

# Groton Daily Independent

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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.

## No Aberdeen Paper This Morning Press Broke Down 2 Papers Tomorrow

## Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Swimming Pool Hours

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

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

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

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

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

### Tuesday, July 16

5:30 p.m.: Junior Legion at Clark, (DH)  
Softball hosts Ipswich (U8 at 6 p.m. (1 game), U10 at 7 p.m. (2 games))

7 p.m.: City Council meeting at Groton Community Center.

### Wednesday, July 17

7:00 p.m.: Legion hosts Sisseton

### Thursday, July 18

5:00 p.m.: Junior Legion hosts Aberdeen, (DH)  
6:00 p.m.: U8 Pee Wees vs. Jacobson at manor Park, (DH) (B)

6:00 p.m.: T-Ball Scrimmage (both)

### July 19-21

State Junior Teener Tournament in Elkton

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## Groton City Council Meeting Agenda

July 16, 2019 – 7:00pm  
Groton Community Center

1. Public Comments - pursuant to SDCL 1-25-1  
(Public Comments will offer the opportunity for anyone not listed on the agenda to speak to the council. Speaking time will be limited to 3 minutes. No action will be taken on questions or items not on the agenda.)
2. Minutes
3. Bills
4. Payment Request No. 1 H.F. Jacobs & Son Construction \$43,715.18
5. Time extension request for 2019 Street Project – H.F. Jacobs & Son Construction June
6. June Finance Report
7. Rescind Resolution 2019-5 Stop signs North and South bound on Washington Street and 5th Avenue
8. Letter of Resignation
9. Web Water rate increase implemented October 2019
10. Adult 2-hour party at the swimming pool July 19, 2019 – Approval to bring beer and wine per 35-1-5.3
11. Executive session personnel & legal 1-25-2 (1) & (3)
12. Hire a temporary police officer
13. Hire a groundskeeper
14. Adjournment



### 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."

(0704.0710)



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

**480-980-8513**  
or  
**605-397-7118**

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## South Dakota Ends 2019 Budget Year with \$19.4 Million Surplus

PIERRE, S.D. – Governor Kristi Noem today announced that South Dakota closed the 2019 budget year on June 30 with a \$19.4 million surplus. The state general fund budget ended with lower expenditures than budgeted, while ongoing revenue finished lower than projected levels.

“In South Dakota, we don’t spend money we don’t have. We live within our means, and we operate in a way that doesn’t require us to raise taxes,” said Noem. “Once again, South Dakota is leading by example by finishing the fiscal year with a balanced budget. We are saving money for the future and ensuring that the next generation’s financial foundation remains strong. I am committed to maintaining the financial responsibility for which South Dakota has become known. We will remain rooted in fiscal integrity.”

Total spending for fiscal year 2019 was \$23.1 million lower than budgeted, which includes \$17.3 million of fiscal year 2019 general fund reversions and \$5.8 million of unspent funds from special appropriations and carryover funding. Of the \$17.3 million of 2019 general fund reversions, \$15.3 million came from executive branch agencies, \$1.0 million came from the Unified Judicial System, \$0.7 million came from the Board of Regents, and \$0.3 million came from the Legislature and constitutional offices. The unspent funds in fiscal year 2019 represent just 1.1 percent of the total fiscal year 2019 general fund budget.

Ongoing general fund revenue for fiscal year 2019 was lower than estimates adopted by the Legislature in February by \$4.4 million, or 0.3 percent. Sales and use tax receipts are the state’s largest revenue source and grew by 3.7 percent over the prior fiscal year, but still finished the fiscal year \$9.9 million below estimates. Other sources of general fund revenue finished the fiscal year above legislative estimates including bank franchise tax, unclaimed property receipts, and lottery.

“It’s still early, but it is prudent to have not budgeted for any additional sales and use tax from online and other remote sellers given the fact that this year’s overall sales tax numbers didn’t hit their projections,” concluded Noem. “We’ll continue to monitor the data coming to see how the Wayfair decision and the subsequent tax changes impact our state’s bottom line.”

By law, the fiscal year 2019 surplus of \$19.4 million was transferred to the budget reserve fund. The state’s budget reserve fund now has a balance of \$145.1 million and the general revenue replacement fund has a balance of \$44.0 million, for a total reserve of \$189.1 million.

### “Color My World”

**Ladies’ Luncheon & Program  
Wednesday, July 17 at noon  
Bethesda Lutheran Church,  
Bristol**

**Silent Auction at 10:30 a.m.  
Door prizes**

**Kristi Anderson, speaker**

**Advance tickets please: \$10**

**Call Kay Espeland 492-3507 or  
Alice Jean Peterson 492-3351**



**Invasive zebra mussels have been found in Lake Sharpe on the Missouri River in South Dakota, shocking state officials and creating potential for waterway damage, problems with power and water plants and more restrictions on boaters.**

## **State officials scramble to respond after zebra mussels found in Lake Sharpe**

**By: Nick Lowrey**

Lake Sharpe has become the second major Missouri River reservoir in South Dakota to be infested with invasive zebra mussels, raising fears that millions of dollars in mitigation may be needed and that new restrictions could be placed on those who use the lake for boating, fishing and recreation.

The infestation was announced in a news release from the state Game, Fish & Parks Department on July 12. The mussel discovery shocked state GFP officials and came in spite of more than four years of work and \$400,000 in spending aimed at preventing boaters from inadvertently spreading zebra mussels and a host of other harmful, non-native species from spreading further into South Dakota.

On July 13, GFP Chief of Aquatic Resources John Lott told South Dakota News Watch that senior GFP staff plan to meet soon to begin reevaluating how the state handles aquatic invasive species management.

South Dakota faces staggering mitigation and repair bills as a result of zebra mussel infestations. Little can be done to reverse the infestation in Lake Sharpe, which is located on the Missouri River between Pierre and Fort Thompson. There is no known way to completely remove zebra mussels from a lake without either draining it or using poison to eradicate the mussels, which is not an option for a river-based waterway.

"We'll be recommending regulation changes at the [GFP] commission meeting in September," Lott said,

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though he did not provide any specific potential rule changes.

For now, the rules have not changed for boaters using Lake Sharpe, Lott said. Still, he wanted to remind the public that the only way for mussels to move from lake to lake is if people accidentally carry them in or on their boats.

Zebra mussels, native to Eastern Europe, have been the bane of waterway managers and users across the country.

South Dakota already faces steep mitigation and repair bills on public waterways and related infrastructure as a result of ongoing zebra mussel infestations, including at Lewis and Clark Lake on the Missouri River near Yankton.

The mussels can clog or damage water treatment and power-generation systems on lakes and rivers. When the mussels have been in a water body long enough, the sharp shells of dead mussels start to accumulate on beaches, fouling recreation access points and potentially cutting the feet of users. When water levels are drawn down, massive mussel die-offs release strong odors. The mussels can darken lake waters and make fishing more difficult. So far, zebra mussel infestations haven't been found to destroy fisheries, but the potential does exist, Lott said.



**A pair of South Dakota conservation officers inspect Pierre resident Jeff Carr's boat July 14 as part of a temporary law enforcement check station near Oahe Dam a few miles north of Pierre. Carr had been fishing on Lake Oahe and officers checked to make sure the boat's drain plug was out, which is required under the state's aquatic invasive species rules. Regional Conservation Officer Supervisor Steve Rossow said enforcement of the rules has taken on new urgency as Lake Sharpe, immediately downstream from Lake Oahe, was confirmed to be infested with invasive zebra mussels on July 12.** Photo: Nick

Lowrey, South Dakota News Watch.

## Mussel mitigation a costly process

A January 2019 report by the University of Montana gave a glimpse of what an expanded zebra mussel infestation could cost South Dakota.

A study done at the university's Flathead Lake Biological Station estimated the potential yearly cost of zebra mussel infestation solely to irrigation systems along Montana's portion of the Missouri River at \$25 million to \$53 million. The potential cost of mussel removal and mitigation at water treatment plants was estimated at up to \$5.8 million, the study found. A similar report does not exist for South Dakota but many farmers, ranchers, cities and rural water systems draw water from the state's portion of the Missouri River. Costs to the state and potentially to private landowners increase if mussels spread to new lakes and rivers.

Zebra mussels cause damage by attaching themselves to nearly any hard surface in the water. Juvenile zebra mussels, which are known as veligers, are nearly microscopic and float free in the water for about a month. During that month they can be sucked into boat ballast tanks, live wells and motors, which is how they move from lake to lake. Not only does that allow zebra mussels to spread easily, it also means they can get into some pretty surprising places. Zebra mussels also tend to form colonies which can clog intake and outflow pipes at water treatment facilities.

Lewis and Clark Lake, the first Missouri River reservoir in South Dakota where a zebra mussel infestation

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was found, has suffered extensive damage and hefty repair bills. At Gavins Point Dam, which forms the reservoir, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers had to reduce the amount of electricity the hydroelectric dam produces in order to clean mussels out of generator cooling tank water intakes every two weeks, officials said. Prior to the zebra mussel invasion, the intakes were cleaned about every six months.

"They'll attach to piping. If it's really small piping they'll completely block it up, stop the flow through it. They reduce the amount of flow through the system, they can completely block the heat exchangers or reduce the flows, which of course starts to make our unit temperatures creep up, forcing us to shut a generator down to clean it out," Gavins Point Dam senior mechanic Michael Schnetzer said in a June news release announcing a new anti-mussel water filtration system.

The filtration system the corps announced in June cost about \$1.45 million and works by bombarding free-floating juvenile zebra mussels with a powerful UV light, which kills them.



