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CLOSED: Recycling Trailer in Groton

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

Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

Swimming Pool Hours

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

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

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

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

Swimming Lessons: First Session: June 17-27

Monday, July 8

5:00 p.m.: Junior Teeners host Sisseton, (DH)
6:00 p.m.: U8 Pee Wees at Webster, (DH)s (R,B)
6:00 p.m.: Junior Legion at Northville, (DH)
6:00 p.m.: T-Ball Scrimmage (both)
Softball at Mellette (U8 at 5 p.m. (1 game), U10 at 6 p.m. (1 game), U14 at 7 p.m. (2 games)
7:00 p.m.: Groton Transit Coordination Meeting, 7 p.m., Groton Community Center
7 p.m.: School Board Meeting

Tuesday, July 9

5:30 p.m.: Legion hosts Aberdeen, (DH)
5:30 p.m.: U8 Pee Wees vs. Borge at Manor Park (R)
6:30 p.m.: U12 Midgets vs. Borge at Manor Park
Softball U14 hosts Frankfort, (DH), 6 p.m.

Wednesday, July 10

5:30 p.m.: U8 Pee Wees host Warner, (DH) (R)
6:00 p.m.: U8 Pee Wees host Jacobson, (DH) (B)
6:00 p.m.: T-Ball at Columbia (Gold)

Thursday, July 11

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

Taking antibiotics for granted

We take a lot of things for granted. With the advent of antibiotics in the 1930s and 40s, we saw a true change in longevity and a reduction in premature death from infectious diseases. Now we are seeing deaths from bacteria which are resistant to every antibiotic and it's not just the sick and decrepit who are affected. Recent studies show many more people are dying in the U.S. from antibiotic resistant bacteria than from AIDS. It's a real crisis resulting from too much of a good thing.



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

Resistance is due to excessive and over-use of antibiotics, which are often incorrectly seen as the cure for whatever ails us. The most glaring example is when antibiotics are given for what is obviously the common cold, making absolutely no difference in the course of the illness. Often, I hear from the patient, "Why not start an antibiotic to keep this viral bronchitis from turning into pneumonia?" To that question I usually answer, "You are correct, when bacterial pneumonia occurs, it often follows a common cold, but studies show antibiotics don't prevent the occurrence of that pneumonia following the cold. Rather, it becomes a pneumonia resistant to treatment."

So why are we over-using antibiotics? Most experts say it is from patient or parent expectation. One study showed that if the doctor perceives the parents expect antibiotics for their children, 65 percent of the time the doctor will prescribe antibiotics. Conversely, when parents do not indicate an expectation for antibiotics, even when the children are similarly ill, the doctor prescribes them only 12 percent of the time. Ultimately the doctor is responsible but too often yields to pressure to provide unnecessary treatment.

Another reason for growing antibiotic resistance has resulted from use of antibiotics in animal and poultry feed which boosts animal growth and profits. In the U.S. antibiotics are now limited for use only when a veterinarian prescribes them, but similar limits are not in effect in India and other countries. Also, veterinarians are prescribing the newer broader spectrum antibiotics only for the care of sick individual animals, not the entire herd. These new moves are a start, but closer monitoring of usage needs to occur. The good news is that in countries where efforts to use fewer antibiotics are successful, within a few years, antibiotics become effective again.

Based upon current science, rather than expecting an antibiotic from the doctor, it's in our best interest to discuss options and use antibiotics only when they are necessary. We can also benefit by taking time to read food labels carefully, choosing antibiotic-free products.

Let's not take antibiotics for granted. By avoiding the overuse of antibiotics, we can save ourselves from a real crisis.

For free and easy access to the entire Prairie Doc® library, visit www.prairiedoc.org and follow The Prairie Doc® on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter featuring On Call with the Prairie Doc® a medical Q&A show streaming on Facebook and broadcast on SDPTV most Thursdays at 7 p.m. central.

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SDPB Premieres "Space Age South Dakota: Chasing the Moon All the Way Home" **New documentary features South Dakota's surprising role in space exploration**

Vermillion, SD (July 3, 2019) — In conjunction with the 50th anniversary of the first manned lunar landing, SDPB is pleased to announce the premiere of "Space Age South Dakota: Chasing the Moon All the Way Home," Thursday, July 18, 8pm (7 MT) on SDPB1 and SDPB.org.

From the record-setting high altitude balloon flights launched out of the Black Hills' Stratobowl, to South Dakotans working as NASA engineers, to the Earth Resources Observation Satellite Network in Sioux Falls, South Dakota has helped humankind "chase the moon" – and beyond – since the early days of space exploration.

In addition, SDPB visits Florida's Kennedy Space Center to meet Lee Solid, a 1959 graduate of the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology (SDSMT). Originally from Martin, SD, Solid first worked as a rocket test engineer. He also worked on the rocket that sent John Glenn into space and was present at the launch. And we'll meet Scott Vangen, a 1982 SDSMT graduate who has worked for NASA, including with the shuttle program and as a backup payload specialist, making him one step away from flying in the shuttle.

See a trailer here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OmobeKPitOI>

Prior to the premiere date, SDPB is offering free, public previews of "Space Age South Dakota."

PUBLIC PREVIEWS INCLUDE:

Saturday, July 13, 9:30am – South Dakota Air & Space Museum, Box Elder

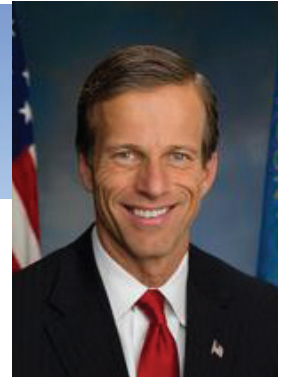
The South Dakota Military Forum presents "Man Landing on the Moon." Join Thomas Durkin, Deputy Director of the South Dakota Space Grant Consortium, for a discussion of the Apollo 11 mission, as well as a preview of Space Age South Dakota. Free and open to the public.

Saturday, July 13, 9am, 10:30am, noon & 2pm, Sanford Underground Research Facility, Education Room, Lead

SDPB helps celebrate the 11th Annual Neutrino Day at SURF with previews of Space Age South Dakota. Free and open to the public.

Space Age South Dakota: Chasing the Moon All the Way Home premieres Thursday, July 18, 8pm (7 MT) on SDPB1 and SDPB.org.

John Thune
U.S. SENATOR - SOUTH DAKOTA



Addressing Persuasive Tech on Internet Platforms

The internet has come a long way from the days of dial-up in the early '90s. Anyone who connected to the internet back then can probably still hear the unique dial-up tone the computer would make as you waited to surf the web. Since that time, the internet has evolved to become a place dominated by search and social media platforms. These changes have had some incredibly positive effects on society by providing consumers with entertainment options and educational and informational content, among many other benefits.

However, the powerful mechanisms behind these platforms that are meant to enhance engagement also have the ability – or at least the potential – to influence the thoughts and behaviors of literally billions of people, causing unease among many about the power of these platforms.

The algorithms and artificial intelligence (AI) that are used by these internet platforms have rapidly become an important part of our lives, largely without us even realizing it. As online content continues to grow, large technology companies increasingly rely on AI-powered automation to select and display content that will optimize engagement.

For example, how often have you found yourself clicking on video after video, or scrolling through notifications on your smartphone only to emerge from the rabbit hole wondering how you ended up in a particular obscure corner of the internet? Whether you realized it or not, this happened because these internet platforms have deployed AI to figure out what you'll likely click on next in order to keep your attention. And it's not just you. Billions of people are being delivered content that is selected for them by AI making inferences about each person's data. Needless to say, we need to better understand this development.

In order to learn more about how internet platforms deploy AI to keep consumers engaged on their platforms, I recently convened a hearing before the Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, Innovation, and the Internet, which I chair. During the hearing, I questioned a panel of experts, including a representative from Google, about ways to provide far more transparency and explanation into the AI that is selecting the content billions of people see on these platforms. One witness, Dr. Stephen Wolfram, a highly respected scientist and thought-leader regarding AI, offered ideas about what actions internet platforms could take to resolve concerns by consumers about how content ultimately shows up in their newsfeeds or timelines.

I believe consumers should have the option to engage with internet platforms without being manipulated by algorithms powered by their own personal data – especially if those algorithms are opaque to the average user. And it is ultimately my hope that I can work with my colleagues in the Senate to find ways to ensure companies have the freedom to innovate, but in a way that keeps consumers' interests and well-being at the forefront of their progress.



Position available for full-time Police Officer

"Position available for full-time Police Officer. Experience and SD Certification preferred. Salary negotiable DOE. Please send application and resume to the City of Groton, PO Box 587 Groton, SD 57445. This position is open until filled. Applications may be found at <https://city.grotonsd.gov/forms/ApplicationForCityEmployee.pdf> For more information, please call 605-397-8422 Equal opportunity employer."



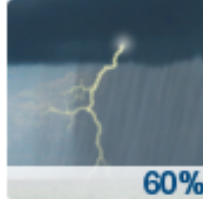




2 bedroom apt
\$750/month plus utilities
attached garage
major appliances furnished

480-980-8513
or
605-397-7118

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Today	Tonight	Tuesday	Tuesday Night	Wednesday
				
30%	60%	60%	30%	20%
Breezy. Partly Sunny then Chance T-storms	Severe Thunderstorms and Breezy	T-storms Likely	Chance T-storms and Breezy	Slight Chance T-storms and Breezy
High: 88 °F	Low: 68 °F	High: 83 °F	Low: 63 °F	High: 79 °F

SLIGHT RISK of Severe Storms

Tonight

WHAT

Scattered severe thunderstorms possible. The storms could produce **wind gusts over 60 mph**, and **large hail up to around the size of golf balls**.

WHERE

Mainly over, but not limited to, north central South Dakota, including McIntosh, Mobridge, Eagle Butte, Bowdle and Eureka.

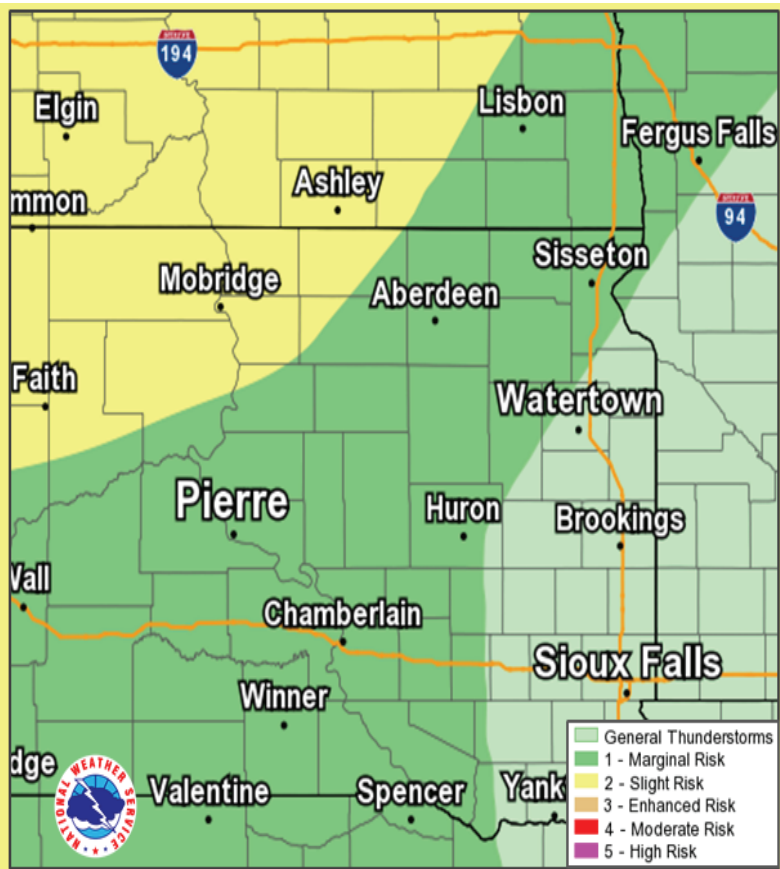
WHEN

This evening into Tuesday morning. **The highest risk period will be from around 9 pm tonight– 5 am Tuesday morning.**

ACTION

Monitor the weather and have a plan of action if severe weather approaches your area.

ISSUED: 5:40 AM - Monday, July 08, 2019



Published on: 07/08/2019 at 1:46AM

There is a Slight Risk for severe thunderstorms over the region, mainly for tonight across portions of north central to northeastern South Dakota. The highest risk period will be from around 9 pm tonight until around 5 am Tuesday morning. Heavy rain, damaging winds and large hail are the main threats with any strong storms that develop.

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Today in Weather History

July 8, 1922: Two tornadoes occurred near the southern border of South Dakota, with one at St. Charles in Gregory County, and the other on the south shore of Lake Andes, in Charles Mix County. The distance apart was about 30 miles. The tornado in Gregory County missed the town of Lake Andes. However, it destroyed about 29 cottages and five large barns. Fifteen people were injured, but no one was killed.

July 8, 1951: An F2 touched down in open country and moved northeastward, passing three miles northwest of Corona in Roberts County. Thirteen buildings were destroyed on a farm with only the house left standing. Three cows and 20 pigs were killed.

July 8, 2009: A tornado passed through the city of Dickinson, ND, on the far south side, mainly just south of the Heart River. From their eyewitness accounts, and from video obtained from the Dickinson Police Department, it is likely that this was a rain-wrapped tornado, and very difficult if not impossible to see. The tornado occurred before sunset, yet it was described as being as dark as night during the event. Over 450 structures were damaged, of which nearly 100 were declared destroyed or beyond repair. Numerous vehicles were damaged or destroyed; some were on their roofs. From that, it was determined that peak wind speeds in the tornado were on the order of 150 mph.

July 8, 2011: Historical releases on the Oahe Dam of 160,000 CFS kept the Missouri River from Pierre to Chamberlain at record flood levels throughout July. Extensive sandbagging and levee building had been done earlier to hold back the river. Residents in the Pierre, Fort Pierre, and Oacoma areas continued to be the most affected by the river. Many homes, along with roads, crop, and pastureland remained flooded throughout the month. The Missouri River at Pierre continued from 5 to 6 foot above flood stage throughout July. The Missouri River at Chamberlain reached a record stage of 75.1 feet on July 8th. Flood stage at Chamberlain is 65 feet. The flooding on the river began in late May and continued into August.

July 8, 2013: A thunderstorm complex moving across central and north central South Dakota produced gusty winds up to 70 mph. These strong winds brought down several tree branches around the area with Dewey County the hardest hit location. In Timber Lake, downed tree branches fell on houses and vehicles causing damage.

1680: The first confirmed tornado death in the United States occurred in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The funnel was filled with, stones, bushes, and other things. The tornado also unroofed a barn and snapped many large trees.

