Selberg and Rick Kiley issued a press release condemning Stehly's automated call and rebutting her claims that the months-long hiring process was being "ramrodded" through.

At that night's council meeting, after an intense hour-long debate, Nelson was confirmed on a 5-3 vote. Councilor Pat Starr joined Stehly and Janet Brekke in voting no despite having been part of the hiring committee's unanimous recommendation.

A few days later, Neitzert and Stehly sparred during a radio appearance. Neitzert called out Stehly for posting a meme on Facebook in regard to the hiring process. Stehly accused Neitzert of calling her a liar. Neitzert demanded to know why Stehly didn't shake Nelson's hand at the end of the council meeting.

This isn't a well-functioning council. Things may be getting accomplished, but the interpersonal drama

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is eclipsing and interfering with the work its members are supposed to be doing.

Stehly's scorched-earth approach to confronting council business works against her "voice of the people" bona fides. Her actions - and the ensuing defensive posture of other members against them - hinders the ability of the group to operate effectively.

Like her political mentor, former councilor Kermit Staggers, Stehly often seems to stand more in opposition than in proaction. Like Staggers, she doesn't have a long list of legislative wins.

The difference between them resides in methods and philosophy. Staggers' legacy is one of respectful, if tenacious, dissent. He was able to force further conversation on issues without resorting to such incendiary measures.

The Argus Leader endorsed Stehly in her 2016 run for the council's at-large seat, citing her knowledge of city issues and local government gained through her activism around the Drake Springs pool, boulevard gardens and snow gates. We said that Stehly "represent(s) a voice for the average taxpayer. She's not afraid to bring that perspective to the debate."

But Stehly's tactics in the ensuing years have leaned increasingly toward grandstanding. It has diminished her ability to be that voice of the people because, more and more, she is simply the voice of Theresa Stehly, guilty of the bullying behavior she has accused others of in the past.

With only a year remaining in her term, we hope that she will regain that people's voice and work to rebuild various bridges that have been set ablaze.

The concerns raised in the audit manager hiring are worthy of discussion, with process evaluation and overhaul well within Stehly's purview. At its heart, though, council politics is about building enough of a voting coalition to make an impact. Much of that process starts with trust.

It's time for a reset on council relations so the painstaking work of rebuilding that trust can begin.

Aberdeen American News, May 4

Overnight sacrifice shines light on less fortunate

Small numbers produced big results for a good cause in Aberdeen recently

To raise awareness of homelessness, 35 volunteers rode out the night of April 26 in vehicles parked in the police department lot.

Between 85 donors, more than \$17,000 was raised.

Extremely impressive.

"Night in a Car" was a fundraiser for Journey Home, which offers temporary emergency shelter and long-term housing for those in need. That includes people experiencing homelessness, poverty or cycles of addiction, depression and mental illness.

The money raised was \$2,000 more than the goal. In all, 40 entities sponsored the event, which was organized by the Aberdeen Area Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Aberdeen class.

Thank you to the participants, donors and sponsors. You performed a great service for those in need.

For 20-year-old participant Keri Pappas, the event proved to be a welcome distraction from finals week at South Dakota State University. It gave the Groton native the chance to take a step back and reconsider what's most important in life.

"I've noticed there's a need for something like this in Brookings and this was close to home. It seemed like a good thing to do," Pappas said. "It's so easy to get caught up in school and grades that you forget about these things. This is such a humbling experience, to be a part of something like this."

That normally is how it goes when you do a good deed. You get more than you give.

Again, our thanks to Pappas and the others who hunkered down in their vehicles overnight.

Your sacrifice paid off in awareness, money and empathy. And it was an act of selflessness from which we should all learn.

Sometimes, homelessness doesn't seem like it is a problem in a place like Aberdeen.

Go to Las Vegas. Take a few steps outside one of the fancy hotels along the strip and you see the problem of homelessness everywhere.

Here in Aberdeen, homelessness can be hard to see and find. But it exists.

Just because a problem isn't evident, doesn't mean it doesn't exist.

Thankfully, Journey Home exists as well. But that existence is grounded in responsibility and the generosity of others around them.

The Journey Home, founded by The Journey Church, gets most of its funds from the community. For example, some local churches have special offerings for the facility. Some businesses donate regularly as well.

Journey Home officials say they hold their clients accountable. Their clients have to put effort into improving their situations as well as adhering to the rules and procedures of the shelter.

Such accountability makes it easy to support the Journey Home.

Thus, "Night in a Car" was a perfect community project for the 2019 Leadership Aberdeen class to take on.

The group had heard of similar awareness events in other communities and decided on it while brainstorming a class project.

We are glad they did. And we are happy that it sounds as if the fundraiser is going to become an annual event.

There is nothing like sleeping in someone else's circumstances to help develop understanding about their struggles.

Colorado man sentenced for burglarizing polygamous compound

CUSTER, S.D. (AP) — A Colorado man who burglarized a polygamous compound in southwestern South Dakota has been sentenced to three years of probation.

The Rapid City Journal reports that 29-year-old Wade Bird, of Sugar City, Colorado, pleaded guilty to drug, burglary and theft conspiracy charges.

Authorities allege Bird and another man in January 2018 tried to steal trailers and other items from the compound in rural Custer County.

The compound is run by members of a Mormon splinter group known as the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, or FLDS.

The second suspect is in Colorado facing prosecution for allegedly violating a protection order and being a fugitive from justice.

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

6 Sioux Falls residents sentenced for roles in bank fraud

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Six Sioux Falls residents have been sentenced for a scheme that defrauded multiple banks.

The U.S. attorney's office says the two men and four women in the summer of 2017 stole legitimate checks from unsecured mailboxes and altered the payment and payee information.

They were identified as Brande Black, Wakinyan Gay, Cornell Butler, Vanessa Carr, Brittany Hockett and Brandy Scholl, also known as Brandy Bentine.

They were sentenced at various times between last September and April for conspiring to commit bank fraud. Scholl got the stiffest sentence, at three years and five months in federal prison. Black and Gay each got 1 1/2 years behind bars. The rest were sentenced to time served.

Most suspects were ordered to pay restitution, totaling tens of thousands of dollars.

Montana solar farm deal would provide power to 4,900 homes

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — A utility company and a solar energy company in Montana have reached an agreement to launch a solar project large enough to power 4,900 homes.

The Billings Gazette reports that NorthWestern Energy has reached an agreement with Meadowlark Solar

for a 150-acre (61-hectare) solar farm expected to come online in 2021.

The 20-megawatt, \$18 million project west of the Billings Airport would be built as a Community Renewable Energy Project, a utility requirement under state law to encourage renewable energy use.

South Dakota-based NorthWestern says in a statement that the agreement hinges on approval from the Montana Public Service Commission.

The privately funded solar project would be the largest in Montana.

The cost of electricity generated by Meadowlark Solar will not be revealed for several weeks.

Information from: The Billings Gazette, <http://www.billingsgazette.com>

Ravinia man sentenced for shaking, severely injuring baby

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A Ravinia man has been sentenced to about three years in federal prison for shaking and severely injuring a baby.

The U.S. attorney's office says 26-year-old Jacob Neault shook the 2-month-old child in April 2018, causing severe head, brain and eye trauma.

He pleaded guilty in February to an assault charge and was recently sentenced to three years and one month in prison.

Pakistani girls trafficked to China in new "bride market"

By KATHY GANNON and DAKE KANG Associated Press

GUJRANWALA, Pakistan (AP) — Muqadas Ashraf was just 16 when her parents married her off to a Chinese man who had come to Pakistan looking for a bride. Less than five months later, Muqadas is back in her home country, pregnant and seeking a divorce from a husband she says was abusive.

She is one of hundreds of poor Christian girls who have been trafficked to China in a market for brides that has swiftly grown in Pakistan since late last year, activists say. Brokers are aggressively seeking out girls for Chinese men, sometimes even cruising outside churches to ask for potential brides. They are being helped by Christian clerics paid to target impoverished parents in their congregation with promises of wealth in exchange for their daughters.

Parents receive several thousand dollars and are told that their new sons-in-law are wealthy Christian converts. The grooms turn out to be neither, according to several brides, their parents, an activist, pastors and government officials, all of whom spoke to The Associated Press. Once in China, the girls — most often married against their will — can find



In this April 14, 2019 photo, Mahek Liaqat, who married a Chinese national, shows her marriage certificate in Gujranwala, Pakistan. Poor Pakistani Christian girls are being lured into marriages with Chinese men, whom they are told are Christian and wealthy only to end up trapped in China, married to men who are neither Christian nor well-to-do, and some are unable to return home. (AP Photo/K.M. Chaudary)

neither, according to several brides, their parents, an activist, pastors and government officials, all of whom spoke to The Associated Press. Once in China, the girls — most often married against their will — can find

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themselves isolated in remote rural regions, vulnerable to abuse, unable to communicate and reliant on a translation app even for a glass of water.

"This is human smuggling," said Ijaz Alam Augustine, the human rights and minorities minister in Pakistan's Punjab province, in an interview with the AP. "Greed is really responsible for these marriages ... I have met with some of these girls and they are very poor."

Augustine accused the Chinese government and its embassy in Pakistan of turning a blind eye to the practice by unquestioningly issuing visas and documents. The Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs denied that, saying China has zero tolerance for illegal transnational marriage agencies.

Human Rights Watch called on China and Pakistan to take action to end bride trafficking, warning in an April 26 statement of "increasing evidence that Pakistani women and girls are at risk of sexual slavery in China."

On Monday, Pakistan's Federal Investigation Agency arrested eight Chinese nationals and four Pakistanis in raids in Punjab province in connection with trafficking, Geo TV reported. It said the raids followed an undercover operation that included attending an arranged marriage.