**Zebra mussels are generally small and can be identified by the distinctive stripes on their shells. If not contained, zebra mussels reproduce quickly and can damage waterways and boats and clog water treatment facilities and power plants.** Photo: Courtesy U.S. Geological Survey

The first discovery of zebra mussels in the U.S. was made in 1988 in the Great Lakes. Within a few years, nearly every submerged surface in the Great Lakes was covered in the mussels. Since being discovered in the U.S., zebra mussels have spread outward through the country by way of river currents and in boat ballast tanks, live wells and motors.

The first confirmed discovery of zebra mussels in South Dakota occurred in 2015 at Lewis and Clark Lake on the Missouri River near Yankton. They have since been found in Lake Yankton, which is just outside of Yankton, in McCook Lake in Union County near North Sioux City and in the Missouri River below Gavin's Point Dam. Lake Sharpe is the newest addition to the list of infested South Dakota waters.

GFP Commission Chairman Gary Jensen said he is concerned about the potential for damage and repair costs to Lake Sharpe and is working to schedule an emergency commission meeting to form a response.

His goal for the meeting was to get a more detailed report on the Lake Sharpe situation and determine what, if any, mitigation steps can be taken.

"We've been trying to prevent this from happening since I started on the commission," said Jensen, a commissioner for about a decade.

The first adult zebra mussels found in Lake Sharpe were discovered recently by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers staff members doing maintenance on Big Bend Dam, which forms the lake at Fort Thompson. It is impossible to know exactly how the mussels got there, but the most likely scenario is that juvenile zebra mussels were carried into the lake by a boater.

So far, adult mussels have only been found on structures close to the dam. GFP staff will be working to determine the full extent of the infestation in the coming days, Lott said. They will also monitor Lake Francis Case, which is immediately downstream of Lake Sharpe, for signs of zebra mussel infestation. Lake

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Oahe, which is immediately upstream of Lake Sharpe, also will see more monitoring for mussels, Lott said.

Little can be done to immediately reverse the infestation in Lake Sharpe since there is no known way to completely remove zebra mussels from a lake without either draining it or using poison to eradicate the mussels, which is not an option for a river-based waterway.

However, the GFP commission can strengthen state anti-aquatic invasive species rules and step up enforcement among boaters and recreational users to prevent or slow the further spread of zebra mussels. The commission also could declare Lake Sharpe an invasive species containment water, a designation that carries a set of additional significant restrictions on boat movement and cleanliness.

"There are still a lot of water bodies out there to be protected," Jensen said.

**Lake Sharpe, shown here from the beach at Griffin Park in Pierre, is one of South Dakota's most popular fishing and recreation destinations. The popularity and prominence of the Missouri River reservoir is one reason the Game, Fish & Parks Department is worried about the recent discovery of invasive zebra mussels in the lake.**

Photo: Nick Lowrey, South Dakota News

Watch



## New boating rules and enforcement likely

The state's current invasive species rules first were written in 2015 following the discovery of zebra mussels in Lewis and Clark Lake. The rules were updated again in 2017. Boat owners are required to pull their boats' drain plugs before leaving a boat ramp parking lot. Boaters and anglers also are not allowed to transport lake water past a boat ramp parking lot. Any boat launched into a lake or river designated by the GFP Commission as an invasive species containment water and that can't be completely dried out by pulling a drain plug must be decontaminated by cleaning the boat's hull with 140-degree water and flushing its internal compartments with 120-degree water.

Right now, there are four invasive species containment waters in South Dakota, making up the only waterways other than Lake Sharpe where zebra mussels have been found in the state. The containment waters are Lewis and Clark Lake, the Missouri River below Gavins Point Dam, Lake Yankton and McCook Lake near North Sioux City.

Any boat that has been used on an out of state lake or river known to have invasive mussels also must be decontaminated before it can be launched

**The Groton Area School District is hiring for the 2019-2020 School Year.**

**MS/HS Administrative Assistant/Study Hall Supervisor**

**Yearbook Advisor**

**Assistant Boys Basketball Coach**

Applications are available at [www.grotonrea.com](http://www.grotonrea.com) under the employment tab. Contact Joe Schwan, Superintendent with questions at 605-397-2351.

Applications should be sent to  
Groton Area School District  
Joe Schwan, Superintendent  
PO Box 410  
Groton, SD 57445

**The Groton Area School District is an Equal Opportunity Employer.**

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in South Dakota. GFP staff can inspect boats for compliance with the rules but, so far, most enforcement efforts have been focused around Lewis and Clark Lake.

Jensen wouldn't say whether he thought the state's current approach toward invasive species control had been aggressive enough.

He also couldn't offer any details on changes that might be in the works but he did say that he wanted to move as quickly as possible. Any rule changes the commission chooses to make would be subject to a 30-day public comment period and a public hearing.



**Rick Jorgensen of Fort Pierre said he keeps his pontoon on the water all summer at a dock on Lake Sharpe near his home. He said he's tried to follow the zebra mussel issue and doesn't think the discovery of the destructive mussels will affect him too much but he was disappointed to learn of the recent discovery.**

Photo: Nick Lowrey, South Dakota News Watch

**"Now that they're here,  
we've got a real problem."**

-- Fort Pierre boater Rick Jorgensen

Rick Jorgensen, a boater from Fort Pierre who spent a recent afternoon cruising up and down Lake Sharpe with friends, wasn't happy to hear about the zebra mussel infestation.

"Now that they're here we've got a real problem," Jorgensen said.

He said he was frustrated at the inability of state officials to keep a closer eye on all the boats coming into South Dakota from Minnesota and Iowa where there are dozens of lakes infested with zebra mussels.

"I don't think GFP has enough people to do anything about it," Jorgensen said.

At least part of the urgency from GFP officials has to do with the popularity of Lake Sharpe and its downstream neighbor, Lake Francis Case. Lake Francis Case likely will be infested with zebra mussels soon, if it isn't already, because juvenile zebra mussels will be sucked through Big Bend Dam. Lake Francis Case is crossed by Interstate 90, making it an easy destination for anglers and boaters from Rapid City or Sioux Falls to make weekend visits.

"When you look at a state like ours and how mobile our boaters and anglers are, it can be really hard to control the spread of aquatic invasive species," Lott said.

A big part of GFP's job over the next few months will be to convince boaters, anglers, cities and irrigators to start working together on efforts to prevent zebra mussels from spreading any further. The only way the invasive mussels can move past a dam or to another lake is if someone inadvertently carries them, Lott said.

"We need to get people to think about how aquatic invasive species impact them directly," Lott said.

Paul Lepisto, an angler and boat owner from Pierre, said the discovery of zebra mussels was a "gut punch."



Lepisto, who is the regional conservation director for the Izaak Walton League, has been working on the invasive species issue for 11 years. He said he thought GFP's approach to the issue had been sensible.

"I thought the message would have sunk in; we can't recreate the way we used to," Lepisto said.



**The South Dakota Game Fish & Parks Department has placed signs at public boat ramps across the state as a visible reminder of the rules against moving lake water and making sure all drain plugs on boats are open when leaving a lake. Restrictions on boating in the Missouri River could be tightened now that invasive zebra mussels have been discovered In Lake Sharpe.** Photo: Nick Lowrey, South

Dakota News Watch

## Rapid reproduction and vast movement

Zebra mussels are actually native to the Caspian Sea region of eastern Europe.

The mussels spread through Europe's growing canal system during the 1800s and 1900s. Eventually they made their way to busy, freshwater ports that often saw ocean-going ships. Those ships picked up juvenile zebra mussels, which are known as veligers, as they pumped water into their ballast tanks before making their way across the Atlantic Ocean.

A few of those ships went through the St. Lawrence Seaway system, which connects the Atlantic Ocean to the Great Lakes. At some point along their journey through the Great Lakes, transatlantic ships carrying zebra mussels dumped their ballast tanks and almost immediately, the Great Lakes became infested.

Zebra mussels are small, filter feeding mussels that latch onto hard surfaces in infested lakes.

They grow fast and reproduce by broadcasting reproductive cells into the water. A single female can release up to 40,000 eggs during a spawning cycle and up to 1 million eggs during a summer spawning season.

Juvenile zebra mussels are nearly microscopic and float free in the water for about a month. They can be sucked into boat ballast tanks, live wells and motors. After about three weeks in the water, the veligers find something to latch onto, grow a shell and enter their adult stage of life. Zebra mussel colonies have been found on everything from golf balls to live turtles. Once attached to something, it takes a female about two years to start reproducing.

Zebra mussels feed by filtering water and collecting algae in their siphons. Algae are the base of most aquatic food webs, so there's some worry

that zebra mussels, which have few natural predators in North America, can cause irreparable harm to fisheries. While scientists worry zebra mussels can compete with native species that rely on algae, and thus alter food webs, it hasn't happened yet.

The mussels can and do alter water clarity which can encourage the growth of aquatic plants and make fishing more difficult.

By far, the biggest danger zebra mussels pose is to infrastructure. National estimates peg the annual cost of mitigation, repairs and education about invasive mussels at about \$1 billion.

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## Weekly Vikings Roundup

By Jordan Wright

Who is the best player in Minnesota Vikings' history? While it's nearly impossible to say who the "best" player in team history is, over the next few weeks we'll take a look at some positions and try to figure out who the best quarterbacks, wide receivers and defensive linemen are.

We have already gone through the quarterbacks, so if you missed that make sure to check out last week's newspaper. This week, we move to the wide receiver position. The Vikings have had some great wide receivers over the years. It was tough to narrow it down to just three, but that's why I'm here – to make the tough decisions that need to be made. So let's get into it!