2003: What may be the world's highest dew point temperature was recorded at Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, in the Persian Gulf. A dew point of 95 degrees was recorded at 3 PM while the air temperature was 108 degrees. The apparent temperature at that time would have been 172 degrees.

2009: An intense cold front brings heavy snow, hail, high winds and unusually cold temperatures to southern Peru. The severe conditions were blamed for the deaths of more than 246 children due to cold-related illnesses.

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Yesterday's Groton Weather Today's Info

High Temp: 84 °F at 5:29 PM

Low Temp: 62 °F at 3:42 AM

Wind: 17 mph at 5:31 PM

Day Rain: 0.00

Record High: 106° in 1936

Record Low: 43° in 1905

Average High: 83°F

Average Low: 59°F

Average Precip in July.: 0.75

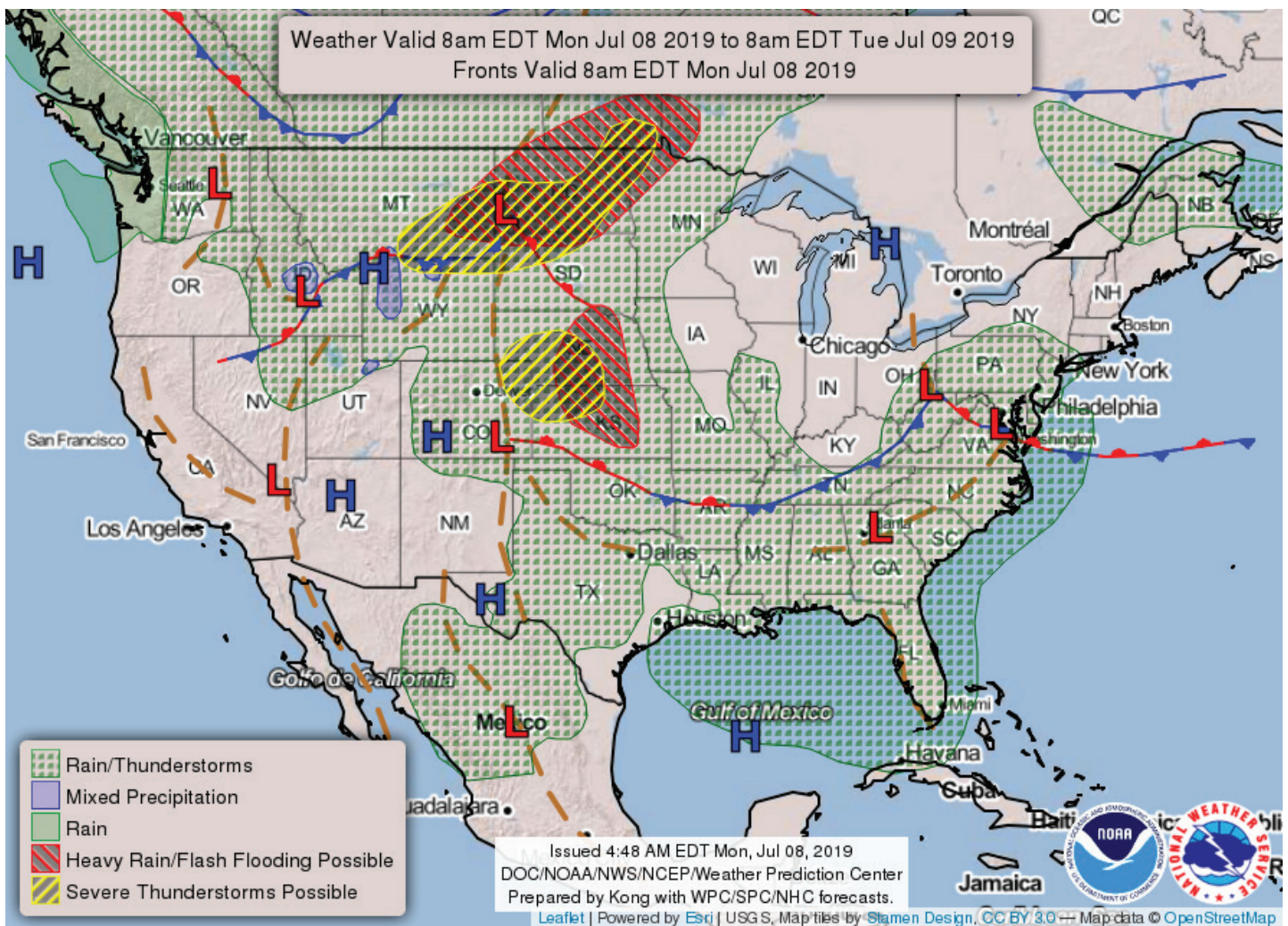
Precip to date in July.: 0.90

Average Precip to date: 11.59

Precip Year to Date: 13.62

Sunset Tonight: 9:24 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:54 a.m.



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GODS LOAN MANAGERS

Its not something we normally think about. But, perhaps we should. Whatever gifts or talents God has given me must be used to His benefit - not mine. If whatever I have increased in value or worth, it is because He has granted me the increase. If there is any doubt in my mind about this fact, all I have to do is realize how quickly the profits of property or investments can be wiped out. Stock markets crash and property can be devalued, and there is nothing I can do other than take the hit. Events are beyond me - but not God.

Where can we invest our God-given gifts and be assured of the best returns? Be kind and give to the poor? No, I have not become an investment counselor. I am simply recommending that we follow the advice of Solomon: He who is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and He (not the poor) will reward him for what he has done. The wisdom of Solomon encourages generosity toward those who are poor or seemingly lack Gods blessings. Further, if we care for the poor, we are being obedient to the teachings of Jesus as well as the teachings of Solomon.

What we do to and for the poor we are doing to and for the Lord. Jesus said that what you do to the poor you do to me. Could it be that God is testing our trust in Him by giving to the poor? When we see or hear about the least of these and do nothing, is God giving us a head, heart and hand test? We have Gods teachings in our heads but they do not honor Him unless we let them flow through our hearts and hands to those who lack in His blessings.

Kind to the poor as used here implies that the poor will never be able to repay us for what we do for them on behalf of God. However, it does, without a doubt, imply that we are lending to the Lord and it is God - not the poor - who becomes obligated to us for the return on our investment. We are in fact lending it to Him. And when He makes a promise, we can take it to the bank!

Prayer: Lord, we guard our possessions as though they belong to us. And when we do, we are only deceiving ourselves. May we realize that all we have is actually Yours! In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Proverbs 19:17 He who is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and He will reward him for what he has done.

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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

Sioux Falls fireworks complaints result in few tickets

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls police say they received 203 calls about fireworks on Independence Day — but only handed out five tickets and five warnings.

Using fireworks within Sioux Falls city limits is illegal and carries a \$95 fine. Lt. Dave McIntire tells the Argus Leader it is often difficult to track down rogue firework-setters. He says the incident requires the officer to actually witness someone lighting the fireworks.

McIntire says that four extra officers were added to help with the influx of incidents, but at times the call queue had as many as 45 fireworks-related reports.

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

1 killed, 1 injured in 2-vehicle crash east of Madison

MADISON, S.D. (AP) — Officials say one man died and another was injured in a two-vehicle crash east of Madison.

The South Dakota Highway Patrol says the crash happened early Saturday afternoon on state Highway 34. A 2011 Honda Accord was eastbound on the highway when it rear-ended a semitrailer. An 18-year-old passenger in the car was pronounced dead at a Madison hospital. The 19-year-old driver of the car suffered serious non-life threatening injuries.

A 59-year-old man driving the semi and his 59-year-old female passenger were not hurt.

Names of those involved have not been released.

North Dakota agency gets waiver to fly drones over people

By **DAVE KOLPACK** Associated Press

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — The North Dakota Department of Transportation was selected last year as one of 10 participants for a drone integration program that has become somewhat of a race to see who can find the next best thing to help quickly and safely incorporate drones into the national airspace.

The NDDOT last month became the first state government agency granted a waiver to fly unmanned aircraft over people, which wasn't necessarily a surprising announcement given the state's background that includes the nation's first drone business park and a company that supplies drone pilots around the world. What was a bonus, state officials say, is that the Federal Aviation Administration permit extends for four years. The first waiver the state received to fly over people was for two months, when the Red River was flooding.

"It shows that the FAA, while it might not be opening the flood gates, is opening its arms to a select few for longer durations of time," said Matt Dunlevy, president and CEO of SkySkopes, a North Dakota company that operates drones for the DOT and other entities around the country. "Here, we don't go along to get along. We're in it to win it."

FAA spokeswoman Elizabeth Cory did not return an email message left by The Associated Press.

Other entities in the program are the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma; city of San Diego; city of Reno, Nevada; Virginia Tech Center for Innovative Technology; Memphis-Shelby County Airport in Tennessee; the University of Alaska-Fairbanks; and two other state transportation departments, in North Carolina and Kansas. The Lee County Mosquito Control District in Florida was selected but dropped out of the program, mainly because of the unexpected costs for flying large drones.

There is no direct federal funding for the program. The North Dakota Legislature has ponied up about \$77 million for drone research and development.

The waiver to fly over people is the second major expansion of UAS operations in North Dakota, after

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the state received permission in April to fly beyond the line of sight of the pilot and without a chase plane throughout about 100 miles of the Red River Valley.

"Through NDDOT's pilot program, we are getting valuable data to create regulations, policy and guidance that ensures safety while enabling innovation," FAA Acting Administrator Dan Elwell said in a statement.

The drones are equipped with a parachute recovery system designed by ParaZero SafeAIR, an Israeli company that first flew a Phantom drone over people when fans were tailgating in Fargo before the football game between North Dakota State and South Dakota State. When a drone fails, the system shuts down the rotors and deploys a parachute. Company officials say stopping the rotors avoid laceration injuries and entanglement with the parachute's cords. A warning buzzer warns bystanders below about incoming danger from above, in order to move out of harm's way.

"Hopefully it's one of those things you will never have to deploy," said Buchholz, who manages the NDDOT drone integration program..

Buchholz said that contrary to the words of the waiver, the intent is not to fly over people. But it could be necessary in certain cases like emergency situations, especially in urban areas.

Dunlevy said such a waiver will allow his pilots to string transmission lines in downtown areas, among other things. His company, which is a mainstay in the North Dakota oil patch, is currently working with Xcel Energy on building a transmission line, a task unique to SkySkopes that is much more dangerous and intrusive when performed by helicopters and heavy machinery.

"You literally don't have to put someone's life on the line when you are stringing those lines over people," Dunlevy said.

Minnesota-based Xcel also provides energy to customers in Colorado, Michigan, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Texas, and Wisconsin. It was the first utility in the country to receive FAA approval to fly drones beyond line of sight of the pilot for inspections.

Economic impact of crisis felt by ag and dairy lenders

By **ELIZABETH BEYER** La Crosse Tribune

LA CROSSE, Wis. (AP) — Luke Schulte drew a deep breath, paused and exhaled.

"I'm not sure," he said with a sigh. "It's been a really tough time, the last five, six years."

Schulte worked in lending, with a focus on agriculture and dairy producers, for most of his career. Now, as the market president of State Bank Financial in Sparta, the oldest community bank in western Wisconsin, he has a front-row seat to the devastation caused by the volatile ag and dairy market on surrounding rural communities.

His bank worked with producers to restructure their debt amid the crisis, but a large number of those producers have refinanced two and sometimes three years in a row — to the point where the bank can no longer help them.

"After many years of this downward slide, for a lot of them, that's not an option anymore," he said. "It's just become harder and harder."

Schulte said his goal is to put farmers in a better position financially, but banks are beginning to feel pressure from regulators and the FDIC. "When they come in, we have to have a really good explanation as to why we continue to refinance the operating notes."

Michael Lochner, economic specialist with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, also is feeling mounting pressure of the crisis as he and his coworkers struggle to help counsel farmers through the crisis.

The majority of calls routed to his office used to focus on transition planning, or how to pass the farm to the next generation. Now, he said, the majority of those calls consist of farmers who are financially stressed and seeking help.

The definition of financial stress has a wide range, but a large percentage of the calls come from those who are on the severe end of the spectrum or feeling pressure from a lender because they're more than 60 days past due on loan payments. That status could lead a producer to foreclosure or bankruptcy.

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In 2019 so far, the number of farm closures has reached three per day, the La Crosse Tribune reported. The decrease in the number of agriculture producers led to an increase in the number of implement dealers, such as grain suppliers, equipment manufacturers and distributors, as well as veterinary services, all staples of rural economies, that have closed or consolidated.

Lochner remembered working in the 1980s, when there was an implement dealer, a veterinary service and a dairy supply service within a 10- to 15-mile radius of any farm in Wisconsin. In the 1990s, he estimated that radius grew to 20 to 30 miles. Now, it's probably 40 to 60 miles, he said.

"As you have less (clients) for those specific businesses, they need to either merge with someone else or go out of business or get bigger," he said.

Stephen Bianchi, president and CEO of CCF Bank, a community bank that serves rural Wisconsin and Minnesota, recognized the symptoms of a suffering rural economy due to his past experience as a banker in South Dakota.

"When farmers were having good years, they were in town buying pickups, making improvements to their homes, to their farms," he said. "That economic activity in our towns, in our dealerships tends to diminish as a cycle like this (current crisis) plays out." Today, farmers hold on to their equipment longer, they're not making the investments they used to make.

Mark Stephenson, director of dairy policy analysis at University of Wisconsin-Madison, agreed with Bianchi's assessment.

If producers earn a dollar selling milk, that dollar is spent on services such as veterinarians, or to buy groceries or tools at the local hardware store. When the milk price is down and those dollars earned are down, it does have an effect on the local economy, Stephenson said.

"As we have financial distress on farms, it ripples through these rural communities," he said.

The market downturn has yet to affect the price on land, which has prompted struggling producers to sell their acres to neighbors, an effort that added to the consolidation of farms in Wisconsin and across the Midwest. Today, it's not uncommon for a large farm to be managed by multiple families.

Schulte believes dairy prices hit bottom and will begin to recover but that recovery will be slow, and more producers will leave the industry even as dairy and commodity prices rise. As a result, consolidation on the producer side as well as among implement dealers will continue regardless of market recuperation.

The number of farm and implement dealer closures and consolidation has caused the rural communities in Wisconsin to shrink as younger generations move to larger metropolitan areas, in search of employment opportunities outside of the agriculture and dairy industry.

"From what I can tell, the rural population continues to get smaller and the La Crosse, the Madisons, Milwaukee, continue to grow," Schulte said. "We'll probably see, in the next five years, another large reduction in the farms — specifically the dairy farms that are out there in Wisconsin."

He predicts the number of Wisconsin dairy farms will decrease by half during the next decade due to rural flight. "Obviously if this cycle continues its trend of downward or low prices, that number will accelerate."

