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Chicken Soup
for the Soul

All you need is the
COURAGE to
believe in yourself
and put one foot in
front of the other.

-Katherine Switzer

CLOSED: Recycling Trailer in Groton

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

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

Monday, June 17

5:30 p.m.: T-Ball at Doland (Black)

6:00 p.m.: Junior Teeners host Frederick, (DH)

6:30 p.m.: U8 Pee Wees at Doland (B)

7:30 p.m.: U10 Pee Wees at Doland (R,W)

Softball hosts Britton (U8 at 6 p.m., U10 at 7 p.m.)

Softball at Ellendale, (DH)s both start at 6 p.m. (U12, U14)

Tuesday, June 18

6:00 p.m.: Legion at Milbank, (DH)

6:00 p.m.: U10 Pee Wees host Milbank on Nelson Field (R,B)

6:00 p.m.: T-Ball Practice at Falk Field (both)

Softball at Britton (U8 at 6 p.m., U10 at 7 p.m.)

Olive Grove Golf Course: Bridge at Noon, Ladies League at 6 p.m.

7:00 p.m.: City Council Meeting at Groton Community Center

Wednesday, June 19

5:30 p.m.: Junior Teeners at Hamlin, (DH)

5:30 p.m.: U12 Midgets at Huron, (DH)

6:00 p.m.: U10 Pee Wees host Wahlburg, (DH) (W,B)

Olive Grove: Kid's Golf Lessons from 10 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; Men's League at 6 p.m.

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Teacher's Pay

There was some discussion on Facebook about Teacher's Pay. Connie Hanson, a sixth grade teacher in Watertown, had a nice reply which I thought would be worth sharing.

Let me clear up a couple of misconceptions. Teachers are ONLY PAID for 9 months of work. The starting salary is 40,000. We do not receive pay for summers, Christmas break, spring break, or etc. There is absolutely no way a teacher can finish their work in a school day. Most of us work on average 2 extra plus hours a day. We also put in an average of 4 plus hours of our weekend getting ready for the next week. As a teacher, I receive a \$200 stipend to order staples, construction paper, paper clips, totes for student books, locker magnets, white out, poster paper, science supplies.... etc, for the entire school year. The \$200 is not enough, i purchase well over that for my students.... curriculum resource books, art projects, Christmas and birthday items, books for my classroom. I have students that come and need shoes, clothing, and jackets.... which I often purchase as well. I also provide school supplies and backpacks for some. We are required to do continuing education hours (unpaid) in the summer to maintain our license. There are also committees that teachers volunteer their time for. I am currently on a language arts curriculum committee which is all volunteer. This committee is adopting a new curriculum. We meet after school and during the summer, once again all volunteer. Regarding not having to know anything and computers teaching our kids.... what????? Since when? High school kids (maybe) can take dual online college credits, or a speciality class not offered, or a homeschool program.... but, teachers have to know their craft. The most frustrating thing, I will begin my 29th year as an educator and my own children, who have just graduated college, are making more than me.'

Road Work to Begin

Road work is expected to begin today on State Street in Groton. That means if you normally take Fifth Avenue West to get the baseball complex, you might want to reconsider your plans or end up making a U-turn and coming back. State Street will be blocked off during construction.

A Prayer for Aging from the Ancient Medicine Wheel

Nothing has touched my soul and spoken to aging with grace quite like the ancient Indian medicine wheel and the traditions that have evolved from it. From the National Library of Medicine, I learned that in the Americas, Indian tribes have multiple interpretations of the four directions, but the following prayer is my own, geriatrician's interpretation of a version from the book *Black Elk Speaks* and Oyate (Nakota, Dakota, Lakota) tradition.



By Richard P. Holm, MD ~ Prairie Doc® Perspectives

First, we get down on our knees and feel the soil, the sacred Mother Earth, bringing the world around us, the animals, plants, prairies, lakes, mountains, the environment of our planet from where all food and sustenance comes. Earth is foundation. Then we stand up on our tiptoes, and raise our arms to sacred Father Sky, the sun, stars, clouds, rain, wind, air and breath of life, light and dark; from where all energy flows and ebbs. Sky is infinity. Earth and sky, the beginning and the end.

Around the central campfire and within the circle, first we bow east, symbolized by red, rising sun, springtime, birth, blood, the very young; a sense of innocence, youth. May we have hope for a future with an open mind to all things new and true.

We bow south, symbolized by yellow, full sun, summer, sexuality, the anticipating young woman and young man; a sense of unconquerable power and invulnerability, early adulthood. May we have the courage and strength to fight for justice.

We bow west, symbolized by black, setting sun, an approaching dark thunderstorm, oncoming night, autumn, resignation, the reality filled community leader and medicine woman/midwife; a sense of the horrors of war and reality of loss, mature adulthood. May we have the gravity to protect freedom of choice and face vulnerability with honest eyes.

Finally, we bow north, symbolized by white, starry night, winter, old age, wisdom, the sagacious elder and teacher; a sense of beauty, grandchildren and the circle of life, an experienced body and mind, release from the fear of change and death. May we have insight to savor family and friendship, and the good sense to walk in another's moccasins.

Inside the circle is the tree of life, where we become aware of our self, our consciousness, tribe, community, country, world, and our connection to all direction.

Dear Mother/Father of Earth and Sky, thank you for your blessings, the sacred hoop of life, and especially the wisdom to find release from fear of death. May our sisters and brothers of all Clans and Nations realize our sacred connection and, in harmony, savor the joy and even the sorrow of our circle of life and aging.

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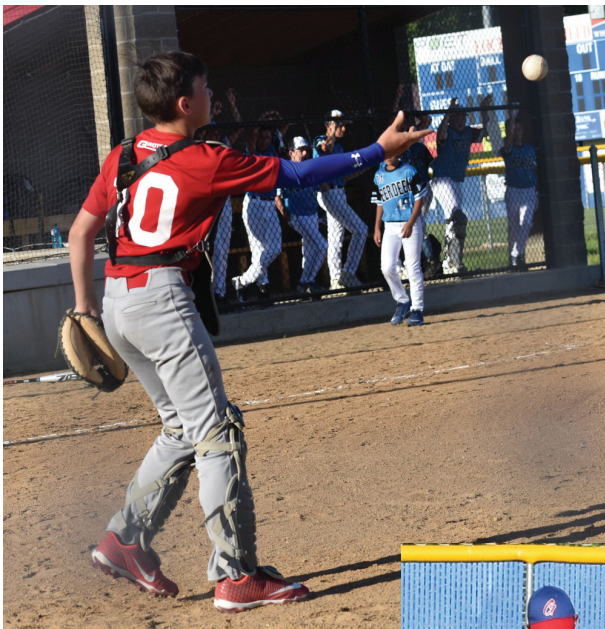
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Photo Page

Photos by Alexa Hickenbotham



NOW HIRING!

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Looking for assemblers - both shifts

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Today in Weather History

June 17, 1944: On this date, six estimated F2 or greater tornadoes were tracked across Faulk, Codington, Brown, Day, Grant, and Roberts County in South Dakota as well as Big Stone in Minnesota. The first tornado touched down at approximately 3:30 pm CST in Faulk County. This estimated F2 tornado destroyed all buildings except the house on a farm 7 miles northeast of Faulkton. The next tornado occurred at 4:00 pm CST in Codington County, where barns were destroyed. Cattle and a truck were thrown into Grass Lake, near Wallace. About the same time, in Brown County, a tornado moved northeast from just northeast of Warner and crossed the town of Bath. This storm killed two people and injured another twelve. A couple was killed in the destruction of their home. Twenty homes in Bath were damaged. A brick school had its upper story torn off. Another tornado moved through Codington County at 4:45 pm CST, killing three and injuring twenty-five. This F4 strength tornado moved northeast from two miles northeast of Henry, passing over Long Lake and ending 2 miles northwest of Florence. The funnel was described as snake-like over Long Lake and massive as it swept through five farms southwest of Florence. Over 100 head of cattle were killed, and about a dozen homes were destroyed. In Day County an estimated F2 moved due north from 4 miles south of Webster, ending 2 miles northeast of Roslyn. This storm passed two miles east of Webster where barns were destroyed, and livestock was killed on a half dozen farms. At 5:15 pm CST a monster of a storm moved northeast from 5 miles south of Summit, passing 3 miles south of Wilmot and ending about 3 miles east of Beardsley, Minnesota. This massive tornado had an estimated width of 1500 yards and traveled 30 miles. Along the path, eight people were killed, and another forty-three were injured. Farm devastation southwest and south of Wilmot was as complete as it could be with some farms reportedly left without even debris on the property. About 15 farms in South Dakota reported F3-F5 damage. From this day, the Red Cross counted 13 dead and 560 people injured across the state.

June 17, 2010: This day will go down as the day with the greatest single-day tornado total in Minnesota history. The 3 EF4 tornadoes in Minnesota were the first tornadoes EF4 or stronger in this state since the Granite Falls tornado on July 25, 2000. This outbreak produced the highest number of tornadoes rated EF4 or greater in one day in Minnesota since the Black Sunday tornado outbreak on April 30, 1967. This was the first EF4 tornado in Freeborn County since the Black Sunday outbreak. The four total EF4 tornadoes across the Upper Midwest on June 17, 2010 (3 in MN, and 1 in ND) were the most in an outbreak in the U.S. since the "Super Tuesday Outbreak" on February 5-6, 2008. The number of tornado fatalities (4) on this day was the highest in Minnesota since July 5, 1978. [Click HERE](#) for an NWS summary.

1859 - Hot Santa Ana winds in southern California roasted fruit on one side at Santa Barbara. (Sandra and TI Richard Sanders - 1987)

1882 - A tornado traveled more than 200 miles across the state of Iowa killing 130 persons. The tornado touched down about ninety miles west of Grinnell, and struck the town and college around sunset, killing sixty persons, and causing more than half a million dollars damage. Traveling at nearly 60 mph, the tornado hit Mount Pleasant about 11 PM causing another half a million dollars damage. (David Ludlum)

1946: The third deadliest tornado in Canadian history struck southwestern Ontario from Windsor to Tecumseh. 17 people were killed and hundreds injured. Damage was conservatively estimated at \$1.5 million.

1965 - Holly, CO, was deluged with 11.08 inches of rain to establish a state 24 hour rainfall record. (The Weather Channel)




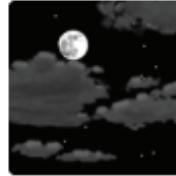

1987 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather in the south central U.S. Thunderstorms in Kansas produced wind gusts to 76 mph at Lyons, and baseball size hail at Garden City. The Edwards Aquifer, which supplies water to San Antonio, TX, reached a record level of 699.2 feet following a record 18.43 inches of rain in thirty days. Torrential rains between the mid May and mid June sent 8.8 million acre feet of water down the rivers of southern Texas, the largest volume in 100 years of records. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)


1988 - Thunderstorms produced large hail and damaging winds in Georgia and the Carolinas. Thunderstorm winds gusted to 75 mph at Eden, NC. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Unseasonably cool air, responsible for 37 record lows in the central U.S. on the 15th and 16th, including a low of 33 degrees at Valentine NE on the 15th, overspread the eastern U.S. ending a three day siege of severe weather. (The National Weather Summary)

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Today	Tonight	Tuesday	Tuesday Night	Wednesday
				
Chance Showers then Slight Chance T-storms	Partly Cloudy	Partly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Partly Sunny then Chance T-storms
High: 74 °F	Low: 51 °F	High: 73 °F	Low: 51 °F	High: 76 °F


NWS ABERDEEN

JUNE 17-22

All Week Long

HIGHS


70s

Today




Scattered showers & thunderstorms exiting to southern SD this PM

Tuesday



Scattered showers & thunderstorms west of the Missouri River

Wednesday



Showers & thunderstorms

Published on: 06/17/2019 at 5:33AM

Highs will be in the 70s all week long, with unsettled weather continuing. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms will exit to southern South Dakota this afternoon. Then for Tuesday through Tuesday night, precipitation should remain mainly near and west of the Missouri River, before expanding across the entire area Wednesday.

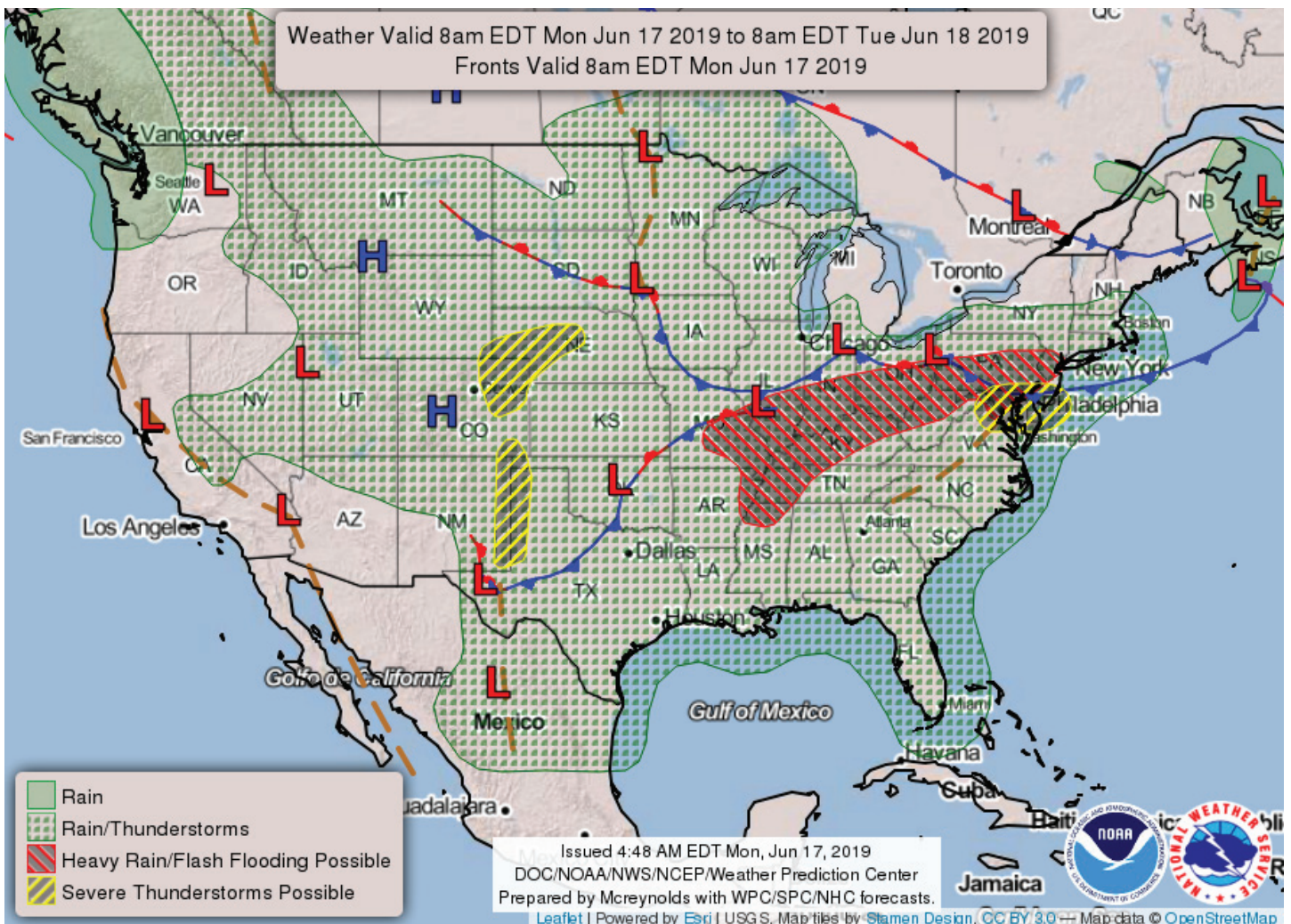
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Yesterday's Groton Weather Today's Info

High Temp: 77 °F at 5:02 PM
Low Temp: 56 °F at 5:48 AM
Wind: 20 mph at 2:28 PM
Day Rain: 0.01

Record High: 105° in 1933
Record Low: 40° in 1915, 1912
Average High: 78°F
Average Low: 54°F
Average Precip in June.: 1.94
Precip to date in June.: 0.88
Average Precip to date: 9.08
Precip Year to Date: 8.66
Sunset Tonight: 9:25 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:45 a.m.



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GENEROSITY MATTERS

Thinking poor is difficult for most of us. We have so much more than we need that it is difficult to understand what it is like to go without, be without, or do without. For most, the distance between a delicious meal and pangs of hunger is unimaginable. Many of us have never had to go without a meal much less gather morsels from a garbage can to survive.

I frequently hear stories of individuals who have invested some of their things in those who have represented themselves as poor only to find out that they had been duped. Some say they will never give again because they were fooled. I find this attitude disturbing.

There are times when I find myself guarded when people come to my office with a need for some thing. It might be for money to pay the utility bill, or milk to nourish a baby, or money for a loaf of bread and a jar of peanut butter. Often when I find myself questioning their motives I ask myself: Who am I to be their judge?

In Proverbs, there is a verse that says, For God made both the rich and the poor. With that in mind, what should my response be to those in need? Is my response an indication of how I would respond to Jesus if He came to me with a need and I did not recognize Him?

In Matthews Gospel Jesus said, What you did to the least of these brothers of mine, you did it unto me. If we fail to respond with compassion to those in need how can we expect God to hear us when we have needs?

When we see someone in need, let us never forget that God brought that one into our lives to help them somehow. Its not an option. Rather, it's our obligation to do whatever we can.