### #3 – Anthony Carter

The top two receivers in Vikings' history are pretty easy to figure out, but the number three spot is really tricky. There have been plenty of receivers who could fit here, from Ahmad Rashad, Jake Reed or Sammy White, to one of the young guys currently on the roster. But for my money, Anthony Carter is ahead of them all.

Anthony Carter took a strange route to the NFL. After leaving Michigan with nearly every receiving record bearing his name, Carter went to the USFL where he played three seasons and was the most dominant receiver in the league. Looking for better competition, he left the USFL for the NFL in 1985. He played for the Vikings for nine seasons, racking up 7,636 yards (still third best in team history) and 52 touchdowns. He was a playmaker, and because of that, he is number three on this list.

### #2 – Cris Carter

The former Ohio State Buckeye had a tumultuous start to his career. After losing eligibility and not being able to play his senior year in college, Carter made his way to the NFL. He was drafted in the fourth round of the 1987 supplemental draft by the Philadelphia Eagles. He would play just three seasons there, before being cut by the team because of his off the field issues. The Minnesota Vikings claimed him off waivers (for \$100!), thinking the team could help him through his issues and allow him to blossom into a great receiver. It was a gamble, but it paid off big time.

There is a case to be made for Carter to be number one on this list. He leads the franchise in receiving yards (12,383) touchdowns (110) and games played (188). Carter was named to eight straight Pro Bowls from 1993-2000 and was a first-team All-Pro in 1994 and again in 1999. Cris Carter is the only Vikings' pass catcher to have his number retired by the team, but I would imagine that will be changing soon because of who is number one on this list.

### #1 – Randy Moss

There will be plenty of debate about who should be number one on this list, but for me this one is easy. Randy Moss is perhaps the best receiver to ever play in the NFL. Watching his highlight reel will leave your jaw on the ground. He was so physically gifted, it was almost like someone created him in a video game. My personal favorite game of his was on Thanksgiving his rookie year. Going against the Dallas Cowboys, Moss only caught three passes the entire game. Unfortunately for Dallas, those three catches went for 163 yards and three touchdowns.

Randy Moss only played seven full seasons with the Minnesota Vikings before his antics forced the team to trade him away to the Oakland Raiders. During those seven seasons, Moss made the Pro Bowl four times and was a First-Team All-Pro three times. He is still second on the team in catches (587), yards (9,316) and touchdowns (92). He is also in the Vikings' Ring of Honor and was a first-ballot hall of famer. Cris Carter may hold all the Vikings' receiving records, but Moss changed the way the game is played. That's why he is number one on this list. Skol!

Do you agree with my rankings? Reach out to me on Twitter and let me know! (@JordanWrightNFL)

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## National Gas Price Average Jumps Eight Cents in Two Weeks

July 15, 2019 - The national gas price average is \$2.79, which is an eight-cent increase since the beginning of July. Gas prices have increased amid more expensive crude oil prices, robust demand and decreasing gasoline stocks.

Since last Monday, 18 states have seen their gas price averages increase by at least a nickel. Hurricane Barry, which made landfall in Louisiana this past weekend, seems to have had little impact on the national average.

### South Dakota Gas Prices

Today \$2.727

Yesterday \$2.730

Last week \$2.685

Last month \$2.720

Last year \$2.883

"Gas prices continue to increase for the majority of motorists east of the Mississippi, while those filling up in the West Coast and Rockies regions are seeing a bit of a reprieve at the pump," said Marilyn Buskohl, AAA spokesperson. "While the national average is up, only seven states have gas price averages of \$3/gallon or more. And notably, compared to the same time last year, the average is still eight cents cheaper."

Today's average is four cents more than last week and a dime more expensive compared to a month ago.

### Quick Stats

The nation's top 10 least expensive markets are: Mississippi (\$2.40), Alabama (\$2.42), Louisiana (\$2.43), Arkansas (\$2.43), South Carolina (\$2.48), Oklahoma (\$2.50), Texas (\$2.50), Virginia (\$2.51), Kansas (\$2.52) and Tennessee (\$2.53).

The nation's top 10 largest weekly increases are: Indiana (+15 cents), Illinois (+14 cents), Missouri (+10 cents), Ohio (+10 cents), Oklahoma (+9 cents), Michigan (+8 cents), Kentucky (+8 cents), Nebraska (+7 cents), South Carolina (+7 cents) and Georgia (+7 cents).

### Central States and Great Lakes Region

Seven of the top 10 states with the largest weekly increase in the country hail from the Great Lakes and Central states region: Indiana (+15 cents), Illinois (+14 cents), Missouri (+10 cents), Ohio (+10 cents), Michigan (+8 cents), Kentucky (+8 cents) and Nebraska (+7 cents). Among all states in the region, Kansas (+3 cents) saw the smallest jump in gas prices.

As regional refinery utilization holds strong at 97%, gasoline stocks stay intact at 49 million bbl, according to Energy Information Administration (EIA) data. This has helped to keep gas price increases moderate (less than a nickel) for most of the region, which is accustomed to volatility throughout the year.

### Oil market dynamics

At the close of Friday's formal trading session on the NYMEX, WTI increased by one cent to settle at \$60.21. Crude prices increased last week as the market continues to worry about tensions in the Middle East, which could restrict global oil supply. If those concerns continue into this week, crude prices will likely continue to increase. Additionally, Hurricane Barry, temporarily halted 60 percent of all crude production in the Gulf of Mexico last week. As the storm subsides and floodwaters diminish, crude production will resume. As a result, crude stocks may tighten in the region and could cause prices to increase modestly.

Motorists can find current gas prices along their route with the free AAA Mobile app for iPhone, iPad and Android. The app can also be used to map a route, find discounts, book a hotel and access AAA roadside assistance. Learn more at [AAA.com/mobile](http://AAA.com/mobile).

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## **REVISED**

**AGENDA  
REGULAR MEETING  
BROWN COUNTY COMMISSION  
COMMISSIONER'S CHAMBERS, COURTHOUSE ANNEX  
25 MARKET STREET, ABERDEEN SD**

**TUESDAY  
JULY 16, 2019**

8:45a.m. - 8:50a.m. – First Reading of Ord. #138 – Patten Rezone  
8:50a.m. – 8:55a.m. – Open & Review Hay Cutting Bids for Fairgrounds  
8:55a.m. – 9:00a.m. – Ord. #139 – Public Hearing for possible adoption of Emergency Temporary Zoning Ordinance, Map & Subdivision Regulations  
9:00a.m. – 9:05a.m. – Patricia Kendall, Museum Director – Discuss 2020 Budget  
9:05a.m. – 9:15a.m. – Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent – Set Bid Date for Co. Rd. 13 CIR Project; R-O-W for Northern Valley; Dept. Update  
9:15a.m. – 9:20a.m. – Chris White, State's Attorney – Discuss Personnel  
9:20a.m. – 9:30a.m. – Paul Sivertsen, IT CFO – Discuss Equipment Purchases and Department Update  
9:30a.m. – 9:40a.m. – Scott Madsen, GIS Coordinator – Spillman and Nextgen 911 GIS Update  
9:40a.m. – 9:50a.m. - Judy Dosch, Building Superintendent – Discuss 24/7 Building

- Approve General Meeting Minutes from July 9, 2019
- Claims
- HR Report
- Fair Contracts
- Imprest Fund Increase
- Petty Cash
- Authorize Advertising requests for proposals for Brown County Race Track
- Auditor's Report of Accounts for June 2019
- 911 Call Center NextGen Quote
- Special Malt Beverage Licenses
- Sheriff's Report for June 2019

Any other matters to come before the Commission for discussion

**Budget Work Session following the meeting**

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Today

Tonight

Wednesday

Wednesday  
Night

Thursday



Slight Chance  
T-storms



Chance  
T-storms



Chance  
T-storms



Slight Chance  
T-storms



Sunny

High: 85 °F

Low: 67 °F

High: 84 °F

Low: 65 °F

High: 89 °F

## Severe Weather Threat This PM

### WHAT

Main Threat Will Be Severe Storms  
With Large Hail And Gusty Winds

### WHERE

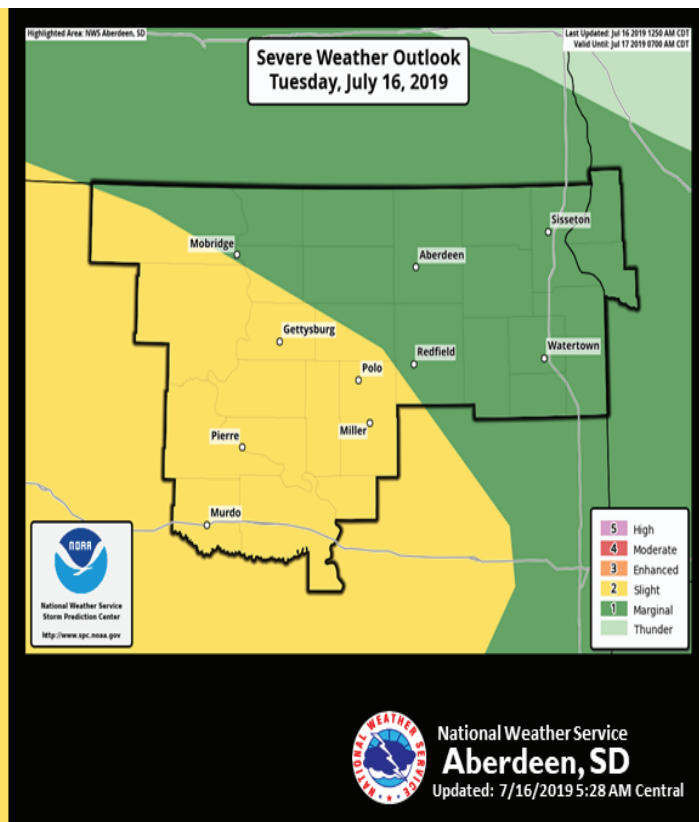
Across Central South Dakota. Storms  
Weakening As They Move Farther East.

