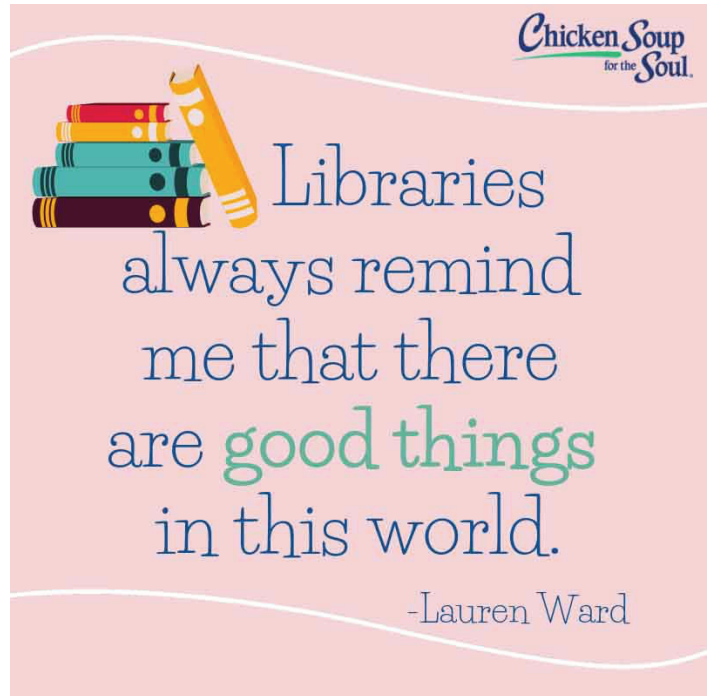


# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 1 of 51

- 1- Mosquito Control Tonight
- 2- Mosquito Control in the water
- 2- JVT Annual Meeting Ad
- 3- Groton Senior Citizens News
- 3- Continuous CRP enrollment to start June 3
- 3- Labor Day Camping Reservations in State Parks Open Soon
- 4- Smoke from Canadian Wildfires
- 5- Fort Sisseton Annual Historical Festival This Weekend
- 5- WIC Program Announces New Income Guidelines
- 6-Farmers Play a Vital Role in Economic Development for Rural Communities
- 7- Truss Pros Ad
- 8- Today in Weather History
- 9- Weather Pages
- 12- Daily Devotional
- 13- 2019 Groton Events
- 14- News from the Associated Press



## Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Swimming Pool Hours

**Open Swim Daily:** 1 p.m. to 4:50 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to 8:50 p.m.

**Fun Night** is every Friday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:50 p.m.

**Adult Water Aerobics:** Monday through Thursday: 8 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. to 6:15 pm

**Adult Lap Swim:** Monday through Friday: 7 a.m. to 8 a.m.; Monday through Thursday: 5:30 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.; Friday-Sunday: 4:50 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

**Swimming Lessons:** First Session: June 17-27

### Thursday, May 30

5:30 p.m.: U8 Pee Wees host Warner, (DH) (B)  
6:00 p.m.: Junior Legion hosts Claremont, (DH)

### OPEN: Recycling Trailer in Groton

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



**The City of Groton will be doing adult mosquito control Tonight.**

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 2 of 51



There is more than one way to kill a mosquito. While the city will be doing mosquito control tonight with the fogger, in recent days, the attack has been in the water.

Thanks to mosquito grant last year, the city has acquired a Maruyama 300 Duster that shoots granules. It works great in areas where there is dense vegetation with standing water. The Duster was used for the first time yesterday at the Olive Grove Golf Course. (Photo by JJ Jenkins)

(Photo by JJ Jenkins)

## JAMES VALLEY TELECOMMUNICATIONS 63RD ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, May 30 @Groton Area HS Arena

11:30am-12:30pm: Registration & Lunch

*Enjoy a Chicken Corden Bleu Meal with  
Entertainment by Groton Area OST*

12:30pm: Business Meeting

Many Door Prizes - including a \$500 JVT Credit  
Free Membership Gift, Childcare & Bus Rides (call 397-2323)

JVT's office will be closed 11am-2pm

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 3 of 51

## Groton Senior Citizens News

Groton Seniors met May 12 and Eleven members were present. President opened the meeting with the flag pledge. Lee Schinkel played America. Flowers at the community center will be planted one of our members. Balinda Nelson is moving to Texas. We are sorry to lose her. Meeting was adjourned and cards played with the winners. Pinochle- Don Darwin, whist- Darlene Fischer, Canasta- Marilyn Thorson and Balinda Nelson. Door prizes- Ella Johnson, Ruby Donovan and Elda Stange. Lunch was served by Marilyn Thorson and Don Darwin.

May 20- seventeen members attended. Flag pledge was paid. May birthdays were celebrated. A birthday card was signed by all for DeLoris Knoll. Cards were played and the winners Pinochle- Ruth Pray and Elda Stange, Canasta- Beulah Hoops and Eunice McColister. Door prizes- Lois Pasch, Dick Donovan, Bob Pray. Lunch was served by Beulah Hoops , Ella Johnson

## Continuous CRP enrollment to start June 3

PIERRE, S.D. – U.S. Department of Ag recently announced it will start taking offers for enrollment into the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) on Monday, June 3.

Local Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices will take applications for enrollment into certain continuous CRP practices including but not limited to; grassed waterways, filter strips, riparian buffers, wetland restoration, the farmable wetlands pilot, and duck nesting habitat.

"A key benefit of the duck nesting habitat practice is the ability to enroll up to 10 upland acres per wetland acre," said Game, Fish and Parks' senior wildlife biologist, Mark Norton. "This creates important nesting and concealment habitat for a variety of ground nesting birds and other grassland-dependent wildlife."

All of these CRP practices provide 50 percent cost-share to establish grassland habitat on cropland acres and provide an annual rental payment for ten to 15 years.

Land being offered for enrollment must have a cropping history of 4 out of 6 years from 2012 to 2017 or be in a current CRP contract expiring on Sept. 30, 2019. If the offer includes any land that will be re-enrolled, the deadline to submit the offer will be Aug. 23, 2019.

CRP provides important benefits of improved water quality and soil health, forage for livestock, and habitat for wildlife.

"Restoring grasslands and wetlands through CRP will provide important habitat for pheasants, ducks, deer, and pollinators," said Norton.

Land enrolled in CRP is also a priority for South Dakota's Walk-in Area public hunting access program, which provides a sign-up incentive bonus payment for multi-year access contracts on CRP acres, annual payments, and posts the boundaries with signs for the participating landowner.

South Dakota Game Fish and Parks encourages those interested in enrolling in CRP to contact a habitat advisor listed on [habitat.sd.gov/advisors](http://habitat.sd.gov/advisors) or your local FSA office.

## Labor Day Camping Reservations in State Parks Open Soon

PIERRE, S.D. – This weekend, the South Dakota State Parks are opening up camping reservations for Labor Day weekend.

Reservations for a Friday, Aug. 30, arrival open on June 1, at 7 a.m. CDT. Labor Day is one of the most popular camping weekends of the year, and spots fill up quickly.

To reserve your spot, visit [campsd.com](http://campsd.com). Reservations open at 7 a.m. CDT, 90 days prior to arrival. Thereafter, reservations can be made 24 hours a day.

Camping fees are paid at the time a reservation is made, and a park entrance license is required in addition to camping fees.

Custer State Park is currently accepting reservations for all campsites. Group lodges at South Dakota state parks statewide are also accepting reservations at this time.

For more detailed information on making reservations or to view the 90-day window calendar, visit [gfp.sd.gov](http://gfp.sd.gov).

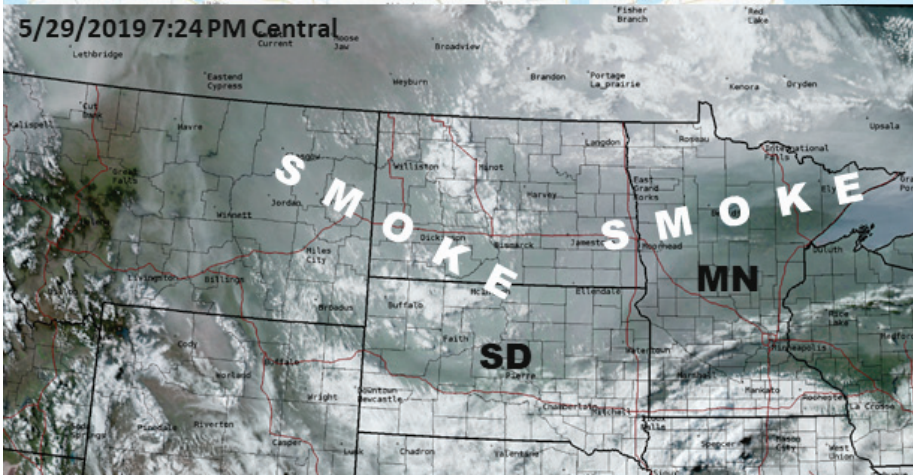
## Smoke from Canadian Wildfires



*May 29, 2019*

**Smoke from Canadian wildfires continues to drift south this evening across the Northern Plains, thanks to northwest winds aloft.**

**Hazy skies and red sunsets/sunrises are possible the next few days until winds aloft shift and direct the smoke elsewhere**



**NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE**  
OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

Published on: 05/29/2019 at 8:26PM

Have you noticed a hazy look to the sky today? Smoke from Canadian wildfires is to blame. Forecast information here: <https://airquality.weather.gov/sectors/northplains.php?period=1#tabs> and additional information here: <https://www.ospo.noaa.gov/Products/land/hms.html> and <http://cwfis.cfs.nrcan.gc.ca/interactive-map>

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 5 of 51

## Fort Sisseton Annual Historical Festival This Weekend

PIERRE, S.D. –On May 31-June 2, Fort Sisseton will host its 42nd annual historical festival. The Department of Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) expects a large turnout, with previous years bringing in as many as 15,000 visitors.

The three-day event allows visitors to relive history in a re-enactment of frontier life. Scenes of early settlement set the stage with muzzleloaders, riflemen and more participating in a rendezvous gathering. The rendezvous is complete with fur traders and both military and teepee encampment sites. Rendezvous traders and campers will compete in Tomahawk throws and black powder shoots.

The event features food and craft vendors throughout the weekend. The historical festival offers activities to showcase frontier life such as fiddle music, period oriented dance instruction classes, arts and craft shows and a costume ball.

The festival charges a \$5 admission fee or \$25 per night to camp onsite during the event.

For the full schedule and other information, visit: [gfp.sd.gov/historical-festival/](http://gfp.sd.gov/historical-festival/)

For camping reservations: [campsd.com](http://campsd.com) or 1.800.710.2267.

Fort Sisseton Historic State Park is located ten miles southwest of Lake City, S.D., off US Highway 10.

## WIC Program Announces New Income Guidelines

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota Department of Health has released new income guidelines for the WIC Program effective June 3, 2019.

WIC is a special supplemental nutrition program, funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, provided at no cost to eligible moms, babies and children. Its goal is to offer education on healthy eating, nutrition and breastfeeding, make referrals to other services and help improve health by providing nutritious foods to supplement diets.

If your family income does not exceed the following amounts for the size of your family, you could qualify for WIC:

Family Size	185% of Federal Poverty Level	Family Size	185% of Federal Poverty Level
1	\$23,107	6	\$63,992
2	\$31,284	7	\$72,169
3	\$39,461	8	\$80,346
4	\$47,638	9	\$88,523
5	\$55,815	10	\$96,700

To find out if you or your children are eligible for the WIC Program, call for an appointment at your local WIC Office/Community Health Services Office. Offices can be found under the county listings in your phone book or on the web at <http://sdwic.org/locations/>.

WIC is an equal opportunity provider. More information about the program is available at <http://sdwic.org/>.

## Farmers Play a Vital Role in Economic Development for Rural Communities

Mitchell—The results are in for the 2018 Annual Report which provides a summary of financial data from 77 farms enrolled in the SD Farm/Ranch Management program. Overall, the average operation saw cash expenses reach \$842,789 which is up \$199,822 from the prior year. The cash farm income of \$933,184 is an increase of \$172,930. This produced a net cash income of \$90,395. After depreciation and accrual adjustments, \$77,062 was the average net farm income.

In 2018, crop production expenses totaled \$212,978 with the bulk of those dollars spent on seed, fertilizer, chemical, and crop insurance. The cost of those four direct inputs alone totaled \$220/acre for corn, down \$11.62/acre from 2017. The average cost for the same direct expenses was \$136/acre for soybeans, up \$6/acre from the prior year. Many farmers now rely on a variety of outside consultants and this supports several people who are employed by local farm cooperatives and other private agricultural companies. With the tight margins of commodities, managing inputs and enhancing marketing strategies is all the more necessary.

For most farms enrolled in our program, livestock production is a top source of revenue and it therefore represents a large area of expenses with \$173,566 of direct costs on average, up \$3,224 from last year. Most of these dollars are spent on feeder livestock, feed purchases, animal health products and services. It should be noted that this activity is a real economic engine for our area as most of the feed is produced and processed in South Dakota.

The other large expense is farmland rent in an ever-competitive land market. The average producer paid \$133,625 in cash rent during 2018. Other important industries that farmers support include implement dealers, farm supply businesses, and local repair shops. The average farm spent \$58,167 in repairing equipment last year increasing \$11,269 from a year ago. Another critical area for many farmers is keeping reliable employees on the payroll and hiring custom operators to assist with planting, spraying, harvesting, spreading manure, etc. According to our data, the average farm operation spent \$56,628 for those services last year up from \$29,987 in 2017.

In addition to spending \$842,789 in operating costs, farmers increased their net worth by 2.6% starting with an average of \$2,019,804 at the beginning of the year and ending at \$2,073,784 showing an increase of \$53,980, which is encouraging given the past several years. Family living expenses came in just \$942 higher than last year at \$64,351 this shows families have been able to adjust their spending to keep the total household expenditures basically steady.

Overall, the average farm in the program had its best year of the last five in regard to net farm income. We are seeing a cautious optimism in the ag economy throughout the entire state of South Dakota. Extra costs or losses with the severe weather in early 2019 and with what appears to be a delayed planting season have many concerned.

The SD Center for Farm/Ranch Management program is offered through Mitchell Technical Institute and is available to all producers who are seeking a detailed analysis on their farm financial performance. For more information about the data in this article or about the programs offered, please call 1-605-995-7191 or send an email to [sdcfm@mitchelltech.edu](mailto:sdcfm@mitchelltech.edu).

# NOW HIRING!

## Truss Pros

10954 424th Avenue | Britton, SD 57430

Looking for assemblers - both shifts

- \* New Starting Wage - \$15/hr day shift and \$16/hr night shift
- Overtime Available

### BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- Comprehensive Health, Dental & Vision insurance
- Life Insurance
- Short-term Disability and Long-term Disability
- 401k
- Holiday Pay
- Vacation Pay
- Paid Sick Leave
- Referral Bonuses

To apply visit [www.uslbm.com/careers](http://www.uslbm.com/careers) or call Diane at 605-448-2929.

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 8 of 51

## Today in Weather History

May 30, 1998: An F4 tornado moved through southeast South Dakota, killing six people and injuring another 150. The tornado crossed into McCook County at approximately 7:38 pm, CST and moved through downtown Spencer at about 7:39 pm, CST. The total cost of damage was more than \$18 million with an additional half million in crop damage.

1879: A significant outbreak of severe weather occurred in Kansas and western Missouri. In Kansas, tornadoes killed eighteen persons at Delphos and thirty persons at Irving. Two tornadoes struck the town of Irving within a few minutes time virtually wiping the small Kansas community off the map. The second tornado was perhaps two miles wide and exhibited multiple vortices.

1927: The Kentucky River peaks during a massive flood that killed 89 people and left thousands homeless. Torrential rains caused this unprecedented flood.

1988: Memorial Day heralded heavy snow in some of the mountains and higher passes of Wyoming, closing roads in Yellowstone Park. McDonald Pass, Montana was blanketed with eight inches of snow, while the temperature at Miles City, Montana soared to 94 degrees.

1948 - A railroad bed acting as a dam gave way during a flood along the Columbia River destroying the town of Vanport, OR. The nearly 19,000 residents escaped with little more than the clothes on their backs. (David Ludlum)

1948 - Twenty carloads of glass were needed in Denver, CO, to replace that destroyed by a severe hailstorm. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Unseasonably warm weather prevailed across the eastern U.S. Eighteen cities, from Virginia to Ohio and Michigan, reported record high temperatures for the date. Afternoon highs of 97 degrees at Baltimore, MD, and Washington, DC, and 98 degrees at Newark, NJ, were records for the date. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Memorial Day heralded heavy snow in some of the mountains and higher passes of Wyoming, closing roads in Yellowstone Park. McDonald Pass, MT, was blanketed with eight inches of snow, while the temperature at Miles City, MT, soared to 94 degrees. A "supercell" thunderstorm in west Texas produced baseball size hail in Bailey and Lamb counties, and up to five inches of rain in less than an hour. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)






1989 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather from the Upper Mississippi Valley to the Upper Ohio Valley during the day. A powerful (F-4) tornado injured three persons and caused a million dollars damage at New Providence, IA. Baseball size hail was reported at Blue Earth, MN. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1990 - Thunderstorms developing along a warm front spawned fourteen tornadoes in northeastern Texas during the late afternoon and evening hours. The thunderstorms also produced baseball size hail near Marshall, wind gusts to 77 mph at Commerce, and up to five inches of rain. Thunderstorms over southwestern Kansas produced up to six inches of rain. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

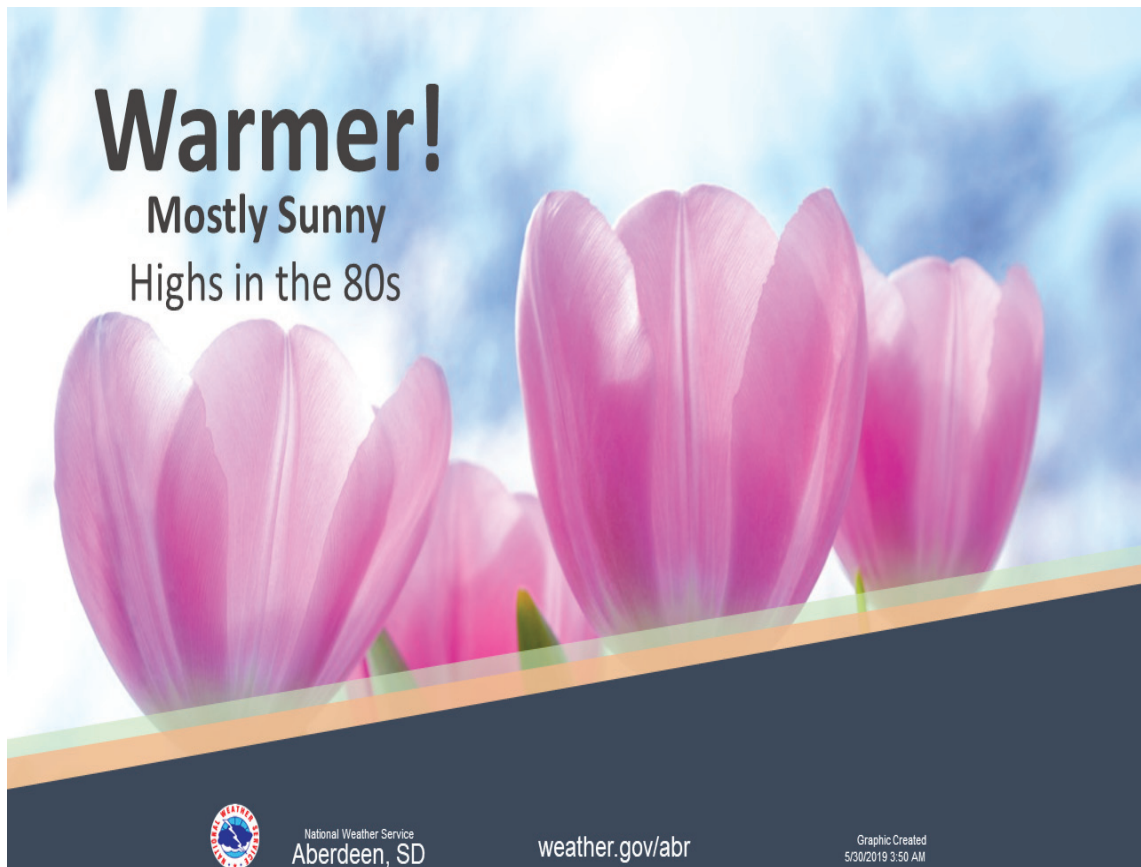



# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 9 of 51

Today	Tonight	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday
				
Mostly Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny then Slight Chance T-storms	Chance T-storms	Sunny
High: 87 °F	Low: 56 °F	High: 85 °F	Low: 50 °F	High: 71 °F

**Warmer!**  
Mostly Sunny  
Highs in the 80s



 National Weather Service  
Aberdeen, SD

[weather.gov/abr](http://weather.gov/abr)

Graphic Created  
5/30/2019 3:50 AM

Published on: 05/30/2019 at 4:51AM

Temperatures will top out in the 80s today, which is 10 to 15 degrees above average for this time of year! The next chance of rain for much of central to northeastern South Dakota and west central Minnesota looks to hold off until Friday night.