Prayer: Lord, give us hearts that are sensitive to the needs of others. May we bless their lives as You have blest ours. May we do for others as You have done for us. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Proverbs 17:5 Whoever mocks the poor shows contempt for their Maker; whoever gloats over disaster will not go unpunished.

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2019 Groton SD Community Events

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

2020 Groton SD Community Events

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

News from the **AP** Associated Press

Spearfish hydroponic farm grows produce for local schools

By **MATTHEW GUERRY** Rapid City Journal

SPEARFISH, S.D. (AP) — Belle Fourche and Spearfish school cafeterias this year served produce that was grown locally — and indoors.

The Belle Fourche School District has for two years offered hydroponically raised vegetables to students on special occasions through a partnership with the Spearfish-based business Column Greens, which the Spearfish schools began to buy from this past year.

As the business prepares to migrate to a warehouse in town, co-owner Erica Proefrock said she hopes to grow both the number of schools, hospital and hotels that it sells to as well as its yield.

"We're looking to be serving 10 pounds a week to those larger companies. We have the technology that we can provide that," Proefrock said.

Proefrock and co-owner Alex Hamaker currently run the indoor farm out of the basement of their home in Spearfish. As hydroponic farmers, the two rely on a water circulation system and an inventive use of space to grow chard, basil, lettuce, mint and other herbs, spices and vegetables without soil. Current customers of theirs include Dakota Seafood, the Lodge at Deadwood Casino and Rapid City Regional Hospitals, the Rapid City Journal reported.

The pair will start by planting a seedling in one of the several different growing mediums that they use, which range from woven hemp mats to ground coconut husks. After growing in containers that are stored on shelves, the seedlings are transferred to vertical, hanging towers where they can mature and eventually be harvested.

A circulating network of pipes and tubes delivers water to the plants that is treated with nutrients that they require to grow. Both nutrient levels and air temperature are carefully controlled by computer. Crops at all stages of growth are exposed to LED light that helps to sustain them for only half the day, mimicking a day and night cycle.

"Basically, to run an optimal growing environment, you have to have about a 68 to 75 degree temperature during the day," Hamaker said last month under the neon glow of the farm's many lights.

To conserve energy, the two will typically run their lights — simulating daytime — after the sun has set.

Produce from the farm has been served to students on several occasions as part of a monthly lunch special that both school districts offer at the same price point of a standard lunch. Justin Olson, food service director at the districts' meal program contractor Lunchtime Solutions, said he first learned about the business through the Belle Fourche school business manager, who is a relative of Proefrock's.



In a May 17, 2019 photo, Erica Proefrock of Column Greens talks about hydroponic farming at her house in Spearfish. The Belle Fourche School District has for two years offered hydroponically raised vegetables to students on special occasions through a partnership with Column Greens, which the Spearfish schools began to buy from this past year. (Adam Fondren/Rapid City Journal via AP)

Olson said his company had already bought locally raised produce and meats for the monthly special prior to purchasing from Column Greens to support the local economy. It will continue to buy from the indoor farm this coming school year, he said, adding that he hopes to arrange student field trips to it.

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

Ex-college athlete speaks out about inequalities in sports

By JACK WILLIAMS Argus Leader

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Courtney Place has been bothered by the inequalities in women's sports for a long time. The lack of exposure and respect compared to men's sports stood out whenever she took the volleyball court.

Looking to take a stand, the 22-year-old Augustana alumna created the SEE US movement, which aims to spread awareness of women underrepresented, sexualized and judged based on appearance rather than performance in sports.

The SEE US movement received national attention late last month when the project was named one of 20 winners of the Victoria's Secret PINK GRL PWR Project, which awarded \$10,000 to jump start the movement, the Argus Leader reported.

"It's been incredible to see this project grow," Place said. "When I was a young girl, I thought I was going through this alone. Now, a lot of young girls have messaged me and thanked me for bringing this conversation up. Knowing that this is helping a lot of young girls feel confident and supported means a lot to me."

Place hopes to use the money to turn her movement into a nonprofit that offers affordable camps for young girls and gives women a place to talk about inequalities in sports.

Place came up with the idea for SEE US during her time as a college athlete. She was exploring the possibility of playing professional volleyball in Europe when she realized her parents likely would not be able to watch her games on TV because women's sports are less often televised.

That's when she decided to bring awareness to the need for equality in sports, and she brought that idea back to Augustana for further development.

More and more members of Augustana's athletic teams began to take notice of SEE US. Place's volleyball teammates along with members of the softball, basketball and tennis teams began to show their support for the project.

It wasn't until a friend emailed Place a link to enter the Victoria's Secret PINK GRL PWR Project that she realized she could take SEE US to the next level. With the help of fellow athletes on campus and a few of her public relations friends, Place's movement began to take off.

"I've really been a part of pushing this movement on social media and pushing the PR aspect of it," Grace Fjellanger, Place's friend and fellow SEE US member, said. "We were able to get the movement more media attention and eventually help Courtney win the \$10,000 from Victoria's Secret. We've really helped her out with things to say about the movement, but overall she has just killed it."

There have been bumps in the road for Place and her project. She said that she received a lot of harassment online and in-person, including hearing degrading remarks from peers. It came to the point where she questioned if she was doing the right thing.

However, with the support of her family, friends and teammates, Place has been able to push the movement to a level she never imagined. SEE US has received recognition from Minnesota Lynx head coach Cheryl Reeve, Minnesota women's basketball head coach Lindsay Whalen and three-time women's beach volleyball Olympic gold medalist Kerri Walsh Jennings.

Place said it's been crazy to see how far SEE US has come. From staying up until 2 a.m. at Augustana to now meeting with collaborators in Los Angeles, she is in awe seeing this movement grow.

"I don't think that I really knew that I would win a contest with this movement," Place said. "I really wanted something to happen with this, and it did."

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

Rapid City considers large residential housing development

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — The Rapid City Council is considering whether to approve what officials believe is the largest residential subdivision that the city has seen in decades.

Developers of the 77-acre Shepherd Hills project say it will make 265 single-family lots available in a range of different prices, and fill the need for more affordable housing options with 250 apartments.

Dream Design International Vice President Kyle Treloar tells the Rapid City Journal that single-family units will go from \$160,000 for workforce housing to \$350,000 for high-end homes. He says the first batch of homes could be available as soon as this fall.

Rapid City Community Development Director Ken Young says that while affordability is of concern, the city needs all types of housing.

The City Council will consider the plan Monday.

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

1 kayaker drowns, 1 rescued in Covell Lake in Sioux Falls

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Authorities say one person drowned while another was rescued after two kayaks capsized on Covell Lake in Sioux Falls.

Sioux Falls police said in a statement Sunday that they got a report around 8:15 p.m. Saturday that two kayakers had capsized and were struggling to make it to shore.

One kayaker was rescued by lifeguards from the nearby Terrace Park pool and was taken to a hospital for treatment.

Rescue crews found the body of the second kayaker around midnight.

The victim's name was not immediately released, pending notification of relatives.

US companies' message to Trump: Don't expand China tariffs

By PAUL WISEMAN AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — What happens if President Donald Trump carries out his threat to impose tariffs on the remaining \$300 billion in Chinese goods that he hasn't already hit with 25% import taxes?

A New Hampshire fireworks company says it would have to raise prices, likely lose business and force some small towns to cancel their Fourth of July fireworks displays.

A Minnesota motorcycle maker warns that it would lose business to foreign rivals that don't have to pay taxes on Chinese parts.

A Los Angeles designer and distributor of houseware goods says it would have to extend a hiring freeze and delay plans to expand into a larger warehouse.

The administration, in the midst of the trade war it began with Beijing, had asked for comments on its plan to extend 25% tariffs to everything China ships to the United States.

It's getting an earful.

Hundreds of businesses, trade groups and individuals have written to complain that the additional import taxes would drive up prices for consumers, squeeze profits and leave U.S. companies at a competitive disadvantage to foreign rivals that aren't subject to higher taxes on the vital components they buy from China.

They're pleading with the administration to rethink the tariffs — or at least spare the particular imports they and their customers rely on. Some will appear in person to air their grievances in seven days of hearings in Washington that begin Monday.

A common theme in their pleas is that American businesses — not China, as Trump often asserts — must pay the import taxes the president is imposing on Chinese goods. And in the end, many of these

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companies will pass their higher costs on to their customers.

Trump has already imposed 25% tariffs on \$250 billion in Chinese imports. The goal is to pressure Beijing to stop stealing American technology, forcing U.S. businesses to hand over trade secrets and unfairly subsidizing Chinese tech companies.

Eleven rounds of negotiations have failed to resolve the dispute over China's aggressive drive to surpass America's technological dominance. Businesses and investors say they hope the negotiations will gain momentum if Trump and President Xi Jinping hold a face-to-face meeting at a Group of 20 summit in Osaka, Japan in two weeks.

"Most businesses are almost praying for a solution," said Patrik Berglund, who tracks global trade as the CEO of Xeneta, an Oslo, Norway, firm that provides data on the shipping industry. "These things will have enormous consequences. We're so connected in this global world."

Trump's earlier tariffs largely spared American consumers by focusing on industrial goods that don't show up directly in the mall or big-box stores. But the new round will inflict financial pain on ordinary households because it will affect many consumer goods, from cellphones and computers to shoes and silk scarves.

"We're talking about things that you and I buy and buy in a store, and that's going to be felt directly by consumers," said Neil Bradley, chief policy officer at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. The companies that serve the retail market, he said, tend to have "much, much less margin to absorb those increased tariff costs."

A report commissioned by the National Retail Federation found that American consumers would pay an additional \$4.4 billion a year for clothing, \$2.5 billion more for shoes and \$1.6 billion more for household appliances.

More broadly, economists say the tariffs could weaken a U.S. economy that appears to be on shakier footing. Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Analytics, said the higher import taxes would leave the United States with 900,000 fewer jobs than it would have had otherwise.

"The U.S. economy will be flirting with recession later this year and early next," Zandi said.

Jeffrey Pratt, leader of the supply chain practice at the accounting and consulting firm BDO, called the looming tariffs "a bit of gamechanger" for his clients. Many can't afford to absorb the taxes themselves and would pass along the higher costs to their customers.

Atlas PyroVision Entertainment in Jaffrey, New Hampshire, relies on China for 90% of the fireworks it sells.

"Simply imposing a 25% tariff will ultimately cause significant harm to our family business," CEO Stephen Pelkey said in a filing with the U.S. Trade Representative. "We would be forced to pass along the increase directly to our customers."

Noting that community nonprofits often use the fireworks for Independence Day celebrations, Pelkey



FILE - In this May 9, 2019, photo, steel rods produced at the Gerdau Ameristeel mill in St. Paul, Minn. await shipment. Last week's flareup over the Mexico tariffs may prove to be a pivotal juncture. The spat was especially alarming to businesses because it came seemingly out of nowhere. Less than two weeks earlier, President Donald Trump had lifted tariffs on Mexican and Canadian steel and aluminum, action that seemed to signal warmer commercial ties between the United States and its neighbors.

(AP Photo/Jim Mone, File)

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wrote: "In most cases, a 25% hike in price will force their skies to go dark on the 4th of July."

Bracing for the new tariffs, Yedi Houseware, a Los Angeles family business, has postponed plans to hire and move into a bigger warehouse. Bobby Djavaheeri, a company executive, echoed a common complaint: The administration is taxing products — in his case, things like air fryers — that aren't made by American companies. They must be imported. So no U.S. producer benefits from the tariffs; U.S. importers just get socked with a tax.

"It's really dumbfounding," he said.

Indian Motorcycle Co. in Medina, Minnesota, complained that its foreign competitors won't have to pay a tax on Chinese parts, allowing them to "import the finished motorcycle into the United States — without increased costs."

Excluding motorcycle parts from the tariffs, a company lawyer, Paul Vitrano, wrote, would "avoid the unintended consequence of providing foreign-based motorcycle manufacturers with a competitive advantage."

Carlton's Men's and Women's Apparel store in the Delaware beach town of Rehoboth says the tariffs would force it to raise prices — a \$500 suit could cost \$625 — and lose business and cut its staff of 15.

"If revenue declines, then payroll must, too," said owner Trey Kraus.

Objections to the tariffs aren't unanimous. The Bohning Co., a maker of archery equipment in Lake City, Michigan, asserted that Chinese companies are counterfeiting its products and have easier access to the U.S. market than it has to China's.

"The 25% tariffs should be put in place," wrote CEO Larry Griffith.

But most of those who sounded off on the tariffs were implacably opposed to them — and concerned.

"We beg, plead and pray you will use common sense in these trade practices and consider the little guy!!" wrote Alan Chadwick, who imports silk scarves from China and sells them in Wyoming. "We are just ants who get trampled under fighting buffalo."

AP Retail Writer Anne D'Innocenzio in New York and senior producer Tracy Brown of AP Television News in Washington contributed to this report.

Follow Paul Wiseman on Twitter at <http://Twitter.com/PaulWisemanAP>

State media say Chinese President Xi to visit North Korea

BEIJING (AP) — Chinese state media say President Xi Jinping will make a state visit to North Korea this week.

State broadcaster CCTV said in its evening news program on Monday that Xi will meet with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un during a visit Thursday and Friday.

The trip would be the first by a Chinese leader in 14 years.

Protesters demand embattled Hong Kong leader resign

By CHRISTOPHER BODEEN and TASSANEE VEJPONGSA Associated Press

HONG KONG (AP) — Demonstrators in Hong Kong gathered Monday outside the office of the city's leader, demanding that she resign for the crisis over an unpopular extradition bill that has tested the durability of China's promises to respect the former British colony's quasi-autonomy.

The mostly young protesters blocked a street near the city's waterfront as they stood outside the office of Chief Executive Carrie Lam chanting calls for her to give up the proposed legislation.

Nearly 2 million Hong Kong residents, young and old, joined a march on Sunday that lasted late into the night to express their frustrations with Lam and the extradition bill, backed by Beijing. Many stayed on afterward.

Protesters blocked some downtown roads well into Monday morning, but gradually yielded to police requests to reopen roads, moving to areas near the city's government headquarters. The protest revived

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after Joshua Wong, a prominent activist leader, rallied the crowd after his release from prison later Monday.

The activists have rejected apologies from Lam for her handling of the legislation, which would allow suspects to be sent to mainland China for trial. She announced that work on the bill would be suspended after large protests last week, but the legislation has touched a nerve not easily soothed in a city anxious over the increasingly authoritarian Communist rule of Chinese President Xi Jinping.

"We are very angry that Carrie Lam has not responded to the demands of all the protesters, but now is the time to talk about strategy, and talk about strategy is about how to make the whole struggle into a long-term struggle and not a day struggle, so if Carrie Lam does not respond to the demands by the protesters, people will come back and the struggle will continue," Lee Cheuk-yan, a former legislator and activist, said Monday.

The uproar over the extradition bill highlights worries that the former British colony is losing the special autonomous status China promised it when it took control in 1997.

On June 9, a week earlier, as many as 1 million people demonstrated to express their concern over Hong Kong's relations with mainland China.

The scenes are similar to those in 2014, when protesters camped for weeks in the streets to protest rules that prevented the direct election of the city's chief executive.

Wong, who was imprisoned for his role in the 2014 demonstrations and sit-ins, dubbed the "Umbrella Movement," was released from prison on Monday after serving half of a two-month sentence on a contempt charge. He soon swapped his white shirt for one that was black — the color of this year's protests — and joined the fray.

"After the end of the Umbrella Movement we claimed we would be back. Finally five years later we did it," Wong said.

"It's lucky that Beijing and Carrie Lam transformed a whole generation of youngsters from normal citizens to dissidents. That's the price that Beijing must pay," Wong said.

One concern over the extradition bill is that it might be used to send critics of Communist Party rule to the mainland to face vague political charges, possible torture and unfair trials.

It's seen as one of many steps chipping away at Hong Kong's freedoms and legal autonomy.

Lam insists the legislation is needed for Hong Kong to uphold justice, meet its international obligations and not become a magnet for fugitives. It would expand the scope of criminal suspect transfers to include Taiwan, Macau and mainland China.

So far, China has been excluded from Hong Kong's extradition agreements because of concerns over the judicial independence of its courts and its human rights record.

The vast majority of Hong Kong residents fled persecution, political chaos or famine in the Chinese mainland. They value stability and but also cherish freedoms of dissent and legal protections not allowed



Protesters hold a poster as they chant slogans near the Legislative Council as they continuing protest against the unpopular extradition bill in Hong Kong, Monday, June 17, 2019. A member of Hong Kong's Executive Council says the city's leader plans to apologize again over her handling of a highly unpopular extradition bill. (AP Photo/Kin Cheung)

Chinese living across the border.

Many Hong Kong residents also were angered over the police use of tear gas, rubber bullets and other forceful measures as demonstrators broke through barricades outside the city government's headquarters during demonstrations on Wednesday, and over Lam's decision to call the clashes a riot. That worsens the potential legal consequences for those involved.

The protesters have mainly focused their ire toward Lam, who has little choice but to carry through dictates issued by Beijing. She has sidestepped questions over whether she should quit and also defended how the police dealt with last week's clashes.

Many here believe Hong Kong's legal autonomy has been significantly diminished despite Beijing's insistence that it is still honoring its promise, dubbed "one country, two systems," that the territory can retain its own social, legal and political system for 50 years after the handover from Britain in 1997.

Prosecutions of activists, detentions without trial of five Hong Kong book publishers and the illegal seizure in Hong Kong by mainland agents of at least one mainland businessman are among moves in recent years that have unnerved many in the city of 7 million.