Milk prices have rebounded substantially, from an all-milk price of roughly \$14 in 2018 to roughly \$18 per hundredweight forecast by the end of 2019 by the USDA Economic Research Service. But that's still lower than the highest all-milk price reached in 2017, \$18.90 in January of that year, when a lot of farms were operating at break even, Lochner said.

Information from: La Crosse Tribune, <http://www.lacrossetribune.com>

Rapid City home to state's first mental health court

By ARIELLE ZIONTS Rapid City Journal

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Amanda Hof-Tiernan said she had a good week after having spent a lot of time with her wife.

"You've been making progress," Judge Jeffrey Connolly told the 30-year-old Rapid City resident.

Others sitting with Hof-Tiernan in the jury box at the state court in Rapid City last month also had good

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weeks.

A smiling, energetic man said he'd been sober all week after staying away from bad influences. A woman sitting in handcuffs and a jail uniform said she was taking each week one at a time as she waited for an opening at a safe housing facility. Another woman said she had a nice week despite breaking a tooth since she spent time with her children. The crowd, including a serious-looking sheriff's deputy, applauded as the woman announced she's been sober for more than a year.

Other people, like Corbin Mudlin, said they were struggling.

I'm "overwhelmed" and "have so much on my plate," the 26-year-old Rapid City resident said. Mudlin said he's been stressed about moving his storage to a new unit.

A woman said she keeps forgetting things, like clocking out of work or showing up to appointments, while another woman cried as she said she's stressed about her transportation options, feels embarrassed about her mental illness and is having trouble controlling her emotions. "I feel really low," she said. Another woman teared up as she explained her grandmother was dying. A woman who had to be awakened when it was her turn to speak said her medicine was making her tired and she'd rather be sent to prison.

Defendants don't typically tell judges about their feelings or how their week went. And deputies and lawyers certainly don't applaud in court.

But Hof-Tiernan, Mudlin and 11 others weren't in a typical court. They're participants in South Dakota's first mental health court, a speciality court meant to provide treatment, avoid a prison sentence and prevent recidivism for people who have a history of crime and serious mental illness.

The court is similar to South Dakota's DUI, drug and veterans courts, which are all aimed at helping people who would likely otherwise go to prison due to their criminal histories, said Lara Roetzel, a member of the mental health court team and chief deputy state's attorney in Pennington County.

"It's a really, really difficult program. I mean even more so than the other speciality courts this one's unique" because everyone is dealing with mental illness and most are also struggling with addiction, Roetzel told the Rapid City Journal. Mental health court, unlike other speciality courts, also accepts people convicted of recent violent crimes.

"We're kind of the last possible resort," Roetzel said, stressing that the program isn't for first-time offenders who are eligible for pre-trial diversion programs. "These are people that wouldn't otherwise be successful and have not been otherwise successful" without this intensive program.

The mental health court began soon after the new year and is run by a team headed by coordinator/probation officer Tessia Johnston along with Connelly, Roetzel, a defense lawyer and representatives from the Rapid City Police Department, Pennington County Sheriff's Office and Behavioral Management System (BMS), which provides treatment to the participants.

Before launching the mental health court, Connelly said, he visited one in Memphis, Tenn., to study how it worked.

"It's a research-based scientific model that's proven to be successful," Roetzel said.

People join mental health court after pleading guilty to a crime or admitting a probation violation, Connelly said. The program involves four stages and takes at least a year to complete, according to the court manual. The team meets to discuss how to best support the participants before both groups meet together for weekly check-ins.

Requirements of the program include undergoing random drugs tests and staying sober, taking prescribed mental health medication, attending counseling, making goals, finding safe and stable housing, meeting with Johnston and finding a job or positive social activities, according to the manual. Johnston and BMS staff deliver medication to participants, drive them to appointments, and call to check on them, Roetzel said.

Incentives for good behavior include moving up a stage — which involves receiving a medal — less frequent drug testing, attending fewer check-ins, bus passes and gift cards, the manual says. Sanctions for violating rules could mean curfews, house arrest, an increase in treatment, jail time, moving back a stage or eventually being kicked out of the program.

Speaking before court last month, Mudlin described himself as a "poster child to mental health disability

since I was young.”

When his ADD, ADHD and bipolar disorder aren't under control, Mudlin said, he hangs out with bad people and makes impulsive decisions. He said he recently pleaded guilty to marijuana wax possession after being convicted of a burglary crime.

Being in mental health court rather than prison means “being able to be part of the community,” Mudlin said. “I think it would be better for people that want to change to stay outside of prison.”

Mudlin said the court is less adversarial. “You're more on a team than by yourself.”

Hof-Tiernan proudly said she was the first person to sign up for mental health court. She said she joined after failing several drug tests while on probation for meth possession. During normal probation, Hof-Tiernan said, she did drug tests and infrequently met with a probation officer.

“That was basically it. Here they require therapy, they require you to take your medications, they require you go to classes, and groups and stuff like that to help improve and help you as a person,” she said. “I'm spending more time trying to behave than trying to get away with doing bad stuff.”

Hof-Tiernan said she used to use drugs to self-medicate her bipolar disorder and schizophrenia but is now using prescribed medication and attending therapy that teaches her how to communicate with others and handle difficult situations. “I don't plan on doing (drugs) anymore. I just don't feel like I need it anymore.”

Connelly stressed that the mental health court is not meant to be a solution to a lack of treatment options in the state. “We're that part of the puzzle” for people who have a mental illness and history of crime, he said.

The court may serve as a model for future ones. Gov. Kristi Noem and David Gilbertson, chief justice of the South Dakota Supreme Court, have both asked the Legislature to fund a second mental health court in Sioux Falls. Gilbertson said that from February through June 2018, 13.5% of prisoners screened at Minnehaha County jail intake had a mental illness.

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

Researchers: Tracking Sioux Falls geese is 'organized chaos'

By ERIN BORMETT Argus Leader

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Researchers with the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department are no strangers to managing the chaos of honking, kicking and flapping when catching a flock of Canadian geese.

That commotion was found at several parks in Sioux Falls on June 20, when a team met to perform the annual task of affixing identification bands to the legs of the local birds as a way to track their population numbers, hunting survival rates and migration habits.

Each shiny metal band has a unique identification number etched into it, categorized by sex and age. Researchers can follow migration patterns by recording the locations where geese with specific band numbers have been spotted. From there, biologists can make decisions on how to effectively manage local populations.

Waiting for reports of leg band sightings is the easy part. Before that, nearly a dozen researchers and volunteers have to successfully herd, contain, band and release anywhere from 200-400 geese in the Sioux Falls metro area, and roughly 1,500 statewide.

“It's organized chaos, is the best way to put it,” said Rocco Murano, senior waterfowl biologist. “The geese definitely have a mind of their own . . . some of the geese have been banded before. They kind of lead the crew, and they know what's going on. And it can be interesting trying to persuade them to do the same thing again.”

The team has a specific strategy for corralling geese. Mature Canada geese simultaneously molt their primary flight feathers during a three-week period each summer in order to grow new ones. Unable to fly during this time, it is a prime opportunity for catching the birds with ease.

Three volunteers kayaked slowly toward an unsuspecting flock in the water, causing the birds to swim away from them and closer to a chain link cage waiting on the shore. More people started walking along-

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side the flock from land, deterring any rogue birds from making a run for it up the bank.

"If they're on land, they can easily outrun you, and they're gone," Murano told the Argus Leader. "So we keep them on the water, keep them going the right direction and keep them calm."

As the kayaks pushed farther, eventually the geese had no choice but to run up the shore and into the cage. Once the fencing was pulled shut to prevent any escapes, birds were handed one-by-one to ready biologists with a stack of leg bands and a set of pliers to fit the metal to the goose's leg.

"The banding project is spearheaded by the Game, Fish and Parks Department, and it's great to have their assistance and expertise," said Julie DeJong, Sioux Falls Animal Control supervisor.

The two organizations have partnered in this effort for years.

"Most of our animal control officers deal with domestic animals, so to have wildlife experts at our disposal is a great addition," she said.

Sioux Falls has been dealing with significant problems due to both "resident" geese—geese that live in the city year-round—and visiting populations. The Big Sioux River is one of the few open water sources that doesn't freeze over, so flocks from neighboring states congregate in the city for the winter. The "resident" Sioux Falls goose population of roughly 1,000, according to DeJong, grows to 7,000 or 8,000.

While DeJong said the frequency of calls regarding aggressive geese has dropped significantly after management strategies were implemented, members of both Animal Control and the Game, Fish and Parks Department agree that the biggest worry about these overwhelming population sizes is focused at the airport.

"The major concern is when they set down and fly over the airport," DeJong said. "A Canada goose getting in a plane's engine can be a fatal situation."

Animal Control hazes geese that nest near the airport in an attempt to relocate them. Officers drill small holes in some of the flock's eggs in order to keep population numbers down. The Game, Fish and Parks Department has even adjusted goose hunting season in Sioux Falls to end later than the rest of the state in order to remove more of the visiting geese arriving for winter.

Leg banding allows researchers to track the effectiveness of these methods. Over time, they can see if efforts to move flocks away from the airport are successful, or if migration patterns ever start to move away from Sioux Falls.

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

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. REPORTS: TEHRAN ENRICHING ABOVE DEAL'S LIMIT

Semi-official media in Iran is quoting the country's nuclear agency spokesman as saying Tehran is now enriching uranium to 4.5%.

2. NAVY ADMIRAL TO STAND DOWN

The extraordinary downfall of Adm. William Moran, who was set to become the service's top officer, was prompted by what Navy Secretary Richard Spencer called poor judgment regarding a professional relationship.

3. WHO IS PROBING GOP FUNDRAISER

A federal grand jury in New York is investigating whether top Republican fundraiser Elliott Broidy used his position on Trump's inaugural committee to drum up foreign business deals, the AP finds.

4. JEFFREY EPSTEIN DUE BACK IN COURT

Eleven years after letting the financier off lightly with a once-secret plea deal, the U.S. government is taking another run at putting the wealthy sex offender behind bars.

5. CHRISTIAN FAMILY REVEALS CHINA CRACKDOWN

After fleeing to Taiwan from China last week, Liao Qiang worshipped publicly Sunday for the first time

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since Chinese authorities shut down his church in December, the AP learns.

6. SWING FROM LEFT TO RIGHT IN GREECE

Conservative party leader Kyriakos Mitsotakis is sworn in as the new prime minister after a resounding win over left-wing Alexis Tsipras, who led Greece through the tumultuous final years of its international bailouts.

7. WHO ISN'T FEELING MIGRANT BACKLASH

Scenes of an ongoing crackdown on Central American migrants have caused an outcry in the United States, but in Mexico there has been little fallout against the government of President Andrés Manuel López Obrador even though his country has historically had a deep sympathy for the plight of migrants.

8. WAITING, AND WORRYING, IN CALIFORNIA

Rattled residents are cleaning up from two of the biggest earthquakes to hit California in decades as scientists warn they should serve as a wake-up call to be ready when the long-dreaded "Big One" strikes.

9. KAMALA HARRIS ON RACE AND ELECTABILITY IN 2020

The Democratic presidential candidate tells the AP the cost of trying to break through long-standing barriers means, "when you break things, you get hurt, you bleed, you get cut."

10. WORLD CHAMPIONS EYE GENDER EQUALITY

After every goal celebration and all the confident posturing, the U.S. national team backed up its swagger at the Women's World Cup by winning it all. The Americans also took a swipe at gender inequity, too.

Reports: Iran enriching uranium to 4.5%, breaking deal limit

By JON GAMBRELL Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran began enriching uranium Monday to 4.5%, breaking the limit set by its 2015 nuclear deal with world powers, semi-official news agencies in the country reported.

The acknowledgement by the spokesman of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran comes a day after Iran pledged to break the deal's limit of 3.67%.

The decision to ramp up uranium enrichment came less than a week after Iran acknowledged breaking the 300-kilogram (661-pound) limit on its low-enriched uranium stockpile.

Experts warn higher enrichment and a growing stockpile could begin to narrow the one-year window Iran would need to have enough material for an atomic bomb, something Iran denies it wants but the deal prevented.

The future of the accord that President Donald Trump unilaterally pulled the U.S. from a year ago remains in question. While Iran's recent measures to increase enrichment and break its low-enriched uranium stockpile limit could be easily reversed, Europe has struggled to respond, even after getting a 60-day warning that the increase was coming.

Meanwhile, experts fear a miscalculation in the crisis could explode into open conflict, as Trump already has nearly bombed Iran over Tehran shooting down a U.S. military surveillance drone.

Trump warned Tehran on Sunday that "Iran better be careful." He didn't elaborate on what actions the U.S. might consider, but Trump told reporters: "Iran's doing a lot of bad things."

Iran has been closely monitored by inspectors from the International Atomic Energy Agency, the U.N.'s nuclear watchdog.

"We are aware of Iran's announcement related to its uranium enrichment level," the agency said Monday. "We are in the process of verifying this development."

Enriched uranium at the 3.67% level is enough for peaceful pursuits but is far below weapons-grade levels of 90%.

The semi-official news agencies ISNA and Fars reported the 4.5% enrichment figure, citing Behrouz Kamalvandi, a spokesman for Iran's nuclear agency.

Kamalvandi separately hinted in a state television interview aired Monday that the country might consider going to 20% enrichment or higher as a third step, if the material is needed. That would worry nuclear nonproliferation experts, as 20% is a short technical step away from reaching weapons-grade levels of

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90%. Kamalvandi also suggested using new or more centrifuges, which are limited by the deal.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Abbas Mousavi on Monday said Iran appreciated the efforts of some nations to save the deal, but offered a jaded tone on whether Tehran trusted anyone in the negotiations.

"We have no hope nor trust in anyone nor any country but the door of diplomacy is open," Mousavi said.

He also gave a sharp, yet unelaborated warning to Europe about another 60-day deadline Iran set Sunday. That deadline will come Sept. 5, though Iran's senior Vice President Eshaq Jahangiri on Monday described the deadline as being Sept. 7. The two dates could not be immediately reconciled.

"If the remaining countries in the deal, especially the Europeans, do not fulfill their commitments seriously, and not do anything more than talk, Iran's third step will be harder, more steadfast and somehow stunning," he said.

Meanwhile, Mousavi said he didn't know where an Iranian supertanker was heading when it was seized off the coast of Gibraltar. Authorities there say they seized the *Grace 1*, believed to be carrying over 2 million barrels of oil, over European Union sanctions on Syria — though Spain said the seizure came at the request of the U.S.

Hard-liners in Iran have demanded a British oil tanker be seized in response. State TV said Britain's ambassador to Tehran had been summoned for a third time on Monday.

A lawmaker also has suggested Iran charge ships moving through the Strait of Hormuz, something Mousavi dismissed while insisting Iran's right to patrol the waters off their coast.