The Chinese embassy said last month that China is cooperating with Pakistan to crack down on unlawful matchmaking centers, saying "both Chinese and Pakistani youths are victims of these illegal agents."

The Associated Press interviewed more than a dozen Christian Pakistani brides and would-be brides who fled before exchanging vows. All had similar accounts of a process involving brokers and members of the clergy, including describing houses where they were taken to see potential husbands and spend their wedding nights in Islamabad, the country's capital, and Lahore, the capital of Punjab province.

"It is all fraud and cheating. All the promises they make are fake," said Muqadas.

SUPPLY AND DEMAND

In China, demand for foreign brides has mounted, a legacy of the one-child policy that skewed the country's gender balance toward males. Brides initially came largely from Vietnam, Laos and North Korea. Now men are looking further afield, said Mimi Vu, director of advocacy at Pacific Links, which helps trafficked Vietnamese women.

"It's purely supply and demand," she said. "It used to be, 'Is she light-skinned?' Now it's like, 'Is she female?'"

Pakistan seems to have come onto marriage brokers' radar late last year.

Saleem Iqbal, a Christian activist, said he first began to see significant numbers of marriage to Chinese men in October. Since then, an estimated 750 to 1,000 girls have been married off, he said.

Pakistan's small Christian community, centered in Punjab province, makes a vulnerable target. Numbering some 2.5 million in the country's overwhelmingly Muslim population of 200 million, Christians are among Pakistan's most deeply impoverished. They also have little political or social support.

Among all faiths in Pakistan, parents often decide a daughter's marriage partner. The deeply patriarchal society sees girls as less desirable than boys and as a burden because the bride's family must pay a dowry and the cost of the wedding when they marry. A new bride is often mistreated by her husband and in-laws if her dowry is considered inadequate.

By contrast, potential Chinese grooms offer parents money and pay all wedding expenses.

Some of the grooms are from among the tens of thousands of Chinese in Pakistan working on infrastructure projects under Beijing's Belt and Road Initiative, a project that has further boosted ties between the two countries in recent years. Other grooms search directly from China through networks. They present themselves as Christian converts, but pastors complicit in the deals don't ask for any documentation.

They pay on average \$3,500 to \$5,000, including payments to parents, pastors and a broker, said Iqbal, who is also a journalist with a small Christian station, Isaac TV. Iqbal has gone to court to stop marriages and sheltered runaway brides, some as young as 13.

Muqadas' mother Nasreen said she was promised about \$5,000, which included the cost of the wedding and her daughter's wedding dress. "But I have not seen anything yet," she said.

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"I really believed I was giving her a chance at a better life and also a better life for us," Nasreen said.

PRIESTS AND BROKERS

Dozens of priests are paid by brokers to find brides for Chinese men, said Augustine, the provincial minorities minister, who is Christian. Many are from the small evangelical churches that have proliferated in Pakistan.

Gujranwala, a city north of Lahore, has been a particular target of brokers, with more than 100 local Christian women and girls married off to Chinese in recent months, according to Iqbal.

The city has several mainly Christian neighborhoods, largely dirt poor with open sewers running along narrow slum streets. Tucked away in the alleys are numerous evangelical churches, small cement structures unrecognizable except for small crosses outside.

Pastor Munch Morris said he knows a group of pastors in his neighborhood who work with a private Chinese marriage broker. Among them, he said, is a fellow pastor at his church who tells his flock, "God is happy because these Chinese boys convert to Christianity. They are helping the poor Christian girls."

Morris opposes such marriages, calling them an insult. "We know these marriages are all for the sake of money."

Rizwan Rashid, a parishioner at the city's Roman Catholic St. John's Church, said that two weeks earlier, a car pulled up to him outside the church gates. Two Pakistani men and a Chinese woman inside asked him if he knew of any girls who want to marry a Chinese man.

"They told me her life would be great," he said. "Everything would be paid for by them."

They were willing to pay him to help, but he said the church's priest often warns his flock against such marriages, so he refused.

Brokers also troll brick kilns, where the poorest work essentially as slaves to pay off debts, and offer to pay off their workers' debts in exchange for daughters as brides.

Pakistani and Chinese brokers work together in the trade. One prominent broker in Gujranwala is a Pakistani known only as Robinson. He refused to talk to the AP, but his wife Razia told the AP that they make arrangements through a Chinese marriage bureau in Islamabad.

Muqadas and another young woman from the same neighborhood, Mahek Liaqat, said Robinson arranged their marriages, providing photos of potential grooms. Afterward, they each described being taken to the same, multi-story house in Islamabad, a sort of boarding house with bedrooms. There, each met her husband for the first time face-to-face and spent her wedding night.

Mahek, 19, said she stayed there with her husband for a month, during which she saw several other girls brought in. She attended several weddings performed in the basement.

Other brides told of meeting their husbands at a similar house in a posh neighborhood of Lahore.

Simbal Akmal, 18, was taken there by her parents. Two other Christian girls were already there in a large sitting room, picking grooms. Three Chinese men were presented to Simbal, and her father demanded she choose one. She told him she didn't want to marry, but he insisted, claiming "it was a matter of our honor," she said.

"He had already promised I would marry one," she said. "They just wanted money."

She married, but immediately fled. She was joined by her sister, who refused her parents' demands to marry a Chinese man. Both escaped to a refuge run by the activist, Iqbal.

IN CHINA

Muqadas said her husband had claimed to be a man of money, but when she arrived in China in early December, she found herself living "in a small house, just one room and a bedroom."

She said he rarely let her out of the house on her own. He forced her to undergo a battery of medical tests that later she found were attempts to determine why she was not yet pregnant. On Christmas Eve, when she pressed him to take her to church, he slapped her and broke her phone, she said.

"I don't have the words to tell you how difficult the last month there was," said Muqadas. "He threatened me."

Finally, he agreed to send her home after her family said they would go to the police.

Mahek said she hadn't wanted to get married, but her parents insisted. Her Chinese husband was possessive and refused to let her leave the house. "He was just terrible," she said.

In China, her husband, Li Tao, denied abusing Mahek. He said he was a Christian convert and worked for a state-owned Chinese company building roads and bridges when he met Mahek through a Pakistani matchmaker introduced by a Chinese friend.

He was taken by her at first sight, he said. "If you look at her and you see she's right for you, that's it, right?"

Li returned with Mahek last winter to his hometown of Chenlou, a village surrounded by wheat fields in coastal Jiangsu province. They moved into his mother's home, a one-story courtyard house.

After Mahek's family reached out to their government for help to bring her back, the police showed up at Li's home and said they were told he was illegally confining a woman in his home.

He said it was Mahek who refused to go outside.

"I wouldn't force her into doing anything," Li said. "She just had to learn to adapt to a new environment. I wasn't asking her to change right away." Still, he bought plane tickets to take her back to Pakistan.

Others, however, are unable to come back.

Mahek's grandfather Idriis Masih said he contacted the parents of several other Pakistani girls whom Mahek had befriended through a phone app in China and who were desperate to return home. All the parents were poor and shrugged off his attempts to convince them to retrieve their daughters.

Each told him, "She is married now. It is her life," he said.

Kang reported from Linyi, China. Associated Press researcher Shanshan Wang in Beijing contributed to this report

House committee moving ahead with contempt vote for Barr

By MARY CLARE JALONICK and LISA MASCARO Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A House committee is poised to hold Attorney General William Barr in contempt of Congress — the opening salvo in what could be a lengthy, acrimonious court battle between House Democrats and President Donald Trump's administration over special counsel Robert Mueller's report.

House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jerrold Nadler scheduled a Wednesday vote to hold Barr in contempt of Congress, citing the Justice Department's failure to provide the full text of Mueller's report by the Monday morning deadline. Nadler, D-N.Y., said Barr's failure to comply with a subpoena left them with "no choice but to initiate contempt proceedings."

The movement to hold Barr in contempt reflects the deepening rift between Democrats and Barr, whom they accuse of spinning the results of Mueller's investigation to Trump's benefit. Barr, in a memo summarizing Mueller's investigation, said there was insufficient evidence that Trump obstructed justice — a conclusion Democrats fiercely dispute.

Nadler said the version of Mueller's report that has already been released to the public offered "disturbing evidence and analysis that President Trump engaged in obstruction of justice at the highest levels." Now, he said, lawmakers need the full version and the underlying evidence "to determine how to best move forward with oversight, legislation and other constitutional responsibilities."

The committee said contempt proceedings could be postponed if the attorney general makes a "good faith" effort to comply with the committee.

In a possible thaw, Nadler said Monday evening that the Justice Department had agreed to meet with his staff Tuesday, adding that he hopes to make "concrete progress" toward resolving the dispute.

Justice Department spokeswoman Kerri Kupec said earlier that the department has "taken extraordinary steps to accommodate the House Judiciary Committee's requests for information" regarding Mueller's report, but that Nadler had not reciprocated. She noted that Democrats have refused to read a version

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of Mueller's report with fewer redactions that has already been provided to Congress.

Kupec said officials were continuing to engage with the committee, and Nadler's staff had been invited to the department "to discuss a mutually acceptable accommodation."

If the committee approves the contempt resolution against Barr, as expected, it would head to the full House for final approval. But that step is unlikely to lead to criminal charges. A House vote would send a criminal referral to the U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia, a Justice Department official who is likely to defend the attorney general.

Yet by pursuing contempt, Democrats hope to send a message to the Trump administration about their willingness to invoke congressional powers in the majority. Beyond Mueller's report, House Democrats have, so far mostly unsuccessfully, subpoenaed administration witnesses and made efforts to gain access to Trump's personal and business financial records. Trump has said he will block those efforts, declaring he will "fight all the subpoenas."

Democratic House leaders could file a civil lawsuit against the Justice Department to obtain the Mueller report, an option that could take months or even years to resolve. Some committee members have suggested they also could fine Barr as he withholds the information. They could also open impeachment proceedings against Trump, though House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has said she's not interested in doing that, for now.