Associated Press journalists Alice Fung, Raf Wober, Borg Wong and Elaine Kurtenbach contributed to this report.

LAPD investigates officer's actions in Costco shooting

By STEFANIE DAZIO Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Los Angeles Police Department is gathering evidence and video footage in an administrative investigation into an off-duty officer who shot and killed a man authorities say attacked him inside a Southern California Costco Wholesale warehouse store.

Authorities remained tight-lipped Sunday, not responding to requests for comment about what provoked the Friday night confrontation and whether anyone but the officer was armed. Two others were critically injured in the shooting in Corona, which is about 40 miles (64 kilometers) east of Los Angeles.

The officer opened fire after Kenneth French, 32, of Riverside, assaulted him without provocation as the officer held his young child, Corona police said Saturday.

Bullets struck French and two of his family members, according to police. The officer was the only person who fired shots in the store, police said.

Rick Shureih, French's cousin, told The Press-Enterprise that he was a "gentle giant" who was mentally disabled.



The Corona police department investigate a shooting inside a Costco in Corona, Calif., Friday, June 14, 2019. A gunman opened fire inside the store during an argument, killing a man, wounding two other people and sparking a stampede of terrified shoppers before he was taken into custody, police said. The man involved in the argument was killed and two other people were wounded, Corona police Lt. Jeff Edwards said. (Will Lester/Inland Valley Daily Bulletin/SCNG via AP)

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Shureih also identified the other two victims as French's parents, Russell and Paola French, and said they remained in an intensive care unit Sunday. Authorities have not released their names.

French's family is seeking an attorney, Shureih said, and declined to give specifics about his mental condition.

French was "non-violent, non-aggressive, non-verbal," his cousin said, and "he has to be pretty much monitored."

"He's not the kind to trade words, so I don't believe that a verbal confrontation happened," Shureih said.

Shureih posted Sunday on his Facebook page a photo of French and his parents.

"I'm posting this picture because the stories on social media have made them out to be the suspects, and the off duty cop the victim," Shureih wrote. "This is a family that was unarmed and was just grocery shopping. Truth will come out! I'm sure this was a misunderstanding that got escalated for no reason!"

The LAPD will continue its internal probe as Corona police and the Riverside County district attorney's office conduct a separate investigation into the shooting. The LAPD said Sunday it had no further information. Corona police and the district attorney's office did not respond to requests for comment Sunday.

Los Angeles Police Commission President Steve Soboroff said Sunday it is Chief Michel Moore's decision whether to put the officer on leave, but it remained unclear if that happened. The officer's identity has not been released. He was treated and released at a nearby hospital and his child was not injured.

The department's policies allow off-duty officers to carry concealed weapons as long as they are authorized for on-duty use, according to the LAPD manual.

Joseph Giacalone, a professor at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice and a retired New York City Police Department sergeant, said it's justifiable to use deadly force even in a crowded store if the attacker has a weapon.

"If the guy pulled out a pocketknife and approaches him, game over," Giacalone said Sunday.

Police have not said if French had any weapons or if the officer identified himself as police before firing.

Giacalone said video footage from Costco's cameras and shoppers' cellphones will be critical to the dual investigations.

While it's not unusual for police to delay releasing information such as an officer's name in a shooting for safety reasons, Giacalone said it's important to get details out as quickly as possible.

"People start filling in the timelines for you" in the meantime, he said.

The shooting prompted a stampede of frightened shoppers, some who fled the store as others sought cover inside.

Witnesses reported seeing an argument between two people near a freezer section when shots rang out at least six times.

50 years after Stonewall, LGBT rights are a work in progress

By DAVID CRARY AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — They didn't set out to change history; they weren't the first LGBT Americans to mobilize against bias.

Yet the June 1969 uprising by young gays, lesbians and transgender people in New York City, clashing with police near a bar called the Stonewall Inn, was a vital catalyst in expanding LGBT activism nationwide and abroad. This month's anniversary provides an opportune moment to ask: How has the movement fared over the past 50 years? What unfinished business remains?

From the perspective of veteran activists, the progress has been astounding. In 1969, every state but Illinois outlawed gay sex, psychiatric experts classified homosexuality as a mental disorder, and most gays stayed in the closet for fear of losing jobs and friends.

Today, same-sex marriage is the law of the land in the U.S. and at least 25 other countries. LGBT Americans serve as governors, big-city mayors and members of Congress, and one — Pete Buttigieg — is waging a spirited campaign for president.

Among those looking back with marvel is Stephen Rutsky, 68, a lifelong New Yorker who joined in rioting

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and protests sparked by a police raid targeted at gay patrons of Stonewall. He engaged in a wide variety of LGBT activism over the ensuing decades.

"Mobs of gays and lesbians were running around angry and confused, but we all knew that something had sparked a change in our world," Rutsky remembers. "We were demanding our freedom and there was nothing that was ever going to stop us from obtaining it."

"We've come a long way, baby," he added. "But lots more to do."

WHAT'S NEXT

High on the to-do list is passage of federal legislation that would provide nationwide nondiscrimination protections for LGBT people. A bill with that goal, the Equality Act, passed the House of Representatives in May with unanimous Democratic backing but appears doomed in the Senate because of Republican opposition.

Nationally, 20 mostly Democrat-run states already have laws comparable to the Equality Act — protecting LGBT people from discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations and public services. The other 30 states, where Republicans hold full or partial power, have balked.

The result is a patchwork map in which a majority of states make it legal to be fired, evicted or barred from public facilities because of sexual orientation or gender identity.

Internationally, the struggle for LGBT rights remains daunting in much of the world. Stonewall helped inspire successful activist movements in Western Europe (a major British LGBT-rights group is called Stonewall) and elsewhere. But gay sex is outlawed in dozens of countries, while Asia and Africa each have only one nation that has legalized same-sex marriage.

Another battlefront relates to transgender rights. In the U.S., the Trump administration has moved to revoke newly won health care protections for transgender people, restrict their presence in the military, and withdraw federal guidance that trans students should be able to use bathrooms of their choice.

Donald Trump's election "gave all sorts of mouth-breathers permission to spew ignorance, hatred, and stupidity, undoing decades of progress," said Jennifer Boylan, a transgender writer who teaches at Barnard College in New York City. "People who know nothing about trans people and our unique challenges have no qualms weighing in."

Jude Patton, a 78-year-old transgender man from Yuba City, California, marvels at the changes that have unfolded during his life.

He grew up in Alton, Illinois, knowing from childhood that he was uncomfortable being viewed as a girl. His parents were supportive, but he says some teachers at his high school were intolerant.

In his mid-20s, Patton moved to California and completed a surgical transition at a Stanford University clinic in 1973. Ever since, he has been active in advocacy, counseling and health education related to



FILE - In this July 4, 1967 file photo Kay Tobin Lahusen, right, and other demonstrators carry signs calling for protection of homosexuals from discrimination as they march in a picket line in front of Independence Hall in Philadelphia. In 2019, same-sex marriage is the law of the land in the U.S. and at least 25 other countries. LGBT Americans serve as governors, big-city mayors and members of Congress, and one _ Pete Buttigieg _ is waging a spirited campaign for president. (AP Photo/John F. Urwiller)

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LGBT issues.

Now, he says his delight at LGBT gains is tempered by worries over the Trump administration's rollback of trans-friendly protections.

"Every day, I see some other right being taken away," he said. "Historically, the pendulum can swing back again. I hope it gets better."

'AN AMAZING SILVER LINING'

Historians trace the emergence of America's gay rights movements to the 1950s, when the Mattachine Society and a lesbian group, the Daughters of Bilitis, were founded in California.

Government astronomer Frank Kameny, who sued after he was fired for being gay, took his anti-discrimination case to the Supreme Court in 1961 (the justices declined to hear his appeal), and helped stage the first gay rights protest outside the White House in 1965.

In 1966, Mattachine Society members in New York City successfully staged a "sip-in" to protest laws that banned bars from serving alcohol to gays and lesbians. The terms "gay pride" and "gay liberation" emerged.

Much of the activity unfolded out of the national spotlight. But the movement broadened after Stonewall, leading to some high-profile events in the late 1970s.

In 1977, singer Anita Bryant led a victorious campaign to repeal a local ordinance in Florida barring anti-gay discrimination. Activists retaliated with a nationwide boycott of Florida orange juice, a product for which Bryant was a brand spokeswoman.

In 1978, pioneering gay politician Harvey Milk was assassinated along with San Francisco Mayor George Moscone. The next year, activists organized the first national gay rights march on Washington.

The 1980s proved shattering — but also galvanizing — for gay Americans, as an initially mysterious, unnamed disease morphed into the AIDS epidemic. Many thousands of gay men died, including actor Rock Hudson; his death played a major role in raising public awareness of the disease.

Longtime activist Lorri Jean, who has served more than 20 years as CEO of the Los Angeles LGBT Center, remembers AIDS in the 1980s as a "horrific disaster" that killed many of the men close to her.

"Yet it had an amazing silver lining," said Jean, 62. "Suddenly, the most privileged in our community were being impacted as well as the least privileged, and people couldn't hide in the closet anymore. When they got sick, people knew. That galvanized our community in a way that nothing else ever had."

MARRIAGE RIGHTS

By the mid-1990s, the federal government — slow to respond at the start of the epidemic — was deeply engaged in the fight against AIDS, and the number of new cases finally began to decline. Many gay rights organizations and activists shifted their focus to a long-haul campaign to legalize same-sex marriage. Massachusetts became the first state to do so in 2004; the U.S. Supreme Court struck down all state bans in 2015.

Some activists suggest that the push for marriage equality consumed too much of the LGBT rights movement's energy, diverting attention from violence against transgender people and the persistently high HIV infection rate among gay and bisexual black men. Others say the marriage campaign was crucial in changing policy and public attitudes.

"For the government to treat gay people with equal dignity, it had to treat gay people as equal in marriage," said lawyer Roberta Kaplan. "It was an essential, determinative step."

Kaplan is best known for winning a landmark Supreme Court case in 2013 on behalf of Edith Windsor, who was denied an inheritance tax break after the death of her wife. Kaplan and Windsor successfully challenged the Defense of Marriage Act, which barred married same-sex couples from enjoying marriage benefits conferred under federal law. That decision helped lay the legal groundwork for the 2015 ruling that legalized same-sex marriage nationwide.

Born in 1966, Kaplan recalls being in college during the height of the AIDS epidemic, "with men dying by the thousands and a government not seeming to care."

"It's incomprehensible — the change that has been wrought during my lifetime," she said. "If you had told me, when I was in college, that one day I would grow up, get married to a woman, have a kid, be partner in a law firm, and then argue a momentous civil rights case in the Supreme Court, I would have

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said you were going to too many Grateful Dead concerts.”

THE RELIGION QUESTION

Same-sex marriage is among several reasons why, in the post-Stonewall era, the realm of religion has abounded with controversies linked to LGBT rights.

Many denominations — including Reformed Judaism and most mainline Protestant churches — have adopted fully inclusive policies, accepting LGBT people into the clergy and honoring their marriages. But some of the largest denominations — including the Roman Catholic Church, the Southern Baptist Convention and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints — refuse to take those inclusive steps and still consider gay sex immoral.

Gene Robinson, who in 2003 became the first openly gay bishop in the Episcopal Church, says there’s a split on LGBT acceptance between many rank-and-file churchgoers and the leaders of the big, conservative denominations.

“The good news is that we have changed the minds and hearts of a majority of religious people across all religious lines,” Robinson said. “The bad news is that the people in the pews — many of whom have gay relatives and friends — don’t have the power to change policies in churches that are tightly controlled by the hierarchy.”

Religion plays a key role in current debates over nondiscrimination protections for LGBT people. The Trump administration has aligned with some religious conservatives in arguing that such protections can infringe on the religious beliefs of people who oppose same-sex marriage and transgender rights.

Emilie Kao, a lawyer with the conservative Heritage Foundation, says the Equality Act “imposes sexual ideology on the nation that endangers religious freedom, freedom of speech, and parental rights by punishing those who dissent from political correctness.”

These arguments irk activists such as Lorri Jean.

“My biggest concern is the very clever backlash by fundamentalist religious leaders who are trying to suggest they are the victims,” Jean said. “But even if they have victories, they’ll be short-lived... The vast majority of American people do not believe discrimination against LGBT people is OK.”

SLOWLY INTEGRATING

In myriad ways, progress for LGBT Americans has become so commonplace that it attracts little notice, whether it’s in local politics, the arts or sports. For example, there are no openly gay men currently competing in North America’s four biggest pro sports leagues — but the situation is different at lower levels.

“I look more at college and high school sports ... where we’ve seen literally countless athletes come out and be totally accepted by their teams,” said Cyd Zeigler of the website Outsports. He believes any athlete coming out now in the major leagues would be welcomed by teammates, coaches and fans.

Back in 1984, Ruth Clark joined a lesbian feminist chorus in Chicago called the Artemis Singers — a step she viewed at the time as “a very radical act.” Over the decades, the chorus has moved toward the mainstream — performing at universities, churches, museums and a 2013 ceremony at which then-Gov. Pat Quinn signed Illinois’ marriage-equality bill.

Clark says that when questions were raised recently about whether the chorus should be allowed to use a Roman Catholic school’s auditorium, the group’s producer assured the skeptics, “They’re just like soccer moms.”

Huawei founder says revenue will be billions below forecast

By **DAKE KANG** and **YANAN WANG** Associated Press

SHENZHEN, China (AP) — Huawei’s founder said Monday that the Chinese telecom giant’s revenue will be \$30 billion less than forecast over the next two years, as he compared the company to a “badly damaged plane” as a result of U.S. government actions against it.

“We never thought that the U.S.’s determination to attack Huawei would be so strong, so firm,” Ren Zhengfei, who is also the CEO, said during a panel discussion at company headquarters in Shenzhen.

Ren said Huawei will reduce capacity and expects revenues of about \$100 billion annually for the next

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two years, compared to \$105 billion in 2018. In February, he said the company was targeting \$125 billion in 2019.

Huawei's overseas cellphone sales will drop by 40%, Ren said, confirming a Bloomberg report published Sunday. But the Chinese market is growing rapidly, and Huawei will not allow restrictive measures to curb its research and development, he added.

Huawei is embroiled in an ongoing trade dispute between China and the U.S., which has accused Chinese companies such as Huawei of committing forced technology transfers and stealing trade secrets. Last month, the U.S. placed Huawei on its "Entity List," which effectively bars American companies from selling components to Huawei without government approval.

In December, Huawei chief financial officer Meng Wanzhou — Ren's daughter — was arrested in Vancouver at the request of U.S. authorities.

The U.S. alleges that Meng misled American banks about the company's business dealings with Iran, and that Huawei used a Hong Kong shell company to sell equipment in Iran in violation of U.S. sanctions.

The U.S. also claims Huawei, a leader in next-generation 5G cellphone networks, is a threat to global cybersecurity because it must obey China's ruling Communist Party. While Ren denies that Huawei would share user data with the Chinese government if ordered to do so, Washington has been trying to convince its allies to exclude Huawei from their upcoming 5G rollout.

In response, Huawei brought a lawsuit in the U.S. this March challenging the constitutionality of a national security law which prevents the U.S. government and its contractors from using Huawei equipment. The complaint, filed in Plano, Texas, where Huawei's American operations are headquartered, alleges that the law singles out Huawei for punishment while denying the company due process.

Ren said Monday there are no backdoors in its equipment that anyone could access, and that Huawei is willing to enter into a no backdoor agreement with any nation that wants one.

The Wall Street Journal reported last week that Huawei is asking Verizon to pay licensing fees for more than 200 of its patents. While Huawei declined to comment on the matter, company spokesman Joe Kelly said it will hold a briefing later this month on being more aggressive about collecting intellectual property licensing fees.

Ren said during the panel discussion that Huawei will not use its many patents as a "weapon," but did not rule out seeking royalties for usage.

He emphasized that Huawei will not stop collaborating with other countries and businesses.

The company's current situation "is not caused by American businesses, but rather by certain politicians' different perspectives," Ren said. "I think both sides will suffer. No one will win."

The panel, organized by Huawei, also included Nicholas Negroponte, the founder of the media lab at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and writer and investor George Gilder.

___ Wang reported from Beijing.



Huawei founder Ren Zhengfei speaks at a roundtable at the telecom giant's headquarters in Shenzhen in southern China on Monday, June 17, 2019. Huawei's founder has likened his company to a badly damaged plane and says revenues will be \$30 billion less than forecast over the next two years. (AP Photo/Dake Kang)

Buttigieg returns to South Bend after man killed by police

SOUTH BEND, Ind. (AP) — Authorities say a man has died after a shooting involving a police officer in South Bend, the Indiana city where Democratic presidential candidate Pete Buttigieg is mayor.

Buttigieg said he changed his campaign schedule to return to South Bend Sunday and hold a late night press conference. He said that the circumstances of the death would be thoroughly investigated, and called on any witnesses of the shooting to come forward and speak to investigators.

"We will be striving to reach out to community members," Buttigieg said.

The St. Joseph prosecutor's office, which is investigating, said police responded early Sunday to a call about a suspicious person going through cars.

A police officer confronted a man in a vehicle in an apartment building parking lot. The prosecutor's office says the man exited the vehicle and approached the officer with a knife raised and the officer opened fire.

The man, identified as 53-year-old Eric Jack Logan of South Bend, died later at a hospital. An autopsy is scheduled for Monday.

The officer, who was not identified, was treated for minor injuries.

