

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

Chicken Soup
for the Soul

When one tugs at
a single thing in
nature, he finds it
attached to the
rest of the world.

-John Muir



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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Cub Cadet

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SC 100 HW PUSH WALK-BEHIND MOWER

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Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

2:00pm: DARE Graduation at GHS Gymnasium

7 p.m.: City Council Meeting at the Groton Community Center

Wednesday, May 22, 2019

End of 4th Quarter - Final Day of School

12:00pm: Golf: Girls Varsity Meet @ Milbank Golf Course

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Faculty Inservice

10:00am: Golf: Girls Varsity Regions @ Milbank Golf Course

Friday, May 24, 2019

Faculty Inservice

STATE TRACK MEET @ TEA AREA

Saturday, May 25, 2019

STATE TRACK MEET @ SIOUX FALLS

*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, IL, ILLINOIS

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CONGRESSMAN
DUSTY JOHNSON
Representing **SOUTH DAKOTA** at large



21st Century Problem

Since coming to Congress I've discovered that there is a "National Week" for just about every important topic. In May alone we've recognized Small Business, Nurses, Police, and Teacher Appreciation Weeks. These are all important individuals and causes, so it's only fitting we acknowledge them.

Most recently we celebrated Infrastructure Week, which brought several South Dakota groups to the Capitol. I sat down with general contractors, communications providers, and tower erectors. Each of these groups had a different focus related to our nation's infrastructure – increasing rural broadband deployment and repairing damaged roads are central to the infrastructure improvement mission.

Before being elected to Congress, I worked in the private sector to bring broadband to unserved rural communities. The internet continues to change our world and rural America needs high-speed, reliable broadband to stay competitive and connected with the world. As a member of the bipartisan House Rural Broadband Caucus, I've worked with my colleagues across the aisle on this important issue. Rural broadband carriers provide thousands of jobs to smaller communities and contributes billions to the U.S. economy.

I'm aware that talking about roads, bridges, and expanding our nation's telecommunications infrastructure isn't exactly exciting, but it's so important. The South Dakota delegation understands this as well, which is why Senator Thune, Senator Rounds, and I urged the Federal Communication Commission to improve its process in identifying underserved areas of the country in need of high-speed internet. Governor Noem has also made expanding broadband access a top priority at the state level. In fact, Governor Noem recently announced a \$5 million commitment to increase rural broadband deployment in South Dakota. In a technology driven world, access to broadband is no longer a luxury, it's a necessity. South Dakota's leadership understands this, and we're not sitting idle.

In the 1930's, America prioritized rural electrification, and the level of commitment we showed back then should apply to internet access today. In today's competitive economy we must ensure that there is access from Murdo to Groton. According to a study, South Dakota is ranked 34th in the nation for access to broadband. We have a number of rural providers working hard to deploy better broadband, and we need to do what we can in D.C. to make their efforts even more successful.

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AnneMarie Lyn Smith With Highest Honors

Parents: Dr. Steve and Carol Smith

Hometown: Groton

Brothers and Sisters: Samuel (26), Marah (24), Luke (22), Erin (22), and Isaac (16)

Hobbies: Playing piano, trumpet, and trap set, singing, acting, theatre tech, reading, spending time with family and friends

School/Community Activities: show choir, chamber choir, jazz band, marching band, all school play, one act play, cross country, oral Interp, destination imagination, robotics, student accompanist, aberdeen community theatre volunteer, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church volunteer, carnival of silver skates

Favorite High School Memory: Going to state one acts my sophomore year and earning a superior ensemble award

Future Plans: Music Education at SDSU

Awards: HOBY Representative, National Honor Society, Aberdeen American News Scholastic Star Gold Award, American Legion Citizenship Award 2019, Principal's 4 year Honor Roll 2019, Principal's Student Service Award 2019, President's Award in Education 2019, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Associated School Boards Governor's Academic Excellence Recognition, James Valley Bob Peterson Memorial Telecommunications Scholarship, Groton Area Hopps Dow Scholarship, SD Opportunity Scholarship, SDSU Stephen F. Briggs Scholarship, SDSU Scholars Weekend Scholarship, SDSU Jackrabbit Priority Scholarship, SDSU Music Scholarship, PEO International Star Scholarship, Groton Kiwanis Community Service Scholarship, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Knights of Columbus Scholarship, Groton Cortland and Lois Kuehnert Valedictorian Scholarship.



Best Wishes From

**JAMES
VALLEY**
TELECOMMUNICATIONS



jamesvalley.com

Emily Anne Thompson With Highest Honors

Parents: Lee and Jennifer Thompson

Hometown: Groton

Brother: James Thompson (21)

Hobbies: running, playing, piano, baking, gardening

School/Community Activities: cross country, FCCLA, band, Jazz Band

Favorite High School

Memory: Freshman initiation

Future Plans: attend SDSU for nursing

Awards: National Honor Society, DAR Good Citizen Award, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Aberdeen American

News Scholastic Star Silver Award, Wendy's High School Heisman School Winner 2018, Principal's 4 year Honor Roll 2019, SDSU Yellow and Blue Scholarship, Dakota Bank Scholarship, SD Opportunity Scholarship, Scottish Rite Book Grant, Susan Deanne Weismantel Memorial Scholarship, Groton Cortland and Lois Kuehnert Trade/Technical/Science or Math Scholarship.



Best Wishes From

GROTON
Ford
GROTONFORD.COM 605-397-2311

Ashley Joy Garduño With Highest Honors



Parents: Shannon and Alfredo Garduño

Hometown: Webster.

Brother: Kason Garduño (7)

Hobbies: Hanging out with friends, watching Netflix, reading, and playing piano.

School/Community Activities: Concert choir, show choir, chamber choir, concert band, pep band, marching, Jazz band, Drama Club, Sunday School Teacher, St. Johns Youth choir and Senior Bell choir, and participation in instrumental ensembles at my church for Easter & Christmas.

Favorite High School Memory: Winning 1st place at State Show Choir my freshman year of high school.

Future Plans: Attending University of Northwestern-St. Paul for a Bachelor of

Music in Music Education for instrumental.

Awards: HOBY Representative, National Honor Society, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Principal's 4 year Honor Roll 2019, President's Award in Education 2019, Susan Clawson Grace Scholarship, Brenda Harms Memorial Scholarship, University of Northwestern Music Grant, University of Northwestern Music Scholarship, University of Northwestern Leadership Program Award, University of Northwestern Grant, University of Northwestern Faculty Scholarship, Scottish Rite Book Grant, Groton Cortland and Lois Kuehnert Financial Need Scholarship.



Best Wishes From

**MIDWEST MASONRY &
CONCRETE PUMPING**
605/397-8383

Cassandra Ann Townsend With Highest Honors



Parents: Dean and Kellie Townsend

Hometown: Andover

Brother: Travis Townsend (15)

Hobbies: Showing horses, working with animals, drawing, traveling

School/Community Activities: FFA, FCCLA, 4-H, track, South Dakota Quarter Horse Association, North Central Reining Horse Association

Favorite High School Memory: When I had the privilege to win 2019 Sr. Snow Queen at represent Groton at the State Snow Queen Festival.

Future Plans: attend South Dakota State University majoring in human biology with a pre-medicine pathway.

Awards: National Honor Society, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Principal's 4 year

Honor Roll 2019, Principal's Student Service Award 2019, President's Award in Education 2019, SDSU Equestrian Team Commit, Groton Chamber of Commerce Scholarship, SDSU Yellow and Blue Scholarship, SD Opportunity Scholarship, Beck Memorial Scholarship, James Valley Threshing Association Scholarship, Groton FFA Alumni Scholarship, Emmanuel Lutheran Faith Forever Scholarship, Groton Lions Club Scholarship, Brown County 4H leaders Association Scholarship, Lazy Farmers 4-H Club Scholarship, Wilfred N. and Lucille A. Heinz Memorial Scholarship, Groton Cortland and Lois Kuehnert Athletic Scholarship.



Best Wishes From

Professional Management Services, Inc.

111 N Main, Downtown Groton

605/397-3333 (FEED)



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Alexis Paige Simon With Highest Honors



Parents: Nick and Jamie Simon

Hometown: Groton

Brothers: Lucas (16), Cole (14), and Carter (12)

Hobbies: traveling, shopping, spending time with friends and family, going to sporting events, babysitting

School/Community Activities: Volleyball stats, boys basketball stats, track stats, football water girl, FFA member, FBLA member, FCLA member, SEAS church member, student council, 2016 Groton Jr. Snow Queen, 2018 Girls State Representative

Favorite High School Memory: beating Roncalli in football in 2016 to go to

the Dome.

Future Plans: Attend University of Minnesota Twin Cities and major in International Business, pursue career in hospitality management after college graduation.

Awards: SD Girls State Representative 2018, National Honor Society, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Principal's 4 year Honor Roll 2019, Principal's Student Service Award 2019, President's Award in Education 2019, Brenda Harms Memorial Scholarship, Groton FFA Alumni Scholarship, Shawn Weismantel Kramer Memorial Scholarship, Groton Cortland and Lois Kuehnert Top Student Scholarship.



Best Wishes From

A large graphic for Groton Ford. It features the word "GROTON" in a large, bold, black, stylized font on a yellow background. Below "GROTON" is the Ford logo, which consists of the word "Ford" in its signature script inside an oval. At the bottom of the graphic, the website "GROTONFORD.COM" and the phone number "605-397-2311" are displayed in black text on a yellow background.

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Tylan Jeffrey Glover With Honors



Parents: Burt and Angela Glover

Hometown: Groton

Sister: Todyn Glover (11)

Hobbies: Acting, Singing and Dance

School/Community Activities: Show Choir, Chamber Choir, Jazz band, FBLA, One Act Play, All- school play

Favorite High School Memory: Performing at State One-Act. Winning at State Show Choir.

Future Plans: Attend the American Musical and Dramatic Academy with the intent of gaining a Bachelors

in Fine Arts specializing in Musical Theatre.

Awards: National Honor Society, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Principal's 4 year Honor Roll 2019, Principal's Student Service Award 2019, President's Award in Education 2019, Renee McKiver Memorial Scholarship, AMDA Scholarship, Post 9-11 Montgomery GI Bill Military Tuition and Fees, book allowance, living expense allowance, Groton Class of 1969 Scholarship.



Best Wishes From

Groton Chiropractic Clinic

Carol McFarland-Kutter, D.C.

1205 N 1st St., Groton 397-8204

Kaitlyn Ann Anderson

With Honors



Parents: John and Stacey Anderson

Hometown: Claremont

Sister: Kennedy Anderson (14)

Hobbies: Drawing, Camping, Skating, Watching movies & hanging out with friends

School/Community Activities: FCCLA, Friendly Fellows and Daisies 4H group, Carnival of Silver Skates & Yearbook Committee

Favorite High School Memory: Dressing up with my friends for our last homecoming dress up days.

Future Plans: I plan on attending South Dakota State University this fall to major in architecture.

Awards: SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Principal's 4 year Honor Roll 2019, Principal's Student Service Award 2019, President's Award in Education 2019, National Honor Society, SD Girls State Representative 2018, Vicki Strom Memorial Scholarship, SD Opportunity Scholarship, SDSU Yellow and Blue Scholarship, Groton FCCLA Service Award, Groton PAC Community Service Scholarship, Brown County 4H Leaders Association Scholarship, Brown County Community and Family Extension Leaders Scholarship, Groton Irvin and Janice Flihs Family Scholarship.



Best Wishes From

The Connection

Houghton ~ (605) 885-6380

Jillian Lee Barton With Honors



Parents: Brian and Kris Barton

Hometown: Aberdeen

Brothers: Jordan (27) and Joshua

Hobbies: My hobbies are watching netflix, playing with my dog, Belle, and working as a nurse assistant at Mother Joseph Manor in Aberdeen.

School/Community Activities: I am in FFA at school. I volunteer with the Brown County Pet Rescue League in Aberdeen.

Favorite High School

Memory: My favorite high school memory is when I became an FFA officer my senior year.

Future Plans: I plan to attend Presentation College to receive a Bachelors in Nursing.

Awards: Presentation College Saints Merit Scholarship, Presentation College Needs Based Scholarship, Groton FFA Alumni Scholarship, Groton Lions Club Scholarship, Groton Class of 1969 Scholarship.



Best Wishes From

**MIDWEST MASONRY &
CONCRETE PUMPING**

605/397-8383

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Kylie McKenzie Kassube

With Honors



Parents: Chris and Nicole Kassube

Hometown: Groton

Brother and Sisters: Taylor Loken (21), Kaitlyn Kassube (17), Hunter Kassube (16)

Hobbies: hanging out with friends, shopping, watching netflix

School/Community Activities: FCCLA, FBLA, Youth Group, Groton Band

Favorite High School Memory: Homecoming of my senior year.

Future Plans: Attend Northern State University and major in Banking and Finance.

Awards: Principal's 4 year Honor Roll 2019, President's Award in Education 2019, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, SD Opportunity Scholarship, Northern State University Wolf-PACT Scholarship, Groton FCCLA Service Award, Emmanuel Lutheran Faith Forever Scholarship, Groton Darlene Raap Memorial Scholarship



Best Wishes From

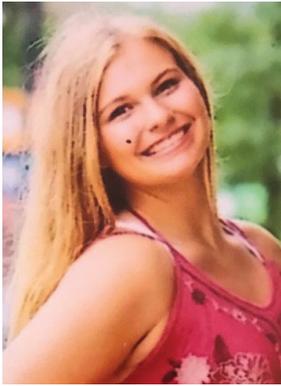


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Taylor Renee Holm

With Honors



Parents: Jason and Kathy Holm

Hometown: Groton

Brother: Tyler (24)

Hobbies: Participating in sports, hanging out with friends and family and watching netflix

School/Community Activities: Track, Volleyball, FCCLA, Carnival of Silver Skates, and National Honor Society.

Favorite High School Memory: Winning Carnival of Silver Skates Queen

Future Plans: I plan on attending the University of Sioux Falls and majoring in Radiologic Technology.

Awards: SD Girls State Representative 2018, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, National Honor Society, Principal's 4 year Honor Roll 2019, President's Award in Education 2019, SD Opportunity Scholarship, University of Sioux Falls Presidential Scholarship, Groton Area Hopps Dow Scholarship, Groton FCCLA Service Award, Groton Lions Club Scholarship, Rob Luecke Memorial Scholarship, Groton Darlene Raap Memorial Scholarship.



Best Wishes From



Farm Credit Services of America

**4835 6th Ave SE, Aberdeen
(605) 225-1030**

Samantha Lynn Geffre With Honors



Parents: Cory and Tammi Geffre

Hometown: Aberdeen

Brother and Sister: Parker Geffre (19) Alexis Geffre (12)

Hobbies: Soccer

School/Community Activities: FCCLA

Favorite High School Memory: watching the Community of Groton come together for families in time



of need.

Future Plans: Attend SouthEast Technical Institute in Sioux Falls for nursing.

Awards: SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Groton Lions Club Scholarship, Groton Edna Bugner Memorial Scholarship.

Best Wishes From

**MIDWEST MASONRY &
CONCRETE PUMPING**
605/397-8383

Samantha Jo Menzia

With Honors

Parents: Eric and Ann Menzia

Hometown: Conde

Brother and Sisters: Sara (13), Nick (19), and Sanjay (24)

Hobbies: Kayaking, ice skating, hanging out with friends and family, netflix, napping

School/Community Activities: FCCLA, Carnival of Silver Skates, Volleyball Stats

Favorite High School Memory: late night adventures with my girls

Future Plans: Attend St. Cloud State University to

major in social work

Awards: Principal's 4 year Honor Roll 2019, Principal's Student Service Award 2019, SD Girls State Representative 2018, Conde Civic Department Scholarship, St. Cloud State Presidential Scholarship, Groton FCCLA Service Award, Credit Union Foundation of the Dakotas, Groton Edna Bugner Memorial Scholarship.



Best Wishes From

Cheri's on Main

Men & Women Haircuts ~ Perms ~ Color

7 N Main, Groton ~ 605/397-2491

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Micah David Poor With Honors



Parents: David and Anissa Poor

Hometown: Stratford

Brother and Sister: Noah (17) and Rebecca (12)

School/Community Activities: cross country, show choir, one act plays, hockey, chamber choir, jazz band

Favorite High School Memory: Florida Band/Show choir trip

Future Plans: Go to U of M Minneapolis for chemistry, National Guard

Awards: American Legion Citizenship Award 2019, President's Award in Education 2019, SD Boys State Representative 2018, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Tom and Barbara Paepke Fine Arts Scholarship, Columbia American Legion Auxiliary Scholarship, Roger Hendrickson Memorial Scholarship, Stratford Community Theatre Scholarship, Montgomery GI Bill and Kicker, Gwendolyn O'Connor Broman Memorial Scholarship.



Best Wishes From

Milbrandt Enterprises, Inc.

39870 139th St, Groton
(605) 395-6581 ~ ggm@nvc.net



Kaitlyn Nicole Kassube

With Honors

Parents: Chris and Nicole Kassube

Hometown: Bath

Brother and Sisters: Taylor Loken (21), Kylie Kassube (17), Hunter Kassube (16)

Hobbies: Hunting and Hanging out with friends.

School/Community Activities: Basketball stats, FBLA, FCCLA, Cheerleading, and youth group.

Favorite High School



Memory: When the Seniors did the smash the van for Becky Diegel.

Future Plans: I plan to go to Minnesota State University Moorhead and major in social work.

Awards: SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Emmanuel Lutheran Faith Forever Scholarship, Minnesota State University Moorhead Scholarship, Groton Community Foundation Scholarship.



Best Wishes From



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Jennie Anne Doeden With Honors



Parents: Toby and Liz Doeden

Hometown: Groton

Brothers and Sister: Jackson Doeden (22) Josie Doeden (20) Jonathan Doeden (17)

Hobbies: hair & makeup, baking, shopping, hanging out with friends and family, traveling

School/Community Activities: volleyball, basketball, track, FFA, FBLA, band, Luther League

Favorite High School Memory: Playing sports with all of my teammates and hanging out with my friends.

Future Plans: Attend LATI in Watertown, SD, for cosmetology and continue on with future schooling to become a registered nurse.

Awards: Principal's 4 year Honor Roll 2019, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, SD Opportunity Scholarship.



Best Wishes From

Groton Chiropractic Clinic

Carol McFarland-Kutter, D.C.

1205 N 1st St., Groton 397-8204

Payton Nicole Maine

With Honors

Parents: Connie and Steve O'Neill, Tracy Maine

Hometown: Aberdeen

Sister: Taylor Maine Spellman (25)

Hobbies: Playing Sports, listening to music, hanging out with friends and cats.

School/Community Activities: Volleyball, basketball, track, dance team, FCCLA, FFA, elementary volleyball coach

Favorite High School Memory: Playing in big

volleyball games (sweet 16) and making memories with my teammates.

Future Plans: Attend Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, Arizona and major in Nursing to eventually become an emergency room nurse.

Awards: SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Grand Canyon University Faculty Scholarship, Grand Canyon University Priority Registration scholarship, Groton Don Bartz Memorial Scholarship.



Best Wishes From



Groton American Legion Post #39

Lounge: 397-2603 • Downtown Groton

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Today in Weather History

May 21, 1977: Observers south of Clear Lake saw five tornadoes. One was five miles south of town moving northeast. Another was four miles south and one mile west of Clear Lake. Both destroyed trees and some small buildings. Three other tornadoes were sighted about two miles south of town. These touched down only momentarily with no damage occurring.

Two tornadoes were seen in southern Codrington County. One was seen at Grover, and the other was five miles south of Watertown. No damage was reported.

A tornado was on the ground in the vicinity of Revillo. A few barns and some outbuilding were damaged.