### WHEN

Early Evening Through About Midnight.

### ACTION

Monitor the weather and have a plan if  
severe weather strikes your area.



Published on: 07/16/2019 at 1:35AM

Cooler, but still humid conditions in store today after early AM convection dissipates. Showers and thunderstorms will develop across western SD this afternoon and move east through the evening and overnight. Severe storms will be possible with large hail and gusty winds the main threats.

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## Today in Weather History

July 16, 1993: Thunderstorms, dumping two to seven inches of rain caused flooding problems in north-eastern South Dakota. Several dams and many roads were washed out. Most of the damage was in Marshall County. Six families were evacuated about six miles southeast of Britton as two private earthen dams broke. Winds, as high as 70 mph were also reported in a couple of locations in Marshall County. The torrential rains resulted in flooded farmland, roads, and basements in northeast South Dakota through July 21st. In Groton and Claremont at least 90 percent of the homes had water in the basements. Some storm total rainfall amounts include 3.20 inches in Leola; 3.14 in Ipswich; 3.13 in Britton; and 2.77 in Eureka.

July 16, 2001: Very heavy rains of 3 to 7 inches fell across north central Corson County causing flash flooding. Oak Creek along with several other streams washed out several roads and damaged some fences from Watauga to McIntosh to McLaughlin and north. Travel stopped for a while on the Highway north of McLaughlin.

1979: The most damaging tornado in Wyoming history touched down 3 miles west-northwest of the Cheyenne airport. This strong tornado moved east or east-southeast across the northern part of Cheyenne, causing \$22 million in damage and one fatality. 140 houses and 17 trailers were destroyed. 325 other homes were damaged. Four C-130 aircraft and National Guard equipment sustained \$12 million damage. Municipal hangars and buildings suffered \$10 million in losses.

2009: A hailstone, 3.3 inches in diameter, 6.8 inches circumference, and weighing 2.1 ounces fell in Westford, Vermont. This hailstone is the largest ever found in Vermont.

1920 - A severe hailstorm over parts of Antelope and Boone counties in Nebraska stripped trees of bark and foliage, ruined roofs, and broke nearly every window facing north. (The Weather Channel)

1946 - The temperature at Medford, OR, soared to an all-time high of 115 degrees to begin a two week heat wave. During that Oregon heat wave the mercury hit 100 degrees at Sexton Summit for the only time in forty years of records. (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1975 - An early afternoon thunderstorm raked the east side of Tucson, AZ, with gale force winds, heavy rain, and numerous lightning strikes. A thirteen year old boy was swept through a forty foot long culvert by raging waters before being rescued. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Showers and thundestorms in the southwestern U.S. ended a record string of thirty-nine consecutive days of 100 degree heat at Tucson, AZ. A thunderstorm at Bullhead City, AZ, produced wind gusts to 70 mph reducing the visibility to near zero in blowing dust. Southerly winds gusting to 40 mph pushed temperature readings above 100 degrees in the Northern Plains. Rapid City, SD, reported a record high of 106 degrees, following a record low of 39 degrees just three days earlier. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Thirty-seven cities in the eastern U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date. Highs of 96 degrees at Bluefield, WV, and 104 degrees at Charleston WV were all-time records, and afternoon highs of 98 degrees at Binghamton, NY, 99 degrees at Elkins, WV, and 103 degrees at Pittsburgh PA, tied all-time records. Highs of 104 degrees at Baltimore, MD, and 105 degrees at Parkersburg WV were records for July, and Beckley, WV, equalled their record for July with a high of 94 degrees. Martinsburg, WV, was the hot spot in the nation with a reading of 107 degrees. Afternoon and evening thunderstorms raked the northeastern U.S. with large hail and damaging winds. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Showers and thunderstorms developing along a stationary front drenched the Middle Atlantic Coast States with heavy rain, causing flooding in some areas. More than five inches of rain was reported near Madison and Ferncliff, VA. Hot weather prevailed in Texas. San Angelo reported a record high of 106 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)

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## Yesterday's Groton Weather Today's Info

**High Temp: 92 °F at 4:12 PM**

**Low Temp: 72 °F at 6:01 AM**

**Wind: 18 mph at 12:39 PM**

**Day Rain: 0.00**

**Record High: 112° in 1936**

**Record Low: 42° in 1976**

**Average High: 84°F**

**Average Low: 59°F**

**Average Precip in July.: 1.59**

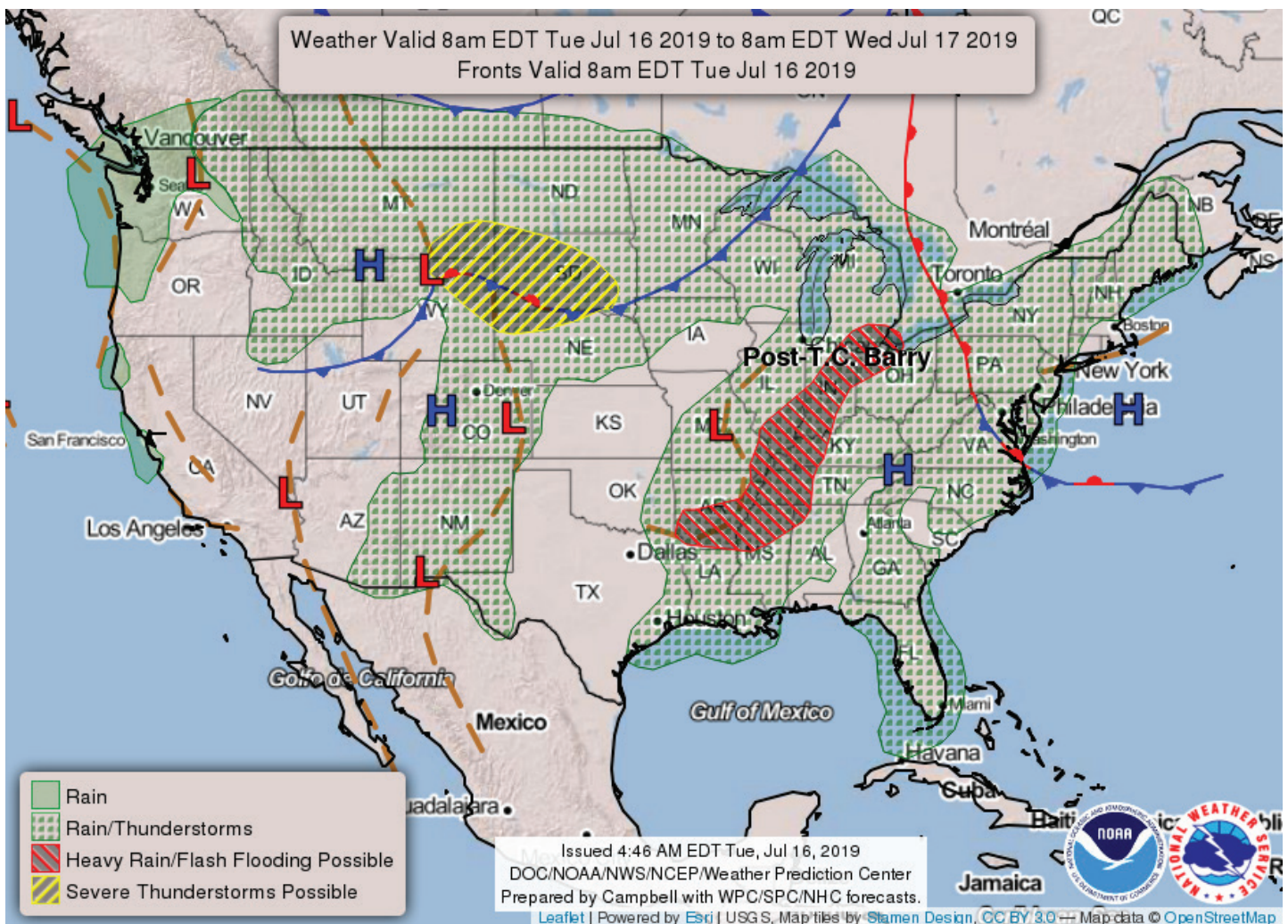
**Precip to date in July.: 1.49**

**Average Precip to date: 12.43**

**Precip Year to Date: 14.21**

**Sunset Tonight: 9:19 p.m.**

**Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:01 a.m.**



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## NO ONE CAN HIDE

Ladies Bible Study was a weekly event when I was a child. My mother always wanted me to be present but with certain limitations. Larry, she would remind me from time to time, children are to be seen and not heard. My role, unless called upon to say something, was to sit silently in a chair, smile occasionally, and not wiggle. Impossible for a small child.

But the be seen always put pressure on me. I had to wear a shirt and tie, make sure my shoes were shined and my pants had a sharp crease in them. And, I still follow those rules to this day whenever I attend a meeting or appear in public. So, things worked then and still do!

Even small children are known by their actions, wrote Solomon, so is their conduct really pure and upright? The word actions implies patterns of behavior that become second nature and last a lifetime. Its called second nature for a reason: behaviors become routine and are done without much thinking. And this captures the idea of this verse: What is in our behavior is a reflection of our character. Or, whats on the inside will be seen on the outside.

The words Even small children? may lead us to the wrong conclusion if we do not look carefully at what Solomon is saying. Even means in addition to adults. We see patterns in children that reveal what is at the center of their hearts. Without being aware or even thinking about it, our behaviors are very consistent, from childhood through adulthood. They do not vary, and we do what we do because it gets us what we want!