Republicans have lambasted the Democratic tactics as overreach and defended Barr. The top Republican on the Judiciary Committee, Rep. Doug Collins of Georgia, said "Democrats have launched a proxy war smearing the attorney general" when their anger actually lies with the president.

There is precedent for sitting attorneys general to be held in contempt of Congress. In 2012, the House held then-Attorney General Eric Holder in contempt over a botched gun-tracking operation known as Fast and Furious. Republicans cited the Justice Department's failure to turn over, without any preconditions, documents related to the risky operation. The Justice Department took no action to prosecute the attorney general.

Mueller's report — now a best-seller even in redacted form — states that his investigation could not establish a criminal conspiracy between the Trump team and Russia. However, it did not reach a conclusion on whether Trump obstructed justice. Mueller didn't charge Trump but wrote that he couldn't exonerate him, either.

House Judiciary Democrats say Congress is "the only body able to hold the president to account" since the Justice Department has a policy against indicting a sitting president. They say they need the full report and the evidence that it cites, including witness interviews and "items such as contemporaneous notes." Nadler also wants every member of Congress to be able to read the full report.

As the fight with Barr has escalated, Democrats have been in negotiations to hear from Mueller himself.



House Judiciary Committee Chair Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., gaveling in a hearing on the Mueller report without witness Attorney General William Barr who refused to appear, on Capitol Hill in Washington, Thursday, May 2, 2019. (AP Photo/J.

Scott Applewhite)

Trump complicated those talks Sunday by tweeting that he would oppose Mueller's testimony, reversing from his earlier position of leaving it up to Barr.

As long as Mueller remains a Justice Department employee, Trump or Barr could block him from appearing. Trump did not indicate if he would take steps to do so. It's unclear when Mueller will leave the department — or whether he would want to testify in his own capacity when he does.

Nadler said last week the committee was "firming up the date" for Mueller's testimony and hoped it would be May 15. The Justice Department declined to comment.

Associated Press writer Eric Tucker contributed to this report.

US-Iran tensions rise ahead of anniversary of deal pullout

By JON GAMBRELL Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — A sudden White House announcement that a U.S. aircraft carrier and a bomber wing would be deployed in the Persian Gulf to counter Iran comes just days ahead of the anniversary of President Donald Trump's decision to withdraw America from Tehran's nuclear deal.

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani is said to be planning a speech Wednesday on the anniversary to discuss the next steps Tehran will take in confronting the U.S. Officials in the Islamic Republic previously warned that Iran might increase its uranium enrichment, potentially pulling away from a deal it has sought to salvage for months.

The military has almost always had an aircraft carrier in the Persian Gulf as part of its sprawling military presence in the strategic region, but had begun to scale back its presence as the air campaign against the Islamic State group in Iraq and Syria wound down.

Sunday night's statement from national security adviser John Bolton said the USS Abraham Lincoln, other ships in the carrier's strike group and a bomber wing would deploy to the Mideast. Bolton blamed "a number of troubling and escalatory indications and warnings," without elaborating.

"The United States is not seeking war with the Iranian regime, but we are fully prepared to respond to any attack, whether by proxy, the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, or regular Iranian forces," Bolton said.

In Iran, the semi-official ISNA news agency on Monday quoted an anonymous official as saying that Rouhani planned a broadcast address Wednesday and may discuss the "counteractions" Tehran will take over America's withdrawal from the nuclear deal. It said Iranian officials have informed their European counterparts — with whom Iran has been trying to salvage the agreement — of the planned speech.

"Partial and total reduction of some of Iran's commitments and resumption of some nuclear activities which were ceased following (the deal) are the first step," ISNA said. Iranian state television and the semi-



FILE - This Feb. 14, 2012, file photo shows the bridge of the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72). The U.S. is dispatching the USS Abraham Lincoln and other military resources to the Middle East following "clear indications" that Iran and its proxy forces were preparing to possibly attack U.S. forces in the region, according to a defense official on May 5, 2019. (AP Photo/Hassan Ammar, File)

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official Fars news agency similarly suggested an Iranian response loomed.

A spokesman for Iran's Supreme National Security Council, Keivan Khosravi, also dismissed Bolton's comments as "psychological warfare."

Iran's hard-line Javad newspaper, associated with the Revolutionary Guard, said Wednesday would "ignite the matchstick for burning the deal." It suggested in its Tuesday edition that Iran may install advanced centrifuges at its Natanz facility and begin enrichment at its Fordo facility, activities prohibited under the nuclear deal.

The United Nations' nuclear watchdog says Iran has continued to comply with the terms of the 2015 nuclear deal, which saw it limit its enrichment of uranium in exchange for the lifting of economic sanctions. But American sanctions have wreaked havoc on Iran's already-anemic economy, while promised help from European partners in the deal haven't alleviated the pain.

The U.S. last week stopped issuing waivers for countries importing Iranian crude oil, a crucial source of cash for Iran's government.

It's unclear what specific threat American officials perceive coming from Iran. A U.S. official, who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity to discuss intelligence matters, said American troops at land and sea could be targeted.

The USS Abraham Lincoln had been in the Mediterranean Sea conducting operations alongside the USS John C. Stennis, another aircraft carrier that has twice been in the Persian Gulf in recent months.

However, American military officials have stopped the near-continuous presence of aircraft carriers in the Persian Gulf, a pattern set following the 1991 Gulf War. American air bases spanning the region can scramble fighter jets and drones, lessening the necessity of an aircraft carrier as U.S. officials also worry about China and Russia.

Already in the Persian Gulf is a group of U.S. Navy warships led by the USS Kearsarge, an amphibious assault ship carrying troops from the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit. The Kearsarge also carries AV-8B Harrier fighter jets, MH-60 helicopters and MV-22 Osprey airplanes.

Across the wider 5th Fleet, there were 17 warships deployed, according to the most-recent count by the U.S. Naval Institute, which tracks deployments around the world.

The Bahrain-based 5th Fleet declined to comment on the White House announcement when reached by the AP on Monday.

It also remains unclear what bomber wing would be deployed to the region. Typically, the al-Udeid Air Base in Qatar, home to the forward headquarters of the U.S. military's Central Command, hosts such bomber deployments.

In late March, the Air Force acknowledged a rare gap in bomber cover in the Mideast after a squadron of B-1 Lancers left al-Udeid to return to Texas. B-52 bombers also had been deployed to the area to keep up attacks on the Islamic State group, the first time the aging aircraft had deployed to the region in 25 years.

Officials at al-Udeid, which also hosts the F-35 fighter jet, declined to answer questions from the AP.

The Trump administration, which abruptly announced in December that it was pulling out of Syria, still maintains 2,000 U.S. troops in the northern part of the war-torn country. Officials suggest they serve as a check on Iranian ambitions and help ensure that Islamic State fighters do not regroup. No significant U.S. forces have so far withdrawn from Syria.

Trump has also said he has no plans to withdraw the 5,200 troops stationed in Iraq as part of a security agreement to advise, assist and support the country's troops in the fight against IS. Earlier this year, Trump angered Iraqi politicians and Iranian-backed factions by saying troops should stay there to keep an eye on neighboring Iran.

Associated Press writers Nasser Karimi in Tehran, Iran, and Zeina Karam in Beirut contributed to this report.

Russian plane crash survivor recalls strong lightning strike

MOSCOW (AP) — A survivor of the Russian commercial airliner that crash-landed in Moscow on Sunday, killing 41 people, says a flash of lightning was heard moments before the plane began its emergency descent.

Investigators are still working to understand what happened to cause the plane to ignite in a fireball upon landing. A lightning strike is one theory.

Dmitry Kharinin, an engineer and resident of Volgograd told a local news outlet Tuesday that he saw the lightning: "It was very strong, and could be heard throughout the cabin."

Kharinin says he did not witness a direct lightning strike on the Russian-made Sukhoi SSJ100. However, he speculates that the electromagnetic discharge of the lightning may have disabled plane systems.

The plane landed hard, destroying the landing gear and igniting the engines, he said.



A crane lifts the damaged Sukhoi SSJ100 aircraft of Aeroflot Airlines in Sheremetyevo airport, outside Moscow, Russia, Monday, May 6, 2019. Russian emergency workers have recovered 41 bodies and two flight recorders from the wreckage of the plane that caught fire during an emergency landing in Moscow, officials said Monday as they sought to discover the cause of the disaster. (AP Photo)

Pressured over press rights, Myanmar frees Reuters reporters

By AUNG NAING SOE and GRANT PECK Associated Press

YANGON, Myanmar (AP) — Two Reuters journalists whose reporting on the Myanmar military's abuses of Rohingya Muslims got them imprisoned and drew the world's attention to curbs on freedom of the press were freed Tuesday as part of a mass presidential pardon.

Wa Lone, 32, and Kyaw Soe Oo, 28, walked out of Yangon's notorious Insein Prison at about 9:40 a.m. As they passed through the front gate, waving to the gathered crowd, they were mobbed like rock stars by fellow reporters who as professionals had covered their plight and as colleagues pushed for their release.

"I want to say that I am very happy today. I want to thank our friends and families who were trying for our freedom and also to those from all over the world who sympathized with us," Wa Lone said. "I am really excited to see my family and colleagues. I can't wait to go to my newsroom."

Then they were hustled into a black van that took them to reunite with their families.

The two reporters were arrested in December 2017 as they were working on a story about security forces involved in killing Rohingya and were accused of illegally possessing official documents, a violation of the colonial-era Official Secrets Act. At their trial the two contended they were framed because of official displeasure over their work, but they were convicted last September and sentenced to seven years in prison.