May 21, 1992: A severe thunderstorm moved over Northwestern Edmunds County causing high winds and penny size hail. In Bowdle, there was considerable wind damage. Tree limbs more than five inches in diameter were broken off and fell on a car. Other tree branches went through the roof of a home. Two pickup trucks were rolled on their side. Three miles ENE of Bowdle a garage was moved 20 feet off its foundation and was stopped by a large tractor.

1881: Clara Barton and a circle of close friends found the American Red Cross.

1860 - A swarm of tornadoes occurred in the Ohio Valley. Tornadoes struck the cities of Louisville, KY, Cincinnati, OH, Chillicothe, OH, and Marietta, OH, causing a million dollars damage. (David Ludlum)

1895 - The temperature at Norwalk, OH, dipped to 19 degrees to set a state record for the month of May. (The Weather Channel)

1896 - The mercury soared to 124 degrees at Salton, CA, to establish a U.S. record for May. (Sandra and TI Richard Sanders - 1987)

1949: A violent tornado crossed the Mississippi River from the St. Louis area into Wood River, then to Roxanna. This tornado damaged or destroyed 300 homes in these two towns, killing five people. Four people died in a destroyed restaurant in Palestine, Illinois; one body was recovered from a tree. A tornado causing estimated F4 damage killed five people and injured 55 in St. Louis and St. Charles counties in Missouri and Madison County in Illinois. This tornado was part of an outbreak that produced four different tornadoes and was responsible for five deaths and 57 injuries.

1980 - The temperature at Williston ND reached 102 degrees to set a record for May, and the next day the mercury hit 106 degrees. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Severe thunderstorms, developing along a sharp cold front crossing the central U.S., produced 60 mph winds and golf ball size hail at Sedalia, MO, and drenched Hagerstown, IN, with six inches of rain in one hour. Temperatures soared into the 90s ahead of the cold front. Paducah, KY, hit 94 degrees for the second day in a row. Light snow blanketed Montana, with three inches reported at Butte. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Severe thunderstorms swept across southern Louisiana during the morning hours spawning six tornadoes, and producing wind gusts to 88 mph at Jennings. Thunderstorms also produced five inches of rain in two hours at Lake Charles, causing local flooding. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

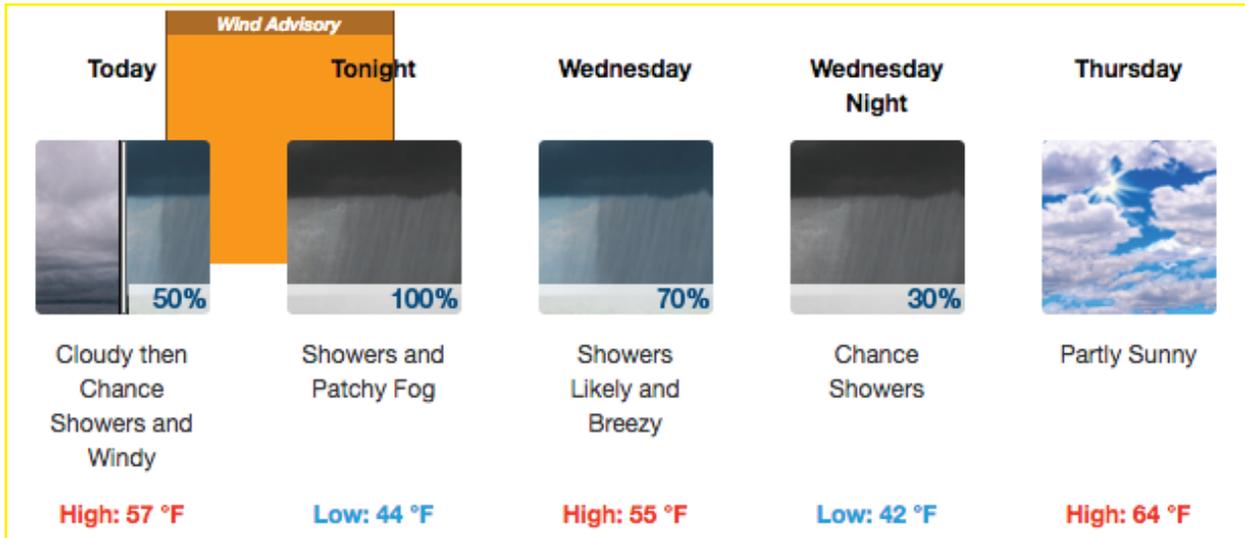
1989 - Thunderstorms moving southeastward across the Central Plains Region into Oklahoma and Arkansas produced severe weather through the day and night. Thunderstorms spawned just four tornadoes, but there were 243 reports of large hail and damaging winds. Baseball size hail was reported at Augusta, KS, and thunderstorm winds gusted to 98 mph at Johnson, KS. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1990 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather across the southeastern U.S. for the second day in a row. Severe thunderstorms spawned five tornadoes, including one which injured a person at Richmond KY. There were eighty-seven reports of large hail or damaging winds, with hail three inches in diameter reported at Austin TX. Thunderstorms produced up to five inches of rain in Macon County GA, and heavy rains left nearly eight feet of water over roads near Stepstone KY. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

2001: Golfers participating in a golf tournament at the Majestic Golf Course in Hartland, Michigan received an urgent message on the G.P.S. on their carts. The message, relayed from the clubhouse, was that a tornado was bearing down on the course. Most of the golfers made it to safety in the clubhouse, although some had to take shelter on the course. Only one golfer suffered a minor injury. The F2 tornado damaged 70 cars in the parking lot along with numerous golf carts and a pontoon boat.

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Published on: 05/21/2019 at 5:10AM

Showers will spread across the area during the day and tonight. Heavy rain is possible at times. Highs today should range from the mid 40s south, to near 60 northeast South Dakota. Rainfall amounts from today through Wednesday morning will range from 1-2.5 inches. Another system will bring rain to the area late Thursday and Thursday night.

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Yesterday's Groton Weather Today's Info

High Temp: 59 °F at 6:09 PM

Low Temp: 35 °F at 5:28 AM

Wind: 13 mph at 3:54 PM

Day Rain: 0.08 in

Record High: 94° in 1925

Record Low: 22° in 1895

Average High: 70°F

Average Low: 46°F

Average Precip in May.: 2.06

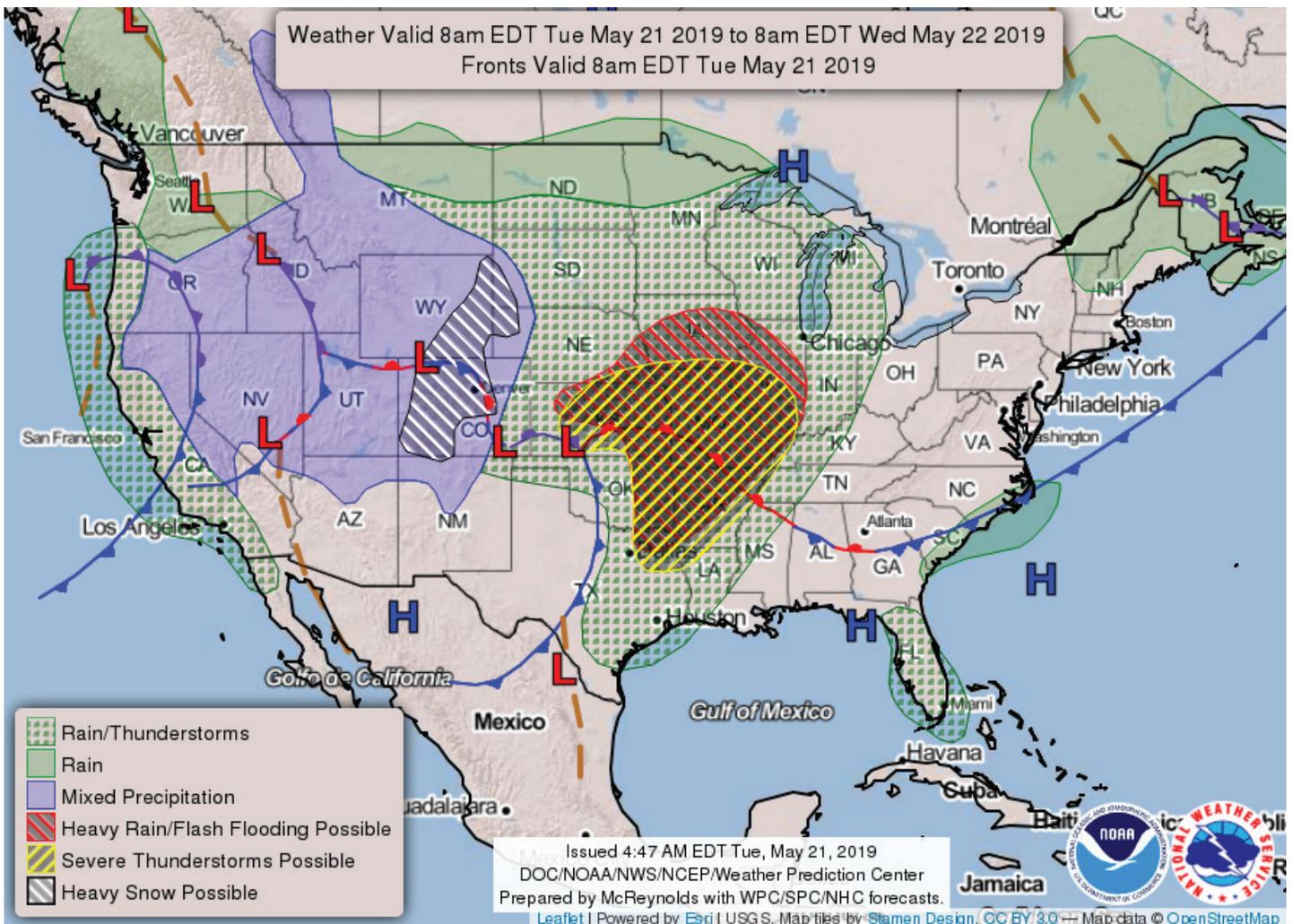
Precip to date in May.: 2.85

Average Precip to date: 6.09

Precip Year to Date: 7.56

Sunset Tonight: 9:04 p.m.

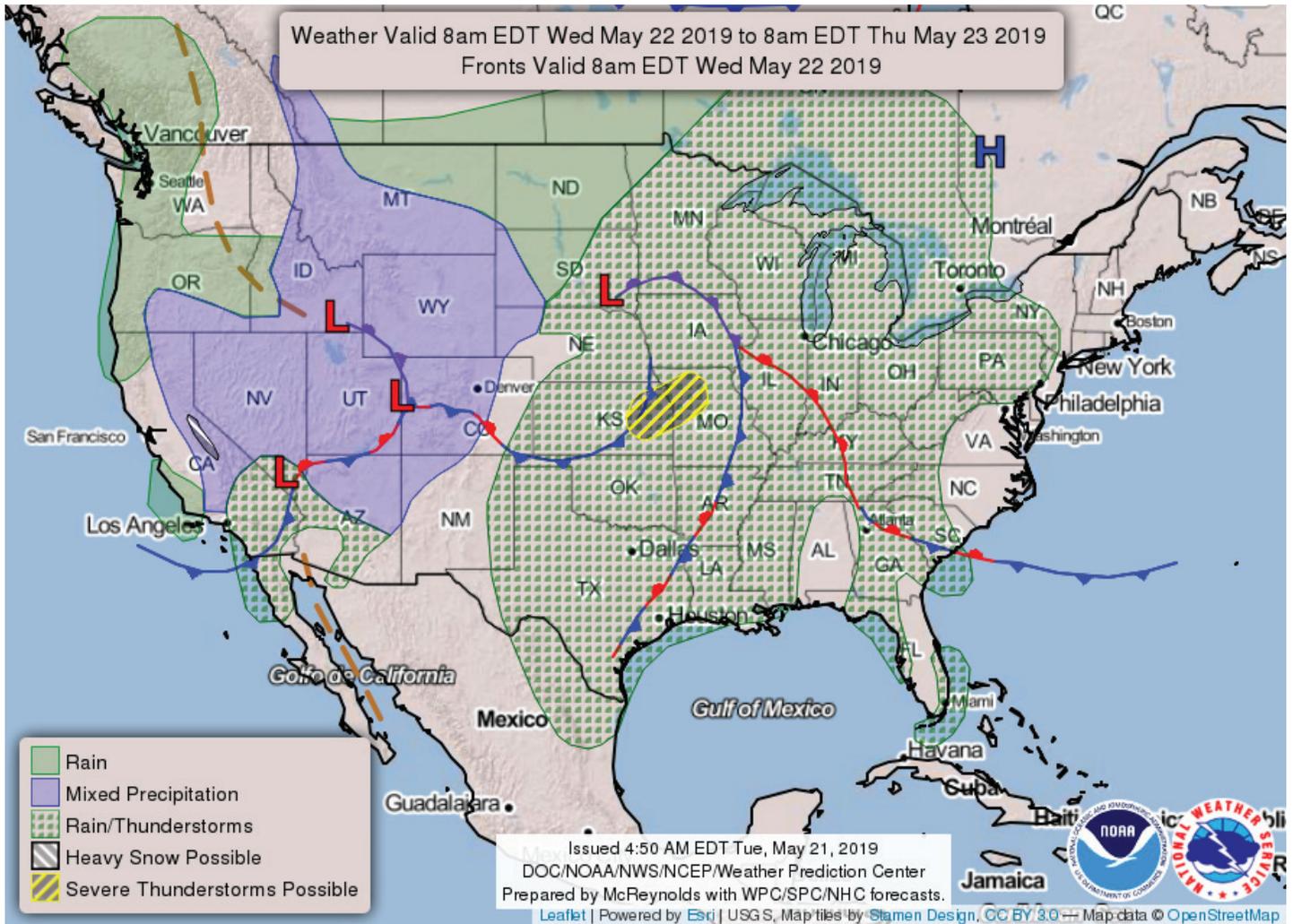
Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:56 a.m.



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Tomorrow's Weather Map



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A FOUNTAIN OF LIFE

Here it comes again: The fear of the Lord!

How many times do we need to be reminded?

Certainly, one more time. And then, one more time. And after that, one more time - again and again. We quickly forget this truth whenever we believe we have any strength.

Most of us are not only forgetful, but quite often convince ourselves that we can do it on our own when life seems to be trouble free and good again. Perhaps that's why those eight words appear together so often in Scripture. In a preceding verse Solomon said that the fear of the Lord will be a secure fortress - a place where we will find a powerful refuge and our safety will be as certain as God Himself.

But, again, one more time, there is more. The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, turning a man from the snares of death, wrote Solomon on behalf of God. What a wonderful promise to those who had gone without water and experienced drought and lost cattle and crops. We may fear many things, but God is the fountain of life that never runs dry. Not only is He the fountain of life, but the only source that provides refreshing, clear, clean water to quench our thirst and restore our souls daily.

How very sad for those who refuse to drink from the fountain of life and choose to turn to the fun things of life. What may appear satisfying and gratifying is often a trap and cannot quench one's thirst. Only He can lead us to those still waters, restore our souls and give us eternal life. This invitation is available to all.

But life begins and ends with The fear of the Lord.

Prayer: Lord, we bow before You with grateful hearts and ask for Your mercy, grace, and forgiveness. May we will always approach You with grateful hearts. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Proverbs 14:27 The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, turning a person from the snares of death.

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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

Texas advances bill to stiffen penalties for pipeline damage

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — A bill that would stiffen penalties for those who damage or trespass around oil and gas operations is advancing through the Texas Legislature.

Republicans say the measure that passed the Texas Senate on Monday would not limit legal protests but would deter people from damaging any property deemed critical infrastructure.

Republican Rep. Chris Paddie's bill would classify pipelines as critical infrastructure, putting them in the same category as power plants and water treatment facilities. It would protect any property deemed critical infrastructure.

The amended bill would still subject those who trespass and damage the facility to a third degree felony with up to 10 years in prison. But people impairing or interrupting operations would now face a misdemeanor with a fine up to \$10,000 and potentially up to one year in jail.

Rapid City residents allowed home after land mine removed

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Residents are being allowed to return home after a Rapid City neighborhood was evacuated because of a land mine.

The Rapid City Police Department tweeted Monday afternoon that the 28th Civil Engineer Squadron Explosive Ordnance Disposal team from Ellsworth Air Force Base has removed the mine and that the evacuations have been lifted.

The Rapid City Journal reports homes in the 3100 block of West St. Louis Street were evacuated Monday after authorities said the land mine was found with other military memorabilia.

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

Xcel Energy plans to end coal use in Upper Midwest by 2030

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Xcel Energy said Monday the Minneapolis-based utility plans to retire its two remaining coal plants in the Upper Midwest by 2030, a decade earlier than scheduled, bringing praise from environmental groups.

The company also announced plans to expand wind and solar energy, use cleaner natural gas, and operate its carbon-free nuclear plant in Monticello, Minnesota, until at least 2040. That would extend by a decade the life of the nuclear plant, currently scheduled to be retired in 2030, the Star Tribune reported. Extending use of the Monticello nuclear plant will require state and federal approval.

Xcel said the utility reached agreement with environmental and labor groups on key parts of the company's coal, solar and natural gas plans. The utility has a goal of delivering 100% carbon-free electricity by 2050.

"This is a significant step forward as we are on track to reduce carbon emissions by more than 80% by 2030 and transform the way we deliver energy to our customers," said Chris Clark, president of Xcel Energy-Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota.

The utility plans to retire the Allen S. King coal power plant in Bayport, Minnesota, by 2028 and the Sherco 3 coal-fired generator in Becker, Minnesota, by 2030. The closings would lead to the loss of about 180 jobs, 90 at each generator, the newspaper reported.

Becker City Administrator Greg Pruszinske, who is president of the Coalition of Utility Cities, said the plant closings "will have massive impacts" on Becker and Oak Park Heights, near the Allen S. King plant.

"In Becker, the Sherco plant contributes 75% of our local tax base, hundreds of jobs, and is central to our community's identity. Without support from the state and other stakeholders, the massive loss of tax base and jobs will be borne by our local residents and businesses," Pruszinske said in a statement.

Xcel also plans to complete the company's largest-ever wind expansion in 2022, adding 1,850 megawatts of wind. More than 30% of Xcel's customers' energy in the Upper Midwest would then come from wind, the company said. Xcel also plans a major expansion of solar energy, with more than 3,000 megawatts of new solar added by 2030. Xcel currently has about 775 megawatts of solar available, including just over 500 megawatts through Minnesota's Community Solar Garden program.

The company will submit its proposed Upper Midwest Energy Plan to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission in July. If approved, the plan would help cut carbon emissions in the region by more than 80% by 2030, compared with 2005, Xcel said.

Xcel CEO Ben Fowke told reporters the proposed changes will not lead to significantly higher utility bills, Minnesota Public Radio News reported.

"We think we can do this at or below the cost of inflation," Fowke said. "It's not going to be free, but it's going to be inexpensive and importantly, it compares very well to other alternative plans."

Clean energy and labor groups that worked with Xcel on the plan include the Sierra Club, Fresh Energy, the Union of Concerned Scientists, Center for Energy and Environment, Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy, Clean Grid Alliance and the Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA) Minnesota and North Dakota.

"Minnesotans have been calling for a transition from coal to clean energy for more than a decade, and we just took one huge step closer to a coal-free Minnesota," Jessica Tritsch of the Sierra Club's Beyond Coal Campaign said in a statement.

Xcel's proposal also includes previously announced plans to buy the Mankato Energy Center natural gas plant and to build a natural gas plant in Becker.

Rapid City mall welcomes new tenants after recent departures

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A Rapid City mall has faced departures from major retailers and even a potential foreclosure as many national companies are reducing their numbers of stores or closing entirely.

But the Rushmore Mall has seen new businesses, nonretail offerings and even a museum look to fill its empty spaces.