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 10 of 51

## Yesterday's Groton Weather

High Temp: 80 °F at 4:23 PM

Low Temp: 48 °F at 6:36 AM

Wind: 16 mph at 5:46 PM

Day Rain: 0.00

## Today's Info

Record High: 110° in 1934

Record Low: 27° in 1947

Average High: 72°F

Average Low: 49°F

Average Precip in May.: 2.91

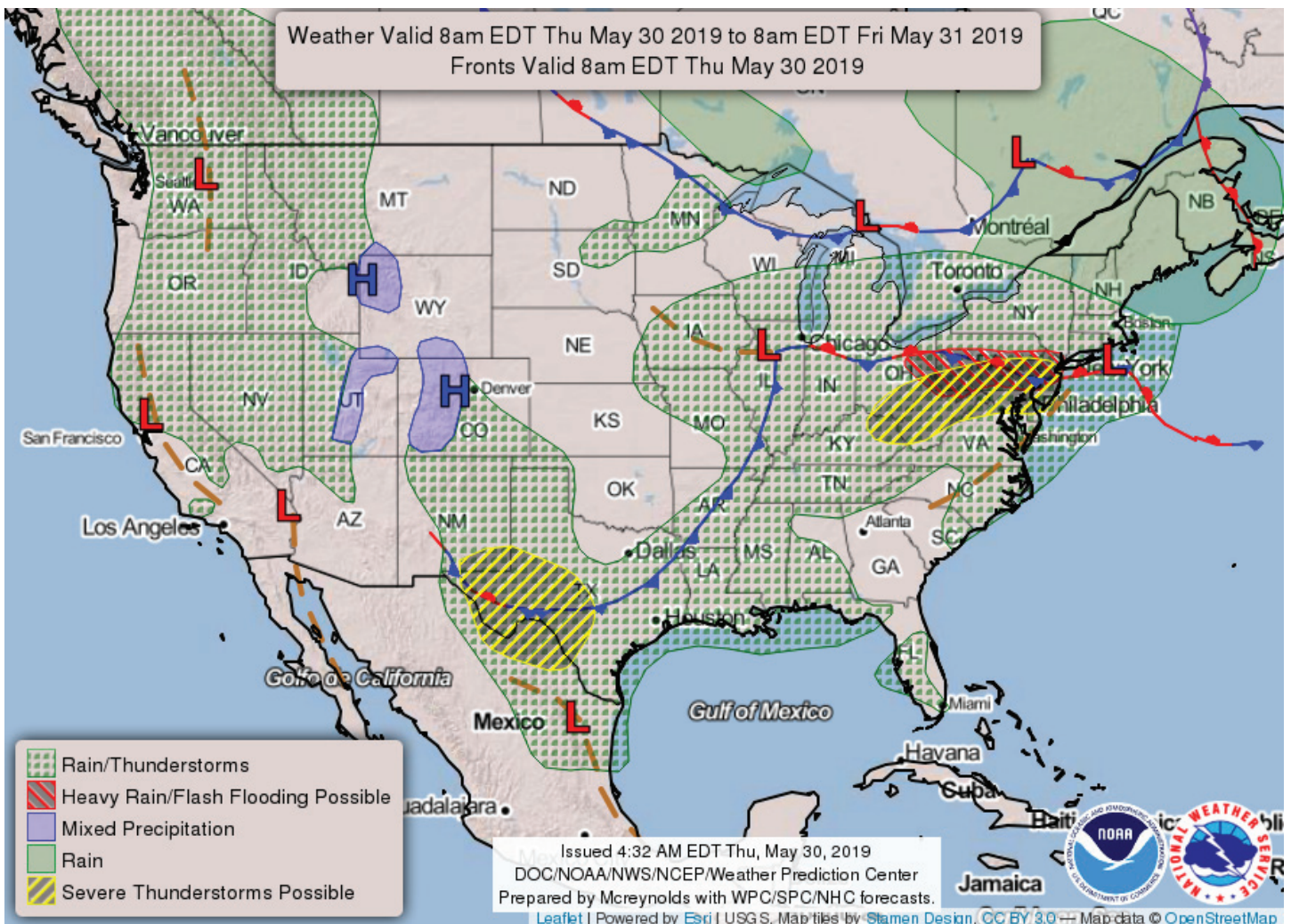
Precip to date in May.: 3.26

Average Precip to date: 6.94

Precip Year to Date: 7.97

Sunset Tonight: 9:13 p.m.

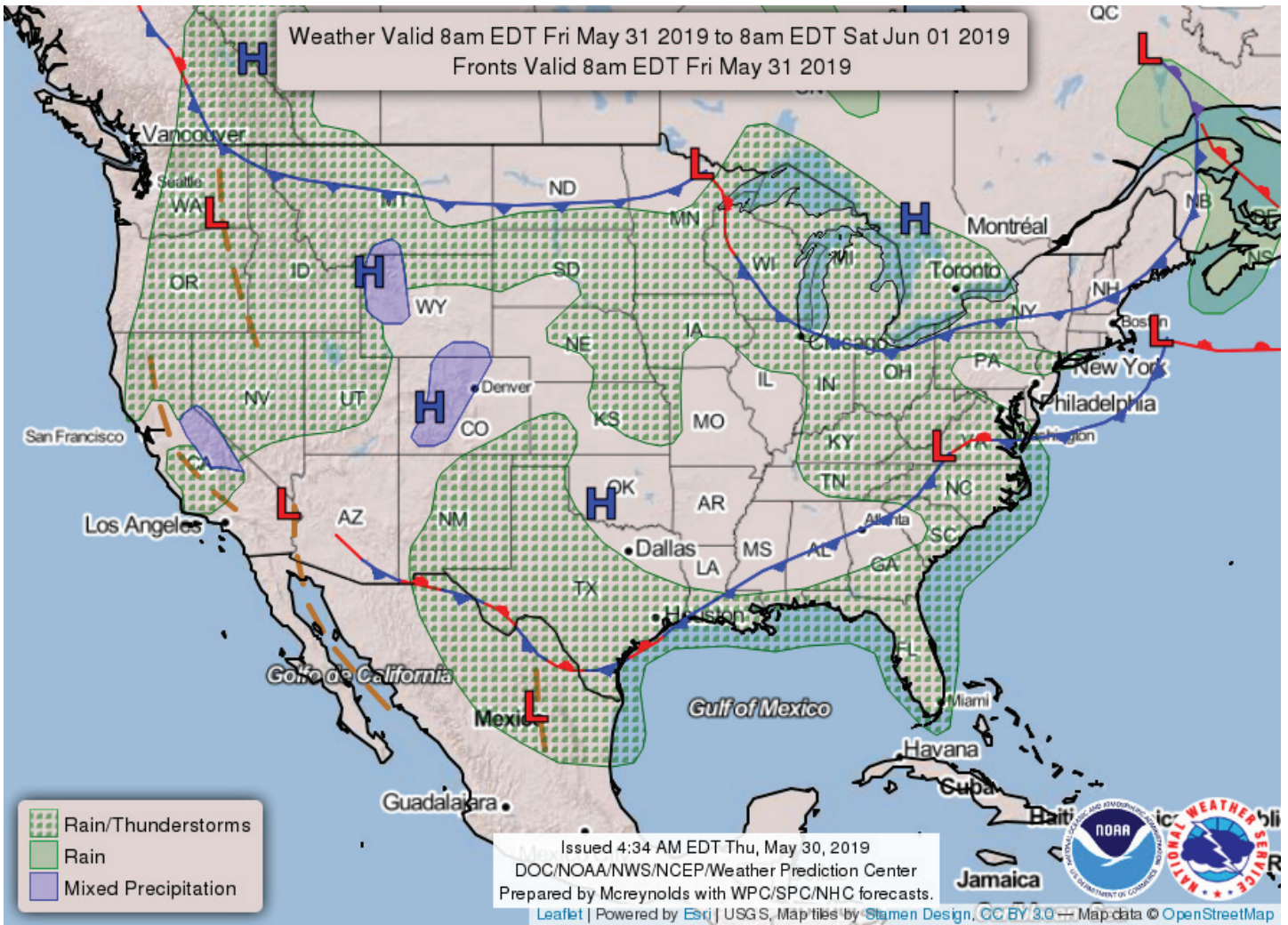
Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:49 a.m.



# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 11 of 51

## Tomorrow's Weather Map



# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 12 of 51



## THERE IS A DIFFERENCE

We often apply words without understanding the importance of their exact meaning. The word ignorant is a good example. To be sure, I am ignorant about many things. I know nothing about quantum physics but that does not mean I am dumb. I cannot fly an airplane, but that does not mean I am stupid. Rather, in both areas of knowledge, I am ignorant about quantum physics and how to fly an airplane, but not dumb or stupid.

Being ignorant differs from ignoring something. It means that I lack knowledge or information about a subject. It may or may not impact on my life in a harmful way. But, if I ignore something important or significant that can affect my well-being, that is different.

Something not to be ignored is discipline because it has serious consequences. He who ignores discipline despises himself; but whoever heeds correction gains understanding. A conscious rejection or refusal to accept discipline or the willingness to consider it as an important aspect in life is a sign of ignorance. Solomon says that a person who ignores discipline despises himself and is unwilling to be corrected. This often refers to personal pride or an unwillingness to see myself as I am. It is as though I say to myself, It does not matter what the truth is about me, I refuse to admit it.

If we look at this from another perspective, it is the same as a sinner saying to God, I don't need You. I can make it by myself. I need nothing - including You.

However, if we accept Gods correction for our lives by accepting His grace through faith in His Son, we will receive His salvation which is the beginning of a new life and insight.

Prayer: Thank You, Father, for all we have because of Your love. May we gladly accept Your correction and salvation and begin a new life in and through Your Son. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Proverbs 15:32 Those who disregard discipline despise themselves, but the one who heeds correction gains understanding.

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 13 of 51

## 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)

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 14 of 51

## News from the Associated Press

### **CorTrust acquiring First Minnesota Bank for \$347 million**

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — CorTrust Bank is expanding its footprint in Minnesota.

The Mitchell-based bank, with 22 locations in eastern South Dakota, is buying First Minnesota Bank for \$347 million. That will increase CorTrust locations in Minnesota from four to 15 branches and give it a combined asset of \$1.2 billion.

The Argus Leader says the deal is expected to close by the end of September.

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

### **SD Lottery**

**By The Associated Press**

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

Dakota Cash

02-03-20-25-27

(two, three, twenty, twenty-five, twenty-seven)

Estimated jackpot: \$446,000

Lotto America

05-07-27-45-48, Star Ball: 1, ASB: 5

(five, seven, twenty-seven, forty-five, forty-eight; Star Ball: one; ASB: five)

Estimated jackpot: \$20.26 million

Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: \$444 million

Powerball

03-32-34-42-61, Powerball: 7, Power Play: 2

(three, thirty-two, thirty-four, forty-two, sixty-one; Powerball: seven; Power Play: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$325 million

### **Polygamous sect leader ordered to stop Minnesota building**

GRAND MARAIS, Minn. (AP) — Officials in northern Minnesota have ordered a temporary halt to construction on land linked to a man who led a secretive polygamous sect's compound in South Dakota.

Cook County officials issued the cease-and-desist order Friday to a company tied to Seth Jeffs. KARE-TV reports the order was issued after officials visited the 40-acre property west of Grand Marais and found apparent wetland violations.

Jeffs is the brother of Warren Jeffs, imprisoned leader of the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. Authorities have said Seth Jeffs led the sect's South Dakota Black Hills compound, a site that has raised concerns among nearby residents.

Seth Jeffs applied in August to build a 5,760-square-foot building on the Minnesota land. The permit was approved in December.

But the recent inspection found that "the disruption to the landscape was pronounced and has occurred outside of all relevant permits," according to a letter sent to Emerald Industries, LLC by William Lane, planning and zoning administrator for Cook County Land Services.

The letter, addressed to Seth Jeffs, orders him to immediately cease all site activities "until such time that comprehensive erosion and sediment controls are established and site stabilization is demonstrated."

A man answering a phone number listed on Seth Jeffs' application for the Minnesota land-use permit hung up on The Associated Press Wednesday.

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 15 of 51

Seth Jeffs took a plea deal in a multimillion-dollar food-stamp fraud case in 2016. His brother, Lyle Jeffs, was sentenced in 2017 to prison for his role in carrying out the food stamp fraud scheme and for escaping home confinement while awaiting trial. He was caught in South Dakota after pawn shop workers spotted him and called police.

Warren Jeffs, considered by the group to be a prophet who speaks for God, is serving a life sentence for assaulting two of his child brides.

The group, also known as the FLDS, is an offshoot of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; the group's members believe polygamy brings exaltation in heaven. Polygamy is a legacy of the early teachings of the mainstream church, widely known as the Mormon church, but the faith abandoned the practice in 1890 and prohibits it today.

Information from: KARE-TV, <http://www.kare11.com>

## Sioux Falls officials ask residents to limit water usage

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Officials in Sioux Falls are asking city residents to limit water usage after a large amount of precipitation fell in the area.

The Public Works Water Reclamation Division says the added water is placing a strain on the city's sanitary sewer system.

Residents are being asked to limit water usage from now through Friday evening, and ensure that sump pumps are draining outside homes into yards or streets, and not in the sewer system. The city says improperly discharged sump pumps can lead to sewage backups inside homes.

It is illegal to attach sump pumps to floor drains or connect them to the city's sanitation system.

## Reforestation ongoing after the Black Hills' largest wildfire

By SETH TUPPER Rapid City Journal

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Human hands have given the circle of life a faster spin for the past 16 years in a fire-ravaged pocket of the Black Hills National Forest.

It begins in the fall when men heave themselves up the trunks of ponderosa pine trees to snip green cones from the branches.

It continues 300 miles away in Nebraska, where the cones are dried and the seeds are extracted and grown into seedlings, the Rapid City Journal reported.

In the spring, a truck covers the 300 miles again, this time returning the seedlings to South Dakota, where migrant workers implant them in the ground at the superhuman pace of about 1,000 trees per person, per day.

It all happens one cone, a few seeds and one seedling at a time, but it has added up to 2 million trees planted since 2003 at an estimated cost of nearly \$2 million to the Black Hills National Forest.

And it was all made necessary by an arsonist who tossed a match in 2000 (she subsequently served 15 years in prison and was paroled in 2016). The match ignited the Jasper Fire, which burned across 130 square miles in the Jewel Cave area and blazed its way into the record books as the largest fire in the recorded history of the Black Hills. Today, much of the formerly forested area is covered with grass and littered with the desiccated trunks of burned trees that are slowly decaying into the landscape.

The fire affected an estimated 239 million board feet of timber. In other words, if all the trees killed by the fire had been preemptively harvested and processed into boards measuring 1 foot long, 1 foot wide and 1 inch thick, the boards would've covered 45,000 miles when laid end-to-end — almost enough to circle the earth twice.

Compared to the fire's giant footprint, the 2 million trees that have been planted since then are like specks of paint on a mostly blank canvas.

But it's a start. Without human help, reforestation would depend on the lonely ponderosa pines that survived the Jasper Fire. Their seeds don't spread far, and any new trees they spawn could take 60 years

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 16 of 51

to produce viable seeds of their own.

At that pace, it could take centuries for individual trees to multiply into groves.

The U.S. Forest Service doesn't want to wait that long. So, every two to seven years, when conditions are cool and moist enough to produce a bumper crop of pine cones, fall is cone-picking season in the southern Black Hills.

To learn that people are paid to collect pine cones in a national forest is to imagine a crew leisurely strolling through nature, stooping here and there to pick up a cone from the forest floor.

To watch an actual cone-picker working in a national forest is something entirely different.

Pine cones on the ground are no good for seed-collecting. Those cones have already dried out, opened up and released their seeds. To get the seeds before they flitter away, the cones have to be harvested while they're still green, sealed up and attached to a tree.

That requires climbing the ramrod-straight trunks of mature pine trees in the Black Hills, which is like trying to ascend a flag pole covered in scratchy, crumbly bark.

Last September, Chris Cawley, of Missoula, Montana, demonstrated the technique on a 40-foot-tall tree.

Using a thick rope wrapped around the tree and attached to his waist harness, Cawley used the rope's purchase on the bark to support his upper body while his knees and feet clamped onto the trunk. Then he slide the rope higher, used it to pull himself up, and clamped his knees and feet onto the trunk again.

In that alternating fashion — pulling with the rope, clamping with the legs, again and again, all the while lugging extra ropes and a long-handled pruner hanging from his waist harness — he violently struggled about halfway up the tree. There, he reached some branches strong enough to support his feet, paused, and wrapped another rope around the tree and affixed it to his harness, like a rock climber clipping onto a bolt.

"It's kind of just like a scramble to the first branch," Cawley said, "and you use clip lines to keep you safe."

From there he continued to the top of the tree, using the stronger branches like ladder rungs.