The case drew global attention not only as a media freedom issue but also as an example of how democratic reforms in Myanmar have stalled under Nobel Peace laureate Aung San Suu Kyi's civilian government, which took power in 2016 with high hopes that it would usher in a new, more open era after decades of isolation under military rule.

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It also came as international condemnation built over the brutal counterinsurgency campaign that Myanmar's military — which still maintains unchecked control of key ministries such as those responsible for security — launched in the western state of Rakhine, driving more than 700,000 members of the Rohingya minority group to flee to Bangladesh. U.N. officials and others likened the offensive to ethnic cleansing, or even genocide.

Stories based on reporting from Wa Lone and Kyaw Soe Oo were published while they were in prison and the two last month were part of a Reuters team that won the Pulitzer Prize for International Reporting, one of journalism's highest honors. They shared the award with The Associated Press, which won for its reporting on Yemen.

Zaw Htay, a spokesman for the office of President Win Myint, told journalists he spoke with in the eastern state of Kayah on Tuesday that the reporters' families had sent letters requesting they be pardoned, and they were included among 6,520 prisoners released to promote peace and national reconciliation.

The families of Wa Lone and Kyaw Soe Oo, their employer, press freedom groups, and journalist associations around the world had called for their release all along. Prospects looked grim after Myanmar's Supreme Court on April 23 rejected their final appeal of their prison terms, and even grimmer after they were not included in two other recent mass pardons.

It wasn't clear what had changed by Tuesday, but the news was welcomed by rights groups and many others.

"I think this will reduce the pressures on Myanmar's government by the international community," said Yan Myo Thein, a political analyst. "Releasing them is progress. But it will be better for democracy and the transition of Myanmar if the president will consider releasing (all) those who are in jail for exercising freedom of expression."

The U.N. human rights office in Geneva welcomed their release but said they never should have been arrested.

"We remain concerned about flaws in the judicial process that led to their conviction in the first place," spokeswoman Ravina Shamdasani said.

Reuters released a video showing Wa Lone and Kyaw Soe Oo reuniting with their families, hugging their wives and young children.

At the time of their arrest, Wa Lone and Kyaw Soe Oo were working on an investigation of the killings of 10 Rohingya villagers. The government last year said seven soldiers were sentenced to up to 10 years in prison with hard labor for the killings.

Reporting on the Rohingya is sensitive in Myanmar, where many of the country's majority ethnic Burmans



Reuters reporters Wa Lone, center right, and Kyaw Soe Oo, center left, hold their children after being freed from prison, in Yangon, Myanmar, Tuesday, May 7, 2019. The two journalists who were imprisoned for breaking Myanmar's Official Secrets Act over reporting on security forces' abuses of Rohingya Muslims were pardoned and released Tuesday, the prison chief and witnesses said. (Ann Wang/Pool)

Photo via AP)

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agree with the official government of denying the group citizenship and labeling them as illegal migrants from Bangladesh. The military has said its actions in Rakhine state were a response to attacks by Rohingya guerrillas, and it did not have a policy violating human rights or the laws of war.

During their trial, the prosecution claimed the Reuters reporters were found in possession of secret government documents. The defense said the documents were neither secret nor sensitive and had been given to them by police seeking to frame them.

That assertion was supported by surprise testimony from a whistleblower in the police department, who told the court that his superior had arranged for two policemen to meet the reporters and hand over documents described as "important secret papers" in order to entrap them.

As a result of his testimony, that officer was jailed for a year for violating the Police Disciplinary Act and his family was forced to leave their police housing unit.

Even with the reporters' release, serious concerns remain about freedom of expression in Myanmar.

The Myanmar group ATHAN, the Freedom of Expression Activist Organization, said last month that 47 journalists have faced trials since Suu Kyi came to power, and 31 have complaints against them pending. Of the 31, 18 were sued by government officials, four by the military and nine by various individuals.

The online magazine The Irrawaddy and other media outlets have recently been sued by the army for their coverage of fighting between the government and the Arakan Army ethnic rebel group, which also operates in Rakhine state.

Peck reported from Bangkok. Associated Press writer Jamey Keaten in Geneva contributed to this report.

China economy czar heading for Washington tariff war talks

By **JOE McDONALD AP Business Writer**

BEIJING (AP) — China confirmed Tuesday its economy czar will go to Washington for trade talks despite fears he might cancel after President Donald Trump threatened to escalate a tariff war over Beijing's technology ambitions.

The announcement suggests President Xi Jinping's government is putting its desire to end a conflict that has battered Chinese exporters ahead of the political need to look tough in the face of U.S. pressure.

The decision to have Vice Premier Liu He, Xi's top economic adviser, take part in talks due to start Thursday might keep alive hopes the two biggest global economies could make peace as early as this week.

The Trump administration is pressing Beijing to roll back plans for government-led development of Chinese global competitors in robotics, electric cars and other technologies. Washington, Europe, Japan and other trading partners say those violate China's market-opening commitments and are based in part on stolen technology.

Trump's announcement Sunday that he would increase tariffs on \$200 billion of Chinese imports to 25% from 10% caused global stock markets to plunge. Markets steadied after a Chinese spokesman said Monday that envoys still were preparing to go to the United States, though there was no word then whether Liu would take part.

On Tuesday, China's main stock market index rose 0.7% and most other Asian markets also rebounded.

The American side is led by Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin.

A Commerce Ministry statement announcing Liu's plans gave no indication whether other details such as the size of his delegation might change.

Washington and Beijing have raised tariffs on billions of dollars of each other's exports, disrupting trade in goods from soybeans to medical equipment. Estimates of lost potential sales so far range as high as \$25 billion.

Both governments have said negotiations were making progress, but Trump expressed frustration Sunday at the pace.

Mnuchin said Monday that Chinese officials "were trying to go back on some of the language" that had

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been negotiated in 10 earlier rounds of talks.

In response, a foreign ministry spokesman, Geng Shuang, said Beijing "is sincere in continuing consultations."

Asked whether China took Trump's threat seriously, Geng said similar situations had happened "many times before."

"We hope the United States can still work together with China," Geng said at a news briefing. "On the basis of mutual respect and equality, we will resolve each other's legitimate concerns and strive to reach an agreement of mutual benefit and win-win."

The decision to send Liu to Washington as scheduled shows China "urgently hopes to reach an agreement," said Ma Hong, a professor at Tsinghua University's School of Economics and Management.

"They couldn't abandon it just because of a Twitter comment," said Ma.

The conflict is testing how far Beijing is willing to go in changing a state-led economic model it sees as the path to prosperity and global influence — and how much power Washington will have to enforce any agreement.

The United States accuses Beijing of pressing foreign companies to hand over technology in exchange for market access, improperly subsidizing Chinese firms and stealing American trade secrets.

No details of the talks have been released. But private sector analysts say Beijing is willing to change details of its plans so long as it preserves the ruling Communist Party's dominant economic role.

The Trump administration has imposed 10% tariffs on \$200 billion in Chinese imports and 25% tariffs on another \$50 billion. The Chinese have retaliated by targeting \$110 billion in U.S. imports.

Trump said Sunday he also planned to impose 25% tariffs on another \$325 billion in Chinese products. That would extend penalties to everything China ships to the United States, its biggest foreign customer.

A stumbling block in the talks is U.S. insistence on an enforcement mechanism with penalties if Beijing fails to keep its promises. The Trump administration wants to keep tariffs on Chinese imports to maintain leverage over Beijing.

Chinese negotiators have balked at what economists say they might see as giving Washington too much control.

"It is not completely an economic issue," said Ma. "After all, it concerns the rights of a sovereign country."



FILE - In this Wednesday, May 1, 2019, file photo, members of U.S. and China delegation led by Chinese Vice Premier Liu He, U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer, stand for a group photo session after their meeting at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing. Chinese envoys are preparing to travel to the United States for trade talks, a government spokesman said Monday, May 6, 2019, suggesting negotiations on ending a bruising tariff war will proceed despite President Donald Trump's threat to raise import taxes. (AP

Photo/Andy Wong, Pool, File)

Refusal to hand over Trump's tax returns sets up legal fight

By **ANDREW TAYLOR** and **JONATHAN LEMIRE** Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin has made it official: The administration won't be turning President Donald Trump's tax returns over to the Democratic-controlled House.

Mnuchin told Ways and Means Committee Chairman Richard Neal, D-Mass., in a Monday letter that the panel's request "lacks a legitimate legislative purpose" as Supreme Court precedent requires.

In making that determination, Mnuchin said he relied on the advice of the Justice Department. He concluded that the Treasury Department is "not authorized to disclose the requested returns and return information." He said the Justice Department will provide a more detailed legal justification soon.

The move, which was expected, is sure to set in motion a legal battle over Trump's tax returns. The chief options available to Democrats are to subpoena the IRS for the returns or to file a lawsuit. Last week, Neal promised "we'll be ready" to act soon after Monday's deadline.

Treasury's denial came the day that the House Judiciary panel scheduled a vote for Wednesday on whether to find Attorney General William Barr in contempt of Congress for failing to comply with a subpoena for a full, unredacted copy of special counsel Robert Mueller's report. Fights with other House panels are ongoing.

"I will consult with counsel and determine the appropriate response," Neal said in a statement Monday.

Neal originally demanded access to Trump's tax returns in early April under a law that says the IRS "shall furnish" the returns of any taxpayer to a handful of top lawmakers, including the chair of the tax-writing Ways and Means Committee. He maintains that the committee is looking into the effectiveness of IRS mandatory audits of tax returns of all sitting presidents, a way to justify his claim that the panel has a potential legislative purpose. Democrats are confident in their legal justification and say Trump is stalling in an attempt to punt the issue past the 2020 election.

The White House and the Republican president's attorneys declined to comment on the deadline to turn over Trump's returns.

Mnuchin has said Neal's request would potentially weaponize private tax returns for political purposes.