Local businessman John Johnson opened Trader's Market last month inside the mall's former Sears store, the Rapid City Journal reported. The market serves as a space for artisans to sell their work or entrepreneurs to build retail businesses.

Johnson is also working on opening a museum to memorialize Congressional Medal of Honor recipients. The museum to open Aug. 1 will occupy the former store of women's clothing retailer Charlotte Russe.

Visitors will be able to read individual plaques for the more than 3,500 people recognized for valor in combat with the country's highest military honor. There will also be seating areas for reflection.

A Native American youth outreach and cultural center called I. AM. Legacy also recently opened in the mall.

"We were kind of out here by ourselves for a while, but it looks like the mall is starting to fill up again," said Erik Bringswhite, who's establishing the center.

The mall's general manager, Sandy Brockhouse, said the mall is seeing a reemergence of locally based retail stores, such as Barb and Naomie's Gifts. The women's accessories and gift shop run by mother-daughter duo Barbara and Naomie Palmer opened at their new location in the mall last week.

"The customers have been amazing," Barbara Palmer said. "I can see the mall building up again."

Brockhouse said visitors to Rushmore Mall can expect to see more new tenants open in the coming weeks.

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2 dead after farm house fire in rural South Dakota

BOWDLE, S.D. (AP) — Two people are dead after a weekend fire on a farm in north-central South Dakota. Crews were called around 7 a.m. Saturday to the house fire near Bowdle. Edmunds County Sheriff Todd Holtz says the bodies were discovered after the fire was put out.

Holtz says authorities are withholding the gender, ages and names of the victims until after autopsies are performed Monday.

The state fire marshal's office is heading the investigation. The sheriff says the fire marshal is ruling the cause of the fire accidental, but the potential cause was not immediately released.

Authorities don't suspect foul play. Departments from several cities responded to the fire.

Excerpts from recent South Dakota editorials

By The Associated Press

Aberdeen American News, May 18

We should be better than IM 24

In last November's election, 56 percent of South Dakota voters approved Initiated Measure 24.

The measure aims to restrict out-of-state contributions to South Dakota ballot question campaigns.

Earlier this year two lawsuits were filed to prevent IM 24 from becoming law — one by Aberdeen resident Cory Heidelberger and his political action committee, SD Voice, and the other by several lobbying groups.

U.S. District Court Judge Charles B. Kornmann heard testimony in both lawsuits on May 3 in Aberdeen. On May 9, he ruled that the measure "is unconstitutional because it violates First Amendment rights to engage in political speech and to associate with others to fund political speech" and "because it violates the Commerce Clause by interfering with the free flow of money between persons or entities from another state and ballot questions committees in South Dakota."

The voters who approved of the measure must have thought it seemed like a good idea, and its appeal is understandable.

"Keep South Dakota issues decided by South Dakotans." Sounds like a catchy slogan.

But here's the thing: South Dakota issues are always decided by South Dakotans. That's because they're the only ones allowed to vote in our state elections.

Sure, the specter of vast amounts of out-of-state money from special interest groups being used to influence public opinion ahead of elections can seem frightening.

But we have to remember that no matter how many TV commercials, radio and newspaper ads, billboards and lawn signs flood our daily lives, it's still your neighbor in the voting booth next to yours.

It's the neighbor who clears snow off your driveway when you're on vacation. It's your neighbor who offers to help out or loan you a tool when you're making a home repair. It's the neighbor who brings food to your door when a loved one dies. It's the neighbor whose kid walks to school with yours. It's the neighbor who sits next to you in church, who serves with you on the PTA, who cheers alongside you at the football game, and who is your nurse when you go to the emergency room.

It's everyone in your day-to-day life that you trust.

Do you really not trust them to sort through all the noise and make an informed decision on election day?

Perhaps some people think keeping out-of-state money out of our politics is just a good idea on principle, regardless of how much they trust their neighbors.

Speaking in support of IM 24 in a South Dakota Newspaper Association article last October, former-Gov. Dennis Daugaard compared the idea to federal election laws that prohibit influence from foreign governments.

It's hard to believe that he would compare our fellow Americans to foreign agents. They are citizens with the right to speak their minds and contribute to the causes they support anywhere in the country. Furthermore, the laws we enact in South Dakota will affect citizens of other states while they are traveling and conducting business in our state, and therefore, they deserve a chance to speak their minds in our

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political processes.

As Kornmann's ruling demonstrates, IM 24 violates some core principles on which our country is founded. More than that, however, IM 24 contradicts the kind of values we should strive to embody.

We should be open to new ideas, regardless of their origins, and fairly evaluate their worth. We should work to foster a culture of inclusion in our state, making sure everyone knows they are heard and are welcome to contribute.

The last thing we should do is try to silence voices just because they are telling us something we don't want to hear or are coming from outside the state.

That's un-American.

And, frankly, it should be un-South Dakotan.

Argus Leader, Sioux Falls, May 16 **Downtown project failures test leadership**

The basic structure and compact of city government is simple.

As taxpayers, we elect representatives to serve on a council that reflects our priorities and interests with an eye toward the long-term prosperity of Sioux Falls.

We also choose a mayor to serve as the city's chief executive, working in partnership with the council to provide leadership and direction while overseeing the day-to-day operation of city government.

The relationship works best when these elected leaders keep taxpayers informed on the successes and failures of their initiatives — a much-ballyhooed buzzword known as transparency.

Successes are easy to talk about. It's the failures that test the process.

Suffice it to say that the Village on the River project — which provided more than its share of drama this week — has failed in many respects. In fact, the largest public-private development project in Sioux Falls history has stumbled from the start.

There was early trouble in 2015 when the city and developers couldn't reach an agreement to acquire the former Skelly's Pub and Copper Lounge properties to build a mixed-use parking ramp with a hotel and commercial space downtown. The plan was scaled back and later scrapped.

That was under the mayoral stint of Mike Huether and community development direction of Darrin Smith, who left in the spring of 2016 to run the Washington Pavilion.

Huether's team pursued the project anew the following year with Legacy Developments, but questions about the project persisted.

They gained steam after then-Legacy guarantor Aaron Hultgren's construction company was implicated for safety violations surrounding the December 2016 downtown building collapse that killed a construction worker.

As an editorial board, we sided with city councilors who questioned the partnership with Legacy and called for openness regarding project investors. We asked why the city was so eager to do business with Legacy when questions of potential liability and even criminality shaded the effort.

"There will be zero conflicts of interest," we heard from Smith's replacement, Daren Ketcham, whose advocacy for Legacy was so impressive that the company hired him as their vice president in May of 2018.

Mayor Paul TenHaken had an opportunity to reverse course or at least shed more light on the process when he took office a year ago. Instead we learned last August that the \$70 million Village on the River project would move forward with Aberdeen hotel developer Jeff Lamont as the point man rather than Legacy, with no financial documents offered to back up that claim.

"These twists and turns have put TenHaken in the difficult position of defending and stabilizing a project that he knows was handled poorly from the very beginning," we wrote last August. "Rather than remove Legacy from the picture entirely, he and his staff are asking us to avert our eyes."

The dam finally broke this week, when the Argus Leader reported that the private portion of the project was in trouble. Village River Group was looking to scale back plans for the hotel portion of the 15-story complex as questions swirled about performance bonds and missed payments.

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TenHaken's administration pulled the plug on the Village River Group on Tuesday, saying that the city would go ahead with a \$21 million parking ramp and forego the hotel, retail, bars and restaurants that were part of the project originally slated to break ground this month.

They hastily added later that another developer could be found in the future, but it came off as damage control. Public confidence in an expensive and high-profile downtown project was all but lost, with bad news spilling over.

Taxpayers are likely to suffer a loss because the city paid a premium for the parking ramp to support a 15-story building. There are almost certainly lawsuits on the way, which is why City Hall quietly doubled its legal budget for dispute resolution to fortify itself for battles over breach of contract.

Meanwhile, Huether issued a statement distancing himself from the current mess, saying he has had "no influence nor control on what has evolved nor the ins and outs on this topic since I handed over the gavel to the mayor."

Our guess is that it would be sorely tempting for TenHaken to respond to that sentiment, but he doesn't have that luxury. The time for finger-pointing and "I told you so" has passed, though some city councilors will play that game.

Whether it's fair or not, based on what came before him, this is TenHaken's ballgame now. He's in the hot seat and must work with the council to determine how to respond to this governing crisis and restore public confidence.

Attorneys are urging City Hall staff as well as councilors not to speak to the media — which basically means that they shouldn't speak to the citizens of Sioux Falls. How has that strategy worked out so far?

If anything, it's been a lack of effective communication that has most plagued this project from the start. This whole mentality that city leaders can only share positive news at back-slapping press conferences is a far cry from what transparency and public accountability is all about.

We understand the concern over private interests when development deals are struck. But when companies partner with public entities, with all the benefits that entails, they enter an agreement with taxpayers and lose some of their right to secrecy.

That should have been one of the takeaways from the South Dakota Supreme Court's decision on the Premier Center settlement dispute — a victory for open government in a state that remains largely closed.

If the city changes nothing about its approach to public information after this downtown development debacle, we deserve our fate. The good news is that we're smarter than that and have overcome challenges in the past, but it takes leadership.

In that respect, TenHaken is on the clock. Rather than huddling with legal teams and approving carefully worded statements, he needs to get out front.

It's time for the citizens of Sioux Falls to receive a status report on where things stand. If that means conceding that mistakes were made along the way, it's not exactly a major revelation at this point.

We understand that not every page of every contract is forthcoming, but the compact of city government calls for more than what we've been getting.

Leadership is not about hiding from adversity. It's about looking people in the eye, laying out a plan for action and promising that such a confidence-killing calamity will never occur again, at least under your watch.

Madison Daily Leader, Madison, May 16

AAA credit rating has local benefits

Gov. Kristi Noem announced this week that South Dakota's AAA credit rating with Standard & Poor's and Moody's has been affirmed.

South Dakota has the highest rating available among such agencies. The rating is earned through sound financial management, reserve funds and a balanced budget.

We remember when Gov. Dennis Daugaard pushed for the state to achieve the AAA rating. There were a number of things to be done at the state level in order to achieve this.

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Dakota State University in Madison has been one of the beneficiaries of the AAA rating. The bond issue for the Beacom building came under the AAA rating. Other bonds for dormitories and the Trojan Center expansion and renovation are revenue bonds, which benefit from the rating only indirectly.

The biggest beneficiary may be the South Dakota Housing Authority. That agency helps first-time homebuyers with relatively low interest rate mortgages. The program is a great start for South Dakotans who are just getting started in the housing market and provides substantial long-term benefits.

We are glad to see that S&P and Moody's reaffirmed South Dakota's AAA rating. Unless that rating changes, the fiscal management of South Dakota should pay benefits to many institutions and taxpayers for a long time.

Still going into the office at age 100

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Many people don't plan to work into their 70s or 80s, but one centenarian from Rapid City still goes to the office a few days a week and even drives herself there.

Grace Pettigrew turned 100 in April. Pettigrew was born in Tolstoy and moved to Rapid City after marrying her husband and starting a flooring business, Flooring America. He passed away in 2002.

She tells KOTA-TV she continues to work at the family business because she wants to make good use of her life and make it count. Not only does Pettigrew drive herself where she wants to go, she lives on her own in her home and maintains it.

Pettigrew's family and friends helped her celebrate 100 years on Sunday. Her advice at 100? Just be kind and friendly to each other.

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

Bomb-carrying drone from Yemen rebels targets Saudi airport

By JON GAMBRELL Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Yemen's Iranian-allied Houthi rebels said Tuesday they attacked a Saudi airport and military base with a bomb-laden drone, an assault acknowledged by the kingdom as Mideast tensions remain high between Tehran and the United States. There were no immediate reports of injuries or damage.

The attack on the Saudi city of Najran came after Iran announced it has quadrupled its uranium-enrichment production capacity, though still a level far lower than needed for atomic weapons, a year after the U.S. withdrew from its nuclear deal with world powers.

Underlining the tensions, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani is seeking expanded executive powers to better deal with "economic war" triggered by the Trump's administration's renewal and escalation of sanctions targeting the Islamic Republic, the state-run IRNA news agency reported Tuesday.

By increasing production, Iran soon will exceed the stockpile limitations set by the nuclear accord. Tehran has set a July 7 deadline for Europe to set new terms for the deal, or it will enrich closer to weapons-grade levels in a Middle East already on edge. The U.S. has deployed bombers and an aircraft carrier to the Persian Gulf over still-unspecified threats from Iran.

In the drone attack, the Houthis' Al-Masirah satellite news channel said early Tuesday they targeted the airport in Najran with a Qasef-2K drone, striking an "arms depot." Najran, 840 kilometers (525 miles) southwest of Riyadh, lies on the Saudi-Yemen border and has repeatedly been targeted by the Iran-allied Houthis.

A statement earlier on the state-run Saudi Press Agency quoted Saudi-led coalition spokesman Col. Turki al-Maliki as saying the Houthis "had tried to target" a civilian site in Najran, without elaborating.

Al-Maliki warned there would be a "strong deterrent" to such attacks and described the Houthis as the "terrorist militias of Iran." Similar Houthi attacks in the past have sparked rounds of Saudi-led airstrikes on Yemen, which have been widely criticized internationally for killing civilians.

Civilian airports throughout the Middle East often host military bases.

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The New York Times last year reported that American intelligence analysts were based in Najran, assisting the Saudis and a U.S. Army Green Berets deployment on the border. Lt. Col. Earl Brown, a spokesman for U.S. Central Command, said there were "no U.S. personnel involved nor present at Najran" at the time of the attack.

Last week, the Houthis launched a coordinated drone attack on a Saudi oil pipeline amid heightened tensions between Iran and the U.S. Earlier this month, officials in the United Arab Emirates alleged that four oil tankers were sabotaged and U.S. diplomats relayed a warning that commercial airlines could be misidentified by Iran and attacked, something dismissed by Tehran.

In its nuclear program announcement Monday night, Iranian officials made a point to stress that the uranium would be enriched only to the 3.67% limit set under the 2015 nuclear deal with world powers, making it usable for a power plant but far below what's needed for an atomic weapon.

Iran said it had informed the International Atomic Energy Agency of the development. The Vienna-based U.N. nuclear watchdog did not respond to a request for comment. Tehran long has insisted it does not seek nuclear weapons, though the West fears its program could allow it to build them.

President Donald Trump, who campaigned on a promise to pull the U.S. from the Iran deal, has engaged in alternating tough talk with more conciliatory statements—a strategy he says is aimed at keeping Iran guessing at the administration's intentions. Trump also has said he hopes Iran calls him and engages in negotiations.

But while Trump's approach of flattery and threats has become a hallmark of his foreign policy, the risks have only grown in dealing with Iran, where mistrust between Tehran and Washington stretches four decades. While both sides say they don't seek war, many worry any miscalculation could spiral out of control. A Trump tweet Monday warning Iran would face its "official end" if it threatened the U.S. drew sharp rebuke from Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif on Twitter, who used the hashtag #NeverThreatenAnIranian.

In Iran, it remains unclear what powers Rouhani seeks. In Iran's 1980s war with Iraq, a wartime supreme council was able to bypass other branches to make decisions regarding the economy and the war.

"Today, we need such powers," Rouhani said, according to IRNA. He added that country "is united that we should resist the U.S. and the sanctions."

Meanwhile, former U.S. Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis told an audience in the United Arab Emirates on Monday night that America "needs to engage more in the world and intervene militarily less." While "Iran's behavior must change," he urged the U.S. not to engage in unilateral action and that American "military must work to buy time for diplomats to work their magic."

"I will assure you no nation will be more honest with you than America," the retired Marine Corps general said, according to a report in the state-linked newspaper The National. "America will frustrate you at times because of its form of government, but the UAE and America will always find their way back to common ground, on that I have no doubt."

Mattis abruptly resigned in December after clashing with Trump over withdrawing troops in Syria. He spoke at a previously unannounced speech before a Ramadan lecture series in honor of Abu Dhabi's powerful crown prince, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

Associated Press writer Nasser Karimi in Tehran, Iran, contributed to this report.

10 Things to Know for Today

By The Associated Press undefined

Your daily look at late breaking news, upcoming events and the stories that will be talked about today:

1. CAPITOL HILL TO HEAR DUAL HEARINGS ON IRAN POLICY

Tehran and tensions in the Persian Gulf as well as Trump's varying comments are the subject of competing meetings in the House and Senate.

2. YEMEN REBELS ATTACK SAUDI ARMS DEPOT

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Houthi rebels say they launched a bomb-laden drone into Saudi Arabia, targeting an airport with a military base.

3. MCGAHN TO SKIP HOUSE PANEL HEARING

The former White House counsel, a key figure in Robert Mueller's Russia investigation, is expected to defy a House Judiciary Committee subpoena to testify.

4. SECURITY RETURNS TO EASTERN LIBYA, WITH A CAVEAT

Benghazi finally feels safe again after years of assassinations, bombings and militia firefights — but security has come at a heavy cost.

5. 'MEDICARE FOR ALL' COULD BE PRICEY

Generous benefits. No copays. No need for private policies. The proposal from leading Democratic president candidates appears more lavish — and more expensive — than other countries.

6. NUCLEAR CLEANUPS BY PRIVATE FIRMS COME WITH RISKS

Federal regulators are reviewing plans to sell retiring nuclear reactors to a nuclear waste management company for accelerated decommissioning, AP learns.

7. 'THREE STRIKES' LAW TOO LATE FOR SOME

Dozens of inmates are set to stay in Washington state prisons for life because they were left out of reforms targeting "three strikes" laws, AP reports.

8. HOW HUAWEI RESPONDED TO US RESTRICTIONS

The Chinese tech giant's founder says U.S. controls on sales will have little impact and the company is talking to Google about "emergency relief" for its smartphone business.

9. LONG-LOST WORLD WAR II PLANE TO JOIN D-DAY ANNIVERSARY

Found in a Wisconsin aviation boneyard and restored, the C-47 named "That's All, Brother" will drop paratrooper re-enactors over the French coast in June.

10. WARRIORS MAKE 5TH STRAIGHT NBA FINALS

Draymond Green and Golden State sweep Portland after a 119-117 overtime victory and await the Bucks-Raptors winner for the championship.

In Pennsylvania, Trump touts 2020 chances, swipes at Biden

By DARLENE SUPERVILE Associated Press

MONTOURSVILLE, Pa. (AP) — President Donald Trump voiced confidence Monday in his ability to win a repeat victory in Pennsylvania in 2020 and took a fresh swipe at one of his leading Democratic rivals, telling rallygoers that native son Joe Biden had abandoned them by representing Delaware in the Senate.

In fact, Biden moved to neighboring Delaware with his family when he was a boy, and later represented the state in the Senate for more than three decades. He maintained ties to Pennsylvania over the years.

Trump's Pennsylvania visit, intended to boost Republican congressional candidate Fred Keller over Democrat Marc Friedenber in a Tuesday special election for an open House seat, had as much to do with helping his own reelection prospects as it did with pushing Keller over the finish line.

"We've got to win tomorrow, Fred," Trump told a cheering rally crowd at a hangar at Williamsport Regional Airport.

Trump's visit to the key battleground state came two days after Biden held a campaign rally in Philadelphia, and the former vice president wasn't far from Trump's mind.

"He left you for another state, and he didn't take care of you," Trump said. He also referred to the former vice president by the nickname he has coined for him: "Sleepy Joe."

"Sleepy Joe said that he's running to, quote, 'save the world,'" Trump said. "Well, he was. He was going to save every country but ours."

Biden said Monday in Nashville, Tennessee, that he is running on a pledge to restore the soul of America. He has frequently talked on the campaign trail about the president's divisive rhetoric and said another four years of Trump would "fundamentally change the character of this nation."

Trump uses his campaign rallies to disparage various Democratic candidates for president, but he has

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been heavily focused on Biden, suggesting he may be worried about the possibility of facing off next year against the longtime politician.