At the top, he grabbed his long-handled pruner and began cutting off the tips of pine-cone-bearing branches, while working his way back down the tree.

The branch segments, weighted by the living, greenish and surprisingly hefty pine cones, whistled toward the earth like bombs and thumped onto the ground. Soon the base of the tree was littered all around with branch-ends and pine cones, and Cawley descended to gather up the cones.

Then it was on to the next tree. Cawley, a wiry-framed 39-year-old, said he can climb 10 trees and collect up to 18 bushels of pine cones on a good day.

He started picking cones 20 years ago, after being a teenage rock climber.

"I figured nobody was going to pay me to climb rocks," Cawley said. "But there were lots of people climbing trees."

He now works for Roan & Associates, of Montana. Besides picking cones, the company does other land-restoration work, such as planting trees and sagebrush, and collecting pollen. Cawley supplements his income with construction jobs during the winter, but he otherwise stays in the woods as much as he can.

"One of the great things about this country is its forest and its public land," he said. "There's a lot of places in the world that didn't take care of their forests so well, and doing this work ensures that future generations have that opportunity."

In September, Cawley was leading a five-man crew of cone pickers on the fringes of the Jasper Fire area, about 20 miles west and a little north of Custer. Cones are picked there because seeds will grow better if they're picked at about the same elevation as they'll be planted.

The crew picked cones all day, getting paid by the bushel, and slept in tents at a campground in Newcastle, Wyoming. Their stay in the Black Hills lasted a few weeks, and they picked about 1,000 bushels of cones, all of which were bagged in burlap and hauled to the last place anyone would expect to find a tree nursery: the mostly treeless Sandhills of north-central Nebraska.

The U.S. Forest Service's Charles E. Bessey Nursery was founded in 1902 and named for a botany professor who pioneered experimental tree-planting in the Great Plains.



# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 17 of 51

The nursery is just outside the town of Halsey, Nebraska, population 76. The broader setting is the Sandhills, a vast region of dunes created by desert conditions that existed centuries ago. Today the dunes are anchored in place by uneven grass cover, and the Sandhills are a beautifully spartan place populated mostly by cattle.

As improbable as the Sandhills seem for the location of a tree nursery, the region has some qualities that make it ideal for the job. Those include reserves of underground water that can be tapped with shallow wells to water the trees, and soil of a loose and sandy makeup that makes it easy to uproot young trees for transplantation.

Each year, the Bessey Nursery supplies about 2 million young trees to state conservation agencies and the national forests of the Rocky Mountain region.

Last fall, when the Black Hills pine cones picked by Cawley and his crew arrived at the nursery, they received an enthusiastic greeting from the nursery's hands-on manager, Richard Gilbert.

Gilbert not only runs the nursery but also lives in a house on-site. He's been there for 14 years and still views the life cycle of trees with energetic wonder.

"It's amazing, man. It really is," he said. "It's really cool. It's awesome to be part of it, that's for sure."

Upon receiving the burlap bags full of Black Hills pine cones, Gilbert and his crew of five full-time and six seasonal employees laid out the sacks in a storage building to dry. Pine cones can remain there for two to six weeks until the nursery crew is ready to process them.

Next, the pine cones are spread onto wooden boxes with wire-mesh bottoms and are subjected to 48 hours of hot, dry propane heat to open them up.

After the transformation from closed, green cylinders into open, brown cones is complete, the next step is the tumbler, which looks like an industrial clothes dryer for pine cones. The tumbling motion of the machine's cylindrical chamber dislodges the seeds from the cones, and the seeds fall through openings in the cylinder to a receptacle below.

Next, the seeds are processed by the de-winger — another literally named machine that uses slapping leather flaps to bust the wings from the seeds.

"The reason they have a wing on them is if the cone's still on the tree, and it opens up and the seed comes out, the seed will just whirlybird away from the tree," Gilbert said while dropping a winged seed to demonstrate.

Finally, the seeds are run through other machines that clean them of clingy natural debris.

The clean seeds are sealed inside plastic bags and cardboard cylinders and placed in a big walk-in freezer at 5 to 15 degrees Fahrenheit — alongside 14,000 pounds of other seeds, mostly from national forests in the Rocky Mountain region — while a sample of the seeds is sent to a lab in Georgia. The lab workers analyze the quality of the seed crop to help Gilbert determine how many seeds he should drop in each cell of dirt when he plants them.

The lab analysis can take four to five months, so the seeds produced by last year's Black Hills cone pickers could remain in the freezer until next year.

When Gilbert and his crew needed to plant trees for the Black Hills in March 2018, they pulled a 2015 crop of Black Hills seeds out of the freezer and planted about 153,000 seedlings.

The seeds were planted in squarish, Styrofoam containers with 112 small holes, each with space for about 6 cubic inches of dirt. The nursery grows some other trees in the ground, mostly for state conservation programs, but the national forests served by the nursery have better success with so-called "container trees."

The Black Hills container trees were grown in two of the nursery's greenhouses. From March to October, the seeds sprouted and grew into 6-inch-high, pine-needle-bearing seedlings.

Around the beginning of November, the seedlings were removed from their containers and packed in plastic bags and boxes, at a rate of 300 per box. The boxes of seedlings were then placed in a freezer at 26 degrees until last month.

"They just think it's winter," Gilbert said. "They don't know any different."

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 18 of 51

The boxes of trees were recently removed from the freezer and hauled by truck to the Jasper Burn area. In April, a crew of 18 Mexican laborers under the employ of OC Forestry in Medford, Oregon, completed the final step in the long journey from pine cone to planted tree. Most of the laborers were migrants on temporary work visas, while the foreman was a Mexican-born U.S. citizen.

Walking across a roughly 400-acre area burned by the Jasper Fire, with heavy pouches full of seedlings affixed to their belts, the crew members paused every 10 feet or so. They used ax-like tools called hoe-dads to quickly scrape a small patch of grass down to the dirt. Next, they swung the hoedad to chop the earth, pry open a small hole, and drop the seedling in. After a quick tamp of the dirt with one foot, they walked away to plant the next seedling.

Planting as rapidly as one seedling every 10 to 15 seconds, members of the crew planted as many as 1,000 trees per person each day for two weeks until all 153,000 of the seedlings were in the ground.

Many of the seedlings were planted near the fallen trunks of dead trees for protection from harsh sun and weather, and the seedlings were also encased in biodegradable tubing to prevent damage by hungry wildlife drawn to the seedlings' green needles.

Most of the seedlings will survive with favorable weather and adequate precipitation. If a drought ensues, many of them could die.

Because of the abundant storehouse of Black Hills seeds kept at the nursery in Nebraska, seedlings are planted almost every spring in the Jasper Fire area, even in years when no new pine cones are picked. Thriving young trees have begun to transform the landscape in some areas within the fire's footprint, including alongside Mud Springs Road, where a hillside full of seedlings planted seven years ago has grown into a grove of 3- to 4-foot-tall trees.

Blaine Cook, a longtime Forest Service silviculturist, stood gazing at that hillside during this spring's planting project and reflected on the Jasper Fire.

"It changed the forest and people's lives," Cook said, "for years and decades to come."

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

## Hypothermia likely caused death in Pennington County

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — An autopsy indicates the Wyoming man found dead near a South Dakota interstate likely died of hypothermia.

The body of 45-year-old Justin Johnson was found Sunday evening near some railroad tracks between Wall and Wasta in Pennington County near Interstate 90.

Sheriff's officials say there's no indication the death is trauma related. The autopsy was done Tuesday. Johnson was from Hulett, Wyoming.

## Polish sculptor crafting made-in-Sioux Falls medallions

By AUSTIN LAMMERS Sioux Falls Argus Leader

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Jurek Jakowicz loves the details. His work sculpting medallions requires their perfection. If the crevasses in his design are too deep, too light, or undercut, the hydraulic press stamping them into bronze won't capture their grooves, omitting the delicate features that signify his pieces.

Though Jakowicz says the medallion market in South Dakota isn't particularly booming, he stays busy with commissions from all over the country. Recent notables include the Boston Public Library, Southern Utah University and the Patton Museum in Fort Knox, Kentucky.

He's a three-time finalist for the President Inaugural Medal (to sculpt it, not receive it). When Baron Trump was born, a friend of Donald Trump's commissioned Jakowicz to sculpt a medallion of Melania holding the newborn in 24-carat gold as a gift to the family.

"I'm constantly busy," he told the Argus Leader. "I'm over here by myself doing stuff like this."

'Over here' meaning Sioux Falls, where Jakowicz started working for Medallion Art Company — the "old-

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 19 of 51

est and largest private mint" in America — in 1990. It took a trip across the Atlantic for him to get here, however.

A native of Lodz, Poland, the country's second-largest city, Jakowicz was raised alongside art. His mother was a painter and sculptor. He went to schools that taught sculpting and photography and architecture. His art career didn't begin with medallions, but eventually led to it.

"I had a good background and caught onto this very quickly," he said. "Everything has to be so precise, so detailed. This was something different and I fell in love doing it."

He arrived in the U.S. in 1985 at 24 years old, working in New York and Chicago before landing in Sioux Falls five years later. When Medallion Art Company moved to Nevada in 1997, Jakowicz stayed.

"A friend of mine was over here in Sioux Falls and because I grew up in a big city I didn't want to spend my life stuck in traffic," Jakowicz said. "He said, 'why don't you come over here and take a look?' And I did, and started playing soccer and met a bunch of people, and here we are."

Naturally, Jakowicz grew ties locally. Several weeks ago, South Dakota State President Barry Dunn wore a 24-carat gold medallion etched by Jakowicz around his neck during graduation. Have you seen the bronze statue of Star Trek's Captain Kirk in Riverside, Iowa? He sculpted that, too.

He crafts on a variety of mediums both three-dimensional and two-dimensional (he's commissioned to sketch house pets for their owners, even), but if he had to choose one to do forever, it'd be medallion sculpting.

"I love to do this. Really I do," he said. "It's a little bit difficult because of the proportions and everything to capture the likeness. But I like challenge."

The medallion is more coveted on the coasts than in the middle of the country, Jakowicz said, partly due to cost. For a medallion 10-12 inches in diameter, the sculpture alone is \$1,600. That's before mold-making, cutting into steel, a heat treatment, production and cost of the bronze.

And what about demand? A medallion made once, which can go for "thousands of dollars," is much more expensive than a medallion made 100 times over, Jakowicz said.

"Most of my work is commissioned out of the state, because, you know, we are not there yet," he said. "I think people are kind of scared because it costs so much. The idea of giving medallions is not here yet."

But that's just medallions. Jakowicz said he has seen an uptick in the community's "hunger" for art since he arrived in Sioux Falls almost 30 years ago. He was one of Sculpture Walk's first participants in 2004, and has joined many local sculptors in providing the city with enticements of the eye.

"Sioux Falls is starting to become a nice hub of expression," he said. "For people walking downtown, you see this. The optics are there. You see art is almost everywhere, almost every corner of the street. That's how it should be."

---

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

## South Dakota family navigates around child's food allergies

By KATHERINE GRANDSTRAND Aberdeen American News

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — There are many things that make parents scared for their children — climbing the top of the jungle gym, getting too close to a hot stove, other kids being mean — but for some families, something as simple as a snack can cause the fear.

That's the case for Elissa Dickey. Her youngest son, Ernie, is allergic to peanuts and dairy, meaning no peanut butter and jelly sandwiches washed down with a big glass of milk for this 7-year-old.

"Cooking from scratch became the norm for us," Dickey said to the Aberdeen American News. "Looking back now, we're used to it, it's not like it's easy, but we're used to it. Right away, it was really overwhelming."

Ernie was about 2 months old when Dickey said she realized he was having some issues, which is when his suspected dairy allergy was confirmed. It took a lot of searching to find a formula that he could digest without problems.

He also had eczema as a baby and toddler, which caused some food allergy issues, Dickey said. Once

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 20 of 51

his skin issues were taken care of, Ernie still had a peanut and dairy allergy.

Ernie always has his EpiPen with him — it's in a tiny backpack, Dickey said. He can't come in contact with peanuts, let alone ingest them, and his dairy allergy goes beyond common lactose intolerance.

While she's well versed in it now, grocery shopping is still a little bit harder for Dickey. Ingredients have to be free of any trace of dairy or peanuts, not just devoid of them. She knows which brands meet their requirements, but also has to be constantly vigilant.

"Don't be afraid to contact companies," Dickey said. "It's hard to know how much is regulated and whether no information means it's fine or it means they didn't even think to talk about it."

Dickey and her husband Ted make sure Ernie gets included — on pizza night that means Ernie and Elissa get their own dairy-free pie to share while Dad and older brother Jack get Domino's or Pizza Hut, Elissa Dickey said. When they found out Wednesdays were chocolate milk day at school, Ernie got to take chocolate soy milk in his lunch box.

Because of Ernie's allergies, Dickey said she knows her grocery bill is much higher than it is for the average family of four.

"We're lucky that we can afford some of that stuff," she said. "I forgot how cheap regular chocolate chips are."

The brand she buys is around \$6 for a 10-ounce bag, while regular chocolate chips are around \$3 for a 12-ounce bag, Dickey said.

When they eat out, it's usually at chain restaurants, Dickey said. It's easier to verify the allergy protocols.

As Ernie's gotten older, Dickey said the family has worked to make sure he advocates for himself. He knows not to eat any food that wasn't either prepared or approved by Mom or Dad.

"I want to show that it's OK to ask. This is what you need," she said.

When the Dickeys travel, a big cooler full of "Ernie food" goes with, and if they're out at a coffee shop for an after-school treat, Ernie usually takes his own snack.

Dickey said the science around allergies has improved even in her youngest son's seven years. He might grow out of his allergies, or could possibly go through desensitization therapy. That's where the patient starts out with a minuscule dose of the allergen in a clinic, slowly building up tolerance for a substance that might have once killed him or her.

"If you accidentally eat something, you would still go to the doctor, but it's taking away that immediate danger of anaphylaxis," Dickey said.

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

## New Lakota-translated children's book honors history

By **SHELLY CONLON Argus Leader**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Garfield Elementary fifth-grader Jaeden Brugier has been learning to speak the Lakota language throughout the last year.

Yet for someone wanting to share the history and legends of his ancestors with his peers, he felt as though he's never had a true chance, he said.

The school library has less than five books translated in Lakota, and reading sessions often made him feel almost invisible, he said.

But a statewide effort by the South Dakota Humanities Council is about to change that by giving second graders copies of the 2019 Young Readers One Book "Tatanka and Other Legends of the Lakota People," the first book in the history of the Young Readers program translated in both Lakota and English, the Argus Leader reported.

The initiative comes after legislators passed a law in March to officially recognize O'ceti Sakowin, which is comprised of the dialects of Lakota, Dakota and Nakota, as the official indigenous language of South Dakota starting July 1. The law comes almost 30 years after South Dakota chose to honor its Native American heritage by forgoing Columbus Day and renaming the holiday Native Americans' Day.

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 21 of 51

The state is one of only a handful to change the holiday, and the language law also made it first state in the contiguous United States. The book depicts three legends authored and illustrated by Oglala Sioux Tribe member and Rapid City resident Donald F. Montileaux.

Students received the book this spring to read during the summer, a press release from the council states.

In the Sioux Falls School District, however, the books will go to third graders this fall through school libraries, so it's fresh in the students' minds when the author speaks at the South Dakota Festival of Books from Oct. 4 to Oct. 6 in Deadwood, which hosted by the humanities council each year, said Ann Smith, the district's curriculum services program director.

Delaying the book's distribution also means getting it in the hands of more children, Garfield Elementary librarian Susan Thies said. She's been a librarian for two years and a classroom teacher for 19.

"We have such a transient population, they move (often) and have issues at home and food scarcity," Thies said. "So we always let the second graders know the (program) is coming up, that way in the fall this is ready to go for them."

The book is a perfect way to give children insight into another language in a way that honors the Lakota history and connects with families who might not have a great relationship with public schools, including with those once prohibited and punished for speaking Lakota in schools years ago, Thies said.

Before this book, students who didn't feel connected to what they were reading often slumped in their chairs. Their faces drooped down or they wandered the library, not knowing what to pick out, she said. There was no emotion tied to the words they read, she said.

"This gives value to our history, to say, 'I see you,'" Thies said. "When you walk into the libraries, you (often) see books about little white boys, little white girls and their dogs and cats. But do our African American students from Africa see themselves? Do our African American students from America see themselves? Our Lakota children will see themselves, they'll feel valued because the state has said this is important."

Once she received one, Thies showed a copy of the new book to Bugier, who immediately spent time searching for the Lakota words he knew to match them with English words, she said. He immediately begged her to let him check the book out to bring it home to his family.

Unfortunately, the book wasn't ready to be borrowed yet, Thies said. But that didn't stop Bugier from being excited about the possibility, she said.

"Of course, we want children to be fluent in English, but at this age, (a book like this) opens the world," Thies said. "It's like a passport to different cultures and countries. And you get to know your own country and culture better when you step out and learn about others."

Bugier will be going to a new school next year, and though he isn't one of the third graders receiving the book, he knows the book will help bring awareness and understanding to part of his culture and current political issues in the state, he said.

And with a younger sister and cousin still on the campus, he also hopes his peers will use the books to continue a school club he started and wishes to carry it on to the middle school level, he said. Called the Circle of Courage Club, it's a club that allows anyone to teach anyone else about their culture and history, he said.

"I'm really hoping I see that book and other books that are Lakota and English, and if there is, I'll be really happy," Brugier said. "I'm hoping that when they learn everything, they'll be like me and try to research more and more about their Lakota history."

For Thies, she hopes this will inspire more South Dakota authors to reach out to schools or to write and publish in indigenous languages now that the three languages are recognized, she said.

"When you read these books, the children sit up, and they sparkle," Thies said. "Our children who are sometimes so silent and never say anything, they can't stop praising their hand. And all of a sudden they're proud of their history. They're proud of the present."

## Prosecutors plan to retry woman in nephew's death

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Prosecutors plan to retry a Rapid City woman after jurors could not reach a verdict on whether she acted in self-defense when she fatally stabbed her nephew.

The 12-member jury was split on whether Lorraine Swallow, 33, was guilty of second-degree murder in the death of 28-year-old Tyrell Bull Bear last December. Jurors heard four days of testimony from witnesses and deliberated for about 10 hours on Friday but could not unanimously agree on a verdict.

Pennington County state's attorney Mark Vargo tells the Rapid City Journal his office will retry Swallow.

Defense attorney Angela Colbath urged Judge Matt Brown to acquit Swallow after the jury couldn't reach a verdict, saying there was no evidence she acted with a "depraved mind." Prosecutor Stacy Wickre said Swallow could have walked away or asked for help after fighting with Bull Bear rather than stabbing him in the heart.

"She took advantage of a situation that didn't put her in grave danger," Wickre said.

Brown declined to acquit Swallow, saying jurors should be the ones who decide Swallow's guilt or innocence.

Swallow testified on her behalf and cried as she told jurors that Bull Bear planned to beat up two of her relatives. She said Bull Bear pushed her and she grabbed a knife.

