

# Groton Daily Independent

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Chicken Soup  
for the Soul.

You can clutch the  
past so tightly to your  
chest that it leaves  
your arms too full to  
embrace the present.

-Jan Glidewell

## **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

### Tuesday, June 25

6:00 p.m.: U10 Pee Wees vs. Welke at Manor Park, (DH) (R,B)

6:00 p.m.: U8 Pee Wees at Watertown, (DH)s (R,B) Softball hosts Ellendale in (DH)s (U12 at 6 p.m., U14 at 7 p.m.)

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

### Wednesday, June 26

5:30 p.m.: Junior Legion hosts Hamlin, double header

6:00 p.m.: Junior Teeners at Faulkton, (DH)

6:00 p.m.: T-Ball Scrimmage, Falk Field (both) Softball hosts Clark in (DH) (U10 at 6 p.m.)

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.

### Thursday, June 27

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

5:30 p.m.: U12 Midgets host Warner, (DH)

6:00 p.m.: T-Ball hosts Claremont, Nelson Field (Gold)

7:00 p.m.: U10 Pee Wees host Claremont (W,B)

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## Health Department Awards \$500,000 For Mosquito Control

PIERRE, S.D. – More than 200 South Dakota cities, counties and tribes will share in \$500,000 in grants intended to control mosquitoes and prevent West Nile virus (WNV), the Department of Health announced today.

“South Dakota has a disproportionately high number of WNV cases when compared to other states. Local mosquito control efforts play a vital role in protecting our communities,” said Bill Chalcraft, administrator of public health preparedness and response for the Department of Health.

All applying communities received funding, with grants ranging from \$500 to \$20,000. Grant awards were based on the population of the applying jurisdiction and its history of human WNV cases through 2018.

Since its first human WNV case in 2001, the state has reported 2,601 human cases and 46 deaths. Every county has reported cases.

Including this latest round of grants, the state has provided local mosquito control programs with more than \$8 million in support, in either direct grant funding or control chemicals, since the virus emerged in South Dakota.

Area communities receiving funding are: Aberdeen, \$20,000; Bath, \$2,217; Bristol, \$778; Britton, \$6,707; Brown County, \$15,000; Claremont, \$1,896; Columbia, \$936; Conde, \$936; Frederick, \$1,417; Groton, \$2,000; Hecla, \$1,897; Langford, \$1,898; Pierpont, \$1,256; Redfield, \$4,958; Stratford, \$1,736; Warner, \$1,740; and Webster, \$3,674.

## **Marzahn elected as one of six justices to serve on Supreme Court at American Legion Auxiliary South Dakota Girls State**

VERMILLION, S.D. – The 73rd annual American Legion Auxiliary South Dakota Girls State drew 365 girls to the University of South Dakota last week, which concluded with the traditional election of officers and presentation of awards.

Under the direction of Cheryl Hovorka, ALA SD Girls State Director, the participants who will enter their senior year of high school this fall were selected from across the state based on scholastic achievement, leadership skills and interest in government.

Success Suehne of Sioux Falls was elected ALA SD Girls State Governor and Nancy Flaherty of Watertown was elected Lieutenant Governor. Additional elections included Abigail Van Ruler of Montrose, Attorney General; Kaelyn Somsen of Webster, Secretary of State; Rhianna Welberg of Milbank, State Auditor; Ashlyn Bickett of Vermillion, State Treasurer; Emma Hagel of Hartford, Commissioner of School and Public Lands. Elected to the Public Utilities Commission were Saylor Burke of Watertown, Jayden Clark of Garretson, and Olivia Sass of Bradley.

In non-political elections, ALA Girls State delegates elected Nicole Marzahn of Groton, Miranda Chaney of Platte, Lauren Rhodes of Aberdeen, Lauren Bruening of Yankton, Rachel Beare of Aberdeen, and Katelyn Windberg of Canova as six justices to serve on the Supreme Court. Emily Kokales of Aberdeen was elected as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Emily Sue Wedel of Yale was chosen as Speaker of the House of Representatives. Lilyane Schaefer of Faulkton was elected House of Representatives Majority Leader while Ashley Gustafson of Claremont was elected House of Representatives Minority Leader. The Senate selected Yufeng Peng of Aberdeen as President Pro Tempore with Cynthia Campbell of Aurora as Senate Majority Leader and Autumn Wilkinson of De Smet as Senate Minority Leader. Ava Reiner of Tripp was selected as the Nationalist Party Chairwoman and Hannah Josko of Beresford as the Nationalist Party keynote speaker. Hannah Frost of Brandon was selected as Federalist keynote speaker and the Federalist Party elected Julia Russell of Hot Springs as party chairwoman. Bethany Larson of Huron was the recipient of the outstanding journalist award and Rachel Overstreet of Sioux Falls received the highest citizen's exam score. Isabel Myren of Pierre was selected as the outstanding ALA SD Girls State citizen and Katherine Pardy of Sioux Falls was selected as the outstanding speaker. Liberty Brink of Box Elder was selected as outstanding speaker of the Senate and Kara Vetch of Aberdeen was selected as outstanding speaker of the House.

Awards were also presented to Olivia Schanzenbach of Selby, outstanding prosecuting attorney; Haroni Sahilu of Sioux Falls, outstanding defense attorney; Carissa Witt of Brookings, outstanding appellant attorney; Abigail Van Ruler of Montrose, outstanding appellee attorney; Josephine Krajewski of Yankton, outstanding circuit court judge; and Emily Killsback of Mobridge as outstanding forensic investigator.

Alexandra Licht of Rapid City and Kaytlyn Hilligas of Lennox were chosen as delegates to represent South Dakota at the American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation in Washington, D.C., with Alison Logue of Volin and Emily Sue Wedel of Yale serving as alternates. Katy Liester of Baltic was selected as the 2019 recipient of the Samsung American Legion Scholarship. Madison Thie of Sioux Falls was awarded the Bonnie Slade Memorial Scholarship, Kaia Erickson of Watertown was awarded the Helen Gottsleben Memorial Scholarship, and Rachel Cutshaw of Clear Lake received the Travis Memorial Scholarship.

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Yesterday was another busy day and our tour will conclude today. Yesterday we had a tour of the Capital Building. That was quite impressive the way they do the tours. Those individuals know about everything about the building. You have to watch a 15 minute video and then you get to begin the tour. You are given a headset to put on so you only hear your tour guide and not the others. There are several tours going on at the same time.

Rule number one in most of these places is that you stay on the right so the people coming from the other direction can come through.

We went through the tunnel to the Library of Congress. The detail of the work done on both of the buildings is astounding.

After that, there was the tour of the Holocaust Museum. I did not attend that tour. Instead, I hiked about a mile to the Museum of the Bible as that was

one of the sites I wanted to see and it was my last chance to get there. In visiting with some of those who went through the Holocaust Museum, they said it was very sad and many cried during the tour. To view how evil can be so evil in this world is an understatement. It is one place that you want to visit only once.

The Museum of the Bible was quite impressive. The building has six floors plus the basement. I went through it pretty fast as I didn't have a lot of time. Our Founding Fathers were very religious and many parts and buildings of Washington, D.C. have some sort of connection to the Bible.

We then went to the White House for our photo opp. We did not get to go inside. It was interesting that there was a small group of protestors outside that have been there for 30 years. When they made their application, the end date was never filled in so they can stay there indefinitely. There was another person there who was obviously a President Trump hater. He was very civil and just talked. I wanted to tell him how lucky he was to be able to speak like he was because in many other countries, he would have been killed. Too bad I didn't wear my Trump cap when we went there!

Then in the evening, we went to the National Harbor which was right down from the motel that we are staying at. Yikes - it is expensive there. Julianna and I went to Ben and Jerry's ice cream. Our two cones only cost \$29. And if you wanted to go on the ferris wheel, you had to pay with a credit card. A group of students were going to go on a ride and had their cash ready and waited in line, but when they got to the place to get their tickets, it was "Sorry, no cash." That was disappointing for them.



Today, we get to go to Arlington National Cemetery and the Marine Corps War Memorial before heading to the airport for our journey home. We will depart BWI at 2:35 p.m. and arrive at Minneapolis at 6:40 p.m. According to the Itinerary, there is a lay-over at MDW (Chicago Midway International Airport). We should arrive back in Groton at 12:15 a.m. Wednesday.

I'm still playing catchup on our tours. so you'll have more to read.

I will say I've had the pleasure of having Ronald Breedlove as my roommate here in Washington, D.C. He lives in that big house at the corner of Sixth Street and Fifth Avenue - Marc Hanson's former house. It's amazing that we have to travel across the country to meet and know people from your home town! He likes to smoke cigars, but while on the trip here, he only has one in the morning and one at night.

Yesterday was also my birthday (can't keep a secret from Mary Johnson!) and they sang "Happy Birthday" to me, which was neat.



## Pentagon's 911 Memorial

The memorial of those who died during 911 when an airplane struck the Pentagon has been established nearby the building in Washington, D.C. In the photo on the left, you will notice that the year of birth is set with runners where the benches of memorials are in line with that particular year.



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Now this gets tricky to explain how these benches are laid out. On the end of the bench is engraved the name of the victim. You will notice the benches are facing two different directions. In the above photo, the Pentagon is on the right. As you look at the end of the bench and can read the name, if you are facing to the right looking at the Pentagon, that person died in the building. If, when you are reading the name, you are looking away from the Pentagon, that person was on the airplane. Also, when you look at the name, if you look straight down, there may be more names engraved in the indented area. Those names reflect that person's relatives who also died in the 911 event at the Pentagon.

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**Aaron Killian, the tour guide for the Groton group, explains the names on the benches at the 911 Pentagon memorial. Because the part of the Pentagon that got hit was under construction, a minimum number of lives were lost. Had the building been at full capacity, the death toll would have been equal to that in New York City.**



## Testimony of the coach operator

Reggie Franks was the trusted bus driver for the entire time while the Groton group was in Washington, D.C. He is a PMCO - Professional Motor Coach Operator. He has been driving bus for 29 years which included a USO Charter Bus in Germany while he served in the military.

Reggie shared a personal experience with the group about the 911 incident at the Pentagon.

He said that a woman got on the bus and decided at the last minute that she had to use the bathroom. They let her off and meanwhile, the other passengers were a little upset that she could have used the bathroom facility on the bus instead of making them wait. She was gone for eight minutes.

They were on their way to the Pentagon. However, because of those eight minutes, little did they realize that it saved their lives. Reggie said had they been at the Pentagon eight minutes earlier, they would have been in the line of flight with the airplane and they would have been killed in the event. "God is good," Reggie said. He went on to say that we should be thankful every day for God has given us.



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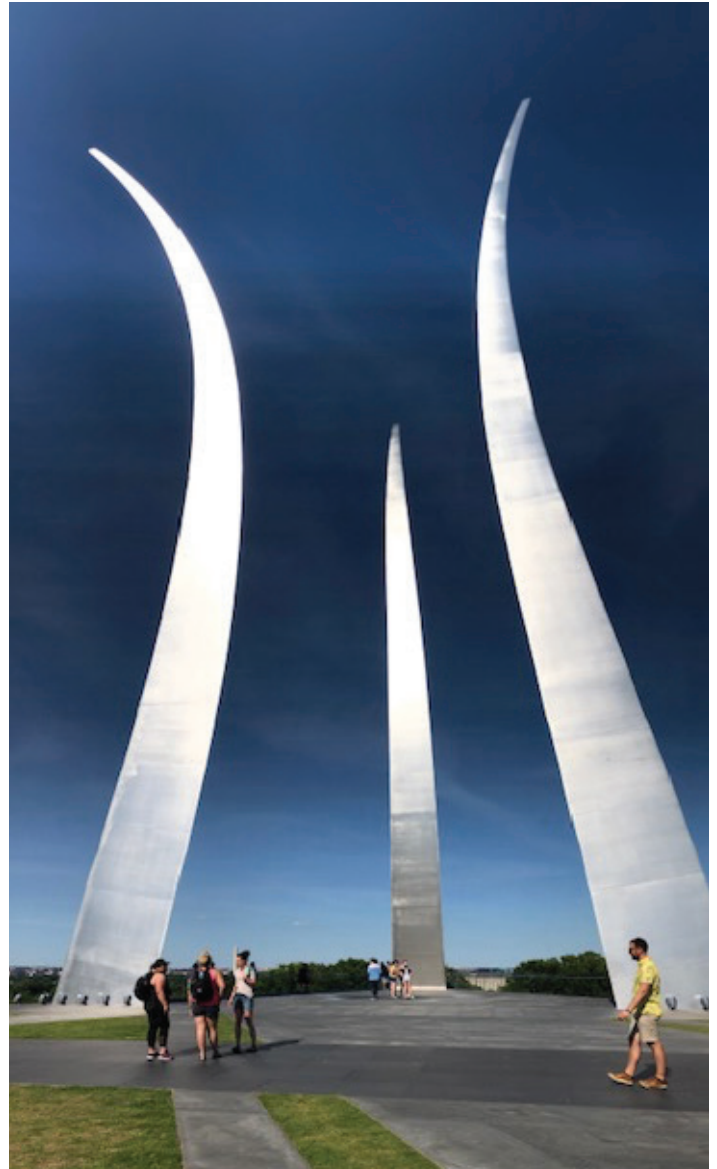


**This is a picture of the Pentagon taken from the Air Force Memorial. If you look closely, you can see the different shades of bricks of where the airplane struck the building in the middle. The replacement bricks came from the same quarry that the original bricks came from. Also, a side note, the Pentagon was built in 18 months**



**The left photo is taken from Wikipedia. Wikipedia also records the following: The Pentagon is the world's largest office building, with about 6,500,000 sq ft of space, of which 3,700,000 sq ft are used as offices. Some 23,000 military and civilian employees, and another 3,000 non-defense support personnel, work in the Pentagon. It has five sides, five floors above ground, two basement levels, and five ring corridors per floor with a total of 17.5 mi of corridors. The central five-acre pentagonal plaza is nicknamed "ground zero."**

## US Air Force Memorial



The US Air Force Memorial is located near the Pentagon. It features three contrails of the Air Force Thunderbirds as they peel back in a precision 'bomb burst' maneuver. They also represent the three core values of the Air Force - Service - Integrity - Excellence. The bottom two-thirds of the towers are filled with concrete. The top one-third is made of hollow stainless steel. A 20-ton ball is located inside each of the towers that automatically shift as the wind speed increases to prevent them from being snapped off. The tallest tower is 265 feet and the shortest one is 210 feet.

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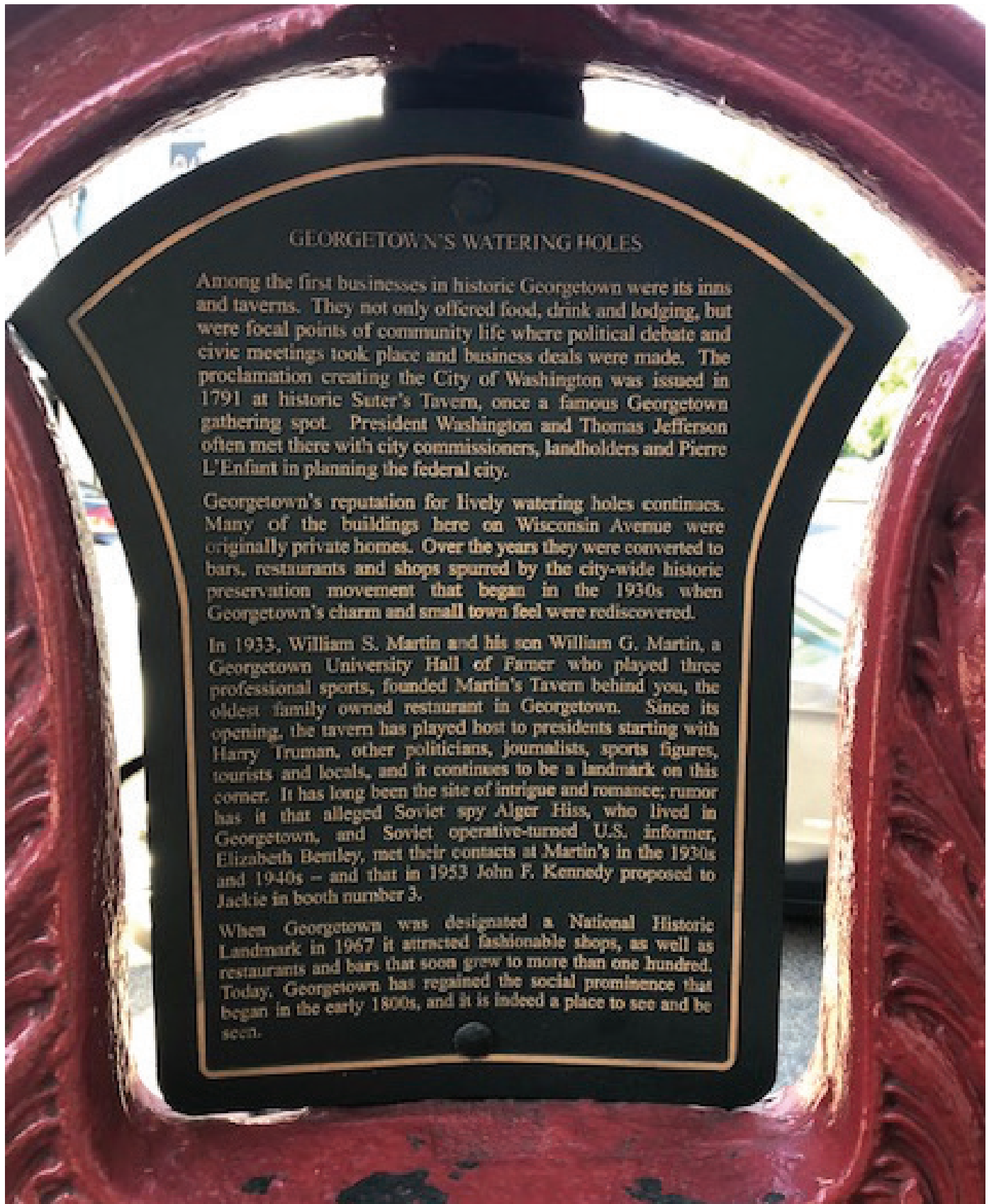
# Georgetown Daily Independent

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Any body that is somebody eats at Marlin's in Georgetown. The adults ate there Sunday night so I guess that means we're someone. (ha ha)

Former Presidents have booths named after them as that is where they frequently ate. We ate at Booth #19. You can read all about that booth in a couple of pages.



## GEORGETOWN'S WATERING HOLES

Among the first businesses in historic Georgetown were its inns and taverns. They not only offered food, drink and lodging, but were focal points of community life where political debate and civic meetings took place and business deals were made. The proclamation creating the City of Washington was issued in 1791 at historic Suter's Tavern, once a famous Georgetown gathering spot. President Washington and Thomas Jefferson often met there with city commissioners, landholders and Pierre L'Enfant in planning the federal city.

Georgetown's reputation for lively watering holes continues. Many of the buildings here on Wisconsin Avenue were originally private homes. Over the years they were converted to bars, restaurants and shops spurred by the city-wide historic preservation movement that began in the 1930s when Georgetown's charm and small town feel were rediscovered.

In 1933, William S. Martin and his son William G. Martin, a Georgetown University Hall of Famer who played three professional sports, founded Martin's Tavern behind you, the oldest family owned restaurant in Georgetown. Since its opening, the tavern has played host to presidents starting with Harry Truman, other politicians, journalists, sports figures, tourists and locals, and it continues to be a landmark on this corner. It has long been the site of intrigue and romance; rumor has it that alleged Soviet spy Alger Hiss, who lived in Georgetown, and Soviet operative-turned U.S. informer, Elizabeth Bentley, met their contacts at Martin's in the 1930s and 1940s - and that in 1953 John F. Kennedy proposed to Jackie in booth number 3.

When Georgetown was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1967 it attracted fashionable shops, as well as restaurants and bars that soon grew to more than one hundred. Today, Georgetown has regained the social prominence that began in the early 1800s, and it is indeed a place to see and be seen.

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## The Presidents' Favorite Tables

Martin's Tavern has had the honor of serving every president from Harry Truman to George W. Bush. All before they were President, as Congressmen, Senators, Governors and so on. A few regularly sat at their favorite table.

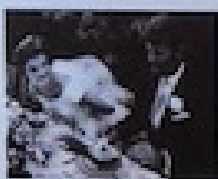


### Booth 1: The Rumble Seat

As a Representative, then Senator from Massachusetts, JFK lived two blocks from Martin's on N Street. He sat here reading the paper after Mass at Holy Trinity.

### Booth 2: The Nixon Booth

Richard Nixon dined at Martin's Tavern throughout the 1940s and 1950s while serving as a Representative, Senator and Vice President. He enjoyed Martin's Meatloaf and most often dined with congressional colleagues.



### Booth 3: The Proposal Booth

JFK and Jackie frequently dined in Booth 3 at Martin's Tavern. Wednesday, June 24, 1953, Jackie had returned from covering the coronation of Queen Elizabeth for the *Washington Times Herald*, he popped the question in their favorite booth.

"I was in Martin's Tavern, sitting at the bar...after the Senator proposed and she accepted, the news ran through the restaurant." —Marion H. Smoak, Deputy, Acting & Chief of Protocol for the President & Secretary of State, 1969-1974

### Booth 6: The Truman Booth

Harry Truman, then Senator from Missouri, his wife Bess and his daughter Margaret often dined at Martin's while Margaret attended George Washington University. Margaret Truman wrote 14 mystery novels set in Washington, many mentioning Martin's.



### Booth 24: The LBJ Booth



Senate Majority Leader Lyndon Baines Johnson was one of the most powerful men in American politics. As a Congressman in the 1940's, he frequently dined with his mentor, Speaker Sam Rayburn who taught him much about federal legislation in Booth 24. According to LBJ biographer Robert A. Caro, Johnson, Rayburn and his assistant, Richard Bolling, often met in that booth to discuss which bills they wanted to pass or defeat.

### Table 12: George W. Bush



George W. Bush, wife Laura and twin daughters Jenna and Barbara sat at Table 12 while in town to visit President George H.W. and First Lady Barbara Bush. Billy Martin remembers the twins were about 8 or 9 years old with good manners and beautiful dresses. A few people greeted Mr. Bush not knowing they just shook the hand of a future president.

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**Martin's Tavern, est. 1933**

Wisconsin Avenue and N Street, NW  
Washington, D. C. 20007  
202-333-7370

## **Besides Martin's Tavern opening in 1933.....**

Eugene Meyer (Katharine Graham's father) bought the Washington Post at public auction on June 1st from socialite Ned McLean for \$825,000.

20<sup>th</sup> Century signed 5 year old Shirley Temple – adult movie ticket was 15 cents.

“The Lone Ranger” premiered on Detroit's WXYZ, an ABC radio station.

The first singing telegram was delivered to Rudy Vallee in New York City

Blondie Boopadoop married Dagwood Bumstead on Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup>.

“King Kong” starring Fay Wray debuted in theatres around the country

First issue of Newsweek Magazine was published – featured articles were about a foreclosure crisis and the rise of Nazism – 10 cents a copy, \$4 for a year.

FDR appointed the 1st female cabinet member – Francis Perkins, Secretary of Labor

Leo Szilard, waiting for a red light in London, conceives the idea of the nuclear chain reaction. He emigrated in 1933 to England from Hungary to escape the Nazis.

The game of Monopoly was invented by Charles Darrow and sold to Parker Bros.

First Drive-In Theater opened in Camden, NJ by Richard Hollingshead on June 6<sup>th</sup>.

First round-the-world solo flight – Wiley Post – in 7 days, 18 hours and 49 minutes.

Albert Einstein arrived in the U.S., a refugee from Nazi Germany

## **Born in 1933**

Charles Osgood, Susan Sontag, Michael Caine, Quincy Jones, Carol Burnett,  
James Brown, Larry King, Lou Rawls, Chita Rivera, David McCullough

Ben Nighthorse Campbell, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Ann Richards

Raymond Berry, Johnny Unitas, Hubie Brown

## **And in sports that year:**

The first All Star baseball game was played in Chicago's Comiskey Park – the American League won 5 – 2 on July 6<sup>th</sup>

The NFL divided into two 5 team divisions

## Booth 19 – The Albright-Pozell Booth

### JOE POZELL



In 2005, Georgetown lost one of its most generous and kind residents, Joe Pozell. Always putting family and community first, he made the Georgetown community part of his family through his service. As Superintendent of Oak Hill Cemetery, he became active in civic and neighborhood associations where he focused on public safety and beautification projects. Joe spent many hours volunteering for community organizations like the Georgetown Business Assn., the Citizens Association of Georgetown and the Georgetown BID.