"We are responsible for maritime protection of the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz. This is our region. This is our gulf," he said, reiterating Iran's longtime stance. "This is our innate duty to secure this region and sustain its security. Countries that claim from thousands of miles from here that they should guarantee the maritime security here are speaking exaggeratedly."

Associated Press producer Mohammad Nasiri and Nasser Karimi in Tehran and Kiyoko Metzler in Vienna contributed to this report.

AP Interview: Kamala Harris on race and electability in 2020

By ERRIN HAINES WHACK AP National Writer

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Kamala Harris can't forget the older black woman she met in Iowa while campaigning for Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama before the state's 2008 caucus.

"I remember her saying to me, 'They're not going to let him win,'" Harris recalled. "She did not want to go to the caucuses. She didn't want to be disappointed."

For Harris, it was a revealing moment, one she says illustrated the limitations many Americans, including black Americans, place on who is considered electable for the nation's highest office.

Twelve years later, with American politics roiled by issues of race and gender, it's Harris asking Americans to expand their definition of electability once again.

"Sometimes it takes a while to get people to see that this is possible," Harris said in an interview with The Associated Press in which she discussed race and her standing as the most viable black woman to seek a major party's presidential nomination.

The 54-year-old freshman senator from California is unabashedly and unapologetically embracing that role. She's increasingly weaving her personal history into her campaign, including in a searing debate exchange last month with former Vice President Joe Biden over school busing. Her campaign was ready for the moment, quickly tweeting a photograph of Harris as a pig-tailed child, then selling T-shirts bearing the image.

As her place in the race has strengthened, Harris has found herself the target of smears about her citizenship and ethnicity, including by one of President Donald Trump's sons, that echo the same lies and accusations Trump and others raised about Obama, the country's first black president.

To Harris, it's the cost of trying to break through long-standing barriers.

"When you break things, you get hurt, you bleed, you get cut," Harris said. "When I made the decision

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to run, I fully appreciated that it will not be easy. But I know if I'm not on the stage, there's a certain voice that will not be present on that stage. Knowing that there is a perspective, there is a life experience, there is a vision that must be heard and seen and present on that stage, and that I have an ability to do that."

Harris, the daughter of an Indian American mother and Jamaican American father, entered the 2020 race with seemingly boundless potential: a compelling personal story and polished political pedigree; a prosecutor's skill at taking on Trump's record; and the prospect of drawing significant voting support from black women, who are the backbone of the party.

But the opening months of Harris' campaign have been uneven. She's faced questions from liberals about her record as a prosecutor in California and has been criticized for appearing cautious and guarded. Her fundraising in the second quarter significantly lagged Biden and Pete Buttigieg, the mayor of South Bend, Indiana.

Harris has gained ground recently due to her debate performance, particularly her exchange over race with Biden. She condemned Biden for his comments about working with segregationists in his early years as a Delaware senator and for opposing federally mandated school busing in the 1970s, powerfully explaining that she was bused as a child. Biden appeared taken aback, and later said he wasn't prepared for Harris' attack.

Harris suggested he should have been.

"People want to ask what was going on on that stage. I was not going to stand there and let people rewrite history," she said. "We can't write the next chapter without remembering what was in the last chapter. This is not manufactured. It's something that's very much a part of my identity."

The moment was striking, and not just because it dented Biden's standing as a front-runner.

Harris' approach and her willingness to raise on her own the deep scars of America's history with race marked a shift from Obama's first campaign, when he often campaigned as an almost post-racial figure. His most prominent comments on race as a candidate came when his hand was forced and questions were raised about his controversial pastor, Rev. Jeremiah Wright. Some Obama advisers worried at the time that the matter might sink his candidacy.

Obama, of course, went on to win two terms in the White House. But his victories did not quell America's racial tensions; if anything, they flared anew during his tenure and have worsened under Trump's presidency.

Harris has faced some of the same questions about her race and citizenship as Obama, prompting her rival campaigns to quickly leap to her defense, but also stirring doubts about whether America is really ready to elect a black woman.

"She still has a lot more work to do assuring the American people," said Linda Walters, a 55-year-old from Rock Hill, South Carolina, pointing to the questions about Harris' background as proof. "It's Barack all over again. Kamala is going to have to relieve some people of their fear."

Harris acknowledged the sting of such comments, saying there are moments in the race that have been "very painful."

"For me, it's an affirmation of what a lot of us know, which is that there's still a lot of educating to do about who we are," she said, adding that she is loath to constantly be in position of doing that educating herself. "In my moments of fatigue with it all, I'm like, 'Look, I'm not running to be a history professor.'"

Jill Louis, a Dallas attorney who was Harris' sorority sister at Howard University, said questions about her electability say more about voters than Harris as a candidate.

"When women and people of color are ready to represent themselves, all they have to do is vote and it happens," Louis said. "People are holding themselves back. The obstacle is people's own disbelief in their own power."

Last month, Harris stepped up her campaign outreach to black voters, drawing particularly on her ties as a Howard graduate to historically black colleges and the country's influential nine black fraternities and sororities. Privately, some of her advisers also acknowledge that, like with Obama in 2008, some black voters will be watching to see if Harris can win over enough white Americans in early primary contests to prove her viability as a candidate.

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Harris said she knows the skepticism about her candidacy, and the country's willingness to embrace it, exist.

"There are always going to be doubters. That's not new to me," she said.

After her words hung in the air, the question came: "So how do you do it?"

"You win," she said, nodding her head. "You win."

Follow Errin Haines Whack at <http://twitter.com/emarvelous>

Cabinet of curiosities: 15,000 ink samples at Secret Service

By COLLEEN LONG Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a cabinet inside a modest laboratory in downtown Washington are rows and rows of ink samples in plastic squeeze bottles and small glass jars. To the untrained eye, it's just a bunch of blackish liquid with strange names like "moldy sponge" or "green grass."

But to the U.S. Secret Service agents who use the samples, they are the clues that could save the president from an assassination attempt. Or stop a counterfeit ring. Or identify the D.C. sniper.

The ink library at the lab contains more than 15,000 samples of pen, marker and printer inks dating back to the 1920s. The collection is the result of one man, Antonio Cantu, a renowned investigator and former chief chemist at the Secret Service who started picking up samples in the 1960s. Cantu died unexpectedly last year, and the Secret Service recently dedicated the lab in his honor.

The library handles threat letters — the Secret Service protects not only the president but also other high-profile officials — and phony documents, ransom letters and memorabilia.

"About 15 years ago we started hearing, 'Oh, this is going to die out, everyone is using computers,' but that's not true. Handwriting, written documents, it's still such a large part of an investigation," said Scott Walters, a forensic analyst for more than two decades who worked with Cantu.

Cantu pioneered static ink dating, in which scientists determine when ink was first made available to the public. So, for example, when a query came in recently about a letter purporting to be written by Abraham Lincoln, lab scientists could perform a check to see if the ink was from the 1800s or the 1900s. Or that baseball signed by Babe Ruth? Turned out the ink wasn't available when the Sultan of Swat was playing ball.

The lab is one of several under the Secret Service's questioned documents branch, which is also responsible for handwriting analysis and document authentication, and handles as many as 500 cases a year. The branch works on Secret Service investigations, plus counterfeiting probes and fraud and helps law enforcement agencies around the nation and worldwide.

It handles an array of cases. In one, a New York City crossing guard had forged a dozen racist and offensive letters to police officers and a reporter. As it turns out, the guard was trying to frame a chiropractor as part of a bizarre feud, court documents showed. In another, a former studio assistant to artist Jasper Johns forged documents saying that pieces were authentic Johns' works that the artist had given to him and he had the right to sell them. But they were really stolen.

Others cases were larger, like the 2002 Washington, D.C., sniper shootings that killed 10 people and critically wounded three. The shooters left tarot cards, including one Death card in which "Call me God" was written on the front and back. Cantu and his team analyzed the samples and helped crack the case.

Walters remembers analyzing documents from the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. "I could smell the fuel from the airplane," he said.

Another colleague, Kathleen Storer, who recently retired, recalled analyzing a threatening letter that led to the prosecution of a man who would testify only with a paper bag over his head.

"That always sticks out in my mind," she said. "He really didn't want anyone to know he wrote the letter. We saw a lot of really unusual things."

After Cantu died, Storer went through more than 16 boxes of books that he had acquired, with titles like "The Story of Papermaking," "What Wood is That?" and "Pulp and Paper Manufacturing." She created a small collection housed in the questioned documents division.

Both the ink library and book collection were named for Cantu. She said Cantu's contribution to the field was invaluable — people would come to the Secret Service just to work for him. The 77-year-old was kind and patient, his friends and family said, and extremely humble. He loved teaching others, and investigating was his passion.

"He was so unassuming, you would never know he was so renowned in our field," Storer said. "He was a gentleman, pure and simple, and I believe his intellect was greater than Albert Einstein, truly."

His older brother said the family had no idea how renowned he was. Cantu was that good at keeping a low profile.

"Seeing this, it only makes us prouder," his brother Vidal said at the dedication ceremony.

Lab director Kelli Lewis said they are constantly amassing new ink, as well as printer ink samples, taking clues from each new case and developing techniques to confront modern criminals.

"As the digitization of the world moves forward ... people are printing currency on their home computers," she said. "We've had to evolve with the library and so we're looking at ink jet as well as writing samples from pens and markers."

Abortion arguments at play in limiting veterans' IVF benefit

By **JULIE CARR SMYTH** Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — A federal program to help injured veterans and their spouses conceive children through in vitro fertilization is being hobbled by anti-abortion forces that oppose how the process can lead to embryos being destroyed.

Since 2012, Democrats in Congress have repeatedly championed legislation permanently extending IVF benefits to veterans whose injuries in the line of duty have left them unable to conceive children otherwise.

But those bills have fizzled in the face of opposition from Catholic bishops and others in favor of a temporary program that must be reauthorized every year, complicating efforts by eligible veterans to begin or extend their families. The benefit is further limited to exclude veterans who are not married, straight, able to produce their own sperm and eggs and, if they're female, able to carry the baby in their own uterus.

Those limitations have been a problem for couples like Jacob and Ashley Lyerla, who needed to use donor sperm and eggs to create viable embryos after three heart-wrenching rounds of IVF using their own genetic material failed. The Milroy, Indiana, couple has spent about \$35,000 out of pocket to continue the expensive procedure with donor material, despite Jake being rendered a paraplegic at 19 by an IED blast in Afghanistan.

Ashley Lyerla, not a veteran herself, said IVF gives them and other couples trying to conceive the ability to bond with their babies as soon as physically possible, unlike alternatives such as adoption and surrogacy.

"By using donor embryos, you have all those memories, you have all those firsts," she said. "You're not having to make yet more sacrifices, more compromises."

Fertility treatments using IVF involve combining extracted eggs and sperm in a lab. The process involves producing multiple embryos and transferring them all into the woman's womb, in hopes one would implant and cause a pregnancy. Today, many embryos are usually frozen, as couples opt to transfer the most viable one at a time to avoid multiple births. Unused embryos may be stored indefinitely, donated to science or destroyed — a prospect opponents see as tantamount to abortion and a key sticking point in their opposition to this military program.

Restrictions imposed on the program closely mirror views the nation's most influential anti-abortion groups have espoused for years. Many of those views focus on life starting at conception, including these embryos, and the groups want to make sure they're never destroyed.

Focus on the Family, a group promoting Christian values, supports keeping IVF "within marriage," which it understands as a legal male-female union. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops teaches that God desires "a loving, sexual union" when creating children, which precludes using donor eggs or sperm or creating embryos in a lab. Students for Life, like dozens of other anti-abortion groups, opposes IVF because of the excess fertilized embryos created. The bishops' group did not return messages seeking comment.

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Brittany Raymer, an analyst with Focus on the Family, said the organization is hesitant to support legislation extending and making permanent the benefit, despite having "immense compassion for those military couples who are struggling to conceive due to an injury received while serving our country."

"We have numerous ethical and moral concerns relative to both IVF and surrogacy," she said in an emailed statement, including using taxpayer dollars to create embryos that might be left in a state of limbo or destroyed. The VA said it was working to provide The Associated Press with information on how much the IVF benefit costs taxpayers.

Heather Ansley, head of government relations and advocacy for Paralyzed Veterans of America, is among backers of the permanent benefit for veterans and their families.

"We have a responsibility as a society to make them whole and, certainly, for many people, being a parent is part of that," she said.

In Crystal Wilson's opinion, limiting access to a permanent IVF benefit harms the families of disabled veterans who are trying to have babies. Wilson has conceived two IVF babies through the VA benefit with her husband, Tyler, who was paralyzed from the waist down when struck by a bullet in Afghanistan in 2005.

The Wilsons' difficult journey to parenthood — they have a 2-year-old son, and a baby on the way — has led them to champion federal legislation expanding and making permanent the IVF benefit on behalf of other military families.

"IVF is pro-life, because we're all looking to build a family and bring children into this world, and then build them into amazing, incredible citizens of the world," Wilson said.

A total of 1,549 U.S. service members sustained groin-area injuries, 599 categorized as severe, from 2001 to 2018, according to figures from the Department of Defense Trauma Registry.

Those high numbers were a factor as Congress voted to authorize IVF coverage for veterans in September 2016 for the first time, extending a benefit already available to active-duty service members. The vote lifted, at least temporarily, an earlier ban on IVF benefits for veterans secured by anti-abortion lawmakers in 1992.

U.S. Rep. Andy Harris, a Maryland Republican, physician and abortion opponent, advanced what he viewed as a compromise in 2016, calling for all the fertilized embryos created under the VA IVF benefit to be stored indefinitely, erasing any "ethical dilemma" for veterans over destroying them.

The proposal ultimately failed, in part due to concerns its language might have prevented use of frozen embryos for conception and its potential to put decisions about their fate in the hands of the government — even years after the death of those who created them.

VA spokesman Terrence Hayes said the government is not tracking how many babies have been successfully conceived or born through the program. What is known is that fertility needs are high among recent military veterans, with rates nearly twice as high as the civilian population, according to a 2013 study by the Department of Veterans Affairs. It found nearly 14% of men and almost 16% of women who served in Iraq and Afghanistan reported infertility.

The National Health Study for a New Generation of U.S. Veterans found female veterans were more likely to seek care for infertility than their male counterparts. The VA says 567 eligible military families have received the IVF benefit since it was first authorized in 2016.

Organizations that work with wounded veterans say dozens, if not hundreds, more could be helped through a more robust, permanent program.

The Bob Woodruff Foundation has provided 32 grants totaling \$150,000 to veterans ineligible for the government benefit. That can include same-sex married couples, single female veterans and those with catastrophic injuries that destroyed their reproductive organs.