She said she was "just trying to scare him" and get his attention so he wouldn't fight her relatives.

Swallow testified that she thought Bull Bear was going to hit her so she closed her eyes and raised her hands in front of her face, forgetting her knife was still in her hand. She said she remembers Bull Bear gently pushing her and when she opened her eyes, he was on the ground. She said she never moved toward him with the knife.

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

## AP sources: White House wanted McCain ship away from Trump

By LOLITA C. BALDOR Associated Press

The White House told the U.S. Navy to keep a warship named for the late Sen. John McCain, with whom Trump long feuded, out of Trump's sight during his trip to Japan, three U.S. officials said.

A Republican, McCain nevertheless broke with the president in key areas. He incensed Trump with his thumbs-down vote foiling the effort to repeal President Barack Obama's health care law. Trump also mocked McCain's military service, which included years of imprisonment and torture during the Vietnam War.

The Wall Street Journal reported Wednesday that a U.S. Indo-Pacific Command official wrote an email to Navy and Air Force officials about Trump's arrival in Japan over Memorial Day weekend. It included instructions for preparations for the USS Wasp, the ship on which Trump was to speak.

"USS John McCain needs to be out of sight," according to the email, obtained by the Journal and whose existence was confirmed to The Associated Press by three U.S. officials, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss private email correspondence.

When a Navy commander expressed surprise at the instruction, the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command official answered, "First I heard of it as well," the Journal reported. The official said he would talk to the White House Military Office to get more information about the directive, the newspaper reported.

Late Wednesday, Trump tweeted that he "was not informed about anything having to do with the Navy Ship USS John S. McCain during my recent visit to Japan."

Trump notably didn't say that he was not informed about the ship before his visit to Japan. A message seeking clarification was left late Wednesday for White House press secretary Sarah Sanders.

In Jakarta, Indonesia, on Thursday morning, Acting U.S. Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan told reporters, "When I read about it this morning, it was the first I heard about it." He told reporters traveling with him to a security conference in Singapore he would look into the reports.

Shanahan said he would never dishonor the memory of a great American like McCain or disrespect the

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 23 of 51

young men and women in the crew of the ship.

"I never authorized, I never approved any action around the movement or activities regarding that ship," Shanahan said. He said the military "needs to do their job" and stay out of politics.

The Journal, citing photos it reviewed, reported that a tarp was placed over the USS John S. McCain's name before Trump's arrival and that sailors were instructed to remove any coverings from the ship that included its name.

Asked if the tarp was meant to block Trump's view of the ship, the officials said the tarp had been placed on the ship for maintenance and removed for the visit. U.S. Navy Cdr. Clay Doss, spokesman for U.S. 7th Fleet, told the AP that the tarp was on the ship on Friday but was removed by Saturday morning, the day Trump arrived.

"All ships remained in normal configuration during the President's visit," he said.

Two U.S. officials told AP that all the ships in the harbor were lined up for Trump's visit, and they were visible from the USS Wasp. The officials said most of their names probably could not be seen since they were side by side but that the name of the USS John S. McCain could be seen from the pier.

Rear Adm. Charlie Brown, Navy public affairs officer, tweeted Wednesday night: "The name of USS John S. McCain was not obscured during the POTUS visit to Yokosuka on Memorial Day. The Navy is proud of that ship, its crew, its namesake and its heritage."

A paint barge was in front of the USS John S. McCain on Saturday morning when 7th Fleet officials walked the pier to see how everything looked for the visit. The barge was then ordered to be moved and was gone by the time Trump arrived, the officials said.

The Journal reported that sailors on the USS John S. McCain, who usually wear hats with the ship's name on it, were given the day off when Trump visited.

Two U.S. officials told the AP that sailors on the USS John S. McCain were not told to stay away but that many were away for the long weekend. The officials also said that about 800 sailors from more than 20 ships and Navy commands were on the USS Wasp during the president's visit, and all wore the same Navy hat that has no logo, rather than wearing individual ship or command hats.

McCain, who died in August of 2018, established himself as a leading Trump critic, opposing Trump's immigration-limiting order, warning him against coziness with Moscow and lecturing him on the illegality of torture

Trump was not welcome at McCain's funeral and raised the White House's U.S. flag back to full-staff shortly after McCain's death, despite U.S. Flag Code stating that it should remain at half-staff for another day. The flag returned to half-staff later in the day.

McCain's daughter Meghan tweeted Wednesday that Trump will "always be deeply threatened by the greatness of my dad's incredible life."

She added, "There is a lot of criticism of how much I speak about my dad, but nine months since he passed, Trump won't let him RIP. So I have to stand up for him.

"It makes my grief unbearable."

## 7 dead, 21 missing after SKorean tour boat sinks in Hungary

By PABLO GORONDI and HYUNG-JIN KIM Associated Press

BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP) — Rescue workers scoured the Danube River in downtown Budapest Thursday for 21 people missing after a sightseeing boat carrying South Korean tourists sank in a matter of seconds after colliding with a larger cruise ship during an evening downpour.

Seven people are confirmed dead and seven were rescued, all of them South Koreans, Hungarian officials said. Police launched a criminal investigation into the incident.

The South Korea-based Very Good Tour agency, which organized the trip, said the boat — a 70-year-old vessel built in the former Soviet Union — had been on its way back after an hour-long night tour on Wednesday evening when the accident happened.

Nineteen South Koreans and two Hungarian crew members — the captain and his assistant — are miss-

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 24 of 51

ing. The tour party had consisted of 30 tourists, two guides and a photographer on a package tour of Europe. Pal Gyorfi, spokesman for the National Ambulance Service, said those rescued were hospitalized in stable condition.

The sunken boat was located early Thursday near the Margit Bridge, not far from the neo-Gothic Parliament building on the riverbank.

Video displayed by Hungarian police showed the sightseeing boat, identified as the Hableany (Mermaid), traveling closely side by side and in the same direction as the Viking cruise ship as they approached the bridge Wednesday night.

The Hableany then appeared to steer slightly to its left, into the path of the cruise ship, which continued to sail on at the same speed. The two collided and the sightseeing boat was then seen tipping on its side between the bridge's two supports.

"As the Viking comes into contact with (the Hableany), it overturns it and in about seven seconds, as it turn on its side, it sinks," Police Col. Adrian Pal said.

Pal said it's unclear what caused the Hableany to steer into the path of the Viking. He said several people aboard the Hableany fell into the water after the collision. The South Korean government said none of those on board was wearing a life jacket.

Police said rescue operations were hampered by the rain and the fast flow of the rising Danube. The search for the 21 missing extended far downstream, even into Serbia, where the Danube goes after leaving Hungary.

The river, which is 450 meters (500 yards) wide at the point of the accident, was fast-flowing and rising as heavy rain continued in the city. Water temperatures were about 10 to 12 degrees Celsius (50-53 Fahrenheit).

Hajoregiszter.hu, a local ship-tracking website, lists the Hableany as having been built in 1949 in what was then the Soviet Union.

CCTV footage recorded on Wednesday night showed that the river was busy with boats of different sizes traveling in both directions.

Budapest has enjoyed a boom in overseas tourism in recent years. Long-haul flights from as far away as Dubai and Beijing increasingly fly visitors from Asia and the Middle East to the Hungarian capital, a relatively affordable but history-rich European destination.

Earlier, the news website Index.hu said one of those rescued was found near the Petofi Bridge, which is about 3 kilometers (2 miles) south of Parliament.

Dozens of rescue personnel, including from the military and divers, were involved in the search. Employees from the South Korean Embassy in Budapest were assisting Hungarian officials in identifying those rescued and the deceased.

Budapest's Disaster Management Office Chief Col Zsolt Gabor Palotai said the Hungarian army is setting up a pontoon near the capsized ship's wreck and divers will go into the Danube from there.

Police have questioned the Ukrainian captain of the Viking, but no details have been released. Authorities said both vessels' captains are experienced, with many years of service with their companies.

South Korean President Moon Jae-in instructed officials to employ "all available resources" to support the rescue efforts in Hungary.

A team of South Korean officials left for Hungary on Thursday to assist with the rescue operations and support passengers and their families. Kang was also to travel to Hungary.

The ministry in a briefing Thursday said that the Seoul government will closely cooperate with Hungarian officials so that the rescue efforts can proceed swiftly and effectively. It said the tourists were not wearing life jackets.

The Very Good Tour agency said the tourists left South Korea on May 25 and were supposed to return June 1.

Most of them were family groups, and they included a 6-year-old girl. Her status wasn't immediately clear but she didn't appear on a list of survivors provided by the tour agency.



# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 25 of 51

Senior agency official Lee Sang-moo disclosed the identities of the seven rescued South Koreans — six women and one man, aged between 31 and 66. The company is arranging for family members of the tourists to travel to Hungary as soon as possible.

The Hableany is described on the sightseeing company's website as "one of the smallest members of the fleet." It has two decks and a capacity for 60 people, or 45 for sightseeing cruises.

Mihaly Toth, a spokesman for the Panorama Deck boating company, said the Hableany was on a "routine city sightseeing trip" when the accident happened. He told state television that he had no information about any technical problems with the boat, which he said was serviced regularly.

The Margit Bridge connects the two halves of the city, Buda and Pest, with a large recreational island in the middle of the Danube. It is the bridge just north of the famous Chain Bridge, a suspension bridge originally built in the 19th century that, like the Parliament, is a major tourist draw in the heart of the city.

The river flows south, meaning that survivors were likely to be swept through the well-populated, historic part of the city.

Index.hu reported that other riverboats shined spotlights into the water to aid with the search, and that a film crew operating on the Liberty Bridge farther down the river directed its lighting equipment toward the Danube to assist. In recent years, Budapest has emerged as a popular destination for film, television and other commercial video production.

Hyung-jin Kim reported from Seoul, South Korea. Associated Press writers Adam Schreck in Bangkok and Kim Tong-hyung in Seoul, South Korea, contributed to this report.

## Israel faces repeat 2019 election after parliament dissolves

By ARON HELLER Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel embarked Thursday on an unprecedented snap election campaign — the second this year — after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu failed to form a governing coalition and instead dissolved parliament.

In what seemed an improbable scenario just days ago, Israel's newly elected Knesset dissolved itself in an early morning 74-45 vote and set a new election date for Sept. 17.

The parliament's disbanding comes just a month after it was sworn in and sets the stage for a second election in the same year — a first in Israeli history.

The developments were a shocking setback for Netanyahu, who had appeared to secure a comfortable win in last month's election. But he was unable to build a parliamentary majority because his traditional ally, Avigdor Lieberman, refused to bring his Yisrael Beiteinu faction into the coalition.

Netanyahu's Likud party excoriated Lieberman, accusing him of betraying voters, abandoning his right-wing ideology and selfishly carrying out a personal vendetta against his former patron Netanyahu.

Lieberman, a former top aide to Netanyahu who for two decades has alternated between a close alliance and bitter rivalry with his former boss, delivered his own rebuke Thursday. A former defense minister and foreign minister under Netanyahu, he appeared to break with him for good by alleging that Likud Party members were blind Netanyahu followers who needed professional help.

"This has nothing to do with 'the right,'" Lieberman, a West Bank settler, said at a press conference. "This is about a cult of personality and not any political ideology."

Netanyahu, who has led Israel for the past decade, now faces another challenge to his lengthy rule. It comes as he prepares for a pre-indictment hearing before criminal charges are expected to be filed against him in a series of corruption cases.

Assuming they would sweep into power again, Netanyahu's allies in the ruling Likud had already begun drafting a contentious bill aimed at granting him immunity from the various corruption charges awaiting him. He was also looking to push legislation limiting the power of Israel's Supreme Court and paving his path to several more years in office.

But it was a separate issue that sparked the extraordinary crisis, and for the first time ever thrust Israel

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 26 of 51

into a repeat election before a new government was even formed.

Lieberman — a veteran nationalist and a secular politician — demanded that current legislation mandating that young ultra-Orthodox men be drafted into the military run its course.

Years of exemptions for ultra-Orthodox men have generated widespread resentment among the rest of Jewish Israelis who serve. The ultra-Orthodox, backed by Netanyahu, refused to bend and the showdown quickly devolved into a full-blown crisis that imploded the perspective government.

"The public chose me, and Lieberman, unfortunately, deceived his voters. From the beginning he had no intention to do what he said," Netanyahu said after the vote, accusing Lieberman of aligning with "the left."

"He made one demand after another and every time his demand was met, he raised another one," Netanyahu also said, adding that Lieberman "clearly wanted to topple the government for his own personal reasons."

Lieberman called the accusations ridiculous and retorted that the new election was indeed unfortunate but a result of Netanyahu caving in to the ultra-Orthodox.

"This is a complete surrender of Likud to the ultra-Orthodox," he said.

Though a staunch hard-liner who has drawn accusations of racism, Lieberman also champions a secular agenda aimed toward his core political base of immigrants from the former Soviet Union. He has pledged to confront efforts of ultra-Orthodox parties to impose their lifestyle on the country's secular majority, earning him some centrist support as well.

In contrast to Netanyahu's deal-making pragmatism, Lieberman has earned a reputation as a maverick willing to break from his traditional ideological bloc. This time, both dug in and refused to budge.

"Israel has known many political crises in its 71 years. It has also known some dirty and even dirtier political tricks, corrupt and even more corrupt political bribery offers," wrote Nahum Barnea, a columnist with Yediot Ahronot. "What we saw last night in the Knesset was a new page in the process of the decline of Israeli democracy."

The new election gives the anti-Netanyahu forces in Israel, led by Blue and White leader Benny Gantz, another shot at toppling the longtime leader. It also complicates Netanyahu's efforts to pass the proposed bills to protect himself from prosecution.

Even if Netanyahu wins the election, it is unlikely he will be able to form a government and lock down the required political support for an immunity deal before an expected indictment. That would force him to stand trial, and in turn put heavy pressure on him to step aside. No one in Likud has yet challenged him publicly.

The political uncertainty could also spell trouble for the White House's Mideast peace efforts. The U.S. has scheduled a conference next month in Bahrain to unveil what it says is the first phase of its peace plan, an initiative aimed at drawing investment into the Palestinian territories.

The Trump administration had vowed to unveil its plan after the Israeli election and it's unclear how the current political shakeup will affect that rollout.

Follow Heller at [www.twitter.com/aronhellerap](http://www.twitter.com/aronhellerap)

## 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. HOW ISRAEL MADE HISTORY

Israel faces a snap election for an unprecedented second time in a year after Netanyahu fails to form a governing coalition and dissolves parliament instead.

### 2. 7 DEAD, 21 MISSING AFTER HUNGARY BOAT CAPSIZES

Rescue workers are scouring the Danube River in Budapest for those missing after a sightseeing boat carrying South Korean tourists sank after colliding with a larger cruise ship.

### 3. WHAT WAS 'NOT AN OPTION'

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 27 of 51

Special counsel Robert Mueller says federal rules prevented him from charging Trump with a crime in his Russia investigation and he emphasized that he did not exonerate the president.

#### 4. IMMIGRATION LARGELY ABSENT FROM DEMOCRATS' 2020 POLICY BLITZ

Democratic presidential contenders instead are more focused on climate change, gun control, health care, student debt and abortion rights.

#### 5. WHITE HOUSE WANTED MCCAIN SHIP AWAY FROM TRUMP

The White House wanted the Navy to keep its warship the USS John S. McCain out of the president's sight during his recent trip to Japan, sources tell AP.

#### 6. COLD CASES GETTING HI-TECH TREATMENT

A computer algorithm has helped reopen dozens of hard-to-solve violent crimes in Chicago by finding similarities in the slayings of more than 50 women.

#### 7. WHY FACEBOOK HAS LEFT DOCTORED PELOSI VIDEO UP

The social network has long resisted making judgments about the truthfulness of posts, as doing so could open it up to charges of censorship or political bias.

#### 8. WHERE NEW STATE ABORTION LAWS CAN BOG DOWN

Despite expected legal challenges, they face another potential obstacle: prosecutors who refuse to enforce them, AP finds.

#### 9. GALAXY'S EDGE OFFERS NEW WORLD AT DISNEYLAND

An exclusive tour for the media included a Star Wars-themed food tasting, a stroll through the Black Spire Outpost marketplace and four-minute ride on the Millennium Falcon.

#### 10. BLUES GET EVEN IN STANLEY CUP

Carl Gunnarsson scores on a delayed penalty 3:51 into overtime and St. Louis beats the Boston Bruins 3-2, evening the final at a game apiece.

## Immigration largely absent from Democrats' 2020 policy blitz

By **WILL WEISSERT** Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democratic presidential contenders are in a feverish battle to one-up each other with ever-more-ambitious plans to beat back global warming, curb gun violence, offer universal health care coverage, slash student debt and preserve abortion rights. Largely left out of the policy parade: immigration.

The field of 24 candidates is united in condemning President Donald Trump's support for hard-line immigration tactics, particularly his push to wall off as much of the U.S. border with Mexico as possible, roll back asylum rights for refugees and since-suspended efforts to separate immigrant children from their parents. But only two contenders — ex-Obama Housing Secretary Julián Castro and former Rep. Beto O'Rourke — have released detailed, written policies addressing the future of the immigration system.

The dearth of formal policy plans signals the challenge that immigration could pose for Democrats. White House hopefuls can easily rally their party's base with broad, passionate attacks on what they see as Trump's failures, but it's riskier to grapple with the complexity of the immigration system. Trump, meanwhile, has tapped into fervor around immigration to energize his own supporters and has worked to seize on it as an issue of strength — territory Democrats risk ceding to him ahead of 2020 if they don't find a way to go deeper.

"For the most part, the Democrats aren't even trying to make the case to a centrist voter of what a reasonable immigration plan would look like," said Ali Noorani, executive director of the Washington-based National Immigration Forum, which works with faith leaders and law enforcement to promote the value of immigration. Undecided voters "know that Trump's simplistic approach to this isn't working," Noorani said, "but they've got nowhere else to go."

The issue isn't likely to recede as the presidential campaign intensifies. Much of the Democratic field is heading this weekend to California — it borders Mexico and is home to the largest Hispanic population in the U.S. — for a state party convention. Meanwhile, the U.S. Border Patrol has said it plans to fly hundreds

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 28 of 51

of immigrant families out of Texas as it struggles to process the large numbers of Central American families that are reaching the U.S. border with Mexico and asking for asylum.

Castro called in April for ending criminalization of illegal border crossings entirely. O'Rourke didn't go that far in a plan he unveiled Wednesday, instead pledging to use an executive order to mandate that only people with criminal records be detained for crossing into the U.S. illegally. O'Rourke also promised to send thousands of immigration attorneys to the border to help immigrants with asylum cases while wiping out Trump policies separating immigrant families and banning travel to the U.S. from several mostly Muslim countries.

Other 2020 hopefuls have mostly focused on criticizing Trump rather than offering deeply articulated alternatives. Former Vice President Joe Biden, the early Democratic front-runner, has called Trump administration immigration policies an example of the president's "demonization" of entire groups of people, but he hasn't made the topic a top issue.