"In the early 1990's, Joe joined the Metropolitan Police Department's Reserve Officer program. Directing traffic at one of DC's busiest intersections, Wisconsin Avenue and M Street, earned him the nickname "Maestro of M Street." Almost every Saturday night when he was on duty, he would take a break, and we would have dinner here at Martin's in Booth 19. In 2005, he was fatally struck by a car while directing traffic. The City of Washington and Metropolitan Police Department designated the intersection "Joe Pozell Square." Each year a deserving police officer receives the Joseph Pozell Outstanding Reserve Officer Medal. I've moved away, but with each visit back to DC I am reminded of the appreciation the community had for Joe and remain honored that his service is not forgotten." — Ella Stout Pozell

### MADELEINE ALBRIGHT

The first woman to hold the cabinet post of U.S. secretary of state, Madeleine Albright earned her Ph.D from Columbia and went on to an extraordinary career in politics and public service.

There is not enough room here to tell you all of Secretary Albright's contributions to our city, our country and the world. She worked on the Presidential campaigns of Senator Edmund Muskie and later Walter Mondale. In 1976 she worked with President Jimmy Carter's National Security Advisor, Zbigniew Brzezinski (father of *Morning Joe's* Mika Brzezinski).

In the '80s she was a professor of International Affairs at Georgetown University. She was appointed United Nations Ambassador by President Clinton in 1993, then in 1997 nominated to the position of secretary of state and unanimously confirmed by the Senate.



Since leaving the cabinet, Dr. Albright has become an author and popular public speaker. Her international expertise launched Albright Capital Management and the Albright Stonebridge Group. For 2 years, she has served as the Michael and Virginia Mortara distinguished professor of diplomacy at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service.

Among many honorary degrees and awards of the highest caliber, President Obama awarded her the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2012. It is the highest civilian award given in the United States.



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Today



Sunny

High: 81 °F

Tonight



Clear then  
Chance  
Showers

Low: 57 °F

Wednesday



Chance  
T-storms

High: 85 °F

Wednesday  
Night



Chance  
T-storms

Low: 64 °F

Thursday



Slight Chance  
T-storms

High: 88 °F

## Three Day Outlook

**Tonight**



Chance of T-Storms  
This Evening  
Lows: 50s

**Tuesday**



Mostly Sunny  
Highs: 78-82

**Wednesday**



Chance of  
Nighttime  
Thunderstorms  
Highs: 80s

**Thursday**



Slight Chance of  
Thunderstorms  
Highs: 85-92

 NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE  
OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

Updated: 6/24/2019 2:44 PM Central

Published on: 06/24/2019 at 10:47AM

Scattered showers and thunderstorms are expected into the evening hours, then will dissipate with the loss of daytime heating. No severe weather is anticipated. Conditions will be dry overnight and through the day Tuesday, with very warm air moving into the region toward the end of the week.

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## Today in Weather History

June 25, 1914: An estimated F2 tornado moved east from 6 miles southeast of Isabel in Dewey County. Three small homes and two barns were destroyed. Twelve tons of hay was said to have vanished.

June 25, 1969: On the northeast side of Groton, an F2 to near F3 tornado destroyed a large grain elevator and uprooted huge trees. Four people were hospitalized. Estimated property damage was a quarter million dollars. Also, locally heavy rains caused flash flooding in Sully and Hughes Counties. A bridge near Harrold was washed out. Some rainfall amounts include; 5.34 inches at 23N of Highmore; 4.24 at 2N of Onaka; 4.14 at 12SSW of Harrold; 3.90 at 1NW of Faulkton; and 3.73 inches at Ipswich. Unofficial reports of 6 inches fell in and around Harrold.

1957: Hurricane Audrey moved northward, slowly strengthening until the 26th. At that time, a strong upper-level trough led to its acceleration and the hurricane deepened rapidly on its final approach to the Texas/Louisiana border. Audrey became the strongest hurricane on record for June upon landfall, as it reached category four strength. Its acceleration was unanticipated, and despite hurricane warnings in place, 418 people perished in the storm, mainly across southwest Louisiana. Click [HERE](#) for more information from the History Channel.

1967: Three, F3 tornadoes crossed the Netherlands on this day. The first tornado touched down at 4:17 PM in Oostmalle. This storm destroyed the church and the center of the village. More than half of the 900 homes in the community were damaged with 135 completely gone. The second tornado touched down near Ulicoten and tracked northward through woodlands area. This storm killed two people at a camping site near Chaam, Netherlands. The third tornado destroyed 50 houses in Tricht, killing five and injuring 32 others.

1749 - A general fast was called on account of drought in Massachusetts. It was the year of the famous dry spring in which fields and villages burned. (David Ludlum)

1925 - The mercury hit 101 degrees at Portland, OR, their earliest 100 degree reading of record. (Sandra and TI Richard Sanders)

1953 - The temperature at Anchorage soared to 86 degrees, their hottest reading of record. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Afternoon highs of 97 degrees at Miami, FL, 107 degrees at Medford, OR, and 111 degrees at Redding CA were new records for the date. It was the third of six straight days of record heat for Miami. Thunderstorms produced wind gusts to 70 mph at Austin, and gusts to 75 mph at Tulsa OK. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Fifty-two cities in the central and eastern U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date. Highs of 100 degrees at Erie, PA, and 104 degrees at Cleveland OH established all-time records for those two locations. Highs of 101 degrees at Flint, MI, 105 degrees at Chicago, IL, and 106 degrees at Fort Wayne, IN, equalled all-time records. Thunderstorms in Idaho produced wind gusts to 100 mph west of Bliss and north of Crouch, injuring 29 persons. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Tropical depression Allison, the remnants of what was earlier Cosme (a hurricane over the Pacific Ocean which dissipated as it crossed northern Mexico), began to spread heavy rain into southeast Texas and southwest Louisiana. (The National Weather Summary)

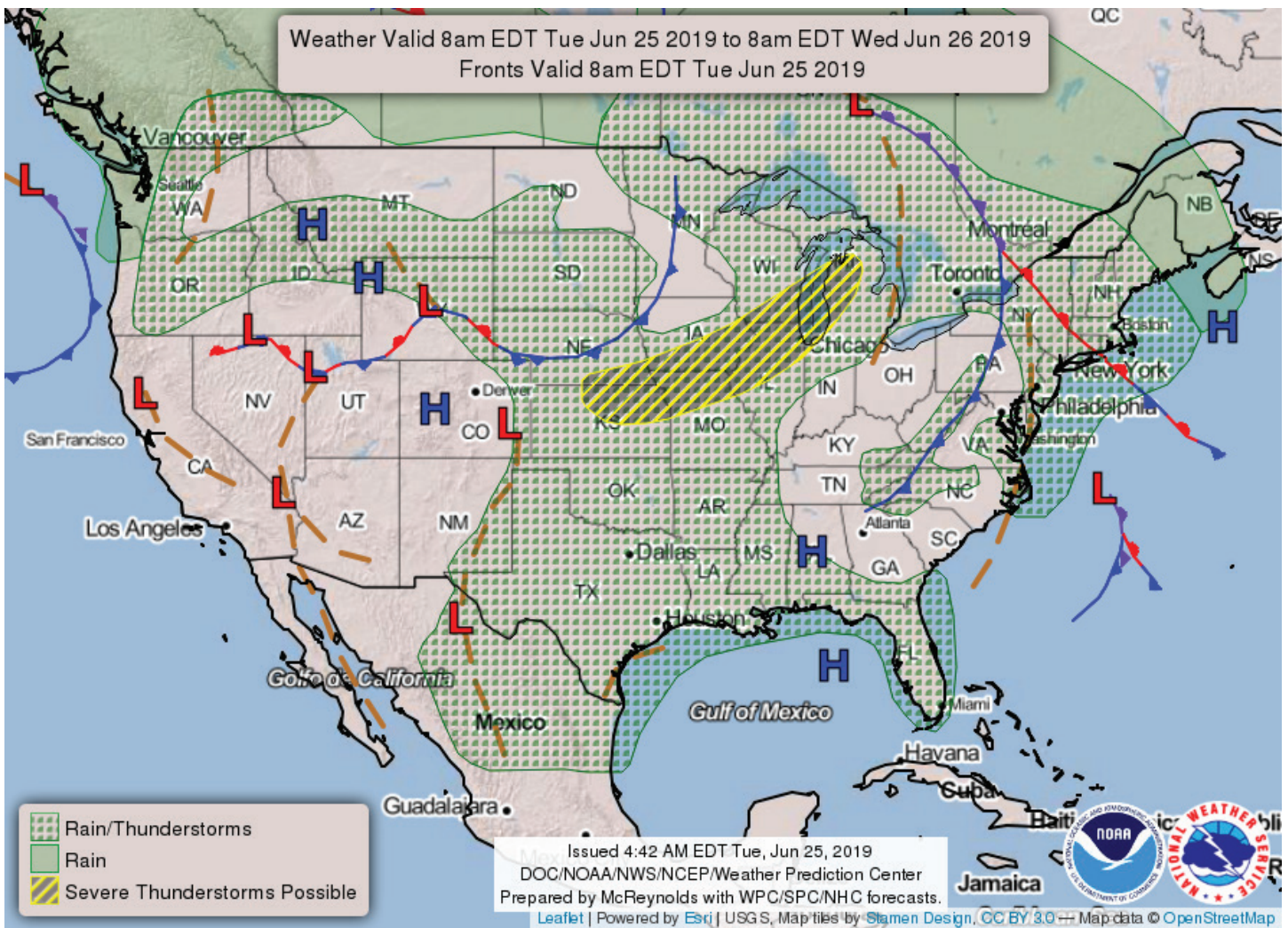
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## Yesterday's Groton Weather Today's Info

**High Temp: 82 °F at 3:00 PM**  
**Low Temp: 59 °F at 6:24 AM**  
**Wind: 36 mph at 6:17 PM**  
**Day Rain: 0.21 in**

**Record High: 106° in 1936**  
**Record Low: 41° in 2017, 1961**  
**Average High: 80°F**  
**Average Low: 56°F**  
**Average Precip in June.: 2.97**  
**Precip to date in June.: 4.00**  
**Average Precip to date: 10.11**  
**Precip Year to Date: 11.78**  
**Sunset Tonight: 9:26 p.m.**  
**Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:47 a.m.**



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## HEART MEDICINE

One of my dear physician-friends wrote a book entitled *The Body Reveals*. He began his medical career as a general surgeon then studied to become a cardiovascular surgeon. One day while we were talking, he said, Larry, the most disturbing part of my practice is that I cannot get people to look at their lives - what they are doing to themselves. People think they can do anything they want and then go to a physician for a prescription or some surgery and all of their problems will be corrected. That's not the way we work. There's a connection between our bodies and our minds, and we are very complex beings, because of the way God made us.

There's an intimate and complex connection between our heads, hearts, and bodies. God, our Creator, reminds us in His Word that our hearts contain emotions, values, goals, desires the sum total of who we are. And, Solomon said it so well: A cheerful heart is a good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones. Incidentally, this is the only time the word medicine is used in the Old Testament. So, we must listen to God's voice!

Our peace of mind directly affects our ability to maintain a life of wellness. Conversely, a troubled mind makes it difficult, if not impossible, to be healthy. A troubled mind makes it difficult to regain our health once we lose it. Jesus said, My peace I leave with you!

The most important lesson for us to learn from this verse is that God is in control. Whatever is, is a gift from Him to us, and He is somewhere in that gift. He is at work in our lives shaping us into His image. We must always remember that He will never leave us nor forsake us.

Prayer: Lord, life is difficult. Sickness comes, doubts arise, and suffering hurts. Grant us strength, peace and hope. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Proverbs 17:22 A cheerful heart is a good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.

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## 2019 Groton SD Community Events

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

## 2020 Groton SD Community Events

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

## News from the Associated Press

### Engelstad Arena to unveil new scoreboard built by Daktronics

By **DAVE KOLPACK** Associated Press

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — The Ralph Engelstad Arena at the University of North Dakota is preparing to unveil what it calls the largest video display in college hockey, a 50,000-pound scoreboard manufactured by South Dakota-based Daktronics.

The Engelstad Family Foundation, which has been at odds with recently departed school president Mark Kennedy over the university's operating agreement with the foundation and other issues, has donated \$4 million for the \$6 million project. The remaining \$2 million is coming out of the building's long-term repair and building fund.

Arena general manager Jody Hodgson said the idea to upgrade the video display was suggested by foundation trustee Kris Engelstad McGarry about a year and a half ago while she and Hodgson were watching a game in the Grand Forks facility. The late Ralph Engelstad, McGarry's father and former North Dakota hockey player, donated the money for the \$110 million area.

"Kris was looking up at the scoreboard and she said, 'Well, if the money was ever provided for a new scoreboard, what would you want it to look like?'" Hodgson said.

That was about the time the feud between McGarry and Kennedy became public. Earlier this year, McGarry told the Grand Forks Herald that the Engelstad Foundation would give no direct funds to the university as long as Kennedy was still there. The foundation continued to support the arena, the hockey program and student scholarships. Last month Kennedy was named president at the University of Colorado.

The scoreboard is the most expensive upgrade to the Ralph Engelstad Arena, which opened in 2001. Hodgson said Daktronics presented about 60 or 70 designs before the arena group settled on four 34-foot wide by 15.5-foot high video boards that are visible from throughout the arena.

"It was the best fit for us because we stayed true to Mr. Engelstad's original vision that it was a four-sided board so everybody had a similar experience," Hodgson said.

The improvements include a new LED ribbon display that encircles the bottom bowl, LED video displays above each entrance to ice level, and a state-of-the-art lighting system. The electronics will have "an unbelievable wow factor," said Matt Warnke, spokesman for Brookings, South Dakota-based Daktronics.

"Just like our fans, I can hardly wait to see the new technology live in person next season," North Dakota hockey coach Brad Berry said.

### Justices side with business, government in information fight

By **JESSICA GRESKO** Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court sided with businesses and the U.S. government Monday in a ruling about the public's access to information, telling a South Dakota newspaper it can't get the data it was seeking.

Open government and reporters groups described the ruling against the Argus Leader newspaper as a setback, but it was not clear how big its impact will ultimately be.

The paper was seeking to learn how much money goes annually to every store nationwide that participates in the government's \$65 billion-a-year food assistance program, previously known as food stamps.

Reporters at the paper, which is owned by USA Today publisher Gannett, asked the federal government in 2011 to provide information about the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. Officials initially declined to provide all the information reporters were seeking. In response, the paper sued, arguing that the store-level data the government declined to provide is public and shows citizens how the government is spending their tax money.

The government lost in a lower court and decided not to appeal. But a supermarket trade association,

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the Virginia-based Food Marketing Institute, stepped in to continue the fight with the backing of the Trump administration, arguing that the information is confidential and should not be disclosed.

Justice Neil Gorsuch wrote for a six-member majority of the court that at "least where commercial or financial information is both customarily and actually treated as private by its owner and provided to the government under an assurance of privacy," the information should not be disclosed. He said the SNAP data qualified.

Justice Stephen Breyer wrote in a dissent joined by justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Sonia Sotomayor that he feared "the majority's reading will deprive the public of information for reasons no better than convenience, skittishness, or bureaucratic inertia."

The Food Marketing Institute said in a statement that it believes the ruling will "protect private financial information today and in the future."

Maribel Wadsworth, president of the USA Today Network, said in a statement that the decision "effectively gives businesses relying on taxpayer dollars the ability to decide for themselves what data the public will see about how that money is spent." She called it a "step backward for openness."

The case has to do with the Freedom of Information Act. The act gives citizens, including reporters, access to federal agencies' records with certain exceptions. A section of the law tells officials to withhold "confidential" "commercial or financial information" that is obtained from third parties and in the government's possession. The question for the court was when information provided to a federal agency qualifies as confidential.

Previously, lower courts had said that information couldn't be found to be confidential unless disclosing it was likely to cause "substantial" competitive harm. The Supreme Court rejected that reading.

The Associated Press was among dozens of media organizations that signed a legal brief supporting the Argus Leader.

The case is Food Marketing Institute v. Argus Leader Media, 18-481.

Follow Jessica Gresko on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/jessicagresko>



Visitors line up to enter the Supreme Court on Capitol Hill in Washington, Monday, June 24, 2019. (AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

## Sioux Falls man goes on trial for friend's death

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A 19-year-old Sioux Falls man prosecutors say was high on meth when he fatally shot his friend in the back with a shotgun is set to go on trial.

The Argus Leader reports Stasek Alexandr Stefanyuk faces a charge of first-degree manslaughter for the September 2018 death of 21-year-old Darias Jae Tiger.

Jury selection is expected to start Tuesday.

Authorities say Stefanyuk was showing off a shotgun when he shot Tiger. Police called Stefanyuk's actions reckless. Stefanyuk's attorney, Mark Kadi, says the shooting was an accident and that his client tried

to help his friend after it happened. He says Stefanyuk also admitted to police he had been using drugs at the time.

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

## Aberdeen artisan paints with glass, light

By KELDA J.L. PHARRIS Aberdeen American News

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — In light it glows and in shadow it shimmers.

It both reflects and is a portal to another side. Stained glass is the charm of many: a church window, fanciful awning or whimsical lamp shade.

Thom Berg has spent the better part of 34 years charming glass into masterful pieces or restoring shattered relics to their former glory. Most of the Aberdeen artisan's work is commissioned for new work or rebuilds.

"A lot of people are finding old stuff in Mom or Dad's or Grandma and Grandpa's shed or attics, and if it's broken, luckily I get the call. It's been kind of fun. I've seen some really neat stuff," Berg told the Aberdeen American News .

He was working on the restoration of an awning from Northern State University — a victim of heavy snow and ice buildup. He held up a textured piece of green- and hazel-swirled glass to the light. Each piece looked like the shape of a house a child would draw, with a couple extra notches.

He held a ruler and a gold-handled instrument with an oil chamber hidden inside, tipped in a carbide wheel. He slid it along the ruler, making a diagonal- etched line. A pliers-like tool with a flat nose that pinches against a small tooth cracked the glass cleanly along the etch line. A diamond sanding machine honed the shape and smoothed the edges and finer trimmings.

Finding the glass from the 1930s or 1940s took a while, but Berg lucked out after contacting about four glass manufacturers. It's not always so easy. If glass needs to be dyed to match, the costs go up.

Berg, 72, happened into the stained-glass trade by ego and stubbornness after moving into his home and studio just north of Aberdeen.

"Just after my wife and I bought this place. We built it up. We bought our kitchen cabinets. You could still buy kitchen cabinets from (JC) Penney's. We stained them, and it looked like you painted them with a Hershey bar. It was just gross," he said, making a sour face. "So I was a little into woodworking then. I made oak faces for them. Connie, my wife, thought some leaded glass would look nice in the corner cabinets. So I priced them. The old ego took over — I can do that."

Berg guesses he spent three times as much on his do-it-yourself project than if he'd had a pro do it, but ultimately the endeavor paid off. And not just monetarily.

"I found a hobby. It's relaxing. I enjoy it. It's really kind of taken me over," he said.

Another current project on his workbench is one for North Highland Methodist Church. It's a large circular piece with a milky-white dove at its center. There are 1,300 pieces spreading from the center point in rays. A project this size takes about three weeks of eight-hour days, off and on, Berg said.

The piece will be a new one for the church. Berg said a large tree was cut down outside one of the church's clear windows.

"There was tons of light coming in, people couldn't see because of the bright sun," he said.

Now, they'll have a dove surrounded by a kaleidoscope of colors to soften those sharp solar beams.

One of Berg's most easily seen commission pieces is a window he and his wife donated to K.O. Lee Aberdeen Public Library. It was donated in memory of their son, Evan, who died in 2003. The window is off the teen area and looks out to Washington Street and the Federal Building.

Berg has regular hours at the ArtWorks Gallery in Aberdeen Mall Thursdays through Saturdays. He encourages anyone to stop by. The gallery holds numerous works by area artists.

More recently, Berg has made education a priority. With that thought, he brought up an old friend. Vic Runnels was a South Dakota artist and of Oglala Sioux heritage.



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"He dreamed of having a nationwide Native American art show in South Dakota. He kept asking me if I had any native in me. I'm just an old Norwegian," Berg chuckled at the memory.

Runnels said he'd never met a stained-glass artist who was Native American. Berg took that idea to heart and taught a stained glass class at Sisseton Wahpeton College earlier this month.

"It was just another way to say thanks to the educational and fun times I had with Vic — to try and reach out to the some of the Native American communities," Berg said.

Berg noted that there're just a handful of professional-level stained-glass artists in the region, even though there's a demand. It's a concern for a hobby he's come to hold dear.

That's why he will lead a workshop again at this year's Arts Education Institute at Northern State University. The annual institute is open to K-12 arts educators and administrators. It's July 15-18.

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

## South Dakota judge weighs execution for 27-year-old homicide

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota judge will hear arguments Tuesday on whether to set an execution date for a man convicted of stabbing a former co-worker to death 27 years ago during a burglary at a doughnut shop.

The South Dakota Attorney General's Office argued in a recent court filing that Charles Rhines "has eluded justice for 27 years" and it's time for his execution to be carried out in early November. Judge Robert Mandel will hear arguments Tuesday morning from prosecutors and Rhines' attorney before deciding.

The Rapid City Journal reports Rhines was convicted of premeditated first-degree murder in 1993 for the death of 22-year-old Donnivan Schaeffer, who was stabbed in the stomach, back and skull.

Rhines' attorney, John Murphy, said the execution should be delayed because Rhines has two pending lawsuits, including one challenging the state's lethal injection protocol. The other lawsuit is against the warden of the South Dakota State Penitentiary, alleging the warden prevented Rhines from accessing experts his lawyers hired to help with his clemency petition.

"It makes much more sense to hold off setting an execution date in Mr. Rhines' case until that litigation is resolved," Murphy told the newspaper.

In their motion for setting an execution date, state prosecutors cite the failing health of Schaeffer's father and say delaying Rhines' execution could impact whether Schaeffer's father could "see justice done for his murdered son."

Rhines unsuccessfully tried to appeal his case to the Supreme Court, which declined to hear it. He argued that his sentence is unconstitutional, alleging the jury was homophobic and sentenced him to death instead of life in prison because they thought he would enjoy being in prison with other men.

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

## Stakes high for NBC News ahead of 2-night Democratic debate

By DAVID BAUDER AP Media Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Don't envy NBC News executive Rashida Jones, who is behind this week's inaugural Democratic presidential debate and will have to juggle 20 candidates, five news personalities and, it's likely, one tweeting president.

While the event is obviously important for politicians getting their first wide exposure as potential presidents, the stakes are high for NBC News, too.

"Primary debates are a big prestige event for every network," said Mark Lukasiewicz, dean of Hofstra University's school of communication, who had Jones' job four years ago. "It's why every network tries to get one and tries to get as many as they can. It's a branding opportunity."

The debate will unfold over four hours Wednesday and Thursday, 10 candidates each night, and will air

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on NBC, MSNBC and Telemundo. Lester Holt, Savannah Guthrie, Jose Diaz-Balart, Rachel Maddow and Chuck Todd will be the NBC News personalities onstage in Miami.

NBC has been skittish about revealing too much in advance. The network won't talk about topics on the agenda — that's typical — but has also kept under wraps details like time limits for answers or whether candidates get opening or closing statements.

The goal is to focus attention where it should be, said Jones, NBC News' senior vice president for specials. "The show is not about the moderators," she said. "It's not about NBC. We have the responsibility of being the conduit for the audience, but the focus is about the 10 people on the stage."

It's revealing that Jones frequently uses the word "show" in reference to the production. With so many candidates, debate may be a misnomer. "It's a sound-bite competition," Lukasiwicz said.

NBC's decision to include five of its own people also crowds the stage. They won't be on at the same time: the teams of Guthrie and Diaz-Balart, and Todd and Maddow, will have an hour each night, with Holt a constant presence. Some debate experts wonder if this will hurt the event's flow and cost opportunities for conversational follow-ups.

Jones said the personalities represent "our starting lineup" and have considerable experience on live television and in working together.

"The beauty of having so many people on the set is that there may be something that one person catches, but the others didn't," she said.

President Donald Trump's social media presence is a unique challenge. Does NBC ignore what the president is saying or make it a part of the debate? If so, does that risk the president hijacking a debate of people who want his job?

It's hard to commit to anything in advance, but Jones said NBC's concentration will be on the candidates onstage and the issues. "Beyond that, it has to rise to a certain level," she said.

One goal for NBC is to match the 24 million viewers that Fox News Channel had for the first GOP primary debate in 2016. That may be tough, since Trump's first debate appearance motivated curious viewers.

NBC will have an offstage timekeeper trying to ensure fairness in how each candidate is treated. It's a walk on a tightrope. The entire event is, frankly; one mistake can swivel unwanted attention to the network.