Information from: WNDU-TV, <http://www.wndu.com/>



Democratic Presidential candidate, Pete Buttigieg, speaks during the Blue Commonwealth Gala at Main Street Station in Richmond, Va., Saturday, June 15, 2019. Hosted by the Democratic Party of Virginia, the Blue Commonwealth Gala is Virginia's premier gathering of elected officials, candidates, community activists, and Democratic Party leaders.

(Dan Currier/Richmond Times-Dispatch via AP)

Pakistani women sold in marriage, then prostitution in China

By KATHY GANNON Associated Press

FAISALABAD, Pakistan (AP) — At first, in her desperate calls home to her mother in Pakistan, Natasha Masih couldn't bring herself to say what they were doing to her.

All the 19-year-old would say was that her new husband — a Chinese man her family sold her off to in marriage — was torturing her. Eventually she broke down and told her mother the full story, pleading with her to bring her home. The husband had hidden her away in a hotel in a remote corner of China and for the past weeks had been forcing her to have sex with other men.

"I bought you in Pakistan," she said her husband told her. "You belong to me. You are my property."

Her mother turned to the only people she knew who could help, her small evangelical church in a run-down slum of the Pakistani city of Faisalabad. There, a group of parishioners began putting together an elaborate plan to rescue the girl from the hotel more than 1,100 miles away.

Natasha was one of hundreds of Pakistani girls who have been married off to Chinese men in return for cash payments to their families, most of them Christians, a community that is among the poorest of the poor in the country. The Associated Press reported previously how Christian pastors and Pakistani

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and Chinese brokers work together in a lucrative trade, aggressively pursuing Pakistani girls who are tricked into fraudulent marriages and find themselves trapped in China with sometimes abusive husbands.

Since then, police investigations have uncovered that many of the women are forced into prostitution in China. A picture of the extent of the trafficking networks has emerged from a series of arrests and raids in recent weeks by Pakistan's Federal Investigation Agency, as well as testimony from victims, many of whom were previously too frightened to come forward.

The AP spoke to seven girls who had been forced into prostitution — four of them still in China.

Families are told their daughters will be wed to well-off businessmen and given good lives in China, and the marriage trade is depicted as a benefit for all sides — impoverished parents receive money, while Chinese men find brides in a country where men outnumber women. But investigators

are increasingly convinced that the majority of the girls are sold into prostitution, two law enforcement officials familiar with the investigations told the AP.

"The girls who are interviewed say they were tortured" — using a euphemism for rape and forced prostitution, said one of the officials. "They are afraid for their families and for the disgust they fear they will feel. ... Make no mistake, this is trafficking."

However, even as investigators are uncovering the scope of the trade, the Pakistani government has sought to keep it quiet. Senior government officials have ordered investigators to remain silent about the trafficking because they don't want to jeopardize Pakistan's increasingly close economic relationship with China, the two officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity for that reason.

Beijing is investing billions of dollars in Pakistan as part of its Belt and Road Initiative, a global endeavor aimed at reconstituting the Silk Road and linking China to all corners of Asia. Under a \$75 billion project known as the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, Beijing has promised a sprawling package of infrastructure development, from road construction and power plants to agriculture. The largest component is a 3,200-kilometer (2,000-mile) road linking China to Pakistan's deep-water port of Gwadar on the Arabian Sea.

In Pakistan, it has been billed as a massive development program that will bring new prosperity to the South Asian nation, where the average citizen lives on just \$125 a month. Since 2015, thousands of Chinese have arrived in Pakistan to work on a multitude of projects.

China's ambassador to Pakistan has gone on local television channels denying girls are trafficked to China and sold into prostitution. The issue of human trafficking was not discussed during a visit to Pakistan this month by China's vice president, Wang Qishan, who held talks with Prime Minister Imran Khan and Pakistan's president. In comments carried in the Pakistani press, Wang denied trafficking was taking place — and referred to an online video that traffickers often use to lure in families, showing Pakistani brides in China dancing and happy.



In this May 14, 2019, photo, Pakistani Christian Natasha Masih, speaks to the Associated Press in Faisalabad, Pakistan. Natasha begged her mother to bring her home from China, but it took an elaborate scheme devised by a small cabal of Christian men in her hometown of Faisalabad, in Pakistan's Punjab province, to orchestrate her escape from what began as an unhappy marriage, and ended in prostitution. (AP Photo/K.M. Chaudary)

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"China is denying it is happening, but we are showing the proof," said Saleem Iqbal, an activist in Pakistan's small Christian minority who has helped bring girls back from China and collects evidence of trafficking networks that he provides to police.

The AP spoke by messaging app with Arooj, a Pakistani girl still trapped in China. She said her husband beat her and would come home drunk with friends and force her to have sex with them. Like many of the girls, she wasn't sure where she was in China; often they are taken from Beijing on flights elsewhere in the country, then driven for hours to small towns, without being told the destination.

Ijaz Alam Augustine, the human rights and minorities minister in Pakistan's Punjab province, estimated that more than 500 women have been trafficked to China, while Iqbal put the figure at 750 to 1,000.

In early May, Pakistani police swept through posh neighborhoods in the Punjab provincial capital of Lahore and in the national capital, Islamabad. They arrested Chinese nationals and their Pakistani partners involved in two marriage-broker networks that sought out Pakistani girls for Chinese grooms. They all now face trafficking charges.

Investigators have since made further arrests in smaller Punjab towns and in the western city of Peshawar, rolling up more networks. Overall, at least two dozen Chinese and dozens of Pakistanis have been arrested.

The two law enforcement officials said the Lahore-based network had been operating for at least a year. The network was protected by corrupt policemen, and the son of a former senior police official served as the lynchpin between the Chinese and Pakistani operatives, the officials said.

The network also benefited from lax oversight by authorities, they said. For example, at least five of the Chinese traffickers were able to enter Pakistan on business visas based on companies that didn't exist.

The AP saw one of the charge sheets from the wave of arrests, in which eight Chinese nationals and five Pakistanis were charged with human trafficking. It also accused the traffickers of profiting on body parts stolen from girls trafficked to China, without offering evidence. Other police reports tell of a Pakistani pastor who signed dozens of empty marriage certificates, which were later filled out by traffickers once they had acquired a prospective bride.

Investigators have conducted dozens of interviews in recent weeks with trafficked girls and women, who are increasingly speaking out.

One woman, Sumaira, who was sold to a Chinese groom by her brothers, told the AP she had remained silent for months after escaping her husband, even refusing to talk to investigators. But now she is coming forward.

"If I had told everything that happened to me then, maybe I would have saved so many other Pakistani girls," she said. "But I was too afraid, too afraid of my brothers. Now I want the people that did this to me to not do it to other girls."

The 30-year-old Sumaira had been running a small beauty salon in a poor, mostly Christian neighborhood of the Punjab town of Gujranwala. "I was a very different person than what you see now," she said. "Then I had hope. I believed in my future. Now I don't know."

Her brothers forced her to marry in July last year after being offered money by brokers. Her husband took her first to a house in Islamabad, where she said she was kept for a week, raped every night by Chinese men.

Before leaving for China, she convinced her husband to let her go home to say farewell to her sisters.

"When I got home, I yelled at my brothers, 'Why did you sell me? How much money did you get for me?'" she said. The brothers beat her, but she managed to escape to the home of an uncle.

Natasha Masih lives in Wasirpura, a mainly Christian district of Faisalabad where many work as domestic workers. She didn't want to marry, but "what could I do, my family is poor." A friend of her father suggested he marry her to a Chinese man. She said her father struggled with the decision but needed the money. He had four other daughters and could no longer work after hurting his back. Natasha said refusing was never an option.

In November, her husband took her to China's remote northwestern region. She was driven to a forested area and a small house with no kitchen or bathroom that she was told would be her home. She discovered

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that three male and two female friends of her husband shared the house. Soon, her husband began to force her to have sex with the men.

Soon after, her husband took her to the Yin Du luxury hotel in the nearby city of Urumqi. There, he confined her to a room and sold her into prostitution.

"Always two or three men were the same, and then he would bring other men, ordering me to have sex with them," she said. "I was living in hell-like conditions, silently weeping, silently praying for help." She made furtive calls to her parents on her mobile phone.

Back in Faisalabad, a member of her parent's church, Farooq Masih, formed a group of men from the congregation to try to help. Masih, who is not related to Natasha, told the AP they struggled with how to free Natasha until one among them told of his younger brother who was a student in China. The brother agreed to contact Natasha's husband, pose as a client and pay him to sleep with her to get access to her.

The student texted Natasha and told her he was coming to rescue her, asking for details of when her husband comes and goes from the hotel. Finally, the day came. He called her and told her to slip outside the hotel to where he was waiting in a taxi.

"I saw him and quickly I took my clothes and got into his taxi," she said. "I didn't ask his name. I didn't ask anything, I just said, 'Brother, thank you.'" Soon she was on a plane to Pakistan.

Farooq Masih and the other men from the church have since dedicated hours to unearthing trafficking networks. They recently conducted their own sting operation in Faisalabad, orchestrating a fake marriage to a prospective Chinese groom that led the Federal Investigation Agency to the Chinese and Pakistani brokers and the pastor who solemnized the unions for a fee.

Meanwhile, Natasha — who turned 20 last week — helps other young women open up about their experiences and encourages them to talk to investigators. She has heard reports that her husband was back in Pakistan looking for another girl to marry.

"I am lucky," Natasha said. "Many girls who were taken there by their husbands are still living a terrible life. ... Now I know what is freedom and what is slavery. In China, I was treated as a slave by my husband."

Iran says it will break uranium stockpile limit in 10 days

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

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran will break the uranium stockpile limit set by Tehran's nuclear deal with world powers in the next 10 days, the spokesman for the country's atomic agency said Monday while also warning that Iran could enrich uranium up to 20% — just a step away from weapons-grade levels.

The announcement by Behrouz Kamalvandi, timed for a meeting of EU foreign ministers in Brussels, puts more pressure on Europe to come up with new terms for Iran's 2015 nuclear deal.

The deal has steadily unraveled since the Trump administration pulled America out of the accord last year and re-imposed tough economic sanctions on Iran, deeply cutting into its sale of crude oil abroad and sending its economy into freefall. Europe has so far been unable to offer Iran a way around the U.S. sanctions.

The development comes in the wake of apparent attacks on oil tankers last week in the Mideast, assaults that Washington has blamed on Iran. While Iran has denied being involved, it has used mines in the past against commercial traffic around the crucial Strait of Hormuz, through which a fifth of the world's crude oil passes.

Kamalvandi accused Europeans of "killing time" as the clock runs down.

"If this condition continues, there will be no deal" anymore, Kamalvandi said.

President Hassan Rouhani, greeting France's new ambassador to Tehran on Monday, similarly warned that time was running out for the deal.

"The current situation is very critical and France and the other parties to the (deal) still have a very limited opportunity to play their historic role for saving the deal," Rouhani said, according to his website.

Under terms of the nuclear deal, Iran can keep a stockpile of no more than 300 kilograms (660 pounds) of low-enriched uranium. Kamalvandi said that given Iran's recent decision to quadruple its production of

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low-enriched uranium, it would pass the 300-kilogram limit on Thursday, July 27.

The United Nations nuclear watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency, said last month that Iran still remained within its stockpile limits. The Vienna-based agency declined to comment Monday on Iran's announcement.

Kamalvandi said Iran needs 5% enrichment for its nuclear power plant in southern Iranian port of Bushehr and it also needs 20% enrichment for a Tehran research reactor.

The nuclear deal had limited Iran to enriching uranium only to 3.67%, which is enough for power plants and peaceful purposes.

But after America's pullout and escalated sanctions, Tehran set a July 7 deadline for Europe to come up with better terms for the deal, or it would take additional steps away from the accord, likely meaning it would boost enrichment further.

Kamalvandi enforced that stance, saying that Tehran will increase uranium enrichment levels "based on the country's needs."

Enriching a supply of uranium means boosting its concentration of the type of uranium that can power a nuclear reaction. That type, or isotope, is called U-235. Enrichment basically means stripping away atoms of another isotope, called U-238. Boosting its purity to 20% means removing 22 more unwanted isotopes per atom of U-235, while going from there to 90% purity means removing just four more per atom of U-235. Ninety percent is considered weapons-grade material.

That means going from 20% to 90% is a relatively quicker process, something that worries nuclear nonproliferation experts. Iran maintains its nuclear program is for peaceful purposes.

Iran reached its nuclear deal with world powers in 2015, agreeing to limit its enrichment of uranium in exchange for the lifting of economic sanctions. Since President Donald Trump took office, the U.S. has steadily stripped away at the accord. Trump pulled America out of the deal in May 2018.

Tensions have ratcheted up in the region since last month. The U.S. rushed an aircraft carrier strike group and other military assets to the Mideast in response to what it said were threats from Iran. Meanwhile, a series of mysterious attacks have targeted oil tankers and Iranian-backed Houthi rebels in Yemen have launched a series of drone and missile attacks on Saudi Arabia.

Gen. Mohammad Hossein Bagheri, the chief of the general staff of Iran's armed forces, denied Tehran was involved in the ship attacks, saying Monday the country only would respond in "an open, strong and severe way" if needed. However, Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard, which the U.S. suspects in the attacks, answers only to Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and operates outside of the army's control.

Kamalvandi spoke to Iranian journalists in a news conference at the country's Arak heavy water nuclear reactor. Such reactors produce plutonium that can be used in nuclear weapons. Iran, under the nuclear deal, had reconfigured the facility to address Western concerns on that issue.



FILE - This Jan. 15, 2011 file photo, shows a part of Arak heavy water nuclear facilities, near the central city of Arak, 150 miles (250 kilometers) southwest of the capital Tehran, Iran. Iran will break the uranium stockpile limit set by Tehran's nuclear deal with world powers in the next 10 days, the spokesman for the country's atomic agency said Monday June 17, 2019, while also warning that Iran has the need for uranium enriched up to 20%, just a step away from weapons-grade levels. (Mehdi Marizad/Fars News Agency via AP, File)

However, Kamalvandi said the country could rebuild the facility to make it produce plutonium. He also said Iran would continue to allow the U.N. to inspect its nuclear facilities for the time being.

The U.S. alleges Iran used limpet mines to target two tankers last Thursday, pointing to black-and-white footage it captured that American officials describe as an Iranian Revolutionary Guard vessel removing an unexploded mine from the Japanese-operated tanker Kokuka Courageous, one of the two ships that were targeted.

The Japanese tanker's owner said its crew described "flying objects" as having targeted the vessel.

In Brussels on Monday, European Union foreign ministers said they were still looking for more information on who might be behind the incident involving the tankers. Germany and others insisted they need a clearer picture before wading into a diplomatic conflict which could have serious implications in the Middle East.

German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas said that U.S. and British intelligence needs to be compared with other information from allies. "We have to be very careful," he said.

EU foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini said it was not a time to jump to action without proper information. "The maximum restraint and wisdom should be applied," she said ahead of the monthly foreign ministers meeting in Luxembourg.

Gambrell reported from Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Associated Press writers Raf Casert in Brussels and Frank Jordans in Berlin contributed to this report.

Battleground Florida: Both parties prepare for 2020 fight

By ZEKE MILLER Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — President Donald Trump's early strength in Florida on the night of the 2016 election was the first sign that he was about to score an upset victory. In an otherwise bleak 2018 for the GOP, the state was again a bright spot for Republicans who won the governor's mansion and flipped a Senate seat.

But as another campaign heats up, Democrats aren't ceding the Sunshine State.

Though the state has trended — by the narrowest of margins — toward Republicans in recent elections, both parties are mobilizing for a fierce and expensive battle in Florida. Democratic candidates, including early front-runner Joe Biden, have already visited the state to tap donors and connect with voters, and will descend on Miami later this month for their first round of debates. And Trump will return on Tuesday for his latest reelection announcement.

The attention is a recognition that, despite its expensive media markets and hyper-polarized politics, neither



FILE - In this March 29, 2019 file photo, President Donald Trump speaks to reporters during a visit to Lake Okeechobee and Herbert Hoover Dike at Canal Point, Fla. Florida was a bright spot for Republicans in an otherwise bleak 2018, seemingly immune to headwinds faced by the GOP in other historic battlegrounds from President Donald Trump's tumultuous presidency. But ahead of the 2020 election, Democrats aren't giving up hope on the Sunshine State, seeking to inject new peril to Trump's path to another term in office. (AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta)

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party can ignore Florida. For Trump, there are few ways for him to remain in the White House without keeping Florida's 29 electoral votes. And for Democrats, a win here would validate the party's emphasis on building diverse coalitions — not to mention all but obliterate Trump's reelection prospects.

Florida Democrats say it's wrong to interpret recent election results as the state slipping away.

"I don't think we're red. I don't think we're purple. I think we're simply unorganized," said former Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillum, the 2018 Democratic nominee for governor who lost by fewer than 33,000 votes.

Gillum's race was one of several in recent years decided by a tiny sliver of the electorate, leaving the state a veritable graveyard of broken Democratic dreams.

Earlier this year, he launched Forward Florida, a political group meant to help Democrats retake the state in 2020, to keep Florida from being left by the wayside as Democrats try to sort out how the Trump-era political realignment has remade the presidential map.

While both parties seem convinced of the importance of the upper Midwest, fresh questions are being raised over whether the path to the White House must still run through other long-standing battlegrounds and whether others might be emerging. The Democratic super PAC Priorities USA revealed last month that its polling shows Ohio, an erstwhile swing state, now appears safer for Trump than deep-red Texas.

Still, Florida remains a key target for both parties, and Democrats have a lot of ground to make up.

Republicans have maintained an uninterrupted presence in the state since 2014, and have trained 3,000 local organizers it calls fellows, who can amplify, or in some cases replace, the voter registration and turnout work of its paid field staff.