When we stand back and look at our lives and ask: Is my life what I want it to be? Am I pleasing God and honoring Him? If the answer is No, - its time to turn to the Lord and ask for His mercy, grace, and forgiveness. We must never give up on ourselves or others!

Prayer: Lord, help us to focus on how we think and then act. May we be careful in everything we say and do. May we reflect You, Your love, and grace and in all things. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Proverbs 20:11 Even small children are known by their actions, wrote Solomon, so is their conduct really pure and upright?



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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

### **Former executive sentenced to 9 years in fish fraud scheme**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A former executive accused of defrauding investors in a scheme to build an \$11 million fish farm in South Dakota has been sentenced to nine years in federal prison.

U.S. District Judge Karen Schreier on Monday also ordered Tobias Ritesman to pay \$680,000 in restitution. The 42-year-old Ritesman, who had nicknamed himself "The Tiger," earlier pleaded guilty to 18 felonies in connection with the Global Aquaponics project near Brookings.

Ritesman's co-defendant, Timothy Burns, will be sentenced next week.

Investors put up money for what was supposedly going to be a high-tech indoor fish farm. But The Argus Leader reports that instead of using money for the project, Ritesman and Burns spent it on themselves. A federal jury in April found Burns guilty of five counts of wire fraud.

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

### **Zebra mussels confirmed in Lake Sharpe on Missouri River**

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota officials say zebra mussels continue to spread upstream in the Missouri River system.

The South Dakota Department of Game, Fish & Parks confirmed the presence of zebra mussels in Lake Sharpe, a reservoir in central South Dakota.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers noted the invasive pest while doing maintenance at the Big Bend Dam near Fort Thompson. Sampling confirmed the presence of zebra mussels across the southern portions of Lake Sharpe.

Fisheries chief John Lott says the mussels so far have only been documented in the southern part of the lake. KRRC reports additional surveys are planned to see how far the infestation has spread.

Reproducing populations of zebra mussels were discovered in Lewis and Clark Lake and the Missouri River below Gavins Point Dam in 2015.

Information from: KCCR-AM, <http://www.todaykccr.com/>

### **Missouri man gets jail, fines in fatal South Dakota crash**

ABDERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — A Missouri man who admitted he caused a car crash that killed a South Dakota woman will serve 120 days in county jail.

James C. Weatherman pickup truck crashed head-on with Danielle M. McCollam's car in July 2016 on Highway 83 just south of Mound City.

The collision killed the 26-year-old McCollam of Mobridge.

Aberdeen American News reports that Weatherman's trial was set for February, but he pleaded guilty to felony manslaughter and received a 10-year suspended prison sentence.

Under the plea deal, he'll serve 120 days in county jail and five years of probation, his driver's license is revoked for three years, and he must pay \$2,654 in fines and fees. He'll also write an apology letter, complete a safe-driving program and speak at schools three times a year.

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

## No one hurt in Rapid Valley fire, pets killed

RAPID VALLEY, S.D. (AP) — Pennington County sheriff's officials say no humans were injured in a house fire in Rapid Valley, but two dogs, a cat and a snake perished.

Authorities say someone delivering pizza in the area, noticed the smoke and called 911. Officials say occupants of the house were not home when the fire started Sunday night.

KELO-TV reports that once fire crews arrived, they were able to contain it to one room.

Information from: KELO-TV, <http://www.keloland.com>

## Facebook's new currency plan is under scrutiny in Congress

By MARCY GORDON AP Business Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Facebook's ambitious plan to create a financial eco-system based on a digital currency faces questions from lawmakers, as it's shadowed by negative comments from President Donald Trump, his treasury secretary and the head of the Federal Reserve.

Congress begins two days of hearings Tuesday on the currency planned by Facebook, to be called Libra, starting with the Senate Banking Committee. Meanwhile, a House Judiciary subcommittee will extend its bipartisan investigation of the market power of Facebook, Google, Amazon and Apple.

Trump tweeted last week that the new currency, Libra, "will have little standing or dependability." Both Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and Fed Chair Jerome Powell have expressed serious concerns recently that Libra could be used for illicit activity.

The Treasury Department has "very serious concerns that Libra could be misused by money launderers and terrorist financiers," Mnuchin told reporters at the White House on Monday. "This is indeed a national security issue."

Facebook has "a lot of work to do before we get to the point where we're comfortable with it," Mnuchin said.

Already under intense scrutiny from regulators and Congress over privacy and market dominance, Facebook stirred anger on Capitol Hill last month with the unveiling of its plan to create a financial ecosystem based on a digital currency. Senate and House hearings went on the calendar, and the Democratic head of the House Financial Services Committee, which is holding Wednesday's hearing, called on Facebook to suspend the plan until Congress and regulators could review it.

Rep. Maxine Waters, D-Calif., said that Facebook, with some 2 billion users around the world, "is continuing its unchecked expansion and extending its reach into the lives of its users." She called Libra "a



**FILE - This March 28, 2018, file photo shows a Facebook logo at the company's headquarters in Menlo Park, Calif. Facebook's ambitious plan to create a new financial system based on a digital currency faces questions from lawmakers, as it's shadowed by negative comments from President Donald Trump, his Treasury secretary and the head of the Federal Reserve.** (AP Photo/Marcio Jose Sanchez, File)

new Swiss-based financial system" that potentially is too big to fail and could require a taxpayer bailout.

David Marcus, the Facebook executive leading the project, says in his testimony prepared for Tuesday's hearing by the Senate Banking Committee that Libra "is about developing a safe, secure and low-cost way for people to move money efficiently around the world. We believe that Libra can make real progress toward building a more inclusive financial infrastructure."

Facebook agrees with Powell's view that the government's review of Libra must be "patient and thorough, rather than a sprint to implementation," Marcus' statement says. "The time between now and launch is designed to be an open process and subject to regulatory oversight and review. In fact, I expect that this will be the broadest, most extensive and most careful pre-launch oversight by regulators and central banks in FinTech's history. We know we need to take the time to get this right."

The planned digital currency is billed as a "stablecoin" backed by deposits in sovereign currencies such as the dollar, euro and Japanese yen — unlike bitcoin, ether or other digital currencies. Promising low fees, it could open online commerce to millions of people around the world who lack access to bank accounts and make it cheaper to send money across borders. But it also raises concerns over the privacy of users' data and the potential for criminals to use it for money laundering and fraud.

To address privacy concerns, Facebook created a nonprofit oversight association, with dozens of partners including PayPal, Uber, Spotify, Visa and MasterCard, to govern Libra. As one among many in the association, Facebook says it won't have any special rights or privileges. It also created a "digital wallet" subsidiary, Calibra, to work on the technology, separately from its main social media business. While Facebook owns and controls Calibra, it won't see financial data from it, the company says.

Mnuchin's comments came a few days after Trump tweeted: "I am not a fan of Bitcoin and other Cryptocurrencies, which are not money, and whose value is highly volatile and based on thin air. Unregulated Crypto Assets can facilitate unlawful behavior, including drug trade and other illegal activity."

If they want to get into the financial business, Facebook and its dozens of partner companies in the venture will have to accept the kind of tight regulation that banks are under, Trump said.

Powell, a powerful financial regulator who is independent of the Trump administration, told Congress last week that Facebook's plan "raises a lot of serious concerns, and those would include around privacy, money laundering, consumer protection, financial stability. Those are going to need to be thoroughly and publicly assessed and evaluated before this proceeds."

Facebook's challenges in Washington go beyond Libra. Later Tuesday, at a Judiciary subcommittee hearing, Facebook will be among four big tech companies — along with Google, Amazon and Apple — testifying about their impact on the innovation and entrepreneurship of smaller companies. It's the latest chapter in lawmakers' examination of the industry.

"What happens in tech is that one big company grows to control a lot of stuff, and if it's allowed to stay there for too long, it slows down the sector," Timothy Wu, a professor of law, science and technology at Columbia Law School, has said. "Companies like Google and Facebook have come to hold too much power. There's a growing sense that they have too much control over information, news, advertising, even who we are and what's going on."

Wu is among the expert witnesses scheduled to appear before the antitrust panel, which also will hear from executives from the four tech companies.

## Man whose family died in Boeing 737 Max crash: Scrap the jet

By DAVID KOENIG AP Airlines Writer

A man who lost his wife, mother-in-law and three young children in the crash of a 737 Max in Ethiopia says Boeing should scrap the plane and top executives should resign and face criminal charges.

Paul Njoroge, who is due to testify before Congress in the U.S. on Wednesday, said in an interview that 737 Max planes should have been grounded after a deadly crash off the coast of Indonesia in October. Instead, they kept flying until another crashed five months later near Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, shortly after takeoff, claiming the lives of his family and 152 others.

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If Boeing and the Federal Aviation Administration had done their jobs properly, Njoroge said, "these planes would have been grounded in November and today I would be enjoying summer with my family, I would be playing football with my son."

Njoroge (ja-ROW-ga) will be the first relative of any of the 346 passengers who died in the two crashes to testify before Congress. He will be accompanied by Michael Stumo, whose daughter, Samya, also died in the March 10 Ethiopian Airlines crash. The Max has been grounded worldwide since shortly after that crash and it's not clear when it will be certified to fly again.

In testimony he submitted to the House aviation subcommittee, Njoroge says passengers' families have several demands that must be met before the Max is allowed to fly again, including a new, top-to-bottom review of the plane by regulators.

In an interview, Njoroge went further, saying the plane should never fly again because of what he considers an irredeemable design flaw.

Because the size and placement of the plane's engines raised the risk of an aerodynamic stall, Boeing devised flight-control software called MCAS. Preliminary reports indicate that the software pushed the nose of the plane down in both crashes, and Boeing is working on changes to make MCAS more reliable and easier to control.