NBC knows how that works. Matt Lauer was roasted for how he conducted back-to-back live interviews of Trump and Hillary Clinton at a 2016 forum on the USS Intrepid, both for not pressing Trump about inconsistencies on his Iraq War positions and for the amount of attention paid to Clinton's email controversy. "Trump should have reported (Lauer's) performance as an in-kind contribution," Clinton wrote in her book "What Happened."

A CNBC-sponsored Republican primary debate in late 2015 was generally seen as disastrous, in part because Trump bulldozed past co-moderator Rebecca Quick when she couldn't quickly cite the source of a statement that he denied saying (the quote came from a Trump policy paper).

Holt, however, received some praise for a steady performance in a Trump-Clinton debate.

"There are so many eyes on you and so many people with agendas," said David Bohrman, a news consultant who organized 10 debates while at CNN.

Through rehearsals and endless meetings, Jones and her staff are trying to anticipate what it can while remaining nimble enough to react to the unexpected. Like with baseball umpires, it will probably be bad news if people are talking the mornings after about NBC and not the candidates.

"I like doing something the way it's never been done before," she said. "I'll take a two-night unpredictable event over doing it the way we've always done it."

## 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. FEDS MOVE MIGRANT KIDS AFTER AP EXPOSES BAD TREATMENT

Most of the children were removed from a Border Patrol station near El Paso, Texas, following reports

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that more than 300 children were detained in squalid conditions.

## 2. WHAT IRAN CALLS NEW US SANCTIONS

President Rouhani describes the sanctions targeting the Islamic Republic's supreme leader and other top officials as "outrageous and idiotic" and Tehran says any chance for diplomacy is over.

## 3. INTERIM PENTAGON CHIEF ON GLOBAL STAGE

Mark Esper is heading to Europe to try to persuade NATO allies to work with the Trump administration on Iran sanctions and security in the Middle East.

## 4. WHITE HOUSE THREATENS TO VETO MIGRANT AID BILL

The Trump administration says the House measure lacks money for beds it needs to detain more migrants and has no money to toughen border security.

## 5. CHICAGO POLICE RELEASE MORE JUSSIE SMOLLETT FILES

The document dump includes video footage that shows the "Empire" actor with his face blurred and wearing a white rope he told detectives his attackers wrapped around his neck.

## 6. POLL: DEMOCRATS EXCITED BY EXPERIENCE IN OFFICE

An AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research poll finds that 73% of Democratic voters cite experience as a quality to be admired in a presidential candidate.

## 7. SCIENTISTS CAUTION ABOUT WESTERN WILDFIRES

Wildfires in the U.S. West will churn out smoke they say will sweep across the continent to affect tens of millions of people and cause a spike in premature deaths.

## 8. SPACEX LAUNCHES HEFTY ROCKET WITH 24 SATELLITES

The rideshare features a deep space atomic clock, solar sail, a clean and green rocket fuel testbed and even human ashes.

## 9. 'KING OF POP' FETED ON ANNIVERSARY

Michael Jackson's fans are planning elaborate gatherings at the cemetery where he's interred and his Hollywood Walk of Fame star for the 10th anniversary of his death.

## 10. 'GREEK FREAK' NBA'S TOP PLAYER

Giannis Antetokounmpo of the Milwaukee Bucks, who fell two games short of the NBA Finals, is named the league's Most Valuable Player.

## Acting Pentagon chief Esper on global stage amid Iran crisis

By **LOLITA C. BALDOR** and **ROBERT BURNS** Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — With barely one day on the job, Acting Defense Secretary Mark Esper is heading to Europe to try to persuade reluctant and increasingly wary NATO allies to work with the Trump administration on Iran sanctions and security in the Middle East, amid worries that the U.S. and the Islamic Republic may be on a path to war.

When he steps off his plane in Brussels on Tuesday, Esper will also have to assure his international counterparts and military commanders in the region that the U.S. military is in stable and capable hands, even though President Donald Trump has had three Pentagon chiefs in the past seven months.

That's an extraordinary mission for an interim Pentagon leader at a time of global uncertainty about a range of U.S. defense and foreign policies — not just on Iran but also on countering China and Russia, preventing a resurgence of the Islamic State group and ending the war in Afghanistan.

Just in the last week the U.S. military was poised to conduct attacks on Iranian air defense sites in retaliation for Iran's shooting down of a U.S. military surveillance drone in the Strait of Hormuz. Trump called off the attacks at the last moment, citing the likelihood of Iranian casualties, and his top diplomat, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, flew to the Middle East to attempt to galvanize international support for tougher economic pressure on Tehran.

Esper took over at the Pentagon on Monday for Pat Shanahan, who was acting secretary for six months but quit before he was formally nominated by Trump. This is by far the longest period the Pentagon has ever gone without a Senate-confirmed secretary. Trump's first defense chief, Jim Mattis, resigned in De-

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ember in protest of Trump's policies and what the retired four-star Marine general considered Trump's destructive approach to allies.

By coincidence, Esper's first major public appearance will be at NATO, the alliance that Trump has frequently bashed as a collection of freeloaders.

The two-day NATO meeting of defense ministers will include talks on many of the most worrisome international security topics: possible war with Iran; the ongoing conflict in Afghanistan; the continued fight against Islamic State militants in Syria and Iraq; and tensions with Russia. Esper, who until Sunday evening had been serving as the civilian leader of the U.S. Army, may be familiar with many of the issues but to European defense ministers he is a relative unknown.

"Expectations are really low. They are not going to expect him to be able to speak authoritatively for the president and go beyond what's in his talking points," said Derek Chollet, who served in senior positions at the White House, State Department and Pentagon during the Obama administration. On the other hand, the Brussels gathering allows Esper to meet many of his key counterparts in a short period of time — "sort of like speed dating," Chollet said.

Retired Navy Adm. James Stavridis, a former top NATO commander, said the long absence of a Senate-confirmed leader of the Pentagon has impact around the world, "where our most important Cabinet department is perceived as weak and without a strong leader." He added that senior military officers will also need to see a level of stability, because the repeated use of acting secretaries "erodes the principle of civilian control of the military."

State Department officials said Monday the administration wants to enlist the help of a wider range of countries to monitor potential threats to commercial shipping in and near the Persian Gulf. This follows allegations — denied by Iran — that Tehran was behind recent attacks on commercial tankers in the Gulf of Oman.

At NATO headquarters, Esper will face the task of explaining the U.S. strategy of compelling Iran through economic pressure to renegotiate the nuclear deal that Trump pulled out of last year. Trump wants a broader deal that would limit other Iranian behavior, including its support for what the U.S. calls terrorist groups and its buildup of ballistic missiles. Tehran, however, has said it will not negotiate as long as the U.S. keeps up its sanctions, which Trump intensified Monday by signing an executive order targeting Iran's supreme leader and his associates with financial penalties.

On his first day in his new role, Esper wrote in a message to all Pentagon employees that the transition from Shanahan does not signal a change in strategic priorities, which remain the same: make the military better prepared for combat, strengthen international alliances, and improve the Pentagon's business practices.

Katie Wheelbarger, a senior Pentagon policy adviser on international security, said the timing of the NATO meeting works well for Esper.

"It's actually fortuitous that on the first week the new acting secretary is on the job that he will be able to have face-to-face conversations with all his counterparts in the alliance," she said. "We come with a message of continuity, that a personnel transition does not mean a change in policy, particularly no change in U.S. adherence and devotion to NATO."

Wheelbarger said Esper will bring the allies up to date on the situation with Iran, including the intelligence information that prompted the U.S. to send an aircraft carrier and other military assets to the Gulf region in early May in response to what it called heightened Iranian threats.

## Tributes to Michael Jackson flow on 10th death anniversary

By **ANDREW DALTON AP Entertainment Writer**

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Michael Jackson's estate paid tribute to his artistry and charity Tuesday as fans make final preparations for gatherings to celebrate his memory on the 10th anniversary of the King of Pop's death.

"Ten years ago today, the world lost a gifted artist and extraordinary humanitarian," the Jackson estate

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said in a statement to The Associated Press. "A decade later, Michael Jackson is still with us, his influence embedded in dance, fashion, art and music of the moment. He is more important than ever."

The estate called on fans to honor Jackson's memory by engaging in charitable acts "whether it's planting a tree, volunteering at a shelter, cleaning up a public space or helping someone who is lost find their way. ... This is how we honor Michael," the statement read.

Fans plan to gather at Jackson's last home in the Holmby Hills neighborhood of Los Angeles, where the singer received a fatal dose of the anesthetic propofol on the afternoon of June 25, 2019. He was declared dead at a hospital at age 50.

They also plan a vigil at Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Glendale, California, where Jackson was laid to rest two months later.

Some planned to gather around Jackson's star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

The anniversary comes a few months after the HBO documentary "Leaving Neverland" brought back child molestation allegations against Jackson and threatened to upend an image that had been largely rehabilitated since his death. Jackson's estate and his family have vehemently denied the stories told by two men in the documentary.

One group of fans planned a Hollywood rally Tuesday to declare his innocence. He was acquitted of the sexual abuse of a different boy in a 2005 trial.

Co-executors John Branca and John McClain, both major figures in Jackson's career when he was alive, have taken his badly debt-ridden estate and grossed over \$1.3 billion through various Jackson-related projects in the past decade, including the film "This Is It," a pair of Cirque du Soleil shows and the sale of Jackson assets that included The Beatles catalog.

Jackson left everything to his mother, his children and charity in his will.

The singer's father, Joe, died last year and is buried in the same cemetery as his son, but Michael's 89-year-old mother, five brothers, three sisters and three kids remain alive and well 10 years later .

The death of Jackson was a massive cultural phenomenon, bringing an outpouring of public affection and revival of his songs and largely erasing the taint that remained after his criminal trial, despite his acquittal.

It was one of the earliest instances of the mass mourning on social media that would soon become common, and a massive worldwide audience both on TV and online watched his July 27, 2009 public memorial that included touching tributes from family members including daughter Paris and performances from Stevie Wonder, Mariah Carey and Lionel Richie.

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

## **Iran calls new US sanctions 'outrageous and idiotic'**

**By NASSER KARIMI Associated Press**

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran on Tuesday sharply criticized new U.S. sanctions targeting the Islamic Republic's supreme leader and other top officials, saying the measures spell the "permanent closure" for diplomacy between the two nations. For his part, Iran's president described the White House as "afflicted by mental retardation."

President Hassan Rouhani went on to call the sanctions against Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei "outrageous and idiotic," especially as the 80-year-old Shiite cleric has no plans to ever travel to the United States.

From Israel, Trump's national security adviser John Bolton said talks with the U.S. were still possible and that the U.S. is leaving an "open door" for Iran to walk through.

But the comments from Tehran clearly showed its leaders think otherwise at a time of heightened tensions between Washington and Tehran over its nuclear program and Iran's downing of a U.S. military surveillance drone last week.

"The fruitless sanctions on Iran's leadership and the chief of Iranian diplomacy mean the permanent closure of the road of diplomacy with the frustrated U.S. administration," said Abbas Mousavi, a Foreign

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Ministry spokesman, according to the state-run IRNA news agency.

The crisis gripping the Middle East is rooted in Trump withdrawing the U.S. a year ago from Iran's 2015 nuclear deal and imposing crippling new sanctions on Tehran. Recently, Iran quadrupled its production of low-enriched uranium to be on pace to break one of the deal's terms by next week while also threatening to raise enrichment closer to weapons-grade levels on July 7 — if Europe doesn't offer a new deal.

Citing unspecified Iranian threats, the U.S. has sent an aircraft carrier to the Middle East and deployed additional troops alongside the tens of thousands already there. All this has raised fears that a miscalculation or further rise in tensions could push the U.S. and Iran into an open conflict, 40 years after the Islamic Revolution.

President Donald Trump enacted the new sanctions on Monday against Khamenei and his associates.

The sanctions follow Iran's downing last week of a U.S. surveillance drone, worth over \$100 million, over the Strait of Hormuz, an attack that sharply escalated the crisis in the Persian Gulf. After the downing of the drone, Trump pulled back from the brink of retaliatory military strikes but continued his pressure campaign against Iran.

U.S. officials also said they plan sanctions against Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif, something that drew Rouhani's anger during his televised address on Tuesday.

"You sanction the foreign minister simultaneously with a request for talks," an exasperated Rouhani said and called the sanctions "outrageous and idiotic."

"The White House is afflicted by mental retardation and does not know what to do," Rouhani added.

There was no immediate reaction from Washington early on Tuesday to the remarks from Iran. The sharp comments are reminiscent of North Korea's verbal attacks on Trump before the dramatic change in course and the start of negotiations with Washington. However, in Iran's case, there are no signs Iranian leadership would welcome talks.

Mousavi's statement echoed that of Iran's U.N. ambassador, Majid Takht Ravanchi, who warned on Monday that the situation in the Persian Gulf is "very dangerous" and said any talks with the U.S. are impossible in the face of escalating sanctions and intimidation. Meanwhile, the U.S. envoy at the United Nations, Jonathan Cohen, said the Trump administration's aim is to get Tehran back to negotiations.

The sanctions were announced as U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo held talks in the Middle East with officials in the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia about building a broad, global coalition that includes Asian and European countries to counter Iran. Pompeo is likely to face a tough sell in Europe and Asia, particularly from those nations still committed to the 2015 nuclear deal.

Meanwhile, U.S. National Security Adviser John Bolton said Trump was open to real negotiations to eliminate Iran's nuclear weapons program and "all that Iran needs to do is walk through that open door."

Bolton was meeting with his Russian and Israel counterparts in a first-of-its-kind trilateral security summit in Jerusalem that was focused on Iranian involvement in conflicts across the region, particularly in neighboring Syria.

"As we speak, American diplomatic representatives are surging across the Middle East, seeking a path to peace. In response, Iran's silence has been deafening," he said. "There is simply no evidence that Iran has made the strategic decision to renounce nuclear weapons and open realistic discussions to demonstrate that decision."

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Associated Press writer Aron Heller in Jerusalem continued to this report.

## AP-NORC Poll: Democrats most excited by experience in office

By **NICHOLAS RICCARDI** and **HANNAH FINGERHUT** Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The sprawling Democratic presidential field is incredibly diverse, but a new poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs finds Democrats give a collective shrug to gender, race and age as factors they're considering when supporting a candidate.

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Instead, Democratic registered voters are yearning for experience in elected office. A whopping 73% cited that as a quality that would make them more excited about supporting a presidential candidate.

Twenty-five candidates are running for the party's nomination and include several women, a Latino, multiple candidates of African and Asian descent, and a 37-year-old gay man less than half the age of the 76-year-old early front-runner, former Vice President Joe Biden. But most Democratic voters say these characteristics make no difference in their enthusiasm, the poll shows.

Benji Grajeda, 50, of Santa Ana, California, was once excited at the idea that Hillary Clinton could become the first female president. Now he just wants stability.

"I don't think it matters, gender," said Grajeda, who, though he is Latino, also said he wouldn't be any more motivated to back a Latino for president. Instead, Grajeda cited experience in office as his top priority because "Trump has no experience."

"I never really thought about it until he won — he's just not qualified," Grajeda said.

Four in 10 Democratic voters said they would be more excited about voting for a woman for president, and 36% said the same of a younger candidate. About a quarter were more excited at the idea of supporting a candidate who is black or Latino, while roughly 2 in 10 said they'd be more excited to support an Asian candidate or lesbian, gay or bisexual candidate.

Still, there are differences in enthusiasm among Democratic voters. Liberal and younger Democrats are more likely to be excited about voting for a candidate who is black, Latino or Asian, and a candidate who is a woman.

And about half of Democratic women say they'd be more excited to support a female candidate, compared with 3 in 10 Democratic men who say the same.

Meanwhile, about 8 in 10 Democratic voters say it wouldn't make any difference if a candidate were white, or a man. Charles G. Cooper of Orlando, Florida, who is African American, supports Biden, who served under President Barack Obama. "I'm an Obama guy, and he was the vice president," Cooper, 57, said. He's not worried about the demographic characteristics of the next president. "We're looking for a president who will unite the country," Cooper said.

The poll also shows there's great potential for the debates Wednesday and Thursday to shake up the field because many voters have yet to fully tune in. Two groups of 10 candidates will get a chance to take their messages directly to a national prime-time audience from the stage in Miami.

Only 22% of Democrats registered to vote say they know a lot about the candidates' positions, while 62% say they know a little. And only 35% say they're paying close attention to the campaign, with almost two-thirds saying they're paying some or no attention.

"It's kind of a blur," said Maggie Banks, 32, of suburban Denver, who has two young children and only has a chance to glean a few details about the race while listening to National Public Radio during her commute.

Banks said she has only a "vague" idea of who's running and didn't realize her state's senior senator, Michael Bennet, or former governor, John Hickenlooper, was in the race.

Voters like Banks comprise the vast majority of the Democratic electorate, implying there's great potential for change in what's essentially been a static race to date. Biden holds a solid but not dominant polling lead, followed by some combination of Sens. Bernie Sanders of Vermont, Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts and Kamala Harris of California and Mayor Pete Buttigieg of South Bend, Indiana. Behind them are a wide range of contenders, from Senate veterans like Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota to lesser-known candidates like internet entrepreneur Andrew Yang.

There's a large appetite for the campaign among Democratic voters, 79% of whom say they're interested in the 2020 race. Republicans are only slightly less interested, with 70% reporting interest. But only about 3 in 10 voters overall say they're paying close attention more than seven months before the first votes are cast in the Iowa caucuses.

Adam Pratter, 43, of San Diego, is being strategic. He has studied up on the five candidates leading in the polls but studiously ignored the rest.

"Unless something extraordinary happens, they're not going to make it," Pratter said.

Pratter, who is white, is rooting for Buttigieg. He'd love to see a woman or person of color in the White

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House, but he's nervous that voters will choose Trump again. "I'm extraordinarily anxious," he said.

That's common for Democrats, 59% of whom report themselves anxious about the upcoming election, in contrast with 34% of Republicans.

Kent Roberts, a 71-year-old handyman who lives in a Portland, Oregon, suburb, is less stressed. His favorite in the field is Harris, though he likes several candidates. He's eager for a woman, or a minority, to be the nominee. He thinks those groups have to outperform white men to succeed.

"If you're just a white-bread guy, you don't have to try as hard," Roberts said. Of potential path-blazers like Harris, who'd be the first female African American president, Roberts added: "They'll do better for our country if they're under slight pressure because they're not a white American."

The AP-NORC poll of 1,116 adults was conducted June 13-17 using a sample drawn from NORC's probability-based AmeriSpeak Panel, which is designed to be representative of the U.S. population. The margin of sampling error for all respondents is plus or minus 4 percentage points. Respondents were first selected randomly using address-based sampling methods and later were interviewed online or by phone.

Riccardi reported from Denver.

Online:

AP-NORC Center: <http://www.apnorc.org/>

## White House threatens to veto aid bill for migrant families

By ALAN FRAM Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House is threatening to veto a \$4.5 billion House bill aimed at improving the treatment of migrant families detained after crossing the U.S. southern border, saying the measure would hamstring the administration's border security efforts and raising fresh questions about the legislation's fate.

The warning came as Hispanic and liberal Democrats press House leaders to add provisions to the legislation strengthening protections for migrant children, changes that might make the measure even less palatable to President Donald Trump. Though revisions are possible, House leaders are still hoping for approval as early as Tuesday.

The Senate planned to vote this week on similar legislation that has bipartisan backing, but many House Democrats say the Senate version's provisions aimed at helping migrant children are not strong enough. House Democrats seeking changes met late Monday with Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif.

"Right now, the goal is really to stop — one death is just too much," said Rep. Adriano Espaillat, D-N.Y., as he left that meeting.

Many children detained entering the U.S. from Mexico have been held under harsh conditions, and Customs and Border Protection Chief Operating Officer John Sanders told The Associated Press last week that children have died after being in the agency's care. He said Border Patrol stations are holding 15,000 people — more than triple their maximum capacity of 4,000.

Congress plans to leave Washington in a few days for a weeklong July 4 recess. While lawmakers don't want to depart without acting on the legislation for fear of being accused of not responding to humanitarian problems at the border, it seems unlikely that Congress would have time to send a House-Senate compromise to Trump by week's end.

In a letter Monday threatening the veto, White House officials told lawmakers they objected that the House package lacked money for beds the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency needs to let it detain more migrants. Officials also complained in the letter that the bill had no money to toughen border security, including funds for building Trump's proposed border wall.

"Because this bill does not provide adequate funding to meet the current crisis, and because it contains partisan provisions designed to hamstring the Administration's border enforcement efforts, the Administra-



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tion opposes its passage," the letter said.

Several Democrats said some language they were seeking could end up in separate legislation. Several said changes might include provisions aimed at ensuring that detained children are treated humanely.

"We've got lives at stake," said Rep. Tony Cardenas, D-Calif. He said the U.S. has been "the gold standard" for treating refugees fleeing dangerous countries, "and I don't think we should compromise that at all."

The meeting may have helped ease Democratic complaints. Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y., told reporters before the meeting that she would oppose the bill but left the door open afterward, saying, "I oppose the situation we're in, but my main goal is to keep kids from dying."

Much of the legislation's money would help care for migrants at a time when federal officials say their agencies have been overwhelmed by the influx of migrants and are running out of funds.

The back-and-forth on the spending measure came as Congress' top Democrats criticized Trump for threatening coast-to-coast deportations of migrants.

Over the weekend, Trump tweeted that he would give Congress two weeks to solve "the Asylum and Loopholes problems" along the border with Mexico. "If not, Deportations start!" he tweeted.

The president had earlier warned that there would soon be a nationwide sweep aimed at "millions" of people living illegally in the U.S., including families. The sweeps were supposed to begin Sunday, but Trump said he postponed them.

Pelosi, D-Calif., said the threatened raids were "appalling" when she was asked about them at an immigration event Monday in Queens, New York.

"It is outside the circle of civilized human behavior, just kicking down doors, splitting up families and the rest of that in addition to the injustices that are happening at the border," she said.

On the Senate floor, Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., described Trump's "chilling, nasty, obnoxious threats" and said the president "seems far more comfortable terrorizing immigrant families" than addressing immigration problems.

"I mean, my God, to threaten separating children from their parents as a bargaining chip? That's the very definition of callousness," Schumer said.

It is not clear exactly what Trump, who has started his 2020 re-election bid, means regarding asylum and loophole changes. He's long been trying to restrict the numbers of people being allowed to enter the U.S. after claiming asylum and impose other restrictions, a path he's followed since he began his quest for president years ago. His threatened deportations came as authorities have been overwhelmed by a huge increase of migrants crossing the border into the U.S. in recent months.

For years, Democrats and Republicans have been unable to find middle ground on immigration that can pass Congress. It seems unlikely they will suddenly find a solution within two weeks.

AP Congressional Correspondent Lisa Mascaro and Associated Press writer Colleen Long contributed to this report.

## **Government moves migrant kids after AP exposes bad treatment** **By MARTHA MENDOZA and GARANCE BURKE Associated Press**

The U.S. government has removed most of the children from a remote Border Patrol station in Texas following reports that more than 300 children were detained there, caring for each other with inadequate food, water and sanitation.

Just 30 children remained at the station outside El Paso Monday, said Rep. Veronica Escobar after her office was briefed on the situation by an official with Customs and Border Protection.

Attorneys who visited Clint last week said older children were trying to take care of infants and toddlers, The Associated Press first reported Thursday. They described a 4-year-old with matted hair who had gone without a shower for days, and hungry, inconsolable children struggling to soothe one another. Some had been locked for three weeks inside the facility, where 15 children were sick with the flu and another 10 were in medical quarantine.

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"How is it possible that you both were unaware of the inhumane conditions for children, especially tender-age children at the Clint Station?" asked Escobar in a letter sent Friday to U.S. Customs and Border Protection acting commissioner John Sanders and U.S. Border Patrol chief Carla Provost.

She asked to be informed by the end of this week what steps they're taking to end "these humanitarian abuses."

Lawmakers from both parties decried the situation last week.

Border Patrol officials have not responded to AP's questions about the conditions at the Clint facility, but in an emailed statement Monday they said: "Our short-term holding facilities were not designed to hold vulnerable populations and we urgently need additional humanitarian funding to manage this crisis."

Although it's unclear where all the children held at Clint have been moved, Escobar said some were sent to another facility on the north side of El Paso called Border Patrol Station 1. Escobar said it's a temporary site with roll-out mattresses, showers, medical facilities and air conditioning.

But Clara Long, an attorney who interviewed children at Border Patrol Station 1 last week, said conditions were not necessarily better there.

"One boy I spoke with said his family didn't get mattresses or blankets for the first two nights, and he and his mom came down with a fever," said Long, a senior researcher with Human Rights Watch. "He said there were no toothbrushes, and it was very, very cold."

Vice President Mike Pence, asked about the unsafe, unsanitary conditions for the children on "Face the Nation" on Sunday, said "it's totally unacceptable," adding that he hopes Congress will allocate more resources to border security.