Trump has privately made clear he has no intention of turning over the much-coveted records. He is the first president since Watergate to decline to make his tax returns public, often claiming that he would release them if he was not under audit.

"What's unprecedented is this secretary refusing to comply with our lawful ... request. What's unprecedented is a Justice Department that again sees its role as being bodyguard to the executive and not the rule of law," said Rep. Bill Pascrell, D-N.J. "What's unprecedented is an entire federal government working in concert to shield a corrupt president from legal accountability."

But the president has told those close to him that the attempt to get his returns was an invasion of his privacy and a further example of what he calls the Democrat-led "witch hunt" — like Mueller's Russia



President Donald Trump pauses while speaking during a meeting with Slovak Prime Minister Peter Pellegrini in the Oval Office of the White House, Friday, May 3, 2019, in Washington. (AP Photo/Alex Brandon)

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probe — meant to damage him.

Trump has repeatedly asked aides as to the status of the House request and has not signaled a willing to cooperate with Democrats, according to a White House official and two Republicans close to the White House.

He has linked the effort to the myriad House probes into his administration and has urged his team to stonewall all requests. He also has inquired about the “loyalty” of the top officials at the IRS, according to one of his advisers.

Trump has long told confidants that he was under audit and therefore could not release his taxes. But in recent weeks, he has added to the argument, telling advisers that the American people elected him once without seeing his taxes and would do so again, according to the three White House officials and Republicans, who were not authorized to speak publicly about private conversations and spoke on condition of anonymity.

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. CHINA'S ECONOMY CZAR HEADING TO WASHINGTON

President Xi Jinping sends his top economic adviser despite worries Beijing might cancel after Trump threatened to escalate a tariff war over China's technological ambitions.

2. US-IRAN TENSIONS RISE

Iran's president is weighing next steps following a sudden White House announcement that a U.S. aircraft carrier and a bomber wing would be deployed in the Persian Gulf.

3. MYANMAR FREES REUTERS REPORTERS

The Pulitzer Prize-winning journalists were imprisoned for violating the country's secrecy law for their reporting on security forces' abuses of Rohingya Muslims.

4. POPE MAKING HISTORIC VISIT

Francis arrives in North Macedonia for the first-ever papal visit to the Balkan nation, encouraging the recently renamed country to integrate with European institutions.

5. WHAT'S ON THE BALLOT IN DENVER

Voters in Colorado's capital could make it the first U.S. city to decriminalize psilocybin — the psychoactive substance in “magic mushrooms.”

6. YOUNG TERROR SUSPECTS FIND LOOPHOLE

The Supreme Court ruling in a case unrelated to terrorism could allow minors who support militant



Reuters journalists Wa Lone, left, and Kyaw She Oo wave as they walk out from Insein Prison after being released in Yangon, Myanmar Tuesday, May 7, 2019. The chief of the prison said two Reuters journalists who were imprisoned for breaking the country's Officials Secrets Act have been released. (AP Photo/Thein Zaw)

organizations to escape federal charges, AP learns.

7. WHO IS BEING TARGETED FOR UNWANTED NUPTIALS

Poor Pakistani Christian girls and women are being lured into marriages with Chinese men and end up trapped in China, unable to return home, AP finds.

8. GEORGIA SIGNING STRICT ABORTION BAN

The legislation would ban abortions at around six weeks of pregnancy, before many women know they're pregnant.

9. WHERE'S THE BEEF

A new era of meat alternatives is here, but patties from Beyond Meat and Impossible Foods can be nutritionally similar to beef.

10. WHERE FEATHERS, BLING AND IDEAS ABOUT 'CAMP' REIGNED

Inside the Met Gala, high-wattage guests sipped on cocktails, ate canapes and tried to "out-camp" each other in wild outfits.

Pope makes historic first visit to North Macedonia

By KONSTANTIN TESTORIDES and NICOLE WINFIELD Associated Press

SKOPJE, North Macedonia (AP) — Pope Francis made the first-ever papal visit to North Macedonia on Tuesday and sought to encourage its efforts to integrate into European institutions after its name change resolved a decades-long dispute with Greece.

In a meeting with government authorities, Francis praised North Macedonia's multi-ethnic and multi-faith culture and said its example of being a bridge between East and West showed that peaceful coexistence can exist in a country rich with diversity.

"These particular features are also highly significant for increased integration with the nations of Europe," he said. "It is my hope that this integration will develop in a way that is beneficial for the entire region of the Western Balkans, with unfailing respect for diversity and for fundamental rights."

North Macedonia's previous constitutional name was the Republic of Macedonia. It officially changed its name to North Macedonia in February as part of an agreement to end an almost three-decade long dispute with Greece, which blocked the former Yugoslav republic's path to membership in NATO and the EU over rights to the Macedonia name.

After landing at Skopje's airport, Francis went by car — a typically small Volkswagen Jetta — for talks with outgoing President Gjore Ivanov. His 10-hour visit also included a prayer at the memorial of North Macedonia's most famous native daughter, Mother Teresa, as well as a Mass for the tiny Catholic community in the country of 2.1 million.



Pope Francis leaves after a meeting with the Catholic community in the Church of St. Michael Archangel, in Rakovsky, Bulgaria, Monday, May 6, 2019. Pope Francis is visiting Bulgaria, the European Union's poorest country and one that taken a hard line against migrants, a stance that conflicts with the pontiff's view that reaching out to vulnerable people is a moral imperative. (AP Photo/Darko Vojinovic)

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Francis was surrounded by Mother Teresa's sari-clad Sisters of Charity nuns in praying before the memorial, a giant statue of the tiny nun, located outside the remains of the church where Anjeze Gonxhe Bojaxhiu was baptized in 1910.

In his homily at Mass, Francis praised Mother Teresa's dedication to the poor, saying it quenched her hunger for God.

"She went to the Lord exactly as she went to the despised, the unloved, the lonely and the forgotten," Francis said to a crowd in a central Skopje square that organizers estimated at 15,000 gathered.

Viktor Dimovski, North Macedonia's foreign ministry state secretary, told reporters Monday that Francis' visit was historic and comes at a crucial moment as North Macedonia seeks entry into the European Union and NATO.

"The pope's visit strengthens further internal cohesion and unity, and brings messages of reconciliation and solidarity," he said.

The country has been an EU candidate since 2005, but is still waiting for the start of membership talks with the bloc. With the name dispute now resolved, North Macedonia hopes to get a clear signal for the start of accession talks in June. It expects to become the 30th NATO member at the end of this year.

But the country is deeply polarized between the governing Social Democrats, who support the name deal, and the opposition VMRO-DPMNE conservatives, fierce opponents of the name change.

Ivanov, the outgoing president, referred to the divisions in his speech to the pope, urging Macedonians to use the visit as an opportunity to heal after being "heavily wounded by broken promises, unfulfilled expectations and faltering trust in the international community."

"Only spiritually transformed people can transform the spirit of society," Ivanov said.

Pro-EU President Stevo Pendarovski, who was elected president in a runoff election last weekend, said he saw his victory as a "ticket for NATO and EU."

While the visit was a political boost for North Macedonia, it was also a spiritual boost for Catholics from across the region and ethnic spectrum.

"It is magnificent that we came to see the pope here in Macedonia because he has a message for the youth and whole humanity, and we need to apply it in our lives," said Kristiana Mjeshtri, a Catholic from Albania.

Ivan Giljanovic traveled from Split, Croatia. "I am a Catholic and it means a lot for me," he said. "Everything is about faith."

AP producer Florent Bajrami contributed.

Meatsplainer: How new plant-based burgers compare to beef

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

NEW YORK (AP) — If you want to skip meat, a new era of options is here.

Beyond Meat and Impossible Foods are among the companies racing to tap into the massive U.S. market of meat eaters by more closely mimicking the taste of beef than vegetarian patties of the past. Others are working to grow meat in labs.

So are the plant-based patties better for you or for the planet? Here's what you might want to know before taking a bite:

ARE THEY HEALTHIER?

As with many questions about diet, it depends. For better or worse, patties from Beyond Meat and Impossible Foods can be nutritionally similar to beef.

Beyond Meat's 4-ounce patty is listed at 270 calories, while Impossible Foods' is listed at 240 calories. Ground beef's nutritional profile can range, but a similarly sized patty with 80% lean meat has around 290 calories.

Protein content is about the same, while other nutrients vary. Some may like that the plant-based patties have fiber, but dislike that they're higher in sodium.

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For overall diet, what matters more might be how the patties are served, whether it's at Burger King, White Castle or elsewhere.

At Umami Burger in New York, for example, a burger with two Impossible patties, cheese and fixings tops 1,000 calories. Few would call it healthy, especially if served with fries and a soda.

"People are going to be fooling themselves into thinking these are not just better, but healthy," said Yoni Freedhoff, an obesity expert at the University of Ottawa.

People also may not realize the saturated fat content can be similar to beef burgers, he said.

WHAT'S IN THEM?

Beyond Meat's ingredients include pea protein and canola oil. Impossible Food's patties have soy protein and coconut oil. Impossible says its patties have a flavor and hue similar to beef partly because of soy leghemoglobin, a protein the company makes by genetically modifying yeast.

The meat industry, meanwhile, is appealing to people who prefer simpler ingredient lists.

"A beef patty is one natural ingredient: beef," says the North American Meat Institute, which represents meat makers.

HOW DO THEY TASTE?

Taste is subjective, but reviews generally say Beyond Meat and Impossible burgers taste similar to meat. Christian Acosta, who works in New York, said he's had the Impossible burger several times and can't tell the difference.

"It tastes exactly like meat," he said, while waiting in line to get the burger for lunch.

Unlike with a steak, any discrepancies in taste between beef and the plant-based burgers may be masked by buns, cheese and toppings. Both Beyond Meat and Impossible Foods have also updated their recipes, and may keep doing so to get even more like meat.