The president, who spoke in the open air with Air Force One behind him, highlighted the economy's performance under his leadership and suggested those numbers make him virtually unbeatable.

"Politics is a crazy world, but when you have the best employment numbers in history, when you have the best unemployment numbers in history ... I don't know, how the hell do you lose this election, right?" Trump said. The current unemployment rate of 3.6% is actually the lowest since 1969, when it stood at 3.5%. Unemployment was even lower than that in the early 1950s, and much lower, under 2%, during three years of World War II.

Keller himself offered a rousing endorsement of Trump, saying he wants to go to Congress to be a vote for the president. Keller told Trump the people of this region of Pennsylvania "have been behind you since Day One, and, Mr. President, our support for you is as strong today as it ever was."

"In 2016, Pennsylvania put Donald Trump over the top. And in 2020, we're going to do it again," Keller said.

Biden is making a big play for his native Pennsylvania, opening his presidential bid in Harrisburg and capping a three-week rollout with Saturday's event in Philadelphia, the city where he also established his campaign headquarters.

In the fight to deny Trump reelection, no places will matter more than Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin, three states the Republican president carried by razor-thin margins in 2016. Trump campaigned in Michigan and Wisconsin earlier this year.

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McGahn to skip hearing as Democrats debate next steps

By MARY CLARE JALONICK and LISA MASCARO Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Democrats are facing yet another brazen attempt by President Donald Trump to stonewall their investigations, this time with former White House counsel Donald McGahn defying a subpoena for his testimony on orders from the White House.

A lawyer for McGahn said he would follow the president's directive and skip Tuesday's House Judiciary hearing, leaving the Democrats without yet another witness — and a growing debate within the party about how to respond.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, backed by House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jerrold Nadler, is taking a step-by-step approach to the confrontations with Trump. Nadler said the committee would vote to hold McGahn in contempt, and take the issue to court.

"You face serious consequences if you do not appear," Nadler warned McGahn in a letter on the eve of the hearing. Democrats are encouraged by an early success on that route as a federal judge ruled against Trump on Monday in a financial records dispute with Congress.

But that hasn't been swift enough for some members of the Judiciary panel who feel that Pelosi should be more aggressive and launch impeachment hearings that would make it easier to get information from the administration. Such hearings would give Democrats more standing in court and could stop short of a vote to remove the president.

The issue was raised in a meeting among top Democrats Monday evening, where some members confronted Pelosi about opening up the impeachment hearings, according to three people familiar with the private conversation who requested anonymity to discuss it.

Maryland Rep. Jamie Raskin made the case launching an impeachment inquiry would consolidate the Trump investigations as Democrats try to keep focus on their other work, according to the people.

Pelosi pushed back, noting that several committees are doing investigations already and they had already been successful in one court case. But the members, several of whom have spoken publicly about the need to be more aggressive with Trump, are increasingly impatient with the careful approach. Other

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Democrats in the meeting siding with Raskin included Rhode Island Rep. David Cicilline, California Rep. Ted Lieu and freshman Colorado Rep. Joe Neguse.

Just before the start of the meeting, Cicilline tweeted: "If Don McGahn does not testify tomorrow, it will be time to begin an impeachment inquiry of @realDonaldTrump."

In the hours after the discussion, Pelosi and Nadler met privately. Shortly after emerging from that meeting, Nadler said "it's possible" when asked about impeachment hearings. But he noted that Democrats had won a court victory without having to take that step.

"The president's continuing lawless conduct is making it harder and harder to rule out impeachment or any other enforcement action," Nadler said.

McGahn's refusal to testify is the latest of several moves to block Democratic investigations by Trump, who has said his administration will fight "all of the subpoenas." The Judiciary committee voted to hold Attorney General William Barr in contempt earlier this month after he declined to provide an unredacted version of special counsel Robert Mueller's report. And the House intelligence committee is expected to take a vote on a separate "enforcement action" against the Justice Department this week after Barr declined a similar request from that panel.

McGahn's lawyer, William Burck, said in a letter to Nadler that McGahn is "conscious of the duties he, as an attorney, owes to his former client" and would decline to appear.

Still, Burck encouraged the committee to negotiate a compromise with the White House, saying that his client "again finds himself facing contradictory instructions from two co-equal branches of government."

McGahn was a key figure in Mueller's investigation, describing ways in which the president sought to curtail that federal probe. Democrats have hoped to question him as a way to focus attention on Mueller's findings and further investigate whether Trump did obstruct justice.

If McGahn were to defy Trump and testify before Congress, it could endanger his own career in Republican politics and put his law firm, Jones Day, in the president's crosshairs. Trump has mused about instructing Republicans to cease dealing with the firm, which is deeply intertwined in Washington with the GOP, according to one White House official and a Republican close to the White House not authorized to speak publicly about private conversations.

"This move is just the latest act of obstruction from the White House that includes its blanket refusal to cooperate with this committee," Nadler said in a statement. "It is also the latest example of this administration's disdain for law."

Administration officials mulled various legal options before settling on providing McGahn with a legal opinion from the Department of Justice to justify defying the subpoena.

"The immunity of the President's immediate advisers from compelled congressional testimony on matters related to their official responsibilities has long been recognized and arises from the fundamental workings of the separation of powers," the department's opinion reads. "Accordingly, Mr. McGahn is not legally required to appear and testify about matters related to his official duties as Counsel to the President."

A federal judge rejected a similar argument in 2008 in a dispute over a subpoena for Harriet Miers, who was White House counsel to George W. Bush. U.S. District Judge John Bates said it was an unprecedented notion that a White House official would be absolutely immune from being compelled to testify before Congress. Miers had to show up for her testimony, but still had the right to assert executive privilege in response to any specific questions posed by legislators, said the judge.

But in 2014, under the Obama administration, the Justice Department issued an opinion arguing that if Congress could force the president's closest advisers to testify about matters that happened during their tenure, it would "threaten executive branch confidentiality, which is necessary (among other things) to ensure that the President can obtain the type of sound and candid advice that is essential to the effective discharge of his constitutional duties."

Associated Press writers Michael Balsamo, Jonathan Lemire, Eric Tucker and Mark Sherman contributed to this report.

Hifter's rule brings security to eastern Libya, at a cost

By RAMI MUSA and JOSEPH KRAUSS Associated Press

BENGHAZI, Libya (AP) — After years of assassinations, bombings and militia firefights, Libya's eastern city of Benghazi finally feels safe again — but security has come at a heavy cost.

Uniformed police are out at major intersections, cafes and restaurants stay open late into the night, and local groups hold art exhibitions and festivals. But the city center lies in ruins, thousands remain displaced, and forces loyal to commander Khalifa Hifter, who now controls eastern Libya, have cracked down on dissent.

Benghazi offers a glimpse of what may befall the capital, Tripoli, where Hifter's forces launched an offensive last month against rival militias loosely allied with a weak, U.N.-recognized government. Its fate could also harden the resolve of Hifter's opponents — who view him as an aspiring dictator — and further imperil U.N. efforts to peacefully reunite the country.

Hifter's forces have met stiff resistance on the outskirts of Tripoli, and experts say that despite considerable international support, he is unlikely to succeed in defeating his rivals in the west or unifying the country. They point out that even in the east, his forces rely on local militias as well as ultraconservative Islamists known as Salafists.

Benghazi was the epicenter of the Arab Spring uprising in 2011 that toppled and killed long-ruling dictator Moammar Gadhafi. But in the years after his ouster, the city and much of the country came to be ruled by a patchwork of armed groups: local and tribal militias, nationalist and mainstream Islamist groups, as well as al-Qaida and the Islamic State group. Extremists attacked the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi on September 11, 2012, killing U.S. Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans.

Hifter served as a senior officer under Gadhafi but defected in the 1980s during the ruinous war with Chad, in which he and hundreds of soldiers were captured in an ambush. He later spent more than two decades in the suburbs of Washington, where he is widely believed to have worked with the CIA, before returning to join the uprising in 2011. He eventually built up forces known as the Libyan National Army.

In February 2014, he declared the start of an operation to root out the militias and unify the country. Four months later, when it appeared they would lose influence in a disputed election, Islamist and other factions in Tripoli launched an attack on their rivals, eventually splitting the country into rival authorities in the east and west, each beholden to an array of militias.

“BACK TO NORMAL”

Hifter's prominence rose as his forces battled extremists and other rival factions across eastern Libya, and the parliament there eventually recognized him as the head of its armed forces, giving him the rank of field marshal.

He also gained the support of Egypt and the United Arab Emirates, as well as France and Russia, all of which came to see him as a key ally against extremists and are widely believed to have provided weapons and other support despite a U.N. arms embargo. His opponents in western Libya are believed to have gotten aid from Qatar and Turkey.

Today his forces are firmly in control of the country's east, and the near-daily assassinations, abductions and shootings that once terrified Benghazi's residents are a thing of the past. Billboards and posters showing Hifter in full military regalia line the streets — with so many placed along the airport road that many jokingly refer to the display as Hifter's Instagram page.

“In 2019 we have recorded no terrorist attacks or assassinations in Benghazi, which was a daily event back before the LNA took control over the city,” said Maj. Tarek Alkarraz, spokesman for the Interior Ministry in the east. He added that the city of Derna, which was under IS control, was similar. “Now life is back to normal and it's safe and secure.”

Streets are cleaner, garbage is being collected and the electricity cuts out far less often than it did at the height of the fighting. Outside the devastated city center, modern shopping malls have sprung up, as well as upscale seafood and Turkish restaurants. Local ride-booking services are modeled on Uber and Careem.

“The only thing that matters is safety, which we are enjoying, thank God,” said Wanees Amgadah, a

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retired teacher. "The whole east, and God willing even the west, will be safe with the help of God, thanks to our soldiers."

INSPIRED BY EGYPT'S EL-SISSI

Hifter has modeled his rule on that of President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, his close ally in neighboring Egypt, who led the overthrow of an elected but divisive Islamist president in 2013. Both have declared war on terrorism — applying the term not only to extremist groups but more moderate Islamists. El-Sissi has launched an unprecedented crackdown on dissent, jailing thousands of people and heavily restricting independent media and civil society.

"The LNA primarily emphasize stability and deem the Muslim Brotherhood and their allies and associates as a security threat," said Claudia Gazzini, a Libya expert at the International Crisis Group. "This is a very vague term and this brand could be slapped on anyone who opposes the LNA."

A human rights activist in Benghazi, who spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of reprisal, said the security forces are more aggressive than at any point since Gadhafi's time, restricting the movement of activists and NGO workers, and regularly bringing them in for interrogation.

In a report issued last month, the Tripoli-based Libyan Center for Freedom of the Press documented 29 attacks on reporters by Hifter's forces over the past year and a half, more than any other armed group. Hifter's forces "prohibit all the media and journalists who are not loyal to it, and thus totally curtail all civilian state aspects in eastern Libya," it said.

The report said more than 80 journalists have fled the country since 2014. Across Libya, it said, "journalists now face one of three options: to work under threat, or observe silence and not talk about the threats they face, or abandon their profession."

Hifter's supporters insist the LNA is not seeking to rule the country, but to rebuild the state and create the conditions for elected government.

"Our goal is not to rule or to establish a military government," Abdulhadi Lahweej, the foreign minister in the eastern government, told The Associated Press earlier this month. "We want a civil state based on institutions and human rights. We want a government that the Libyan people choose and we will approve of whatever the people choose."

Egypt has also held elections under el-Sissi, but they resulted in a parliament packed with his supporters, which earlier this year approved constitutional changes allowing him to potentially remain in office until 2030. El-Sissi was re-elected last year in a vote in which all potentially serious competitors were either arrested or pressured into withdrawing from the race.

After years of unrest, many Libyans may prefer that kind of stability.

"Is it possible to achieve democracy in the presence of two and a half million weapons?" asks Ahmed Almahdawi, an independent political analyst based in Benghazi. "I don't think so."

Younis Fanoush, a Benghazi lawmaker who recently helped launch an independent political party backing the LNA, said the only hope of establishing a civil state is to first defeat the militias.

He says the armed groups "chose to destroy any hope for establishing a democratic state and drafting a constitution. Now the only way is forward, and this war is a must to remove these cancerous entities from the capital."

Krauss reported from Cairo.

Dual hearings on Capitol Hill focus on Trump's Iran policy

By LISA MASCARO, ROBERT BURNS and SUSANNAH GEORGE Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — As questions mount over President Donald Trump's tough talk on Iran, top national security officials are heading to Capitol Hill to brief Congress. But skeptical Democrats have asked for a second opinion.

The competing closed-door sessions Tuesday, unusual and potentially polarizing, come after weeks of

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escalating tensions in the Persian Gulf that have raised alarms over a possible military confrontation with Iran. Lawmakers are warning the Trump administration it cannot take the country into war without approval from Congress, and the back-to-back briefings show the wariness among Democrats, and some Republicans, over the White House's sudden policy shifts in the Middle East.

Trump, veering between bombast and conciliation in his quest to contain Iran, threatened Monday to meet provocations by Iran with "great force," but also said he's willing to negotiate.

"We'll see what happens," Trump told reporters as he left the White House for a campaign rally. He said Iran has been "very hostile."

"We have no indication that anything's happened or will happen, but if it does, it will be met, obviously, with great force," Trump said. "We'll have no choice."

Trump said while there are no talks with Iran he still wants to hear from them, "if they're ready."

Over the past several weeks the U.S. has sent an aircraft carrier and other resources to the Persian Gulf region, and evacuated non-essential personnel from Iraq, amid unspecified threats the administration says are linked to Iran.

The administration is sending Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, Acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan and other top brass, including Gen. Joseph Dunford, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of staff, for closed-door briefings Tuesday with both the House and Senate.

But House Democrats, deeply skeptical of the information from the Trump officials — and mindful of the drumbeat of claims during the run-up to the Iraq War — invited former CIA Director John Brennan and former State Department official Wendy Sherman, who negotiated the Iran nuclear deal.

Brennan, an outspoken Trump critic, does not have a formal briefing planned but is prepared to answer questions on Iran — and is willing to do the same for Republicans, said a person familiar with the matter who was not authorized to discuss it publicly. The intent, the person said, is to provide information and not to be partisan.

Top Democrats say Trump escalated problems by abruptly withdrawing the U.S. from the Iran nuclear deal, a complex accord negotiated during the Obama administration to prevent the country from nuclear weapons production.

Trump's allies in Congress, including GOP Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, say the threats from Iran are real. Graham urged Trump to "stand firm" and said he received his own briefing over the weekend from John Bolton, Trump's national security adviser.

"It is clear that over the last several weeks Iran has attacked pipelines and ships of other nations and created threat streams against American interests in Iraq," Graham tweeted. "If the Iranian threats against American personnel and interests are activated we must deliver an overwhelming military response."

But Democratic Rep. Ruben Gallego of Arizona, an Iraq War veteran, tweeted that after having received "the same" intelligence briefing, that was not his conclusion.

"That is not what is being said. This is total information bias to draw the conclusion he wants for himself and the media," Gallego tweeted.

Sen. Chris Murphy, D-Conn., said it's important to more fully understand the situation. "I think Iranians think that our moves are offensive, we think their moves are offensive, that's how you get into wars by mistake," he said.

Graham's reference to Iran having attacked ships appeared to be a further indication that the U.S. military has concluded that Iran was behind the reported attack May 12 on four commercial vessels off the coast of the United Arab Emirates.

At the outset of an investigation into those apparent attacks, which damaged vessels of Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Norway but caused no injuries, U.S. officials had said they appeared to be carried out by Iran.

A U.S. official said Monday the probe was finished and evidence still pointed at Iran, although the official did not provide details. The official was not authorized to publicly discuss the matter and so spoke on condition of anonymity.

On Sunday, a rocket landed near the U.S. Embassy in the Green Zone of Iraq's capital of Baghdad, days

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after nonessential U.S. staff were ordered to evacuate from diplomatic posts in the country. No one was reported injured. Iraqi military spokesman Brig. Gen. Yahya Rasoul told The Associated Press that the rocket was believed to have been fired from eastern Baghdad, an area home to Iran-backed Shiite militias.

Defense officials said no additional Iranian threats or incidents had emerged in the days since the USS Abraham Lincoln carrier battle group arrived in the Arabian Sea late last week.

Iran, meanwhile, announced that it has quadrupled its uranium-enrichment production capacity. Iranian officials made a point to stress that the uranium would be enriched only to the 3.67% limit set under the 2015 nuclear deal with world powers, making it usable for a power plant but far below what's needed for an atomic weapon.

The state-run IRNA news agency quoted Behrouz Kamalvandi, the spokesman of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran, as acknowledging that capacity had been quadrupled. He said Iran took this step because the U.S. had ended a program allowing it to exchange enriched uranium to Russia for unprocessed yellowcake uranium, as well as ending the sale of heavy water to Oman. Heavy water helps cool reactors producing plutonium that can be used in nuclear weapons.

Tehran long has insisted it does not seek nuclear weapons, though the West fears its program could allow it to build them.

Trump's remarks reflect what has been a strategy of alternating tough talk with more conciliatory statements, which he says is aimed at keeping Iran guessing at the administration's intentions.

He described his approach in a speech Friday, saying, "It's probably a good thing because they're saying, 'Man, I don't know where these people are coming from,' right?"

'3 strikes' sentencing reform leaves out Washington inmates

By TOM JAMES Associated Press

OLYMPIA, Wash. (AP) — A small group of inmates, disproportionately black, are set to stay in Washington state prisons for life — left out of the latest in a multi-year wave of reforms easing tough-on-crime "three strikes" laws around the U.S.

At least 24 states including Washington passed such laws during the 1990s, embracing tough-on-crime rhetoric. But nearly half have since scaled them back amid concern that habitual but less-violent offenders were being stuck behind bars for life with hardcore felons.

Washington's 1993 three-strikes law was among the first and stands out as among the nation's strictest. But lawmakers targeted it for reform this year with legislation removing second-degree robbery — generally defined as a robbery without a deadly weapon or significant injury — from the list of crimes qualifying for cumulative life sentences.

But while the original reform included a retroactive clause, making inmates sentenced under the old law eligible for resentencing, an amendment pushed by a prosecutors' group cut out retroactivity. Washington governor and Democratic presidential contender Jay Inslee signed the changes into law April 29.

That means about 62 inmates convicted of second-degree robbery will be left serving life sentences, according to state records, even after judges stop "striking out" new offenders convicted of the same crimes. About half are black, despite African Americans making up only 4% of Washington's population.

Under the original bill, the inmates with a robbery "strike" would have had the opportunity to have their life sentences re-examined by judges — but now they won't.

Supporters of the amendment have said even less-serious robberies can leave emotional scars, and that prosecutors might have set aside more serious charges because they knew second-degree robbery convictions would mean life in prison for those offenders.

But inmates among the 62 described frustration that offenders with similar records may face drastically shorter sentences going forward.

"It's just wrong on its face, to make people rot in prison for the rest of their life on a sentence that doesn't even exist anymore," said John Letellier, 67, whose 1999 fast food restaurant robbery earned him his third strike.

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The push to take out the reform's retroactivity clause emerged from the Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, a group that represents prosecutors.

Russell Brown, the group's director, said he reviewed most of the cases listing second-degree robbery as the third strike, and believed that prosecutors in many probably refrained from seeking more serious charges because of the guarantee the charge — known in legal circles as "Rob 2" — would count as a third strike.

But he acknowledged that he never confirmed his suspicions with any of the prosecutors who handled the cases.

"You worked the deal with the understanding that the Rob 2 would count as a strike and they would go away for life," Brown said.

Three-strike laws — typically focused on handing out life or near-life sentences — surged in popularity in the late 1980s and early 1990s in response to peaking violent crime, driven in part by gang crime and the crack cocaine epidemic.