Long and a group of lawyers inspected the facilities because they are involved in the Flores settlement, a Clinton-era legal agreement that governs detention conditions for migrant children and families. The lawyers negotiated access to the facility with officials and say Border Patrol knew the dates of their visit three weeks in advance.

Many children interviewed had arrived alone at the U.S.-Mexico border, but some had been separated from their parents or other adult caregivers including aunts and uncles, the attorneys said.

Government rules call for children to be held by the Border Patrol in their short-term stations for no longer than 72 hours before they are transferred to the custody of Health and Human Services, which houses migrant youth in facilities around the country through its Office of Refugee Resettlement while authorities determine if they can be released to relatives or family friends.

Customs and Border Protection has referred AP's questions to the Office of Refugee Resettlement, which said Monday that 249 children who had been held at Clint would be moved to the agency's network of shelters and other facilities by Tuesday.

"(Unaccompanied children) are waiting too long in CBP facilities that are not designed to care for children," ORR spokeswoman Evelyn Stauffer said. "These children should now all be in HHS care as of Tuesday."

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This story has been corrected to show Pence was on "Face the Nation," not "Meet the Press."

## Teary-eyed Antetokounmpo wins NBA MVP honors

By BETH HARRIS AP Sports Writer

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP) — The Milwaukee Bucks fell two games short of the NBA Finals.

They won big at the NBA Awards.

A tearful Giannis Antetokounmpo earned Most Valuable Player honors, Mike Budenholzer won Coach of the Year, and Jon Horst took Executive of the Year on Monday night in Santa Monica.

Antetokounmpo, a 24-year-old forward from Greece, beat out Paul George of Oklahoma City and James Harden of Houston, who won last year.

Antetokounmpo was a resounding winner. He received 941 points and 78 first-place votes in the balloting — 165 points more than Harden.

Harden finished second with 776 points and 23 first-place votes.

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"MVP is not about stats and numbers, and obviously James Harden had unbelievable numbers and Paul George also, but obviously it's about winning," Antetokounmpo said backstage. "We created great habits throughout the season and were able to stick by them, and that's why we were able to have a chance in every single game we played and were able to win 60 games."

The show had an international flair, with three international players besides Antetokounmpo winning. Antetokounmpo averaged 27.7 points and 12.5 rebounds while earning All-NBA first-team honors this season, his sixth with the Bucks. He led the franchise to the best record in the regular season and the Bucks reached the Eastern Conference finals.

Tears rolled down his cheeks as Antetokounmpo thanked his mother Veronica and brothers in the audience at Barker Hanger. He credited his late father for pushing him toward his goals and his teammates and coaching staff for their help.

"We started from nothing as a family," he said, "and we are going to be in every stage that we can be as a family."

Antetokounmpo said backstage that he had vowed to his family he wasn't going to cry.

"When you hear your name up there on the stage and then you realize these years of hard work, what you did in the past, then you start getting emotional," he said.

Budenholzer also got choked up while thanking his family after his second coaching honor. He earned the trophy for the first time with Atlanta in 2015.

He guided the Bucks to a 60-22 record in the regular season in his first year with the franchise, leading them to the Eastern Conference finals, where they lost to eventual NBA champion Toronto.

"What they did on the court this year, including the playoffs, was special," Budenholzer said backstage. "We weren't good enough in the end, but we certainly feel like we have enough talent, we have enough character to be a team that's playing in the finals and winning a championship."

Budenholzer also coached Team Giannis in the All-Star Game last season.

He beat out Denver's Mike Malone and Doc Rivers of the Los Angeles Clippers.

Horst was honored in voting by his fellow NBA executives, while the six biggest awards were determined in voting by a global media panel.

Lou Williams was voted the Sixth Man of the Year for the second season in a row and third time in his career, tying former Los Angeles Clipper guard Jamal Crawford.

The guard won for the first time in 2015 with Toronto.

Williams beat out teammate Montrezl Harrell, with whom he formed the highest-scoring bench duo in NBA history last season, and Domantas Sabonis of Indiana.

Williams became the career leader in points off the bench during the season.

"This one was different because I kind of went into the season wanting this one. In years past I always just played and lived with whatever happened," he said. "I felt like this one was going to be a legacy piece."

Rudy Gobert of the Utah Jazz won Defensive Player of the Year for the second straight season.

The 26-year-old center from France beat out Antetokounmpo and George.

"I never thought I would be able to do that when I started basketball playing in France," Gobert said backstage. "I didn't know an NBA player, I didn't know nothing about basketball. I was just having fun."

Pascal Siakam of the NBA champion Toronto Raptors earned Most Improved Player.

The 25-year-old from Cameroon averaged 16.9 points and started 79 of 80 regular-season games for the Raptors in his third year with the team.

Siakam had 26 20-point outings after scoring 20 points in a game only once in his first two seasons. He then scored 32 points in Game 1 of the NBA Finals.

Siakam beat out De'Aaron Fox of Sacramento and D'Angelo Russell of Brooklyn.

Luka Doncic of the Dallas Mavericks easily won Rookie of the Year.

The 20-year-old small forward from Slovenia accepted his trophy from RJ Barrett, who went to the New York Knicks as the No. 3 pick in the NBA draft last week.

Doncic was the No. 3 pick last year.

The other finalists were Deandre Ayton of Phoenix and Trae Young of Atlanta.

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Larry Bird and Magic Johnson shared the Lifetime Achievement Award.

The former rivals took turns holding their trophies while each other spoke.

Bird said the NBA is in good hands with today's talented athletes and he urged them to keep the game the same so it continues on for future generations.

Johnson starred for the Los Angeles Lakers and Bird with the Boston Celtics.

Mike Conley Jr., newly traded to the Utah Jazz, claimed trophies for Teammate and Sportsmanship of the Year.

Conley earned the awards for his 12-year tenure with the Memphis Grizzlies.

Bradley Beal of the Washington Wizards received the NBA Cares Community Assist honor.

More AP NBA: <https://apnews.com/NBA> and [https://twitter.com/AP\\_Sports](https://twitter.com/AP_Sports)

## Celebrating Havana renovates Cuba's oldest Jewish cemetery

By **ANDREA RODRIGUEZ** Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — Some marble grave covers are broken and tombstones lie on the ground, covered in moss. At some graves, vegetation pokes through the cement cracks.

But slowly, the oldest Jewish cemetery in Cuba is beginning to be rehabilitated, along with the memory of many of the island's early Jewish forebears.

The restoration is the result of an initiative by the government-run city historian's office to spruce up Havana ahead of the 500th anniversary of its founding in November. Across the city, streets are being paved, monuments are being polished and historic sites are being restored.

There is also an effort to recover long-forgotten sites — among them the all but neglected Jewish cemetery in the Guanabacoa neighborhood on Havana's east side.

"I feel a very great peace and calmness when I visit the cemetery. ... For me it's like being with my mother, my only sister and my nephew," Adela Dworin, president of the Hebrew Board of Cuba, said standing beside a grave adorned with small rocks that are used by Jews to pay homage to the dead.

The rocks, which are believed to symbolize eternity, lie near inscriptions bearing names of the buried. Many have words of consolation written in Yiddish or Spanish and are adorned with the Star of David.

"The people buried here escaped fascism during the war. They're the founders of the community who bought these lands to make it a cemetery," said David Prinstein, vice president of the Hebrew board. "It has historical and sentimental value."

For many years, he said, the Jewish community was unable to raise the \$200,000 needed to completely overhaul the grounds. Jews in the U.S. contributed to the upkeep of some burial plots, but the cemetery as a whole was largely left to deteriorate.

Pilar Vega, an engineer in the historian's office, told local TV there are about 1,100 grave sites in the cemetery. About 50 have been repaired and 150 more are expected to be cleaned up before the end of this year, she said. She didn't say whether the entire cemetery would be refurbished, though she added that a special room where bodies are ritually washed and dressed according to Jewish burial rites has also been fixed up.

Vega didn't say how much the state has spent on the project.

The restoration effort in Havana comes as Cuba finds itself struggling with a severe economic crisis, which experts have blamed on a combination of a Trump administration trade embargo and the halt of Venezuelan shipments of subsidized fuel that Cuba used to generate electricity and earn hard currency on the open market. The country's lack of liquidity has now made it difficult to pay creditors and suppliers, resulting in a shortage of basic products like chicken and flour.

Over the years, the Jewish community has not been immune to the island's political ups-and-downs.

Many Jewish families left the country after the 1959 revolution, leaving behind their dead in accordance with Jewish custom that prohibits bodies from being exhumed unless they are taken to Israel. Others abandoned their religious traditions amid the deep secularism that took hold during the first few years of

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the Castro government. Some Jews moved to Israel amid the periodic economic crunches in the ensuing decades.

"Families leave and many even forget those left here," lamented Prinstein, who said the cemetery had also been looted throughout the decades of neglect.

It was not until the 1990s that Judaism on the island regained strength, partly due to the efforts of a noted surgeon, José Miller. He helped Jews scattered throughout Cuba reconnect with their roots at a time that the communist government discouraged religious denominations. Miller, who died in 2006, is buried in a prominent place in the cemetery.

Some 1,500 Jews live in Cuba now, most of them elderly.

Land for the cemetery in Guanabacoa was bought in 1906 by members of the island's first Hebrew society. It was inaugurated in 1910 by Jews and their descendants from Central and Eastern Europe, many of whom fled persecution in the period between World Wars I and II.

The cemetery also has a three-meter (10-foot) monument paying tribute to the 6 million Jews who died in the Holocaust. A half dozen bars of soap that the Nazis made with human fat from the concentration camps are buried nearby.

Dworin, who lost nearly her entire family during World War II, said she was a schoolgirl in Cuba when the memorial was inaugurated in 1947. Her parents had left a small town in modern-day Poland before war erupted in 1939, but her grandmother and uncles stayed behind, she said.

On a recent day, a group of workers' scrubbed tombstones and reconstructed various installations at the cemetery. Other repairs have also become more visible such as a paved street nearby.

"We are not the country's only problem. There are many places that require the attention of the historian's office, so we are eternally grateful for their interest and friendship to the Jewish people," Dworin said.

## Police release more than 1,000 files from Smollett probe

By DON BABWIN and SOPHIA TAREEN Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Chicago police on Monday released more than 1,000 files from the investigation into Jussie Smollett's claim he was attacked by two men, including video footage that for the first time shows the "Empire" actor with a thin, white rope wrapped around his neck that he told detectives was a noose.

The footage from body cameras worn by police officers who responded on Jan. 29 to what Smollett said was a racist and homophobic attack by two large men has Smollett's face blurred out because, as police explained, he was considered a victim at that point. The footage shows officers walking into the apartment, where they encounter the actor wearing the rope, before one asks him, "Do you want to take it off or anything?"

"Yeah, I do. I just wanted you all to see it," Smollett says before unwinding the rope, loosening it and placing it on the kitchen counter.

Police have said he told them the attackers wrapped the rope around his neck.

In the video, he tells officers that the attackers poured bleach on him. After he is informed about the recording Smollett says he doesn't want to be filmed and the camera is turned off.

In all, police released nearly 1,200 different individual files on Monday, including thousands of pages of documents, arrest reports and handwritten notes from police. Added up, there is more than 90 hours of video, much of it hour after hour of surveillance cameras high above city streets.

As the hunt for the two men Smollett said attacked him continued for weeks, some in the city started to wonder if the whole thing was a hoax. And those suspicions made it into the documents.

On Feb. 1, Cmdr. Edward Wodnicki urged investigators to confirm key information given by Smollett about the night in question: "Verify and I mean verify that the victim got off a plane at O'Hare. Big issue if that was a lie. CALL me as soon as this is completed."

It was, in fact, confirmed.

Then on Feb. 25, a sergeant sent an email saying that she'd received a tip from a caller whose name is redacted. "He has a friend close to the inner circle of the subject," the email reads. "The friend shared

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that the entire event was orchestrated by (redacted)."

The footage itself illustrates the growing skepticism within the Chicago Police Department, starting with the fact that much of it was retrieved from surveillance cameras. Police collected the footage as they tried to piece together the route that two brothers took across the city to the spot where police say they acted out a staged attack of the actor.

The department released footage that shows the two brothers, Abimbola "Abel" Osundairo and Olabinjo "Ola" Osundairo, in a cab the night of the incident. Both are wearing what appear to be light-colored hazmat suits and gloves, with one of the brothers tightening his around his face.

There is also footage of officers handcuffing the brothers — who have acknowledged participating in a staged attack — on the tarmac at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport when they returned on a flight to Chicago from Nigeria, and putting them in police cars for a trip to a city police station where they were detained.

Monday's release of documents and video files was not expected to shed much new light on what happened — largely because so much information has already been made public in the case. In February, for example, when the charges were announced, Police Superintendent Eddie Johnson laid out in minute detail how investigators came to conclude that the incident was not a hate crime as Smollett claimed but a carefully staged hoax directed by the actor himself to promote his career.

Also, in the wake of Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx's office's stunning announcement in March that it was dropping all the charges against Smollett, the Police Department released more than 700 pages of documents and Foxx's office released another 2,000 pages of documents, including internal office communications.

Police said when Smollett was charged that there was no footage of the actual staged attack because the surveillance camera they said Smollett hoped would capture the incident was, unbeknownst to him, not working.

Among the footage released Monday is that of Smollett's creative director Frank Gatson meeting officers in the lobby of the Chicago high-rise apartment building and giving them a summary of the evening as they take the elevator to Smollett's apartment. Gatson tells officers that the alleged attack made him emotional.

"They put a makeshift, what do you call that thing, a noose around his (expletive) neck," he tells officers.

On Monday, Smollett's attorneys did not respond to a request for comment.

Fox Entertainment announced in April that Smollett would not appear in the sixth and final season of "Empire."

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Associated Press writers Ed White and Roger Schneider contributed to this report from Detroit.

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Check out the AP's complete coverage of the Jussie Smollett case.

## Helsinki, Mueller shadowing upcoming Trump, Putin meeting

By JONATHAN LEMIRE and VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The shadow of Helsinki lingers. Uncertainties about Russia's past and future election interference continue. And tensions are high over hot spots from Iran to Venezuela.

When President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin meet this week on the sidelines of an international summit in Japan, it will mark a new chapter in a much scrutinized relationship that crackles with questions and contradictions. Even as Trump places a premium on establishing close personal ties with Putin, his government has increased sanctions and other pressures on Moscow.

The agenda remains a mystery, as still does the outcome of their last meeting, nearly a year ago in Finland.

"The whole world was watching in Helsinki when President Trump sided with Putin over his own intelligence community and we still, all this time later, don't know what they discussed in their private meeting," said Michael McFaul, U.S. ambassador to Russia under President Barack Obama. "And now, I suspect, they will bond over the end of the Mueller probe and push the narrative, individually and together, that there

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was nothing there. It will feel like a vindication to them both.”

The Group of 20 summit in Osaka will be the leaders’ first meeting since special counsel Robert Mueller ended his investigation with no finding that the Trump campaign in 2016 conspired with Russia. That question long had shadowed Trump’s presidency.

Putin has denied that Russia meddled in the American election to help Trump win, even though Mueller uncovered extensive evidence to the contrary. That included a Russian military intelligence operation to break into Democratic Party emails and efforts by a “troll farm” to spread divisive rhetoric and undermine the U.S. political system by using phony social media accounts.

The current tensions with Iran are certain to be a meeting topic. Trump last week called off airstrikes to retaliate for Iran’s destruction of a U.S. drone hours after Putin said the use of U.S. force in the region would trigger a “catastrophe.”

Putin’s defense of Tehran is not the only authoritarian government that he has backed. Putin has supported Venezuela’s Nicolas Maduro and Syria’s Bashar Assad, helping keep each in power despite American opposition. Moscow’s deepening ties with China also have unnerved many in Washington.

For years, Trump has raised eyebrows with his effusive praise of Putin. The Russian president has steadfastly refused to criticize Trump, saying Russia-U.S. relations have become hostage to American political infighting and its “deep state.”

“Even if the president wants to take some steps forward, to discuss something, there are plenty of restrictions coming from other state structures,” Putin said in a radio call-in event last week, adding that he believed Trump’s re-election bid will further tie his hands. “Dialogue is always good and necessary. If the American side shows interest in that, we are naturally ready for a dialogue as much as our partners are.”

The leaders last year announced their withdrawal from a key arms control pact, the 1987 Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty. It is set to terminate this summer, raising fears of a new arms race. Another major nuclear agreement, the New Start treaty, is set to expire in 2021 unless Moscow and Washington negotiate an extension.

“The relationship between the two nations is in poor shape by any measure and the administration policy toward Russia is relatively tough even though the president’s rhetoric is not,” said Richard Haass, president of the Council on Foreign Relations. “There is nothing teed up to succeed at this meeting.”

Along with arms control frictions, Russia’s annexation of Crimea and its support for a separatist insurgency in eastern Ukraine weigh heavily on Russia-U.S. relations. Last November, Trump abruptly canceled a scheduled round of talks with Putin on the sidelines of a summit in Argentina, citing Russia’s seizure of Ukrainian navy ships and their crews. The two men briefly spoke later.

Putin’s primary goal is to get Trump to ease sanctions that Congress has stepped in and toughened.

Putin acknowledged last week that U.S. and European Union sanctions have cost Russia an estimated \$50 billion since 2014. That has helped weaken Putin’s hand and reduced his hopes for some grand bargain that would elevate Russia’s power around the globe.

As for Trump’s aims, “it’s hard to know what the White House’s goals are because this is not a normal administration,” said Kimberly Marten, political science chair at Barnard College. “If it were, you could imagine progress being made on New Start treaty and arms control, while also trying to avoid conflict escalation in areas where their interests oppose, like Iran, North Korea, Venezuela and Ukraine. But I am not sure what the purpose of the meeting is.”

All of Trump’s meetings with Putin have raised questions.

At their first one, in Germany in 2017, Trump took his interpreter’s notes afterward and ordered him not to disclose what he heard to anyone. Trump later sat next to Putin at dinner without any American witnesses. That fall, in Vietnam, Trump listened to Putin’s denials about interfering with the 2016 election.

And last July, Trump and Putin spent more than two hours in a private meeting in Helsinki with only their interpreters present. Some U.S. intelligence officials were never briefed on the discussions. On Monday, the chairman of the House Oversight and Reform Committee, Rep. Elijah Cummings, D-Md., said the White House never responded to a February letter asking what happened to records of the discussion.

At the news conference that followed the Helsinki summit, Trump responded to a reporter’s question by

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declining to denounce Russia's election interference or side with his own intelligence agencies over Putin. Last week, when asked on NBC if he would warn Putin not to interfere in the 2020 election, Trump offered "I may." He made no promises to push to safeguard the American vote.

"This meeting, like their others, feels fraught with uncertainty," said McFaul.

Isachenkov reported from Moscow. Associated Press writer Mary Clare Jalonick in Washington contributed to this report.

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## Safety agency calls for tighter skydiving flight rules

By CALEB JONES and AUDREY McAVOY Associated Press

HONOLULU (AP) — The National Transportation Safety Board on Monday called on the Federal Aviation Administration to tighten its regulations governing parachute operations as Hawaii officials released the names of seven of the 11 victims killed when their skydiving plane crashed last week.

The NTSB recommended to the FAA more than a decade ago that it strengthen its rules on pilot training, aircraft maintenance and inspection, and FAA oversight, board member Jennifer Homendy told a news conference in Honolulu.

She said the FAA hasn't acted on those recommendations.

"Are we trying to put the FAA on notice for this? Yes," Homendy said. "We identified several safety concerns in 2008 with respect to parachute jump operations. Accidents continue to happen. There have been fatalities since that time."

The FAA said in a statement it's implemented a number of changes to addresses NTSB's recommendations, including requiring safety inspectors to increase their monitoring of parachute operations. It said it revised safety guidance for parachute operators and increased safety outreach.

"The safety of all aircraft operations is the FAA's top priority," the statement said.

The plane crashed shortly after takeoff on Friday at a small airfield used by skydivers and the U.S. Army.

Homendy said FAA regulations for skydiving flights aren't as stringent as those for air tours and airlines. For example, she said parachute operators aren't required to act on manufacturer service bulletins, which are similar to manufacturer recalls.

Homendy said there have been 80 accidents and 19 deaths involving skydiving flights since 2008.

The seven identified by the Honolulu Medical Examiner's office included a Colorado couple in their 20s celebrating their first wedding anniversary, a Navy sailor, three Hawaii residents and a man from Minnesota.

Relatives told KCNC-TV that Ashley and Bryan Weikel of Colorado Springs were excited to go skydiving, but Bryan's mother, Kathy Reed-Gerk, begged him not to go.

Bryan's brother Kenneth Reed wrote on Facebook that his brother was "the absolute best person in the world" and that his wife was his "identical soul mate."

The Navy said Lt. Joshua Drablos, 27, was "an invaluable member" of the U.S. Fleet Cyber Command, based in Kunia, Hawaii. The medical examiner said Drablos was a Virginia resident but the Navy listed his home of record as Maryland.

The Minnesota man was Nikolas Glebov, 28, of St. Paul.

Jordan Tehero of Hawaii's Kauai Island was a budding videographer who fell in love with skydiving.

His father, Garret, told The Associated Press the 23-year-old took up skydiving a few years ago as a distraction from the breakup of a relationship. Then he "fell in love" with the sport, he said.

The other two Hawaii residents were Daniel Herndon and Michael Martin.

Autopsies found all 11 died of multiple blunt-force injuries from the crash.

The identities of the remaining four victims will be released once they have been confirmed, the medical examiner's office said.



The victims included 10 men and one woman.

The plane was carrying skydivers from the Oahu Parachute Center, a North Shore business about an hour's drive north of Honolulu.

The same plane sustained substantial damage to its tail section in a 2016 accident while carrying skydivers over Northern California. Repairs were then made to get the plane back into service, and those records along with inspection reports on the plane are part of the NTSB's investigation.

Federal investigators flew to Hawaii to conduct the probe of the crash. They expect to release a preliminary report in about two weeks, but the final report — which will include the cause of the crash — could take up to two years to be released.

Jordan Tehero's parents both expressed worries over his new hobby.

"Because of our fear, we wanted him to stop," the father said. "But he didn't have the fear that we had, so he just continued."

Any fears he may have had were taken care of with prayer. "He always told me, 'Dad, I pray before every flight, before every jump I pray,'" the father said.

Friday's crash was the most deadly civil aviation accident in the United States since a 2011 Reno Air Show wreck killed a pilot and 10 spectators in Nevada.

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Associated Press writers Rachel D'Oro in Anchorage, Alaska, Colleen Slevin in Denver and AP Researcher Rhonda Shafner in New York contributed to this report.

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This story corrects the name of the parachuting company to Oahu Parachute Center.

## **Trump: Woman who accused him of sexual assault not his type**

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump said Monday that a New York-based advice columnist who has accused him of sexually assaulting her in a New York City department store in the mid-1990s is not his "type."

"I'll say it with great respect: Number one, she's not my type. Number two, it never happened," Trump told The Hill in an interview at the White House.

Writer E. Jean Carroll has claimed that a friendly encounter with Trump at Bergdorf Goodman in 1995 or 1996 turned violent when the real estate mogul pushed her up against a dressing room wall, unzipped his pants and forced himself on her. Carroll said that, in a "colossal struggle," she pushed him off and ran from the store.

Trump told The Hill that Carroll is "totally lying" about the accusation, which he also denied earlier. "I know nothing about this woman. I know nothing about her," he said. "She is — it's just a terrible thing that people can make statements like that."

The allegation against Trump is included in Carroll's upcoming book about the "hideous men" the Elle magazine columnist says she has encountered throughout her life.

Carroll told CNN's Anderson Cooper later Monday that she's glad Trump doesn't consider her his type. "I love that," she said. "I'm so glad I am not his type."

Carroll said there were no attendants in the dressing room area at the time of the alleged assault and she did not file a report with the New York Police Department.

"I wanted to forget it," she said. "I thought A, my fault. B, I was stupid. C, I didn't think of it ... as rape. I thought of it as a violent incident. I thought of it as a fight."

During the 2016 presidential campaign, more than a dozen women accused Trump of sexual misconduct in earlier years. Trump has denied the allegations and said the women are lying.

The "not my type" remark isn't the first time Trump has disparaged an accuser.

In 2016, after a former magazine writer accused Trump of assaulting her in 2005, he responded: "She lies! Look at her, I don't think so."

And when another woman claimed Trump groped her on an airplane in the early 1980s, he said, "Believe

me — she would not be my first choice.”

## Tech makes it easier to search wilderness for missing people

By AUDREY McAVOY Associated Press

HONOLULU (AP) — Yesenia D’Alessandro loaded a GPS tracking app on her cellphone and trudged into a remote Hawaii forest, joining more than 100 other volunteers looking for a missing hiker.