"This is something that can't be made up with a few checks by a failed gubernatorial candidate," said RNC spokesman Rick Gorka.

Taking a page from the GOP's playbook, progressive group For Our Future has been organizing in the state continuously since 2016, trying to keep Democratic voters engaged between elections. "When you lose within the margins continuously the way that we did, I think that's an indicator that this state can still be won, but we need to do more work," said Justin Myers, the organization's CEO. "And that work comes from real on-the-ground organizing in the communities that matter."

Trump has made more visits to Florida as president than to any other state, in part because he maintains a number of private golf clubs here. But advisers also said he has an affinity for the state's avid Trump fans who have attended some of his most raucous rallies.

It's for those reasons that in February 2017 he chose Florida to announce his bid for reelection earlier than any American leader and now 28 months later he's returning to the state Tuesday to do it one more time.

Trump has boasted that as many as 100,000 people have tried to enter the 20,000-person Amway Center in Orlando, and the campaign has announced an outdoor "45 fest" for the overflow crowd.

The president has used the power of his office to pay special attention to Florida. During a campaign rally in Panama City Beach last month, Trump promised voters new disaster relief funding for the hurricane-hit portion of the state and additional funding for a bridge project if he was re-elected.

A string of both public and private polling has some in the president's orbit acknowledging that carrying Florida will not be simple. Surveys by the Democratic group Priorities USA found that in Florida, like nationally, Trump gets high marks on the economy. But voters also believe the president cares more about the wealthy than about the average American.

AP Votecast's survey of 2018 voters in the state found them roughly evenly divided on approval of Trump. And the Trump campaign's own recent internal polls showed him trailing Democrats in early head-to-head matchups.

Most of the Democratic candidate focus on the state has been on its well-heeled donors or with an eye toward its delegate-rich primary in March, set for two weeks after Super Tuesday.

Pete Buttigieg, the mayor of South Bend, Indiana, hailed the state last month as "one of the most remarkably diverse places in the country."

"I'm making sure that we reach out not only to the many different parts of the Latino community here, to the black community, but to people of all ages and all backgrounds," he said.

10 Things to Know for Today

By The Associated Press

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

1. IRAN SIGNALS MAJOR NUCLEAR CHANGE

A spokesman for Iran's atomic agency says the country will break the uranium stockpile limit set by Tehran's nuclear deal with world powers in the next 10 days.

2. ANGRY PROTESTERS ON THE MOVE

Hong Kong demonstrators reject Chief Executive Carrie Lam's apology as they leave the streets and avert possible clashes with police.

3. WHAT BROUGHT ON THE DARKNESS

After a massive blackout hit tens of millions of people in Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay, authorities were still largely in the dark about what caused the collapse of the interconnected grid.

4. FORCED INTO MARRIAGE, THEN PROSTITUTION

Hundreds of Pakistani girls have been married off to Chinese men in return for cash payments to their families and many of them have been forced to have sex with other men, the AP finds.

5. 'THEY THREW US IN THERE LIKE ANIMALS'

Many migrants who cross into southern Mexico end up in Siglo XXI, reportedly described as sorely overcrowded and filthy, and alleged repeated abusive treatment by agents tasked with running it.

6. DETAILS SCANT IN FATAL STORE SHOOTING

The Los Angeles Police Department is remaining tight-lipped about what led an off-duty officer into a confrontation at a Costco and whether anyone but the officer was armed.

7. TELECOM GIANT: US MOVES 'WILL NOT STOP US'

Huawei founder says revenues will be \$30 billion less than forecast after being put on a blacklist, meaning that American companies that want to sell parts to Huawei will need approval from the U.S. Commerce Department.

8. WAR CRIMES CASE SET TO BEGIN

A decorated Navy SEAL charged with killing an Islamic State prisoner in his care is headed to trial following months of turmoil in one of the Navy's most prominent cases.

9. PROGRESSIVE CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY CLOSE IN OREGON

Oregon close to a market-based approach to lowering the greenhouse gas emissions behind global warming.

10. GARY WOODLAND WINS IN STYLE



Pro-democracy activist Joshua Wong speaks to protesters near the Legislative Council following a massive protest against the unpopular extradition bill in Hong Kong, Monday, June 17, 2019. Wong, was released from prison Monday after serving half of a two-month jail sentence for contempt. He headed to join protesters gathered near Hong Kong's government headquarters soon afterward, and also called in a tweet for Chief Executive Carrie Lam to resign and for a halt to "all political persecutions." (AP

Photo/Kin Cheung)

The golfer holed a 30-foot birdie putt for a 2-under 69, giving him the lowest 72-hole score in six U.S. denying Brooks Koepka his third straight U.S. Open win

Hunt for cause of massive South America power outage begins

By LUIS ANDRES HENAO and PAUL BYRNE Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — As lights turned back on across Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay after a massive blackout that hit tens of millions people, authorities were still largely in the dark about what caused the collapse of the interconnected grid and were tallying the damage from the unforeseen disaster.

Argentine President Mauricio Macri promised a thorough investigation into what he called an “unprecedented” outage, one that raised questions about flaws in South America’s grid, which connects many of the region’s largest countries.

Energy officials said the results of the investigation would be available in 10 to 15 days, and they could not immediately provide details on the economic impact of the outage, which came on a Sunday, and a day before a national holiday in Argentina.

Argentine Energy Secretary Gustavo Lopetegui said the blackout began with a failure in the country’s “inter-connection system,” adding that it happens in other countries as well. But he said a chain of events took place later, causing a total disruption.

“This is an extraordinary event that should have never happened,” he told a news conference. “It’s very serious. We can’t leave the whole country all of a sudden without electricity.” He did not discount the possibility of a cyberattack, but said it was unlikely.

The collapse began at about 7 a.m. Sunday, with Argentina’s population of 44 million and residents of neighboring Uruguay and some areas of Paraguay waking up to Father’s Day in the dark.

Public transportation halted in Buenos Aires, while phone and internet communications were disrupted, water supplies were cut off and shops were forced to close. Patients dependent on home medical equipment were urged to go to hospitals with generators.

Power was fully restored by Sunday night. But the outage ignited questions about Argentina’s preparedness and lack of investment in the power system at a time when the country is going through a deep economic crisis with soaring inflation, a tumbling of the local currency and a spike in utility bills fueled by austerity measures ordered by Macri.

The conservative leader has seen his popularity ratings plunge during a crisis where he has struggled to tame one of the world’s highest inflation rates and poverty has reached about a third of the population. Argentines are also frustrated with high utility costs and the blackout could trigger more protests against Macri’s government just as he seeks re-election in October.



Technicians of Edenor electricity company stand under the rain as they work to fix a generator during a blackout in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Sunday, June 16, 2019. A massive blackout left tens of millions of people without electricity in Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay on Sunday in what the Argentine president called an “unprecedented” failure in the countries’ power grid. (AP Photo/Tomas F. Cuesta)

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"The country is already in a weird moment and then you wake up and can't see anything," said Julieta Dodda, 27, a saleswoman at a clothing store in downtown Buenos Aires. "Many people were going to meet for lunch to celebrate the day. I saw many online who joked: "Happy Father's Day from Edesur and Edenor, which are our electricity companies."

Energy officials defended the strength of the Argentine system, saying it's "robust" and exceeding in supplies. But the grid has been known for being in a state of disrepair, with substations and cables that were insufficiently upgraded as power rates remained largely frozen for years.

An Argentine independent energy expert said that systemic operational and design errors played a role in the power grid's collapse.

"A localized failure like the one that occurred should be isolated by the same system," said Raúl Bertero, president of the Center for the Study of Energy Regulatory Activity in Argentina. "The problem is known and technology and studies (exist) to avoid it."

The blackout raised questions about flaws in the region's grid. Although Brazil was spared this time, a similar outage in the region's largest country left more than 60 million in the dark in 2009, just as authorities scrambled to boost confidence in its infrastructure before soccer's 2014 World Cup and the 2016 Olympics.

The power failure on Sunday comes three months after crisis-torn Venezuela suffered its worst power outage with the lack of electricity endangering hospital patients.

Other parts of the world have also been hit by major outages. Bertero said that about 50 million people were affected by a blackout in the U.S. and some provinces in Canada in 2003, and about as many were hit by another in Italy that same year.

Argentina has had a history of blackouts, but none like Sunday's failure, in which the power outage was more geographically widespread. Only the southern archipelago of Tierra del Fuego was unaffected because it is not connected to the main power grid.

"It's something that had never happened," said Alejandra Martínez, a spokesperson for the Argentine electricity company Edesur. The failure originated at an electricity transmission point between the power stations at the country's Yacretá dam and Salto Grande in the country's northeast.

Uruguay's energy company UTE said the failure in the Argentine system also cut power to all of Uruguay for hours and blamed the collapse on a "flaw in the Argentine network."

In Paraguay, power in rural communities in the south, near the border with Argentina and Uruguay, was also cut. The country's National Energy Administration said service was restored by afternoon by redirecting energy from the Itaipu hydroelectric plant the country shares with neighboring Brazil.

Many residents of Argentina and Uruguay took to social media to post pictures of their cities in the dark. Others blamed the electricity companies or the government or simply lamented that their plans had been disrupted.

Several Argentine provinces had elections for governor on Sunday, which proceeded with voters using their phone screens and built-in flashlights to illuminate their ballots.

"I don't remember anything like this in Uruguay," said Valentina Giménez, a resident of the capital, Montevideo. "What is really striking about this is that no one understands well what really happened."

Associated Press writers Patricia Luna in Santiago, Chile, and Natalie Schachar in Mexico City contributed to this report.

Ex-first lady leads Guatemalan president vote, runoff likely

By SONIA PÉREZ D. Associated Press

GUATEMALA CITY (AP) — A former first lady led early results from Guatemala's presidential election, although a second round of voting is expected to determine who will oversee this Central American nation where tens of thousands have fled poverty and gang violence this year to seek a new life in the United States.

With votes tallied from just over a third of polling centers, Sandra Torres had captured 24% of Sunday's

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vote, followed by four-time presidential candidate Alejandro Giammattei with 15%. Early results were in line with expectations.

Electoral Supreme Court president Julio Solórzano said the large number of contenders for the top office had slowed the vote count.

At this rate no candidate will win the more than 50% of votes needed to assume the post after a first round, with a second vote likely to take place in August. Presidents are limited to a single, four-year term.

The next president of this Central American country will be tasked starting in January with attempting to stem growing violence, poverty and outward migration. An estimated 1 percent of Guatemala's population of some 16 million people has left the country this year.

Guatemalans are also clamoring for a crackdown on corruption: Three of the last four elected presidents have been arrested post-presidency on charges of corruption.

Torres, 64, is a businesswoman who gained national prominence during the 2008-2012 government of her then-husband, Álvaro Colom, who is among the former leaders to have been accused of corruption. The couple divorced in 2011.

"There is a belief that instead of advancing in these four years of government, we've gone backward," said Marco René Cuellar, 39, the first to vote at the Mixed Rural School in the municipality of Santa Catarina Pinula. "We've lost our way as a country, but we should not lose faith in the democratic process we have."

More than 8.1 million citizens were also eligible to vote for the vice president, congressional representatives and mayors.

And the election marked the first time that Guatemalans could cast ballots from abroad: At least 60,000 were eligible to vote in Los Angeles, New York, Maryland and Washington, D.C., all home to large numbers of Guatemalan emigres.

Businessman Roberto Arzú, diplomat Edmond Auguste Mulet Lesieur and indigenous human rights advocate Thelma Cabrera rounded out the top-five candidates for the presidency.

On Sunday, municipal officials and police stood guard as many waited in line to cast their ballot in an election dinged by threats of violence and possible fraud.

To the east of the capital, in the Zacapa department, voting stations didn't open in the San Jorge municipality after organizers were threatened with violence. More than 7,000 people were unable to cast votes there. Voting was also called off in Esquipulas Palo Gordo, near the border with Mexico in the San Marcos department, amid accusations of vote-buying.

The attorney general's office launched an investigation after a voter posted a video to social media showing how her ballot was allegedly already marked for Torres.

The campaign season was marked by a chaotic flurry of court rulings, shenanigans, illegal party-switching



Sandra Torres, presidential candidate of the National Unity of Hope party, UNE, shows her ink stained finger to the press after casting her vote during general elections in Guatemala City, Sunday, June 16, 2019. Guatemalans are voting for their next president in elections plagued by widespread disillusion and distrust, and as thousands of their compatriots flee poverty and gang violence to seek a new life in the United States. The former first lady is expected to finish first but without enough votes to win in the first round. (AP Photo/Oliver de Ros)

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and allegations of malfeasance that torpedoed the runs of two of the three front-runners, including Chief Prosecutor Thelma Aldana.

Aldana gained international renown for leading crusading anti-corruption investigations in tandem with a U.N.-backed anti-graft commission operating in Guatemala, but was booted from the race on the grounds that she lacked a document certifying that she didn't have any outstanding accounts from her time overseeing a public budget as prosecutor.

Outgoing President Jimmy Morales, who is barred from seeking re-election, took office in 2016 promising to root out corruption after his predecessor was brought down by a probe led by the U.N.'s International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala, or CICIG. But Morales soon became a target of CICIG himself for alleged campaign finance violations, starting a bitter dispute with the agency in which he terminated its mandate.

A recent poll from CID Gallup Latinoamerica found that nearly a third of Guatemalan adults surveyed believe the election will be plagued by fraud. Another 20 percent said the election's legitimacy would be suspect because so many candidates were kept from running.

Unemployment, violence, corruption, rising costs of living and the shoddy state of the country's highways are among top concerns for the country's electorate.

But Fernando Barrillas, 44-year-old Guatemalan citizen, said surging migration was also an issue for him. "As long as the root causes that propel migration are not addressed, which are poverty and inequality, we will continue to remain without the best men and women, young people who they are the engine of the country," he said.

GOP mutters, gently, as Trump sidesteps Senate for top aides

By ALAN FRAM Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump's latest anointment of an acting head of a major federal agency has prompted muttering, but no more than that, from Republican senators whose job description includes confirming top administration aides.

Their reluctance to confront Trump comes as veterans of the confirmation process and analysts say he's placed acting officials in key posts in significantly higher numbers than his recent predecessors. The practice lets him quickly, if temporarily, install allies in important positions while circumventing the Senate confirmation process, which can be risky with Republicans running the chamber by a slim 53-47 margin.

The latest example is Ken Cuccinelli, who last week was named acting director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. He is an outspoken supporter of hard-line immigration policies and his appointment was opposed by some key Senate Republicans.

Definitive listings of acting officials in Trump's and other administrations are hard to come by because no agency keeps overall records. Yet Christina Kinane, an incoming political science professor at Yale, compiled data in her doctoral dissertation, "Control Without Confirmation: The Politics of Vacancies in Presidential Appointments."

Kinane found that from 1977 through mid-April of this year — the administrations of President Jimmy Carter through the first half of Trump's — 266 individuals held Cabinet posts. Seventy-nine of them held their jobs on an acting basis, or 3 in 10.

Under Trump, 22 of the 42 people in top Cabinet jobs have been acting, or just over half.

And though Trump's presidency has spanned only about 1 in 20 of the years covered, his administration accounts for more than 1 in 4 of the acting officials tallied. Kinane's figures include holdovers from previous administrations, some of whom serve for just days.

"This is not a new thing," Kinane said of presidents' use of acting officials. "It is, however, a considerably higher number" under Trump, she said.

While Republicans widely blame Democratic opposition to Trump's nominees for his use of acting officials to fill some posts — a characterization Democrats reject — many also say his reliance on that alternative is costly.

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"It has the potential to spill over into other nominations that the president's prioritized," Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., said of Cuccinelli's appointment. Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, said acting officials have "tenuous footing" for overseeing their agencies, while Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, said she wants confirmed department chiefs because she "wants to know who's on point" for the administration on issues.

Yet no Republicans said they had challenged Trump's use of acting officials. Many of them complained openly when President Barack Obama named special White House advisers informally called czars. And a year after President Bill Clinton named civil rights lawyer Bill Lann Lee acting attorney general for civil rights in 1997, Congress passed a law limiting the time acting officials can serve, generally to no more than 210 days.

"I don't know who spends their day worrying" that their acquiescence was fraying the Senate's constitutional power to advise and consent on nominees, said Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas.

Democrats and experts disagree on the importance of the Senate's role.

"They're almost like they're willing to act as staff members (of the White House) rather than independent senators," said Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., a senator since 1975.

"They're not standing up for their own institution," said Kathryn Dunn Tenpas, a nonresident scholar at the Brookings Institution who has studied White House staffing.

Cuccinelli, a former attorney general of Virginia, has taken hard-line positions on immigration, such as opposing citizenship for American-born children of parents living in the U.S. illegally. He once led a conservative group that considered Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., too moderate, and many Republicans doubt Cuccinelli could win confirmation.

"That's probably the only way they could get him in there," the No. 2 Senate GOP leader, John Thune of South Dakota, said of Trump's naming Cuccinelli acting director.

Also in an acting position are two Cabinet secretaries, Kevin McAleenan of the Homeland Security Department and Patrick Shanahan at the Defense Department. Others in the acting roles are Director Russell Vought of the Office of Management and Budget, U.N. Ambassador Jonathan Cohen and White House chief of staff Mick Mulvaney. All but Mulvaney would need Senate approval to become permanent, and Trump has sent the Senate a nominee for just one of those jobs: Kelly Craft to be the ambassador to the U.N.