But a movement to reform the laws grew as backers cited the high cost of life imprisonment and the potential injustice of lumping lower-level offenders with violent predators, said Alison Lawrence, head of the criminal justice program at the National Conference of State Legislatures.

In Washington, second-degree robbery has one of the lowest seriousness levels of any crime on the three-strikes list, hypothetically encompassing anything from demanding money from a clerk to snatching a purse.

At least 11 states including Washington have eased their three strikes laws since 2009, often removing property crimes from "strike" lists or restoring discretion to judges over previously mandatory life sentences.

But lawmakers have also often been reluctant to make the three-strikes reforms retroactive: Out of the 11 only California has included such a clause, Lawrence said.

In phone and email interviews, inmates among the 62 in Washington described how the reform raised their hopes — and the amendment dashed them.

Among them is Devon Laird, age 54 and serving life on a robbery third strike.

Convicted of snatching a wallet from an elderly man outside a drugstore in 2007, Laird's court records include convictions for violent crimes in his early 20s, but also testimony portraying him as attempting to escape a past that included being stabbed at 14 and shot twice before age 21.

"When they said it wasn't retroactive, it really set in on me that, man, I got life," said Laird.

Cheryl Lidel, 60, is also serving life for a 2010 robbery after being convicted of other robberies and theft. She described her crimes as driven by substance abuse that began shortly after she was sexually assaulted as a young girl.

In charging documents for her third-strike robbery, prosecutors said Lidel was going through heroin withdrawal when she robbed a Subway blocks from a police station, sticking her hand in her pocket to imitate a gun. She then asked a taxi to take her to an area known for drug dealing.

"The first time I came here I was 23 years old, and in March of this year I turned 60," Lidel said.

While it's hard to say exactly how much time any of the 62 would have faced without their robbery charges counting as strikes, few would have faced life.

With the exception of third-strike crimes, Washington hands out sentences using a formula that takes into account the number and severity of a person's previous crimes.

According to state guidelines, the maximum for second-degree robbery, given to the highest-level offenders, is less than seven years.

By comparison, a life sentence under the state's three strikes law is exactly that: Life, without the chance of release.

"I've been down 21 years," Latelliere said.

Some of the 62 might not have received shorter sentences because of other serious crimes on their record, including at least eight with early robbery convictions but a final strike for murder. But nearly half the inmates on the list received a third strike only for some form of robbery.

The bill's sponsor, Democratic Sen. Jeannie Darneille, said before the state's legislative session ended that she did not want to change her bill with the amendment killing retroactivity but that it would have been at risk of failing without support from law enforcement or prosecutors because lawmakers would have feared being labeled soft on crime.

Despite its low seriousness classification, second-degree robbery can still be traumatic, said Rep. Brad Klippert, a Republican who is also a police officer and opposed the reform altogether.

But advocates and the inmates themselves said making the law non-retroactive creates an inescapable disparity: Two prisoners with identical records could end up with vastly different sentences.

It's not fair "if new people don't get strikes," said Lawrence Fillion, an inmate serving life after a third-strike robbery.

"Yet I have the same thing and I am going to die in prison."

'Instincts just took over': Coach describes stopping gunman

By GILLIAN FLACCUS Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Former University of Oregon football star Keanon Lowe said he had just entered a classroom at the Portland high school where he works as a coach and security guard when a student armed with a black shotgun appeared in the doorway.

Lowe had just seconds Friday to react. He lunged at the gunman and wrestled with him for the weapon as other students ran screaming out a back door, Lowe told reporters Monday at a news conference.

Lowe said he managed to get the gun away from the student and pass it to a teacher while Lowe held down the student with his other hand. Lowe wrapped the student in a bear hug until police arrived, he said.

No one was injured. Police are still trying to determine if any shots were fired.

"I saw the look on his face, the look in his eyes, I looked at the gun, I realized it was a real gun and then my instincts just took over," Lowe, 27, said.

"I lunged for the gun, put two hands on the gun and he had his two hands on the gun and obviously the students are running out of the classroom."

Lowe, who is head football and track coach at Parkrose High School, said he had a few moments with the teenager, who was distraught, before police arrived.

"It was emotional for him, it was emotional for me. In that time, I felt compassion for him. A lot of times, especially when you're young, you don't realize what you're doing until it's over," Lowe said.

"I told him I was there to save him, I was there for a reason and this was a life worth living."

The suspect, 19-year-old Angel Granados-Diaz, pleaded not guilty Monday during a brief court hearing to a felony count of possessing a weapon in a public building and three misdemeanors.

His public defender, Grant Hartley, declined to comment.

Granados-Diaz turned 19 in jail on Monday, the same day students at Parkrose High returned to class after an emotional weekend that included their prom.

Parkrose School District Superintendent Michael Lopes-Serrao said two students had previously informed a staff member of "concerning behavior" by the student before the incident.

He said school security personnel were responding to those concerns when Granados-Diaz arrived at the classroom.

A police report says the incident was a "suicide attempt with a gun" and someone added in bold handwriting "enhanced bail/suicidal."

Granados-Diaz was being held on \$500,000 bail and has another court appearance next week, according to court papers.

Lowe said he was called on a radio to go to a classroom in the fine arts building and get a student. When he got there, the substitute teacher told him the student wasn't in class. Lowe said he was about to leave when Granados-Diaz entered the room.

"The universe works in crazy ways so I just happened to be in that same classroom," he said.

"I was within arm's length of him so it happened fast and I was able to get to him," he said. "I'm lucky

in that way.”

Lowe was a star wide receiver at the University of Oregon, playing from 2011 to 2014. He caught 10 touchdown passes and had nearly 900 receiving yards.

After college, he worked as an offensive analyst for the San Francisco 49ers and as an analyst for the Philadelphia Eagles.

Lowe began working at Parkrose last year as the football and track coach, his LinkedIn profile says. Before that, he worked for his high school alma mater, Jesuit High, where he had earned state defensive player of the year as a defensive back and was a standout sprinter.

Follow Gillian Flaccus at <http://www.twitter.com/gflaccus>

AP Explains: US sanctions on Huawei bite, but who gets hurt?

By FRANK BAJAK and MICHAEL LIEDTKE Associated Press

Trump administration sanctions against Huawei have begun to bite even though their dimensions remain unclear. U.S. companies that supply the Chinese tech powerhouse with computer chips saw their stock prices slump Monday, and Huawei faces decimated smartphone sales with the anticipated loss of Google’s popular software and services.

The U.S. move escalates trade-war tensions with Beijing, but also risks making China more self-sufficient over time.

Here’s a look at what’s behind the dispute and what it means.

WHAT’S THIS ABOUT?

Last week, the U.S. Commerce Department placed Huawei its so-called Entity List , effectively barring U.S. firms from selling it technology without government approval.

Google said it would continue to support existing Huawei smartphones but future devices will not have its flagship apps and services, including maps, Gmail and search. Only basic services would be available, making Huawei phones less desirable. Separately, Huawei is the world’s leading provider of networking equipment, but it relies on U.S. components including computer chips. About a third of Huawei’s suppliers are American.

WHY PUNISH HUAWEI?

The U.S. defense and intelligence communities have long accused Huawei of being an untrustworthy agent of Beijing’s repressive rulers — though without providing evidence. The U.S. government’s sanctions are widely seen as a means of pressuring reluctant allies in Europe to exclude Huawei equipment from their next-generation wireless networks. Washington says it’s a question of national security and punishment of Huawei for skirting sanctions against Iran, but the backdrop is a struggle for economic and technological dominance.

The politics of President Donald Trump’s escalating tit-for-tat trade war have co-opted a longstanding policy goal of stemming state-backed Chinese cyber theft of trade and military secrets. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross said last week that the sanctions on Huawei have nothing to do with the trade war and could be revoked if Huawei’s behavior were to change.

THE SANCTIONS’ BITE

Analysts predict consumers will abandon Huawei for other smartphone makers if Huawei can only use a stripped-down version of Android. Huawei, now the No. 2 smartphone supplier, could fall behind Apple to third place. Google could seek exemptions, but would not comment on whether it planned to do so.

WHO USES HUAWEI ANYWAY?

While most consumers in the U.S. don’t even know how to pronounce Huawei (it’s “HWA-way”), its brand

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is well known in most of the rest of the world, where people have been buying its smartphones in droves. Huawei stealthily became an industry star by plowing into new markets, developing a lineup of phones that offer affordable options for low-income households and luxury models that are siphoning upper-crust sales from Apple and Samsung in China and Europe. About 13 percent of its phones are now sold in Europe, estimates Gartner analyst Annette Zimmermann.

That formula helped Huawei establish itself as the world's second-largest seller of smartphones during the first three months of this year, according to the research firm IDC. Huawei shipped 59 million smartphones in the January-March period, nearly 23 million more than Apple.

RIPPLE EFFECTS

The U.S. sanctions could have unwelcome ripple effects in the U.S., given how much technology Huawei buys from U.S. companies, especially from makers of the microprocessors that go into smartphones, computers, internet networking gear and other gadgetry.

The list of chip companies expected to be hit hardest includes Micron Technologies, Qualcomm, Qorvo and Skyworks Solutions, which all have listed Huawei as a major customer in their annual reports. Others likely to suffer are Xilinx, Broadcom and Texas Instruments, according to industry analysts.

Being cut off from Huawei will also compound the pain the chip sector is already experiencing from the Trump administration's rising China tariffs.

The Commerce Department on Monday announced an expected grace period of 90 days or more, easing the immediate hit on U.S. suppliers. It can extend that stay, and also has the option of issuing exemptions for especially hard-hit companies.

Much could depend on whether countries including France, Germany, the U.K. and the Netherlands continue to refuse to completely exclude Huawei equipment from their wireless networks.

The grace period allows U.S. providers to alert Huawei to security vulnerabilities and engage the Chinese company in research on standards for next-generation 5G wireless networks.

It also gives operators of U.S. rural broadband networks that use Huawei routers time to switch them out.

COULD THIS BACKFIRE?

Huawei is already the biggest global supplier of networking equipment, and is now likely to move toward making all components domestically. China already has a policy seeking technological independence by 2025.

U.S. tech companies, facing a drop in sales, could respond with layoffs. More than 52,000 technology jobs in the U.S. are directly tied to China exports, according to the Computing Technology Industry Association, a trade group also known as CompTIA.

WHAT ABOUT HARM TO GOOGLE?

Google may lose some licensing fees and opportunities to show ads on Huawei phones, but it still will probably be a financial hiccup for Google and its corporate parent, Alphabet Inc., which is expected to generate \$160 billion in revenue this year.

THE APPLE EFFECT

In theory, Huawei's losses could translate into gains for both Samsung and Apple at a time both of those companies are trying to reverse a sharp decline in smartphone sales.

But Apple also stands to be hurt if China decides to target it in retaliation. Apple is particularly vulnerable because most iPhones are assembled in China. The Chinese government, for example could block crucial shipments to the factories assembling iPhones or take other measures that disrupt the supply chain.

Any retaliatory move from China could come on top of a looming increase on tariffs by the U.S. that would hit the iPhone, forcing Apple to raise prices or reduce profits.

What's more, the escalating trade war may trigger a backlash among Chinese consumers against U.S. products, including the iPhone.

"Beijing could stoke nationalist sentiment over the treatment of Huawei, which could result in protests

against major U.S. technology brands," CompTIA warned.

WWII plane rescued from boneyard to join D-Day anniversary

By JAY REEVES Associated Press

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — Filled with paratroopers, a U.S. warplane lumbered down an English runway in 1944 to spearhead the World War II D-Day invasion with a message for Adolf Hitler painted in bright yellow across its nose: "That's All, Brother."

Seventy-five years later, in a confluence of history and luck, that plane is again bound for the French coast for what could be the last great commemoration of the Allied battle to include D-Day veterans, many of whom are now in their 90s.

Rescued from an aviation boneyard in Wisconsin after Air Force historians in Alabama realized its significance, the restored C-47 troop carrier that served as a lead aircraft of the main invasion force will join other vintage planes at 75th anniversary ceremonies in June.

After flying over the Statue of Liberty on May 18, the plane embarked for Europe with other vintage aircraft along the same route through Canada, Greenland and Iceland that U.S. aircraft traveled during the war. There, it and other flying military transports are expected to drop paratroop re-enactors along the French coast at Normandy.

"It's going to be historic, emotional," said pilot Tom Travis, who will fly That's All, Brother to Europe for the event. "It'll be the last big gathering."

Air Force historian Matt Scales said there's no question that the twin-engine plane is the same one that led the main D-Day invasion. It's now operated today by the Texas-based Commemorative Air Force, which preserves military aircraft.

"There's not a doubt in my mind. We have three separate documents that prove it," said Scales, who found the aircraft with help of a colleague.

Scales tracked it down a few years ago while researching the late Lt. Col. John Donalson of Birmingham, who was credited with piloting the lead aircraft that dropped the main group of paratroopers along the French coast in preparation for the assault on June 6, 1944.

The night before infantry squads hit the beaches, Donalson's aircraft and about 80 others were watched by news crews and military brass, including Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, as they took off, according to an official history by the 438th Troop Carrier Group. That's All, Brother was at the tip of about 900 planes that made the flight across the English Channel to drop some 13,000 paratroopers in all.

Donalson's plane was in the lead partly because it was equipped with an early form of radar that homed in on electronic beacons set up on the French coast by a small group of paratroopers in "pathfinder" aircraft, Scales said. Some mountings of that electronic system remain on the C-47's fuselage.

Scales found wartime information about Donalson's That's All, Brother aircraft and matched records from both the military and the Federal Aviation Administration to determine the plane, manufactured by Douglas Aircraft Co. in 1944, still existed.

The aircraft was sold on the civilian market in 1945 and had changed hands several times before Scales found it. At one point, it was painted in a camouflage scheme similar to C-47s that flew during the Vietnam War.

"It had never crashed, it had never been damaged," Scales said. "All the dozen owners who had it between the end of the war and when I found it had taken pretty good care of it."

The aircraft was tracked down using identification numbers to a company in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and purchased by the Commemorative Air Force in 2015 following a fundraiser that brought in some \$250,000, Scales said. It was badly corroded and partially disassembled, but all the main parts were there.

With rebuilt piston engines, modern navigation and radio equipment and a fresh coat of paint, the reborn That's All, Brother made its inaugural flight in February 2018. A crew now travels with it, offering flights to veterans and others.

The austere interior is lined with long metal benches for seats and the airframe is exposed for all to see.

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There's no insulation, so the engines' roar makes communication difficult when the props are spinning. A cable used to deploy paratroopers' chutes runs along the top of the cabin.

Donalson, who retired with the rank of major general, died in 1987. But during a recent stop in Birmingham, two of his grandchildren were among those who climbed aboard the resurrected aircraft. Granddaughter Denise Harris sat in one of the seats occupied by a paratrooper for the ride to France.

Harris struggled with the thought of being inside the same airplane her grandfather flew for the invasion in 1944.

"It's unbelievable to think that all those men were in that plane also, and to hear the stories, and to know some of the people that came back," she said.

Officials say Iran quadruples production of enriched uranium

By **NASSER KARIMI** and **JON GAMBRELL** Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran quadrupled its uranium-enrichment production capacity amid tensions with the U.S. over Tehran's atomic program, nuclear officials said Monday, just after President Donald Trump and Iran's foreign minister traded threats and taunts on Twitter.

Iranian officials made a point to stress that the uranium would be enriched only to the 3.67% limit set under the 2015 nuclear deal with world powers, making it usable for a power plant but far below what's needed for an atomic weapon.

But by increasing production, Iran soon will exceed the stockpile limitations set by the accord. Tehran has set a July 7 deadline for Europe to set new terms for the deal, or it will enrich closer to weapons-grade levels in a Middle East already on edge. The Trump administration has deployed bombers and an aircraft carrier to the region over still-undefined threats from Iran.

Already this month, officials in the United Arab Emirates alleged that four oil tankers were sabotaged; Yemeni rebels allied with Iran launched a drone attack on an oil pipeline in Saudi Arabia; and U.S. diplomats relayed a warning that commercial airlines could be misidentified by Iran and attacked, something dismissed by Tehran.

A rocket landed Sunday near the U.S. Embassy in the Green Zone of Iraq's capital of Baghdad, days after nonessential U.S. staff were ordered to evacuate from diplomatic posts in the country. No one was reported injured. Iraqi military spokesman Brig. Gen. Yahya Rasoul told The Associated Press that the rocket was believed to have been fired from eastern Baghdad, an area home to Iran-backed Shiite militias.

The Iranian enrichment announcement came after local journalists traveled to Natanz in central Iran, the country's underground enrichment facility. There, an unidentified nuclear scientist gave a statement with a surgical cap and a mask covering most of his face. No one explained his choice of outfit, although Israel is suspected of targeting Iranian nuclear scientists.

The state-run IRNA news agency later quoted Behrouz Kamalvandi, the spokesman of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran, as acknowledging that capacity had been quadrupled. He said Iran took this step because the U.S. had ended a program allowing it to exchange enriched uranium to Russia for unprocessed yellowcake uranium, as well as ending the sale of heavy water to Oman. Heavy water helps cool reactors producing plutonium that can be used in nuclear weapons.

Kamalvandi said Iran had informed the International Atomic Energy Agency of the development. The Vienna-based U.N. nuclear watchdog did not respond to a request for comment. Tehran long has insisted it does not seek nuclear weapons, though the West fears its program could allow it to build them.

Before Iran's announcement, Trump tweeted: "If Iran wants to fight, that will be the official end of Iran. Never threaten the United States again!"

Trump's remarks reflect what has been a strategy of alternating tough talk with more conciliatory statements he says is aimed at keeping Iran guessing at the administration's intentions. He also has said he hopes Iran calls him and engages in negotiations.

He described his approach in a speech Friday, saying, "It's probably a good thing because they're say-

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ing, 'Man, I don't know where these people are coming from,' right?"

But while Trump's approach of flattery and threats has become a hallmark of his foreign policy, the risks have only grown in dealing with Iran, where mistrust between Tehran and Washington stretch four decades. While both sides say they don't seek war, many worry any miscalculation could spiral out of control.

Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif soon responded by tweeting that Trump had been "goaded" into "genocidal taunts." Zarif referenced both Alexander the Great and Genghis Khan as two historical leaders that Persia outlasted.

"Iranians have stood tall for a millennia while aggressors all gone," he wrote. "Try respect - it works!"

Zarif also used the hashtag #NeverThreatenAnIranian, a reference to a comment he made during intense negotiations for the 2015 nuclear accord.

Trump campaigned on pulling the U.S. from the deal, which saw Iran agree to limit its enrichment of uranium in exchange for the lifting of economic sanctions. Since Trump withdrew America a year ago from the pact, the U.S. has re-imposed previous sanctions and come up with new ones, as well as warning other nations they would be subject to sanctions as well if they import Iranian oil.

British Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt told journalists in Geneva that Iran should not doubt the U.S. resolve, warning that "if American interests are attacked, they will retaliate."

"We want the situation to de-escalate because this is a part of the world where things can get triggered accidentally," Hunt said.

Meanwhile, Oman's minister of state for foreign affairs made a previously unannounced visit Monday to Tehran, seeing Zarif, the state-run IRNA news agency said. The visit by Yusuf bin Alawi comes after U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo called Oman's Sultan Qaboos bin Said last week. Oman long has served as a Western backchannel to Tehran and the sultanate hosted the secret talks between the U.S. and Iran that laid the groundwork for the nuclear deal negotiations.

In Saudi Arabia, the kingdom's military intercepted two missiles fired by the Iranian-allied Houthi rebels in neighboring Yemen. The missiles were intercepted over the city of Taif and the Red Sea port city of Jiddah, the Saudi-owned satellite channel Al-Arabiya reported, citing witnesses. The Saudi Embassy in Washington later confirmed the interceptions.