She climbed through muddy ravines, crossed streams and faced steep drop-offs in the thick tangle of trees and ferns where her college friend Amanda Eller vanished last month.

“You have to search everywhere,” said D’Alessandro, who flew in from Maryland. “You have to go down to that stream bed, even though you don’t want to. She could be down there.”

D’Alessandro and others gathered GPS data of the ground they covered, and organizers put it on a specialized digital map to help better understand where to look next.

The technology led volunteers to Eller, who was found next to a waterfall and survived for 17 days in the Maui forest by eating plants and drinking stream water. Her dramatic rescue shows how emerging technology helps search teams more efficiently scour the wilderness for missing people.

“It kind of led us to search outside of that high-priority area to where we actually found Amanda,” her father, John Eller, said.

More U.S. teams are turning to the technology that combines cellphone GPS with digital maps detailing cliffs, caves, waterways and other hard-to-search terrain. It helps manage the work of large numbers of volunteers.

The system showed when Hawaii searchers had covered a 2-mile (3-kilometer) radius around Eller’s car. After that, searchers sent a helicopter farther into the forest, where they spotted the 35-year-old physical therapist and yoga instructor.

“We never would have pushed out if we hadn’t searched the reasonable area first. There’s no reason to start reaching further and further out of the box if we hadn’t completely searched the box,” said Chris Berquist, a volunteer search leader.

David Kovar, advocacy director for the nonprofit National Association for Search and Rescue, said most search and rescue teams use digital maps. That could mean anything from basic Google Maps to specialized software called SARTopo, which California search and rescue experts used to advise Maui volunteers from afar.

Search organizers in Hawaii asked volunteers to download a \$3.99 app called GPS Tracks, which draws lines on a map showing where a user has walked.

GPS data revealed that searchers were covering the same areas repeatedly as heavy foliage or natural barriers like cliffs blocked their path, Berquist said. Organizers started dropping digital pins on volunteers’ maps to give them targets, pushing volunteers to cover more ground and making the search more accurate.

When searchers ran into cliffs or pools of water, Berquist had them place digital pins on their maps. Organizers then sent drone pilots or rappelling experts to the cliffs and divers to the water.

Organizers fed the GPS data to the California team, which used SARTopo to overlay it on topographical maps, allowing everyone to see what areas had already been searched and what still needed to be checked.

Matt Jacobs, a California software engineer and search volunteer, developed SARTopo more than eight years ago after noticing teams struggling to match details on wilderness maps drawn by different agencies.

What started as a hobby project has grown in popularity in the past couple of years to become Jacobs’ full-time job. Search and rescue teams from Oregon to North Carolina have started using it.

Searchers used it in March as 100 volunteers fanned out in a Northern California forest, eventually finding 8-year-old Leia Carrico and her 5-year-old sister, Caroline, who got lost near their home.

Last month, teams used it to help locate a 67-year-old hiker who had veered off a trail in a state park north of San Francisco. A California Highway Patrol airplane using an infrared camera spotted the man.

SARTopo also is becoming available as a cellphone app, which will make it even easier to directly connect the GPS data with digital maps so searchers can view them wherever they are.

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Government officials are looking at adopting new technology, including in Hawaii. Most large searches are done by volunteers because many places don't do enough of them to keep official teams on staff.

Maui firefighters used hand-drawn maps as they looked for Eller over the first three days of her going missing. That's because the trail system in the Makawao Forest Reserve where she got lost doesn't appear on Google Maps. County officials also overlaid aerial searches onto a satellite map.

Maui County Fire Services Chief Rylan Yatsushiro said the Maui Fire Department would adopt similar technology used by volunteers — who kept the search going after the first three days — if firefighters found it helpful after studying available options.

Mike St. John, volunteer leader of the search and rescue unit at the Marin County Sheriff's Office in California, said GPS tracking of where people have looked is "really critical."

"It's about using GPS maps and utilizing GPS to make sure you're hitting your assignment," said St. John, who was among those in California advising the Maui team.

St. John said his search and rescue experts are not set up to offer the same type of help to others that they gave to Maui but are trying to figure out how to do that in the future.

Berquist, the Hawaii search leader, visited California this week to talk with St. John about how Marin County's volunteer program works. He aims to set up something similar back in Maui.

After technology helped find Eller, her father is donating software and other equipment to Berquist's team, developing a search and rescue app and giving \$10,000 to support Hawaii searches and rescues.

"We saw a huge need. And we feel so lucky with everything everybody did for us, so we're looking to give back," John Eller said.

## AP Analysis: Trump moves show him to be unreliable partner

By LISA MASCARO AP Congressional Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump's abrupt decision against military strikes may have prevented open military conflict with Iran, but it also showed him anew to be an unpredictable, unreliable, partner at home and abroad.

Trump won his job partly on his claims to be a great dealmaker. But the celebrity businessman-turned-president's negotiating style — repeatedly pushing toward a brink only to pull back at the moment of action — leaves the U.S. lurching from crisis to crisis. On trade tariffs, immigration raids and now the standoff with Iran, his course reversals confound allies as well as adversaries, and his own party in Congress.

As fallout from Trump's actions reverberated around the globe on Monday, and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo jetted to the Middle East in search of a coalition of allies against Iran, the president offered a fresh round of equivocation, defending his decision not to attack Iran even while issuing new threats.

"I think a lot of restraint has been shown by us. A lot of restraint. And that doesn't mean we're going to show it in the future, but I felt that we want to give him this chance," Trump said.

"We would love to be able to negotiate a deal if they want to. If they don't want to that's fine too."

His backing off on military strikes that were about to be launched in retaliation for the shutdown of an unmanned U.S. drone was just one of several recent tactical shifts by the White House on significant issues. Over the weekend, Trump changed course over immigration raids that had stoked fear among people and families living in the country illegally. He postponed steep tariffs he had announced on Mexico earlier this month, giving immigration talks more time.

The Iran standoff, however, is perhaps the most dangerous, as the two countries escalate rhetoric and actions that raise concerns in Congress and the world at large that Iran and the U.S. could stumble into broad military conflict.

When lawmakers asked the president last week how he would be making his decision on Iran, he responded, "My gut."

While that decision not to order military strikes appears to have calmed tensions with Iran, at least somewhat, Trump's messages leave uncertainty about next steps.

"We've never seen anything like it," said Rep. Tom Malinowski, D-N.J., a newly elected freshman who

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served as an assistant secretary of state in the Obama administration.

"I'm glad that he changed his mind about the strike, made the right decision, but he made it in the worst possible way," Malinowski said in an interview Monday. "I don't think anyone has any clue what our policy is."

GOP defense hawks, including Rep. Liz Cheney of Wyoming, the former vice president's daughter, warn against Trump's approach, too. She told a radio host that "weakness is provocative" when it comes to confronting Iran and other adversaries.

Other Republicans say Trump is merely keeping his options open as he pushes Iran to negotiate. That's different, they say, from his predecessor, Barack Obama, who drew a red line against Syria, but then wavered against taking military action.

Ohio GOP Rep. Mike Turner, a member of the Armed Services Committee, said in an interview Monday that Trump's style is more like one you'd see from a litigator trying to get an outcome in talks. "It sort of sends a signal to Iran that if you continue, do expect a military response," he said.

Trump's shifting tactics have drawn mostly silence from U.S. allies across the globe, who have declined to publicly assess the president's decision making or his "maximum pressure" campaign that is using economic sanctions in an effort to force Iran to the negotiating table over nuclear issues.

The tensions with Iran come amid deepening divisions between the United States and its European allies over foreign policy and trade, with the allies appearing to talk past each other on a matter that all view as a crucial security issue.

While European leaders have been careful not to criticize Trump's actions, they're also cool toward U.S. talk of building a global coalition against Iran.

German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas told ZDF television over the weekend, "The strategy of maximum pressure can't be the right one, because one of the consequences is that we are all talking about how serious the situation is, and that there is a danger of war."

Germany, France and Britain, as well as Russia and China, remain part of the nuclear deal that Trump abandoned last year as he tries to cut a new accord that would further curtail Iran's nuclear capability.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, a close friend of the president, has welcomed Trump's tough line toward Iran, including last year's U.S. pullout from the nuclear deal. But the Israeli leader has said little in public during the recent crisis, apparently wary of being seen as pushing the U.S. toward war.

Yoel Guzansky, a former adviser on Iran policy in the prime minister's office and now a senior fellow at the Institute for National Security Studies in Israel, said the administration's decision against a strike essentially sent Iran the message that "if you don't kill Americans you can do whatever you want in the Gulf."

But Tzachi Hanegbi, a Cabinet minister close to Netanyahu, played down Trump's last-minute decision to call off last week's airstrike.

"The real big story is that the American policy toward Iran, which has changed to our delight in the last two, three years, is a policy that completely serves the world's and Israel's interests, to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons," he told Israeli public radio on Sunday.

That's a sentiment shared by Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, which are also supportive of Trump's tough talk on Iran. The Gulf allies have not commented on Trump's about-face. Indeed, they have been reluctant to publicly criticize him over any of his policies.

Danielle Pletka, a senior vice president at the conservative American Enterprise Institute, said Trump has made his decisions all about himself, and that means some allies will stick with him while others will have concerns. "That would be the case if he bombed Iran or if he didn't bomb Iran."

"For Donald Trump, he's damned if he's does, damned if he doesn't," she said by phone from a security conference in Hamburg. "He's so personalized everything in terms of Donald Trump."

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Associated Press writers Shahar Golan in Jerusalem, Geir Moulson and Frank Jordans in Berlin and Deb Riechmann and Kevin Freking in Washington contributed to this report.

## Special prosecutor requested in South Bend police shooting

SOUTH BEND, Ind. (AP) — A special prosecutor was requested Monday to investigate the fatal shooting of a black man by a white police officer in a case that has inflamed tensions between the black community and law enforcement and roiled the Democratic presidential campaign of Mayor Pete Buttigieg.

St. Joseph County Prosecutor Kenneth Cotter filed a petition asking a judge to appoint a special prosecutor to investigate the June 16 shooting of 54-year-old Eric Logan by South Bend police Sgt. Ryan O'Neill. It comes a day after Buttigieg said he would write the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division and notify Cotter that he'd like an independent investigator appointed.

Cotter's petition also revealed that O'Neill had been accused of making "inappropriate racial remarks" as a patrol officer 11 years ago. The South Bend Fraternal Order of Police, which represents local officers including O'Neill, issued a statement Monday saying that it supports O'Neill and accusing Buttigieg of "driving a wedge between law enforcement officers and the community they took an oath to serve."

Buttigieg, who has surged from obscurity to become a top-tier 2020 presidential candidate, left the campaign trail for several days to deal with fallout from the June 16 shooting. He faced criticism Sunday from angry residents of South Bend at an emotional town hall meeting, where some community members questioned whether he had done enough to reform the police department in his two terms as mayor. Buttigieg created controversy during his first term when he fired the city's black police chief.

The mayor praised the prosecutor's decision to request an independent investigator.

"I respect and support Prosecutor Cotter's decision to seek an outside, special prosecutor to investigate the circumstances of Eric Logan's death," Buttigieg said in a statement Monday. "Our community is in anguish, and for all of us to come to terms with what happened, it is vital that the investigation be fair, thorough, and impartial."

The shooting occurred after O'Neill responded to a call about a suspicious person going through vehicles, Cotter has said. O'Neill spotted Logan leaning inside a car. When confronted, Logan approached O'Neill with a 6- to 8-inch knife raised over his head, the prosecutor said. O'Neill fired twice, with one shot hitting a car door. The shooting was not recorded by the officer's body camera.

Cotter's petition requests a special prosecutor to "avoid any appearance of impropriety, conflict of interest or influence upon the ultimate prosecutorial decision to be made."

The petition also noted his chief investigator, Dave Newton, was a South Bend police lieutenant in 2008 while O'Neill was a patrol officer and had filed a report at the time quoting two other officers "that voiced a concern of inappropriate racial remarks made by Ryan O'Neill."

It wasn't clear whether O'Neill received any department discipline as a result of the report.

Buttigieg has said internal affairs investigated, and the report "was found not to be sustained."

## High court strikes down 'scandalous' part of trademark law

By JESSICA GRESKO Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court struck down a section of federal law Monday that prevented businesses from registering trademarks seen as scandalous or immoral, handing a victory to California fashion brand FUCT.

The high court ruled that the century-old provision is an unconstitutional restriction on speech. Between 2005 and 2015, the United States Patent and Trademark Office ultimately refused about 150 trademark applications a year as a result of the provision. Those who were turned away could still use the words they were seeking to register, but they didn't get the benefits that come with trademark registration. Going after counterfeiters was also difficult as a result.

The Trump administration had defended the provision, arguing that it encouraged trademarks that are appropriate for all audiences.

The high court's ruling means that the people and companies behind applications that previously failed as a result of the scandalous or immoral provision can re-submit them for approval. And new trademark applications cannot be refused on the grounds they are scandalous or immoral.

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Justice Elena Kagan said in reading her majority opinion that the most fundamental principle of free speech law is that the government can't penalize or discriminate against expression based on the ideas or viewpoints they convey. She said Lanham Act's ban on "immoral or scandalous" trademarks does just that.

In an opinion for herself and five colleagues, both conservatives and liberals, Kagan called the law's immoral or scandalous provision "substantially overbroad."

"There are a great many immoral and scandalous ideas in the world (even more than there are swear-words), and the Lanham Act covers them all. It therefore violates the First Amendment," she wrote.

Kagan's opinion suggested that a narrower law covering just lewd, sexually explicit or profane trademarks might be acceptable.

The justices' ruling was in some ways expected because of one the court made two years ago . In 2017, the justices unanimously invalidated a related provision of federal law that told officials not to register disparaging trademarks, finding that restriction violated the First Amendment. In that case, an Asian-American rock band sued after the government refused to register its band name, "The Slants," because it was seen as offensive to Asians.

The case the justices ruled in Monday involves Los Angeles-based FUCT, which began selling clothing in 1991. Federal officials refused to register the brand's name, calling it "highly offensive" and "vulgar." Attorney John R. Sommer, who represented Erik Brunetti, the artist behind the brand, said his client was pleased with the decision. He said he expected FUCT to be a registered trademark within the next six months.

The court's decision could result in an uptick in requests to the United States Patent and Trademark Office to register trademarks that would have previously been considered scandalous or immoral.

But Barton Beebe, a New York University law professor who has studied the provision the justices struck down and co-authored a Supreme Court brief in the case , said he thinks that's unlikely. Beebe said he doesn't believe there's a large, pent-up demand for trademark registration by people refused it previously under the provision.

A spokesman for the patent office, Paul Fucito, said the office is reviewing the decision.

The case is Iancu v. Brunetti, 18-302.

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Follow Jessica Gresko on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/jessicagresko>

## Pompeo in Mideast talks on building a coalition against Iran

By AYA BATRAWY Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo held talks Monday with leaders in Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates about countering the military threat from Iran by building a broad, global coalition that includes Asian and European countries.

While Pompeo has seemingly willing and wealthy partners in the two Arab allies, he is likely to face a tough sell in Europe and Asia, particularly from those nations still committed to the 2015 nuclear deal with Iran that President Donald Trump repudiated last year.

With tensions running high in the region after Iran shot down a U.S. surveillance drone on June 20 and Trump said he aborted a retaliatory strike, Iran's naval commander warned that his forces won't hesitate to down more U.S. drones that violate its airspace. The U.S. has been building up its military presence in the Persian Gulf.

The U.S. announced additional sanctions Monday on Iran aimed at pressuring the Iranian leadership into talks. The sanctions, re-imposed after Trump withdrew from the nuclear deal, have crippled the Iranian economy and pushed up the cost of living. Iran has decried U.S. sanctions, which essentially bar it from selling its oil internationally, as "economic terrorism."

At the United Nations, Iran's ambassador said talks with the U.S. were impossible in the face of escalating sanctions and intimidation. Ambassador Majid Takht Ravanchi said the Trump administration should de-escalate tensions by stopping "its military adventurism" in the region and moving away from "economic

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warfare against the Iranian people.”

After departing Saudi Arabia, where he met King Salman and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, Pompeo met in the UAE with Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Zayed to sell the Trump administration's idea for maritime security in the Persian Gulf. The plan would involve the UAE, Saudi Arabia and another 20 countries, Pompeo was heard telling the Abu Dhabi prince.

“We'll need you all to participate, your military folks,” Pompeo told the Abu Dhabi prince in the presence of some reporters traveling with him. “The president is keen on sharing that the United States doesn't bear the cost of this.”

While in Saudi Arabia earlier, Pompeo tweeted that he'd had a “productive meeting” with the Saudi monarch and discussed “heightened tensions in the region and the need to promote maritime security” in the Strait of Hormuz.

Pompeo, considered a hard-liner in Washington, referred to Iran as “the world's largest state sponsor of terror” before he embarked on the hastily arranged Middle East stops en route to India, Japan and South Korea.

He said he'd be speaking with leaders in Saudi Arabia and the UAE “about how to make sure that we are all strategically aligned, and how we can build out a global coalition ... not only throughout the Gulf states, but in Asia and in Europe” that is prepared to push back against Iran.

But Germany, France and Britain, as well as Russia and China, remain part of the nuclear accord that lifted sanctions on Iran in exchange for set limits on its uranium enrichment levels. Trump pulled the U.S. out of the deal last year.

Germany, Britain and France have sent envoys to Tehran recently, signaling they remain committed to diplomacy and dialogue. They cautioned against moves that can lead to conflict between the U.S. and Iran.

Berlin appears cool toward U.S. talk of a global coalition against Iran as it tries to salvage the nuclear deal. German media have drawn parallels between Pompeo's talk of a coalition and President George W. Bush's “coalition of the willing” against Iraq in 2003, which Germany and France opposed.

German Foreign Ministry spokesman Christopher Burger said his country had “taken note via the media” of Pompeo's comments and that Germany's “top aim is and remains a de-escalation of the serious situation.”

On Monday, Trump tweeted that China and Japan depend on the security of the Persian Gulf waterways for the bulk of their oil imports, and he asked why the U.S. is protecting the shipping lanes for other countries “for zero compensation.”

“All of these countries should be protecting their own ships on what has always been a dangerous journey.” He said the U.S. doesn't “even need to be there” because it produces much of its own energy needs.

Brian Hook, the U.S. special envoy for Iran, said one option could be to “enhance” an existing multinational maritime force of about 30 countries that currently fights drug and arms smuggling in the region.

Alternatively, he said allied nations with commercial interests in the oil-rich region could launch an all-new maritime security initiative.

Another option could be military ships patrolling the Gulf waters and equipped with surveillance equipment to keep watch on Iran.

The narrow Strait of Hormuz, which lies between Iran and Oman and opens to the Persian Gulf, is paramount for Asian oil importers. An estimated 18 million to 20 million barrels of oil — much of it crude — pass through the strait every day.

The U.S. Navy, which has its 5th Fleet based in Bahrain to protect the strait, escorted oil tankers to ensure American energy supplies in the 1980s when Iran and Iraq were targeting each other's exports, but the U.S. is no longer as reliant on Arabian producers.

Today, any conflict that threatens tankers would badly disrupt crude supplies for energy-hungry countries like China, Japan, South Korea, Singapore and Indonesia, which are among the top five importers of Arabian oil.

Pompeo's Mideast stops may also be aimed at reassuring Washington's Sunni Gulf Arab allies that the White House remains committed to keeping pressure on Shiite Iran following Trump's decision against

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retaliation, which likely raised questions about U.S. willingness to use force against the Islamic Republic. On a visit to Israel on Sunday, U.S. National Security Adviser John Bolton, also considered a U.S. hard-liner, said Iran should not "mistake U.S. prudence and discretion for weakness."

Iran's naval commander, Rear Adm. Hossein Khanzadi, declared that Tehran is capable of shooting down other American spy drones that violate its airspace, saying "the crushing response can always be repeated." He spoke during a meeting of defense officials in Iran.

Trump has wavered between bellicose language and actions toward Iran and a more accommodating tone, including an offer for negotiations. Iran has said it is not interested in a dialogue with Trump.

Saudi Arabia and the U.S. accused Iran of being behind attacks on tankers near the Persian Gulf in recent weeks, while the UAE has been urging diplomacy to avert a wider conflict.

On the eve of Pompeo's visit to the kingdom, Yemen's Iranian-allied rebels attacked a Saudi airport near the Saudi-Yemen border, killing a Syrian resident and wounding 21 other civilians, the Saudi military said.

The Houthi rebels claimed they used bomb-laden drones to attack the Abha airport, the second in less than two weeks. Drones were also used against a Saudi oil pipeline last month.

In a statement, Pompeo condemned the Abha airport attack and said the war in Yemen is not an isolated conflict. He accused Iran of funneling cash, weapons, and armed support to the Houthis, which Iran denies.

Saudi Arabia has been at war with the rebel Houthis in Yemen for more than four years. The Houthis say the attacks are a response to relentless Saudi airstrikes on Yemen that have killed thousands.

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Associated Press writers Jon Gambrell in Dubai; Nasser Karimi in Tehran, Iran; Geir Moulson in Berlin; Edith M. Lederer at the United Nations, and Darlene Superville in Washington contributed.

## Florida woman charged after giving husband's guns to police

By MIKE SCHNEIDER Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — A Florida woman's effort to protect herself from domestic violence has become a flashpoint in the debate over gun rights and victims' safety.

Courtney Irby gave her estranged husband's guns to police after he was charged with domestic violence-aggravated battery, only to find herself arrested for theft.

Now a Florida lawmaker and gun safety advocates are championing her cause, asking a state attorney on Monday drop the charges, while gun rights advocates want her prosecuted.

Courtney Irby spent six days in jail on charges of armed burglary and grand theft after she retrieved the assault rifle and handgun from her husband's apartment and gave them to the Lakeland Police. Joseph Irby was spending one day in jail at the time, accused of ramming into her car after a June 14 divorce hearing.

After her husband's arrest, Courtney Irby petitioned for a temporary injunction for protection, which was granted. Federal law prohibits people under a domestic violence restraining order from possessing guns, but it's up to local law enforcement to enforce it, according to the Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence.

Courtney Irby told police that she believed he wouldn't turn in his guns himself, so she took action. According to her arrest report, she said she entered her husband's apartment through a locked door without his permission and took the guns to a police station.

"So you're telling me you committed an armed burglary?" the officer asked her.

"Yes, I am but he wasn't going to turn them in so I am doing it," the officer said she responded.

Democratic State Rep. Anna Eskamani of Orlando tweeted that it's "ridiculous" to arrest a woman in this kind of situation. She sent a letter Monday to State Attorney Brian Haas asking that Irby not be prosecuted. She cited research showing the presence of a gun in a domestic violence situation makes it five times more likely a woman will be murdered.

"Ms. Irby was seeking help from the Lakeland Police Department and taking action to protect herself and her children," Eskamani wrote. "Prosecuting Ms. Irby sets a scary precedent that if someone seeks help to escape abuse, they will be punished for it."



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While federal law prohibits people under domestic violence restraining orders and convicted of domestic violence from possessing guns, local law enforcement and prosecutors don't have the tools they need to enforce those restrictions, Eskamani said in her letter to the state attorney.

"These loopholes are major contributors to the deadly relationship between domestic violence and firearms," Eskamani said.

Joseph Irby's charges involve an altercation that began with a shouting match after the divorce hearing. According to his arrest report, they both got into their cars and then he used his vehicle to strike her back bumper several times, running her off the road.

Courtney Irby told a responding officer that "she feared for her life," his arrest report said.

As Joseph Irby was being placed into a patrol car, he called her "a man hater," the arrest report said.

In requesting that she be released on bond, Courtney Irby's attorney argued that she didn't commit theft since she didn't take the guns for her personal use and didn't benefit by taking them.

Spokesmen for the Lakeland Police Department and the State Attorney's Office didn't immediately return requests for comment on Monday.

Gun rights advocates have been tweeting in favor of prosecution and trolling Rep. Eskamani's Twitter account, while Courtney Irby's supporters launched a fundraising campaign for her legal fees. She's also getting support from Fred Guttenberg, whose daughter was killed in the Parkland, Florida school shooting.

Guttenberg tweeted that Irby was "an abused woman trying to protect herself from an abusive husband."

## Blurred lines: Trump's UN choice and her coal magnate spouse

By ELLEN KNICKMEYER Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The email went out from senior Environmental Protection Agency officials to Kelly Craft, the U.S. ambassador to Canada, responding to questions she had about a funding matter.

But the acknowledgment email the EPA got back a few hours later wasn't from the ambassador. It was from her husband, coal magnate Joseph Craft, a wealthy GOP donor who had been taking part in a months-long press by the coal industry for access and regulatory relief from the EPA and the Trump administration in general.

The blurring of roles — and email accounts — by the Crafts this time and others since she began representing the U.S. is raising questions as senators consider her nomination by President Donald Trump to be U.S. ambassador to the United Nations. That post would give her a prime seat at international talks to fight climate change, in part by encouraging limits on the burning of coal, with its heat-trapping emissions.