HOW MUCH DO THEY COST?

The idea is to eventually make Beyond and Impossible burgers cost the same or less than beef. For now, expect to pay more.

At a Whole Foods in New York, two Beyond Meat patties cost \$5.99, roughly double the price of two ground beef patties. Impossible burgers aren't yet available in grocery stores. But at a Bareburger restaurant in New York, it's an extra \$3 for either of the plant-based patties.

ARE THEY BETTER FOR THE EARTH?

Beef is considered taxing on the environment because of the resources it takes to grow crops to feed cows. Cows also produce the greenhouse gas methane, mostly through burps.

Though grazing animals can play a positive role in the ecosystem, that's not how most animals in the U.S. are raised, said Christopher Field, who is at the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment and who knows the founder of Impossible Foods. But he noted people don't have to give up meat entirely



An Original Impossible Burger, left, and a Cali Burger, from Umami Burger, are shown in this photo in New York, Friday, May 3, 2019. A new era of meat alternatives is here, with Beyond Meat becoming the first vegan meat company to go public and Impossible Burger popping up on menus around the country. (AP Photo/Richard Drew)

to make a difference, and that pork and chicken have much smaller environmental footprints than beef.

WHAT'S NEXT?

On the horizon is meat grown in labs by culturing animal cells, but it will be some time before people can get a taste.

Right now, the solutions used to help cells grow are expensive and limited since they're mainly made for medical therapy purposes, said Bruce Friedrich, executive director of the Good Food Institute, which advocates for meat alternatives.

Still, regulators have taken notice and the meat industry is watching and mobilizing to "protect beef nomenclature."

Already, Beyond Meat's debut as a public company may be confirming the meat industry's concerns. Years ago, a beef group had listed Beyond Meat as an issue to watch, according to public records obtained by the Associated Press.

Follow Candice Choi on Twitter: @candicechoi

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.

Loophole could keep young terror suspects out of US court

By JAKE BLEIBERG and MICHAEL BALSAMO Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department's ability to charge minors for supporting terrorist groups has been hampered by a 2018 Supreme Court decision, forcing prosecutors to hand off at least one such case to local authorities in a state without anti-terrorism laws.

The court's decision in a case unrelated to terrorism opened a loophole that could allow young supporters of groups like the Islamic State to skate on charges from the federal government.

The legal gap was highlighted by the case of Matin Azizi-Yarand, who was sentenced in a Texas state court last month after plotting to shoot police officers and civilians at a suburban shopping mall in an Islamic State-inspired rampage planned to coincide with the Muslim holiday of Ramadan.

In most cases like this, federal prosecutors would have brought terrorism charges. But U.S. prosecutors in Texas didn't charge Azizi-Yarand

because he was 17 at the time and considered a minor under federal law.

Federal law allows prosecutors to charge anyone supporting or working with a State Department-des-



FILE - In this Oct. 10, 2017, file photo, the Supreme Court in Washington, at sunset. The Justice Department's ability to charge minors for supporting terrorist groups has been hampered by a 2018 Supreme Court decision, forcing prosecutors to hand off at least one such case to local authorities in a state without anti-terrorism laws. (AP Photo/J.

Scott Applewhite, File)

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ignated terror group, even if the person was not in contact with the group. But to charge a juvenile with providing material support to a foreign terrorist organization, the attorney general would have to determine that the suspect committed what's known as a "crime of violence" under federal law.

The Supreme Court struck down part of that law last year, finding it too vague to be enforced in the case of a Philippine man who was facing deportation over burglary convictions. Justice Neil Gorsuch joined the court's more liberal judges, finding that the law crossed constitutional boundaries and that the law was not specific enough because it failed to adequately define what would be a violent crime.

"Vague laws invite arbitrary power," Gorsuch wrote.

Facing only state charges, Azizi-Yarand struck a plea deal and was sentenced to 20 years in prison with the possibility of parole after 10. Prosecutors presented the case as an example of local and federal collaboration, but also said that the criminal charge that would have best fit Azizi-Yarand's acts is unavailable in state court.

A charge of supporting a terror group "would've fit this crime better than the laws that we used," Collin County District Attorney Greg Willis said in April.

After the Supreme Court ruling, the Department of Homeland Security said the decision "significantly undermines" its ability to deport people convicted of "certain violent crimes," but the implications for terror cases weren't immediately apparent.

It isn't clear how many cases the Justice Department has handed off or dropped because of the Supreme Court ruling. The agency did not comment in response to multiple inquiries from The Associated Press.

Trying terrorism cases in state court can be problematic. Many states, including Texas, have no criminal statute against aiding a foreign terror organization. And, where such laws do exist, bringing state charges can complicate federal investigations.

Handling a case connected to terrorism can be a challenge for state prosecutors unschooled in radical ideologies, according to Seamus Hughes, deputy director of George Washington University's Program on Extremism. "For state prosecutors it's a learning curve," he said. "You have to understand the nuances of ISIS ideology."

This leaves federal law enforcement "in this strange limbo where either they kick it to a state level case or they track that individual until they turn 18," Hughes said.

Prosecuting juveniles for terrorism is rare and the Supreme Court decision may have little impact on overall terror prosecutions because the decision makes it difficult to bring "a very narrow band" of terror cases, said Nick Lewin, a defense attorney and former federal prosecutor.

Davilyn Walston, a spokeswoman U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Texas, said depending on the facts of a case minors could be prosecuted as adults under other parts of federal law.

But "unless and until" Congress changes how "crime of violence" is defined in federal law the Supreme Court decision could continue to affect prosecutions, she said.

There's no indication a change in legislation is imminent.

Bleiberg reported from Dallas.

Follow Bleiberg at twitter.com/JZBleiberg and Balsamo at twitter.com/MikeBalsamo1

Court TV pounds gavel again as all-trial channel is reborn

By **ANDREW DALTON AP Entertainment Writer**

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Court TV is ending its long recess.

The channel for legal junkies that thrived during the trial-crazy 1990s comes back from the dead after more than a decade Wednesday amid a crime-story craze that its backers hope will launch it into a long new life.

"The timing could not be better," said John Alleva, a lawyer and producer on the former Court TV who now is its vice president and managing editor. "The interest in true crime and this type of programming

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has reached a fever pitch. We're in a perfect situation."

The new Court TV, available over the air and on some cable providers depending on the market, will look a lot like the old. The new owners bought Court TV's name, logo and library, and will revive its practice of airing trials virtually in their entirety for much of the day while talking about trials and all things legal for the rest of the day.

"We're not jumping in for a minute here, 20 minutes there," said Scott Tufts, a veteran producer who long coordinated trial coverage for CNN and now joins Alleva as a vice president and managing editor for Court TV. "These are compelling stories of human events that will attract a large, and we believe dedicated audience."

And one of its former stars, Vinnie Politan, will be the face of the new channel as its primetime anchor.

Like many involved with Court TV, the 54-year-old Politan was a lawyer before he was a journalist, and lives to combine the two specialties, something that the dismantling of the old channel left him unable to do.

"I should play you back some of the recordings of my therapy sessions as I tried to recover from it," Politan said with a laugh. "This is the job I want to do. This is the only job I want to do. So for me, this is like being reborn."

Politan talked to The Associated Press by phone from the Court TV studios in Atlanta. He's spent the last several years there working for the local NBC affiliate, his love of the law limited to segments that lasted little over a minute.

Now, as host of "Closing Arguments" from 6 to 9 p.m. Eastern, he can go long.

"It's the deep dive," Politan said. "To be able to get into a story, to follow a story from beginning to end, to own the story is absolutely amazing."

The original Court TV was launched by a conglomerate of owners in 1991. Its popularity rose during the 1994 Menendez brothers' trial and soared during its airing of the 1995 O.J. Simpson trial.

Time Warner bought it in 2006, and in 2008 rebranded it as truTV, with an emphasis on reality shows aimed at a younger audience. Its court coverage slowly phased into oblivion.

The most devoted of Court TV's employees, including Alleva and Politan, had always wanted it back.

The intervening years have seen a popularity surge in podcasts like "Serial," TV trial reenactments such as "The People v. O.J. Simpson," and a slew of Netflix crime documentaries including "Making a Murderer." Katz Networks, a division of the E.W. Scripps Company, which has a long history in journalism, is taking a shot that the public's interest will take hold for Court TV once again.

The revived channel's online component will include a livestream of its telecasts, access to its library of older trials, and the ability to quickly catch up with an ongoing trial.

Court TV will seek to lead the national conversation on high-profile cases. Producers plan to go all-in on the forthcoming Harvey Weinstein sexual assault trial, set to start in New York in September.

But smaller cases in far-flung places will be just as essential to its programming.



In this Thursday, May 2, 2019, photo, Court TV's Yodit Tewolde, from left, Vinnie Politan, Seema Iyer and Julie Grant pose at the Court TV anchor desk, in Atlanta. (AP Photo/

John Bazemore)

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The channel's first live coverage inside a courtroom will be the Covington, Georgia, trial of parents charged with the murder of their newborn baby after they had reported him missing in 2017.

"The smaller trials are what really drives Court TV," Alleva said. "The majority of the trials are going to take place in small places across America."

Of course, to provide such coverage, judges will need to allow cameras in court in the first place — a fight that for Court TV is both essential to its business model and a matter of principle.

"There should be a camera in every courtroom," Politan said. "These are public courtrooms, it's our government, no judge or lawyer owns the court."

The channel has joined media outlets including the AP in the legal fight for access to the Weinstein trial.

Seema Iyer, a former New York City prosecutor with an expertise in forensics who has worked as a legal analyst for CNN and MSNBC, will anchor the channel's daily 3 to 6 p.m. Eastern timeslot.