Hundreds of rockets, mortar rounds and ballistic missiles have been fired into the kingdom by the rebels since a Saudi-led coalition declared war on the Houthis in March 2015 to support Yemen's internationally recognized government.

The Houthis' Al-Masirah satellite news channel denied the rebels had any involvement with this round of rocket fire.

Between the two targeted cities is Mecca, home to the cube-shaped Kaaba toward which Muslims pray. Many pilgrims are in the holy city for Ramadan.

Early Tuesday, Saudi Arabia said the Houthis targeted civilian infrastructure in the kingdom's border city of Najran, without elaborating. The Houthis did not immediately acknowledge such an attack.

Gambrell reported from Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Associated Press writers Qassim Abdul-Zahra and Bassem Mroue in Baghdad, Jamey Keaten in Geneva and Samy Magdy in Cairo contributed to this report.

This story has been corrected to in 15th graf to show year of nuclear accord was 2015, not 2016.

Seeing a twisting road ahead, Ford cuts 7K white-collar jobs

By TOM KRISHER AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) — Ford revealed details of its long-awaited restructuring plan Monday as it prepared for a future of electric and autonomous vehicles by parting ways with 7,000 white-collar workers worldwide, about 10% of its global salaried workforce.

The major revamp, which had been under way since last year, will save about \$600 million per year by eliminating bureaucracy and increasing the number of workers reporting to each manager.

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In the U.S. about 2,300 jobs will be cut through buyouts and layoffs, Ford said. About 1,500 have left voluntarily or with buyouts, while another 300 have already been laid off. About 500 workers will be let go starting this week, largely in and around the company's headquarters in Dearborn, Michigan, just outside Detroit. All will get severance packages.

The layoffs are coming across a broad swath of the company including engineering, product development, marketing, information technology, logistics, finance and other areas. But the company also said it is hiring in some critical areas including those developing software and dealing with self-driving and electric vehicles.

In a memo to employees, Monday, CEO Jim Hackett said the fourth and final wave of the restructuring will start on Tuesday, with the majority of U.S. cuts being finished by May 24.

"To succeed in our competitive industry, and position Ford to win in a fast-charging future, we must reduce bureaucracy, empower managers, speed decision making and focus on the most valuable work, and cost cuts," Hackett wrote.

It's the second set of layoffs recently for Detroit-area automakers, even though the companies are making healthy profits. Sales in the U.S., where the automakers get most of their revenue, have fallen slightly but still are strong.

In November, General Motors announced it would shed up to 14,000 workers as it cut expenses to prepare for a shift to electric and autonomous vehicles. The layoffs included closure of five factories in the U.S. and Canada and cuts of another 8,000 white-collar workers worldwide. About 6,000 blue-collar positions were cut, but most of laid-off factory workers in the U.S. will be placed at other plants mainly that build trucks and SUVs.

Both companies have said the cuts are needed because they face huge capital expenditures to update current vehicles and develop them for the future.

At GM, the cuts brought withering criticism from President Donald Trump and Congress, especially the closing of a small-car factory in Lordstown, Ohio. Trump campaigned on bringing factory jobs back to the industrial Midwest. GM has since announced a possible deal to sell the Lordstown plant to a startup electric vehicle maker, but it hasn't been finalized.

Ford's white-collar employees had been fearful since last July when the company said the restructuring would cost \$7 billion in cash and hit pretax earnings by \$11 billion over the next three to five years. Many have been upset that it took so long for the company to make decisions.

Factory workers have not been affected by the restructuring thus far, as the company has retooled car plants so they can build more popular trucks and SUVs.

The layoffs, while large, weren't as bad as many had expected. Morgan Stanley analyst Adam Jonas predicted 25,000 white-collar job cuts late last year, a number that Ford would not deny.

Back in March, Hackett had told employees that Ford had added too many workers after the Great Recession, going from 160,000 worldwide in 2009 back to about 200,000 as the economy improved. While Ford was growing, its revenue growth didn't justify adding that many employees, he explained.

In Monday's memo, Hackett said that Ford is departing from past practices and letting laid-off employees stay a few days to wrap up their jobs and say good-bye to colleagues. In the past, laid-off workers would have had to pack up and leave immediately.

"Ford is a family company and saying goodbye to colleagues is difficult and emotional," Hackett wrote.

Hackett told workers that under the restructuring, managers now will have seven people reporting to them on average, up from five before changes were initiated began. That reduces management bureaucracy by one-third from before the "Smart Redesign" began. Before the restructuring, Ford had 14 organizational layers, but that will drop to nine or less by the end of the year, Hackett's memo said.

Shares of Ford closed Monday down slightly to \$10.28.

1st black woman sworn in as Chicago mayor; vows big reforms

By MICHAEL TARM Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Lori Lightfoot told aldermen and other city powerbrokers assembled at her inauguration Monday as Chicago's first black woman mayor that she meant what she said on the campaign trail about top-to-bottom reforms in the nation's third largest city.

"For years, they've said Chicago ain't ready for reform," said Lightfoot, speaking minutes after her swearing-in at the Wintrust Arena. "Well, get ready, because reform is here."

She spoke about curtailing some powers of city council members to lessen temptations for corruption and that structural changes to reduce gun violence would be among her top priorities. Hours later, she signed an executive order limiting aldermanic prerogative, a custom that allows each alderman to direct zoning and period decisions in their ward.

Among her toughest challenges — and perhaps the one most scrutinized by those outside the city — will be overhauling the beleaguered Chicago Police Department.

Lightfoot isn't the first incoming Chicago mayor to have pledged to overhaul a department accused for decades of abuses. But with a court-monitored plan, or consent decree, recently approved by U.S. District Judge Robert Dow, she has the best chance of actually getting it done.

Lightfoot, who made history in April when she defeated a longtime political insider to become the first black woman and openly gay person elected to lead Chicago, signaled days before her inauguration that she's serious about transforming the 13,000-officer force by appointing top staffers with histories as strong police-reform advocates.

Even with court backing, Lightfoot faces obstacles to enacting the meaningful changes that protesters sought after the 2015 release of video of a white officer shooting black teenager Laquan McDonald 16 times.

"I believe she's a true reformer," said Phil Turner, who like Lightfoot, is a former federal prosecutor in Chicago. "But there's a difference between trying to reform police and reality. She is up against a lot of entrenched forces."

The fiercest resistance will come from rank-and-file officers and the union that represents them, which has been openly hostile to key provisions, arguing that many will tie officers' hands and make it impossible for them to do their jobs right.

One requirement that the union singles out for criticism — and that Lightfoot has heralded — is that officers document each time they point their weapons at someone, even if they don't shoot. The union says it will cause police to hesitate, potentially putting them at risk.

There's also no guarantee officers will fully comply with any new policies. Dow's ability to hold people in contempt if they don't adhere to reforms only goes so far, Turner said.

"You can't hold entire entities, like officers on the street, in contempt," he said. "The person nominally in charge and who a judge can charge with contempt is the mayor. But she's a proponent of reforms."

The plan that Dow approved in January was a culmination of the scandal surrounding McDonald's death and came after a Justice Department investigation concluded that racial bias and poor training contributed to a pattern of abuse by police. Illinois' attorney general sued the city to force the court's supervision after years of inaction by the City Council, which dealt with systemic police misconduct in recent years by approving millions of dollars in lawsuit settlements.

Lightfoot is likely to fill top posts in her administration with people who support the changes. Her chief of staff, named Wednesday, is Maurice Classen, a former prosecutor in Seattle, where he lobbied for "systemic and deep reform" of city police. He later helped develop anti-violence and policing strategies in cities nationwide.

He told the Chicago Sun-Times that Lightfoot's administration will be focused from her first days on the job on better management of city costs and ensuring that "compliance with the consent decree is a high priority for the Police Department."

Money will be an issue. City officials recently said Chicago's 2020 budget shortfall was around \$740 million, worse than previously thought. Some changes, including to police training, will require funds. But the

consent decree doesn't spell out how much the city should spend — something Lightfoot has criticized. Lightfoot's campaign platform called for changes that go beyond the consent decree, including the adoption of a policy in place in New York requiring that newly hired officers spend two weeks meeting residents in the neighborhood they will police.

Among her other priorities is improving the percentage of homicide cases detectives solve from the current 20%. A specific proposal is for a mobile lab that can cut the time it takes to process ballistics evidence from days to just a few hours.

During her Monday speech, Lightfoot repeatedly returned to the issue of violence, saying "there is no higher calling than restoring safety and peace in our neighborhoods."

"People cannot and should not live in neighborhoods that resemble a war zone," she said, adding later that "Public safety must not be a commodity that is only available to the wealthy."

Cohen claims Trump lawyer shaped false statement to Congress

By **MARY CLARE JALONICK** and **MICHAEL BALSAMO** Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump's former fixer, Michael Cohen, told Congress it was Trump's personal attorney, Jay Sekulow, who suggested he tell lawmakers that the negotiations for Trump Tower Moscow ended in January 2016, even though they continued for months after that.

The House Intelligence Committee on Monday released two transcripts of closed-door interviews with Cohen from earlier this year, along with some exhibits from the testimony. Cohen, who is serving a three-year prison sentence, pleaded guilty last year and admitted that he misled Congress by saying he had abandoned the Trump Tower Moscow project months earlier than he actually did.

During the interviews, legislators repeatedly pressed Cohen for details on his false statement to Congress and tried to nail down whether he was directly told by Trump's legal team to mislead the committee, but the transcripts provide no slam-dunk evidence.

Cohen offered no direct proof that Sekulow knew the January 2016 date was false, but Cohen claims Sekulow should have known because he had access to relevant emails and other communications as part of an agreement between defense attorneys to share documents.

Attorneys for Sekulow said Cohen's testimony is not credible.

"Michael Cohen's alleged statements are more of the same from him and confirm the observations of prosecutors in the Southern District of New York that Cohen's 'instinct to blame others is strong,'" Sekulow's lawyers, Jane Serene Raskin and Patrick Strawbridge, said in a statement. "That this or any Committee would rely on the word of Michael Cohen for any purpose - much less to try and pierce the attorney-client privilege and discover confidential communications of four respected lawyers - defies logic, well-established law and common sense."

Cohen said Trump also knew the negotiations had continued far beyond January 2016 and that Sekulow had seen his testimony in advance of submission. He also claimed that Sekulow edited the statement and that both Sekulow and Trump approved it. Cohen also provided documents to the intelligence panel that showed the editing process for the statement.

When asked whether Trump had read his "false written testimony," Cohen replied: "Mr. Sekulow said that he spoke to the client and that, you know, the client likes it and that it's good."

In addition to the questioning about his false testimony, much of the discussion during Cohen's interviews related to pardons and whether Trump or his lawyers were dangling them in front of Cohen as the government began to investigate him.

Cohen told the intelligence committee that he was discussing the possibility of a pardon with Sekulow, up until Cohen abandoned their joint-defense agreement and publicly broke from the president in mid-2018. He said Sekulow was representing him, not the president, when he brought up the idea of a pardon during a May 2017 Oval Office meeting with Trump. The discussions continued after Sekulow became Trump's lawyer and Cohen retained other counsel, Cohen said.

Sekulow was "dangling the concept of pardons" to keep people in Trump's inner circle in line, Cohen

testified.

"Mr. Sekulow stated that the President loves you, don't worry, everything is going to be fine, nothing is going to happen," Cohen testified.

Cohen said he only discussed the idea of a pardon with Sekulow, not Trump or anyone at the White House, but that he believes the discussions were done with Trump's knowledge and authority. He said Sekulow had brought up the possibility of a pardon to "shut down the inquiries and to shut the investigation down."

Cohen became a key figure in congressional investigations after turning on his former boss and cooperating with special counsel Robert Mueller's Russia probe. Mueller's final report, released in April, examined conduct related to Cohen as one of several possible instances of obstruction of justice by the president. Cohen was also convicted in federal court in New York of campaign finance violations for his role in buying the silence of two women who alleged they had affairs with Trump, as well as other crimes. He began serving a prison sentence earlier this month.

House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff, D-Calif., said in a statement last week that Cohen's testimony this year, along with materials in the committee's possession, raises "serious, unresolved concerns about the obstruction of our committee's investigation that we would be negligent not to pursue."

In an apparent attempt to deflect attention away from Cohen's testimony and its implication for Trump, the top Republican on the House Judiciary Committee, Rep. Doug Collins, released transcripts of interviews with former Attorney General Loretta Lynch and several other current or former Justice Department officials, including many who played key roles in the Hillary Clinton email investigation.

The Intelligence committee is also seeking more information about Cohen's 2017 testimony from four lawyers for the Trump family.

The lawyers who received the requests from the committee are Sekulow; Abbe Lowell, lawyer for Ivanka Trump, the president's daughter, and her husband, Jared Kushner; Alan Futerfas, lawyer for Donald Trump Jr.; and Alan Garten, lawyer for the Trump Organization.

Associated Press writers Michael R. Sisak and Jim Mustian in New York and Eric Tucker in Washington contributed to this report.

Ex-White House lawyer won't testify after Trump direction

By **MICHAEL BALSAMO** and **JONATHAN LEMIRE** Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump directed his former White House Counsel Donald McGahn to defy a congressional subpoena Monday, citing a Justice Department legal opinion that maintains McGahn would have immunity from testifying about his work as a close Trump adviser. A lawyer for McGahn said he would follow the president's wishes and skip a House Judiciary Committee hearing on Tuesday.

Trump's action, the latest in his efforts to block every congressional probe into him and his administration, is certain to deepen the open conflict between Democrats and the president. Democrats have accused Trump and Attorney General William Barr of trying to stonewall and obstruct Congress' oversight duties.

The House Judiciary Committee had issued a subpoena to compel McGahn to testify Tuesday, and the committee's chairman, Rep. Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., has threatened to hold McGahn in contempt of Congress if he doesn't. Nadler has also suggested he may try and levy fines against witnesses who do not comply with committee requests.

McGahn's lawyer, William Burck, said in a letter to Nadler that McGahn is "conscious of the duties he, as an attorney, owes to his former client" and would decline to appear.

Still, Burck encouraged the committee to negotiate a compromise with the White House, saying his client "again finds himself facing contradictory instructions from two co-equal branches of government."

McGahn was a key figure in special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation, describing ways in which the president sought to curtail that federal probe. Democrats hoped to question him as a way to focus attention on Mueller's findings and further investigate whether Trump did obstruct justice.

"This move is just the latest act of obstruction from the White House that includes its blanket refusal

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to cooperate with this committee," Nadler said in a statement. "It is also the latest example of this Administration's disdain for law."

As he left the White House for a campaign event in Pennsylvania on Monday, Trump said the maneuver was "for the office of the presidency for future presidents."

"I think it's a very important precedent," Trump said. "And the attorneys say that they're not doing that for me, they're doing that for the office of the president. So we're talking about the future."

Separately on Monday, a federal judge in Washington ruled against Trump in a financial records dispute, declaring the president cannot block a House subpoena for information from Mazars USA, a firm that has done accounting work for him and the Trump Organization.

And a hearing is planned in New York on Wednesday in another case, this one involving an effort by Trump, his business and his family to prevent Deutsche Bank and Capital One from complying with subpoenas from two House committees for banking and financial records.

If McGahn were to defy Trump and testify before Congress, it could endanger his own career in Republican politics and put his law firm, Jones Day, in the president's crosshairs. Trump has mused about instructing Republicans to cease dealing with the firm, which is deeply intertwined in Washington with the GOP, according to one White House official and a Republican close to the White House not authorized to speak publicly about private conversations.

Administration officials mulled various legal options before settling on providing McGahn with a legal opinion from the Department of Justice to justify defying the subpoena.

"The immunity of the President's immediate advisers from compelled congressional testimony on matters related to their official responsibilities has long been recognized and arises from the fundamental workings of the separation of powers," the department's opinion reads. "Accordingly, Mr. McGahn is not legally required to appear and testify about matters related to his official duties as Counsel to the President."

The Judiciary Committee still plans on meeting even if McGahn doesn't show up and McGahn "is expected to appear as legally required," Nadler said.

Trump has fumed about McGahn for months, after it became clear that much of Mueller's report was based on his testimony. The president has bashed his former White House counsel on Twitter and has insisted to advisers that the attorney not be allowed to humiliate him in front of Congress, much as his former personal legal fixer Michael Cohen did, according to the official and Republican.

The Justice Department has long held the opinion that close presidential advisers have "absolute immunity" from being compelled to testify before Congress about their work for the president.

A federal judge rejected a similar argument in 2008 in a dispute over a subpoena for Harriet Miers, who was White House counsel to George W. Bush. U.S. District Judge John Bates said it was an unprecedented notion that a White House official would be absolutely immune from being compelled to testify before Congress. Miers had to show up for her testimony, but still had the right to assert executive privilege in response to any specific questions posed by legislators, the judge said.

But in 2014, under the Obama administration, the Justice Department issued an opinion arguing that if Congress could force the president's closest advisers to testify about matters that happened during their tenure, it would "threaten executive branch confidentiality, which is necessary (among other things) to ensure that the President can obtain the type of sound and candid advice that is essential to the effective discharge of his constitutional duties."

The House Judiciary Committee voted earlier this month to hold Attorney General Barr in contempt after he defied a subpoena for an unredacted version of Mueller's report.

Associated Press writers Eric Tucker, Mary Clare Jalonick, Lisa Mascaro and Mark Sherman contributed to this report.

Prosecutor: Ex-NFL player raped homeless woman, 2 others

By JULIE WATSON Associated Press

VISTA, California (AP) — Kellen Winslow Jr., the son of a pro football star who himself earned over \$40 million in an injury plagued NFL career, “took what he wanted,” including raping a 54-year-old hitchhiker and a 59-year-old homeless woman, prosecutors said Monday.

Meanwhile defense lawyers argued the sex was consensual and asked jurors not to judge the married father for his “cheating ways.”

Winslow, 35, did not show any emotion during opening statements at his trial in Southern California as his father, a former star with the San Diego Chargers, sat behind him in the courtroom. The elder Winslow did not react as the accusations were discussed.

The younger Winslow also is charged with raping a 17-year-old girl when he was in college.

“Mr. Winslow, the defendant in this case, has been given much but it was not enough,” prosecutor Dan Owens told the jury. “He took what he wanted.”

Winslow has pleaded not guilty to 12 counts and could face life in prison if convicted.

His attorney, Brian Watkins, urged jurors not to be swayed by public opinion and to look at the evidence or “lack of it.”

Winslow has never hidden that he had consensual sexual relations with the women, the lawyer said. He also disputed the prosecution’s account that the women did not know Winslow was a former football player.

Winslow has lived a “very uncommon life” that has been difficult, Watkins told jurors. “When you’re in the spotlight people want things from you,” he said.

Winslow was arrested in 2018 after authorities said they found evidence linking him to two break-ins at the home of a 71-year-old woman and an 86-year-old woman several days later in the California beach town of Encinitas, his hometown north of San Diego. Those charges were dismissed by a judge at a preliminary hearing last July.

After posting bail, Winslow was arrested again on charges of raping the two women.

The 54-year-old was hitchhiking on March 17 when Winslow offered her a ride, prosecutors said, and then attacked her in a parking lot behind a shopping center. Prosecutors say he threatened to kill her if she said anything.

“She was too scared to scream,” Owens told jurors.

She reported the incident four days later but refused to be examined. Instead, she gave authorities the blood-stained pants she said she had been wearing. Owens said DNA tests found traces of Winslow’s semen.

Winslow later befriended a 59-year-old homeless woman who said he sodomized her in May 2018, Owens said.

Watkins said Winslow was repeatedly unfaithful to his wife, but the sex was consensual. He asked jurors not to judge his cheating.

“It’s wrong. It’s immoral, but it is not illegal,” Watkins said.