"Thanks!!" the coal baron replied to the December 2017 email from EPA officials, which had been addressed to "Ambassador Craft." The agency was following up on a briefing she had gotten from then-EPA head Scott Pruitt on federal funding for cleaning up the Great Lakes, an issue of great interest to Canada.

Joseph Craft sent the acknowledgment on his work email for his Tulsa, Oklahoma-based coal company, Alliance Resource Partners LP.

His response ended with the breezy auto-tag from his cellphone: "Sent from my iPhone powered by coal!"

In a statement Monday, the State Department said Joseph Craft had been copied in on the EPA response to his ambassador wife after her Great Lakes discussion with Pruitt because he "had played a role in facilitating the exchange." The statement did not elaborate, or say why his help was needed arranging a discussion between two government officials. "However, he does not play a role in official U.S. government business," the State Department said.

Kelly Craft has fully complied with her ethics agreement as ambassador to Canada, the statement said.

EPA spokesman Michael Abboud noted that Kelly Craft separately responded to the email, a few hours after her husband.

The Sierra Club obtained the emails under the federal Freedom of Information Act and provided them to The Associated Press.

Virginia Canter, chief ethics counsel at the nonprofit watchdog Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington, reacted strongly when told Joseph Craft responded to a government email sent to his wife

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in her capacity as U.S. ambassador.

"That's highly unusual. I've never heard of that," Canter said.

The topic of the email exchange may not have been sensitive, "but he should not be accessing her official emails under any circumstances," however he came to reply to it, she said.

"It's an indication that their interests are intertwined — his business interests and her government interests," Canter said. She noted the conflict that could raise in the U.N. job, given the international focus on climate change and coal, an objection also raised by Democratic lawmakers and others.

The Sierra Club's climate policy director, Liz Perera, said in a statement: "It is deeply concerning that a coal executive is receiving and responding to correspondence intended for U.S. diplomats. With Trump, it is impossible to see where the coal industry ends and where the administration starts."

Spouses of ambassadors typically are closely involved in the social, cultural and ceremonial aspects of a diplomat's job, reaching out on the soft power aspects of countries' charm offensives overseas.

But emails and other dealings by the Crafts with Canadian and U.S. officials raise questions about their neutrality and possible overlaps of interest between government representative and coal tycoon, Canter and environmental advocates say.

Kelly Craft's Twitter account for her post as ambassador to Canada also shows Joseph Craft joining her in meetings with leaders of Canada's parliament; Kelly Craft meeting at least twice with officials of Canadian utilities and energy companies; and Kelly Craft socializing at a University of Kentucky basketball game with Pruitt. Her husband at the time was contacting Pruitt and the EPA repeatedly as the U.S. coal industry pressed a successful campaign for regulatory rollbacks from the Trump administration.

Two months after the exchange over the Great Lakes, Joseph Craft wrote Pruitt's aides from his same email account to ask Pruitt to come speak to his company's board and to a coal investment forum.

The Crafts donated more than \$2 million to President Donald Trump's 2016 campaign.

At a hearing last week, Kelly Craft told members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee she would recuse herself from U.N. matters dealing with coal and other fossil fuels, given her husband's coal interests.

Not good enough, complained Sen. Edward Markey, a Massachusetts Democrat on the panel.

"It is lamentable that as the world faces an existential crisis in climate the Trump administration has nominated someone who is so clearly conflicted in her financial interests," he said in a statement afterward.

Kelly Craft drew attention in 2017 when she told reporters in Canada there were "good scientists on both sides" of the climate change debate. The Trump administration has dismissed repeated warnings from government and other scientists about devastating effects of climate change from fossil fuel emissions.

She has said since her U.N. nomination she accepts that humans and their burning of oil, gas and coal play a role in climate change.

"Let there be no doubt: I take this matter seriously, and if confirmed, I will be an advocate for all countries to do their part in addressing climate change," she testified last week.

Trump before and after taking office declared it his mission to save the declining U.S. coal industry and promote fossil fuels in general. He has acted to take the U.S. out of the Paris climate-change accord — a major topic for the country's next U.N. ambassador — and intervened against several Obama-era measures that aimed to rein in coal emissions.

Records obtained under the federal Freedom of Information Act show Joseph Craft repeatedly emailing, texting and meeting with Pruitt and other EPA officials as coal companies have pressed for relief from the government as competition from cheaper natural gas and from renewables has driven down U.S. demand for coal.

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This story has corrected the spelling of Sierra Club official Perera.

## 4 border deaths in Texas could be a preview of the summer

By DAVID WARREN and CEDAR ATTANASIO Associated Press

Two babies, a toddler and a woman were found dead near the U.S.-Mexican border, overcome by the sweltering heat in a glimpse of what could lie ahead this summer as record numbers of migrant families try to get into the United States.

Authorities believe the four may have been dead for days before the bodies were discovered on Sunday in the Rio Grande Valley. No details were released on the victims' relationship.

It was the latest grim discovery of migrants who died while trying to cross the perilous desert and the swollen Rio Grande.

A law enforcement official close to the investigation told The Associated Press the four were overcome by the heat after fording the river. The official was not authorized to discuss the matter publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

Migrant families have been coming over the border in unprecedented numbers in recent months, reaching a peak in May, when 84,000 adults and children traveling together were apprehended. Nearly 500,000 immigrants have been detained at the border since the start of the year, resulting in dangerous overcrowding in U.S. holding centers.

A total of 283 migrant deaths were recorded along the 2,000-mile border last year. The death toll so far this year was not immediately released.

Three children and an adult from Honduras are believed to have died after their raft overturned on the Rio Grande in April. They had considered seeking asylum but were daunted by a long wait list to get into the U.S., according to a shelter official who met the family.

A 6-year-old immigrant from India was found dead in the triple-digit heat in Arizona this month, and seven people believed to be migrants died in June alone in irrigation canals that run alongside border barriers near El Paso. The total last year for such deaths in those canals was 11.

And the bodies of a father and nearly 2-year-old daughter from El Salvador were recovered from the Rio Grande on Monday, the Mexican newspaper La Jornada reported. The mother told the paper she watched her husband and child disappear in the strong current.

Border Patrol spokesman Ramiro Cordero said that in past years, agents would be posted near canals and hear the cries of help from migrants. But they are doing other duties this year with so many immigrants showing up, some in poor health.

"Unfortunately, because of the large influx of illegal aliens and agents having to be diverted to other duties, such as transporting, hospital escorts ... there are not a lot of agents readily available to hear these cries," he said in a statement.

The Trump administration is also under siege from critics who believe it is taking too hard a line toward humanitarian volunteers who help border crossers by leaving jugs of water in the desert and providing medical assistance.

The Justice Department prosecuted a volunteer with the aid group No More Deaths on conspiracy charges for providing two migrants with water, food and lodging last year. He faced up to 20 years in prison, but the case ended in a mistrial earlier this month when the jury deadlocked.

The immigrants who make it across the border and turn themselves in to authorities are experiencing their own problems and safety risks in government detention. Five children have died after being detained by the government since late last year, and dozens of youngsters were found last week in unsanitary conditions inside a Border Patrol station near El Paso. The government had transferred the majority of the children out of the facility by Monday.

Authorities say the weather is one factor in some of the recent deaths.

Higher-than-average snowfall in the Rocky Mountains is sending more water into the Rio Grande and adjacent canals, creating deceptively swift waters. Border agents say they are rescuing immigrants from the river on an almost daily basis.

Customs and Border Protection agents have responded to 3,330 rescue emergencies since the start of

the fiscal year Oct. 1. Those numbers typically spike in the coming months as triple-digit heat becomes the norm.

During the last budget year, Customs and Border Protection rescue teams responded to more than 4,300 emergencies.

The irrigation canals near El Paso look calm on the surface and easy to cross, but their V-shape creates a quick undertow, and it is difficult to climb out of them.

"They don't realize that once they get in there, their feet can get swept away. There's a lot of obstacles, there's debris in the canal, and there are headgates," which can trap or stop people, said Capt. Kris Menendez, head of the El Paso County Water Rescue Team.

The team was training near a headgate on June 11 when one of the firefighters spotted a body in the water. By the time they got in the water, there were two bodies — one a preschool-age girl, and the other a 30-year-old man.

The names of the four who died in the Rio Grande were not immediately released, and authorities were working to determine their country of origin. The bodies were found in or near a park that borders the river in the city of Mission, Hidalgo County sheriff's Sgt. Frank Medrano said.

The FBI is leading the investigation because the park is on federal land.

Medrano said the area is commonly used by migrants entering the country illegally.

"It's a well-known route because it's so close to the border," he said.

Associated Press Writer Colleen Long contributed to this report from Washington. Warren contributed from Dallas, Attanasio from El Paso.

## Driver with record charged with 7 homicides in biker crash

By MICHAEL CASEY Associated Press

CONCORD, N.H. (AP) — The driver of a pickup truck in a fiery collision on a rural New Hampshire highway that killed seven motorcyclists was charged Monday with seven counts of negligent homicide, and records show he was stopped on suspicion of drunken driving last month and in 2013.

Volodymyr Zhukovskyy, 23, was arrested Monday morning at his home in West Springfield, Massachusetts, the New Hampshire attorney general's office said. He will be arraigned Tuesday in Lancaster, New Hampshire, authorities said.

He was handed over to New Hampshire authorities after a brief court appearance Monday in Springfield, Massachusetts. Zhukovskyy looked down at his feet as he was led into the courtroom with his hands cuffed behind his back.

Connecticut prosecutors say he was arrested May 11 in an East Windsor Walmart parking lot after failing a sobriety test. Officers had responded to a complaint about a man who was revving his truck engine and jumping up and down outside the vehicle.

Zhukovskyy's lawyer in that case, John O'Brien, said he denies being intoxicated and will fight the charge. Zhukovskyy refused to submit to a blood test, prosecutors said.

Additionally, Zhukovskyy was arrested on a drunken driving charge in 2013 in Westfield, Massachusetts, state motor vehicle records show. He was placed on probation for one year and had his license suspended for 210 days, The Westfield News reported.

Records from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration indicate that the company Zhukovskyy was driving for, Westfield Transport, has been cited for various violations in the last two years, MassLive.com reported .

There were two instances where drivers were in possession of narcotic drugs. Other violations including a driver without a commercial driver's license, one for speeding and another for defective brakes.

The company did not respond to repeated requests for comment.

A man who answered the phone at the home of Zhukovskyy's family and would identify himself only as his brother-in-law said Monday that the family is in shock and feeling the same pain as everyone else but

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couldn't say whether the driver was right or wrong.

Since the accident, the brother-in-law said, Zhukovskyy had remained in his room, not eaten and talked to no one.

Defense attorney Donald Frank called Friday's crash a "tragedy" but said it's important to let the criminal justice system play out.

Zhukovskyy's pickup truck, towing a flatbed trailer, collided with a group of 10 motorcycles Friday on a two-lane highway in the northern New Hampshire community of Randolph, investigators said. The truck was traveling west when it struck the eastbound group of motorcycles.

The victims were members or supporters of the Marine JarHeads, a New England motorcycle club that includes Marines and their spouses, and ranged in age from 42 to 62. Four were from New Hampshire, two from Massachusetts and one from Rhode Island.

George Loring, a JarHeads member who lives in Hingham, Massachusetts, and was a few hundred yards from the crash, said Zhukovskyy has "got to live with it for the rest of his life."

"Everyone's suffering so much," Loring said. "It's so sad for the brothers and sisters who died. You can be angry at him, you can be whatever. I don't know. I'm glad he's been arrested."

Joseph Mazza, whose nephew Albert Mazza Jr. was killed in the crash, welcomed the arrest but called it a poor consolation for the loss of a loved one.

"As long as he pays a price. He has caused lot of harm to a lot of families," Mazza said from his Haverhill home. "If he has a problem, he shouldn't be on the road. If he is a bad actor, he doesn't belong on the street. He caused enough of a tragedy. Enough is enough."

Authorities have only said they are investigating the cause of the collision.

JarHeads president Manny Ribeiro, who survived the crash, said the group had just finished dinner and was heading to a fundraiser at an American Legion post in nearby Gorham. A total of 21 riders and 15 motorcycles were in the group. Mazza, who was riding next to Ribeiro, was among those hit by the truck.

"It was just an explosion ... with parts and Al and everything flying through the air," he said. "He turned hard left into us and took out pretty much everyone behind me. The truck and trailer stayed attached and that is why it was so devastating ... because the trailer was attached and it was such a big trailer, it was like a whip. It just cleaned us out."

After the crash, Ribeiro recalled seeing Zhukovskyy "screaming and running around" in the middle of the road before he was taken away by authorities. Motorcycles and bodies were everywhere, he said, and several people were yelling at Zhukovskyy, demanding to know what he had just done.

"It was very surreal," he said, adding that he had put a tourniquet on the leg of one rider who remains hospitalized in Maine.

"I saw Al. I knew he was gone right away," he continued. "At that point, we just tried to figure out who needed help and got to work. There was debris everywhere and the truck was on fire. I was just looking for survivors, familiar faces and trying to find out who I had lost and ... trying to help the living."

Zhukovskyy was questioned at the scene of Friday's crash and allowed to return to Massachusetts, the National Transportation Safety Board has said.

Authorities identified the dead as Michael Ferazzi, 62, of Contoocook, New Hampshire; Mazza, 59, of Lee, New Hampshire; Desma Oakes, 42, of Concord, New Hampshire; Aaron Perry, 45, of Farmington, New Hampshire; Daniel Pereira, 58, of Riverside, Rhode Island; and Jo-Ann and Edward Corr, both 58, of Lakeville, Massachusetts.

This story has been updated to correct Zhukovskyy's hometown to West Springfield, instead of Springfield, and corrects the spelling of his first name to Volodymyr, instead of Volodoymyr, per the attorney general's office.

Associated Press writers Patrick Whittle in Portland, Maine; Dave Collins in Hartford, Connecticut; and Alanna Durkin Richer in Boston contributed to this report.

## Trump signs order imposing sanctions on Iran supreme leader

By **DEB RIECHMANN** and **KEVIN FREKING** Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump signed an executive order on Monday targeting Iran's supreme leader and his associates with financial sanctions, the latest action the U.S. has taken to discourage Tehran from developing nuclear weapons and supporting militant groups.

The sanctions follow Iran's downing of a more than \$100 million U.S. surveillance drone over the Strait of Hormuz. Trump pulled back from the brink of retaliatory military strikes on Iran last week but is continuing his pressure campaign against the nation.

"These measures represent a strong and proportionate response to Iran's increasingly provocative actions," Trump told reporters in the Oval Office.

"We will continue to increase pressure on Tehran until the regime abandons its dangerous activities and its aspirations, including the pursuit of nuclear weapons, increased enrichment of uranium, development of ballistic missiles, engagement and support for terrorism, fueling of foreign conflicts and belligerent acts directed against the United States and its allies."

Trump pulled the U.S. out of the nuclear pact that world powers made with Tehran in 2015. Other nations stayed in the deal, which eased sanctions on Iran in exchange for curbing its nuclear program. Trump called it a one-sided deal in Iran's favor and reimposed sanctions but says he wants to negotiate a different deal. Iran, which calls the sanctions "economic terrorism," has shown no interest in negotiating.

Iran's U.N. ambassador Majid Takht Ravanchi said U.S.-Iran talks are impossible under current conditions, adding, "You cannot start a dialogue with someone who is threatening, who is intimidating you."

Ravanchi, who spoke with reporters while the U.N. Security Council held closed consultations on the rising tensions between the U.S. and Iran, said Washington should stop its military activity in the region, withdraw its naval forces and end what he called "economic warfare" against the Iranian people.

The latest round of sanctions denies Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei and senior military figures access to financial resources and blocks their access to any financial assets they have under U.S. jurisdiction.

"For people who say these are just symbolic, that's not the case at all," Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said. "We've literally locked up tens and tens of billions of dollars."

Trump said the new sanctions are not only in response to the downing of the drone. The U.S. has blamed Iran for attacks on two oil tankers this month near the Strait of Hormuz. Citing those episodes and intelligence about other Iranian threats, the U.S. has sent an aircraft carrier to the Persian Gulf region and deployed additional troops alongside the tens of thousands already there.

All this has raised fears that a miscalculation or further rise in tensions could push the U.S. and Iran into an open conflict 40 years after Tehran's Islamic Revolution.

"The supreme leader of Iran is the one who is ultimately responsible for the hostile conduct of the regime," Trump said. "He is respected within his country. He also oversees the regime's most brutal instrument including the Islamic Revolutionary Guard."

Iran's naval commander has warned that Iranian forces would not hesitate to act again and shoot down more U.S. surveillance drones that violate Iranian airspace. The U.S. said the drone was flying over international waters.

"We confidently say that the crushing response can always be repeated, and the enemy knows it," Rear Adm. Hossein Khanzadi was quoted as saying by the semi-official Tasnim news agency.

The sanctions came as Secretary of State Mike Pompeo is holding talks in the Middle East with officials in the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia about countering the military threat from Iran by building a broad, global coalition that includes Asian and European countries. Pompeo is likely to face a tough sell in Europe and Asia, particularly from those nations still committed to the 2015 nuclear deal.

Germany, France and Britain, as well as Russia and China, remain part of the nuclear accord that lifted sanctions on Iran in exchange for set limits on its uranium enrichment levels. The three European countries have sent envoys to Tehran recently, signaling they remain committed to diplomacy and dialogue. They cautioned against moves that can lead to conflict between the U.S. and Iran.

AP Diplomatic Writer Matthew Lee contributed to this report.

## Trump signs order that aims to reveal real health care costs

By RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump signed an executive order Monday that calls for upfront disclosure by hospitals of actual prices for common tests and procedures to help keep costs down .

The idea is to give patients practical information that they can use to save money. For example, if a hospital charges your insurer \$3,500 for a type of echocardiogram and the same test costs \$550 in a doctor's office, you might go for the lower-price procedure to save on copays.

But insurers said the idea could backfire, prompting hospitals that now give deeper discounts to try to raise their own negotiated prices to match what high earners are getting. Hospitals were skeptical of the move.

Trump's order also requires that patients be told ahead of time what their out-of-pocket costs like deductibles and copays will be for many procedures.

Little will change right away. The executive order calls for a rule-making process by federal agencies, which typically takes months or even years. The details of what information will have to be disclosed and how it will be made available to patients must be worked out as part of writing the regulations. That will involve a complex give-and-take with hospitals, insurers and others affected.

Consumers will have to wait to see whether the results live up to the administration's promises.

"For too long it's been virtually impossible for Americans to know the real price and quality of health care services and the services they receive," Trump said at the White House. "As a result, patients face significant obstacles shopping for the best care at the best price, driving up health care costs for everyone."

Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar told reporters earlier that the order "will put patients in control by increasing choice and competition."

Lack of information on health care prices is a widespread problem . It's confusing for patients, and experts say it's also one of the major factors that push up U.S. costs. The same test or procedure, in the same city, can cost widely different amounts depending on who is performing it and who is paying the bill. Hospital list prices, which are available, don't reflect what they are paid by insurers and government programs.

The health insurance industry said disclosing negotiated prices will only encourage hospitals that are now providing deeper discounts to try to raise their rates to match the top-tier facilities. "Publicly disclosing competitively negotiated proprietary rates will reduce competition and push prices higher — not lower — for consumers, patients, and taxpayers," Matt Eyles, head of the industry group America's Health Insurance Plans, said in a statement.

The Federation of American Hospitals, representing for-profit facilities, warned that if the Trump administration regulations take the "wrong course," they may "undercut the way insurers pay for hospital services, resulting in higher spending."

While the prices Medicare pays are publicly available, private insurers' negotiated rates generally are not. Industry officials say such contractual information is tantamount to trade secrets and should remain private.

Azar pushed back against that argument, saying insurers do ultimately disclose their payment rates when they send individual patients an "explanation of benefits." That's the technical term for the form that patients get after they've had a procedure or seen the doctor.

"Every time any one of us goes to a doctor or a hospital, within a couple of weeks in our mailbox arrives an explanation of benefits. (It) contains the list price ... the negotiated rate ... and what your out-of-pocket is," Azar said. "This is not some great state secret out there."

Patients should have that information ahead of time to help them make decisions, he added.

Trump's executive order also calls for:

—expanded uses for health savings accounts, a tax-advantaged way to pay health care bills that has

long been favored by Republicans. Coupled with a lower-premium, high-deductible insurance plan, the accounts can be used to pay out-of-pocket costs for routine medical exams and procedures.

—a plan to improve the government's various health care quality rating systems for hospitals, nursing homes and Medicare Advantage plans.

— more access by researchers to health care information, such as claims for services covered by government programs like Medicare. The data would be stripped of details that could identify individual patients.

## Stonewall: How a raid and rebellion became a rights movement

By JENNIFER PELTZ Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Michael Olenick was 19 and living a secret social life, letting loose with friends at a speakeasy-like bar with blacked-out windows and one of the few floors in town where men danced with other men. Then the lights came on and the police strode into the Stonewall Inn.

Adrenaline pumping, Olenick worried about getting arrested but also about the action outside — shouting, sirens, sounds of objects being thrown. Gay people got harassed on the streets often enough that he wondered whether they were getting attacked.

What he was hearing early June 28, 1969, would echo for 50 years. It was the start of a rebellion that helped propel and transform the modern LGBTQ rights movement, leaving a legacy in politics, policing and personal lives.

"I'm standing there, not knowing what was going on. That was the horror," recalls Olenick, who was among many patrons police eventually allowed to leave the bar. "And then what came from it was the joy — the enlightenment for the country, for the world, that, 'Hey, we're here. Get over it.'"

Many details of what happened at the Stonewall are enveloped in differing perspectives, disputes and the uncertainty of half-century-old memories.

But the outlines are clear. At a time when homosexuality was defined as mental illness and showing same-sex affection could be deemed illegal, a diverse crowd of hundreds of gay men, bisexuals, lesbians and transgender people refused to go quietly after police raided the bar. They confronted the officers, hurling coins, bottles, invective and more.

Some bucked arrest and scuffled with officers, who took cover inside the bar for a time before riot police arrived. Demonstrations, defiance and arrests continued for several more nights.

The U.S. had seen some organized gay protests and spontaneous fights between LGBTQ people and police. But Stonewall proved to be a turning point. It kindled a sustained burst of organizing that changed the tone and volume of LGBTQ activism, and it altered how some people saw themselves in a society that had relegated many to shadows and shame.

"I knew that I deserved the same rights as anybody else, but it took all of that to make me realize that we, as a people, could fight back," says Mark Segal, who was weeks out of high school when he went to the Stonewall that night and emerged an activist.

"How could anyone have imagined that going out for a night would end up being history?"

'THINGS HAVE CHANGED A LOT SINCE I WAS A COP'

The night's assignment: Search for evidence of unlicensed alcohol sales at the unlicensed Stonewall Inn.

Officer Charles Broughton had been on similar raids before. They were common at New York's gay bars, often unlicensed and run by the underworld. Patrons rarely made waves.

As Broughton recalls, the focus was on people selling illegal drinks, not buying them. Several Stonewall employees were arrested.

While news and other accounts describe police checking people wearing clothes deemed gender-inappropriate — at the time, sometimes considered an illegal "disguise" — and arresting some, Broughton says he wasn't involved in that and didn't judge how bar patrons wanted to live.

He didn't anticipate being corralled in the Stonewall by an angry crowd, hoping he wouldn't get hurt as something crashed against the window.

He would ultimately be shoved and kicked by three people, according to an arrest report; Broughton



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says he doesn't remember it. Overall, at least six people were arrested in the melee. At least four officers — not Broughton — were treated for injuries, according to police reports obtained by historian Jonathan Ned Katz and others. The reports don't reflect any protesters' injuries.

Broughton doesn't regret the Stonewall raid. "I did my job at the time," he says.

But the New York Police Department apologized this month.

"The actions taken by the NYPD were wrong, plain and simple," Commissioner James O'Neill said.

The words of contrition came from a police force that now protects — and participates in — LGBT Pride celebrations that commemorate resistance to its own action.

The Gay Officers Action League has hundreds of members from the NYPD and some nearby agencies. LGBT officers have attained such high-profile positions as precinct commander.

Capt. Kevin Coleman, who oversees a Manhattan precinct, has been open throughout his 16-year career about being "a cop who happens to be gay."

Other officers appreciate his frankness, he says.

"The NYPD, like all of society, evolves," he said this week as a rainbow pride flag flew among others outside the stationhouse. "If we look at Stonewall, 50 years ago, through today, that's an example of how far we've come."

Still, LGBT activists say heavy-handed policing isn't a thing of the past, particularly for transgender people and minorities. Some activists weren't assuaged by O'Neill's apology for the raid, and it elicited mixed feelings in police circles.