She said she leapt at the Court TV job for the rare chance it offers her to use her skills to talk to, and help create, viewers as smart and obsessed as the anchors.

"They'll fact check us," Iyer told the AP on a joint phone call with Politan. "We can't make mistakes."

She said audiences that knew virtually nothing about DNA during the O.J. Simpson trial in 2019 now have sophisticated knowledge of the science of crime.

At the same time, she said, "CSI" and scores of similar shows have forced prosecutors and journalists alike to "reduce expectations that people have for that sexy type of evidence, because it's not always there."

"The good thing is, if there is all that sexy evidence, we have a lot of fun," Iyer said. "The challenge for us, as anchors, is when the evidence is a little drawn out, it gets boring, that's when we really have to ratchet up the energy, and the entertainment value."

"Objection!" Politan shouted, interrupting Iyer. "Court TV is never boring."

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

Suspect caught in killing of Mississippi officer at station

By JEFF AMY Associated Press

Less than 24 hours after police say a Mississippi man gunned down a uniformed officer in police station parking lot, the now-arrested suspect was marched on Monday night back into the same Biloxi police station.

Biloxi Police Chief John Miller said one of his department's officers was driving home through Wiggins, 40 miles (65 kilometers) north of the Gulf Coast city when the officer spotted a man at the side of the road who looked like the target of an intense manhunt.

That officer's suspicions were on the money. He called Wiggins police who in turn arrested 19-year-old Darian Tawan Atkinson, wanted for capital murder in the slaying of Biloxi Patrolman Robert McKeithen.

Atkinson, tall and lanky in a blue and black baseball jersey, gave something close to a grin as officers yanked him from the back of a police cruiser and paraded him past watching reporters and cheering police officers back in Biloxi, only feet away from where McKeithen was gunned down after 10 p.m. Sunday night. The 23-year-veteran of the Biloxi force had been planning to retire this year.

"It's been a long couple of days," said Miller, who told reporters he was going to bed as he got news of the capture. "We feel vindicated. He's been treated properly and fairly. And now we will grieve for the family."

Miller wouldn't say if Atkinson had told police anything. He said Atkinson would be questioned and then transported to the Harrison County jail in Gulfport. It's unclear when Atkinson will go before a judge or if he has a lawyer.

"Next we want to make sure that we have a solid case," Miller said. "We want the district attorney to be pleased with the case we present, and we want this guy to pay for what he's done."

It's unclear how Atkinson got to Wiggins after a day when police searched locations in Biloxi, sometimes carrying assault rifles, looking for the man. Miller said he expected at least one person would be charged as an accessory for illegally aiding Atkinson.

It remains unclear whether McKeithen was targeted or shot at random

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"I can say that's probably the saddest thing about this case is we have no motive, we have no reason for him to do this to anybody," Harrison County Sheriff Troy Peterson said at a news conference earlier Monday evening.

Authorities say the gunman approached McKeithen in the station's parking lot Sunday night after coming inside the station, shooting the officer multiple times. Images from a surveillance camera inside the station showed a suspect wearing navy blue shorts, a black T-shirt, a red beanie cap and dark high-top sneakers.

Miller said earlier Monday that the suspect, then still unidentified, "seemed a bit nonchalant" as he walked around. Miller turned the investigation over to the neighboring Gulfport Police Department, saying it was better to have an outside agency investigate the death of one of Biloxi's own officers.

Gulfport police spokesman Sgt. James Griffin said investigators determined Atkinson's identity through tips and interviews throughout the day.

Asked if Atkinson had a criminal record, Gulfport Police Chief Leonard Papania said "there's nothing that would indicate this," later describing the shooting as "a sick and deliberate act."

Authorities withheld details of the shooting itself, but Miller has said that "with all of Robert's training, I don't know that there was anything else he could have done." Immediately after the shooting, McKeithen was rushed to a hospital where he was pronounced dead.

McKeithen's relatives said Monday through Biloxi city spokesman Vincent Creel that they weren't prepared to talk. A memorial service is planned Tuesday night at Biloxi police headquarters. The officer's funeral and burial are planned for May 13.

Mississippi's governor visited the Biloxi police station on Monday, lamenting the killing.

"This was a senseless murder of a veteran police officer," Gov. Phil Bryant later wrote on Twitter. "We will find the coward who fired the shots and take him into custody."

At a news conference on Monday morning outside Biloxi's police headquarters, Miller gestured at one point toward the crime scene around McKeithen's patrol SUV. He said his officer was "murdered last night right here in our parking lot." Mourners piled floral tributes on the SUV later in the day.

McKeithen was described as an Air Force veteran with a wife, daughter, two stepsons and a stepdaughter.

Miller said he and McKeithen had handled calls together earlier in their career. Department records show McKeithen and three other officers were awarded a medal of valor for risking their lives to rescue four special needs children during Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

Said Miller of the slain officer, "He treated people with respect and dignity and we're going to miss him sorely."



This photo provided by the City of Biloxi, Miss., Public Affairs Department shows police officer Robert McKeithen who was killed Sunday night, May 5, outside the department building in Biloxi. (City

of Biloxi, Miss., Public Affairs via AP)

Follow Jeff Amy him at <http://twitter.com/jeffamy> .

Asia stocks mostly higher after Trump trade threat

By **JOE McDONALD** AP Business Writer

BEIJING (AP) — Asian stock markets rebounded Tuesday after Beijing said trade negotiators were preparing to go to Washington despite President Donald Trump's threat to escalate their tariff war.

Benchmarks in Shanghai, Hong Kong and Sydney rose, while Tokyo declined after reopening following a long holiday.

Trump's surprise threat Sunday of more tariff hikes triggered fears China might pull out of talks aimed at ending the fight over its technology ambitions. Markets recovered after Beijing said envoys were preparing to go to Washington. U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer said talks would start Thursday.

There was no word on whether China's top negotiator, Vice Premier Liu He, would go as scheduled.

"The base case still remains we see a framework agreement reached, but the market is still repricing in the risk," Edward Moya of Oanda said in a report.

The Shanghai Composite Index gained 0.9% to 2,932.49 and Hong Kong's Hang Seng added 0.9% to 29,467.87. Sydney's S&P-ASX 200 was 0.8% higher at 6,337.90 while markets in New Zealand, Taiwan and Southeast Asia also advanced.

Tokyo's Nikkei 225 lost 1.4% to 21,955.90 and Seoul's Kospi slid 1.1% to 2,171.33.

Trump's threat Sunday reignited jitters that had been largely put to rest by statements from both sides that negotiations were making progress. The American president accused Beijing of backtracking on commitments made in the rapid-fire negotiations.

Trump threatened to raise tariffs on \$200 billion of Chinese goods to 25% from 10%, effective Friday. He said he would impose increases on an additional \$325 billion of imports, covering everything China sells to the United States.

"Beijing is not a big fan of hostage situations," Vishnu Varathan of Mizuho Bank said in a report. "The tight deadline alongside threats of widening the tariff net may not play out favorably for prospects of an imminent deal."

On Wall Street, companies with interests in China bore the brunt of Monday's selling, particularly technology and industrial companies. Banks also fell sharply. Health care stocks rose.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index dropped 0.5% to 2,932.47. The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 0.3% to 26,438.48. The Nasdaq slid 0.5% to 8,123.29.

Qualcomm, which gets 64.7% of its revenue from China, according to the data provider FactSet, fell 1.2%. Broadcom slid 1.3% and Apple dropped 1.5%.

Wynn Resorts, with casinos and hotels in Macau, gets about 75% of its revenue from China. Its stock



FILE - In this May 1, 2019, file photo, trader Robert Charmak, left, works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. On Monday, May 6, U.S. stocks plunged at the opening of trading, following a sell-off in global markets, after President Donald Trump threatened to escalate a trade war between the world's two largest economies. (AP

Photo/Richard Drew, File)

tumbled 4.1%.

Boeing Co. fell 1.3% after the aircraft manufacturer disclosed that it did not warn airlines about a faulty safety alert until after one of its planes crashed.

The sensors malfunctioned during an October flight in Indonesia and another in March in Ethiopia, causing software on the plane to push the nose down. Both planes crashed, killing a total of 346 people.

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude lost 7 cents to \$62.18 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract gained 31 cents on Monday to close at \$62.25. Brent crude, used to price international oils, fell 14 cents to \$71.10 per barrel in London. It rose 39 cents the previous session to \$71.24.

CURRENCY: The dollar edged down to 110.63 yen from Monday's 110.72 yen. The euro advanced to \$1.1206 from \$1.1201.

Denver voters decide on 'magic mushroom' decriminalization

By KATHLEEN FOODY Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — Voters on Tuesday could make Denver the first U.S. city to decriminalize psilocybin — the psychoactive substance in “magic mushrooms” — and add a new chapter to the city's role in shaping wider drug policy.

A citizen initiative on the ballot has followed the same tack taken by marijuana activists to decriminalize pot possession in 2005 in the city. The move was followed by statewide legalization in 2012. A number of other states followed and broadly allow marijuana use and sales by adults.

Psilocybin campaign organizers say their only goal is to keep people out of jail for using or possessing the drug to cope with depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress and other conditions.

Kevin Matthews, director of the Decriminalize Denver campaign, said psilocybin has helped him deal with depression for years.

“This is not something you have to take every day,” the 33-year-old Denver native said. “It provides a lot of lasting benefits, weeks and months after one experience.”

Psilocybin has been outlawed in the U.S. since the 1960s, and some researchers warn that it should only be used under medical supervision and can prompt paranoia and anxiety.

The federal government classifies psilocybin as a Schedule I drug, with no medical purpose and a high potential for abuse.

For decades, that status has stymied research into medical uses of psilocybin, but small, closely supervised studies in recent years have found that it can help treat anxiety and depression in cancer patients. Participants have described seeing vivid colors and geometric patterns, and experiencing powerful spiritual connections and emotions.