New York Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand has laid out a case for "comprehensive immigration reform" on her campaign website while Sens. Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota, Cory Booker of New Jersey and Kamala Harris of California have all previously voted for or sponsored plans to loosen immigration rules.

Then there's Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren, who has issued a steady stream of sweeping plans on such issues as forgiving nearly all student debts and offering free tuition at public universities, but she hasn't released a written immigration proposal. Spokesman Chris Hayden noted Wednesday that Warren has previously praised Castro's plan and said the senator supports an immigration overhaul that creates a pathway to citizenship for immigrants in the country illegally, including those who came to the U.S. as children.

The Trump administration has proposed its own overhaul that would bolster border security while creating a "merit-based" immigration system prioritizing people with in-demand job skills rather than relatives of people already in the U.S. But that was largely seen as symbolic, and the president has repeatedly returned to his calls for extending the U.S.-Mexico border wall and imposing stricter immigration policies to excite supporters.

Feelings on the issue, meanwhile, are far from settled. About 54 percent of national voters said they disapproved of Trump's handling of immigration policies, compared to 45 percent who approved, according to AP VoteCast, a survey of the 2018 national electorate.

Tyler Moran, who was a senior policy adviser to former Senate Democratic leader Harry Reid of Nevada, said that the primary campaign is still in an early phase and that candidates shouldn't feel pressured to rush out policy positions on such a complicated issue.

"They have all said that they reject Trump's approach and his vision of America and that we can do better," Moran said. "Not everybody has packaged it together yet, but I think it's coming, and I think every single one of them is prepared to answer the question of what they see as the plan on immigration."

## Mueller: No exoneration for Trump after Russia investigation

By ERIC TUCKER, MICHAEL BALSAMO and CHAD DAY Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Special counsel Robert Mueller said that charging President Donald Trump with a crime was "not an option" because of federal rules, but he used his first public remarks on the Russia investigation to emphasize that he did not exonerate the president.

"If we had had confidence that the president clearly did not commit a crime, we would have said so," Mueller declared.

The special counsel's remarks on Wednesday stood as a pointed rebuttal to Trump's repeated claims that he was cleared and that the two-year inquiry was merely a "witch hunt." They also marked a counter to criticism, including by Attorney General William Barr, that Mueller should have reached a determination on whether the president illegally tried to obstruct the probe by taking actions such as firing his FBI director.

Mueller made clear that his team never considered indicting Trump because the Justice Department prohibits the prosecution of a sitting president.

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 29 of 51

"Charging the president with a crime was therefore not an option we could consider," Mueller said during a televised statement.

He said he believed such an action would be unconstitutional.

Mueller did not use the word "impeachment" but said it was the job of Congress, not the criminal justice system, to hold the president accountable for any wrongdoing.

The special counsel's statement largely echoed the central points of his lengthy report, which was released last month with some redactions. But his remarks, just under 10 minutes long and delivered from a Justice Department podium, were extraordinary given that he had never before discussed or characterized his findings and had stayed mute during two years of feverish public speculation.

Mueller, a former FBI director, said Wednesday that his work was complete and he was resigning to return to private life. Under pressure to testify before Congress, Mueller did not rule it out. But he seemed to warn lawmakers that they would not be pulling more detail out of him. His report is his testimony, he said.

"So beyond what I have said here today and what is contained in our written work," Mueller said, "I do not believe it is appropriate for me to speak further about the investigation or to comment on the actions of the Justice Department or Congress."

His remarks underscored the unsettled resolution, and revelations of behind-the-scenes discontent, that accompanied the end of his investigation. His refusal to reach a conclusion on criminal obstruction opened the door for Barr to clear the Republican president, who in turn has cited the attorney general's finding as proof of his innocence. Mueller has privately vented to Barr about the attorney general's handling of the report, while Barr has publicly said he was taken aback by the special counsel's decision to neither exonerate nor incriminate the president.

Trump, given notice Tuesday evening that Mueller would speak the next morning, watched on television. For weeks, he had been nervous about the possibility about the special counsel testifying before Congress, worried about the visual power of such a public appearance.

Shortly after Mueller concluded, the president, who has repeatedly and falsely claimed that the report cleared him of obstruction of justice, tweeted a subdued yet still somewhat inaccurate reaction: "Nothing changes from the Mueller Report. There was insufficient evidence and therefore, in our Country, a person is innocent. The case is closed! Thank you"

While claiming victory, the tone of the president's tweet was a far cry from the refrain of "total exoneration" that has dominated his declarations.

Mueller's comments, one month after the public release of his report on Russian efforts to help Trump defeat Democrat Hillary Clinton, appeared intended to both justify the legitimacy of his investigation against complaints by the president and to explain his decision to not reach a conclusion on whether Trump had obstructed justice in the probe.

He described wide-ranging and criminal Russian efforts to interfere in the election, including by hacking and spreading disinformation — interference that Trump has said Putin rejected to his face in an "extremely strong and powerful" denial. And Mueller called the question of later obstruction by Trump and his campaign a matter of "paramount importance."

The special counsel said the absence of a conclusion on obstruction should not be mistaken for exoneration.

A long-standing Justice Department legal opinion "says the Constitution requires a process other than the criminal justice system to formally accuse a sitting president of wrongdoing," Mueller said. That would shift the next move, if any, to Congress, and the Democratic chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, which would investigate further or begin any impeachment effort, commented quickly.

New York Rep. Jerrold Nadler said it falls to Congress to respond to the "crimes, lies and other wrongdoing of President Trump — and we will do so." House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has so far discouraged members of her caucus from demanding impeachment, believing it would only help Trump win re-election and arguing that Democrats need to follow a methodical, step by step approach to investigating the president. But she hasn't ruled it out.

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 30 of 51

On the Republican side, Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, the chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, said that Mueller "has decided to move on and let the report speak for itself. Congress should follow his lead."

Trump has blocked House committees' subpoenas and other efforts to dig into the Trump-Russia issue, insisting Mueller's report has settled everything.

The report found no criminal conspiracy between the Trump campaign and Russia to tip the outcome of the 2016 presidential election in Trump's favor. But it also did not reach a conclusion on whether the president had obstructed justice.

Barr has said he was surprised Mueller did not reach a conclusion, though Mueller in his report and again in his statement Wednesday said he had no choice. Barr and Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein then stepped into the void, deciding on their own that the evidence was not sufficient to support a criminal charge.

"Under longstanding department policy, a president cannot be charged with a federal crime while he is in office," Mueller said. "That is unconstitutional. Even if the charge is kept under seal and hidden from public view that, too, is prohibited."

Barr, in Alaska for work and briefed ahead of time on Mueller's statement, did not answer a question about the Mueller probe Wednesday at the end of a roundtable discussion with Alaska native leaders. He has said that he asked Mueller during a March conversation if he would have recommended charging Trump "but for" the Office of Legal Counsel opinion, and that Mueller said "no."

Mueller, for his part, earlier complained privately to Barr that he believed a four-page letter from the attorney general summarizing the report's main conclusions did not adequately represent his findings. Barr has said he considered Mueller's criticism to be a bit "snitty."

---

Associated Press writers Mary Clare Jalonick, Lisa Mascaro and Jonathan Lemire contributed to this report.

## **Saudi Arabia asks nations to respond to Iran with 'firmness'**

**By AYA BATRAWY Associated Press**

JIDDAH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Saudi Arabia's foreign minister on Thursday urged Muslim nations to confront recent attacks in the region that the U.S. and its allies have blamed on Iran with "all means of force and firmness."

Ibrahim al-Assaf made the comments at a meeting of foreign ministers of the 57-nation Organization of Islamic Cooperation ahead of a series of summits in the kingdom beginning Thursday.

Al-Assaf said the alleged sabotage of boats off the coast of the United Arab Emirates and a drone attack on a Saudi oil pipeline by Yemen's Iranian-backed Houthi rebels requires the region to "make more efforts to counter the terrorist acts of extremist and terrorist groups."

"We should confront it with all means of force and firmness," al-Assaf said.

Iran has denied being involved in the attacks, which come amid heightened tensions between Tehran and the U.S. An Iranian official was at the meeting where al-Assaf spoke on Thursday, but Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif did not attend.

The U.S. has accused Tehran of being behind the string of incidents this month, which also included a rocket strike near the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad.

On Wednesday, U.S. national security adviser John Bolton told journalists in Abu Dhabi that there had been a previously unknown attempt to attack the Saudi oil port of Yanbu as well, which he also blamed on Iran.

Bolton described Tehran's decision to back away from its 2015 atomic deal with world powers as evidence it sought nuclear weapons, even though it came a year after America unilaterally withdrew from the unraveling agreement.

He also stressed the U.S. had not seen any further Iranian attacks in the time since, something he attributed to the subsequent military deployments — America recently sent an aircraft carrier and B-52

bombers to the Persian Gulf. But Bolton warned the U.S. would strike back if again attacked.

"The point is to make it very clear to Iran and its surrogates that these kinds of action risk a very strong response from the United States," Bolton threatened, without elaborating.

Meanwhile Wednesday, acting U.S. Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan said some 900 troops coming to the Mideast over the perceived Iran threat — to reinforce the tens of thousands already in the region — would be deployed in Saudi Arabia and Qatar. Another 600 attached to a Patriot missile battery have had their deployment in the region extended.

"The Iranian threat to our forces in the region remains," Shanahan said.

Bolton's trip to the UAE comes just days after Trump in Tokyo appeared to welcome negotiations with Iran.

"We're not looking for regime change — I just want to make that clear," Trump said. "We're looking for no nuclear weapons."

But Bolton himself, for years before becoming national security adviser, called for overthrowing Iran's government in interviews and in paid speaking engagement before an Iranian exile group.

"I don't back away from any of it. Those are positions I took as a private citizen," Bolton said when asked about his prior remarks. "Right now I'm a government official. I advise the president. I'm the national security adviser, not the nation security decision-maker. It's up to him to make those decisions."

## Prosecutors push back on enforcing new state abortion laws

By SUDHIN THANAWALA Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — New state abortion laws likely to become bogged down in legal challenges face another potential obstacle: prosecutors who refuse to enforce them.

The Associated Press reached out to nearly two dozen district attorneys across seven states, and several said they would not file criminal charges against doctors who violate the laws. Even a few who left open potentially charging doctors said they would not prosecute women for having an abortion, which some legal observers say could be a possibility under Georgia's law.

"I am never going to enforce a law that's unconstitutional, and furthermore, especially not one that targets women and girls," said David Cooke, chief prosecutor in Macon, Georgia, about 80 miles (130 kilometers) southeast of Atlanta.

The four district attorneys who said they would not enforce the laws at all cited the Supreme Court's 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision legalizing abortion nationwide, saying their states' abortion laws clearly conflict with that decision. The new laws, which are not yet in effect, take aim at *Roe* in hopes that a new conservative majority on the court will overturn it.

For Cooke, the decision was also partly personal.

Georgia's law bans abortion once a fetal heartbeat is detected, which can happen in the sixth week of pregnancy, before many women know they're pregnant. It includes an exception for rape victims, but Cooke said his experience as a sex crimes prosecutor showed him that many victims are afraid to report the crime to police, often because the perpetrator has power over them.

"I've spent my entire career protecting women and girls and doing everything I can to get justice for them, and I am not about to abandon them now," he said in a phone interview.

Sherry Boston, whose district includes parts of Atlanta, cited her gender and role as a mother, saying she believed it was a woman's right to make decisions about her body and medical care. She also said her constituents don't want her to pursue women and doctors.

"My community has spoken very clearly that they want me to put my time and resources into human trafficking, domestic violence, gun and gang violence that ultimately are a detriment to our community," she said in a phone interview.

In Salt Lake City, Utah, District Attorney Sim Gill said he's received angry calls from some residents since announcing that he would not prosecute doctors for any violations of Utah's ban on abortion after 18 weeks. Gill's county includes the state's only two abortion clinics.

"I called some of them back, and I said to them, 'This isn't about my politics, but let me ask you, 'Do

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 32 of 51

you want me to use the authority of my office to violate the constitutional rights of somebody?" he said during a recent phone interview.

The pushback highlights the vast authority of elected prosecutors and raises the potential for uneven enforcement of abortion laws within states.

"DAs have a tremendous amount of discretion," said Peter Skandalakis, executive director of the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia, which trains prosecutors and guides them on their professional responsibilities. "All DAs have a lot more on their plate than they can possibly do when they're looking at cases on whether or not they prosecute."

Of the district attorneys AP contacted in Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Utah, Louisiana, Ohio and Missouri — states that have recently enacted or are about to enact abortion restrictions — most did not respond or declined to comment.

Circuit Attorney Kimberly Gardner in St. Louis, Missouri, said in a statement that her office was examining the effect of the state's abortion law on health care providers in the city. Missouri banned abortions on or beyond the eighth week of pregnancy without exceptions for cases of rape or incest. Doctors who violate the cutoff could face five to 15 years in prison.

Other prosecutors were critical of decisions not to enforce the law.

John Melvin, acting district attorney in Cobb County, an Atlanta suburb, said in a statement that prosecutorial discretion is important.

"It does not allow prosecutors to ignore whole cloth the laws that our legislature passes. To do so would violate their oath to enforce the laws as well as their ethical obligations to do the same," he said.

Ryan Leonard, district attorney in a county about 20 miles (33 kilometers) west of Atlanta, told the Daily Report that women could be prosecuted for murder under the state's law and should not have an abortion if they want to avoid criminal charges. He did not return a message from The Associated Press.

The new laws will almost certainly be put on hold while legal challenges play out.

Boston said she would still refuse to prosecute anyone under Georgia's law if the U.S. Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade* and the law went into effect.

Gill said prosecutors could still try to find "a measure of justice" in cases presented to them. "Justice is defined by proportionality," he said. "It's defined by equity and equality."

## DC's go-go sound becomes anti-gentrification battle cry

By ASHRAF KHALIL Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — It's the soundtrack of "Chocolate City," the non-federal Washington that has traditionally been a tent pole of black America.

Go-go music, a distinctive D.C.-specific offshoot of funk, has endured for decades through cultural shifts, fluctuations in popularity and law enforcement purges.

Now go-go has taken on a new mantle: battle hymn for the fight against a gentrification wave that's reshaping the city.

"It's a very deep cultural thing," said Justin "Yaddiya" Johnson, an activist and creator of the #Don'tMuteDC campaign. "When you think about go-go, you should think about D.C. culture. It should be the symbol of our culture."

Many longtime Washingtonians fear that culture is being steadily eroded as the city becomes whiter and richer. A recent controversy over an innocuous noise complaint placed go-go at the center of a perfect storm of gentrification symbolism.

The owner of a popular mobile phone store in the historically black Shaw neighborhood was told to turn off the go-go that he had been playing through sidewalk speakers for more than 20 years. He claims the complaint came from a resident of the gleaming new mixed-used apartment building erected on the next block.

The reaction was fierce. Seemingly overnight, a protest movement and petition drive sprung up and members of the D.C. Council started weighing in. Within days, the decision was reversed.



# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 33 of 51

The mini-controversy was over almost before it started. But it obviously touched a nerve.

"I think that was messed up. Go-go IS D.C. Go-Go is our history," said community activist Tiffany Richardson, one of the thousands of fans who turned out on a Tuesday night this month for an outdoor concert/protest featuring go-go mainstays Backyard Band. "They're not going to stop go-go."

The concert, mischievously named "Moechella," was organized by Johnson under the #Don'tMuteDC banner. And since it was a protest, he didn't need to secure a permit, so police obligingly blocked off several city blocks. The location —the corner of 14th and U streets — was no accident. That intersection was once one of the hearts of black D.C.; now it's within two blocks of a Trader Joe's and a lululemon.

To the uninitiated, go-go music seems indistinguishable from funk. What sets it apart are a specific conga-driven syncopation, known as the pocket beat, and a culture of call-and-response that turns the crowd into part of the show. Go-go bands feature multiple percussionists and often multiple vocalists—with one usually designated as "lead talker."

"It's the drumming it's the rhythm pattern. It's the feel of the rhythm," said Liza Figueroa Kravinsky, founder of the band Go-Go Symphony. "In go-go, the fans know who the conga player is more than the guitar player."

The late Chuck Brown is generally considered the godfather of the sound, starting in the early 1970s. And bands like Rare Essence and Trouble Funk have all flirted with mainstream success, but there has never been a full-scale breakout star. Probably the most famous go-go song is "Da Butt" by Experience Unlimited, which was showcased in the Spike Lee film "School Daze."

While the music retains a local fanbase, musicians and devotees say the scene is still recovering from the effects of the crack epidemic, which ravaged Washington and turned go-go shows into magnets for violence. Eventually police began shutting down famous clubs like the IbeX in 1990s and forcing the shows out of the city.

Anwan "Big G" Glover, lead talker of Backyard Band, still recalls the time with bitterness. Authorities blamed the music for drawing violence when he says go-go was simply the ambient soundtrack of a city in crisis .

"Those rave parties in the suburbs with these rich kids — if anything happened there, they could just cover it up. That was the difference," he said.

The purge was especially damaging because go-go is all about live performances. Glover and others say there's a missing generation of fans who weren't exposed to live go-go in their youth.

"The reason a lot of kids don't know about go-go is that it's been erased," said Angela Byrd, founder of "Made in the DMV" incubator for local artists and activists. She was speaking at a recent #Don'tMuteDC conference. "I feel like go-go was pushed out, but it's coming back."

This official mistrust has continued. As recently as 2010 the alternative weekly City Paper published the Metropolitan Police Department's bi-weekly internal "go-go report" tracking all the shows in the area.

Glover says the attitudes of the police have eased a bit in recent years and Backyard Band and others now play regular shows around the district. But there's still a shortage of the all-ages shows that used to be the main gateway for young new fans. That age gap was evident during one of Backyard Band's recent shows at a bowling alley in Chinatown. The concert drew a healthy crowd of about 150 people — many of whom were obvious hardcores who knew every song by heart. But almost everybody seemed to be at least 35 years old.

Now the renewed attention comes at a time when go-go may organically be approaching one of its periodic flirtations with mainstream popularity .

Glover has gained personal fame for a memorable recurring role as Slim Charles on the popular TV show "The Wire." Artists as diverse as Snoop Dog and Dave Grohl from Foo Fighters have paid public tribute to the genre. Rare Essence and Backyard Band have both performed at the South by Southwest music festival and Backyard Band recently scored an improbable hit with a go-go cover of Adele's "Hello." Wale, the most famous Washington rapper, pays regular homage to go-go and recorded a song with TCB, purveyors of a neo-go-go sound called bounce-beat.

But local musicians still feel authorities have kept the culture at arms-length. They want to see the District government embrace go-go the way Chicago has done with blues and New Orleans with jazz. They want a go-go museum, a hall of fame and go-go landmark-themed tours.

Glover says District politicians tend to rediscover their affection for go-go during election season. "They love us at campaign rally time," he laughed. "They know that's the only way to bring people out."

## Facebook isn't deleting the fake Pelosi video. Should it?

By BARBARA ORTUTAY AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — When a doctored video of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi — one altered to show the Democratic leader slurring her words — began making the rounds on Facebook last week, the social network didn't take it down. Instead, it "downranked" the video, a behind-the-scenes move intended to limit its spread.