"We thought that once the VA picked that up, we could happily go out of business on that front," said Margaret Harrell, the foundation's program director. "As it turns out, we've not been able to do so because, although it is fabulous that the VA is currently providing IVF services, they have limited eligibility rules."

News researcher Rhonda Shafner in New York contributed to this report.

Justice Department shaking up legal team on census case

By MIKE BALSAMO Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department is shaking up the legal team fighting for the inclusion of a citizenship question on the 2020 census but offered no specifics on why the change was being made.

The change announced Sunday comes days after the department vowed to continue to try to find a legal path forward to include the question on the census. The Trump administration has faced numerous roadblocks to adding the question, including a ruling from the Supreme Court that blocked its inclusion, at least temporarily.

President Donald Trump said last week that he was “very seriously” considering an executive order to get the question on the form. The government has already started to print the census questionnaire without the question.

The Justice Department is expected to file court papers Monday that show a new team of lawyers will take over.

“Since these cases began, the lawyers representing the United States in these cases have given countless hours to defending the Commerce Department and have consistently demonstrated the highest professionalism, integrity, and skill inside and outside the courtroom,” Justice Department spokeswoman Kerri Kupec said in a statement.

A department spokeswoman declined to comment when asked whether the change had been ordered by Attorney General William Barr.

A Justice Department official told The Associated Press that the new team would consist of both career and politically appointed attorneys. James Burnham, a top lawyer in the department’s civil division, would no longer be leading the litigation team, said the official, who spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity to discuss the matter ahead of the court filing.

The Trump administration has argued that the question was being added to aid in enforcing the Voting Rights Act, which protects minority voters’ access to the ballot box. But Chief Justice John Roberts joined the court’s four more liberal members in last month’s Supreme Court decision, saying the administration’s justification for the question “seems to have been contrived.”

The U.S. Census Bureau’s own experts have said a citizenship question would discourage immigrants from participating in the survey and result in a less accurate census that would redistribute money and political power away from Democratic-led cities where immigrants tend to cluster to whiter, rural areas where Republicans do well.

Admiral to lead Navy instead will retire; bad judgment cited

By ROBERT BURNS AP National Security Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The four-star admiral set to become the Navy’s top officer on Aug. 1 will instead retire, an extraordinary downfall prompted by what Navy Secretary Richard Spencer called poor judgment regarding a professional relationship.

The sudden move by Adm. William Moran, announced Sunday, may add to the perception of turmoil in the Pentagon’s senior ranks, coming less than a month after Pat Shanahan abruptly withdrew from consideration to be defense secretary after serving as the acting secretary for six months.

Leaders of the individual military services, both civilian and uniformed, play less critical roles in national security than the defense secretary, and they are not in the chain of military command. But they are responsible for ensuring that the armed forces are trained, equipped and prepared for combat and other roles.

Moran had been vetted for promotion to the top uniformed position in the Navy, nominated by President Donald Trump and confirmed by the Senate in May to succeed Adm. John Richardson as chief of naval operations and as a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Instead, Moran said in a written statement Sunday evening that he told Spencer he decided to decline

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his appointment as the next chief of naval operations and requested to be allowed to retire.

"As painful as it is to submit my request to retire, I will not be an impediment whatsoever to the important service that you and your families continue to render the nation every day," Moran wrote.

Spencer said his vision for the Navy includes "an urgent resolve by all" to live up to high standards.

"Adm. Bill Moran recently brought to my attention that over the past two years he maintained a professional relationship with an individual who was held accountable and counseled for failing to meet the values and standards of the Naval profession," Spencer said in a written statement Sunday evening. "While I admire his faithful service and commitment to the Navy, this decision on his part to maintain that relationship has caused me to call his judgment into question. Therefore, today I accepted Adm. Moran's request to retire."

Senior Navy officials said Spencer learned of this relationship only after Moran's Senate confirmation in May. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive details.

Spencer provided no details about the unnamed individual, but other officials said Spencer was referring to Moran having recently taken public affairs counsel from Chris Servello, who was removed from his position as public affairs adviser to Richardson in 2017 and given a non-punitive letter of reprimand for drinking and fraternizing with junior officers during and after a December 2016 Navy Christmas party.

Servello was accused of making unwanted sexual passes while dressed as Santa at the party. No charges were filed against him. He retired from the Navy last May at the rank of commander. Servello had previously worked for Moran as a public affairs officer.

In an interview Sunday evening, Servello said he was aware of Moran's decision to retire.

"It's hard not to feel disappointment and disbelief," he said. "This is terrible news for the Navy, and beyond that, I don't have anything to add."

Moran said his decision to decline his appointment and to instead retire was based also on what he called an open investigation into "the nature of some of my personal email correspondence over the past couple of years." He also cited the Servello relationship, without using his name.

"To be clear," Moran added, "my decision to maintain this relationship was in no way an endorsement or tacit approval of" the kind of misconduct that Servello was disciplined for. "I understand how toxic it can be to any team when inappropriate behavior goes unrecognized and unchecked. Every Sailor is entitled to serve in an environment free of harassment or intimidation."

With Moran's departure, Richardson will extend his tenure as Navy chief and Spencer said he would recommend a new candidate for nomination by Trump and consideration by the Senate. Richardson's official retirement date is in September.

Moran is a naval aviator by training. He has been serving as the deputy chief of naval operations, the No. 2 uniformed position in the Navy behind Richardson. He was nominated in April to succeed Richardson and was confirmed for the post by the Senate in May.

Moran's downfall adds to an unusually long list of leadership questions facing the Pentagon, which has been operating without a Senate-confirm defense secretary since Jim Mattis resigned in December 2018. There also is no confirmed deputy secretary of defense, and several other key leadership positions are about to turn over.

Mark Esper, who had been Army secretary, is now the acting secretary of defense, but Trump has not yet sent his nomination to the Senate.

Marine Gen. Joseph Dunford is due to step down as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff this fall. His intended successor, Army Gen. Mark Milley, is scheduled to testify at his confirmation hearing before the Senate Armed Services Committee on Thursday.

Also on Thursday, Gen. David Berger is scheduled to take over as commandant of the Marine Corps, succeeding Gen. Robert Neller.

Air Force Gen. Paul Selva, the vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, is due to retire on July 31. Gen. John Hyten has been nominated to succeed Selva, but he has not yet had a confirmation hearing.

AP: Federal grand jury probing GOP fundraiser Elliott Broidy

By JIM MUSTIAN and DESMOND BUTLER Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A federal grand jury in New York is investigating top Republican fundraiser Elliott Broidy, examining whether he used his position as vice chair of President Donald Trump's inaugural committee to drum up business deals with foreign leaders, according to documents obtained by The Associated Press and people familiar with the matter.

A wide-ranging subpoena the U.S. Attorney's Office in Brooklyn recently sent to Trump's inaugural committee seeks records relating to 20 individuals and businesses. All have connections to Broidy, his investment and defense contracting firms, and foreign officials he pursued deals with — including the current president of Angola and two politicians in Romania.

Prosecutors appear to be investigating whether Broidy exploited his access to Trump for personal gain and violated the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, which makes it illegal for U.S. citizens to offer foreign officials "anything of value" to gain a business advantage. Things of value in this case could have been an invitation to the January 2017 inaugural events or access to Trump.

A statement released to the AP by Broidy's attorneys said that at no point did Broidy or his global security firm Circinus have a contract or exchange of money with "any Romanian government agency, proxy or agent." It also said that while Circinus did reach an agreement with Angola in 2016 there was no connection whatsoever to the inauguration or Broidy's role on the inaugural committee.

"Any implication to the contrary is completely false," the statement said.

The Brooklyn probe appears to be distinct from an inquiry by Manhattan federal prosecutors into the inaugural committee's record \$107 million fundraising and whether foreigners unlawfully contributed.

It followed a request last year by Democratic U.S. Sens. Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts and Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut that the Justice Department investigate whether Broidy "used access to President Trump as a valuable enticement to foreign officials who may be in a position to advance Mr. Broidy's business interests abroad."

Brooklyn federal prosecutors and the president's inaugural committee declined to comment on the grand jury proceedings, which are secret. But two people familiar with the matter told the AP that the committee has already complied with the subpoena, issued in April, and a third said the FBI has interviewed at least one of Broidy's business associates named in the subpoena.

The people spoke to the AP on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the ongoing investigation.

Broidy, a 61-year-old Los Angeles businessman, made a fortune in investments before moving into defense contracting and has played prominent roles in GOP fundraising, including as finance chairman of the Republican National Committee from 2006 to 2008 and vice chair of the Trump Victory Committee in 2016.

But there have been problems along the way. In 2009, investigators looked into the New York state pension fund's decision to invest \$250 million with Broidy and found he had plied state officials with nearly \$1 million in illegal gifts. Broidy pleaded guilty to a felony but it was later knocked down to a misdemeanor after he agreed to cooperate with prosecutors and pay back \$18 million in management fees.

Another scandal came last year when Broidy stepped down as deputy finance chair of the RNC after reports that he agreed to pay \$1.6 million as part of a confidentiality agreement to a former Playboy model with whom he had an affair. That payment was arranged in 2017 by Trump's longtime lawyer Michael Cohen.

In the Brooklyn federal probe, Broidy's is the first name listed in the grand jury subpoena, followed by his Los Angeles investment firm and four limited liability companies linked to him.

It also sought records related to George Nader, a Broidy associate who served as an adviser to the United Arab Emirates, provided grand jury testimony to special counsel Robert Mueller and was recently jailed on federal child pornography charges.

Several of the names included in the subpoena also appeared in a cache of leaked emails anonymously distributed last year to several news organizations, including the AP. Broidy has contended the emails were hacked from his account, and that several of the documents were altered or forged. His attorneys

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declined to specify to the AP which emails they believed were doctored.

As provided to the AP, the emails show Broidy invited two Angolan leaders named in the subpoena to Trump's inaugural, and that the invitation was accompanied by a multimillion-dollar contract for Circinus to provide security services in Angola that Broidy asked be signed ahead of the events.

In a follow-up note to one of the Angolans — then-Defense Minister and current President João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço — Broidy discussed a planned visit to Trump's Mar-a-Lago resort in Florida, and in the same correspondence demanded a past-due payment for Circinus' services.

"Many preparations have been made in advance of your visit," Broidy wrote in February 2017, "including additional meetings at the Capitol and the Department of Treasury."

The Angolan Embassy in Washington did not respond to a request for comment.

The grand jury subpoena also included several names associated with Broidy's work on behalf of Romanian politicians at a time when Broidy's defense company was seeking a lucrative contract to provide security services to the Romanian government — a deal Broidy's representatives said never came to fruition.

Those names included Sorin Grindeanu, who at the time was prime minister, and Liviu Dragnea, a former parliamentary leader who began serving a 3½-year prison sentence in May for abuse of power. Both officials also attended inaugural events.

Dragnea became a focus of European Union efforts to bolster the rule of law because of his efforts to remove an anti-corruption prosecutor, Laura Kovesi, who investigated him. According to the emails obtained by the AP, Broidy tried to persuade California Republican Rep. Ed Royce, then the chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, not to meet with Kovesi during a planned visit to Bucharest in 2017.

"This meeting will not only cause significant issues within the present government (but) potentially diminish the good will which we wish to achieve amongst the Romanian people," Broidy wrote to Royce.

The emails show a Circinus lawyer, Matt Britton, resigned in October 2017 after expressing alarm to company executives about corruption concerns related to the firm's Romanian contract negotiations.

"These are FULL STOP issues in my judgment," the attorney wrote. "NO MATTER HOW LONG THAT TAKES IT ALL MUST BE DONE IN ADVANCE OF ANY CONTRACT WITH ROMANIA."

Britton, who did not respond to a request for comment, is not among those named in the subpoena.

Butler reported from Washington.

US Women win 4th World Cup title, eye gender equality

By ANNE M. PETERSON AP Sports Writer

LYON, France (AP) — After every goal celebration and all the confident posturing, the U.S. national team backed up its swagger at the Women's World Cup by winning it all.

The Americans also took a swipe at gender inequity, too.

The United States won its record fourth Women's World Cup title and second in a row, beating the Netherlands 2-0 Sunday night when Megan Rapinoe converted a tiebreaking penalty kick in the second half. Rose Lavelle added a goal to seal it.

Afterward, Rapinoe looked out on the sea of reporters and said, "I've got a party to get to, y'all."

Rapinoe scored in the 61st minute after a video review determined Stefanie van der Gragt had fouled Alex Morgan with a kick to the shoulder while competing for a deflected pass in the penalty area.

Two days past her 34th birthday, Rapinoe slotted the ball past Sari van Veenendaal for her sixth goal of the tournament. She became the oldest player to score in a Women's World Cup final, and earned the Golden Boot for the tournament's top scorer and the Golden Ball as the top player.

Her preferred goal celebration in France, with her outstretched arms in victory, was already on T-shirts.

"I feel like it's kind of iconic of everything that we have gone through and we continue to go through, and yet we put this beautiful product out on the pitch," she said.

Lavelle, at 24 the team's up-and-coming star, added her third goal of the tournament on an 18-yard left-footed shot in the 69th after a solo run from the center circle.

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The monthlong journey isn't over quite yet for players who captured the hearts of a nation. New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio needed just a few seconds after the match to invite the team to a ticker-tape parade up the Canyon of Heroes in Manhattan on Wednesday.

Fans, many dressed in red, white and blue, chanted "Equal Pay!" at the final whistle, a reminder players sued the U.S. Soccer Federation in March claiming gender discrimination. The sides have agreed to mediate the lawsuit.

Rapinoe drew the ire of President Donald Trump by saying she would refuse to visit the White House. Trump called out Rapinoe on Twitter, saying she should never "disrespect our Country, the White House, or our Flag, especially since so much has been done for her & the team." He said he would invite the team win or lose.

But shortly after the title game, Trump tweeted: "Congratulations to the U.S. Women's Soccer Team on winning the World Cup! Great and exciting play. America is proud of you all!"

Always outspoken, Rapinoe also called out FIFA on the eve of the championship, suggesting soccer's governing body was not doing enough to grow the women's game, pointing to unequal prize money and the scheduling of the final on the same day as the championships of the CONCACAF Gold Cup in Chicago and the Copa America final in Brazil.

The Americans never trailed at the tournament and set records with 26 goals and a 12-game World Cup winning streak dating to 2015. Jill Ellis became the first coach to lead a team to two Women's World Cup titles, and the U.S. joined Germany in 2003 and 2007 as the only repeat champions. While the U.S. has four titles, Germany is the only other nation with even two.

"Getting to play at the highest level of the World Cup with the team we have is just ridiculous. But to be able to couple that with everything on the field and to back up all of those words with performances and to back up all of those performances with words, it's just incredible," Rapinoe said. "I feel like this team is in the midst of changing the world around us as we live, and it's just an incredible feeling."