Magic mushrooms have been used in religious practices for decades due to their powerful effect on



A vendor bags psilocybin mushrooms at a pop-up cannabis market in Los Angeles on Monday, May 6, 2019. Voters decide this week whether Denver will become the first U.S. city to decriminalize the use of psilocybin, the psychedelic substance in “magic mushrooms.” (AP Photo/Richard Vogel)

perceptions and spiritual experiences. Those same effects have appealed to recreational users dating back to the counterculture of the 1960s.

A California effort to decriminalize psilocybin failed to qualify for the statewide ballot in 2018. Organizers in Oregon are trying to gather enough support to put an initiative to a statewide vote next year.

It took the pro-psilocybin organizers in Denver three tries to develop language approved by city officials for the ballot. They collected more than 8,000 signatures to qualify for Tuesday's election.

Denver Mayor Michael Hancock opposes the initiative along with District Attorney Beth McCann, but there has been no organized campaign against it.

The election has largely been focused on a six-way race for mayor and a heated effort to end Denver's "urban camping" ban that affects people without housing and has pitted activists against well-financed business and development groups.

Supporters of the psilocybin initiative have done door-to-door canvassing, documentary screenings and leafletting at community events or outside Coors Field before Colorado Rockies' games.

The initiative would effectively decriminalize use or possession of psilocybin by people 21 and older, making it the lowest enforcement priority for police and prosecutors.

The proposed ordinance also would prevent city funds from being used to pursue criminal penalties on possession or use and create a panel to study the effects of the change.

The measure does not legalize psilocybin or permit its sale by cannabis businesses.

"Nobody should be penalized for this substance," Matthews said. "One arrest is too many. No person deserves this kind of treatment for a substance this safe."

Maximum Security out of Preakness; Derby DQ appeal denied

By GARY B. GRAVES AP Sports Writer

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Taken down as the Kentucky Derby winner, Maximum Security is now out of the Preakness.

Maximum Security's co-owner said Monday he will not run the horse in the middle jewel of the Triple Crown. The announcement came hours before his appeal of the horse's disqualification as Derby winner was denied by the Kentucky Horse Racing Commission.

Gary West told The Associated Press by phone there is "really no need, not having an opportunity to run for the Triple Crown, to run a horse back in two weeks."

The 1 1/8-mile Preakness is May 18 at Pimlico Race Course. Though shorter than the Kentucky Derby, the race requires a quick turnaround. West didn't want to burden his colt with the Triple Crown off the table.

Maximum Security was scheduled to leave Churchill Downs on Monday and arrive early Tuesday at Monmouth Park, where trainer Jason Servis is based, the New Jersey track said.

"The horse will be better off long term with the rest," West said. "He ran a really good and a really hard race on Saturday.

"Really, there are a lot of other Grade 1 races the rest of the year for 3-year-olds. So we'll let him gather himself and point to one of the other races. I don't know which one that will be, but it will definitely not be the Preakness."

Maximum Security, the first to finish the muddy race by 1 3/4 lengths on Saturday, became the first Derby winner to be disqualified for interference. After an objection by two riders, stewards ruled the colt swerved out and impeded the path of several horses between the far and final turns. Country House, a 65-1 shot, was elevated to first.

Country House's status for the Preakness is unclear. That race would mark his fourth start in eight weeks.

Trainer Bill Mott has said there's no rush to decide on whether he'll run in Baltimore. But he acknowledged the race's importance and added, "The challenge of the Triple Crown is that there's three races really close together, and it takes a champion."

The only other Derby disqualification was in 1968, and long after the race. First-place finisher Dancer's Image tested positive for a prohibited medication, and Kentucky racing officials ordered the purse money

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to be redistributed. Forward Pass got the winner's share. A subsequent court challenge upheld the stewards' decision.

West has said he realizes the appeals process will take "months, if not years." He remains bothered that his request to view replays with stewards after the race was denied.

An appeal filed Monday morning was denied later in the day by the KHRC, which stated in a letter to West's attorney that the stewards' decision is not subject to appeal. The commission also denied a request to stay the disqualification ruling pending appeal.

"Based on everything that has happened so far, I'm not surprised," West told The Associated Press in a phone interview after the appeal was denied. "We'll file suit in whatever the appropriate court is. I don't know the answer to that, but the lawyers that I have retained will know what the appropriate venue is."

Maximum Security was placed 17th of 19 horses after starting as the 9-2 second betting choice, ending his four-race winning streak.

Stewards cited the rule that calls for disqualification if a "leading horse or any other horse in a race swerves or is ridden to either side so as to interfere with, intimidate, or impede any other horse or jockey."

Chief steward Barbara Borden said in a news conference she and two other stewards interviewed riders and studied video replays during a 22-minute review after the finish. The stewards did not take questions from reporters.



Luis Saez reacts after Maximum Security was disqualified from the 145th running of the Kentucky Derby horse race at Churchill Downs Saturday, May 4, 2019, in Louisville, Ky. (AP Photo/Morry Gash)

More AP sports: <https://apnews.com/tag/apf-sports> and https://twitter.com/AP_Sports

Today in History By The Associated Press undefined

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, May 7, the 127th day of 2019. There are 238 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 7, 1945, Germany signed an unconditional surrender at Allied headquarters in Rheims (rams), France, ending its role in World War II.

On this date:

In 1763, Pontiac, chief of the Ottawa Indians, attempted to lead a sneak attack on British-held Fort Detroit, but was foiled because the British had been tipped off in advance.

In 1789, America's first inaugural ball was held in New York in honor of President George Washington, who had taken the oath of office a week earlier.

In 1915, a German U-boat torpedoed and sank the British liner RMS Lusitania off the southern coast of Ireland, killing 1,198 people, including 128 Americans, out of the nearly 2,000 on board.

In 1939, Germany and Italy announced a military and political alliance known as the Rome-Berlin Axis.

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In 1945, the 1944 Pulitzer Prizes were awarded; winners included John Hersey for his novel "A Bell for Adano," Mary Chase for her play "Harvey," and Associated Press photographer Joe Rosenthal for his picture of the Iwo Jima flag-raising.

In 1954, the 55-day Battle of Dien Bien Phu in Vietnam ended with Vietnamese insurgents overrunning French forces.

In 1963, the United States launched the Telstar 2 communications satellite.

In 1975, President Gerald R. Ford formally declared an end to the "Vietnam era." In Ho Chi Minh City — formerly Saigon — the Viet Cong celebrated its takeover.

In 1984, a \$180 million out-of-court settlement was announced in the Agent Orange class-action suit brought by Vietnam veterans who said they'd been injured by exposure to the defoliant.

In 1992, the latest addition to America's space shuttle fleet, Endeavour, went on its first flight.

In 1998, the parent company of Mercedes-Benz agreed to buy Chrysler Corp. for more than \$37 billion. Londoners voted overwhelmingly to elect their own mayor for the first time in history. (In May 2000, Ken Livingstone was elected.)

In 2004, Army Pfc. Lynndie England, shown in photographs smiling and pointing at naked Iraqi prisoners, was charged by the military with assaulting the detainees and conspiring to mistreat them. (England was later convicted of conspiracy, mistreating detainees and committing an indecent act, and sentenced to 36 months; she served half that term.)

Ten years ago: A federal jury in Paducah, Kentucky, convicted a former soldier, Steven Dale Green, of raping and fatally shooting a 14-year-old girl after killing her parents and younger sister while he was serving in Iraq. (Green was sentenced to life without possibility of parole; he hanged himself in prison in February 2014.) Former Illinois police Sgt. Drew Peterson was indicted for murder in the death of his third wife, Kathleen Savio. (Peterson was convicted of murdering Savio, and was sentenced to 38 years in prison.) Mickey Carroll, one of the last surviving Munchkins from the 1939 film "The Wizard of Oz," died in Crestwood, Missouri, at age 89.

Five years ago: Russian President Vladimir Putin softened his tone in a confrontation with the West, declaring that he had pulled his troops away from the Ukrainian border. The Nation's Report Card said America's high school seniors lacked critical math and reading skills for an increasingly competitive global economy. The International Olympic Committee awarded the exclusive U.S. broadcast rights to NBC for an additional six games in a record \$7.75 billion deal.

One year ago: First lady Melania Trump unveiled what she called the "Be Best" public awareness campaign to help children, focusing on childhood well-being, social media use and opioid abuse. Retired Lt. Col. Oliver North, the Marine at the center of the Iran-Contra affair in the Reagan administration, was named president of the National Rifle Association. New York State Attorney General Eric Schneiderman announced that he would be resigning from office after he was accused of physical violence by women with whom he had been involved; Schneiderman had been a high-profile advocate for women's issues.

Today's Birthdays: Rhythm-and-blues singer Thelma Houston is 76. Actress Robin Strasser is 74. Singer-songwriter Bill Danoff is 73. Rock musician Bill Kreutzmann (Grateful Dead) is 73. Utah Gov. Gary Herbert is 72. Rock musician Prairie Prince is 69. Movie writer-director Amy Heckerling is 67. Actor Michael E. Knight is 60. Rock musician Phil Campbell (Motorhead) is 58. Country musician Rick Schell is 56. Rock singer-musician Chris O'Connor (Primitive Radio Gods) is 54. Actress Traci Lords is 51. Actor Morocco Omari is 49. Singer Eagle-Eye Cherry is 48. Actor Breckin Meyer is 45. Rock musician Matt Helders (Arctic Monkeys) is 33. Actress-comedian Aidy Bryant is 32. Actor Taylor Abrahamse is 28. Actor Alexander Ludwig is 27. Actress Dylan Gelula is 25.

Thought for Today: "Be a philosopher but, amid all your philosophy be still a man." — David Hume, Scottish philosopher (1711-1776).