"I don't blame the cops because they worked in a different time period. They answered to different types of policies," said Sgt. Ed Mullins, a union leader. Like O'Neill, he joined the force in the 1980s.

Broughton, for his part, wasn't offended by the NYPD's apology.

"Things have changed a lot since I was a cop. ... If it helps, it's good," said Broughton, now a long-retired detective. "Listen, all of us have had family members that are part of that community. And none of us are better than anybody else."

'WE WANTED SOCIETY TO CHANGE'

Scrawled on the Stonewall's boarded-up windows the night after the raid were words that blew Dale Mitchell's mind: "Support Gay Power."

"I had never seen 'gay' as part of a political slogan before," he recalls, "let alone associated with the word 'power.'"

Mitchell, then 20, didn't feel so powerful. He'd had to drop out of college after breaking with his family over his sexual orientation, and he was living in a drug-ridden rooming house with an older man who was mortified by the prior night's Stonewall rebellion.

Mitchell, though, was struck by it and by the crowd that gathered the night after the raid, calling for gay power as another tense standoff developed with police.

Two years later, he would become Indiana University's first openly gay student senator and tell a student newspaper gay people were "showing that our power is real." This month, he was honored as the Boston Pride parade's grand marshal for his advocacy for LGBT senior citizens through the group SAGE and other efforts.

Heading toward the Stonewall that night after the raid, Charles Evans viewed it from the vantage point of a black man from the segregated South, where he'd seen "you had to fight for everything that you got."

"Now, I got to fight for my rights to be who I am," the college student thought as he joined in the second night of protests, heartened at how many supporters had gathered.

Circulating in the crowd, Karla Jay heard the urgency but feared it would fade. Yet a month later, she was among hundreds on a march to the Stonewall, mobilized by the nascent Gay Liberation Front.

Formed in the rebellion's wake, GLF was more radical than earlier groups that staged pioneering, decorous demonstrations and emphasized a message that gay people were mainstream.

GLF members "didn't care any more about those niceties," said Jay, then a graduate student who became the group's first female leader. "We wanted society to change."

Short-lived but influential, GLF marched in Times Square and picketed news publications. Members

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started a spectrum of other groups, including a transgender-advocacy organization founded by Marsha P. Johnson and Sylvia Rivera .

Activists pressed officials to pass anti-discrimination laws and psychiatrists to stop classifying homosexuality as a mental disorder. The new groups held dances to socialize in the open.

"We had to be out, loud and in your face," concluded Segal, the teen spurred to activism by the Stonewall uprising. A GLF member, he founded a gay youth group, disrupted TV news and talk shows to raise the movement's visibility, and now publishes the Philadelphia Gay News.

For Paul Glass, Stonewall's impact was more private but no less important. He came out to his family a few weeks later.

"It was liberating," says Glass, Evans' husband.

## A WINDING ROAD OF CHANGE

Today, the Stonewall Inn is part of the first national monument to LGBT history . It has undergone various physical and ownership changes over the years, but it's still a bar, and a rallying point for LGBTQ activists along a winding road of political and social change .

With gay marriage legal nationwide, polls show majorities of Americans now support same-sex marriage and nondiscrimination protections for LGBTQ people; 20 states have such laws. A federal proposal passed the House this spring but faces long odds in the Senate.

Enduring differences over the movement are as visible as a rainbow pride flag that went up over the Wisconsin state Capitol this month. Where some saw a banner of inclusivity, others viewed it as waving a provocative cause in the public's face .

"It is divisive," complained state Rep. Scott Allen, a Republican.

## 'WE HAD COME SO FAR, AND SO MUCH HAD BEEN FORGOTTEN'

One afternoon this month, people started tucking notes and keepsakes into envelopes at the New-York Historical Society, there to stay for the next half-century in the Stonewall 50 Time Capsule.

There were flyers for 1980s nightclubs where one man found a social community, and newspaper clippings about being a lesbian police officer and parent in the 1990s. A young transgender woman left a note to her future self: "I love you for being true to you."

Wes Enos put in a letter about helping to create a time capsule dedicated to the legacy of an event decades before his birth. At 32, he has regretted how little many of his peers know about the lives of older LGBTQ people.

"It felt like we had come so far, and so much had been forgotten," says Enos, who founded an intergenerational storytelling organization called the Generations Project. It's collaborating on the time capsule, to be sealed next year.

Justin Sams wrote out: "You're beautiful. You're worthy. You're brave. You're courageous."

The 27-year-old actor hopes to read his message again in 2069. But he also hopes it will "let the fellow LGBTQ brothers and sisters know that they're worthy and they can keep fighting," he said.

"And hopefully, they won't have to fight."

Find complete AP Stonewall anniversary coverage here: <https://apnews.com/Stonewallat50>

## Europeans cool on Iran coalition talk, seek de-escalation

By GEIR MOULSON Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — European officials on Monday appeared cool toward U.S. talk of building a global coalition against Iran, with the German foreign minister warning that "maximum pressure" without diplomacy increases the risks of a war and several others stressing that their priority is to de-escalate tensions in the Middle East.

The split over Iran comes amid deepening divisions between the United States and Europe over foreign policy and trade, with the allies appearing to talk past each other on a matter that both view as a crucial security issue.

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U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, visiting Middle Eastern allies Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, said he would discuss "how we can build out a global coalition" against Tehran that also includes countries in Asia and Europe, describing Iran as "the world's largest state sponsor of terror."

German Foreign Ministry spokesman Christofer Burger said Berlin had "taken note via the media" of Pompeo's comments on a coalition, a formulation that indicated his country had yet to be asked to join directly. He added that "our top aim is and remains a de-escalation of the serious situation," pointing to contacts at various levels with the U.S. and noting that various representatives of the three European countries have recently been in Tehran.

Germany, France and Britain, along with Russia and China, remain part of the nuclear deal that U.S. President Donald Trump's administration abandoned last year. The 2015 agreement aimed at curbing Iran's nuclear ambitions in exchange for relief from economic sanctions.

Germany argues that the agreement, beyond ensuring that Iran doesn't produce nuclear weapons, also helps keep open lines of communication with Tehran to address other concerns about its behavior in the Middle East.

On Sunday, German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas doubled down on criticism of the Trump administration's strategy of "maximum pressure" against Tehran, which is weighing heavily on Iran's economy.

"The strategy of maximum pressure can't be the right one, because one of the consequences is that we are all talking about how serious the situation is, and that there is a danger of war," he told ZDF television.

"This is the time for diplomacy," he added. "We have to ensure that these tensions are reduced, because otherwise any event — without it being clear who caused it — could lead to ... a spiral of violence that ends in a war."

The point was echoed by the spokeswoman for European Union foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini, one of the guarantors of the 2015 agreement.

Asked about the U.S. call for a coalition against Iran, spokeswoman Maja Kocijancic said that "exclusively diplomatic routes are needed to resolve differences. The EU is ready to work with partners to take this forward."

She added that "the latest developments underline the urgent need for restraint, for open channels of dialogue and for immediate de-escalation."

Maas recently traveled to Tehran, Britain sent a Foreign Office minister there and France sent President Emmanuel Macron's chief diplomatic adviser.

Speaking on the sidelines of a Mediterranean summit in Marseille, Macron urged that diplomacy prevail.

The leaders of the three European countries will have a chance to discuss Iran directly with Trump at the Group of 20 summit in Japan that starts Friday, and Macron said he would take that opportunity to do so.

"We must find a constructive solution with one objective, which is the collective security of the region," he said.

British Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt, who is also campaigning to lead the Conservative Party and become the new prime minister, told the Daily Mail newspaper over the weekend that "we will stand by the United States as our strongest ally, but of course we have to consider any requests for military support on a case-by-case basis."

He said that "we want to de-escalate the situation but we are of course extremely worried."

Macron's office hasn't commented on the outcome of the presidential adviser's visit to Iran. On Friday, Macron said that he was "calling on all parties to be reasonable and keep talking."

On Monday, Brian Hook, the U.S. special envoy for Iran, said Washington wants partners to join forces to increase maritime security in the Persian Gulf. He said one option could be to "enhance" an existing multinational maritime force in the region involving about 30 countries — several of them in Europe — that fights drug and arms smuggling.

The Europeans' diplomatic balancing act faces severe pressure from the Iranian side as well. On Friday, officials from Iran and the remaining parties to the nuclear deal are due to hold a regular meeting in Vienna, with Tehran saying that it expects to exceed the uranium stockpile limit set by the agreement this week.

Iran also has set a July 7 deadline for Europe to come up with better terms for it to stay in the accord. If that deadline passes without any action, President Hassan Rouhani has said the Islamic Republic likely will resume higher uranium enrichment. The Europeans are trying to implement a complicated barter-type system known as INSTEX to keep up trade with Iran.

The Europeans are insisting Iran stick to its obligations under the deal in full, with German Chancellor Angela Merkel saying that if Tehran doesn't abide by the accord, "that will of course have consequences." Officials won't elaborate on what exactly would happen.

Associated Press writers Frank Jordans in Berlin, Lorne Cook in Brussels, Danica Kirka in London and Sylvie Corbet, Elaine Ganley and Angela Charlton in Paris contributed.

## US pushes Palestinian economic plan amid doubts, hostility

By MATTHEW LEE AP Diplomatic Writer

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP) — Despite withering criticism, charges of hypocrisy and outright rejection from the intended beneficiaries, the Trump administration is plowing ahead with a \$50 billion economic proposal to aid the Palestinians and hopes it will drive a much-anticipated but unseen Mideast peace plan.

The United States has attracted only lukewarm support from its traditional partners in Middle East peacemaking and is convening the "Peace to Prosperity" workshop this week in the tiny Gulf kingdom of Bahrain under the shadow of rising tensions with Iran that could ignite regional conflict. The two-day conference that begins Tuesday in Manama has drawn governmental and private sector participants from dozens of countries, but lacks official Israeli or Palestinian delegations.

The event includes presentations from President Donald Trump's son-in-law and senior adviser Jared Kushner, U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and the heads of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank. But the seven-page program for the workshop contains no discussion of how to resolve the political disputes at the core of the long-running conflict.

The administration acknowledges that its ambitious economic proposals are contingent on acceptance of a political plan, which will not come out until the fall.

"How anything could come out of that agenda is hard to know," said Shibley Telhami, a Mideast scholar and the Anwar Sadat professor for peace and development at the University of Maryland.

The program does not mention Israel or Palestine and refers to Palestinians by name only four times. One of those references is in the description of the sole Palestinian participant with a speaking role at the meeting, a West Bank businessman who works with Israeli settlers and is viewed with deep suspicion by his many fellow Palestinians.

The administration has refused to endorse a "two-state solution," a goal long viewed by many as the only viable way to secure lasting peace, and the 40-page proposal and its longer annex do not use the phrase. Nor do the documents offer any hint as to who will pay for the programs, which include health, education and public works projects in the West Bank, Gaza and for Palestinian communities in Egypt, Jordan and Lebanon.

Lebanon is boycotting the conference. Egypt and Jordan, the only two Arab nations with peace treaties with Israel, are sending only midlevel officials. Their acceptances of invitations to Bahrain, similar to those of other Arab states, include the caveat that they will not support a peace deal that the Palestinians won't accept.

Egypt's foreign minister, Sameh Shoukry, said Monday that his country is participating to listen to the proposal. "We have the right to evaluate and review it," he said in an interview with Russia Today. But, he added, "the final decision is for the Palestinian Authority."

The Palestinian president, Mahmoud Abbas, is having none of it. "The workshop was meant to address the economic problems, but the real problem is the political one," he said Sunday. "The Palestinians are seeking an entity, statehood, and after that we look at the economy."

Hundreds of Palestinians on Monday protested against the conference, pouring into the streets of West

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Bank cities, from Hebron to Nablus; many burned effigies of Trump and Bahrain's king. Protesters in Ramallah, the seat of the Palestinian Authority, carried a giant coffin labeled "Bahrain workshop," and signs that said "The Deal of the Century is doomed."

Israel's prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, said his government would listen but he offered no guarantee he would endorse the plan. He said security, which must be addressed in political negotiations, will always be the paramount issue for Israel.

"We will hear the American proposition, hear it fairly and with openness, and I cannot understand how the Palestinians before they even heard the plan reject it outright. That's not the way to proceed. We believe that peace is coupled and dependent on security," he said.

Many former U.S. officials who participated in earlier rounds of failed diplomacy have criticized the proposal on similar grounds. Without any insight into the administration's ideas on specific security and territorial intentions, they say the economic proposal is unrealistic.

Dave Harden, a former mission director for the West Bank and Gaza for the U.S. Agency for International Development, noted that the types of projects listed in the plan have around for years.

"I don't think that they're being realistic about how hard it is," he said. "Even if you have the money, implementation can be an immense challenge." Harden said a road project in the West Bank and a 150-yard water line near the Gaza border took years to win Israeli approval.

Defenders of the plan say it should be given a chance.

"Administration critics adopt the odd view that, although all past efforts have failed, we must never deviate from them. They are offended by alterations to old formulas, when the old formulas achieved no peace," Jon Lerner, who served as deputy U.S. ambassador to the United Nations under now-ex Ambassador Nikki Haley, wrote in an opinion piece distributed by the White House.

Critics point to the fact that many of the projects in the economic plan have been proposed before and came to nothing because donors did not come up with the promised money and address Israel's security concerns, and there were breakdowns in political negotiations.

"Pledges are free and people often don't follow through," Telhami said. "They are cheap ways to score political points and if you look back there is a history to this. It has been tried before with little result."

Still, Lerner and other supporters of the administration's approach argue that critics ignore Gulf Arab enthusiasm for resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict so that they can concentrate on larger issues such as their own economic transformations and threats from Iran.

This, they say, is underscored by Qatar's participation in the conference despite a dispute with Saudi Arabia, the Emirates and Bahrain that has paralyzed the Gulf Cooperation Council for nearly two years.

"Now you see the Gulf as an active participant in the process and that is unprecedented," said Rabbi Marc Schneier, a longtime proponent of closer Israel-Arab ties and adviser to Bahrain's king. "The regional dynamic is very different than before," said Schneier, who is attending the workshop as a member of the Bahraini delegation.

## Iranians say their 'bones breaking' under US sanctions

By **NASSER KARIMI** and **MOHAMMAD NASIRI** Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — As the U.S. piles sanction after sanction on Iran, it's the average person who feels it the most.

From a subway performer's battered leather hat devoid of tips, to a bride-to-be's empty purse, the lack of cash from the economic pressure facing Iran's 80 million people can be seen everywhere.

Many blame President Donald Trump and his maximalist policy on Iran, which has seen him pull out of Tehran's 2015 nuclear deal with world powers and levy punishing U.S. sanctions on the country.

In recent weeks, Iran has threatened to break out of the deal unless European powers mitigate what it calls Trump's "economic warfare." Iran also appeared ready to push back against the buildup of U.S. forces in the region, after shooting down an American drone it says violated its airspace last week.

In response, U.S. officials have announced yet more stringent sanctions.

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But alongside Trump, many Iranians blame their own government, which has careened from one economic disaster to another since its Islamic Revolution 40 years ago.

"The economic war is a reality and people are under extreme pressure," said Shiva Keshavarz, a 22-year-old accountant soon to be married.

She said government leaders "keep telling us to be strong and endure the pressures, but we can already hear the sound of our bones breaking."

Walking by any money exchange shop is a dramatic reminder of the hardships most people are facing. At the time of the nuclear deal, Iran's currency traded at 32,000 rials to \$1. Today, the numbers listed in exchange shop windows have skyrocketed — it costs over 130,000 rials for one U.S. dollar.

Inflation is over 37%, according to government statistics. More than 3 million people, or 12% of working-age citizens, are unemployed. That rate doubles for educated youth.

Depreciation and inflation make everything more expensive — from fruits and vegetables to tires and oil, all the way to the big-ticket items, like mobile phones. A simple cell phone is about two months' salary for the average government worker, while a single iPhone costs a 10 months' salary.

"When importing mobile phones into the country is blocked, dealers have to smuggle them in with black market dollar rates and sell them for expensive prices," said Pouria Hassani, a mobile phone salesman in Tehran. "You can't expect us to buy expensive and sell cheap to customers. We don't want to make a loss either."

Hossein Rostami, a 33-year-old motorbike taxi driver and deliveryman, said the price of brake pads alone had jumped fivefold.

"The cause of our problems is the officials' incompetence," he told The Associated Press as fellow motorbike drivers called out for passengers in Tehran. "Our country is full of wealth and riches."

The riches part is true — Iran is home to the world's fourth-largest proven reserve of crude oil and holds the world's second-largest proven reserve of natural gas, after Russia.

But under Trump's maximum-pressure campaign, the U.S. has cut off Iran's ability to sell crude on the global market, and threatened to sanction any nation that purchases it. Oil covers a third of the \$80 billion a year the government spends in Iran, meaning that a fall in oil revenues cuts into its social welfare programs, as well as its military expenditures.

The rest of the country's budget comes from taxes and non-oil exports, among them oil-based petrochemical products that provide up to 50% of Iran's \$45 billion in non-oil export.

In Tehran's Laleh park, retired school teacher Zahra Ghasemi criticized the government for blaming "every problem" on U.S. sanctions.

She says she has trouble paying for her basic livelihood. The price of a bottle of milk has doubled, along with that of vegetables and fruit.

"We are dying under these pressures and a lack of solutions from officials," Ghasemi said.

Years of popular frustration with failed economic policies triggered protests in late 2017, which early the following year spiraled into anti-government demonstrations across dozens of cities and towns.

The current problems take root in Iran's faltering efforts to privatize its state-planned economy after the devastating war with Iraq in the 1980s, which saw 1 million people killed.

But Oil Minister Bijan Zanganeh said earlier this month that the crunch on oil exports is hitting harder today than during the 1980s war, when Saddam Hussein's forces targeted Iran's oil trade.

"Our situation is worse than during the war," Zanganeh said. "We did not have such an export problem when Saddam was targeting our industrial units. Now, we cannot export oil labeled Iran."

Still, many Iranians pin the economic crisis on corruption as much as anything else.

"Our problem is the embezzlers and thieves in the government," said Nasrollah Pazouki, who has sold clothes in Tehran's Grand Bazaar since before the 1979 Islamic Revolution. "When people come to power, instead of working sincerely and seriously for the people, we hear and read after a few months in newspapers that they have stolen billions and fled."

He added: "Whose money is that? It's the people's money."

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Sanctions do cause some of the problems, said Jafar Mousavi, who runs a dry-goods store in Tehran. But many of the woes are self-inflicted from rampant graft, he said.

"The economic war is not from outside of our borders but within the country," Mousavi said. "If there was integrity among our government, producers and people, we could have overcome the pressures."

Yet people come and go each day to work on Tehran's crowded metro, seemingly earning less each day for the same work. In one train car, Abbas Feayouji and his son Rahmat play mournful-sounding traditional love songs known as "Sultan-e Ghalbha," or "King of Hearts" in Farsi.

"People pay less than before," said the elder Feayouji, a 47-year-old father of three, as he took a short break to speak to the AP. "I don't know why they do, but it shows people have less money than before."

## Italy's Milan-Cortina wins vote to host 2026 Winter Olympics

By **GRAHAM DUNBAR** and **DANIELLA MATAR** AP Sports Writers

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (AP) — Riding a wave of widespread Italian enthusiasm to be an Olympic host, Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo won the vote Monday to stage the 2026 Winter Games.

International Olympic Committee members voted 47-34 for the long-favored Milan-Cortina bid over Stockholm-Are from Sweden that also included a bobsled track in Latvia.

Milan-Cortina's jubilant delegation broke into chants of "Italia! Italia!" when the result was announced, giving the Alpine nation a second Winter Games in 20 years.

"I'm really emotional," Italian Olympic president Giovanni Malago said, close to tears at the winner's news conference. "It's a very important result, not only for me but the whole country."

Italy will get a third Winter Games, after Turin hosted in 2006 and ski resort Cortina staged in 1956.

Sweden never hosted the Winter Games and was sent to an eighth loss in bidding in the past 41 years.

A lack of enthusiasm for the project in Sweden — rating 28% below the Italians in the IOC's own polls — was a decisive factor.

"What was clear was the gap in public support," IOC President Thomas Bach said, suggesting it hinted at weaker political backing.

A spirited late campaign effort was in vain, including Stockholm's mayor Anna Konig Jerlmyr appealing to voters from the stage by singing a lyric from Abba song 'Dancing Queen'.

A sign of simmering Swedish frustration came minutes later when IOC board member Gunilla Lindberg pushed the limit of Olympic diplomacy ending her team's 30-minute presentation.

Lindberg challenged her colleagues to reward a new kind of creative, cost-effective bid the IOC has said it wanted — "Or is it just talk?"

"It just came. I felt it (needed to be said)," Lindberg told The Associated Press after the vote.

Instead, IOC members picked Italy despite a debt-hit economy which faces increasing European Union scrutiny.

"We submit with full confidence to your judgment," Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte told IOC members before their vote.

Both candidates would likely have failed to get this far in previous Olympic bidding contests.

The IOC has relaxed previously strict rules that demanded financial guarantees and government support earlier in the process.

It was an attempt to revive Winter Games bidding with just two candidates on the ballot paper for the second straight time, since Russia spent \$51 billion on venues and infrastructure for the 2014 Sochi Olympics.

Now, the IOC seeks to avoid costly new venues — and potential white elephants — while encouraging regions and multi-nation bids to share the load. Hence, Sweden teamed with Latvia, across the Baltic Sea, rather than build its ice sliding sports venue.

"We have budget problems in Italy but I think that this is something that everyone has," Italy Undersecretary of State Giancarlo Giorgetti said at an earlier news conference, citing the wealth of the Lombardy and Veneto provinces underwriting the games costs. "They are two of the richest provinces in Europe."

The IOC will give at least \$925 million toward Italy's games operating costs of up to \$1.7 billion.

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After Russia's huge spending in venues, infrastructure and cost overruns for the 2014 Sochi Winter Games, multi-billion dollar construction projects were awarded in new markets for the 2018 Pyeongchang Olympics and 2022 Beijing Olympics.

The 2026 contest met Bach's long-stated wish to return to traditional winter sports heartlands, use existing venues and cut costs.

The IOC praised both candidates for projecting sports budgets "on average 20% lower" than spending on the 2018 and 2022 games.

Building athlete villages in Milan and Stockholm shaped as the main capital investment and most uncertain ventures in the projects.

Last week, the IOC flagged Stockholm's village as a risk, and asked for more details of guarantees underwriting the project.

"A letter of intent is as important to us as any contract," Volvo chairman Carl-Henric Svanberg said in the formal presentation, in what seemed a rebuke to the Olympic body.

Needing to work hard to persuade Olympic voters, Sweden sent its heir to the throne, Crown Princess Victoria, and Prime Minister Stefan Lofven to Lausanne.

Sweden's search continues for its first home Olympics since the 1912 Stockholm Summer Games.

More AP sports: <https://apnews.com/apf-sports> and [https://twitter.com/AP\\_Sports](https://twitter.com/AP_Sports)

## Warner Bros. names BBC's Ann Sarnoff as its new CEO

By JAKE COYLE AP Film Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — BBC executive Ann Sarnoff was named chief of Warner Bros. on Monday, making her the first woman to head the movie studio in its 96-year history. Her appointment follows the departure in March of Kevin Tsujihara, who stepped down after misconduct allegations.

WarnerMedia chief executive John Stankey announced Sarnoff's hiring, concluding a three-month search for one of Hollywood's most prized posts. Many had expected WarnerMedia to turn to an experienced film executive like movie-division head Toby Emmerich, who was part of the interim committee running the studio after Tsujihara's departure, Disney veteran Anne Sweeney or former Fox chief Stacey Snider.

But to surprise of much of the industry, WarnerMedia turned to Sarnoff, who has worked primarily in television. Sarnoff, who takes over as chief executive and chair of Warner Bros., is currently president of BBC Studios Americas. She has previously been a top TV executive at Viacom and with the WNBA.

"She brings a consistent and proven track record of innovation, creativity and business results to lead an incredibly successful studio to its next chapter of growth," said Stankey. "Ann has shown the ability to innovate and grow revenues and has embraced the evolution taking place in our industry."

In March, Tsujihara stepped down following claims that he promised roles to an actress with whom he was having an affair. Tsujihara, whose attorney denied that Tsujihara had any direct role in the woman's hiring, said he was departing to avoid being a distraction.

The rupture came at an awkward time for WarnerMedia, which has just expanded Tsujihara's role at the global conglomerate. AT&T last year acquired Time Warner Inc., which was renamed WarnerMedia, and the company is planning to launch a streaming service later this year.