Boeing did not tell pilots about MCAS until after the first crash, in October off the coast of Indonesia.

"They didn't want people to know about the design flaw, and that's why they kept the existence of MCAS hidden," Njoroge said.

"I'd like to see (Boeing CEO) Dennis Muilenburg and the executives resign, because they caused the deaths of 346 people," Njoroge said. "They should be held liable criminally for the deaths of my wife and my children and my mom-in-law and 152 others in the crash of Ethiopian Airlines flight 302 because that was preventable."

Chicago-based Boeing said it lamented the impact that the crashes are having on families of those on board.

"These incidents and the lives lost will continue to weigh heavily on our hearts and on our minds for years to come," the company said in a statement. "We are committed to working with the communities, customers and the aviation industry to help with the healing process."

Njoroge was born in Kenya and now lives in Toronto, where he works as an investment professional. A Chicago aviation lawyer, Robert Clifford, sued Boeing on his behalf over the deaths of his wife, Carol, his son and daughters, 6-year-old Ryan, 4-year-old Kelli and 9-month-old Rubi, and his wife's mother.

They were on their way to visit family in Kenya when the Nairobi-bound plane crashed.



**FILE - In this April 29, 2019, file photo, Paul Njoroge, who lost his wife and three young children in the March 10 crash of an Ethiopian Airlines' Boeing 737 Max 8 aircraft, speaks at a news conference in Chicago. Njoroge believes Boeing should scrap the 737 Max, and he wants the company's top executives to resign and face criminal charges for not grounding the plane after a deadly accident last October. On Wednesday, July 17, Njoroge will be the first relative of any of the 346 passengers who died in those crashes to testify before Congress. (AP Photo/Teresa Crawford, File)**

Njoroge accused Boeing of trying to shift blame to foreign pilots in Indonesia and Ethiopia to avoid grounding the Max, which he called "utter prejudice."

After the Oct. 29 crash involving Indonesia's Lion Air, Boeing issued a bulletin to pilots reminding them about Boeing instructions for handling a nose-down pitch of the plane. After the Ethiopian crash, Muilenburg said the pilots did not completely follow the procedures. The preliminary report indicated the Ethiopian pilots tried the procedures nearly until the end but could not save the plane, and they were flying extremely fast.

Muilenburg has repeatedly apologized in public to families of the passengers. Njoroge said he has not received personal condolences.

"It would be very important if Boeing executives can meet with the family members in person and apologize to them," he said. "That would help."

Wednesday's hearing will be the House aviation panel's third on the Max. Other witnesses will include representatives from the National Transportation Safety Board and unions representing pilots, flight attendants, airline mechanics and safety inspectors.

David Koenig can be reached at <http://twitter.com/airlinewriter>

## Trump renews racist criticism, says many agree with him

By ZEKE MILLER, JILL COLVIN, and JONATHAN LEMIRE Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defiant in the face of widespread criticism, President Donald Trump renewed his belligerent call for four Democratic congresswomen of color to get out of the U.S. "right now," cementing his position as the most willing U.S. leader in generations to stoke the discord that helped send him to the White House.

Content to gamble that a sizable chunk of the electorate embraces his tweets that have been widely denounced as racist, the president made clear that he has no qualms about exploiting racial divisions once again.

"It doesn't concern me because many people agree with me," Trump said Monday at the White House. "A lot of people love it, by the way."

The episode served notice that Trump is willing to again rely on incendiary rhetoric on issues of race and immigration to preserve his political base in the leadup to the 2020 election.

There was near unanimous condemnation from Democrats for Trump's comments and a rumble of discontent from a subset of Republicans — but notably not from the party's congres-



**From left, U.S. Reps. Rashida Tlaib, D-Mich., Ilhan Omar, D-Minn., Ayanna Pressley, D-Mass., and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y., respond to base remarks by President Donald Trump after he called for four Democratic congresswomen of color to go back to their "broken" countries, as he exploited the nation's glaring racial divisions once again for political gain, during a news conference at the Capitol in Washington, Monday, July 15, 2019. All four congresswomen are American citizens and three of the four were born in the U.S. Omar is the first Somali-American in Congress.** (AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

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sional leaders.

Republican Sen. Mitt Romney of Utah, the party's White House nominee in 2012 and now one of the president's most vocal GOP critics, said Trump's comments were "destructive, demeaning, and disunifying."

Far from backing down, Trump on Monday dug in on comments he had initially made a day earlier on Twitter that if lawmakers "hate our country," they can go back to their "broken and crime-infested" countries. His remarks were directed at four congresswomen: Reps. Ilhan Omar of Minnesota, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez of New York, Ayanna Pressley of Massachusetts and Rashida Tlaib of Michigan. All are American citizens and three of the four were born in the U.S.

"If you're not happy in the U.S., if you're complaining all the time, you can leave, you can leave right now," he said.

The president's words, which evoked the trope of telling black people to go back to Africa, may have been partly meant to widen the divides within the House Democratic caucus, which has been riven by internal debate over how best to oppose his policies. And while Trump's attacks brought Democrats together in defense of their colleagues, his allies noted he was also having some success in making the controversial progressive lawmakers the face of their party.

The president questioned whether Democrats should "want to wrap" themselves around this group of four people as he recited a list of the quartet's most controversial statements.

The four themselves fired back late Monday, condemning what they called "xenophobic bigoted remarks" from the Republican president and renewing calls for their party to begin impeachment proceedings.

Trump "does not know how to defend his policies and so what he does is attack us personally," said Ocasio-Cortez.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, who said Trump's campaign slogan truly means he wants to "make America white again," announced Monday that the House would vote on a resolution condemning his new comments. The resolution "strongly condemns President Donald Trump's racist comments" and says they "have legitimized and increased fear and hatred of new Americans and people of color."

The Senate's top Democrat, Chuck Schumer of New York, said his party would also try to force a vote in the GOP-controlled chamber.

Trump, who won the presidency in 2016 in part by energizing disaffected voters with inflammatory racial rhetoric, made clear he has no intention of backing away from that strategy in 2020.

"The Dems were trying to distance themselves from the four 'progressives,' but now they are forced to embrace them," he tweeted Monday afternoon. "That means they are endorsing Socialism, hate of Israel and the USA! Not good for the Democrats!"

Trump has faced few consequences for such attacks in the past. They typically earn him cycles of wall-to-wall media attention. He is wagering that his most steadfast supporters will be energized by the controversy as much, or if not more so, than the opposition.

"It's possible I'm wrong," Trump allowed Monday. "The voters will decide."

The president has told aides that he was giving voice what many of his supporters believe — that they are tired of people, including immigrants, disrespecting their country, according to three Republicans close to the White House who were not authorized to speak publicly about private conversations.

Trump on Monday singled out Omar, in particular, accusing her of having "hatred" for Israel, and expressing "love" for "enemies like al-Qaida."

"These are people that, in my opinion, hate our country," he said.

Omar, in an interview, once laughed about how a college professor had spoken of al-Qaida with an intensity she said was not used to describe "America," "England" or "The Army."

She addressed herself directly to Trump in a tweet, writing, "You are stoking white nationalism (because) you are angry that people like us are serving in Congress and fighting against your hate-filled agenda."

Republicans largely trod carefully with their responses.

Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham, a close ally of the president who golfed with him over the weekend, advised him to "aim higher" during an appearance on "Fox & Friends," even as he accused the four Democrats of being "anti-Semitic" and "anti-American."

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Marc Short, chief of staff to Vice President Mike Pence, said "I don't think that the president's intent in any way is racist," pointing to Trump's decision to choose Elaine Chao, who was born outside the country, as his transportation secretary.

Chao is one of the few minorities among the largely white and male aides in high-profile roles in Trump's administration. She is the wife of Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell, who declined to comment Monday on Trump's attacks.

The latest provocation came just two days after Trump inserted himself further into a rift between Pelosi and Ocasio-Cortez, offering an unsolicited defense of the Democratic speaker. Pelosi has been seeking to minimize Ocasio-Cortez's influence in the House Democratic caucus in recent days, prompting the freshman lawmaker to accuse Pelosi of trying to marginalize women of color.

Trump told advisers later that he was pleased with his meddling, believing that dividing Democrats would be helpful to him, as would elevating any self-proclaimed socialists as a way to frighten voters to steer clear of their liberal politics, the Republicans said.

Among the few GOP lawmakers commenting Monday, Rep. Pete Olson of Texas said Trump's tweets were "not reflective of the values of the 1,000,000+ people" in his district. "We are proud to be the most diverse Congressional district in America. I urge our President immediately disavow his comments," he wrote.

Several other Republicans went out of their way to say they were not condoning the views of the Democrats, while encouraging Trump to retract his comments.

Maine Sen. Susan Collins, who is up for re-election next year, said Trump's tweet was "way over the line and he should take that down."

Sen. Patrick Toomey of Pennsylvania said of the Democrats, "We should defeat their ideas on the merits, not on the basis of their ancestry."

In an Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research poll from February 2017, half of Americans said the mixing of culture and values from around the world is an important part of America's identity as a nation. Fewer — about a third — said the same of a culture established by early European immigrants.

But partisans in that poll were divided over these aspects of America's identity. About two-thirds of Democrats but only about a third of Republicans thought the mixing of world cultures was important to the country's identity. By comparison, nearly half of Republicans but just about a quarter of Democrats saw the culture of early European immigrants as important to the nation.

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Associated Press writer Hannah Fingerhut contributed to this report.

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Lemire reported from New York. Follow Miller on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/@ZekeJMiller>, Colvin at <http://twitter.com/@ColvinJ> and Lemire at <http://twitter.com/@JonLemire>.