With confidence that some called arrogance, this American team established a standard that exceeded the U.S. champions of 1991, 1999 and 2015, becoming a goal for all others to match. Mia Hamm and Brandi Chastain were among the former American players who joined the current generation for the postgame celebration.

Alyssa Naeher, the 31-year-old who succeeded Hope Solo in goal, faced repeated questions entering the tournament but allowed just three goals and finished with her fourth shutout.

The U.S. had scored within the first 12 minutes of its previous six matches but the European champions sat back to keep their defensive shape and kept the score 0-0 through the first half.

Rapinoe, who missed Tuesday's semifinal win over England with a hamstring injury, became the first woman to score on a penalty kick during a Women's World Cup final, her 50th goal in 158 international appearances. She ended the Netherlands' 317-minute scoreless streak and matched Morgan and England's Ellen White for most goals in the tournament, winning the Golden Ball based on fewer minutes.

She was given a standing ovation when she was substituted in the 79th minute. The crowd of 57,900 at Stade de Lyon for Le Grand Finale included France President Emmanuel Macron.

Rebounding from a loss to Sweden on penalty kicks in the quarterfinals of the 2016 Olympics, the Americans opened the World Cup with a record 13-0 rout of lowly Thailand, triggering debate over whether the celebrations after each goal were excessive. Carli Lloyd responded the next match by following a goal with a polite golf clap. Then Morgan stirred it up again when she scored against England and celebrated as if sipping tea, pinkie outstretched.

Now, after all the memorable drama, they will have a fourth star above the crest on the team's jerseys and a higher platform to advance their cause.

"It's something that we've worked so hard for. All of us, individually, have just faced so much adversity through this whole journey," Morgan said. "We've been tested individually and collectively so much. So to see, four years ago, us go from two to three, and now three to four, it's really a dream come true."

Quakes push Californians to prepare for the next big jolt

By JOHN ROGERS, ROBERT JABLON and MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ Associated Press

RIDGECREST, Calif. (AP) — Shaken residents are cleaning up from two of the biggest earthquakes to rattle California in decades as scientists warn that both should serve as a wake-up call to be ready when the long-dreaded "Big One" strikes.

California is spending more than \$16 million to install thousands of quake-detecting sensors statewide that officials say will give utilities and trains precious seconds to shut down before the shaking starts.

Gov. Gavin Newsom said it's time residents did their part by mapping out emergency escape routes and preparing earthquake kits with food, water, lights and other necessities.

"It is a wake-up call for the rest of the state and other parts of the nation, frankly," Newsom said at a Saturday news conference on efforts to help a desert region jolted by back-to-back quakes.

A magnitude 6.4 earthquake Thursday and a magnitude 7.1 quake Friday were centered 11 miles (18 kilometers) from the small desert town of Ridgecrest, about 150 miles (241 kilometers) from Los Angeles.

The quakes buckled highways and ruptured gas lines that sparked several house fires, and officials said about 50 homes in the nearby small town of Trona were damaged. No one was killed or seriously injured, which authorities attributed to the remote location in the Mojave Desert.

"Any time that we can go through a 7-point earthquake and we do not report a fatality, a major injury, do not suffer structure damage that was significant, I want to say that that was a blessing and a miracle," Kern County Fire Department spokesman Andrew Freeborn said Sunday.

Seismologists said a similar-sized quake in a major city like San Francisco, Los Angeles or San Diego could collapse bridges, buildings and freeways, as well as spark devastating fires fueled by ruptured gas lines.

"We're going to have a magnitude 6, on average, somewhere in Southern California every few years. We've actually gone 20 years without one, so we have had the quietest 20 years in the history of Southern California," said seismologist Lucy Jones of the California Institute of Technology.

"That's unlikely to continue on the long run," she added. "Geology keeps on moving ... and we should be expecting a higher rate. And when it happens near people, it is going to be a lot worse."

Thus the need for preparation, Newsom and others say.

Some Californians, like Greg Messigian of Los Angeles, say they're already taking precautions. His wake-up call came with the 1994 Northridge earthquake that killed 61 people and caused \$15 billion in damage. His San Fernando Valley home, located just above the fault line, was all but destroyed.

"We had brick walls around the perimeter that had all fallen down. We had cracks in the pool. Inside the house everything that we ever had on a shelf was broken. Television sets fell off the places where they were and cracked. Our chimney was broken. There were cracks in the walls."

With the help of earthquake insurance, he rebuilt.

On Sunday, the retired schoolteacher was going over his preparedness kit, making sure he had everything he would need for the next quake.

Among the contents: Enough water to last a week, extra shoes and clothes, blankets, flashlights, batteries, food, a cellphone charger and food for the family dog. On top of that, he has an escape route planned and keeps one car parked in the garage and another in the driveway — in case the garage falls down on the car.

The 1994 quake was not the state's most devastating. The famous 1906 San Francisco earthquake killed 3,000 people. The 1971 San Fernando quake, centered not far from the Northridge quake, killed 65. The 1989 Loma Prieta quake, nicknamed the World Series Earthquake because it struck the Bay Area as the San Francisco Giants were playing Game 3 of the World Series, killed 63.

Kathy Mirescu of Los Angeles said she had been meaning to restock her earthquake safety kit and got a push after the quakes she called the strongest she's felt since moving to California in 2000.

"The size of those quakes drove home the urgency of making sure we had everything we needed," she said.

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The Salesforce product designer spent \$250 on everything from camping lanterns, flares and waterproof matches to nonperishable food, iodine tablets for purifying water and freeze-dried food for her dog. She also printed out copies of her and her husband's passports and driver's licenses and earthquake insurance policy.

Some in other states were taking heed as well.

"When you see a place that suffers two huge earthquakes back-to-back like that, I always think what's next?" said Laura Sampson of Palmer, Alaska. "It absolutely makes me think of worrying about what comes next and if I'm prepared."

Sampson was at home in her community northeast of Anchorage last November when a magnitude 7.0 earthquake shook the area. She said she still needs a better plan for contacting loved ones after a quake.

As people prepared, authorities in rural Kern County repaired roads and utilities.

The quakes sparked several house fires, shut off power, snapped gas lines, cracked buildings and flooded some homes when water lines broke. Newsom estimated the damage at more than \$100 million and said President Donald Trump called him to offer federal support.

All roads serving Ridgecrest, a town of 28,000 residents, were safe to drive again Sunday, water and power had been restored and bus service would resume Monday, Police Chief Jed McLaughlin said. He said homes were being inspected for damage and that all government buildings were declared safe.

Officials told several hundred people at a community meeting Sunday evening in Ridgecrest to take precautions once running water returns to their homes after it was cut off by the two earthquakes that hit the town Thursday and Friday.

The officials asked residents at the two-hour meeting to boil the water for at least several days once it comes back on.

Mayor Peggy Breeden said that two trucks with water are coming to Ridgecrest and the nearby small town of Trona.

Several people at the meeting in the Kerr McGee Community Center said that they will need counseling after dealing with the disruptions caused by the earthquakes, which included sleeping outside of their homes.

Breeden told residents that they had proved their toughness.

"Let's hear it for Ridgecrest!" she said to a standing ovation.

Residents of the nearby town of Trona, southwest of Death Valley, reported electricity had been restored but water and gas service was still out at many homes. People in the town of about 2,000 lined up for free water that California National Guard soldiers handed out at Trona High School.

"I just picked up a couple cases for me and my dog," said Jeb Haleman, adding that his home of 40 years otherwise escaped unscathed.

When Friday's quake struck he said he was about 10 stories off the ground working on a boiler at the Searles Valley Minerals plant.

"I was holding on for dear life," he said, laughing. "That was quite a ride."

With temperatures hovering around the 100-degree mark, Sgt. Robert Madrigal said the National Guard would provide water "just as long as they need us here."

Officials were taking precautions because of the heat and expectation of thousands of smaller aftershocks over the next several days.

The U.S. Geological Survey said there was just a 1% chance of another magnitude 7 or higher earthquake in the next week, and a rising possibility of no magnitude 6 quakes.

The National Guard was sending 200 troops, logistical support and aircraft, Maj. Gen. David Baldwin said.

The California Office of Emergency Services brought in cots, water and meals and set up cooling centers in the region, Director Mark Ghilarducci said.

Rogers and Jablon reported from Los Angeles. Associated Press Writers John Antczak in Los Angeles, Amy Forliti in Minneapolis and Courtney Bonnell in Phoenix contributed to this story.

Jeffrey Epstein due in court after sex trafficking arrest

By MICHAEL R. SISAK and JIM MUSTIAN Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Eleven years after letting Jeffrey Epstein off lightly with a once-secret plea deal, the U.S. government is taking another run at putting the wealthy sex offender behind bars with new sex-trafficking charges that law enforcement officials say involve allegations dating to the early 2000s.

Epstein, arrested over the weekend, is expected to make his first court appearance on the new charges Monday in New York City. Prosecutors are likely to argue that he is a flight risk and should remain in jail instead of being released on bail pending trial.

One law enforcement official told The Associated Press the case deals with allegations that Epstein, a 66-year-old hedge fund manager who once hobnobbed with some of the world's most powerful people, paid underage girls for massages and molested them at his homes in Florida and New York.

The officials spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the pending case. Court documents related to the case have been kept under seal, and no official announcement of Epstein's arrest has been made.

Epstein's lawyer did not respond to messages seeking comment.

Epstein, whose friends have included President Donald Trump, former President Bill Clinton and Great Britain's Prince Andrew, was arrested Saturday at an airport near New York City after his private jet touched down from France.

A task force of federal agents and New York City police officers met the plane at Teterboro Airport and took Epstein into custody, law enforcement officials said. He is being held at the Metropolitan Correctional Center, a federal jail near the Manhattan courthouse where he is due to appear on Monday.

Former federal prosecutor David Weinstein said there's almost no chance Epstein will be allowed to go home after the hearing. Under federal court rules, prosecutors can keep a defendant locked up for three extra days while preparing for a bail hearing without needing a reason. If that happens in Epstein's case, it would mean a bail hearing on Thursday.

"The government is clearly seeking to have him detained," Weinstein said.

"The guy is a millionaire or a billionaire. He has unrestrained assets," he added. "If they let him out on a bond, he may take off, go to a jurisdiction where they don't have extradition and they may never get him back."

Epstein's arrest, first reported by The Daily Beast, came amid increased scrutiny of the 2008 non-prosecution deal that allowed Epstein to plead guilty to lesser state charges while maintaining a jet-set lifestyle, which includes homes in Paris and the U.S. Virgin Islands and a pricy Bentley.

Under the deal, overseen by former Miami U.S. Attorney and current Trump labor secretary Alexander Acosta, Epstein avoided a possible life sentence and served 13 months in jail after pleading guilty to Florida charges of soliciting and procuring a person under age 18 for prostitution. It also required he reach financial settlements with dozens of his victims and register as a sex offender.

Acosta has defended the plea deal as appropriate under the circumstances, though the White House said in February that it was "looking into" his handling of the deal.

The deal, examined in detail in a series of reports in The Miami Herald, is being challenged in Florida federal court. U.S. District Judge Kenneth Marra of Florida ruled earlier this year that Epstein's victims should have been consulted under federal law about the deal, and he is now weighing whether to invalidate the deal.

Federal prosecutors recently filed court papers in the Florida case contending Epstein's deal, known as an NPA, must stand.

"The past cannot be undone; the government committed itself to the NPA, and the parties have not disputed that Epstein complied with its provisions," prosecutors wrote in the filing.

They acknowledged, however, that the failure to consult victims "fell short of the government's dedication to serve victims to the best of its ability" and that prosecutors "should have communicated with the victims in a straightforward and transparent way."

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The victims in the Florida case have until Monday to respond to the Justice Department's filing.

It was not immediately clear whether that case and the new case involved the same victims since nearly all have remained anonymous. Even so, Weinstein said, the deal only applies to federal prosecutors in the Southern District of Florida. The current case is being pursued by the Southern District of New York.

Further, there are no double jeopardy implications because Epstein's guilty plea involved only state crimes, while the current case involves federal law.

According to court records in Florida, authorities say at least 40 underage girls were brought into Epstein's Palm Beach mansion for what turned into sexual encounters after female fixers looked for suitable girls locally and in Eastern Europe and other parts of the world.

Some girls were also allegedly brought to Epstein's homes in New York City, New Mexico and a private Caribbean island, according to court documents.

Epstein's arrest Saturday also came just days after a federal appeals court in New York ordered the unsealing of nearly 2,000 pages of records in a since-settled defamation case involving Epstein.

Sisak reported from Orlando, Florida. Associated Press writers Colleen Long, Curt Anderson and Tom Hays contributed to this report.

1 minor goring, 4 others injured in Spain's running of bulls

PAMPLONA, Spain (AP) — The second day of bull runs at the San Fermin festival left five people injured, including one with a minor goring Monday, Spanish health officials said.

Two men and a woman were hospitalized with head injuries or severe bruises, said Tomás Belzunegui, a spokesman with the regional hospital in Pamplona.

Another runner was treated for bruises, and a fifth was gored in the back by a horn but didn't need hospital treatment.

The six bulls from the Cebada Gago ranch, which is known for raising ferocious beasts, were surrounded by tame cattle for most of the 930-yard (850-meter) route to the bullring, leaving runners scrambling for limited space close to their horns.

The race lasted 2 minutes and 23 seconds. Eight bull runs are held in Pamplona every July.

The festival, which attracts annually around a million people to the northern city, was immortalized in the 1920s by American novelist and Literature Nobel Prize winner Ernest Hemingway.

Mexican president gets little backlash for migrant crackdown

By MARK STEVENSON Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexican police, soldiers and National Guard are raiding hotels, buses and trains to round up migrants, creating scenes of weeping Central American mothers piled into police vans along with their children and overflowing detention centers with deplorable conditions.

Such scenes have caused an outcry in the United States, but in Mexico there has been little backlash against the government of President Andrés Manuel López Obrador even though his country has historically had a deep sympathy for the plight of migrants.

This sympathy has been eroded by the migrant caravans of late 2018 and early 2019, which left a bad taste in the mouth of Mexicans and caused deep divisions among pro-migrant groups. López Obrador's reputation as a popular leftist has also muted the response to the crackdown. Add to this the disruption caused by migrants in Mexican border cities and threats of border closures or tariffs from U.S. President Donald Trump, and it has all led many Mexicans to see the waves of migrants as a problem.

Polls say López Obrador's approval rating has held steady at 66% to 72% despite the crackdown and reports of brutal conditions at the huge Siglo XXI migrant holding facility on Mexico's southern border and other centers.

When the first caravan got a warm welcome in October, Mexicans were almost evenly split on whether Mexico should stop migrants from other countries from entering without proper documents, according to

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an El Universal survey which polled 1,000 people June 3-7 with a margin of error of 3.5 percentage points.