In Warner Bros., Sarnoff takes over one of the most storied studios in Hollywood. In recent years, the Walt Disney Co. has surpassed Warner Bros. as the market leader, sliding Warner Bros. to an increasingly distant second. The studio this year has continued the turnaround of its DC Comics films with "Shazam!" though its big summer movie, "Godzilla: King of Monsters," has underperformed.

## Sanders, liberals, out with bill to cancel student debt

By LAURIE KELLMAN and ELANA SCHOR Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Days before the first Democratic presidential debates, Sen. Bernie Sanders and



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House progressives rolled out legislation to cancel all student debt, going farther than a signature proposal by Sen. Elizabeth Warren as the two jockey for support from the party's liberal base .

By canceling all student loans, Sanders says the proposal would address an economic burden for 45 million Americans. The key difference is that Warren's plan considers the income of the borrowers, canceling \$50,000 in debt for those earning less than \$100,000 per year and affecting an estimated 42 million people in the U.S.

Questions face both candidates about how to pay for all of that plus their proposals for free tuition at public colleges and universities. But the battling ideas highlight the rivalry between senators who have made fighting economic inequality the cornerstones of their 2020 presidential campaigns.

Sanders vowed at a Monday news conference that his plan "completely eliminates student debt in this country and the absurdity of sentencing an entire generation, the millennial generation, to a lifetime of debt for the crime of doing the right thing. And that is going out and getting a higher education." He appeared alongside the proposal's House sponsors, Reps. Ilhan Omar, D-Minn., Pramila Jayapal, D-Wash., and Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y., with American Federation of Teachers President Randi Weingarten also in attendance.

His bill and Warren's plan are part of their broader appeal to liberal voters on issues such as health care, technology and education.

That appeal is likely to be fleshed out this week during the first Democratic debates . Twenty candidates are set for the showdown, with Warren part of the lineup on Wednesday and Sanders appearing a day later. The events come as Warren appears to be cutting into Sanders' support from the left.

Sanders' effort at one-upmanship on student loans, named the College For All Act, would cancel \$1.6 trillion of debt and save the average borrower about \$3,000 a year, according to materials obtained by The Associated Press. The result would be a stimulus that allows millennials in particular to invest in homes and cars that they wouldn't otherwise be able to afford. It would cost \$2.2 billion and be paid for — and then some — by a series of taxes on such things as stock trades, bonds and derivatives, according to the proposal.

The universal debt relief is designed partly around the idea that it would mostly benefit Americans who can't afford college tuition without loans, according to a senior Democratic aide who spoke on condition of anonymity because the legislation wasn't yet public.

Warren's plan, which she plans to introduce as legislation alongside Rep. Jim Clyburn, D-S.C., would be paid for by imposing a 2% fee on fortunes greater than \$50 million. Warren projects the levy would raise \$2.75 trillion over 10 years, enough to pay for a universal child-care plan, free tuition at public colleges and universities, and student loan debt forgiveness for an estimated 42 million Americans — with revenue left over. Critics say top earners would find ways around such penalties.

One key difference between Sanders' and Warren's plans is their differing treatment of high earners: Warren wrote that her plan would offer "no debt cancellation to people with household income above \$250,000," or the top 5%. Sanders would extend the benefit even to wealthy borrowers.

Asked Monday about that decision, Sanders told reporters that he believes in "universality" and added: "In other areas we are going to demand that the wealthy and large corporations start paying their fair share in taxes."

Follow Kellman and Schor on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/APLaurieKellman> and <http://www.twitter.com/ESchor> .

This story has been corrected to show Warren will appear Wednesday, not Tuesday.

## Dikembe Mutombo records Ebola messages for US officials

By MIKE STOBBE AP Medical Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Unable to send disease fighters to help battle one of the deadliest Ebola outbreaks in history, U.S. health officials are turning to basketball hall of famer Dikembe Mutombo for help.

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Mutombo, regarded as one of the greatest defensive players in NBA history and a well-known philanthropist in his native Congo, recorded radio and video spots designed to persuade people to take precautions and get care that might stop the disease's spread.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention began posting the spots Monday on its YouTube channel and on the agency's website. Officials are trying to get radio and TV stations in the Democratic Republic of Congo to air them.

More than 2,200 people have been reported ill — and about 1,500 have died — since an Ebola outbreak was declared in August in eastern Congo. It is the second deadliest outbreak of the lethal virus, which jumps from person to person quickly through close contact with bodily fluids.

Rebel attacks and community resistance have hurt Ebola response work in Congo. A World Health Organization doctor was killed in April, health centers have been attacked and armed groups have repeatedly threatened health workers. Because of safety concerns, the U.S. State Department last year ordered CDC disease specialists to stay out of the outbreak areas.

Mutombo, who moved to the U.S. in the 1980s intending to pursue a medical degree, told The Associated Press he understands where the distrust comes from.

"Someone who doesn't look like you, who doesn't think like you, who is not from your village, who is from other places, just walk to your village with a nice beautiful white truck and telling you ... 'inject this chemical into your body to protect you from this deadly virus.' That's where there's a fight. This is where we're having a conflict," he said.

"How do you that build trust? That's the big problem we're having in the Congo," he said. "I believe as a son of Congo, I think my voice can be heard. Because everyone in the country knows my commitment to the humanity and the health."

The idea for the PSA was sparked in February when Mutombo, a member of the CDC Foundation's governing board who lives in Atlanta, was talking with Dr. Robert Redfield, the CDC's director.

"We are deeply appreciative of his interest to try to get accurate information to the community," Redfield said.

Mutombo, who turns 53 on Tuesday, previously did public service announcements focused on polio and yellow fever. A dozen years ago, his foundation established a 300-bed hospital on the outskirts of his hometown of Kinshasa.

The new spots were recorded in Kiswahili, French and Lingala. They talk about recognizing the early signs of Ebola, early treatment and prevention measures.

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AP reporter Cody Jackson in Atlanta contributed to this report.

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

## For Turkey's Erdogan, a challenge in former stronghold

By **DEREK GATOPOULOS** and **ZEYNEP BILGINSOY** Associated Press

ISTANBUL (AP) — Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan hasn't lost many elections since the conservative party he co-founded took control of the government in 2002. But the party's rare defeat in Istanbul, Turkey's largest city, was a political and personal setback for the country's leader.

Opposition candidate Ekrem Imamoglu's win Sunday in a repeat vote for mayor broke the lock the president's Islamist-rooted party long held on Istanbul's top public office. On Monday, Turks speculated whether Erdogan's opponents finally have the ability to challenge his rule.

Imamoglu's supporters partied long into the night after he trounced Erdogan's hand-picked candidate, a former prime minister, 54% to 45% in a rerun of the city's March 31 mayoral election. The Islamic-leaning ruling party challenged the first vote over alleged irregularities, and Turkey's electoral board nullified the results.

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The streets of Istanbul, where Erdogan's rise in Turkish politics started with his own election as mayor 25 years ago, became an impromptu caravan of cars honking horns with overjoyed passengers leaning out the windows as they cheered and waved Turkish flags.

Imamoglu's victory "is the most serious setback for Erdogan since his Justice and Development Party first took office in November 2002 and will further fuel the already growing sense amongst both his opponents and many members of his own party that his career is now in irreversible decline," Wolf Piccoli of the New York-based risk analysis firm Teneo Intelligence, said.

The landslide win electrified the secular party that has been spent nearly two decades in lackluster opposition as Erdogan's strengthened his hold on power.

The vote count was officially ratified Monday. But Justice and Development Party candidate Binali Yildirim conceded within minutes after the first returns were announced. Tens of thousands of opposition supporters flocked to a square in an Istanbul suburb late Sunday to greet Imamoglu, chanting his campaign slogan, "Everything will be great!"

Erdogan's 1994 election as Istanbul's mayor shocked Turkey's secular elite. A poem he recited during his tenure resulted in a conviction for inciting religious hatred for which he served four months in prison in 1999. He rose to national prominence a few years later following a financial crisis that wiped out much of the Turkish political establishment.

As president, he has presided over years of growth. However, Turkey's economy has been in-and-out of recession in the last year, and the country is burdened by high borrowing costs and sovereign downgrades.

Turkey's borrowing rates eased Monday after months of political uncertainty. The yield on its 10-year government bond eased to 15.3% after touching 20% in mid-May.

Can Selcuki, general manager of Istanbul Economy Research, a market research and data analytics company, thinks the recent downturn and election result in Istanbul are likely to increase pressure on Erdogan within his own party. Senior officials have publicly distanced themselves and are widely rumored to be setting up two breakaway parties.

"I suspect that the result will speed those (preparations) up," Selcuki said. "If new parties are going to be formed by former AK Party leaders, they might actually grab some (lawmakers). The number they attract to their side is important because that could change the arithmetic in parliament."

The repeat election angered AKP dissenters but also heightened public anxiety over the president's style of leadership, which critics describe as increasingly authoritarian.

Istanbul pastry chef Banu Kirmizigul said she voted in the repeat election, after sitting out the one in March, because she was inspired by Imamoglu's campaign.

"I am really happy and my faith in this country has been restored," she said. "I saw that our people had awakened and I decided to wake up now, and I cast my vote. We (the opposition) got 800,000 more votes. We were successful and I am very happy."

A group of election monitors from the Council of Europe, a Strasbourg-France based organization aimed at holding member states accountable for human rights commitments, said Sunday's election was held "competently and in compliance with the applicable rules."

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Ayse Wieting, Mehmet Guzel, and Bulut Emiroglu in Istanbul contributed to this report.

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Follow Derek Gatopoulos at <http://www.twitter.com/dgatopoulos> and Bilginsoy <http://twitter.com/zbilginsoy>

## AP-NORC Poll: Democratic voters not fully tuned in to 2020

By **NICHOLAS RICCARDI** and **HANNAH FINGERHUT** Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Nearly two dozen Democratic presidential candidates have crisscrossed the country for six months selling their vision for the United States. But, on the eve of the first debates in the campaign, a new poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research shows most Democratic voters haven't fully tuned in.

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Only 22% of Democrats registered to vote say they know a lot about the candidates' positions, while 62% say they know a little. And only 35% say they're paying close attention to the campaign, with almost two-thirds saying they're paying some or no attention.

"It's kind of a blur," said Maggie Banks, 32, of suburban Denver, who has two young children and only has a chance to glean a few details about the race while listening to National Public Radio during her commute.

Banks said she has only a "vague" idea of who's running and didn't realize her state's senior senator, Michael Bennet, or former governor, John Hickenlooper, were in the race.

Voters like Banks comprise the vast majority of the Democratic electorate, implying there's great potential for change in what's essentially been a static race to date. Former Vice President Joe Biden holds a solid but not dominant polling lead, followed by some combination of Sens. Bernie Sanders of Vermont, Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts and Kamala Harris of California and Mayor Pete Buttigieg of South Bend, Indiana. Behind them are a wide range of contenders from Senate veterans like Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota to lesser-known candidates like internet entrepreneur Andrew Yang.

The first big opportunity for candidates to break out of that muddle comes with the two nights of debates this week beginning Wednesday. Two groups of 10 candidates will get a chance to take their messages directly to a national prime-time audience from the stage in Miami.

The Democratic field is enormous and unprecedentedly diverse. It features several women, multiple candidates of African and Asian descent, one Latino and a gay man, Buttigieg, who at age 37 is less than half as old as the front-runner, Biden.

But majorities of Democrats say those characteristics make no difference to their level of enthusiasm about a presidential candidate. Four in 10 Democratic voters said they would be more excited about voting for a woman for president, and 36% said the same of a younger candidate. Only about a quarter were more excited at the idea of supporting a candidate who is black or Latino, while roughly 2 in 10 said they'd be more excited to support an Asian candidate or lesbian, gay or bisexual candidate.

What Democrats want the most is experience in elected office: 73% cited that as a quality they're looking for in a presidential candidate.

Benji Grajeda, 50, of Santa Ana, California, was once excited at the idea that Hillary Clinton could become the first female president. Now he just wants stability.

"I don't think it matters, gender," said Grajeda, instead citing experience in office as his top priority because "Trump has no experience."

"I never really thought about it until he won — he's just not qualified," Grajeda said.

There's a large appetite for the campaign among Democratic voters, 79% of whom say they're interested in the 2020 race. Republicans are only slightly less interested, with 70% reporting interest. But only about 3 in 10 voters overall say they're paying close attention more than seven months before the first votes are cast in the Iowa caucuses.

Some, like Charles G. Cooper, 57, of Orlando, Florida, say they figure it wasn't worth tuning in too far before this week's debates, which they expect to help shape the field. Cooper supports Biden — "I'm an Obama guy, and he was the vice president," Cooper said — but he knows the front-runner has a history of gaffes during his past races and wants to see how he handles them.

Adam Pratter, 43, of San Diego, is also being strategic. He has studied up on the five candidates leading in the polls but studiously ignored the rest.

"Unless something extraordinary happens, they're not going to make it," Pratter said.

The stakes are high in this week's debates and another set that will follow in late July. After that, it gets tougher to get onto the main stage.

For the third debate in September, the Democratic National Committee is requiring candidates to receive donations from 130,000 or more individuals and poll at 2% or higher in three polls. Analysts and many campaigns think that — and the difficulty raising money if a candidate does not continue to qualify for the debate stage — will winnow the field down quickly.

Banks hopes so. Her husband is a fan of New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker, and she likes Sanders, but she doesn't know how she could learn enough to judge the current, sprawling field.

"Some people will be weeded out as we go along, and I want that to happen so I can look at everybody's ideals and experience," Banks said.

The AP-NORC poll of 1,116 adults was conducted June 13-17 using a sample drawn from NORC's probability-based AmeriSpeak Panel, which is designed to be representative of the U.S. population. The margin of sampling error for all respondents is plus or minus 4 percentage points. Respondents were first selected randomly using address-based sampling methods and later were interviewed online or by phone.

Online:

AP-NORC Center: <http://www.apnorc.org/>

Riccardi reported from Denver.

## **Nissan governance steps, board win shareholders' approval**

**By YURI KAGEYAMA AP Business Writer**

YOKOHAMA, Japan (AP) — Scandal-battered Nissan won its shareholders' approval Tuesday for a new system of committees to oversee governance and for keeping Chief Executive Hiroto Saikawa on its board.

The Japanese automaker's profits and dividends have tumbled amid a high-profile scandal involving its former chairman Carlos Ghosn. Some shareholders expressed worries about the future of the automaker.

Saikawa and the other board members, including French alliance partner Renault Chairman Jean-Dominique Senard, bowed deeply at the meeting at a convention center in the port city of Yokohama, where Nissan Motor Corp. is based.

"I'd like to offer my deepest apologies, representing the company, for how the misconduct has caused serious concern for our shareholders," Saikawa said.

Ghosn, who led Nissan for two decades, was arrested in November and is awaiting trial in Japan on charges of financial misconduct, including falsifying documents related to retirement compensation. He says he is innocent.

The proposals to have committees overseeing compensation, board nominations and auditing required a majority of shareholders for a quorum and two-thirds of those voting for passage.

Approval was shown by clapping among the more than 2,800 people present at the meeting. Most of the votes were submitted in advance.

French automaker Renault, which owns 43% of Nissan, had earlier signaled it may abstain, saying it wanted more representation on the committees.

To satisfy that request, the committees have Senard, who replaced Ghosn on the Nissan board, and Renault Chief Executive Thierry Bollore.

Saikawa told shareholders he had "two kinds of responsibility," for what had happened in the past as well as building toward a future and a recovery, including nurturing his successor.

"I would like to work toward putting Nissan on a stable track," he said, asking for shareholders' approval for his remaining as Nissan's leader. "I want to speed up the preparations for a succession."

Although Nissan has been trying to put the scandal behind it, many wonder why the alleged wrongdoing, if true, had gone unchecked, and especially how much Saikawa knew. One shareholder asked whether Nissan officials besides Ghosn shared in the alleged misconduct.

For the fiscal year that ended in March, Nissan's profit plunged to about half of what it was the previous year, partly because of the scandal, as well as problems in the lucrative North American market. The maker of the Leaf electric car and Infiniti luxury models is projecting a further deterioration in its earnings, but promising a recovery for the year after that.

It logged 9.2 billion yen (\$83 million) in costs for the fiscal year that ended in March from alleged under-reporting of Ghosn's compensation.

The proposal, which won shareholders' approval, called for an 11-member board, including seven outside

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directors such as Andrew House, formerly with Japanese electronics and entertainment company Sony Corp. For the appointment of directors, a third of the shareholders made for a quorum, and passage needed a simple majority of those voting.

Some analysts suggest a deepening rift between Renault and Nissan after a planned merger between Renault and Fiat Chrysler fell through earlier this month. Nissan expressed reservations about immediately joining the merger.

Some shareholders expressed worries about the alliance, and one who stood up to ask a question said the main person who had made decisions, referring to Ghosn, was now gone.

Nissan held an extraordinary shareholders' meeting in April to oust Ghosn. Last week, Mitsubishi Motors Corp., a smaller Japanese automaker in which Nissan owns a 34% stake, won shareholders' approval to oust Ghosn.

Follow Yuri Kageyama on Twitter <https://twitter.com/yurikageyama>  
On Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/yurikageyama/?hl=en>

## Asian stocks lower ahead of Trump-Xi meeting at G-20 summit

By JOE McDONALD AP Business Writer

BEIJING (AP) — Major Asian stock markets declined Tuesday as traders looked ahead to a meeting between the American and Chinese presidents amid hopes for renewed trade talks.

Benchmarks in Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong Kong declined. Seoul and Sydney were little-changed.

Investors were encouraged by the announcement that top U.S. and Chinese negotiators, Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and Vice Premier Liu He, talked Monday by phone. No details were released.

Traders looked ahead to a planned meeting between Presidents Donald Trump and Xi Jinping at this week's Group of 20 meeting of major economies in Japan. Forecasters expect the leaders to reassure financial markets by agreeing to revive trade talks without a timeline or committing to any details.

The conflict over Beijing's technology ambitions and trade surplus was weighed on global trade and fed fears it will depress global growth. Tensions have worsened after Washington tightened sanctions on Chinese tech giant Huawei.

"Both presidents have a very low bar of merely agreeing to resume trade talks, without having to iron out any of the sticking points at the G20," said Chang Wei Liang of Mizuho Bank in a report.

The realities of achieving a settlement "will probably be relegated to the backseat as the 'feel good' factor of the G20 displaces caution," Chang said.

The Shanghai Composite Index lost 1.1% to 2,974.69 and Tokyo's Nikkei 225 shed 0.2% to 21,241.28. Hong Kong's Hang Seng retreated 0.9% to 28,268.14.

Seoul's Kospi added one point to 2,128.00 while Sydney's S&P-ASX 200 gained three points to 6,667.40. Taiwan also declined while markets in Southeast Asia and New Zealand advanced.

On Wall Street, smaller company stocks had their worst day since May, helping to erase some of last week's gains after the benchmark Standard & Poor's 500 index closed at an all-time high.

The S&P 500 index slipped 0.2% to 2,945.35. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose less than 0.1% to 26,727.54. The Nasdaq composite dropped 0.3% to 8,005.70.

The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies slid 1.3% to 1,530.08, its biggest single-day loss since May 31.

Investors have been reassured by statements from the Federal Reserve this month that suggest the central bank is prepared to cut interest rates in response to a slowing global economy. Even so, traders remain concerned that corporate profits might suffer should the kind of economic slowdown that would prompt the Fed to cut rates take hold.

The U.S.-Chinese standoff was triggered by complaints Beijing steals or pressures companies to hand over technology.

Lighthizer and Liu wrapped up their latest round of talks in May with no date to meet again. China laid out

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conditions for a settlement in early June, saying it must be "balanced," reflecting complaints Washington is pushing for a one-sided deal and to retain punitive tariffs on Chinese goods.

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude fell 50 cents to \$57.40 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract gained 47 cents on Monday to close at \$57.90. Brent crude, used to price international oils, lost 51 cents to \$63.67 per barrel in London. It shed 27 cents the previous session to \$64.18.

CURRENCY: The dollar declined to 107.05 yen from Monday's 107.29 yen. The euro edged up to \$1.1403 from \$1.1400.

## Today in History By The Associated Press

### Today in History

Today is Tuesday, June 25, the 176th day of 2019. There are 189 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 25, 1950, war broke out in Korea as forces from the communist North invaded the South.

On this date:

In 1788, Virginia ratified the U.S. Constitution.

In 1876, Lt. Col. Colonel George A. Custer and his 7th Cavalry were wiped out by Sioux and Cheyenne Indians in the Battle of the Little Bighorn in Montana.

In 1910, President William Howard Taft signed the White-Slave Traffic Act, more popularly known as the Mann Act, which made it illegal to transport women across state lines for "immoral" purposes.

In 1943, Congress passed, over President Franklin D. Roosevelt's veto, the Smith-Connally Anti-Strike Act, which allowed the federal government to seize and operate privately owned war plants facing labor strikes.

In 1947, "The Diary of a Young Girl," the personal journal of Anne Frank, a German-born Jewish girl hiding with her family from the Nazis in Amsterdam during World War II, was first published.

In 1962, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that recitation of a state-sponsored prayer in New York State public schools was unconstitutional.

In 1967, the Beatles performed and recorded their new song "All You Need Is Love" during the closing segment of "Our World," the first-ever live international telecast which was carried by satellite from 14 countries.

In 1973, former White House Counsel John W. Dean began testifying before the Senate Watergate Committee, implicating top administration officials, including President Richard Nixon as well as himself, in the Watergate scandal and cover-up.

In 1996, a truck bomb killed 19 Americans and injured hundreds at a U.S. military housing complex in Saudi Arabia.

In 1998, the U.S. Supreme Court rejected a line-item veto law as unconstitutional, and ruled that HIV-infected people were protected by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

In 2003, the Recording Industry Association of America threatened to sue hundreds of individual computer users who were illegally sharing music files online.

In 2013, Democratic Texas State Senator Wendy Davis began a one-woman filibuster to block a GOP-led effort to impose stringent new abortion restrictions across the nation's second-most populous state. (Republicans voted to end the filibuster minutes before midnight, sparking a chaotic scene with demonstrators who succeeded in forcing lawmakers to miss the deadline for passing the bill.)

Ten years ago: Death claimed Michael Jackson, the "King of Pop," in Los Angeles at age 50 and actress Farrah Fawcett in Santa Monica, California, at age 62. North Korea vowed to enlarge its atomic arsenal and warned of a "fire shower of nuclear retaliation" in the event of a U.S. attack, as the regime marked the 1950 outbreak of the Korean War.

Five years ago: In an emphatic defense of privacy in the digital age, a unanimous Supreme Court ruled that police generally may not search the cellphones of people they arrest without first getting search war-

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rants. Tim Lincecum (LIHN'-suh-kuhm) pitched his second no-hitter against the San Diego Padres in less than a year, allowing only one runner and leading the San Francisco Giants to a 4-0 win. The NFL agreed to remove a \$675 million cap on damages from thousands of concussion-related claims after a federal judge questioned whether there would be enough money to cover as many as 20,000 retired players.

One year ago: Facing rising costs from new tariffs, Harley-Davidson announced that it would begin shifting the production of motorcycles sold in Europe from the U.S. to factories overseas; President Donald Trump accused the company of waving a "White Flag" in the tariff dispute between the U.S. and the European Union. Britain's Prince William arrived in Israel for the first-ever official visit there by a member of the British royal family, ending the monarchy's mostly hands-off approach to one of the world's most sensitive regions.

Today's Birthdays: Actress June Lockhart is 94. Civil rights activist James Meredith is 86. Author-activist Larry Kramer is 84. Rhythm and blues singer Eddie Floyd is 82. Actress Barbara Montgomery is 80. Actress Mary Beth Peil (peel) is 79. Basketball Hall of Famer Willis Reed is 77. Singer Carly Simon is 74. Rock musician Ian McDonald (Foreigner; King Crimson) is 73. Actor-comedian Jimmie Walker is 72. Actor-director Michael Lembeck is 71. TV personality Phyllis George is 70. Rock singer Tim Finn is 67. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor is 65. Rock musician David Paich (Toto) is 65. Actor Michael Sabatino is 64. Actor-writer-director Ricky Gervais (jer-VAYZ') is 58. Actor John Benjamin Hickey is 56. Actress Erica Gimpel is 55. Basketball Hall of Famer Dikembe Mutombo (dih-KEHM'-bay moo-TAHM'-boh) is 53. Rapper-producer Richie Rich is 52. Contemporary Christian musician Sean Kelly (formerly with Sixpence None the Richer) is 48. Actress Angela Kinsey is 48. Rock musician Mike Kroeger (KROO'-gur) (Nickelback) is 47. Rock musician Mario Calire is 45. Actress Linda Cardellini is 44. Actress Busy Philipps is 40. Jazz musician Joey Alexander is 16.

Thought for Today: "A straight line is the shortest in morals as in mathematics." — Maria Edgeworth, Anglo-Irish novelist (1767-1849).