## 'Game of Thrones,' 'Veep,' 'Big Bang,' seek final Emmy nods

By LYNN ELBER AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — "Game of Thrones" is seeking to claim the Emmy Awards version of the Iron Throne one last time.

When the Emmy nominations are released Tuesday, the HBO fantasy saga could be in the running for television's top honor for its eighth and final season. It's earned three previous top drama series awards and is the defending champ.

"The Masked Singer" judge Ken Jeong and "The Good Place" star D'Arcy Carden are set to announce top-category contenders at the Television Academy in Los Angeles. They'll be accompanied by TV academy chair and CEO Frank Scherma and academy president and COO Maury McIntyre.

Emilia Clarke and Peter Dinklage are among the "Game of Thrones" stars who could make the cut. Clarke is trying for her first best drama actress bid after earning a trio of supporting nominations, while Dinklage is a three-time Emmy winner who's competing again as a supporting actor.

Other drama series vying for top honors include "Killing Eve," "Pose," "Bodyguard," "Ozark" and "This Is



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Us," the NBC drama that could be the sole broadcast series to earn a top bid.

"Veep," which holds a trio of best comedy series Emmys, is in the hunt for its final trophies after wrapping its seven-season run.

"The Big Bang Theory," which ended this year after 12 seasons, is among its possible competitors, as are "Barry," "Fleabag" and 2018's winner "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel."

Netflix was the most-nominated outlet last year, snapping HBO's 17-year winning streak.

The 71st Emmy Awards will air Sept. 22 on Fox, with the host yet to be announced.



**This image released by HBO shows Kristofer Hivju, from left, Kit Harington and Emilia Clarke in a scene from "Game of Thrones." "Game of Thrones," "Veep" and "The Big Bang Theory," three major series that wrapped last season, will find out with Tuesday's nominations if they have one more chance at Emmy gold.** (Helen Sloan/HBO via AP)

## Making an immigration arrest requires hours of surveillance

By ELLIOT SPAGAT Associated Press

ESCONDIDO, Calif. (AP) — Two immigration officers had been parked outside a home well before dawn when their target — a Mexican man convicted of driving under the influence in 2015 — appeared to emerge as the sun illuminated a gray sky.

"I'm going to do a vehicle stop," an officer radioed. "I'm right behind you," said another, lights flashing as they ordered the driver into a liquor store parking lot.

As it turned out, the man they pulled over was not the one they were looking for. But he happened to be in the country illegally, too, and was taken into custody.

The arrest last week near San Diego illustrates how President Donald Trump's pledge to deport millions of immigrants in the U.S. without legal permission would be highly impractical to carry out, maybe impossible. For U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, picking up people is a time-consuming, labor-intensive and not-always-successful task.

An arrest of just one immigrant often requires days of surveillance.

At the same time, ICE has a limited budget and a shortage of detention space. Also, more and more law enforcement agencies, especially those in big cities, are refusing to help ICE as part of the growing "sanctuary" movement, slowing down the arrests of immigrants even more.

ICE tactics are in the spotlight amid warnings from the Trump administration that it would begin a sweep Sunday in 10 cities against families who are in the country illegally and have been ordered to leave. Trump claimed on Monday that the operation had a successful start, even though there was no sign of a large-scale operation in those cities.

In the recent San Diego operation, officers made 20 arrests over five days. They wore bulletproof vests emblazoned "ICE" on the back and used several unmarked SUVs, immediately ordering those in custody

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to turn off their phones to prevent family and friends from tracking their movements.

Gregory Archambeault, ICE director of field operations in San Diego, said staking out targets can be like watching paint dry.

"Today it happened pretty quickly, but other times it can take several hours. We have to go back different days," Archambeault said in the parking lot of a bus and train station where immigrants waited in a bus to be processed.

An estimated 11 million people are in the U.S. illegally, including 525,000 who have deportation orders against them and are considered fugitives. Those fugitives include 2,000 people who recently came as families and are targets of the operation that was expected to begin Sunday.

ICE operations that zero in on people with criminal convictions in the U.S. result in about 30% of targets being arrested, plus an unknown number of non-targets, or "collaterals," who are also swept up, ICE officials said. ICE operations against families have proved even less successful, capturing only about 10 percent of the targets, ICE acting Director Matthew Albence said.

ICE officers don't have warrants that would allow them to enter homes, a fact that immigrant advocates have successfully publicized in encouraging people not to open their doors. For safety reasons, officers in San Diego have stopped "knock-and-talks" — knocking on the door and hoping someone opens up — and instead wait for targets to leave the house, Archambeault said.

"You just don't know what's going on, who's behind that door," he said.

It is far less costly and more effective for ICE to pick up people at local jails when they are arrested for non-immigration offenses. But a spate of sanctuary laws has sharply limited local authorities' cooperation in California and elsewhere.

Escondido, a suburb of 150,000 people that is more than half Latino, had an extraordinarily close alliance with ICE that allowed immigration officers to work at police headquarters and coordinate on vehicle stops. That partnership ended under a state law that took effect last year.

Before making arrests in San Diego, ICE had to line up detention space. The agency, which made about 160,000 arrests during the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30, is housing an all-time high of about 53,000 people, largely because of an unprecedented surge of Central American families arriving at the Mexican border. Family beds are scarce, and ICE's only family detention centers are in Pennsylvania and Texas.

Immigration authorities have used hotels to hold families while they wait to be transferred or deported. But Best Western and Marriott say they won't work with ICE.

Central American families are typically held for a week or two while authorities arrange travel documents and a chartered or commercial flight to their homeland, Albence said. The San Diego targets were Mexican adults, who can usually be sent home by land more quickly.



**In this July 8, 2019, photo, a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers detain a man during an operation in Escondido, Calif. The carefully orchestrated arrest last week in this San Diego suburb illustrates how President Donald Trump's pledge to start deporting millions of people in the country illegally is virtually impossible with ICE's budget and its method of picking people up.** (AP Photo/Gregory Bull)

The man taken into custody in Escondido was a Mexican man who happened to borrow the target's red pickup to get to work at a landscaping company. Immigration activists decry such collateral arrests, which were sharply curtailed during President Barack Obama's second term. Trump administration officials are unapologetic.

"It's not the target, but it's still a good arrest," Archambeault said.

## Joe Biden draws line against progressives on health care

By **BILL BARROW** and **THOMAS BEAUMONT** Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Joe Biden is taking an aggressive approach to defending the Affordable Care Act, challenging not just President Donald Trump but also some of his rivals for the Democratic presidential nomination who want to replace the current insurance system with a fully government-run model.

The former vice president has spent the past several weeks highlighting his support for the health care law often called "Obamacare." He told voters in Iowa that he was "against any Republican (and) any Democrat who wants to scrap" the law. He's also talked of "building on" Obamacare.

He released a proposal Monday to add a "public option" to the 2010 health care overhaul, with expanded coverage paid for by tax increases on the wealthiest Americans. Returning to Iowa, he touted the public option as "the quickest ... most rational way to get universal coverage." A sudden transition to "Medicare for All," he said, "is kind of risky."

Biden hopes his positioning as Obamacare's chief defender will remind voters of his work alongside former President Barack Obama, who remains popular among Democrats. And it could reinforce his pitch as a sensible centrist promising to rise above the strident cacophony of Trump and more liberal Democrats who are single-payer advocates.

The emerging divide between Biden and his progressive rivals could allow him to go on offense ahead of the next debates at the end of the month. Biden spent recent weeks on defense, reversing his position on taxpayer funding for abortions and highlighting his long-ago relationships with segregationist senators. During the first debates, Sen. Kamala Harris of California slammed Biden for his Senate recollections and his opposition to federal busing orders to desegregate public schools during the same era.

Those episodes called Biden's front-runner status into question, and it was clear over the weekend that he wanted to turn the tables on his rivals backing Medicare for All.

"I think one of the most significant things we've done in our administration is pass the Affordable Care Act," Biden said in New Hampshire. "I don't know why we'd get rid of what in fact was working and move to something totally new."

He argued that his 2020 opponents, with the exception of Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont, aren't fairly representing the consequences of their proposals.



**Former Vice President and Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden speaks during a presidential candidates forum sponsored by AARP and The Des Moines Register, Monday, July 15, 2019, in Des Moines, Iowa.** (AP Photo/Charlie

Neibergall)

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"Bernie's been very honest about it," Biden said. "He said you're going to have to raise taxes on the middle class. He said it's going to end all private insurance. I mean, he's been straightforward about it. And he's making his case."

Sanders will deliver a health care speech Wednesday and is already hitting back at Biden. The senator insists his plan would be a net financial benefit for most households by eliminating their insurance and co-pay costs, even if their taxes go up. And he rejects any suggestion that he hasn't supported the Affordable Care Act.

"I traveled all over the country to fight the repeal of Obamacare," Sanders tweeted Monday. "But I will not be deterred from ending the corporate greed that creates dysfunction in our health care system. We must pass Medicare for All."

Speaking at an AARP forum in Iowa on Monday, Biden took pains to say he wasn't criticizing rivals. "I'm about what I'm for, not what they're for," he said. "I'm not in that game because that just elects Donald Trump."

Biden's health care proposal is anchored by a "Medicare-like" plan that any American, including the 150 million-plus Americans now covered by job-based insurance, could buy on Affordable Care Act exchanges.

The proposal would make existing premium subsidies more generous and expand eligibility for middle-income households, lowering their out-of-pocket costs. It also would extend premium-free coverage to lower-income Americans who have been denied access to Medicaid in Republican-run states that refused to participate in the Affordable Care Act.