Watkins contended the women were trying to prey on Winslow amid news coverage of the rape allegations and that their accounts and descriptions have been inconsistent.

The wife of a Marine reported being raped by Winslow when she was a 17-year-old high school senior in 2003. She said she met him when he was home for the summer from the University of Miami.

While Winslow was out on \$2 million bail, he was arrested again for lewd conduct after a 77-year-old woman at a gym said he exposed himself to her on two occasions and masturbated next to her in a hot tub in February. He has been jailed since without bail.

Drafted No. 6 overall in 2004 by Cleveland, Winslow broke his right leg in his rookie season then sustained a serious right knee injury in a motorcycle accident that offseason.

He played for Cleveland, Tampa Bay, New England and the New York Jets. His career ended after he was suspended in 2013 while with the Jets for violating the league’s performance-enhancing drug policy.

Texas transgender woman who was beaten in video found dead

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DALLAS (AP) — A transgender woman was found slain in a Dallas street over the weekend, authorities said, a month after a cellphone video showed her being brutally beaten in a separate case police said they investigated as a hate crime.

Muhlaysia Booker, 23, was found face-down early Saturday after Dallas police officers were called following reports of shots being fired. She was pronounced dead at the scene.

Booker died from "homicidal violence," police Maj. Vincent Weddington said. He did not elaborate on her death. No suspect has been identified.

Democratic contenders for the 2020 presidential nomination mourned Booker's death Monday. Former Texas Rep. Beto O'Rourke tweeted that "trans women of color across America deserve better" and said justice must be served. Kamala Harris, Elizabeth Warren and Pete Buttigieg also called for action.

State Rep. Jessica Gonzalez, a Democrat who is part of the House LGBTQ Caucus, also extended sympathies to Booker's family.

Weddington said there's no evidence indicating a link between the shooting and the April 12 beating Booker suffered after she was involved in a minor traffic accident. A police affidavit released at the time said Booker accidentally backed into a vehicle. The driver of that vehicle then pulled a gun and refused to let her leave unless she paid for the damage.

As a crowd gathered, someone offered \$200 to a man to beat the woman, who suffered a concussion, fractured wrist and other injuries, police said. Other men also struck Booker, with one stomping on her head. Edward Thomas, 29, was arrested and jailed on a charge of aggravated assault.

Video showed Booker being beaten as the crowd hollered and watched. Video of the attack was shared on social media.

Booker attended a rally the following week where she said she was grateful to have survived.

"This time I can stand before you, where in other scenarios, we're at a memorial," The Dallas Morning News reported her as saying.

Weddington said the investigation into the April attack continues.

"We're still attempting to identify other people that were seen assaulting Muhlaysia in the video," he said.

In November, the FBI reported that 7,175 hate crimes were committed in the United States in 2017, the most recent year for which the agency had compiled data. Of those, 1,130 were based on sexual orientation bias and 119 on gender identity bias. Of crimes motivated by gender identity bias, 106 targeted transgender people, a 1% increase from 2016.

Trump team to brief Congress on Iran; Dems seek counterpoint

By **LISA MASCARO, ROBERT BURNS and SUSANNAH GEORGE** Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — As questions mount over President Donald Trump's tough talk on Iran, top national security officials are heading to Capitol Hill to brief Congress. But skeptical Democrats have asked for a second opinion.

The competing closed-door sessions Tuesday, unusual and potentially polarizing, come after weeks of escalating tensions in the Persian Gulf that have raised alarms over a possible military confrontation with Iran. Lawmakers are warning the Trump administration it cannot take the country into war without approval from Congress, and the back-to-back briefings show the wariness among Democrats, and some Republicans, over the White House's sudden policy shifts in the Middle East.

Trump, veering between bombast and conciliation in his quest to contain Iran, threatened Monday to meet provocations by Iran with "great force," but also said he's willing to negotiate.

"We'll see what happens," Trump told reporters Monday as he left the White House for a campaign rally. He said Iran has been "very hostile."

"We have no indication that anything's happened or will happen, but if it does, it will be met, obviously, with great force," Trump said. "We'll have no choice."

Trump said while there are no talks with Iran he still wants to hear from them, "if they're ready."

Over the past several weeks the U.S. has sent an aircraft carrier and other resources to the Persian Gulf

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region, and evacuated non-essential personnel from Iraq, amid unspecified threats the administration says are linked to Iran.

The administration is sending Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, Acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan and other top brass, including Gen. Joseph Dunford, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of staff, for closed-door briefings Tuesday with both the House and Senate.

But House Democrats, deeply skeptical of the information from the Trump officials — and mindful of the drumbeat of claims during the run-up to the Iraq War — invited former CIA Director John Brennan and former State Department official Wendy Sherman, who negotiated the Iran nuclear deal.

Brennan, an outspoken Trump critic, does not have a formal briefing planned but is prepared to answer questions on Iran — and is willing to do the same for Republicans, said a person familiar with the matter who was not authorized to discuss it publicly. The intent, the person said, is to provide information and not to be partisan.

Top Democrats say Trump escalated problems by abruptly withdrawing the U.S. from the Iran nuclear deal, a complex accord negotiated during the Obama administration to prevent the country from nuclear weapons production.

Trump's allies in Congress, including GOP Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, say the threats from Iran are real. Graham urged Trump to "stand firm" and said he received his own briefing over the weekend from John Bolton, Trump's national security adviser.

"It is clear that over the last several weeks Iran has attacked pipelines and ships of other nations and created threat streams against American interests in Iraq," Graham tweeted. "If the Iranian threats against American personnel and interests are activated we must deliver an overwhelming military response."

But Democratic Rep. Ruben Gallego of Arizona, an Iraq War veteran, tweeted that after having received "the same" intelligence briefing, that was not his conclusion.

"That is not what is being said. This is total information bias to draw the conclusion he wants for himself and the media," Gallego tweeted.

Sen. Chris Murphy, D-Conn., said it's important to more fully understand the situation. "I think Iranians think that our moves are offensive, we think their moves are offensive, that's how you get into wars by mistake," he said.

Graham's reference to Iran having attacked ships appeared to be a further indication that the U.S. military has concluded that Iran was behind the reported attack May 12 on four commercial vessels off the coast of the United Arab Emirates.

At the outset of an investigation into those apparent attacks, which damaged vessels of Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Norway but caused no injuries, U.S. officials had said they appeared to be carried out by Iran.

A U.S. official said Monday the probe was finished and evidence still pointed at Iran, although the official did not provide details. The official was not authorized to publicly discuss the matter and so spoke on condition of anonymity.

On Sunday, a rocket landed near the U.S. Embassy in the Green Zone of Iraq's capital of Baghdad, days after nonessential U.S. staff were ordered to evacuate from diplomatic posts in the country. No one was reported injured. Iraqi military spokesman Brig. Gen. Yahya Rasoul told The Associated Press that the rocket was believed to have been fired from eastern Baghdad, an area home to Iran-backed Shiite militias.

Defense officials said no additional Iranian threats or incidents had emerged in the days since the USS Abraham Lincoln carrier battle group arrived in the Arabian Sea late last week.

Iran, meanwhile, announced that it has quadrupled its uranium-enrichment production capacity. Iranian officials made a point to stress that the uranium would be enriched only to the 3.67% limit set under the 2015 nuclear deal with world powers, making it usable for a power plant but far below what's needed for an atomic weapon.

The state-run IRNA news agency quoted Behrouz Kamalvandi, the spokesman of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran, as acknowledging that capacity had been quadrupled. He said Iran took this step because the U.S. had ended a program allowing it to exchange enriched uranium to Russia for unprocessed

yellowcake uranium, as well as ending the sale of heavy water to Oman. Heavy water helps cool reactors producing plutonium that can be used in nuclear weapons.

Tehran long has insisted it does not seek nuclear weapons, though the West fears its program could allow it to build them.

Trump's remarks reflect what has been a strategy of alternating tough talk with more conciliatory statements, which he says is aimed at keeping Iran guessing at the administration's intentions.

He described his approach in a speech Friday, saying, "It's probably a good thing because they're saying, 'Man, I don't know where these people are coming from,' right?"

5th migrant child dies after detention by US border agents

By NOMAAN MERCHANT Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — A 16-year-old Guatemala migrant who died Monday in U.S. custody had been held by immigration authorities for six days — twice as long as federal law generally permits — then transferred him to another holding facility even after he was diagnosed with the flu.

The teenager, identified by U.S. Customs and Border Protection as Carlos Gregorio Hernandez Vasquez, was the fifth minor from Guatemala to die after being apprehended by U.S. border agents since December.

Advocates demanded that President Donald Trump's administration act to safeguard the lives of children in detention as border crossings surge and the U.S. Border Patrol detains thousands of families at a time in overcrowded facilities, tents, and outdoor spaces.

"We should all be outraged and demand that those responsible for his well-being be held accountable," said Efrén Olivares, a lawyer with the Texas Civil Rights Project.

"If these were white children that were dying at this rate, people would be up in arms," he said. "We see this callous disregard for brown, Spanish-speaking children."

John Sanders, CBP's acting commissioner, said in a statement that his agency was "saddened by the tragic loss of this young man and our condolences are with his family."

"CBP is committed to the health, safety and humane treatment of those in our custody," Sanders said.

Border Patrol agents said Carlos was apprehended on May 13 in South Texas' Rio Grande Valley after crossing the border illegally. He was taken to the agency's central processing center in McAllen, Texas, a converted warehouse where hundreds of adults and children are held in large, fenced-in pens and sleep on mats.

CBP said Carlos was processed as a minor unaccompanied by a parent or legal guardian. Federal law and CBP's guidelines generally require that unaccompanied youth be transferred within three days to a facility operated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

A CBP official who declined to be named in order to brief reporters said Carlos was awaiting transfer to HHS custody on Thursday, three days after his apprehension. At the time of his death, Carlos was supposed to be sent to Southwest Key Casa Padre, a 1,400-person facility inside an old Walmart in Brownsville, Texas, the official said.

Mark Weber, a spokesman for HHS, did not address in a statement why the teenager wasn't transferred sooner, but said a "minority of cases exceeding 72 hours have generally involved exceptional circumstances."

CBP said Carlos reported early Sunday morning that he was not feeling well and diagnosed with the flu by a nurse practitioner.

He was prescribed the medicine Tamiflu, then transferred later Sunday to the Border Patrol station at Weslaco, Texas, to prevent his flu from spreading to other detainees.

He was not hospitalized, according to the agency official who briefed reporters. The official said CBP facilities have medical providers who can monitor detainees, though the official did not know what specific symptoms Carlos had.

Carlos had last been checked an hour before he was found unresponsive.

Asked about the death, Trump blamed Democrats, saying they are refusing to approve changes that could improve the system.

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"The Democrats are really making it very, very dangerous for people by not approving simple quick 15 minutes legislation, we could have it all worked out," Trump said.

His administration has called for legislation that would allow it to detain migrant families for longer and expedite deportations, which Democrats oppose

The FBI is investigating the latest migrant death, as are local police and the Department of Homeland Security's inspector general.

Guatemala's foreign ministry said the teenager was from Baja Verapaz, north of Guatemala City, and was seeking to reunite with family in the U.S. already.

The U.S. government has faced months of scrutiny over its care of children it apprehends at the border. A 2-year-old child died last week after he and his mother were detained by the Border Patrol. The agency says it took the child to the hospital the same day the mother reported he was sick, and he was hospitalized for several weeks.

On April 30, a 16-year-old Guatemalan boy died after officials at an HHS detention facility noticed that he was sick. He was hospitalized in intensive care for several days before his death.

After the deaths of two children ages 7 and 8 in December, the DHS ordered medical checks of all children in its custody and expanded medical screenings.

Trump administration officials have said they have passed a "breaking point" in the immigration detention system, with the numbers of parents and children crossing the border dramatically exceeding the capacity at facilities.

That strain is particularly acute in the Rio Grande Valley, which has more unauthorized border crossings than any other region.

The Border Patrol has released photos of adults and children lying in small, military-style tents or on the grass and pavement outside of two of its stations. It also recently opened a 500-person tent near one port of entry and announced plans to open another.

Amnesty International said in a statement that Carlos' death "leads us to wonder how many deaths it will take for the administration to ensure the safety and security of children."

"It is dangerous and cruel to detain people, particularly children, in crowded and unsanitary conditions for seeking protection," the organization said.

Judge sides with Congress over Trump in demands for records

By JESSICA GRESKO Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A federal judge ruled against President Donald Trump on Monday in a financial records dispute with Congress and said lawmakers should get the documents they have subpoenaed. Trump called it a "crazy" decision that his lawyers would appeal.

The ruling by U.S. District Judge Amit Mehta comes amid a widespread effort by the White House and Trump's attorneys to refuse to cooperate with congressional requests for information and records. Earlier Monday, Trump directed former White House counsel Don McGahn to defy a congressional subpoena that had compelled McGahn, a pivotal figure in special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation, to testify before the House Judiciary Committee on Tuesday.

In ruling that Trump cannot block the financial records subpoena, Mehta said the Democratic-led House Oversight and Reform Committee had "valid legislative purposes" for its request and that it was not for him "to question whether the Committee's actions are truly motivated by political considerations." The committee has said the records will help it consider whether to strengthen ethics and disclosure laws, among other things, said Mehta, who was nominated to the bench by President Barack Obama.

Trump pointed to his Democratic predecessor when he told reporters before leaving the White House for a Monday night rally in Pennsylvania that "we think it's totally the wrong decision by, obviously, an Obama-appointed judge."

To the committee chairman, Rep. Elijah Cummings, D-Md., the judge's decision was a "resounding victory for the rule of law and our constitutional system of checks and balances."

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Trump's lawyers, in cases from Washington and New York challenging the Democrats' demands, argued that congressional investigations are legitimate only if there is legislation that might result from them. "There is no possible legislation at the end of this tunnel," his legal team said.

The White House made the same argument Friday when Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said he would not comply with a congressional subpoena for six years of Trump's tax returns.

In the New York case, Trump, his business and family want to prevent Deutsche Bank and Capital One from complying with House subpoenas for banking and financial records. A Wednesday court hearing is planned.

In the Washington case, Trump and his business organization are trying to block the subpoena issued in April to Mazars USA, which has provided accounting services to Trump.

Even before the ruling, legal scholars had said Trump's argument had little merit and that Congress has broad powers to investigate.

Mehta said in his 41-page opinion that there are limits on Congress's authority to investigate, but those limits "do not substantially constrain Congress." He said that as long as "Congress investigates on a subject matter on which 'legislation could be had,'" it is following the Constitution.

Mehta said that was true in this case, pointing to the committee's memo outlining four areas of investigation, each of which he said Congress could legislate on.

The judge cited the Watergate investigation involving President Richard Nixon and the Whitewater investigation involving President Bill Clinton. He said Congress "plainly views itself as having sweeping authority to investigate illegal conduct of a President, before and after taking office."

"This court is not prepared to roll back the tide of history," he said.

Associated Press writer Kevin Freking contributed to this report.

Governor orders probe of medical board in Ohio State abuse

By JULIE CARR SMYTH Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Gov. Mike DeWine declared the late Ohio State University team doctor Richard Strauss a monster Monday as he ordered a review of the state medical board's handling of his case decades ago and called for lawmakers to lift the statute of limitations on rape charges.

The Republican governor signed an executive order at a Statehouse news conference creating a group to review a complete, unredacted version of an investigative report released last week to see what the board knew about Strauss, who took his life in 2005, and when. Portions of the report involving the board's actions had been blacked out.

"The question we're faced with is: Did the State Medical Board of Ohio take appropriate action regarding Richard Strauss?" DeWine said.

The report conducted by a law firm and released by the school Friday found that Strauss sexually abused at least 177 male students from the 1970s to the 1990s. A lawyer said Saturday that some members of the football team who were Strauss' victims are not included in that total.

University officials at the time would have been obligated to report felony offenses to police, said Sarah Ackman, a legal adviser to DeWine. The governor said that did not appear to have happened.

The medical board conducted a confidential investigation into Strauss in 1996. The board never disciplined him and has refused to disclose details, citing confidentiality rules. Ohio State went to court to make the information public as part of the Strauss report but was unsuccessful.

DeWine said that calling for the review does not imply the board mishandled the case but that it's impossible to know without investigating further. He also has asked the state's Changing Campus Culture initiative to expand its work from focusing on prevention of student-on-student sexual assault to include faculty and staff members.

The board said in an emailed statement that it welcomes DeWine's group.

"Since the start of Ohio State's investigation, we have wanted to cooperate and share information but

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had to do so within the constraints of the law," it said. "The board is thankful that the executive order will provide an opportunity to further evaluate the current laws and processes."

The governor also called for state lawmakers to lift the statute of limitations on all rape cases, and to extend time limits for bringing charges in many other types of sexual crimes. The idea has failed to gain traction in the past, but DeWine said he believes the Strauss case can go far to persuade reticent legislators.

"How furious would the public be today if this man was still alive and could not be prosecuted?" he asked.

DeWine, a former prosecutor and state attorney general, argued the law should be different in such cases because "we just know from all the evidence and all the studies that many times victims never come forward, many times victims can't come forward."

DeWine, calling Strauss a "monster," said Monday that there is still more to know and more to do.

Brian Garrett, a former nursing student who witnessed and experienced Strauss' abuse, said after the news conference that he is hopeful DeWine is committed to help victims heal.

He asked the governor at the news conference to support separate legislation that would allow Strauss' victims the legal opportunity to hold the university accountable for Strauss' sexual abuse. DeWine responded that he would review the bill.

"I haven't slept much in a year, and all the other victims are the same. My work life's been affected, my personal life's been affected. I am done; I am ready to move on. This is a good step, and I would love to see Gov. DeWine get the legislators to put through our House bill and sign off on it."

The group DeWine created will be chaired by state Public Safety Director Tom Stickrath. It will have as many as 17 members, including representatives of state and local law enforcement; the attorney general's office; the state auditor's office; the state health and mental health departments; a county coroner; a county prosecutor; and a victim advocate.

The panel is to report its findings to the governor and the Legislature by Aug. 1.

The law firm's report found that Strauss engaged in a pattern of sexual abuse of male students from the 1970s to the 1990s — groping, ogling and violating them in examination rooms, locker rooms, saunas and showers, at the student health center and at an off-campus clinic.

The investigation determined that various university officials knew what Strauss was doing and did little to stop it. University President Michael Drake expressed shock and heartbreak and issued a public apology for "consistent institutional failure" during Strauss' employment.

The Strauss case has been compared to that of ex-Michigan State University sports doctor Larry Nassar, who was accused of molesting at least 250 women and girls and is serving what amounts to a life sentence.

Fiery and icy feelings from fans as 'Game of Thrones' ends

By **ANDREW DALTON AP Entertainment Writer**

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Fire rained down and heads came off. There was punishment, banishment and retribution. And that was just from the fans.

"Game of Thrones" aired its 73rd and final episode Sunday night, showing its gift for drawing record-setting numbers of viewers and for leaving those viewers deeply divided about the results, as they have been for finales from "Seinfeld" to "The Sopranos" to "Lost."

The final episode of "Game of Thrones" at least brought some clear winners, at least one clear loser and a major upset.

(MAJOR SPOILERS AHEAD.)

Brandon Stark, who until recently appeared happy to remain a mystic philosopher forever, instead becomes philosopher-king, Bran the Broken.

Yet he doesn't get to sit on the Iron Throne (a dragon melted that) or rule the Seven Kingdoms (his sister Sansa broke one off to become queen of an independent North.)

And Daenerys Targaryen became the last of the show's many, many major character deaths, given a Shakespearean send-off by Jon Snow, who watched her burn thousands of innocents and believed she had become a mad tyrant.

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"You are my queen, now and always," Jon says to Daenerys as he shoves a dagger into her, giving her what may have been the shortest reign of any monarch in Westeros.

It was the endgame of a heel-turn from a week earlier that brought more fan outrage than any other moment in the always provocative show.