A White House spokesman did not provide a list of acting officials or comment on why Trump was relying on them, despite requests over several days. Trump has said he likes naming acting officials, telling reporters in January, "It gives me more flexibility."

But one explanation is that under Trump, the process of filling jobs has been slow and riddled with mis-



FILE - In this Saturday June 7, 2014 file photo, former Virginia Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli addresses the Virginia GOP Convention in Roanoke, Va. President Donald Trump's anointment of Cuccinelli as acting head of a major federal immigration agency has prompted muttering from Republican senators whose job descriptions include confirming top administration aides. But it's not gone beyond muttering. Their reluctance to confront Trump comes as veterans of the confirmation process and analysts say he's placed acting officials in key posts in significantly higher numbers than his recent predecessors. (AP Photo/Steve Helber, File)

steps.

Trump has withdrawn 63 nominees so far, doubling the 31 Obama retracted at this point in his first term, according to the nonpartisan Partnership for Public Service, which studies ways to improve government effectiveness. He's also decided against nominating some candidates after realizing the GOP-led Senate would reject them, including two would-be picks for the Federal Reserve: businessman Herman Cain and conservative commentator Stephen Moore.

In addition, Trump's 568 nominations during his first year in office were more than 100 fewer than Obama submitted during that period, partnership figures show.

Max Stier, the group's president and CEO, said Trump's use of acting officials is partly because his campaign's preparations for its transition into power were "the worst of any recent president." But he said a desire to avoid difficult or rejected Senate confirmations "does appear to be one element, and the most obvious example of that is Ken Cuccinelli."

AP news researcher Jennifer Farrar contributed to this report.

AP FACT CHECK: Trump fudges facts on economy, 2020 voting

By HOPE YEN and CALVIN WOODWARD Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — An eye toward his 2020 campaign, President Donald Trump is turning to a familiar playbook of exaggerated boasts about economic performance and overdrawn complaints about a race tilted against him.

He insisted the Electoral College gives Democrats a "big advantage" in U.S. presidential elections, making it difficult for Republicans like himself to win. That's wrong. Though in 2016 he often described the election as "rigged" against him, Trump, in fact, wouldn't have won the presidency without the Electoral College system in which the votes of smaller rural states that tend to vote Republican are weighted more heavily than big, Democratic-leaning states like New York and California.

Trump also claimed over the weekend that he's presided over one of the best U.S. economies ever. He's wrong about that, too.

The misleading rhetoric over the past week came as the president prepared to kick off his re-election campaign Tuesday in Florida.

In Trump's reckoning, an Iran tamed by him no longer cries "death to America," the border wall with Mexico is proceeding apace, the estate tax has been lifted off the backs of farmers, the remains of U.S. soldiers from North Korea are coming home and China is opening its wallet to the U.S. treasury for the first time in history. These claims range from flatly false to mostly so.

Here's a look:

ELECTORAL COLLEGE

TRUMP, in part addressing polls finding him lagging some of the 2020 Democratic candidates: "It's always tougher for the Republican because, you know, I don't know, people — people never cover this, but the Electoral College is very much steered to the Democrats. It's a big advantage for the Democrats. It's very much harder for the Republicans to win." — Fox News interview Friday.

THE FACTS: Actually, the Electoral College's unique system of electing presidents is a big reason why Trump won the presidency. Four candidates in history, including Al Gore in 2000, have won a majority of the popular vote only to be denied the presidency by the Electoral College. All were Democrats.

In the 2016 election, Democrat Hillary Clinton received nearly 2.9 million more votes than Trump after racking up more lopsided victories in big states such as New York and California, according to election data compiled by The Associated Press. But she lost the presidency due to Trump's winning margin in the Electoral College, which came after he narrowly won less populous Midwestern states such as Michigan and Wisconsin.

Unlike the popular vote, Electoral College votes are set equal to the number of U.S. representatives in each state plus its two senators. That means more weight is given to a single vote in a small state than

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the vote of someone in a large state.

ECONOMY and TAXES

TRUMP: "No President has done what I have in ... the first 2 1/2 years of his Presidency, including the fact that we have one of the best Economies in the history of our Country." — tweets Saturday.

THE FACTS: This is one of Trump's most frequent falsehoods. The economy is solid but it's not one of the best in the country's history. Trump is also claiming full credit for an economic expansion that began under President Barack Obama in mid-2009.

The economy expanded at an annual rate of 3.2 percent in the first quarter of this year. That growth was the highest in just four years for the first quarter.

In the late 1990s, growth topped 4 percent for four straight years, a level it has not yet reached on an annual basis under Trump. Growth even reached 7.2 percent in 1984.

While the economy has shown strength, it grew 2.9% in 2018 — the same pace it reached in 2015 — and simply hasn't hit historically high growth rates.

TRUMP: "Wages are growing, and they are growing at the fastest rate for — this is something so wonderful — for blue-collar workers. The biggest percentage increase — blue-collar workers." — remarks Tuesday in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

THE FACTS: He's claiming credit for a trend of rising wages for lower-income blue-collar workers that predates his presidency.

Some of the gains also reflect higher minimum wages passed at the state and local level; the Trump administration opposes an increase to the federal minimum wage.

With the unemployment rate at 3.6%, the lowest since December 1969, employers are struggling to fill jobs. Despite all the talk of robots and automation, thousands of restaurants, warehouses, and retail stores still need workers.

They are offering higher wages and have pushed up pay for the lowest-paid one-quarter of workers more quickly than for everyone else since 2015. In April, the poorest 25% saw their paychecks increase 4.4% from a year earlier, compared with 3.1% for the richest one-quarter.

Those gains are not necessarily flowing to the "blue collar" workers Trump cited. Instead, when measured by industry, wages are rising more quickly for lower-paid service workers. Hourly pay for retail workers has risen 4.1% in the past year and 3.8% for hotel and restaurant employees. Manufacturing workers — the blue collars — have seen pay rise just 2.2% and construction workers, 3.2%.

TRUMP: "And to keep your family farms and ranches in the family, we eliminated the estate tax, also known as the 'death tax,' on the small farms and ranches and other businesses. That was a big one. ... People were having a farm, they loved their children, and they want to leave it to their children. ... And the estate tax was so much, the children would have to go out and borrow a lot of money from unfriendly



President Donald Trump waves as he departs after speaking in the Rose Garden of the White House, Friday, June 14, 2019, in Washington. (AP Photo/Alex Brandon)

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bankers, in many cases. And they'd end up losing the farm, and it was a horrible situation." — remarks in Council Bluffs.

THE FACTS: There still is an estate tax. More small farms may be off the hook for it as a result of changes by the Republican-controlled Congress in 2017 but very few farms or small businesses were subject to the tax even before that happened.

Congress increased the tax exemption — temporarily — so fewer people will be subject to those taxes.

Previously, any assets from estates valued at more than \$5.49 million, or nearly \$11 million for couples, were subject to the estate tax in 2017. The new law doubled that minimum for 2018 to \$11.2 million, or \$22.4 million for couples. For 2019, the minimums rose to \$11.4 million, or \$22.8 million for couples. Those increased minimums will expire at the end of 2025.

According to an analysis by the nonpartisan Tax Policy Center, only about 80 small farms and closely held businesses were subject to the estate tax in 2017. Those estates represent about 1 percent of all taxable estate tax returns.

RUSSIA INVESTIGATION

TRUMP, on special counsel Robert Mueller's report: "He said no collusion. ... The report said no collusion." — ABC News interview aired Sunday.

TRUMP: "The Mueller report spoke. ... It said, 'No collusion and no obstruction and no nothing.' And, in fact, it said we actually rebuffed your friends from Russia; that we actually pushed them back — we rebuffed them." — remarks Wednesday in Oval Office.

THE FACTS: He's wrong to repeat the claim that the Mueller report found no collusion between Russia and the Trump campaign; it's also false that his campaign in 2016 denied all access to Russians. Nor did the special counsel's report exonerate Trump on the question of whether he obstructed justice.

Mueller's two-year investigation and other scrutiny revealed a multitude of meetings with Russians. Among them: Donald Trump Jr.'s meeting with a Russian lawyer who had promised dirt on Clinton.

On collusion, Mueller said he did not assess whether that occurred because it is not a legal term.

He looked into a potential criminal conspiracy between Russia and the Trump campaign and said the investigation did not collect sufficient evidence to establish criminal charges on that front.

Mueller noted some Trump campaign officials had declined to testify under the Fifth Amendment or had provided false or incomplete testimony, making it difficult to get a complete picture of what happened during the 2016 campaign. The special counsel wrote that he "cannot rule out the possibility" that unavailable information could have cast a different light on the investigation's findings.

In his interview with ABC News, Trump said if a foreign power offered dirt on his 2020 opponent, he'd be open to accepting it and that he'd have no obligation to call in the FBI. "I think I'd want to hear it," Trump said. "There's nothing wrong with listening."

REPUBLICAN SEN. LINDSEY GRAHAM, Judiciary Committee chairman, in response to Trump's comments that he'd be open to accepting political dirt from foreign adversaries like Russia: "The outrage some of my Democratic colleagues are raising about President Trump's comments will hopefully be met with equal outrage that their own party hired a foreign national to do opposition research on President Trump's campaign." — tweet Thursday.

THE FACTS: Graham is making an unequal comparison.

He seeks to turn the tables on Democrats by pointing to their use of a dossier of anti-Trump research produced by Christopher Steele, a former British intelligence officer, that was financed by the Democratic Party and Hillary Clinton's campaign. Graham also insists on "equal outrage" over Democrats using that information from a former intelligence officer of Britain, an ally with a history of shared intelligence with the U.S. That's a different story from a foreign adversary such as Russia, which the Mueller report concluded had engaged in "sweeping and systematic" interference in the 2016 presidential election.

Moreover, Steele was hired as a private citizen, though one with intelligence contacts.

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The Mueller report found multiple contacts between the Trump campaign and Russia, and the report said it established that "the Russian government perceived it would benefit from a Trump presidency and worked to secure that outcome, and that the Campaign expected it would benefit electorally from information stolen and released through Russian efforts."

Trump and his GOP allies typically point to the Steele dossier as the basis for the Russia probe. But the FBI's investigation began months before it received the dossier.

TRUMP: "What kind of a rigged deal is this? And then on top of it, after two years and after being the most transparent in history..." — ABC News interview aired Sunday.

TRUMP: "The Democrats were very unhappy with the Mueller report. So now they're trying to do a do-over or a redo. And we're not doing that. We gave them everything. We were the most transparent presidency in history." — Oval Office remarks Wednesday.

THE FACTS: It's highly dubious to say Trump was fully cooperative in the Russia investigation.

Trump declined to sit for an interview with Mueller's team, gave written answers that investigators described as "inadequate" and "incomplete," said more than 30 times that he could not remember something he was asked about in writing, and — according to the report — tried to get aides to fire Mueller or otherwise shut or limit the inquiry.

In the end, the Mueller report found no criminal conspiracy between the Trump campaign and Russia but left open the question of whether Trump obstructed justice.

According to the report, Mueller's team declined to make a prosecutorial judgment on whether to charge partly because of a Justice Department legal opinion that said sitting presidents shouldn't be indicted. The report instead factually laid out instances in which Trump might have obstructed justice, specifically leaving it open for Congress to take up the matter.

IRAN:

TRUMP, speaking about Iranians "screaming 'death to America'" when Barack Obama was in the White House: "They haven't screamed 'death to America' lately." — Fox News interview Friday.

THE FACTS: Yes they have. The death-to-America chant is heard routinely.

The chant, "marg bar Amreeka" in Farsi, dates back even before Iran's 1979 Islamic Revolution. Once used by communists, it was popularized by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, the revolution's figurehead and Iran's first supreme leader after the U.S. Embassy takeover by militants.

It remains a staple of hard-line demonstrations, meetings with current Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, official ceremonies, parliamentary sessions and main Friday prayer services in Tehran and across the country. Some masters of ceremonies ask audiences to tone it down. But it was heard, for example, from the crowd this month when Khamenei exhorted thousands to stand up against U.S. "bullying."

In one variation, a demonstrator at Tehran's Quds rally last month held a sign with three versions of the slogan: "Death to America" in Farsi, "Death to America" in Arabic, "Down with U.S.A." in English.

NORTH KOREA

TRUMP: "I think we're going to do very well with North Korea over a period of time. I'm in no rush. ... Our remains are coming back; you saw the beautiful ceremony in Hawaii with Mike Pence. We're getting the remains back." — joint news conference Wednesday with Poland's president.

THE FACTS: The U.S. is not currently getting additional remains of American service members killed during the Korean War.

With U.S.-North Korea relations souring, the Pentagon said last month it had suspended its efforts to arrange negotiations this year on recovering additional remains of American service members. The Pentagon said it hoped to reach agreement for recovery operations in 2020.

The Defense POW-MIA Accounting Agency said it has had no communication with North Korean authorities since the Vietnam summit between Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un in February. That

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meeting focused on the North's nuclear weapons and followed a June 2018 summit where Kim committed to permitting a resumption of U.S. remains recovery; that effort had been suspended by the U.S. in 2005.

The agency said it had "reached the point where we can no longer effectively plan, coordinate, and conduct field operations" with the North during this budget year, which ends Sept. 30.

Last summer, in line with the first Trump-Kim summit in June, the North turned over 55 boxes of what it said were the remains of an undetermined number of U.S. service members killed in the North during the 1950-53 war. So far, six Americans have been identified from the 55 boxes.

U.S. officials have said the North has suggested in recent years that it holds perhaps 200 sets of American war remains. Thousands more are unrecovered from battlefields and former POW camps.

The Pentagon estimates that about 5,300 Americans were lost in North Korea.

BORDER WALL

TRUMP: "The wall is going up. It's going up rapidly. We're going to have over 400 miles of wall built by the end of next year ... And we just won the lawsuit on the wall." — Fox News interview Friday.

TRUMP: "By next year, at the end of the year, we're going to have close to 500 miles of wall." — remarks Tuesday at the Republican Party of Iowa annual dinner.

THE FACTS: He's being overly optimistic. It's unclear how Trump arrives at 400 to 500 miles (800 km), but he would have to prevail in legal challenges to his declaration of a national emergency or get Congress to cough up more money to get anywhere close. Those are big assumptions. And by far the majority of the wall he's talking about is replacement barrier, not new miles of construction.

So far, the administration has awarded contracts for 247 miles (395 km) of wall construction, but more than half comes from Defense Department money available under Trump's Feb. 15 emergency declaration. On May 24, a federal judge in California who was appointed by Obama blocked Trump from building key sections of the wall with that money. In a separate case, a federal judge in the nation's capital who was appointed by Trump sided with the administration, but that ruling has no effect while the California injunction is in place.

Even if Trump prevails in court, all but 17 miles (27 km) of his awarded contracts replace existing barriers.

The White House says it has identified up to \$8.1 billion in potential money under the national emergency, mostly from the Defense Department.

Customs and Border Protection officials say the administration wants Congress to finance 206 miles (330 km) next year. The chances of the Democratic-controlled House backing that are between slim and none.

TRADE

TRUMP: "Right now, we're getting 25% on \$250 billion worth of goods. That's a lot of money that's pouring into our treasury. We've never gotten 10 cents from China. Now we're getting a lot of money from China." — remarks on June 10 with Indianapolis 500 champions.

TRUMP: "We're taking in, right now, billions and billions of dollars in tariffs, and they're subsidizing product." — remarks Tuesday in Council Bluffs.

THE FACTS: He's incorrect. The tariffs he's raised on imports from China are primarily if not entirely a tax on U.S. consumers and businesses, not a source of significant revenue coming into the country.

A study in March by economists from the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Columbia University and Princeton University, before the latest escalation, found that the public and U.S. companies were paying \$3 billion a month in higher taxes from the trade dispute with China, suffering \$1.4 billion a month in lost efficiency and absorbing the entire impact.

It's also false that the U.S. never collected a dime in tariffs before he took action. Tariffs on goods from China are not remotely new. They are simply higher in some cases than they were before. Tariffs go back to the beginning of the U.S. and were once a leading source of revenue for the government. Not in modern times. They equate to less than 1% of federal spending.

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TRUMP: "Look, without tariffs, we would be captive to every country, and we have been for many years. That's why we have an \$800 billion trading deficit for years. We lose a fortune with virtually every country. They take advantage of us in every way possible." — CNBC interview on June 10.

THE FACTS: Trump isn't telling the whole story about trade deficits.

When he refers to \$800 billion trade gaps, he's only talking about the deficit in goods such as cars and aircraft. He leaves out services — such as banking, tourism and education — in which the U.S. runs substantial trade surpluses that partially offset persistent deficits in goods. The goods and services deficit peaked at \$762 billion in 2006. Last year, the United States ran a record \$887 billion deficit in goods and a \$260 billion surplus in services, which added up to an overall deficit of more than \$627 billion.

The U.S. does tend to run trade deficits with most other major economies. But there are exceptions, such as Canada (a nearly \$4 billion surplus last year), Singapore (\$18 billion) and Britain (\$19 billion).

Mainstream economists reject Trump's argument that the deficits arise from other countries taking advantage of the United States. They see the trade gaps as the result of an economic reality that probably won't bend to tariffs and other changes in trade policy: Americans buy more than they produce, and imports fill the gap.

U.S. exports are also hurt by the American dollar's status as the world's currency. The dollar is usually in high demand because it is used in so many global transactions. That means the dollar is persistently strong, raising prices of U.S. products and putting American companies at a disadvantage in foreign markets.

FEDERAL RESERVE

TRUMP: "We have people on the Fed that really weren't, you know, they're not my people, but they certainly didn't listen to me because they made a big mistake." — CNBC interview on June 10.