That outraged some people who believe Facebook should do more to clamp down on misinformation. Pelosi derided Facebook Wednesday for not taking down the video even though it knows it is false.

But the company and some civil libertarians warn that Facebook could evolve into an unaccountable censor if it's forced to make judgment calls on the veracity of text, photos or videos.

Facebook has long resisted making declarations about the truthfulness of posts that could open it up to charges of censorship or political bias. It manages to get itself in enough trouble simply trying to enforce more basic rules in difficult cases, such as the time a straightforward application of its ban on nudity led it to remove an iconic Vietnam War photo of a naked girl fleeing a napalm attack. (It backed down after criticism from the prime minister of Norway, among others.)

But staying out of the line of fire is harder than it used to be, given Facebook's size, reach and impact on global society. The social network can't help but run into controversy given its 2.4 billion users and the sorts of decisions it must make daily— everything from which posts and links it highlights in your news feed to deciding what counts as hate speech to banning controversial figures or leaving them be.

Facebook has another incentive to keep its head down. The deeper it gets into editorial decisions, the more it looks like a publisher, which could tempt legislators to limit the liability shield it currently enjoys under federal law. In addition, making judgments about truth and falsity could quickly become one of the world's biggest headaches.

For instance, Republican politicians and other conservatives, from President Donald Trump to Fox News personalities, have been trumpeting the charge that Facebook is biased against conservatives. That's a "false narrative," said Siva Vaidhyanathan, director of the Center for Media and Citizenship at the University of Virginia. But as a result, he said, "any effort to clean up Facebook now would spark tremendous fury."

Twitter hasn't removed the doctored Pelosi video, either, and declined comment on its handling of it. But YouTube yanked it down, pointing to community guidelines that prohibit spam, deceptive practices and scams. Facebook has a similar policy that prohibits the use of "misleading and inaccurate" information to gain likes, followers or shares, although it apparently decided not to apply it in this case.

None of these companies explicitly prohibit false news, although Facebook notes that it "significantly" reduces the distribution of such posts by pushing them lower in user news feeds.

The problem is that such downranking doesn't quite work, Vaidhyanathan said. As of Wednesday, the video shared on Facebook by the group Politics Watchdog had been viewed nearly 3 million times and shared more than 48,000 times. By contrast, other videos posted by this group in the past haven't had more than a few thousand views apiece.

Further complicating matters is the fact that Facebook is starting to de-emphasize the news feed itself. CEO Mark Zuckerberg has outlined a broad strategy that will emphasize private messaging over public sharing on Facebook. And Facebook groups, many of which are private, aren't subject to downranking, Vaidhyanathan said.

Facebook didn't respond to emailed questions about its policies and whether it is considering changes that would allow it to remove similar videos in the future. In an interview last week with CNN's Anderson

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 35 of 51

Cooper, Facebook's head of global policy, Monika Bickert, defended the company's decision, noting that users are "being told" that the video is false when they view or share it.

That might be a stretch. When an Associated Press reporter attempted to share the video as a test, a Facebook pop-up noted the existence of "additional reporting" on the video with links to fact-check articles, but didn't directly describe the video as false or misleading.

Alex Stamos, Facebook's former security chief, tweeted Sunday that few critics of the social network's handling of the Pelosi video could articulate realistic enforcement standards beyond "take down stuff I don't like." Mass censorship of misleading speech on Facebook, he wrote, would be "a huge and dangerous increase in FB's editorial power."

Last year, Zuckerberg wrote on Facebook that the company focuses on downranking so-called "borderline content," stuff that doesn't violate its rules but is provocative, sensationalist, "click-bait or misinformation."

While it's true that Facebook could just change its rules around what is allowed — moving the line on acceptable material — Zuckerberg said this doesn't address the underlying problem of incentive. If the line of what is allowed moves, those creating material would just push closer to that new line.

Facebook continuously grapples with the right way to deal with new forms of misinformation, Nathaniel Gleicher, the company's head of cybersecurity policy, said in a February interview with the AP. The problem is far more complex than carefully manipulated "deepfake" videos that show people doing things they never did, or even crudely doctored videos such as the Pelosi clip.

Any consistent policy, Gleicher said, would have to account for edited images, ones presented out of context (such as a decade-old photo presented as current), doctored audio and more. He said it's a huge challenge to accurately identify such items and decide what type of disclosure to require when they're edited.

## Computer algorithm helps reopen dozens of Chicago cold cases

By DON BABWIN Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — The bodies turned up in some of Chicago's most derelict places: alleys, abandoned buildings, weed-choked lots and garbage containers. The victims were mostly black women who had been strangled or suffocated.

Authorities believed many were prostitutes or drug addicts or both. There was evidence of sexual attacks, and some of the dead were naked or wearing torn clothes, as if someone had tried to rip them off.

The slayings that began in 2001 continued for years and remain unsolved. Now a national nonprofit group and a computer algorithm are helping detectives review the cases and revealing potential connections. The renewed investigation offers hope to the victims' relatives, some of whom have waited nearly two decades for answers.

"I say I've moved on from what happened, put it in God's hands. But deep down I know I haven't," said Marsean Shines, a teenager when his aunt, Winifred Shines, was strangled and left in an alley almost 19 years ago. Family members have always wondered if she died at the hands of the same killer who choked the life out of other women they knew or heard about.

An arrest, Shines said, would help him move on and not be "held back like there's a bungee cord that connects me to my auntie."

The Murder Accountability Project, which analyzes homicides across the U.S., fed information about thousands of Chicago homicide victims and the way they died into a computer, which ultimately spit out 51 strikingly similar cases involving women whose bodies were found in some of the poorest pockets of the city.

"When you put the narratives together ... it just screams serial killer," said Thomas Hargrove, the founder of the project who presented his findings to police in 2017.

Hargrove's group has made similar efforts elsewhere. In 2010, it analyzed a pattern of 15 unsolved strangulations of women in Indiana. Four years later, a man in Gary confessed to killing seven of them. In Cleveland, the group's data led police to create a task force to examine whether a serial killer or killers

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 36 of 51

were responsible for the deaths of as many as 60 women.

Detectives in Chicago started the investigation under pressure from activists. They are now reassessing the reports and evidence in each of the deaths, looking for links that went unnoticed in the original probes as well as any new clues. At the same time, Rep. Bobby Rush, in whose district many of the killings occurred, has asked the FBI to join the investigation and plans a community meeting to warn about the risk of a serial killer.

So far, police have not reported any breakthroughs or any firm connections between the slayings. In 21 killings where DNA evidence was recovered, the genetic evidence belonged to 21 different people.

The man overseeing the six detectives assigned to the slayings said he does not believe there are "one or two bad guys traveling the city," preying on women.

The idea of an assailant who is "skipping the white prostitutes to kill the black ones, that doesn't make sense," Deputy Chief of Detectives Brendan Deenihan said.

Still, he would not be surprised if the investigation concluded that "there were multiple bad guys that did more than one," or if other evidence emerged that expanded the number of investigations beyond 51.

Another mystery is the way the killings stopped in February 2014, with the discovery of Diamond Turner's body in a garbage can, and did not start again until June 2017, with the death of Catherine Saterfield-Buchanan.

"Maybe this guy was in prison," said Greg Greer, a Chicago minister and founder of Freedom First international, a human rights organization.

The Murder Accountability Project has urged police to look for "a guy not available to murder women in Chicago during those three years," Hargrove said. "We think that could explain the hiatus. And now he's back, or they're back, out there."

Also looming over the investigation is the concern that the victims were the kind of people whose deaths normally warrant nothing more than a few lines in a newspaper, if that.

"I think about how my cousin was in a dumpster and nobody found her for two weeks," said Riccardo Holyfield, whose cousin, Reo Renee Holyfield, died last fall. "How can a body sit in a dumpster for so long in a well-traveled alleyway?"

Greer suggested the answer is tied to both who these victims were and where they died.

"A lot of times poor, urban communities don't get the same amount of services that wealthy communities do, that's a common fact," Greer said.

Deenihan disagreed. "There's a group of people out there who think that because of lifestyle these investigations don't get the attention they deserve (but) that's not the case," he said.

As intriguing as the talk of a serial killer might be, authorities may find that the common theme of the cases is the victims themselves, not who killed them.

"You're talking about a high-risk lifestyle," he said, explaining that people who work as prostitutes "may be getting into 20 different cars a night ... and sharing drugs with people they don't really know."

Shines acknowledges that his aunt was addicted to crack cocaine and could have been having sex in exchange for drugs or money to buy drugs with the different men he saw coming in and out of her home.

Once the detectives read all the cases, they will get together as a team to discuss them, Deenihan said.

"What happens is one guy might say, 'You had a red SUV'" in your report? "I had one in mine,"" he said.

There is hope on another front. Chicago police, like other law enforcement agencies, submit DNA evidence to a national database in the hopes that it will return a name. The problem is that if someone doesn't have a conviction, that person's DNA would not be in the system.

But Deenihan said samples from unsolved homicides are submitted regularly so that if any of those people are ever convicted of a crime, police will have a name to go with one of the DNA samples found at the scene of a strangulation.

That gives Winifred Shines' family hope. Her son, Bryant, recently started seeing a therapist to deal with his longtime grief.

"I'm not at peace because he's still out there," he said, referring to his mother's killer. "And it may be

someone we know."

## Mueller's public statement fuels calls for Trump impeachment

By LISA MASCARO and MARY CLARE JALONICK Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Special counsel Robert Mueller's first — and possibly last — public statement on the Russia investigation is fueling fresh calls on Capitol Hill to begin impeachment proceedings against President Donald Trump, a step that Democratic leaders have so far resisted.

Surprising Washington with brief remarks Wednesday, Mueller indicated it's up to Congress to decide what to do with his findings. The special counsel reiterated that, bound by Justice Department policy, charging a sitting president with a crime was "not an option." But he also stressed he could not exonerate Trump. Instead, he cited that same policy to say, "The Constitution requires a process other than the criminal justice system."

With Mueller closing his office and not expected to comment further, it all amounted, for some, to an open invitation for Congress to launch impeachment proceedings.

"He's asking us to do what he wasn't allowed to — hold the president accountable," said Rep. Val Demings, D-Fla., a member of the House Judiciary Committee, the panel with impeachment power.

"We have one remaining path to ensure justice is served," said Sen. Cory Booker of New Jersey, a Democratic presidential candidate. "It's clear that the House must begin impeachment proceedings. No one is above the law."

But top Democrats, with almost no support from Republicans, are hesitant to go it alone on an impeachment inquiry that House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has warned would be divisive for the nation. They prefer to continue the work of investigating the president and building, as Pelosi said Wednesday, a case that's "very compelling to the American people."

"We are legislating, we're investigating and we are litigating," Pelosi said at an event in San Francisco.

"Nothing is off the table," she said. "We want to do what is right and what gets results."

Staying the course, Rep. Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, at a news conference in New York stopped short of calling for an impeachment inquiry.

"All options are on the table and nothing should be ruled out," Nadler said Wednesday.

Nadler's committee is among six in the House that are conducting dozens of probes in the Democratic-controlled House into subjects such as Trump's tax returns, the handling of the Russia probe and the running of government.

"Given that special counsel Mueller was unable to pursue criminal charges against the President, it falls to Congress to respond to the crimes, lies and other wrongdoing of President Trump - and we will do so," Nadler said in a written statement issued immediately after Mueller's remarks.

Before Mueller's unexpected appearance, Democratic leaders had tamped down increasingly vocal voices calling for an impeachment inquiry. Pelosi sent lawmakers home for a weeklong recess brushing back the pro-impeachment faction, urging her caucus to stick with the step-by-step approach of investigations. They hoped to hear directly from Mueller in a high-profile hearing that could help focus public attention.

But now that Mueller has made clear the work ahead won't likely include him — announcing his office is closing and he's resigning his position — it's igniting new urgency on Capitol Hill to pick up where the special counsel left off.

Rep. Seth Moulton of Massachusetts, another Democratic presidential hopeful, said, "Mueller did his job. Now it's time to do ours. Impeachment hearings should begin tomorrow."

While some Democrats want to focus on investigating Trump, building the record in the public, as happened during the Watergate era with Richard Nixon, others, including some new voices Wednesday, say Mueller has all but punted the issue to Congress. They believe opening a formal impeachment proceeding would strengthen their hand in the legal battles over documents and testimony.

"It is very clear that President Trump is engaging in a cover-up, obstructing of justice and betraying his oath of office," said Rep. Betty McCollum, D-Minn. "I fully expect the responsible House committees to

expedite their investigations and, as soon as possible, formally draft articles of impeachment.”

Mueller’s report did not establish a criminal conspiracy between Russia and the Trump campaign to sway the outcome of the 2016 presidential election in Trump’s favor. Investigators examined nearly a dozen episodes involving the president for potential obstruction of justice but ultimately reached no conclusion on whether Trump had illegally tried to stymie the probe.

Mueller made clear his desire to avoid testimony, declaring the report his final word on the matter. He said it wouldn’t be “appropriate” for him “to speak further about the investigation.”

Nadler would not say whether he would compel Mueller to testify, as he has threatened to do. But he hinted that he may not pursue an aggressive approach against the special counsel, saying, “Mr. Mueller told us a lot of what we need to hear today.”

Republicans, as they have done since Mueller’s report was released, called for Congress to move on.

The GOP chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, said that Mueller “has decided to move on and let the report speak for itself. Congress should follow his lead.”

Graham has said his committee doesn’t need Mueller to testify. Georgia Rep. Doug Collins, the top Republican on the House Judiciary panel, had supported Democratic requests for Mueller’s House testimony but appeared to be satisfied by the special counsel’s comments Wednesday.

“While I had hoped he would come before the committee and answer questions from lawmakers, Robert Mueller has led an extraordinary life of public service and is entitled to his life as a private citizen once again,” Collins said.

But at least one Republican isn’t ready to move on: Rep. Justin Amash of Michigan, who has become the sole GOP voice in Congress urging impeachment proceedings.

“The ball is in our court, Congress,” Amash tweeted.

---

Associated Press writers Laurie Kellman and Elana Schor in Washington contributed to this report.

## **Body believed to be missing Utah girl is found**

**By LINDSAY WHITEHURST Associated Press**

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A body believed to be a missing 5-year-old Utah girl was found Wednesday less than a block from her home, bringing a wide-ranging search to a grim close five days after the child was taken from her home and killed by her uncle, police said.

The body believed to be Elizabeth “Lizzy” Shelley was found hidden under trees and brush after 21-year-old Alex Whipple told his lawyer where he had hidden her, Logan Police Chief Gary Jensen said.

The discovery came hours after Whipple was charged with murder and other counts. He provided the map in exchange for prosecutors taking the death penalty off the table, Jensen said.

Jensen said the discovery was disappointing but “nevertheless is closure and helps us be able to now deal with the investigation and help the family through their grief.”

In a statement read by a victim’s advocate, the girl’s mother Jessica Whipple said: “There are not words to express the sadness and heartbreak we feel today. This did not end the way we wanted to do but in the sadness we are comforted by the effort people put in to find Lizzy. We would never have expected this outpouring of love and support. It was beautiful.”

The body was found after officers spent days combing the city set in a picturesque valley near the Idaho border about 80 miles (129 kilometers) north of Salt Lake City.

Crews previously searched the area where the body was buried but didn’t find her, Jensen said.

Alex Whipple’s attorney Shannon Demler said his client “knows he did something that’s inexcusable.”

“He wanted at least the family to know ... she had passed away so that they could get some kind of closure,” Demler said.

Whipple hadn’t previously acknowledged involvement in his niece’s disappearance, but did tell police alcohol makes him “black out” and sometimes do “criminal things,” prosecutors said.

He alluded frequently to “how evil the world we live in is,” as he talked about his struggles as a child,

according to court documents.

Whipple was charged with aggravated murder, child kidnapping, obstruction of justice and desecration of a human body, a charge that relates to steps taken to hide the body, Jensen said.

The child's blood was found on Whipple's watch and sweatshirt, authorities said, and his handprint was discovered on the PVC pipe. Nearby was a broken knife taken from the family's kitchen bearing the blood of the girl.

A teal skirt with lace that she was last seen wearing was found "hastily buried" near the pipe and knife, the charges state.

The search for Lizzy began Saturday morning, when her frantic mother reported the girl's bed was empty and the front door was wide open. Also missing was Alex Whipple, who had slept on the couch after a night of drinking with his sister and her boyfriend.

Jessica Whipple didn't see her younger brother often but decided to help him when he asked her to pick him up, said Bill Whipple, their grandfather.

He said Alex Whipple had a difficult childhood but had never showed violent tendencies.

"I would never, ever in a million years have thought he was capable of harming such a cute little girl," Bill Whipple said. "I knew he was a thief, but I never labeled him as a murderer."

Alex Whipple's mother left the family when he was young, leaving his father to raise three children alone while he worked as a truck driver. The young man spent time in foster homes and didn't graduate from high school.

Police found him Saturday afternoon about 10 miles (16 kilometers) from the family home.

He had a pipe used for narcotics, a beer and a baseball bat, though it's not thought to have been a weapon used on the girl, according to charging documents.

He had blood-colored stains on his pants and "filthy" hands that he attempted to lick clean, police said. After first denying he'd been at his sister's house, he later said he left in the early morning for a walk alone.

Whipple has a criminal record that includes a 2016 assault, possession of a stolen vehicle and drug-related charges.

He had been on probation and making progress but began missing appointments at the beginning of the year and dropped out of touch in April, a probation agent said in court documents.

Alex Whipple is scheduled to make a court appearance Monday.

---

Associated Press writer Brady McCombs in Salt Lake City and researcher Rhonda Shafner in New York contributed to this story.

---

This story has been corrected to say Bill Whipple is the grandfather of the suspect, not the father.

## Girl believed to be tiniest newborn weighed as much as apple

By JULIE WATSON and JOHN ANTCZAK Associated Press

SAN DIEGO (AP) — When she was born, the baby girl weighed about the same as an apple.

A San Diego hospital on Wednesday revealed the birth of the girl and said she is believed to be the world's tiniest surviving micro-preemie, who weighed just 8.6 ounces (245 grams) when she was born in December.

The girl was born 23 weeks and three days into her mother's 40-week pregnancy. Doctors told her father after the birth that he would have about an hour with his daughter before she died.

"But that hour turned into two hours, which turned into a day, which turned into a week," the mother said in a video released by Sharp Mary Birch Hospital for Women & Newborns.

More than five months have passed, and she has gone home as a healthy infant, weighing 5 pounds (2 kilograms).

The baby's family gave permission to share the story but wanted to stay anonymous, the hospital said. They allowed the girl to go by the name that nurses called her: "Saybie."

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 40 of 51

Her ranking as the world's smallest baby ever to survive is according to the Tiniest Baby Registry maintained by the University of Iowa.

Dr. Edward Bell, a professor of pediatrics at the University of Iowa, said Saybie had the lowest medically confirmed birth weight submitted to the registry.

But "we cannot rule out even smaller infants who have not been reported to the Registry," he said in an email to The Associated Press.