Actress Emilia Clarke, who plays the role of Daenerys, told Entertainment Weekly that she cried when she first read the script in 2017 but defended the arc in the end, saying it was true to the character and she found her final moments "beautiful and touching."

"Hopefully, what you'll see in that last moment as she's dying is: There's the vulnerability — there's the little girl you met in season 1," Clarke said.

The negative reaction spilled into the finale, with fans on Twitter in particular expressing outrage about the outcome, even if many agreed it was reflective of the way the unjust real world works.

"Good morning to everybody except Bran," columnist Jemele Hill tweeted Monday, "who despite being a wack archer, sending Hodor and Theon to their deaths and chilling next to a fire while everybody was fighting, got to the king."

The episode's leaps from big event to big event to tie up its many plot threads did nothing to quiet criticism that the show that made its name on carefully meandering storytelling had given that up in the final two seasons in favor of attempts to please.

"Like most of Season 8, it felt like a Wikipedia summary more than a full story being told," Gina Carbone of CinemaBlend wrote.

Critics were genuinely divided. The episode had a 57 percent fresh score among reviewers on Rotten Tomatoes, and even positive reviews acknowledged the impossibility of pulling off an ending that would be broadly satisfying.

"It was everything nobody wanted, but it was still quite a thing: adequately just, narratively symmetrical and sufficiently poignant," Hank Stuever wrote in the Washington Post.

Regardless of how fans felt about the final season, they never stopped watching.

The finale brought in 19.3 million viewers across HBO's platforms, topping the previous episode's 18.4 million to make it the most-viewed episode of any kind in the channel's history.

Just after it aired on the East Coast, nine of Twitter's top 10 trending topics were related to the show.

Fans also noticed another gaffe, a plastic water bottle at the feet of Samwell Tarly, like the paper coffee cup clearly visible on a table next to Daenerys earlier in the season.

The show had a full-circle ending of sorts. Bran's surprise ascent to the throne would have been no shock at all to viewers just after the show's first episode — where he is clearly marked as a chosen figure, forced to witness a beheading by a father teaching him the ways of the world, and pushed from a high window only to survive, paralyzed.

He then over several seasons, while missing from the story for long stretches, became a mystical seer known as the Three-eyed Raven, with an essential role but distant presence and personality.

In the finale, a council of the remaining nobles of Westeros votes for Bran after a suggestion and major speech from Tyrion Lannister.

"People love stories," Tyrion says. "Who has a better story than Bran the Broken?"

(His sisters, just to name two, many fans thought.)

Bran actor Isaac Hempstead Wright was, unsurprisingly, thrilled with his character's ending.

"I find it an extraordinary character arc to see him go from a vulnerable character totally dependent on others to the one person who holds all the keys to understanding the world," he wrote Monday in The Hollywood Reporter.

Jon Snow also came full circle on the show. As punishment for becoming a queen slayer, he returns to the great northern Wall, the same journey he made when the series began, and is reunited with his dire wolf Ghost, whom he met in episode one. He also finds a spot again among the Wildlings, or "free folk," as they head north beyond the wall.

Sansa's crowning as queen of the North was as predictable as the finale got — she'd clearly been headed for the role for a while.

While the night brought a big end for "Thrones" fans, its universe was far from over. Author George R.R. Martin still intends to finish and release two more books in the series after the show passed him by years ago.

And spin-offs are in the planning stages. One pilot in production takes place in the same realm thousands of years earlier, and the finale might have hinted at another possibility.

Arya Stark, who saved humanity early in the season, decides to sail on to unknown lands, and her departure on a ship is among the series' final images.

"What's west of Westeros?" she asks her Stark siblings. "No one knows. It's where all the maps stop. It's where I'm going."

TV comedy writer Bess Kalb expressed a common response to this idea on Twitter: "Will watch Arya the Explorya."

This story has been corrected to show the Wildlings call themselves the "free folk," not "free people."

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

'Medicare for All's' rich benefits 'leapfrog' other nations

By RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Generous benefits. No copays. No need for private policies. The "Medicare for All" plan advocated by leading 2020 Democrats appears more lavish than what's offered in other advanced countries, compounding the cost but also potentially broadening its popular appeal.

While other countries do provide coverage for all, benefits vary. Canada's plan, often cited as a model, does not cover outpatient prescription drugs and many Canadians have private insurance for medications. Many countries don't cover long-term care.

But the Medicare for All plan from Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders would charge no copays or deductibles for medical care, allowing only limited cost-sharing for certain prescription drugs. Sanders would cover long-term care home and community-based services. Dental, vision and hearing coverage would be included. The House version of the legislation is along similar lines.

"Medicare for All proposals would leapfrog other countries in terms of essentially eliminating private insurance and out-of-pocket costs, and providing very expansive benefits," said Larry Levitt, a health policy expert with the nonpartisan Kaiser Family Foundation. "It raises questions about how realistic the proposals are."

Shifting the sprawling U.S. health care system to a government-run "single-payer" plan is one of the top issues in the 2020 Democratic presidential primary, but the candidates are divided. Some have endorsed Sanders' call, while others want to expand coverage within the current mix of private and government insurance. Independent studies estimate Medicare for All would dramatically increase government spending, from \$25 trillion to \$35 trillion or more over 10 years. It stands no chance with Republicans controlling the White House and the Senate, but it is getting hearings in the Democratic-led House.

Economist Sherry Glied, dean of New York University's Wagner school of public policy, says the offer of generous benefits may be needed to persuade Americans satisfied with employer coverage that they would be better off in a new government plan.

"You are going to have to be very generous if you want this to be politically appealing to lots of people," said Glied, who was a senior health care adviser in the Obama administration.

Glied says components like benefits, copayments and deductibles would all be negotiable.

"People put out talking points and then they see what Congress is willing to swallow," said Glied. "Who knows where it would come out in the end."

A second congressional hearing on Medicare for All is scheduled Wednesday before the House Budget Committee. Votes this year appear unlikely. The plan is a punching bag for Republicans trying to tag Democrats as "socialists."

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In a statement, Sanders' office said it's fair for the senator to compare Medicare for All to what other countries have because "all those other countries guarantee health care as a right," as his plan would.

"Sen. Sanders believes providing comprehensive coverage through the government to all residents is the best way to do it," said the statement.

If the legislation were to advance to votes, "we will hear out concerns from our colleagues and work with them to get this bill passed," the statement continued. "But we are very clear about what we want and what this country needs. Insurance company CEOs are going to pay well before the American people are."

Two recent reports have called attention to differences among countries that cover everyone and are often held up as models for Medicare for All.

A report from the Congressional Budget Office will be the focus of Wednesday's House hearing. Another report, for the nonpartisan Commonwealth Fund, was written by Glied. Among its findings: Other countries don't necessarily take the same approach as Medicare for All, using a range of strategies to cover all their residents.

"Currently, single-payer bills in the U.S. tend to share the same key goals: centralizing...the system, expanding the public benefits package and eliminating private health insurance entirely," the Commonwealth report said. "However, these three features are not the norm across countries that have achieved universal coverage for health care."

The report found that one group of countries — including Denmark, Britain and Germany — provide comprehensive benefits. That includes, for example, mental health. They charge low copays. Those countries are the closest to Medicare for All.

A larger group — including Australia, France, Netherlands, Norway, Singapore, Sweden, Switzerland and Taiwan — offer broad benefits but there may be gaps, and cost sharing is higher. Australia charges \$60 for specialist visits. The Netherlands has a \$465 deductible. Dental coverage may be limited.

Finally, Canada has a narrow national benefits package. It doesn't cover outpatient prescriptions, long-term care, mental health, vision and dental. But there's no cost sharing for hospital and doctors' services. Canadians rely on private insurance and provincial governments to fill the gaps.

Online:

Commonwealth Fund interactive: <https://tinyurl.com/y6j3h97c>

Commonwealth Fund report: <https://tinyurl.com/y6tkzngp>

Congressional Budget Office report: <https://tinyurl.com/yxd8cgww>

Huawei apt to be stripped of Google services after US ban

By FRANK BAJAK and JOE McDONALD Associated Press

Huawei could quickly lose its grip on the No. 2 ranking in worldwide cellphone sales after Google announced it would comply with U.S. government restrictions meant to punish the Chinese tech powerhouse.

The Trump administration's move, which effectively bars U.S. firms from selling components and software to Huawei, ups the ante in a trade war between Washington and Beijing that partly reflects a struggle for global economic and technological dominance.

Google said it would continue to support existing Huawei smartphones but future devices will not have its flagship apps and services, including maps, Gmail and search. Only basic services would be available for future versions of the Android operating system on Huawei's smartphones.

Though the U.S. Commerce Department grants exceptions, the ban announced last week on all purchases of U.S. technology is thus apt to badly hurt Huawei, analysts say.

Washington claims Huawei poses a national security threat, and its placement on the so-called Entity List by the Trump administration last week is widely seen as intended to persuade resistant U.S. allies in Europe to exclude Huawei equipment from their next-generation wireless networks, known as 5G.

"This is major crisis for Huawei. Instead of being the world's largest handset manufacturer this year, it will struggle to stay two, but probably fall behind," analyst Roger Entner said. "How competitive is a

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smartphone without the most well-known and popular apps?"

Huawei will likely use its own, stripped-down version of Android, whose basic code is provided free of charge by Google. But the Mountain View, California, company said Huawei would not be authorized to use other Google software and services if the sanctions go forward as announced.

Google could seek exemptions, but would not comment on whether it planned to do so.

Entner, founder of Recon Analytics, said Google itself won't feel a large direct impact, "as consumers will shift to other Android devices. The biggest concern is not to be caught in the crossfire of two governments."

Gartner analyst Tuong Nguyen said 48% of Huawei's phone shipments last year were outside of China and the company will need to scramble not to lose market share.

Samsung led global smartphone sales in the first quarter of this year with a 23.1% share. Huawei was second with 19%, followed by Apple at 11.7%, according to IDC.

Huawei's smartphone sales in the U.S. are tiny — and the Chinese company's footprint in telecommunications networks is limited to smaller wireless and internet providers— so any impact on U.S. consumers of a Google services cutoff would be slight.

Hardware suppliers led by Qualcomm, Broadcom and Intel would also be forced to halt shipments to Huawei under the Commerce Department rule, which requires all U.S. technology sales to the company to obtain U.S. government approval unless exceptions are made.

The Commerce Department on Monday announced a 90-day grace period this week. In a report, the global risk assessment outfit Eurasia Group said that if the sanction process helps persuade European carriers to shun Huawei equipment, a full ban on purchases of U.S. technology products and services could be avoided.

Google, a unit of Alphabet Inc., said in a statement late Sunday that it was complying with and "reviewing the implications" of the requirement for export licenses for technology sales to Huawei, which took effect Thursday. "For users of our services, Google Play and the security protections from Google Play Protect will continue to function on existing Huawei devices," it added.

The U.S. government says Chinese suppliers including Huawei and its smaller rival, ZTE Corp., pose an espionage threat because they are beholden to China's ruling Communist Party. But American officials have presented no evidence of any Huawei equipment serving as intentional conduits for espionage by Beijing.

Huawei, headquartered in the southern city of Shenzhen near Hong Kong, reported earlier that its worldwide sales rose 19.5% last year over 2017 to 721.2 billion (\$105.2 billion). Profit rose 25.1% to 59.3 billion yuan (\$8.6 billion).

Huawei smartphone shipments rose 50% in the first three months of 2019 to 59.1 million, compared with a year earlier, while the global industry's total fell 6.6%, according to IDC. Shipments from Samsung and Apple both declined.

Huawei defended itself Monday as "one of Android's key global partners." The company said it helped to develop a system that "benefited both users and the industry."

"We will continue to build a safe and sustainable software ecosystem, in order to provide the best experience for all users globally," the company said.

A foreign ministry spokesman, Lu Kang, said China will "monitor the development of the situation" but gave no indication how Beijing might respond.

The U.S. order took effect Thursday and requires government approval for all purchases of American microchips, software and other components globally by Huawei and 68 affiliated businesses. Huawei says that amounted to \$11 billion in goods last year.

That could certainly create some collateral damage for U.S. companies.

The California chipmaker Xilinx Inc. tumbled 4% Monday. David Wong, an analyst with Nomura, said Xilinx has benefited from demand in next-generation, 5G technologies and "action against a major maker of communications infrastructure equipment like Huawei likely poses risk for Xilinx."

FCC chairman backs T-Mobile-Sprint deal in key endorsement

By TALI ARBEL and MICHELLE CHAPMAN AP Business Writers

NEW YORK (AP) — A key federal regulator says he backs T-Mobile's \$26.5 billion takeover of rival wireless carrier Sprint, a crucial step for the deal's approval.

Federal Communications Commission Chairman Ajit Pai said Monday he supported the deal because the two companies promised to expand mobile internet access in rural areas and roll out 5G, the next generation of mobile networks.

While Pai's backing is important, further steps remain. The full commission of three Republicans and two Democrats must still vote, and the Justice Department must also clear the deal. State attorneys general may also move against the combination.

Pai said Monday that the combination will help bring faster mobile broadband to rural Americans.

The companies have made promises on building out 5G and expanding rural broadband before, but now they are attaching timelines and agreeing to penalties if they fail to meet their commitments. For instance, the companies promise to make fast internet available to 99% of Americans within six years after the deal's close.

T-Mobile US Inc. and Sprint Corp. also said Monday that they would sell Sprint's prepaid cellphone brand Boost Mobile to address antitrust concerns.

Several public-interest advocates dismissed the companies' promises Monday as not solving the issues posed by industry consolidation. Along with labor groups, the advocates have argued that the deal will lead to price increases and job cuts. Democratic lawmakers have also been skeptical of the companies' promises.

Just because the FCC seems ready to approve the deal doesn't mean the Justice Department will, as the two agencies have different criteria. The Justice Department evaluates deals on whether they harm competition and raise prices for consumers, while the FCC examines whether a merger fulfills "public interest" goals. Expanding internet access to more people could count as one such goal, for example.

David Cicilline, a Rhode Island Democrat who heads the House antitrust subcommittee, called on the Justice Department to require that Sprint and T-Mobile show that the deal won't harm consumers.

"Empty promises will not make this transaction a good deal for American workers and consumers," he said.

Sprint and T-Mobile have been talking about their 5G plans even before proposing their combination, so it'll be tough to convince the Justice Department that the 5G buildout depends on it, said Amanda Wait, a partner at Norton Rose Fulbright and former Federal Trade Commission lawyer.

And even then, the Justice Department has to decide if those benefits are greater than any harms to consumer.

Justice Department spokesman Jeremy Edwards declined to comment Monday.

Sprint, which is based in Overland Park, Kansas, and T-Mobile, based in Bellevue, Washington, argue that the combination will lead to better 5G service. They have made promises before to create U.S. jobs and build a home-internet business to compete with cable companies as well as Verizon and AT&T. They've also promised not to raise prices for three years.

The Obama administration rebuffed the companies' earlier effort to merge, as well as an attempted deal between AT&T and T-Mobile, on concerns that such deals would hurt competition in the wireless industry.

Shares of T-Mobile rose \$2.93, or almost 4%, to \$78.29, while Sprint's stock soared 19% to \$7.34. Shares of Verizon and AT&T also rose.

Chapman reported from Newark, New Jersey.

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Today in History

By The Associated Press undefined

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, May 21, the 141st day of 2019. There are 224 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 21, 1932, Amelia Earhart became the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean as she landed in Northern Ireland, about 15 hours after leaving Newfoundland.

On this date:

In 1542, Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto died while searching for gold along the Mississippi River.

In 1863, the Seventh-day Adventist Church was officially organized.

In 1868, Ulysses S. Grant was nominated for president by the Republican national convention in Chicago.

In 1881, Clara Barton founded the American Red Cross.

In 1924, in a case that drew much notoriety, 14-year-old Bobby Franks was murdered in a "thrill killing" carried out by University of Chicago students Nathan Leopold Jr. and Richard Loeb (Bobby's cousin).

In 1927, Charles A. Lindbergh landed his Spirit of St. Louis monoplane near Paris, completing the first solo airplane flight across the Atlantic Ocean in 33 1/2 hours.

In 1941, a German U-boat sank the American merchant steamship SS Robin Moor in the South Atlantic after the ship's passengers and crew were allowed to board lifeboats.

In 1945, actors Humphrey Bogart, 45, and Lauren Bacall, 20, were married at Malabar Farm in Lucas, Ohio (it was his fourth marriage, her first, and would last until Bogart's death in 1957).

In 1972, Michelangelo's Pieta, on display at the Vatican, was damaged by a hammer-wielding man who shouted he was Jesus Christ.

In 1979, former San Francisco City Supervisor Dan White was convicted of voluntary manslaughter in the slayings of Mayor George Moscone (mahs-KOH'-nee) and openly gay Supervisor Harvey Milk; outrage over the verdict sparked rioting. (White was sentenced to seven years and eight months in prison; he ended up serving five years and committed suicide in 1985.)

In 1991, former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated during national elections by a suicide bomber.

In 1998, a teen gunman opened fire inside Thurston High School in Springfield, Oregon, killing two students, a day after he killed his parents. (The shooter was sentenced to nearly 112 years in prison.) In the wake of deadly protests, Indonesian President Suharto stepped down after 32 years in power.

Ten years ago: A day after the Senate voted to keep the Guantanamo prison camp open, President Barack Obama made his case for closing the facility, denouncing what he called "fear-mongering" by political opponents; Obama made his case moments before former Vice President Dick Cheney delivered his own address defending the Bush administration's creation of the camp. A 66-year-old woman with terminal cancer became the first person to die under Washington state's new assisted suicide law.

Five years ago: With outrage mounting over veterans' health care, President Barack Obama declared that misconduct alleged at VA hospitals would not be tolerated. China signed a \$400 billion gas deal with Russia, binding Moscow more closely to Beijing amid international sanctions for Russian actions in Ukraine. Wendell Scott became the first African-American driver to be elected to the NASCAR Hall of Fame.

One year ago: Syria's military captured an enclave in southern Damascus from Islamic State militants after a monthlong battle, bringing the entire capital and its suburbs under full government control for the first time since the civil war began in 2011. A divided Supreme Court ruled that businesses can prohibit their workers from banding together in disputes over pay and conditions in the workplace, finding that individual employees can be forced to use arbitration, not the courts, to air complaints about wages and overtime. Gina Haspel was sworn in as CIA director. Netflix announced a multi-year deal with Barack and Michelle Obama; there were no details announced on what shows they would make. The U.S. Postal Service announced that it would soon issue its first scratch-and-sniff stamps, featuring illustrations of ice pops.

Today's Birthdays: Rhythm-and-blues singer Ron Isley (The Isley Brothers) is 78. Rock musician Hilton

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Valentine (The Animals) is 76. Musician Bill Champlin is 72. Singer Leo Sayer is 71. Actress Carol Potter is 71. Former Sen. Al Franken, D-Minn., is 68. Actor Mr. T is 67. Music producer Stan Lynch is 64. Actor Judge Reinhold is 62. Actor-director Nick Cassavetes is 60. Actor Brent Briscoe is 58. Actress Lisa Edelstein is 53. Actress Fairuza Balk is 45. Rock singer-musician Mikel Jollett (Airborne Toxic Event) is 45. Rapper Havoc (Mobb Deep) is 45. Rock musician Tony LoGerfo (Lukas Nelson & Promise of the Real) is 36. Actor Sunkrish Bala is 35. Actor David Ajala is 33. Actress Ashlie Brillault is 32. Country singer Cody Johnson is 32. Actor Scott Leavenworth is 29. Actress Sarah Ramos is 28.

Thought for Today: "Originality does not consist in saying what no one has ever said before, but in saying exactly what you think yourself." — James Stephens, Irish poet and novelist (1882-1950).