THE FACTS: Actually, most of the members on the Fed's Board of Governors owe their jobs to Trump.

In addition to choosing Jerome Powell, a Republican whom Obama had named to the Fed board, to be chairman, Trump has filled three other vacancies on the board in his first two years in office. Lael Brainard is the only Democrat on the board.

There are still two vacancies on the seven-member board. Trump had earlier intended to nominate two political allies — Herman Cain and Stephen Moore — but both later withdrew in the face of sharp opposition from critics.

AUTOMAKERS

TRUMP: "All of the car companies — you know, long before I got here, we lost 32 percent of our car industry, our automobile manufacturing business, to Mexico." — Fox News interview Friday.

TRUMP: "Tariffs are a great negotiating tool, a great revenue producer and, most importantly, a powerful way to get ... companies to come to the U.S.A., and to get companies that have left us for other lands to come back home. We stupidly lost 30% of our auto business to Mexico." — tweets Tuesday.

THE FACTS: He's incorrect that Mexico took 30% of the U.S. automobile business in the years since the North American Free Trade Agreement took effect in 1994.

In 2017, 14% of the vehicles sold in the U.S. were imported from Mexico, according to the Center for Automotive Research, a think tank in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Parts imported from Mexico exceed 30%.

TRUMP: "If I put tariffs on, as an example, Mexico, you know what would happen? 25%. All the car companies would move back to the United States because they don't want to pay the 25%." — Fox News interview Friday.

TRUMP: "If the Tariffs went on at the higher level, they would all come back." — tweet Tuesday.

THE FACTS: He's wrong to assume that auto companies in Mexico would immediately move back to the U.S. if there were a 25% tariff on Mexican-made vehicles and parts.

It takes three years or four years minimum to plan, equip and build an auto assembly plant, so there would be little immediate impact on production or jobs. Auto and parts makers are global companies, and

they would also look to countries without tariffs as a place to move their factories. The companies could also just wait until after the 2020 election, hoping that if Trump is defeated, the next president would get rid of the tariffs.

"They're not going to invest in duplicative capacity in response to short-term policy incentives," said Kristen Dzikczek, a vice president at the Center for Automotive Research.

It is possible that some production could be shifted back to the United States. General Motors, for instance, makes about 39% of its full-size pickup trucks at a factory in Silao, Mexico, mainly light-duty versions, according to analysts at Morningstar. If the U.S. imposed a 25% tariff on assembled automobiles, GM could shift some production to a factory in Fort Wayne, Indiana, that also makes light-duty pickups. But there are limits. That plant already is running on three shifts and is almost near its maximum capacity.

Tariffs on Mexico probably would cost auto jobs in the U.S., too, because Mexico would almost certainly retaliate with tariffs of its own. Tariffs on both sides would raise prices of vehicles, because automakers probably would pass the charges onto their customers.

Industry experts say higher prices would cause more buyers to shift into the used-vehicle market, cutting into new-vehicle sales. Tariffs could be higher than 25% because parts go back and forth across the border multiple times in a highly integrated supply chain.

Vehicles built in Mexico get 20% to 30% of their parts from the U.S., so the tariffs would drive up prices there. That would hit lower-income people hard because automakers produce many lower-priced new vehicles in Mexico to take advantage of cheaper labor. About 62% of U.S. vehicle and parts exports go to Canada and Mexico, according to the Center for Automotive Research.

Tariffs would add \$1,300 to \$4,500 to the price of vehicles based just on the cost of parts, the center estimated.

Associated Press writers Christopher Rugaber, Eric Tucker, Martin Crutsinger and Paul Wiseman in Washington, Elliot Spagat in San Diego, Tom Krisher in Detroit and Jon Gambrell in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, contributed to this report.

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Woodland denies history with US Open title at Pebble Beach

By DOUG FERGUSON AP Golf Writer

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. (AP) — In front of Gary Woodland was a 263-yard shot to the scariest green on any par 5 at Pebble Beach, especially with a U.S. Open on the line. Behind him by one shot on the leaderboard was Brooks Koepka, the most dangerous figure in major championship golf these days.

The safe shot was to lay up on the 14th and take his chances with a wedge

"The idea was to play for the win," Woodland said.

With an extra boost of confidence from his caddie — Brennan Little, who was on the bag for Mike Weir in his Masters victory — Woodland delivered the shot of his life with a 3-wood that narrowly cleared a bunker, settled on the edge of the green and set up a birdie that gave him the cushion he needed.

The rest was pure theater — a 90-foot pitch off the 17th green he nearly holed, a 30-foot birdie putt on the final hole for a 2-under 69 and a three-shot victory that denied Koepka's bold bid to match a century-old record with a third straight U.S. Open.

Woodland's pitch across the 17th green over a hump that checked and trickled to tap-in range effectively clinched it, taking its place with other big moments on the 17th green in the U.S. Open such as Jack Nicklaus and his 1-iron off the pin and Tom Watson's chip-in birdie. It even got the attention of Nicklaus.

"Took a lot of guts," Nicklaus said on Twitter.

Woodland had that it abundance, along with a message from an inspirational friend.

"You got this."

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Until Sunday, when he cradled the silver trophy at Pebble Beach, Woodland got more attention from one hole in a pro-am at the Phoenix Open. He was gracious and encouraging to Amy Bockerstette, a 20-year-old with Down Syndrome and sheer optimism. Woodland invited her to hit a shot on the par-3 16th (into a bunker). He wanted to blast it out of the sand but she said, "I got this." She hit it out to 8 feet and made the putt. The PGA Tour-produced video has more than 20 million views.

"I told myself that a million times today," Woodland said. "I've got this."

Koepka didn't make it easy, keeping the pressure on Woodland until the very end.

Both represent the modern athlete in golf. Both are unflappable.

Needing three putts to win, Woodland finished in style. He raised both arms in the air to salute the crowd, turned toward the Pacific and slammed down his fist.

"I never let myself get ahead," Woodland said. "Once that went in, it all came out of me. It's special to finish it off here at Pebble Beach."

Koepka had to settle for a footnote in history. He closed with a 68, making him the first player with all four rounds in the 60s at a U.S. Open without winning.

"It was awesome to come this close to going three in a row. It's incredible," Koepka said. "I didn't really think about it until I was done on 18 and realized how close I actually was to not making history, but tying it, I guess you could say. Just wasn't meant to be this week."

Distance was no problem for Woodland on the 14th hole. It was the potential outcome.

"Left is not good, right is out-of-bounds, long is not ideal and the bunker speaks for itself," Woodland said. "So to execute that shot under the pressure, under the situation, that shot gave me the confidence. I felt better after hitting that shot on the golf course today than I had in a long, long time."

He believes it allowed him to hit one just as good on the 17th.

Woodland dropped the 5-iron from his hands when it sailed well to the right of the green with the pin 90 feet away over a hump.

Up ahead on the par-5 18th, Koepka drilled a 3-iron just over the back of the green, leaving him a 50-foot chip for eagle to tie, with a birdie likely to do the trick considering what Woodland faced on the 17th. Koepka chipped to 10 feet and narrowly missed the birdie putt.

Woodland, unable to hit putter and get anywhere near the hole, opted to pitch it with a 64-degree wedge. He clipped it perfectly just over the hump, and it checked about 12 feet from the hole and trickled by the pin to secure par, and effectively the U.S. Open.

"I was just trying to get it over that hump," Woodland said. "I thought it had a chance to go in, but it's not one I want over."

Woodland played conservatively down the 18th and made one last birdie that only mattered in the record book. He was aware that Tiger Woods had a 12-under 272 during his historic rout at Pebble Beach in 2000, and he topped him.



Gary Woodland poses with the trophy after winning the U.S. Open Championship golf tournament Sunday, June 16, 2019, in Pebble Beach, Calif. (AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

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That birdie put him at 13-under 271 and earned him \$2.25 million, the richest payoff in golf.

The difference was Woods won by 15 shots and was the only player under par. With a marine layer blocking the sunshine, and no significant wind at Pebble Beach all week, 31 players finished under par.

Koepka started four shots behind in his bid to join Willie Anderson as the only players to go back-to-back-to-back in the toughest test in golf. He made up ground quickly with four birdies in five holes.

"I felt like, 'We've got a ball game now,'" Koepka said.

He failed to get up-and-down from a bunker for birdie on the par-5 sixth, and missed a 6-foot birdie putt on the par-3 seventh. Still, he stayed within range, just like he wanted, knowing that anything could happen on the back nine of a U.S. Open.

Something wonderful happened to Woodland.

"Gary played a hell of a round today," Koepka said. "Props to him to hang in there. To go out in style like that is pretty cool."

Of the four other players who had a shot at three straight U.S. Opens, no one came closer than Koepka. He now has a victory in the PGA Championship and runner-up finishes in the Masters and U.S. Open.

Justin Rose was the only one who caught Woodland all day, with a birdie on the opening hole. Rose bogeyed from the bunker on No. 2 as Woodland birdied, and he never caught up. Rose fell out of the race with three bogeys in a four-hole stretch on the back nine. He shot 74 and shared third with Xander Schauffele (67), Jon Rahm (68) and Chez Reavie (71).

Woods birdied six of his last 12 holes and was never a factor. He tied for 21st, 11 shots behind.

More AP golf: <https://apnews.com/apf-Golf> and https://twitter.com/AP_Sports

Record number of African migrants coming to Mexican border

By **ANDREW SELSKY** and **PATRICK WHITTLE** Associated Press

PORTLAND, Maine (AP) — Undaunted by a dangerous journey over thousands of miles, people fleeing economic hardship and human rights abuses in African countries are coming to the U.S.-Mexico border in unprecedented numbers, surprising Border Patrol agents more accustomed to Spanish-speaking migrants.

Officials in Texas and even Maine are scrambling to absorb the sharp increase in African migrants. They are coming to America after flying across the Atlantic Ocean to South America and then embarking on an often harrowing overland journey.

In one recent week, agents in the Border Patrol's Del Rio sector stopped more than 500 African migrants found walking in separate groups along the arid land after splashing across the Rio Grande, children in tow.

That is more than double the total of 211 African migrants who were detained by the Border Patrol along the entire 2,000-mile (3,200-kilometer) U.S.-Mexico border in the 2018 fiscal year.

"We are continuing to see a rise in apprehensions of immigrants from countries not normally encountered in our area," said Raul Ortiz, head of the U.S. Border Patrol's Del Rio sector.

The immigrants in Texas were mostly from the Republic of the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Angola. Cameroonians have also been traveling up through Mexico and into the U.S. in larger numbers and seeking asylum at ports of entry.

On recent Saturday in Tijuana, there were 90 Cameroonians lined up to get on a waiting list to request asylum that has swelled to about 7,500 names. Also on the waiting list are Ethiopians, Eritreans, Mauritians, Sudanese and Congolese.

Cameroonians generally fly to Ecuador because no visa is required and take about four months to reach Tijuana. They walk for days in Panama through dense jungle, where they are often robbed and held in government-run camps. They come from Cameroon's English-speaking south with horrifying stories of rape, murder and torture committed since late 2016 by soldiers of the country's French-speaking majority, which holds power.

A few days after the big groups of African immigrants were apprehended in Texas, federal officials dropped off dozens of them in San Antonio. Officials in the Texas city sent out a plea for French-speaking

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volunteers for translating work “and most importantly, making our guests feel welcome.”

Many were bused to Portland, Maine, about as far as one can get from the Mexican border and still be in the continental United States. Word has spread among migrants that the city of 67,000 is a welcoming place. Somali refugees were resettled in Portland in the 1990s.

A total of 170 asylum seekers arrived in recent days. Hundreds more are expected in an influx that City Manager Jon Jennings called unprecedented. With one shelter already full, a basketball venue called the Portland Exposition Building was converted into an emergency shelter.

Portland officials tweeted Thursday that rumors some of the migrants are carrying the Ebola virus “are patently false,” and said that as asylum seekers, they are in the United States legally.

On Thursday afternoon, families in the Expo chatted in French and Portuguese as children kicked a soccer ball near rows of cots. One of the men, 26-year-old Prince Pombo, described himself as a pro-democracy activist and said he had fled his native country, the Democratic Republic of Congo, because of political oppression. He went to neighboring Angola, then flew to Brazil. There, he met a local woman and they had a baby they named Heaven. Now 16-months old, she giggled as she played with her mother in the Expo. Pombo said his journey from Congo to America took three years.

More migrants are on the way. Mexico is on pace to triple the number of African immigrants it is processing this year, up from 2,100 in 2017.

Mbi Deric Ambi, from the English-speaking part of Cameroon, is among them. In a recent interview in the southern Mexican city of Tapachula, Ambi said he was waiting for a document from the Mexican authorities that would allow him to proceed north to the U.S. He traveled overland through South and Central America after flying to Ecuador.

Human Rights Watch says 1,800 people have been killed and half a million have fled their homes in the Anglophone regions of Cameroon since late 2016. A United Nations official says 4.3 million people need humanitarian assistance.

“We don’t have jobs in the English part, the educational system is poor, they are looking at us as dogs,” Ambi said as a crowd of migrants jostled outside an immigration center in Tapachula, waiting for their names to be called to collect their travel document. Ambi has been waiting every morning for six weeks.

“We just have to be patient, because there is nothing we can do,” he said.

The explosion in immigration to the United States from sub-Saharan Africa coincides with a steep drop in the migration flow across the Mediterranean to Europe after European countries and two main embarkation points — Turkey and Libya — decided to crack down. From Jan. 1 to June 12, only 24,600 migrants arrived in Europe by sea, compared to 99,600 over the same period in 2017, according to the International



In this June 13, 2019 photo, a migrant woman sleeps on a cot inside the Portland Exposition Building in Portland, Maine. Maine’s largest city has repurposed the basketball arena as an emergency shelter in anticipation of hundreds of asylum seekers who are headed to the state from the U.S. southern border. Most are arriving from Congo and Angola. (AP Photo/Elise Amendola)

Organization for Migration.

But IOM spokesman Joel Millman doubts the migrant path for Africans has swung over from Europe to America.

Pombo, who was a teacher in Congo, learned in an internet search and by asking around that Portland is good place for migrants. He said his next step is to start rebuilding a life for himself and his family.

"I'd like to feel safe. I'd like to build a decent life," he said. "I need to start again."

Selsky reported from Salem, Oregon. AP reporters Elliot Spagat in Tijuana, Maria Verza in Tapachula, Mexico, contributed to this report.

Follow Andrew Selsky on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/andrewselsky>

CEO: Boeing made mistake in handling warning-system problem

By ANGELA CHARLTON Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — The chief executive of Boeing said the company made a "mistake" in handling a problematic cockpit warning system in its 737 Max jets before two crashes killed 346 people, and he promised transparency as the aircraft maker works to get the grounded plane back in flight.

Speaking before the industry-wide Paris Air Show, Boeing CEO Dennis Muilenburg told reporters Boeing's communication with regulators, customers and the public "was not consistent. And that's unacceptable."

The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration has faulted Boeing for not telling regulators for more than a year that a safety indicator in the cockpit of the top-selling plane didn't work as intended.

Boeing and the FAA have said the warning light wasn't critical for flight safety.

It is not clear whether either crash could have been prevented if the cockpit alert had been working properly. Boeing says all its planes, including the Max, give pilots all the flight information — including speed, altitude and engine performance — that they need to fly safely.

But the botched communication has eroded trust in Boeing as the company struggles to rebound from the passenger jet crashes in Indonesia and Ethiopia.

"We clearly had a mistake in the implementation of the alert," Muilenburg said.

Pilots also have expressed anger that Boeing did not inform them about the new software that's been implicated in the fatal crashes.



FILE - In this Monday, April 29, 2019 file photo, Boeing Chief Executive Dennis Muilenburg speaks during a news conference after the company's annual shareholders meeting at the Field Museum in Chicago. Boeing's CEO says the company made a "mistake" in handling a problematic cockpit warning system in 737 Max jets ahead of two deadly crashes of the top-selling plane. Chief Executive Dennis Muilenburg told reporters in Paris on Sunday, June 16 that the company's communication "was not consistent," calling that "unacceptable." (AP Photo/Jim Young, file)

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Muilenburg expressed confidence that the Boeing 737 Max would be cleared to fly again later this year by U.S. and all other global regulators.

"We will take the time necessary" to ensure the Max is safe, he said.

The model has been grounded worldwide for three months, and regulators need to approve Boeing's long-awaited fix to the software before it can return to the skies.

Muilenburg called the crashes of the Lion Air and Ethiopian Airlines jets a "defining moment" for Boeing, but said he thinks the result will be a "better and stronger company."

In the United States, Boeing has faced scrutiny from members of Congress and the FAA over how it reported the problem involving a cockpit warning light.

The feature, called an angle of attack or AoA alert, warns pilots when sensors measuring the up-or-down pitch of the plane's nose relative to oncoming air might be wrong. Boeing has admitted engineers realized within months of the plane's 2017 debut that the sensor warning light only worked when paired with a separate, optional feature but didn't report the issue for more than a year, after the crash in Indonesia.

The angle-measuring sensors have been implicated in the Lion Air crash in Indonesia last October and the Ethiopian Airlines crash in March. The sensors malfunctioned, alerting anti-stall software to push the noses of the planes down. The pilots were unable to take back control of the planes.

Boeing told the FAA of what it learned in 2017 after the Indonesia crash.

Pilot Dennis Tajer, a spokesman for the union that represents American Airlines pilot, the Allied Pilots Association, said it's good Muilenburg was willing to revisit the cockpit alert problem and to acknowledge Boeing mishandled conveying information.