The hospital said the girl officially weighed 7 grams less than the previous tiniest baby, who was born in Germany in 2015.

In the video produced by the hospital, the mother described the birth as the scariest day of her life.

She said she was taken to the hospital after not feeling well and was told she had preeclampsia, a serious condition that causes skyrocketing blood pressure, and that the baby needed to be delivered quickly.

"I kept telling them she's not going to survive, she's only 23 weeks," the mother said.

But she did. The tiny girl slowly gained weight in the neonatal intensive care unit.

A pink sign by her crib read "Tiny but Mighty." Other signs kept track of her weight and cheered her on as the girl, whose birth weight compared to that of a hamster, gained pounds over the months.

"You could barely see her in the bed she was so tiny," nurse Emma Wiest said in the video.

It shows photos of Saybie wearing a mint bow with white polka dots that covered her entire head, her tiny eyes peering out from under it.

Nurses put a tiny graduation cap on her when she left the unit.

The girl faces enormous challenges as a micro-preemie, who is an infant born before 28 weeks of gestation. Micro-preemies can experience vision and hearing problems, developmental issues and a host of other complications.

Many do not survive the first year, said Michelle Kling of the March of Dimes, a nonprofit that works to improve the health of mothers and babies.

So far Saybie has beaten the odds.

"She's a miracle, that's for sure," said Kim Norby, another nurse featured in the video.

Antczak reported from Los Angeles.

## Israel heads to election as Netanyahu fails to form govt

By JOSEF FEDERMAN and ILAN BEN ZION Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel's parliament voted to dissolve itself early Thursday, sending the country to an unprecedented second snap election this year as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu failed to form a governing coalition before a midnight deadline.

The dramatic vote, less than two months after parliamentary elections, marked a setback for Netanyahu and sent the longtime leader's future into turmoil.

Netanyahu, who has led Israel for the past decade, had appeared to capture a fourth consecutive term in the April 9 election. But infighting among his allies, and disagreements over proposed bills to protect Netanyahu from prosecution stymied his efforts to put together a majority coalition.

Rather than concede that task to one of his rivals, Netanyahu's Likud party advanced a bill to dissolve parliament and send the country to the polls for a second time this year.

"I didn't spare any effort to avoid unnecessary elections," Netanyahu said after the vote, lashing out at an ally-turned-rival, Avigdor Lieberman, who refused the prime minister's offers to join the government.

He said the country was being forced to hold "unnecessary, wasteful elections because the people had their say. They didn't have their say enough for what Mr. Lieberman wants."

Had the deadline passed without the vote, Israel's president would have given another lawmaker, most likely opposition leader Benny Gantz, an opportunity to put together a coalition.

After the vote, Gantz angrily accused Netanyahu of choosing self-preservation over allowing the country's political process to run its course.



# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 41 of 51

Gantz said that Netanyahu opted for “three crazy months” of a new campaign and millions of wasted dollars over new elections because he is “legally incapacitated” by looming indictments. “There is no other reason,” Gantz said.

The country now plunges into a new election campaign that will last at least three months under Israeli law. With much of the country on vacation in late August, a tentative date of Sept. 17 was set.

The campaign looks to complicate Netanyahu’s precarious legal standing. Israel’s attorney general has recommended pressing criminal charges against him in three separate corruption cases, pending a hearing scheduled for October.

Even if Netanyahu wins the election, it is unlikely he will be able to form a government and lock down the required political support for an immunity deal before an expected indictment. That would force him to stand trial and put heavy pressure on him to step aside.

The political uncertainty could also spell trouble for the White House’s Mideast peace efforts. The U.S. has scheduled a conference next month in Bahrain to unveil what it says is the first phase of its peace plan, an initiative aimed at drawing investment into the Palestinian territories.

With the Palestinians, who accuse the U.S. of being unfairly biased toward Israel, opposed to the plan, and Netanyahu preoccupied with re-election, it remains unclear how the Americans will be able to proceed. President Donald Trump’s top Mideast adviser, son-in-law Jared Kushner, was in Israel and scheduled to meet with Netanyahu on Thursday.

That Netanyahu struggled to secure a majority coalition in the 120-seat parliament was a shocking turn of events for the country’s dominating political figure.

In the April 9 vote, Likud and its hardline nationalist and religious parties captured a majority of 65 seats.

The immediate cause of the crisis was his dispute with Lieberman, a former aide who leads the small Yisrael Beitenu faction.

The men had clashed over Lieberman’s demand to subject ultra-Orthodox religious males to the military draft, which is compulsory for most Jewish males. Without Lieberman’s five Knesset seats, Netanyahu had no parliamentary majority.

But the deeper issue is connected to Netanyahu’s legal troubles. Facing a likely indictment, he had pushed his coalition partners to pass legislation that would grant him immunity and curb the powers of the country’s Supreme Court.

Opposition parties strongly oppose granting Netanyahu immunity, robbing him of any alternatives to Lieberman as he tried to form a coalition.

For the past two decades, Lieberman has alternated between being a close ally and a thorn in the side of his former boss. He has held a number of senior Cabinet posts, including defense minister and foreign minister.

Lieberman’s base of support is fellow immigrants from the former Soviet Union, and he takes a hard line toward the Palestinians but also is staunchly secular.

He has demanded that the parliament pass pending legislation that requires young ultra-Orthodox men to be drafted into the military. Years of wide exemptions for religious men have generated resentment among the rest of Jewish Israelis, who are required to serve.

“I am not against the ultra-Orthodox community. I am for the state of Israel. I am for a Jewish state but against a Halachic state,” Lieberman wrote on Facebook early Wednesday, using a term that refers to a Jewish state governed by Jewish law.

The ultra-Orthodox parties consider conscription a taboo, fearing that military service will lead to immersion in secularism, and insist the exemptions should stay in place. Netanyahu, dependent on the parties’ political support, says they have compromised enough and refuses to press them further.

Netanyahu maintained contacts with Lieberman and other parties in hopes of forging a deal as a parliamentary debate took place. Many of the Likud speakers lashed out at Lieberman, accusing him of forcing an unnecessary election.

But as a parliamentary debate stretched toward midnight, it became clear there would be no compromise.

A bitter Netanyahu claimed after the vote that Lieberman “had no intention” to compromise and made unrealistic demands. “He is dragging the entire country for another half a year of elections,” he said.

## Trump adviser warns of ‘strong response’ to any Gulf attack

By JON GAMBRELL Associated Press

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — President Donald Trump’s national security adviser warned Iran on Wednesday that any attacks in the Persian Gulf will draw a “very strong response” from the U.S., taking a hard-line approach with Tehran after his boss only two days earlier said America wasn’t “looking to hurt Iran at all.”

John Bolton’s comments are the latest amid heightened tensions between Washington and Tehran that have been playing out in the Middle East.

Bolton spoke to journalists in Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates, which only days earlier saw former Defense Secretary Jim Mattis warn there that “unilateralism will not work” in confronting the Islamic Republic.

The dueling approaches highlight the divide over Iran within American politics. The U.S. has accused Tehran of being behind a string of incidents this month, including the alleged sabotage of oil tankers off the Emirati coast, a rocket strike near the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad and a coordinated drone attack on Saudi Arabia by Yemen’s Iran-allied Houthi rebels.

On Wednesday, Bolton told journalists that there had been a previously unknown attempt to attack the Saudi oil port of Yanbu as well, which he also blamed on Iran. He described Tehran’s decision to back away from its 2015 atomic deal with world powers as evidence it sought nuclear weapons, even though it came a year after America unilaterally withdrew from the unraveling agreement.

Bolton stressed the U.S. had not seen any further Iranian attacks in the time since, something he attributed to the recent military deployments — America recently sent an aircraft carrier and B-52 bombers to the Persian Gulf. But he warned the U.S. would strike back if again attacked.

“The point is to make it very clear to Iran and its surrogates that these kinds of action risk a very strong response from the United States,” Bolton threatened, without elaborating.

Bolton spoke before talks with Abu Dhabi’s powerful crown prince, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan. He declined to have his remarks recorded by journalists.

A longtime Iran hawk, Bolton blamed Tehran for the recent incidents, at one point saying it was “almost certainly” Iran that planted explosives on the four oil tankers off the UAE coast. He declined to offer any evidence for his claims.

“Who else would you think is doing it?” Bolton asked at one point when pressed. “Somebody from Nepal?”

Iran’s Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif has repeatedly criticized Bolton as a warmonger. Abbas Mousavi, a spokesman for Iran’s Foreign Ministry, said later Wednesday Bolton’s remarks were a “ridiculous accusation.”

Separately in Tehran, President Hassan Rouhani said that the “road is not closed” when it comes to talks with the U.S. — if America returns to the nuclear deal. However, the relatively moderate Rouhani faces increasing criticism from hard-liners and Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei over the collapsing accord.

Meanwhile, acting U.S. Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan said some 900 troops coming to the Mideast over the perceived Iran threat to reinforce the tens of thousands already in the region would be placed in Saudi Arabia and Qatar. Another 600 attached to a Patriot missile battery have had their deployment in the region extended.

“The Iranian threat to our forces in the region remains,” Shanahan said.

Speaking in Abu Dhabi, Bolton linked the rocket fire in Baghdad, the alleged sabotage of the ships and the drone attack by Yemen’s rebels, describing them as a response from Iran and its proxies.

“I think it’s important that the leadership in Iran to know that we know,” Bolton said. He then brought up what he said could be a considered a fourth, previously unknown attack.

“There also had been an attack, an unsuccessful attack, on the Saudi port of Yanbu a couple of days

before the attack on the tankers," he said, without elaborating.

Saudi officials did not immediately respond to a request for comment about Bolton's claim on Yanbu, which is the terminus, or end point, of the kingdom's East-West Pipeline. The Houthis have already targeted two pumping stations on that pipeline during a coordinated drone assault.

Bolton also said the U.S. would boost American military installations and those of its allies in the region. The White House said Wednesday that Bolton will meet with his counterparts from Israel and Russia next month in Jerusalem to discuss regional security issues. White House press secretary Sarah Sanders did not disclose further details about Bolton's planned meeting with Israeli national security adviser Meir Ben-Shabbat and Nikolai Patrushev, secretary of the Russian security council.

Earlier this month, on the first anniversary of Trump's withdrawal from the nuclear deal, Tehran announced it would begin to back away from the agreement.

The accord saw Iran limit its enrichment of uranium in exchange for the lifting of economic sanctions. Trump pulled out of the accord as he said it didn't go far enough in limiting the Iranian nuclear program, nor did it address Iran's ballistic missile program.

Bolton said that without more nuclear power plants, it made no sense for Iran to stockpile more low-enriched uranium as it now plans to do. But the U.S. also earlier cut off Iran's ability to sell its uranium to Russia in exchange for unprocessed yellow-cake uranium.

Iran has set a July 7 deadline for Europe to offer better terms to the unraveling nuclear deal, otherwise it will resume enrichment closer to weapons level. Bolton declined to say what the U.S. would do in response to that.

"There's no reason for them to do any of that unless that's part of an effort to reduce the breakout time to produce nuclear weapons," Bolton said. "That's a very serious issue if they continue to do that."

Bolton's trip to the UAE comes just days after Trump in Tokyo appeared to welcome negotiations with Iran. "We're not looking for regime change — I just want to make that clear," Trump said. "We're looking for no nuclear weapons."

But Bolton himself, for years before becoming national security adviser, called for overthrowing Iran's government in interviews and in paid speaking engagement before an Iranian exile group.

"I don't back away from any of it. Those are positions I took as a private citizen," Bolton said when asked about his prior remarks. "Right now I'm a government official. I advise the president. I'm the national security adviser, not the nation security decision-maker. It's up to him to make those decisions."

He also dismissed reports that he faced criticism from Trump over his hard-line stance with what he described as an old proverb: "The dogs bark and the caravan moves on."

---

Associated Press writers Nasser Karimi and Amir Vahdat in Tehran, Iran, contributed to this report.

## Ethiopian pilot pleaded for training weeks before Max crash

By **BERNARD CONDON** Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Just days after a Lion Air Boeing 737 Max nosedived in Indonesia and killed all 189 people aboard, an Ethiopian Airlines pilot began pleading with his bosses for more training on the Max, warning that crews could easily be overwhelmed in a crisis and that one of their planes could be the next to go down.

"We are asking for trouble," veteran pilot Bernd Kai von Hoesslin wrote in a December email obtained by The Associated Press, adding that if several alarms go off in the cockpit at once, "it will be a crash for sure."

That prediction proved all too accurate.

What Ethiopian Airlines did in response to his warnings is unclear, and whether it made any difference is a matter of dispute. But within weeks, an Ethiopian Max indeed went down, killing all 157 people on board. It slammed into the ground amid a flurry of alarms as the pilots struggled to control a malfunction in the automatic anti-stall system.

While the anti-stall system has gotten most of the scrutiny in the two Max crashes five months apart

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 44 of 51

that have led to a worldwide grounding of the planes, the concerns raised by von Hoesslin have added to a debate on the role pilot error played, and whether Ethiopian's pilots were as prepared as they could have been to avert disaster.

Von Hoesslin, a Canadian citizen who resigned from Ethiopian last month, argued in three emails to senior managers after the anti-stall system came under scrutiny in the Lion Air crash that crews flying Ethiopian's five Max jets should have been given more information and training on how the system worked. He also said pilots should be drilled on the steps to override it if it faltered. Von Hoesslin's emails were first reported by Bloomberg.

The Max's system, called MCAS, for Maneuvering Characteristics Augmentation System, automatically pushes the plane's nose down when it is at risk of stalling. It misfired in both fatal crashes, with pilots losing control of the plane as they fought against it.

According to the email chain obtained by the AP, Ethiopian responded to the Oct. 29 Lion Air crash with a few emails to pilots detailing bulletins from the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and Boeing on what do if the anti-stall system malfunctioned. Other Ethiopian pilots who spoke to the AP say those emails required no signoffs that pilots actually read and understood the directives, and no mandated additional training.

"Ethiopian Airlines is a rapidly expanding airline and they have extremely inexperienced crews," von Hoesslin said in documents obtained by the AP. "You need to spoon-feed them the information and make sure they understand."

To underscore his point, von Hoesslin made a video shortly after the Ethiopian crash in which he quizzed a Max pilot on a Boeing list of warning signs on the stall system that crew members were required to commit to memory. That video, obtained by AP, shows him going blank on most of it.

"You have to have confirmation that they opened it, that they read it and that they understood it," von Hoesslin said in a document obtained by the AP. "They should have done a little online test with 10 questions. You don't pass until you get the 10 questions."

Ethiopian Airlines tweeted Wednesday that "the source of these false allegations is a disgruntled former employee ... who has left the airline after many administrative problems."

Von Hoesslin's lawyer, Darryl Levitt, issued a statement saying the pilot was not fired but "resigned due to legitimate concerns he had raised that he felt were not adequately addressed." He added that von Hoesslin will be cooperating with regulators and authorities "with his sole objective of contributing to make air travel safe."

Ethiopian has said that the requirements for warning and training Max pilots after the Lion Air crash were set by the FAA and Boeing and that their directives were used to "brief all our pilots" and incorporated into flight manuals.

CEO Tewolde Gebremariam said in an interview shortly after the Ethiopian crash, "Today we believe that might not have been enough."

Gebremariam declined to say whether the pilots on the doomed flight took additional training after the Lion Air crash on Ethiopian's Max simulator, a multimillion-dollar piece of equipment most airlines don't have, but said "it wouldn't have made any difference" because the simulator wasn't designed to imitate problems in the new jet's flight-control system.

Ethiopian has said both the captain and co-pilot followed all the steps Boeing laid out in its bulletin on how to respond to a malfunction in the anti-stall system.

But the preliminary report on the March 10 crash of Ethiopian Airlines Flight 302 from Addis Ababa to Nairobi showed that the pilots deviated from the directives and made other mistakes, notably flying the plane at an unusually high speed and inexplicably reactivating the anti-stall system shortly after manually overriding it.

Six minutes into its flight, the plane with passengers from nearly a dozen countries cratered into the ground about 40 miles from the airport.

Former FAA Administrator Randy Babbitt said the Ethiopian pilots clearly bear some of the blame.

"So Boeing was at fault because a light came on or this thing tripped mistakenly, but it shouldn't have

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 45 of 51

brought the airplane down," Babbitt said of the anti-stall system. "That was very fixable and a pretty simple solution. And they didn't come to grips with it. ... They let the plane get away from them."

Peter Lemme, a former Boeing engineer who worked on flight control systems, said apportioning blame between Boeing and the crew is difficult.

"Some pilots in their easy chairs are saying they would have known how to react, but it's not so easy," he said. "Did the pilots cause the accident? No. Could they have prevented it? Yes."

Von Hoesslin, a 56-year-old pilot with three decades of flying experience, initially wrote to his bosses Nov. 11 in response to the airline's five-sentence email to dozens of pilots alerting them to the Boeing bulletin and reminding them about the checklist of steps to perform should something similar go wrong.

He urged Ethiopian to give more information because pilots are not "fully or even aware of how" the MCAS works. That prompted a second email from the airline with more detail.

A month later, on Dec. 12, von Hoesslin sent another email, urging a close reading of a preliminary report from Indonesian regulators on the crash there. He pointed out several potential problems with the Max and recommended steps be taken to make sure pilots know the checklist.

The next day, he sent a third email recommending new simulator training designed to roughly re-create what went wrong in the Indonesian flight, adding that he had already practiced in a simulator rigged in such a way and his experience with all the alarms going off was frightening.

"Throw in a GPWS PULL UP" — a warning to pilots that the plane is in danger of crashing into the ground — "and it would be a crash for sure."

Boeing has said that its fix to software on the Max's anti-stall system will be accompanied by additional training for pilots. The acting chief of the FAA, Daniel Elwell, said last week that his agency hasn't decided whether that training should be conducted on computers or in flight simulators.

AP writer David Koenig in Dallas and researchers Jennifer Farrar, Randy Herschaft and Rhonda Shafner in New York contributed to this report.

## Severe weather forecasts continue as Ohio, Kansas, clean up

By MITCH STACY Associated Press

DAYTON, Ohio (AP) — People from Kansas to Pennsylvania picked up the pieces from a swarm of tornadoes and braced for more twisters Wednesday amid a record-breaking stretch of violent weather.

North Texas remained under a tornado watch until the evening, while the National Weather Service issued a flash-flood warning along the Oklahoma-Arkansas line as strong thunderstorms brought a new round of rain to eastern Oklahoma and western Arkansas, where the Arkansas River is expected to crest at historic levels.

In the east, multiple tornado warnings were issued for New Jersey and Pennsylvania. At least three tornadoes were confirmed in Pennsylvania on Tuesday.

In Kansas, the National Weather Service was still assessing the strength of a twister that injured at least 15 people Tuesday, three of them seriously, and damaged homes, trees and power lines in Douglas and Leavenworth counties in eastern Kansas.

"I'm just glad I found my two dogs alive," said Mark Duffin, of Linwood, Kansas. "Wife's alive, family's alive, I'm alive. So, that's it."