Eight months later, 61.5% supported stopping them and only 33% opposed it, according to the same poll. Even more dramatic was the reversal on giving migrants asylum in Mexico. In October, nearly 48% favored it, while 38% opposed. By June that had flipped, with 57% opposed and 37% favoring.

Even for Mexicans who don't think Central Americans take jobs from Mexicans or cause increased crime — accusations routinely heard, especially in southern Mexico — there is a sense that too many migrants have come.

"The truth is that it is a problem for everyone. It's better that they be sent back to their countries," said Jorge Parada Leon, a Mexico City message delivery worker. "Crossing Mexico the way they do is dangerous, a lot of them have died ... they should fix the problems they have in their home countries."

Many Mexicans are also angered by the idea that Mexico would contribute money for development aid in Central America.

López Obrador "should focus on the people instead of being compassionate with the migrants who come from other countries," said Argelia Miranda Vazquez, a government employee. "He should support the (Mexican) people. And the others? Well, let their governments take care of their own people."

Some have criticized the crackdown. The head of Mexico's National Immigration Institute, Tonatiuh Guillén, resigned when the crackdown was announced in June to head off Trump's threat of tariffs on Mexican products. Porfirio Munoz Ledo, the congressional leader of López Obrador's Morena party, said that "it is morally unacceptable that on one hand we demand they (the U.S.) open the doors for us, but we close them in the faces of Central Americans, in order to do the United States' dirty work."

López Obrador acknowledges the crackdown was implemented to avoid U.S. tariffs on Mexican imports threatened by Trump in late May.

"A few days ago we were able to overcome a possible economic and political crisis, by means of an immigration agreement that requires us to be stricter in enforcing immigration laws," he said. "We have established a relationship of respect and friendship with the people and government of the United States and this has allowed us to avoid confrontation that wouldn't benefit anyone."

Even some of the most outspoken defenders of migrants are defending López Obrador's crackdown on the porous southern border, where migrants from across the world simply wade or ride rafts across rivers marking the border.

Rev. Alejandro Solalinde, who runs a shelter for migrants in the southern Mexico and has fiercely criticized past administrations, said that "someone had to impose order on the border ... everyone was crossing there without the slightest problem."

Solalinde, who is close to López Obrador, added: "Let's be clear about this. This isn't what Andrés Manuel's administration wanted; it is what it was able to do" in the face of Trump's threats.

Solalinde blamed a series of four or five immigrant caravans that brought thousands of migrants in 2018 and early 2019 that overwhelmed border cities and wore out an initially warm welcome.

"They were irresponsible in bringing migrants to the northern border and exposing them to risks in such a brutal way. They herded the migrants up to the border and caused a big international problem between the two countries," Solalinde said.

Irineo Mujica, whose Pueblo Sin Fronteras group helped lead those caravans, now acknowledges the caravans were "used for political purposes" — Trump cited them frequently during the 2018 midterm elections — and says they shouldn't happen again.

But Mujica, who was briefly arrested at the start of López Obrador's crackdown, thinks there was a campaign in the press and on the internet to smear the migrants.

"This was the contribution of the news media," Mujica said. "For example, when they said the Central Americans are forcing their way in, when in fact they had opened the door to them. Saying they had burned the Mexican flag, or they left garbage behind, or depicting them as ungrateful."

The activist thinks that in the long run, the crackdown will force migrants into more dangerous routes, and eventually become a political embarrassment for López Obrador.

"This won't be a definitive political cost for his administration, but it will continue to damage him," Mujica

said. "This situation is going to continue to get worse, and that will mean more kidnappings, more human rights violations, more extortions. This will mean more deaths of migrants ... this is definitely a blow to the credibility he had."

López Obrador himself has acknowledged that one of his biggest fears is a massacre of migrants like the one in which a drug cartel killed 72 mainly Central American migrants in 2010 in San Fernando, a town in the northern border state of Tamaulipas.

Still, most Mexicans have been willing to overlook the mistakes of the new administration, which took office Dec. 1.

"The president has called for reaching a balance between national security and human security, that is, human rights," said Solalinde. "I think we are going to find a way to strike the balance."

AP FACT CHECK: Trump distorts census, Obama-Biden record

By HOPE YEN and CALVIN WOODWARD Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump is stretching the truth in his legally questionable bid to get a citizenship question added to the 2020 census.

Brushing aside a Supreme Court ruling against him and his agencies saying it's probably too late, Trump is ordering that the question somehow be included anyway, insisting that it's "almost always" been asked on the census.

That's wrong. Over the nation's history, the citizenship question has been left off the census questionnaire more times than not.

Meanwhile, anticipating the 2020 presidential race, Trump is distorting his record in his increasing attacks on the Obama administration, when Democratic candidate Joe Biden served as vice president. Trump falsely asserts that President Barack Obama made it a policy to separate migrant children from their parents when families were caught crossing the border illegally. The president also mangles the facts on tariffs and NATO in accusing Obama and Biden of getting bilked by China and European countries.

The mistruths came in a week in which Trump roused a political tempest when he decided to plant himself squarely in Independence Day observances with a speech from the Lincoln Memorial. The words from that speech ultimately proved measured but caused some befuddlement over American military history.

A look at recent claims, also covering veterans, the economy and more:

CENSUS

TRUMP: "Think of it: 15 to 20 billion dollars, and you're not allowed to ask them, 'Are you a citizen?' And, by the way, if you look at the history of our country, it's almost always been asked. ... Citizenship has been on that thing most of the time for many, many years. So it's very shocking that, after spending \$15 billion, it's not on." — remarks to reporters Friday at the White House.

KEN CUCCINELLI, acting director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services: "I think that if you look at what we've asked over the years, including, of course, the citizenship question, famously — asked many, many times through our history — we ask a lot of other information as well." — interview on "Fox News Sunday."

THE FACTS: Trump and his administration are incorrect in suggesting that citizenship status has been a default question in the census, having been "almost always" asked on the form.

The Census Bureau hasn't included a citizenship question in its once-a-decade survey sent to all U.S. households since 1950, before the Civil Rights era and passage of a 1965 law designed to help ensure minority groups in the count are fully represented. The nation's count is based on the total resident population — both citizens and noncitizens — and used to determine how many U.S. representatives each state gets in the U.S. House.

According to January 2018 calculations by the Census Bureau, adding a citizenship question to the decennial census would cause lower response rates among noncitizens, leading to an increased cost to the government of at least \$27.5 million for additional phone calls, visits and other follow-up efforts to reach an estimated 630,000 missed households — or more than 1 million people. The Constitution requires

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a count every 10 years of "the whole number of persons in each state," long understood to include all residents of the U.S.

The Trump administration had argued that the question was being added to aid in enforcement of the Voting Rights Act, which protects minority voters' access to the ballot box. But a majority of the Supreme Court said last week that reasoning was "contrived." The Justice Department had never previously sought a citizenship question in the 54-year history of the landmark voting rights law.

The high court left open the possibility that the administration could try again in adding the question if it can provide a better explanation, but little time remains due to deadlines in printing the census forms.

From 1970 to 2000, the question was included only in the long-form section of the census survey, which is sent to a portion of U.S. households, not as part of the official count of all U.S. residents. After 2000, the question has been asked on the Census Bureau's American Community Survey, a separate poll sent only to a sample of U.S. households.

The first U.S. census was conducted in 1790, and a citizenship question was added in 1820. Still, between 1820 and 1950, the question wasn't asked in four censuses — 1840, 1850, 1860 or 1880.

That means out of the 23 censuses conducted in the U.S. since 1790, a citizenship question has only been asked 10 times — or 43% of the time.

That hardly amounts to "almost always."

MIGRANTS

TRUMP: "Under President Obama, we had separation. ... They had a separation policy. Right? I ended it." — remarks June 29 in Japan.

TRUMP: "Well, as you know, President Obama had separation." — remarks Friday to reporters.

THE FACTS: He's wrong. The separation of thousands of migrant children from their parents resulted from Trump's "zero tolerance" policy. Obama had no such policy. After a public outcry and a court order, Trump generally ceased the practice.

Zero tolerance meant that U.S. authorities would criminally prosecute all adults caught crossing into the U.S. illegally. Doing so meant detention for adults and the removal of their children while their parents were in custody. During the Obama administration, such family separations were the exception. They became the practice under Trump's policy.

Before Trump's zero-tolerance policy, migrant families caught illegally entering the U.S. were usually referred for civil deportation proceedings, not requiring separation, unless they were known to have a criminal record. Then and now, immigration officials may take a child from a parent in certain cases, such as serious criminal charges against a parent, concerns over the health and welfare of a child or medical concerns.

NATO

TRUMP: "Tell Biden that NATO has taken total advantage of him and President Obama. They took it — we were paying for almost all of NATO. We're protecting countries. Those countries have to protect themselves with us. They have to make a contribution. ...Europe kills us on trade, which we're changing, and Europe then kills us because we defend Europe. And we lose a tremendous amount of money." — remarks Friday to reporters.

THE FACTS: It's not true that the U.S. was paying "almost all" the price of protecting Europe.

NATO has a shared budget to which each member makes contributions based on the size of its economy. The United States, with the biggest economy, pays the biggest share, about 22%.

Four European members — Germany, France, Britain and Italy — combined pay nearly 44% of the total. The money, about \$3 billion, runs NATO's headquarters and covers certain other civilian and military costs.

Defending Europe involves far more than that fund. The primary cost of doing so would come from each member country's military budget, as the alliance operates under a mutual defense treaty.

The U.S. is the largest military spender but others in the alliance obviously have armed forces, too. The notion that almost all costs would fall to the U.S. is false. In fact, NATO's Article 5, calling for allies to act

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if one is attacked, has only been invoked once, and it was on behalf of the U.S., after the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

ECONOMY and TRADE

TRUMP: "You look at what Joe Biden has done with China. We've lost our shirts with China and now China is dying to make a deal. So — and we're taking, by the way, billions and billions of dollars in tariffs are coming in — and China is paying for it, not our people." — remarks Friday to reporters.

THE FACTS: Actually, Americans are paying for it.

Trump refuses to recognize a reality that his own chief economic adviser, Larry Kudlow, has acknowledged. Tariffs are mainly if not entirely paid by companies and consumers in the country that imposes them. China is not sending billions of dollars to the U.S. treasury.

In a study in May, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, with Princeton and Columbia universities, estimated that tariffs from Trump's trade dispute with China were costing \$831 per U.S. household on an annual basis. And that was based on the situation in 2018, before tariffs escalated. Analysts also found that the burden of Trump's tariffs falls entirely on U.S. consumers and businesses that buy imported products.

TRUMP: "The Economy is the BEST IT HAS EVER BEEN!" — tweet Tuesday.

THE FACTS: The economy is not one of the best in the country's history. It expanded at an annual rate of 3.2 percent in the first quarter of this year. That growth was the highest in just four years for the first quarter.

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

In fact, there are many signs that growth is slowing, partly because of Trump's trade fights with China and Europe. Factory activity has decelerated for three straight months as global growth has slowed and companies are reining in their spending on large equipment.

Most economists forecast the economy will expand at just a 2% annual rate in the April-June period.

Trump is pushing the Federal Reserve chairman, Jerome Powell, to cut short-term interest rates to shore up the economy. That isn't something a president would do amid the strongest economy in history.

Economists mostly expect the Fed will cut rates, either at its next meeting in July or in September. Lower rates make it easier for people to borrow and buy new homes and cars.

Powell said last week the economy is facing growing uncertainties and he indicated the Fed would take the necessary steps to sustain the expansion, a sign that the Fed could cut rates soon.

The economy is now in its 121st month of growth, making it the longest expansion in history. But most of that took place under Obama.

The economy grew 2.9% in 2018 — the same pace it reached in 2015 under Obama — and simply hasn't hit historically high growth rates.

MARS

TRUMP: "Someday soon, we will plant the American flag on Mars." — July 4 speech.

THE FACTS: This is not happening soon; almost certainly not while he is president even if he wins a second term.

The Trump administration has placed a priority on the moon over Mars for human exploration (Obama favored Mars) and hopes to accelerate NASA's plan for returning people to the lunar surface. It has asked Congress to approve enough money to make a moon mission possible by 2024, instead of 2028. But even if that happens, Mars would come years after that.

International space agencies have made aspirational statements about possibly landing humans on Mars during the 2030s.

Trump's speech was almost entirely free of exaggerations about his agenda; this was an exception.

HISTORY

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TRUMP: "The Continental Army suffered a bitter winter of Valley Forge, found glory across the waters of the Delaware and seized victory from Cornwallis of Yorktown. Our army manned the air (unintelligible), it rammed the ramparts. It took over the airports. It did everything it had to do. And at Fort McHenry, under the rockets' red glare, it had nothing but victory. And when dawn came, their star-spangled banner waved defiant." — July 4 speech.

THE FACTS: Trump said the teleprompter stopped working during this passage: "I knew the speech very well so I was able to do it without a teleprompter."

There were, of course, no airplanes during the War of Independence, and the Battle of Fort McHenry took place during the War of 1812, not the revolution. Trump segued from colonial times to modern times and back to the War of 1812 so fast that it seemed he was conflating wars and misstating aviation history. But the confusion apparently came from his need to wing it when the script went down.

NORTH KOREA

TRUMP, on North Korea's help in returning the remains of U.S. troops from the Korean War: "The remains are coming back as they get them, as they find them. The remains of our great heroes from the war. And we really appreciate that." — remarks June 30 to Korean business leaders in Seoul.

TRUMP: "We're very happy about the remains having come back. And they're bringing back — in fact, we were notified they have additional remains of our great heroes from many years ago." — remarks June 28 in Japan.

THE FACTS: His account is at odds with developments.

No remains of U.S. service members have been returned since last summer and the U.S. suspended efforts in May to get negotiations on the remains back on track in time to have more repatriated this year. It hopes more remains may be brought home next year.

The Pentagon's Defense POW-MIA Accounting Agency, which is the outfit responsible for recovering U.S. war remains and returning them to families, "has not received any new information from (North Korean) officials regarding the turn over or recovery of remains," spokesman Charles Prichard said Wednesday.

He said his agency is "still working to communicate" with the North Korean army "as it is our intent to find common ground on resuming recovery missions" in 2020.

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

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

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

VETERANS

TRUMP, on approving private-sector health care for veterans: "I actually came up with the idea. I said, 'Why don't we just have the veterans go out and see a private doctor and we'll pay the cost of the doctor and that will solve the problem?' Some veterans were waiting for two weeks, three weeks, four weeks, they couldn't get any service at all. I said, 'We'll just send them out.' And what I thought it was a genius idea, brilliant idea. I came back and met with the board and a lot of the people that handled the VA. ... They said, 'Actually sir, we've been trying to get that passed for 40 years, and we haven't been able to get it.' I'm good at getting things done. ... It's really cut down big on the waits." — call on June 25 with military veterans.