But Tajer said he thinks Boeing made a series of unprecedented communication missteps that have "created a massive headwind to rebuilding trust."

Restoring trust in the Max is Boeing's No. 1 priority, Muilenburg said — ahead of an upgraded 777 and work on its upcoming NMA long-range jet.

The Max, the newest version of Boeing's best-selling 737, is critical to the company's future. The Max was a direct response to rival Airbus' fuel-efficient A320neo, one of the European plane maker's most popular jets; Airbus has outpaced Boeing in sales in the category.

The Max crashes, a slowing global economy, and damage from tariffs and trade fights threaten to cloud the mood at the Paris Air Show. Along with its alternating-years companion, the Farnborough International Airshow near London, the Paris show is usually a celebration of cutting-edge aviation technology.

Muilenburg forecast a limited number of orders at the Paris event, the first major air show since the crashes, but said it was still important for Boeing to attend to talk to customers and others in the industry.

He also announced that Boeing was raising its long-term forecast for global plane demand, notably amid sustained growth in Asia.

Boeing expects the world's airlines will need 44,000 planes within 20 years, up from a previous forecast of 43,000 planes.

Muilenburg projected that within 10 years, the overall aviation market — including passenger jets, cargo and warplanes — would be worth \$8.7 trillion, compared to earlier forecasts of \$8.1 trillion.

Both estimates are higher than the ones from Airbus, which sees slower growth ahead.

However, Airbus is heading into the Paris show with confidence. It is expected to announce several plane sales and unveil its A321 XLR long-range jet. Airbus executives said the Max crashes aren't affecting their sales strategy, but are a reminder of the importance to the whole industry of ensuring safety.

Rachel Lerman in San Francisco contributed to this report.

Lloyd, a World Cup starter again, scores 2 as US beats Chile

By ANNE M. PETERSON AP Sports Writer

PARIS (AP) — Carli Lloyd wasn't thrilled to open the Women's World Cup on the bench for the United States. She accepted the role, but made no secret she wanted to start.

When the call came Sunday, Lloyd made it count with a pair of goals to lead the defending champions to a 3-0 victory over Chile. The win pushed the United States into the round of 16.

Lloyd was the hero of the World Cup in Canada four years ago when she scored three goals in the final against Japan that gave the Americans their third World Cup title. But she was on the bench when the U.S. opened the tournament, even though she scored later as a substitute in the 13-0 victory over Thailand.

"I know that my ability is there, I know this is my best version of me. I've just got to go out there and prove it," she said. "Whether that's coming off the bench and making an impact, whether that's starting and getting the opportunity, which I'm grateful for, I'm just trying to make the most of it. I want to win."

Lloyd became the first player to score in six straight World Cup matches with her goal in the 11th minute. She added another on a header off a corner in the 35th for her 10th career World Cup goal, which moved her into third on the U.S. list behind Abby Wambach (14) and Michelle Akers (12). At 36, she became the oldest player to have a multi-goal game in the tournament.

She nearly got another hat trick — which would have made her the first player with two in the World Cup — but her penalty kick in the 81st minute went wide left.

"It's haunting me right now," Lloyd said. "Wasn't good enough."

The score could have been worse for Chile without unshakable goalkeeper Christiane Endler, who finished with six saves and fended off a flurry of U.S. shots in the second half.

Endler was named player of the match.

"I love the balls coming towards me and being able to showcase my skills," she said through a translator. "Obviously it's difficult to maintain concentration. I think in the first half it was difficult for me to get into the game. I think the second half went better for me and in general for the team."

The victory over Chile was more subdued than the U.S. team's record-breaking rout of Thailand. The Americans celebrated every goal even after the win was well in hand, and the display offended many who thought the champions should have shown more class. The controversy clouded the run-up to the match against Chile.

Several of the American players reached out to their Thai counterparts following the match. Lloyd exchanged encouraging words and tweets with goalkeeper Sukanya Chor Charoenying, and FIFA posted an interview with Thailand's coach thanking the U.S. players for being professional and playing well.

After such a rout, Jill Ellis made sweeping changes to the starting lineup against Chile, including a new



United States' Carli Lloyd , center, celebrates with Lindsey Horan and Tiarna Davidson, right, after scoring the opening goal during the Women's World Cup Group F soccer match between the United States and Chile at the Parc des Princes in Paris, Sunday, June 16, 2019. (AP Photo/Thibault Camus)

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front line with Lloyd, Christen Press and Mallory Pugh. Alex Morgan was moved to the bench along with Megan Rapinoe and Tobin Heath.

Becky Sauerbrunn, who sat out the match against Thailand because of a minor quad injury, returned and anchored a backline that included 20-year-old Tierna Davidson, who was making her World Cup debut. Davidson is the youngest player to start for the United States in a World Cup since Tiffany Roberts against Norway in 1995.

Chile made just one lineup change, starting midfielder Claudia Soto in place of Yanara Aedo.

Chile lost its opener to Sweden 2-0, but Endler was solid in that game, too, keeping the Swedes out of the goal until 83rd minute. The second goal got past the 6-footer in stoppage time.

Julie Ertz scored in the 26th minute with a header off a corner kick from Davidson that Endler got her hands on but couldn't stop. It was Ertz's first World Cup goal and came with her husband Zach Ertz, a tight end for the Philadelphia Eagles, looking on.

Endler denied Lloyd another chance at the hat trick when she tipped the U.S. captain's shot over the net in the 72nd minute.

Sweden also advanced out of Group F with a victory 5-1 victory over Thailand earlier Sunday in Nice. Japan, playing in Group D with England, also went through to the knockout stage because both the United States and Sweden won.

Former Vice President Joe Biden was among the U.S. team's well-wishers before the sold-out game at Parc des Princes stadium. Biden, who is seeking the Democratic nomination for president in 2020, referenced the team's lawsuit against U.S. Soccer alleging gender discrimination and seeking equitable pay.

"As we cheer them on in the World Cup, we must support their fight off the field for equal pay. In 2019, it's past time we close the pay gap and ensure women get paid as much as men," Biden tweeted.

U.S. soccer maintains the two teams have different pay structures because of separate collective bargaining agreements.

But for now, the players are concentrating on France and bringing home a fourth World Cup championship.

The United States plays Sweden on Thursday to wrap up the group stage. It is the first meeting between the two teams since Sweden ousted the Americans from the quarterfinals at the 2016 Olympics.

Chile wraps up the group with a match against Thailand on Thursday.

___ More AP soccer: <https://apnews.com/apf-Soccer> and https://twitter.com/AP_Sports

4 years in, Trump fondly recalls Trump Tower campaign launch

By JILL COLVIN and JONATHAN LEMIRE Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — It was the escalator ride that would change history.

Four years ago on Sunday, Donald Trump descended through the pink marble and brass atrium of Trump Tower to announce his candidacy for president, the first step on a journey few believed would take him all the way to the White House.

It turns out the 2015 event might not have happened, at least not on June 16. And the over-the-top staging that featured a crowd including paid actors could have been even more theatrical if one early idea hadn't been scrapped.

(Trump nixed suggestions to feature a live elephant. "Too political," he decided.)

Now, the president who loves to reminisce about that "famous" Trump Tower moment is trying to recreate the magic as he formally launches his re-election bid Tuesday in Florida. Four years in, Trump still is echoing much of the same divisive rhetoric he let fly when he ditched the speech prepared for that original campaign kickoff.

His 2015 announcement, according to those involved in the effort, was a classic Trump production aimed at highlighting all the things that made Trump, well, Trump: his brashness, his wealth and his skill for lighting rhetorical fires and watching the press scramble to respond.

Trump had been in Europe playing golf the week before his scheduled announcement, with plans to return in time to go over remarks written by his ragtag team of early staffers.

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"I get a call while he is in Europe and he asked, 'What do you think about postponing this a little?'" recalled Sam Nunberg, an early campaign adviser. But the press already had been invited, trips to early-voting states planned and the timing — a day after assumed front-runner Jeb Bush's announcement — seemed ideal.

And there was fear among advisers that any delay would trigger talk of cold feet about a campaign some observers doubted would ever happen because Trump had already flirted with, but then bailed on, previous bids.

"I tell him, 'We can't do that. We have set this date. If we postpone it, it would be covered that you got cold feet and you would not be taken seriously,'" said Nunberg. "I told him that postponing would be like Madonna not performing at MSG on a show day," referring to New York's Madison Square Garden.

So the show went on. Trump and his wife, Melania, emerged from an upper level of Trump Tower and descended the "famous" escalator, with the future president offering thumbs-ups and waves. It was a scene Trump had carefully crafted, paying frequent visits to the lobby as crews worked through the night to erect press risers, build the stage he would stand on and polish every inch of marble and brass.

A speech had been written. But Corey Lewandowski, Trump's first campaign manager, wrote in his book, "Let Trump Be Trump," that the candidate "gave a quick look at the sheet of paper Corey handed him, folded it up, and put it in his breast pocket, never to look at it again."

Four years later Trump remembers it fondly.

"I never forget standing on the famous escalator, you know the escalator, right?" he likes to tell crowds. "Remember the scene with Melania in front of me waving very elegantly and Trump coming down, waving less elegantly? But I just took a deep breath and I said, 'Let's go do it. Let's make this country great,' because it takes guts. It takes guts. And I'm so glad I did it."

And four years later, the speech Trump delivered, following an introduction from his eldest daughter, Ivanka, sounds just like one he would deliver today.

"Our country is in serious trouble. We don't have victories anymore," Trump told the crowd, railing against China for "killing us on trade" and promising to build a "great, great wall" along the U.S.-Mexico border that the American ally would pay for, "Mark my words."

"When Mexico sends its people, they're not sending their best," Trump said in one infamous line. He panned Obama-era unemployment statistics as "full of nonsense" and described himself as "really rich."

"He's doing exactly what he said he was going to do, and as a result of what he said he was going to do, he got elected," said George Gigicos, who was hired to produce the 2015 event and went on to serve as advance director for both the campaign and at the White House.



FILE - In this Sunday, June 16, 2015, file photo, Donald Trump, accompanied by his wife Melania Trump, is applauded by his daughter Ivanka Trump, right as he's introduced before his announcement that he will run for president in the lobby of Trump Tower in New York. It was the escalator ride that would change history. Four years ago on Sunday, Donald Trump descended through the marble and brass atrium of Trump Tower to announce his candidacy for president. It was the first step on a journey few believed would take him all the way to the White House. (AP Photo/Richard Drew, File)

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Trump, said Roger Stone, another longtime adviser, "orchestrated every minute detail of his announcement," including vetoing a suggestion from his former personal attorney Michael Cohen to decorate the lobby with red, white and blue bunting and feature a live elephant to add to the circus.

Trump "decided to come down the escalator and worked from his own handwritten notes rather than a prepared text," said Stone, insisting that, "then, as now, Donald Trump does not have handlers or managers or chief strategists."

That included scrapping aides' ideas on what he should wear.

"He asked me about a black suit. I said, 'Yes, that's iconic, that's 'The Apprentice,'" recalled Nunberg. Trump disagreed. "He said, 'You're a moron. Blue is better. It works better with the flags.' He was right."

Trump was thrilled with the speech's reception and later remarked on how successful the day had been for his brand. "How great is this for Trump?" Nunberg recalled the candidate saying at one point.

It helped, of course, that some in the crowd had been paid to be there. Extras were offered \$50 to "wear t-shirts and carry signs and help cheer" in support of Trump's announcement, according to a casting call email obtained by The Hollywood Reporter.

The ploy was first discovered by Angelo Carusone, now president of the progressive Media Matters group. Carusone said after the event, he was struck that, at a time of selfie obsession, he couldn't find anyone who had posted photos of themselves attending the event.

"That was weird," he remembered thinking. "People who care about a presidential press announcement are going to post selfies," he said. He finally came across a single photo posted by a man who worked as an extra and taken with a woman who appeared to do the same.

Trump's campaign has never acknowledged knowingly hiring actors, but did acknowledge paying \$12,000 to Gotham Government Relations, a firm that was said to have hired the Extra Mile Inc. casting company, according to a complaint filed with the Federal Election Commission.

Neither Gotham nor GMLV Casting, which took over Extra Mile, responded to requests for comment in recent days.

While some in Trump's orbit suggested a return to Trump Tower for his re-election announcement, the president will head to Orlando — in a state he must win to secure a second term.

This time, there will be no need to hire actors. Trump and his campaign say 100,000 tickets have been requested for Tuesday's event at the 20,000-seat Amway Center. The event will feature a pregame show with food trucks, live music and jumbo screens to pump up the crowd.

___ Colvin reported from Washington.

___ Follow Colvin and Lemire on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/colvinj> and <https://twitter.com/JonLemire>

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Monday, June 17, the 168th day of 2019. There are 197 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 17, 1994, after leading police on a slow-speed chase on Southern California freeways, O.J. Simpson was arrested and charged with murder in the slayings of his ex-wife, Nicole, and her friend, Ronald Goldman. (Simpson was later acquitted in a criminal trial, but held liable in a civil trial.)

On this date:

In 1579, Sir Francis Drake arrived in present-day northern California, naming it New Albion and claiming English sovereignty.

In 1775, the Revolutionary War Battle of Bunker Hill resulted in a costly victory for the British, who suffered heavy losses.

In 1928, Amelia Earhart embarked on a trans-Atlantic flight from Newfoundland to Wales with pilots Wilmer Stultz and Louis Gordon, becoming the first woman to make the trip as a passenger.

In 1930, President Herbert Hoover signed the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act, which boosted U.S. tariffs to

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historically high levels, prompting foreign retaliation.

In 1953, U.S. Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas stayed the execution of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, originally set for the next day, the couple's 14th wedding anniversary. (They were put to death June 19.)

In 1963, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *Abington (Pa.) School District v. Schempp*, struck down, 8-1, rules requiring the recitation of the Lord's Prayer or reading of Biblical verses in public schools.

In 1967, China successfully tested its first thermonuclear (hydrogen) bomb.

In 1972, President Richard Nixon's eventual downfall began with the arrest of five burglars inside the Democratic headquarters in Washington, D.C.'s Watergate complex.

In 2002, A judge in San Francisco tossed out the second-degree murder conviction of Marjorie Knoller for the dog-mauling death of neighbor Diane Whipple, but let stand Knoller's conviction for involuntary manslaughter. (However, Knoller's murder conviction was reinstated in 2008.)

In 2013, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled 7-2 that states can't demand proof of citizenship from people registering to vote in federal elections unless they get federal or court approval to do so.

In 2015, nine people were shot to death in a historic African-American church in Charleston, South Carolina; suspect Dylann Roof was arrested the following morning. (Roof has since been convicted of federal hate crimes and sentenced to death; he later pleaded guilty to state murder charges and was sentenced to life in prison without parole.)

In 2017, the jury in Bill Cosby's sexual assault case was declared hopelessly deadlocked, resulting in a mistrial for the 79-year-old TV star charged with drugging and groping a woman more than a decade earlier; prosecutors immediately announced they would pursue a second trial, which resulted in Cosby's conviction. The Navy destroyer USS Fitzgerald was damaged in a collision with a Philippine-flagged container ship off Japan that killed seven sailors.

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama extended some benefits to same-sex partners of federal employees. Nevada Sen. John Ensign resigned from the GOP leadership a day after admitting an affair with a former campaign staffer.

Five years ago: The Obama administration announced that U.S. special forces had seized Ahmed Abu Khattala, described as a "key leader" in the deadly Benghazi, Libya, attack, and that he was on his way to face trial in the U.S. for the fiery assault that killed the U.S. ambassador and three other Americans. (Abu Khattala was convicted in 2017 of terrorism-related counts but acquitted of murder; he was sentenced to 22 years in prison.) Johann "Hans" Breyer, an 89-year-old retired toolmaker, was arrested in Philadelphia on a German arrest warrant charging him with aiding and abetting the killing of 216,000 Jewish men, women and children while serving as a guard at the Auschwitz death camp. (Breyer died just over a month later before he could be extradited.)

One year ago: Former first lady Laura Bush, writing in the *Washington Post*, said the policy of separating immigrant parents and children along the nation's southern border was "cruel" and "immoral." Conservative Ivan Duque was elected Colombia's next president, after promising to change parts of a peace accord with leftist rebels. Brooks Koepka (KEHP'-kuh) won the U.S. Open for the second straight year, becoming the seventh golfer to win the event back-to-back.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Peter Lupus is 87. Movie director Ken Loach is 83. Actor William Lucking is 78. Singer Barry Manilow is 76. Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich is 76. Comedian Joe Piscopo is 68. Actor Mark Linn-Baker is 65. Actor Jon Gries (gryz) is 62. Rock singer Jello Biafra is 61. Movie producer-director-writer Bobby Farrelly is 61. Actor Thomas Haden Church is 59. Actor Greg Kinnear is 56. Actress Kami Cotler is 54. Olympic gold medal speed skater Dan Jansen is 54. Actor Jason Patric is 53. Rhythm and blues singer Kevin Thornton is 50. Actor-comedian Will Forte is 49. Latin pop singer Paulina Rubio is 48. Tennis player Venus Williams is 39. Actor Arthur Darvill is 37. Actress Jodie Whittaker is 37. Actor Manish Dayal is 36. Country singer Mickey Guyton is 36. Actor-rapper Herculeez (AKA Jamal Mixon) is 36. Actress Marie Avgeropoulos is 33. Rapper Kendrick Lamar is 32. NHL forward Nikita Kucherov is 26. Actor Damani Roberts is 23. Actor KJ Apa is 22.

Thought for Today: "When all men think alike, no one thinks very much." — Walter Lippmann, American journalist (1889-1974).