Duffin, 48, learned from his wife and a television report that the large tornado was headed toward his home about 30 miles (48 kilometers) west of Kansas City.

The next thing he knew, the walls of his house were coming down, he told the Kansas City Star.

Tuesday marked the 12th straight day that at least eight tornadoes were reported to the National Weather Service. The previous record for consecutive days with that many tornadoes was an 11-day stretch in 1980. The weather service website showed at least 27 reports of tornadoes Tuesday, most in Kansas and Missouri but also in Pennsylvania and Illinois.

In Ohio, tens of thousands of Ohio residents were without power or water Wednesday in the aftermath

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 46 of 51

of at least eight tornadoes that spun across the state Monday. One person was killed and more than 140 injured.

At least 60,000 people lacked water service in the Dayton area, where ice and water distribution centers were set up. A utility said power had been returned to some 35,000 customers Wednesday, but tens of thousands still were awaiting restoration.

Gov. Mike DeWine declared an emergency in three hard-hit counties, allowing the state to bypass purchasing requirements to speed up delivery of essentials like water and generators.

"We get our share," DeWine told President Donald Trump on Tuesday, responding to the president's remark in a personal call that he didn't think of Ohio when he thought of tornadoes.

"Whatever we have to do, we'll do," Trump told the governor. "We'll take good care of you."

For Dayton resident Mike Harrington, Monday's storms brought back memories of one of the state's worst disasters. That happened on April 3, 1974, when one of the most violent tornadoes ever recorded struck Xenia, Ohio, 15 miles (24 kilometers) east of Dayton, killing 32 people and nearly wiping the city off the map.

Harrington, now 63, survived that 1974 storm, riding it out in a pitch black locker room at his high school where his track coach rushed athletes caught by the storm during practice.

On Monday, memories of that disaster came racing back as he stood outside his home near Dayton watching the lightning in the clouds and a cellphone alert told him to take cover immediately.

This time a twister roared through about 10 minutes from his house, one of at least three powerful storms that caused widespread damage in the Dayton area. At the church in Vandalia, where Harrington works as a multimedia specialist, the steeple was toppled and the building is so beat up that it may have to be torn down.

"It freaks me out to think I'm going to experience this again," Harrington said Wednesday, standing outside New Life Worship Center. "I certainly don't want to do that or have my wife go through that because it was something, it works on you emotionally."

Winds from tornadoes weren't the only problem across the Midwest and South. Several water rescues were reported in northern Missouri. Hannibal, Missouri, officials were just beginning to assess damage Wednesday, hours after torrential rain proved too much for the storm sewers, causing a break that resulted in water damage to buildings in the historic downtown area.

Outbreaks of 50 or more tornadoes are not uncommon, having happened 63 times in U.S. history, with three instances of more than 100 twisters, said Patrick Marsh, warning coordination meteorologist for the federal Storm Prediction Center. But Monday's swarm was unusual because it happened over a particularly wide geographic area and came amid an especially active stretch, he said.

As for why it's happening, Marsh said high pressure over the Southeast and an unusually cold trough over the Rockies are forcing warm, moist air into the central U.S., triggering repeated severe thunderstorms and tornadoes. And neither system is showing signs of moving, he said.

---

Associated Press writers Jim Salter in St. Louis, John Hanna in Topeka, Julie Wright in Kansas City, Dan Sewell in Cincinnati and Andrew Welsh-Huggins in Columbus contributed to this report.

## No end seen to struggle as Mississippi flood enters month 4

By JEFF AMY Associated Press

HOLLY BLUFF, Miss. (AP) — Larry Walls should have been out working in his fields last week. Instead, his John Deere tractor is parked on high ground, just beyond the reach of the ever-encroaching floodwaters in the southern Mississippi Delta.

Four months into what seems like a never-ending flood, he's trying to stay busy. He pressure-washed his church, and he's been shooting the snakes that slither out of a swollen creek submerging his backyard.

"The corn would have been at least waist-high right now," Walls said.

Floodwater has swamped 860 square miles (2,200 sq. kilometers) north of the Mississippi River city of Vicksburg, an area larger than the cities of New York and Los Angeles combined. Residents say it's the

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 47 of 51

worst flood since 1973. Gov. Phil Bryant last week went further, likening it to the 1927 flood that lives on in books, songs, movies and the folk memory of the Magnolia State.

"1927 was a line of demarcation for most of us who lived in the Delta," Bryant, a Republican, said. "This may replace that."

Levees and floodgates near Vicksburg were built to prevent water from overflowing into the Delta when the river rises. This year, it has been above flood stage at Vicksburg for 102 consecutive days, with the floodgate closed much of that time.

The problem comes when gates are closed and it rains in parts of northern Mississippi. That water flows into the south end of the Delta region and can't drain into the river. Trapped inside levees with nowhere to go, the water has been rising inch by inch since February in what's called the Yazoo backwater area.

The Steele Bayou gate was opened Thursday, and water has gone down about 2 inches (5 centimeters). But the gate's likely to close again as the Mississippi River rises with runoff from heavy rains in Kansas, Oklahoma, Missouri and Arkansas. Current forecasts suggest the water won't drain significantly from the backwater area until July at the earliest.

And when will all the water be gone?

"Nobody knows," said Holly Bluff Fire Chief Glen Reams. With fields and some homes under what seems like an inland sea and people boating around between the sandbags, he's trying to raise morale in his community, but even he's been having trouble sleeping.

"I see people breaking down and crying," Reams said. "It's the stress."

More than 500 homes have been damaged in flooding across a region where cotton, corn and soybeans are the main crops. Farmers are resigning themselves to missing the growing season entirely. Corn and cotton should already be in the ground, and farmers say there's no way fields will be dry enough to plant soybeans by the end of June. Even then, removing debris from the fields will be a major job.

A giant pumping station had been proposed to pump water from the backwater, over the levees and into the Mississippi River when the floodgates are closed, but the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency vetoed it in 2008, finding it would drain wetlands and harm wildlife. Bryant and other Mississippi leaders are lobbying to reverse that decision, pointing to damaged homes, roads washed out, and millions of dollars lost by farmers.

Environmental advocates call the vetoed Yazoo Pumps project a \$300 million boondoggle that would damage the natural ecosystem, largely to benefit industrial agriculture.

Clay Adcock, who farms 3,800 acres (1,540 hectares), is helping circulate a pro-pumps petition with more than 11,000 signatures. He's also scrambling to shore up the ring levee around his house. Last week, the earthen barrier sprang a leak, with water burbling out like a spring. Adcock's trackhoe and bulldozer, normally used to clean ditches in fields, were traversing the muddy mess of his once-treasured backyard, piling truckloads of dirt to keep out the green-scummed water of the Sunflower River, which normally drains into the Mississippi.

"I've farmed for 33 years, and I've never not made a crop," Adcock said. "I'm not going to plant an acre this year."

Adcock constantly patrols his levee, sending countless tiny frogs scattering with each footstep. He's making backup plans, thinking about building a second, inner ring closer to the house, and considering living upstairs if the ground floor floods.

"I had a dream that I stepped out of bed and stepped in the water," he said.

Adcock's son, married in February, is in the same boat, moving back home with his new family after his own house flooded in March.

Walls, meanwhile, is a small farmer by Delta standards, renting 560 acres (225 hectares) near Louise. The 63-year-old worked for larger farmers for decades but struck out on his own in 2012. He has crop insurance, which will help pay the rent and debt on his two John Deere tractors and three 18-wheel grain-hauling trucks. Walls said he'll survive financially, but he and his wife "won't be able to do things we usually do."

"As long as that tractor is sitting still, I'm not making any money, and I've got to pay notes on it," he said.

But people are still fighting. Adcock's brother-in-law, Jimmy Hudson, showed Reams a video he made,

set to "Five Feet High and Rising," a Johnny Cash song inspired by a 1937 flood in Arkansas. Then he went back to work, loading sandbags to shore up the levee surrounding his home.

"My kids' handprints are out in the concrete by the basketball goal," Hudson said. "This is home. We're going to go down swinging."

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

## China dangles a potentially harmful new threat in trade war

By PAUL WISEMAN, FRANK BAJAK and YANAN WANG Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Facing new trade sanctions and a U.S. clampdown on its top telecommunications company, China issued a pointed reminder Wednesday that it has yet to unleash all its weapons in its trade war with the Trump administration.

Chinese state media warned that Beijing could cut America off from exotic minerals that are widely used in electric cars and mobile phones. The threat to use China's rich supply of so-called rare earths as leverage in the conflict has contributed to sharp losses in U.S. stocks and sliding long-term bond yields.

For months, the world's two biggest economies have been locked in a standoff over allegations that China deploys predatory tactics — including stealing trade secrets and forcing foreign companies to hand over technology — in a drive to supplant U.S. technological dominance.

The Trump administration has imposed 25% tariffs on \$250 billion in Chinese imports and is planning to tax the \$300 billion in imports that have so far been spared. And it escalated the stakes this month by putting the Chinese telecom giant Huawei on a blacklist that effectively bars U.S. companies from supplying it with computer chips, software and other components without government approval.

The U.S. claims Huawei is legally beholden to China's ruling Communist Party, which could order it to spy on their behalf. Washington has offered no evidence that the Huawei has done that, however.

Huawei is trying to beat back one punitive U.S. measure in federal court. In a motion filed late Tuesday in eastern Texas, the company argued that a 2018 law that bars it from selling telecom gear to U.S. government agencies and contractors should be struck down as unconstitutional. The move for summary judgment in a case filed against the U.S. government in March says the law violates a constitutional prohibition against "trial by legislature" of individual entities. Congress thus acted unconstitutionally when it "adjudicated Huawei's guilt and blacklisted it," the motion argues.

An attorney representing Huawei in the U.S. case, Glen Nager of Jones Day, asserts that Congress alone cannot constitutionally impose punishment on an individual company — which the punitive law does in singling out Huawei by name.

The law "is intended to drive Huawei out of the U.S. — i.e., to banish it," Nager argued. It "stigmatizes Huawei as a tool of the Chinese government" with no right to a fair hearing, he added.

Steven Schwinn, a professor at John Marshall Law School in Chicago, suggested that Huawei's arguments fall short constitutionally, and "given that this relates to national security, we can expect the courts to be fairly deferential to the government."

The nationalistic Chinese newspaper Global Times warned that China has plenty of ways to retaliate against the United States, including the threat of cutting off supplies of rare earths. China last year produced 78% of the world's rare earths, according to researchers at Bank of America Merrill Lynch.

If the U.S. fails to exercise restraint, it will see that "China is far from running out of cards, and we have the will and determination to fight the U.S. to the end," the paper's editorial said. An official of China's top economic planning agency did not rule out using rare earths as a countermeasure against "the U.S.'s unwarranted suppression."

President Xi Jinping visited rare earth-related businesses in southeastern Jiangxi province earlier this month. He called rare earths "an important strategic resource" while stressing the importance of owning independent core technologies, the state-run China Daily reported.

China has used rare earths as a cudgel before. Five years ago, the World Trade Organization slapped



# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 49 of 51

down China's attempt to restrict the export of rare earths, rejecting its claim that it just wanted to protect the environment and conserve supplies. Instead, the move appeared to be aimed at hurting Japan with which Beijing was having a diplomatic tiff.

Scott Kennedy, director of the project on the Chinese economy at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, said the Chinese might benefit even less if they try to weaponize rare earths again.

"It's not the threat that it was ... when the Chinese threatened to cut off the Japanese," he said.

First, users of rare earths have stockpiled the minerals for a "rainy day." Second, they also have figured out how to "use less rare earth to achieve the same results" in such products as lasers and magnets. And third, different minerals and chemicals are increasingly being used as rare earth substitutes.

Kennedy predicts that once investors have "realized the threat wasn't as dire, markets would bounce back."

Still, he isn't optimistic about the U.S.-China trade negotiations, which broke off May 10 after an 11th round of talks failed to produce an agreement. U.S. officials accused the Chinese of renegeing on agreements they'd made in earlier rounds.

"The Chinese first are going to have to signal they will talk," he said. Then they will have to go back to where they stood before they backpedaled on earlier concessions. "I don't see any body language from the Chinese that they're about to do that," Kennedy said.

\_\_\_Wang reported from Beijing, and Bajak from Boston. Associated Press video producer Olivia Zhang in Shenzhen, China, and writer Christopher Bodeen in Beijing contributed to this report.

## Asian stocks mostly fall on Wall Street slide, trade fears

By YURI KAGEYAMA AP Business Writer

TOKYO (AP) — Asian shares were mostly lower Thursday after another round of selling on Wall Street and investor worries about a trade war.

Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 dropped nearly 0.9% in morning trading to 20,824.91. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 slipped 0.7% to 6,393.70. South Korea's Kospi edged up 0.3% to 2,028.63. Hong Kong's Hang Seng was down 0.6% at 27,074.62, while the Shanghai Composite lost 0.8% to 2,890.88.

The latest market slide comes as investors worry that the trade war between the U.S. and China will derail global economic and corporate profit growth as it drags on with no sign of a resolution.

"The cracks in global equity markets threatened to grow wider still as relentless haven-buying of sovereign bonds overnight pushed key yields even lower and sent recession fears through stocks," said Jeffrey Halley, senior market analyst at Oanda.

"Asia is unlikely to feel much relief today either with both the Nikkei 225 and the ASX 200 down."

On Wall Street, overnight, the S&P 500 index fell 19.37 points, or 0.7%, to 2,783.02. The index had been down 1.3% earlier. The Dow Jones Industrial Average lost 221.36 points, or 0.9%, to 25,126.41. It had tumbled 409 points. The Nasdaq composite slid 60.04 points, or 0.8%, to 7,547.31. The Russell 2000 index of small companies dropped 14.07 points, or 0.9%, to 1,489.95.

With two more trading days left in May, the S&P 500 is heading for a loss of 5.5%. That would be its first monthly loss since December. The market has been heading steadily lower this month as prospects for the economy have dimmed and as traders got more worried about the lingering trade feud between Washington and Beijing.

In early May the U.S. and China concluded their 11th round of trade talks with no agreement. The U.S. then more than doubled duties on \$200 billion in Chinese imports, and China responded by raising its own tariffs.

### ENERGY:

Benchmark U.S. crude added 29cents to \$59.10 It fell 0.6% to settle at \$58.81 a barrel Wednesday. Brent crude, the international standard, gained 15 cents to \$68.02 per barrel.

### CURRENCIES:

The dollar rose to 109.54 Japanese yen from 109.31 yen on Wednesday. The euro weakened to \$1.1136 from \$1.1154.

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 50 of 51

## Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Thursday, May 30, the 150th day of 2019. There are 215 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 30, 1911, the first Indy 500 took place at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway; the winner was Ray Harroun, who drove a Marmon Wasp for more than 6 1/2 hours at an average speed of 74.6 mph and collected a prize of \$10,000.

On this date:

In 1381, the Peasants' Revolt against economic injustice erupted in England during the reign of King Richard II; the king and his men, initially caught off-guard, were able to crush the rebellion several weeks later.

In 1431, Joan of Arc, condemned as a heretic, was burned at the stake in Rouen (roo-AHN'), France.

In 1883, 12 people were trampled to death in a stampede sparked by a rumor that the recently opened Brooklyn Bridge was in danger of collapsing.

In 1922, the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., was dedicated in a ceremony attended by President Warren G. Harding, Chief Justice William Howard Taft and Robert Todd Lincoln.

In 1935, Babe Ruth played in his last major league baseball game for the Boston Braves, leaving after the first inning of the first game of a double-header against the Philadelphia Phillies, who won both games (Ruth announced his retirement three days later).

In 1937, ten people were killed when police fired on steelworkers demonstrating near the Republic Steel plant in South Chicago.

In 1943, during World War II, American troops secured the Aleutian island of Attu from Japanese forces.

In 1958, unidentified American service members killed in World War II and the Korean War were interred in the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery.

In 1989, student protesters in Beijing erected a "Goddess of Democracy" statue in Tiananmen Square (the statue was destroyed in the Chinese government's crackdown).

In 1994, Mormon Church president Ezra Taft Benson died in Salt Lake City at age 94.

In 1996, Britain's Prince Andrew and the former Sarah Ferguson were granted an uncontested decree ending their 10-year marriage.

In 2008, diplomats from 111 nations meeting in Dublin, Ireland, formally adopted a landmark treaty banning cluster bombs. (The United States and other leading cluster bomb makers — Russia, China, Israel, India and Pakistan — boycotted the talks.)

Ten years ago: Britain's Prince Harry raised money for an AIDS charity by playing in a polo match on Governors Island in New York Harbor. Internet sensation Susan Boyle placed second on "Britain's Got Talent," with dance troupe Diversity taking the top prize.

Five years ago: Beset by growing evidence of patient delays and cover-ups, embattled Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric Shinseki resigned from President Barack Obama's Cabinet, taking the blame for what he decried as a "lack of integrity" in the sprawling health care system for the nation's military veterans.

One year ago: Harvey Weinstein was indicted in New York on rape and criminal sex act charges, furthering the first criminal case stemming from sexual misconduct allegations against the former movie mogul. Russian journalist Arkady Babchenko stunned colleagues by appearing at a news conference in Kiev less than a day after police in the Ukrainian capital said he'd been assassinated; authorities said his death was staged to foil a plot on his life by Moscow's security services. A senior House Republican, Trey Gowdy, said there was no evidence that the FBI planted a "spy" on Donald Trump's 2016 campaign, as Trump had alleged. Reality TV star Kim Kardashian West visited the White House to appeal to Trump on behalf of a woman serving a life sentence for drug offenses. (Days later, Trump granted clemency for Alice Marie Johnson, freeing her from prison.) Gaza's Hamas rulers said they had agreed to a cease-fire with Israel

# Groton Daily Independent

**Thursday, May 30, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 324 ~ 51 of 51**

to end the largest flare-up of violence between the two sides since a 2014 war.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Ruta Lee is 84. Actor Keir Dullea is 83. Actor Michael J. Pollard is 80. Pro and College Football Hall of Famer Gale Sayers is 76. Rock musician Lenny Davidson (The Dave Clark Five) is 75. Actor Stephen Tobolowsky is 68. Actor Colm Meaney is 66. Actor Ted McGinley is 61. Actor Ralph Carter is 58. Actress Tonya Pinkins is 57. Country singer Wynonna Judd is 55. Rock musician Tom Morello (Audioslave; Rage Against The Machine) is 55. Actor Mark Sheppard is 55. Movie director Antoine Fuqua is 54. Actor John Ross Bowie is 48. Rock musician Patrick Dahlheimer (Live) is 48. Actress Idina Menzel is 48. Actor Trey Parker is 47. Rapper Cee Lo Green is 44. Rapper Remy Ma is 39. Actor Blake Bashoff is 38. Christian rock musician James Smith (Underoath) is 37. Actress Javicia Leslie is 32. Actor Jake Short is 22. Actor Sean Giambrone is 20. Actor Jared Gilmore is 19.

Thought for Today: "For happiness one needs security, but joy can spring like a flower even from the cliffs of despair." — Anne Morrow Lindbergh, American writer (1906-2001).