TRUMP: "We passed VA Choice and VA Accountability to give our veterans the care that they deserve and they have been trying to pass these things for 45 years." — Montoursville, Pennsylvania, rally on May 20.

THE FACTS: Trump did not invent the idea of giving veterans the option to see private doctors outside the Department of Veterans Affairs medical system at government expense. Nor is he the first president

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in 40 years to pass the program.

Congress approved the private-sector Veterans Choice health program in 2014 and Obama signed it into law. Trump expanded it.

Under the expansion which took effect last month, veterans still may have to wait weeks to see a doctor. The program allows veterans to see a private doctor if their VA wait is 20 days (28 for specialty care) or their drive is only 30 minutes.

Indeed, the VA says it does not expect a major increase in veterans seeking care outside the VA under Trump's expanded program, partly because wait times in the private sector are typically longer than at VA. "The care in the private sector, nine times out of 10, is probably not as good as care in VA," VA Secretary Robert Wilkie told Congress in March.

TRUMP: "On average, 20 veterans and members take their own lives every day. ... We're working very very hard on that. In fact, the first time I heard the number was 23, and now it's down somewhat. But it's such an unacceptable number." — call on June 25 with military veterans.

THE FACTS: Trump incorrectly suggests that he helped reduce veterans' suicide, noting that his administration was working "very, very hard" on the problem and that in fact the figure had come down. But no decline has been registered during his administration. There was a drop during the Obama administration but that might be due to the way veterans' suicides are counted.

The VA estimated in 2013 that 22 veterans were taking their lives each day on average (not 23, as Trump put it). The estimate was based on data submitted from fewer than half the states. In 2016, VA released an estimate of 20 suicides per day, based on 2014 data from all 50 states as well as the Pentagon.

The estimated average has not budged since.

Trump has pledged additional money for suicide prevention and created in March a Cabinet-level task force that will seek to develop a national roadmap for suicide prevention, part of a campaign pledge to improve health care for veterans.

Still, a report by the Government Accountability Office in December found that the VA had left millions of dollars unspent that were available for suicide prevention efforts. The report said the VA had spent just \$57,000 out of \$6.2 million available for paid media, such as social-media postings, due in part to leadership turmoil at the agency.

MILITARY PAY

TRUMP: "You also got very nice pay raises for the last couple of years. Congratulations. Oh, you care about that. They care about that. I didn't think you noticed. Yeah, you were entitled. You know, it was close to 10 years before you had an increase. Ten years. And we said, 'It's time.' And you got a couple of good ones, big ones, nice ones." — remarks June 30 to service members at Osan Air Base, South Korea.

THE FACTS: He's been spreading this falsehood for more than a year, soaking up cheers from crowds for something he didn't do. In May 2018, for example, he declared to graduates of the United States Naval Academy: "We just got you a big pay raise. First time in 10 years."

U.S. military members have received a pay raise every year for decades .

Trump also boasts about the size of the military pay raises under his administration, but there's nothing extraordinary about them.

Several raises in the past decade have been larger than service members are getting under Trump — 2.6% this year, 2.4% last year, 2.1% in 2017.

Raises in 2008, 2009 and 2010, for example, were all 3.4% or more.

Pay increases shrank after that because of congressionally mandated budget caps. Trump and Congress did break a trend that began in 2011 of pay raises that hovered between 1% and 2%.

AUTOS

TRUMP: "We have many, many companies that left our country and they're now coming back. Especially

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the automobile business. We have auto plants being built all over the country. We went decades and no plant was built. No plant was even expanded.” — remarks July 1 in Oval Office.

THE FACTS: There’s no evidence that car companies are flooding back to the U.S. He’s also incorrect in saying that auto plants haven’t been built in decades. A number of automakers — Toyota, BMW, Honda, Hyundai, Mercedes-Benz and Volkswagen among them — opened plants in recent decades, mostly in the South.

Government statistics show that jobs in auto and parts manufacturing grew at a slower rate in the two-plus years since Trump took office than in the two prior years.

Between January of 2017, when Trump was inaugurated, and May of this year, the latest figures available, U.S. auto and parts makers added 44,000 jobs, or a 4.6 percent increase, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. But in the two years before Trump took office, the industry added 63,600 manufacturing jobs, a 7.1 percent increase.

The only automaker announcing plans to reopen a plant in Michigan is Fiat Chrysler, which is restarting an old engine plant to build three-row SUVs. It’s been planning to do so since before Trump was elected. GM is even closing two Detroit-area factories: One builds cars and the other builds transmissions. Toyota is building a new factory in Alabama with Mazda, and Volvo opened a plant in South Carolina last year, but in each case, that was in the works before Trump took office.

Automakers have made announcements about new models being built in Michigan, but no other factories have been reopened. Ford stopped building the Focus compact car in the Detroit suburb of Wayne last year, but it’s being replaced by the manufacture of a small pickup and a new SUV. That announcement was made in December 2016, before Trump took office.

GM, meantime, is closing factories in Ohio and Maryland.

RUSSIA INVESTIGATION

TRUMP: “Robert Mueller is being asked to testify yet again. He said he could only stick to the Report, & that is what he would and must do. After so much testimony & total transparency, this Witch Hunt must now end. No more Do Overs.” — tweet Tuesday.

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

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

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

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

Associated Press writers Robert Burns, Christopher Rugaber and Eric Tucker in Washington and Tom Krisher in Detroit contributed to this report.

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DHS official defends conditions at Border Patrol stations

WASHINGTON (AP) — Acting Homeland Security Secretary Kevin McAleenan on Sunday defended conditions at U.S. Border Patrol stations following reports of crowded and unsanitary conditions that have heightened debate about President Donald Trump’s immigration policy, a trademark issue for his reelection.

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tion campaign.

"It's an extraordinarily challenging situation," McAleenan told ABC's "This Week."

The Homeland Security Department's internal watchdog provided new details Tuesday about the overcrowding in Texas' Rio Grande Valley, the busiest corridor for illegal crossings. The report said children at three facilities had no access to showers and that some children under age 7 had been held in jammed centers for more than two weeks. Some cells were so cramped that adults were forced to stand for days on end.

Government inspectors described an increasingly dangerous situation, both for migrants and agents — a "ticking time bomb," in the words of one facility manager. The report echoed findings in May by the department's inspector general about holding centers in El Paso, Texas: 900 people crammed into a cell with a maximum capacity of 125; detainees standing on toilets to have room to breathe; others wearing soiled clothing for days or weeks.

In tweets Sunday afternoon, Trump went further than McAleenan in defending his administration's response, accusing the news media of "phony and exaggerated accounts" but without providing evidence.

"Border Patrol, and others in Law Enforcement, have been doing a great job. We said there was a Crisis - the Fake News & the Dems said it was 'manufactured,'" Trump wrote. Federal detention centers "are crowded (which we ... brought up, not them) because the Dems won't change the Loopholes and Asylum. Big Media Con Job!"

Democrats faulted Trump for not offering an immigration overhaul that could pass a divided Congress.

"The president is acting like we are some weak, pathetic country," said Colorado Sen. Michael Bennet, a Democratic presidential candidate. "We have the ability to treat human beings humanely. We have the ability to lead our hemisphere in a discussion about how to deal with this refugee crisis," he said on "Fox News Sunday."

McAleenan said that since the first of the year, 200 medical providers have been added to facilities, including personnel from the U.S. Coast Guard and the Public Health Service Commission Corps.

"We have pediatricians in border patrol stations for the first time in history trying to help address conditions where children are coming across 300 a day in ... April and May," McAleenan said.

"We've built soft-sided temporary facilities. These are spaces that are much more appropriate — high ceilings, more room for children and families. We've put them both in Donna, Texas, in South Texas as well as in El Paso to provide additional space. ... We've bought buses to transport people to better places."

McAleenan disputed news reports, including those by The Associated Press, of especially troubling conditions at a border station in Clint, Texas, where a stench was coming from children's clothing and some detainees were suffering from scabies and chickenpox.

"There's adequate food and water," he said. "The facility's cleaned every day, because I know what our standards are and I know they're been followed because we have tremendous levels of oversight. Five levels of oversight.

"Inadequate food, inadequate water and unclean cells. None of those have been substantiated."

He said everyone in the chain of command is worried about the situation of children detained at the border. He said that on June 1, his department had 2,500 children in custody, including 1,200 who had been there for more than three days. As of Saturday, McAleenan said there were 350 children, and only 20 have been in the department's custody for more than three days.

"So that's huge improvement based on the resources we asked for from Congress and were finally given," he said.

Sen. Jeff Merkley, D-Ore., told NBC's "Meet the Press" that he is stunned when administration officials say that reports on the conditions are unsubstantiated.

"I'm just like, 'What world are they living in?'" Merkley said, citing government and news reports. "From every direction you see that the children are being treated in a horrific manner. And there's an underlying philosophy that it's OK to treat refugees in this fashion. And that's really the rot at the core of the administration's policy."

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Separately, McAleenan addressed questions about U.S. Border Patrol agents who are under fire for posting offensive messages in a "secret" Facebook group that included sexually explicit posts about U.S. Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and dismissive references to the deaths of migrants in U.S. custody. The existence of that group was reported Monday by ProPublica. Prior to that, few people outside the group had ever heard of it.

He said an allegation about such activity was investigated in 2016. "Discipline was meted out on an agent that made an offensive post on that website," he said.

Today in History By The Associated Press undefined

Today in History

Today is Monday, July 8, the 189th day of 2019. There are 176 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 8, 1947, a New Mexico newspaper, the Roswell Daily Record, quoted officials at Roswell Army Air Field as saying they had recovered a "flying saucer" that crashed onto a ranch; officials then said it was actually a weather balloon. (To this day, there are those who believe what fell to Earth was an alien spaceship carrying extra-terrestrial beings.)

On this date:

In 1776, Col. John Nixon gave the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence, outside the State House (now Independence Hall) in Philadelphia.

In 1911, cowgirl "Two-Gun Nan" Aspinwall became the first woman to make a solo trip by horse across the United States, arriving in New York 10 months after departing San Francisco.

In 1947, demolition work began in New York City to make way for the new permanent headquarters of the United Nations.

In 1950, President Harry S. Truman named Gen. Douglas MacArthur commander-in-chief of United Nations forces in Korea. (Truman ended up sacking MacArthur for insubordination nine months later.)

In 1965, Canadian Pacific Air Lines Flight 21, a Douglas DC-6B, crashed in British Columbia after the tail separated from the fuselage; all 52 people on board were killed in what authorities said was the result of an apparent bombing.

In 1972, the Nixon administration announced a deal to sell \$750 million in grain to the Soviet Union. (However, the Soviets were also engaged in secretly buying subsidized American grain, resulting in what critics dubbed "The Great Grain Robbery.")

In 1975, President Gerald R. Ford announced he would seek a second term of office.

In 1986, Kurt Waldheim was inaugurated as president of Austria despite controversy over his alleged ties to Nazi war crimes. Admiral Hyman G. Rickover, widely regarded as father of the nuclear navy, died in Arlington, Virginia.

In 1994, Kim Il Sung, North Korea's communist leader since 1948, died at age 82.

In 2000, Venus Williams beat Lindsay Davenport 6-3, 7-6 (3) for her first Grand Slam title, becoming the first black female champion at Wimbledon since Althea Gibson in 1957-58.

In 2011, former first lady Betty Ford died in Rancho Mirage, California, at age 93. Atlantis thundered into orbit on a cargo run that would close out the three-decade U.S. space shuttle program.

In 2017, at the Group of 20 summit in Hamburg, Germany, world powers lined up against President Donald Trump on climate change, reaffirming their support for international efforts to fight global warming. On trade, the U.S. and international partners endorsed open markets while acknowledging that countries had a right to put up barriers to block unfair practices. After their first face-to-face meeting, Russian President Vladimir Putin said he thought Trump believed his denials of Russian meddling in the U.S. presidential vote.

Ten years ago: Group of Eight leaders, including President Barack Obama, pledged to dramatically cut greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 as they met in L'Aquila, Italy. South Korea blamed North Korea for cyberattacks targeting its websites as well as those in the U.S.

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Five years ago: President Barack Obama appealed to Congress for \$3.7 billion in emergency spending to deal with the immigration crisis on the nation's southern border, where unaccompanied children were showing up by the thousands (Republican lawmakers rejected the request). Washington became the second state to allow people to buy marijuana legally in the U.S. without a doctor's note. Germany handed Brazil its heaviest World Cup loss ever with a 7-1 rout in the semifinals that stunned the host nation.

One year ago: A woman who was poisoned in southwest England died, eight days after she may have touched a contaminated item containing the same type of military-grade nerve agent used to poison a former Russian spy and his daughter in the area in March. Divers rescued four of the 12 boys who'd been trapped in a flooded cave in northern Thailand with their soccer coach for more than two weeks. (The remaining eight boys and their coach were rescued over the next two days.) Actor and singer Tab Hunter died at the age of 86.

Today's Birthdays: Singer Steve Lawrence is 84. Actor Jeffrey Tambor is 75. Rock musician Jaimoe Johanson is 75. Ballerina Cynthia Gregory is 73. Actress Kim Darby is 72. Actress Jonelle Allen is 71. Children's performer Raffi is 71. Celebrity chef Wolfgang Puck is 70. Actress Anjelica Huston is 68. Writer Anna Quindlen is 67. Actor Kevin Bacon is 61. Actor Robert Knepper is 60. Rock musician Andy Fletcher (Depeche Mode) is 58. Country singer Toby Keith is 58. Rock musician Graham Jones (Haircut 100) is 58. Rock singer Joan Osborne is 57. Writer-producer Rob Burnett is 57. Actor Rocky Carroll is 56. Actor Corey Parker is 54. Actor Lee Tergesen is 54. Actor Michael B. Silver is 52. Actor Billy Crudup is 51. Actor Michael Weatherly is 51. Singer Beck is 49. Country singer Drew Womack (Sons of the Desert) is 49. Comedian Sebastian Maniscalco is 46. Actress Kathleen Robertson is 46. Christian rock musician Stephen Mason (Jars of Clay) is 44. Actor Milo Ventimiglia (MEE'-loh vehn-tih-MEEL'-yuh) is 42. Rock musician Tavis Werts is 42. Singer Ben Jelen (YEL'-in) is 40. Actor Lance Gross is 38. Actress Sophia Bush is 37. Rock musician Jamie Cook (Arctic Monkeys) is 34. Actor Jake McDorman is 33. Actress Maya Hawke is 21. Actor Jaden Smith is 21.

Thought for Today: "History must stay open, it is all humanity." — William Carlos Williams, American author and poet (1883-1963).

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