The campaign puts the taxpayer cost at \$750 billion over 10 years, which would be covered by returning the top marginal income tax to 39.6%, the rate before the 2017 GOP tax cuts. Some multimillionaires also would lose certain capital gains tax advantages.

Biden's aides framed his plan as more fiscally responsible and politically realistic than a single-payer overhaul. The idea behind a public option is to extend coverage to those who can't afford decent private coverage while forcing corporate insurers to compete alongside the government, theoretically pressuring those firms to lower premiums and out-of-pocket costs for their customers.

The former vice president did perhaps lay for himself a future trap as he drew distinctions with proposals that would gut private insurance. "I'd like to get people the option: If you like your health care plan, or your employer-based plan, you can keep it," Biden said. "If in fact you have private insurance, you can keep it."

It was reminiscent, at least rhetorically, of Obama promising during the 2009-10 debate: "If you like your doctor, you can keep your doctor. If you like your health care plan, you can keep your health care plan."

Indeed, the law did not directly force patients away from their doctors. But regulatory changes did lead insurers to change or cancel certain policies, even if they had to offer consumers new options; and health care providers left certain networks without consumers having a say.

At the least, the 2020 campaign dynamics illustrate Democrats' overall leftward shift on health care.

A decade ago, the public option was the left flank for Democrats, a reality made obvious when Obama angered House liberals by jettisoning the provision to mollify Senate centrists. Now, after Sanders' insurgent 2016 presidential bid and his promise of "health care as a human right," the left embraces single-payer, with moderates moving to the public option.

Some Democratic presidential hopefuls echo Biden's approach, with a handful of them sounding alarms about moving too far left and allowing Republicans to reclaim the health care advantage Democrats enjoyed in the 2018 midterms.

Colorado Sen. Michael Bennet, who's pushed a public option on Capitol Hill already, urged Sanders, Harris and Sen. Elizabeth Warren to rethink their approach, which he warned would put Democrats in peril in 2020, even in his increasingly liberal home state.

Citing Medicare for All, Bennet declared, "I think that Colorado would be at risk if Bernie Sanders were the nominee."

Barrow reported from Atlanta. Associated Press writer Alexandra Jaffe contributed from Cedar Rapids,

Iowa.

Follow the reporters on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/BillBarrowAP> and <https://twitter.com/TomBeaumont>.

## Trump tweets send stinging message to countless Americans

By ERRIN HAINES WHACK AP National Writer

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — When President Donald Trump tweeted that four congresswomen should “go back” where they came from, Erika Almiron was reminded of the first time she heard the same comments. She was a new fourth-grader at a predominantly white Italian-Catholic school.

Since then, the daughter of immigrants from Paraguay has heard the remark dozens of times. “I was like, ‘I was born in South Philly, so what do you want me to do?’” said Almiron, now 42 and an immigrant-rights worker in Philadelphia.

For countless Americans, Trump’s words on Sunday sent a stinging message that they are not fully welcome in their own country. His comments echoed painful remarks they have heard throughout their lives. But this time, they came not from a stranger or even a political candidate, but straight from the occupant of the Oval Office.

Trump “feels so emboldened to believe that he has the right to be here and other people don’t, and he gets to determine what that looks like,” Almiron said.

The president doubled down on his remarks Monday, telling reporters that if the lawmakers “hate our country,” they can leave. He defended his tweets by saying the backlash he received “doesn’t concern me because many people agree with me.”

“He likes to other-ize people and point to them as being the problem,” said the Rev. William Barber, senior pastor of Greenleaf Christian Church in Goldsboro, North Carolina. “What he’s doing is ugly and vile and un-American and not new. The rhetoric is cover for racist policy.”

Trump’s tweets hearken back to his entry into politics, when he questioned former President Barack Obama’s citizenship, said Rashad Robinson, executive director of the Color of Change civil rights organization, who recalled being told to “go back to Africa” while growing up on Long Island.

“These are basically questions about who should be seen,” Robinson said. “This is at the heart of the execution of ‘make America great again,’ this idea that America was truly great when only some people were allowed to belong.”

On the same day as the president’s tweets, Amena Qureshi’s Uber driver said to her: “Your English is really good! How do you not have an accent?”



**A pedestrian crosses Gratiot Avenue in Rep. Rashida Tlaib’s, D-Mich., 13th district in Detroit, Monday, July 15, 2019. Injecting race into his criticism of liberal Democrats, President Donald Trump said four congresswomen of color, including Tlaib, should go back to the “broken and crime infested” countries they came from, ignoring the fact that all of the women are American citizens and three were born in the U.S.** (AP Photo/Paul Sancya)

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She did not take the comments as a compliment but a reminder that people who look like her are not considered American.

"It's super frustrating to always be on the defensive," Qureshi, a native Midwesterner and daughter of Pakistani immigrants who remembers first being told to "go back to your weird country" as a sixth grader. She is now 30 and living in Chicago.

Qureshi was recently at a downtown park and a stranger said: "I'm going to assume that you were not born here. Have you seen 'The Wizard of Oz?'"

"I immediately looked at him and said, 'I've seen 'The Wizard of Oz.' Why would you assume that?'" she said. "He should not be asking that question. It's the immediate assumption that because I do cover my hair in public and I am obviously a Muslim."

She says she is "as American as it gets. Been here my whole life, visited my parents' birth country once. It almost feels like we're going backwards."

Sheela Lal, 28, whose parents immigrated to America from India more than a generation ago, said she's made a practice of loudly pushing back against people who assume the Missouri native is from somewhere else, in hopes that future generations won't be subject to the same questions.

"These types of incidents happen because we are not seen as part of the fabric," said Lal, of Dearborn, Michigan. The idea "that being in a predominantly white space means that we cannot be there either, and that we have no impact on the culture of a region, it's really exhausting to constantly deal with."

Michael Rashid, a 72-year-old businessman in Philadelphia, said Trump's comments recalled for him a time he was told to "go back to Africa" by a woman over a decade ago. He replied, "I can claim a right to this country just as much, if not more than you."

"My ancestors built this country," Rashid, the grandson of slaves, told the woman. "Don't tell me this is not my country."

Maribel Ortiz, who lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts, said the president's comments were particularly hurtful to her as a native of Puerto Rico who grew up in Boston during more racially tense times in the city.

"Puerto Rico is part of the United States, and I've been treated like I'm from another country. I work and pay my taxes and contribute to this country like everyone else," she said.

The 50-year-old laundry worker declined to say who she voted for in the last presidential election but was blunt in her assessment of Trump, calling his ignorance "mind blowing" and saying he can't "even express himself like a decent man."

But Ryan Hanslik, a white 29-year-old from Waltham, Massachusetts, who was passing by jumped in to defend the president, chanting, "Make American great again" over and over.

An independent who voted for Trump, he argued that the president has free speech rights and that Democrats have used divisive rhetoric too.

"He's rough and tough, and I can totally see people's perspective on why they didn't like that, but we all express ourselves differently," Hanslik said. His argument with Ortiz ended with a perfunctory handshake.

Trump is "a different president, and we need to stop holding him to the standard of the office," Hanslik said. "We're in the 21st century. Times are a little bit different than JFK. We got to let him speak his piece."

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Associated Press writers Philip Marcelo in Cambridge, Massachusetts, Deepti Hajela in New York and Noreen Nasir in Chicago contributed to this report. Follow Errin Haines Whack on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/emarvelous> .

## O'Rourke raises just \$3.6M, a big drop from last quarter

By BRIAN SLODYSKO Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Beto O'Rourke raised just \$3.6 million in the second quarter, a dramatic drop that places him among a growing group of Democratic presidential hopefuls who are struggling to raise the cash needed for a credible White House run.

The former Texas congressman entered the race with a glowing cover story in Vanity Fair and the expect-

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tation that he would be a formidable contender. But the total his campaign announced Monday night was far less than the \$9.3 million he raised last quarter and placed him toward the back of the pack.

It's the latest sign that two distinct tiers are emerging in the primary: one that will have ample resources to build a national operation and get its message out and another forced to make difficult financial decisions and triage limited cash.

"We've been pretty up front about the dynamics of this race. It changes every week," O'Rourke's campaign said in a fundraising email to supporters last week. "Sometimes you're up, sometimes you're down. Sometimes you're Hootie and sometimes you're the Blowfish."

The top five Democratic fundraisers collectively raised \$96 million this quarter, putting them within striking distance of the \$105 million raised by Donald Trump and the Republican National Committee for the president's reelection. That has eased worries that lackluster totals last quarter were a sign the party would struggle to stockpile cash for the general election fight.

Pete Buttigieg led the second quarter field with \$24.8 million, a jaw-dropping sum for a candidate who entered the race months ago as the little-known mayor of South Bend, Indiana. He was followed by former Vice President Joe Biden, who raised \$21.5 million. Sen. Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts rebounded from a mediocre first quarter and came in third with \$19.1 million. Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont posted \$18 million, while Sen. Kamala Harris of California reported raising about \$12 million.

But the outlook is grim for many others. Some, like O'Rourke, took in less than they did last quarter. Others were essentially treading water.

O'Rourke has struggled to reclaim the magic of his losing 2018 bid against Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, which brought him closer to winning statewide than any Democrat had in years. He set a fundraising record in that race, bringing in over \$80 million.

Yet unlike last quarter when his presidential campaign touted his totals in advance, his staff waited until just hours before the Federal Election Commission's Monday night reporting deadline to announce how much he had raised.

"The second quarter was about raising the bar and exceeding expectations," said Dennis Cheng, who was the finance director for Hillary Clinton's 2016 campaign. "Top-tier candidates will need to pull in eight-figure quarters to stay competitive and run effective campaigns on a national scale."

That's a difficult task in a field that has drawn more than 20 candidates.

Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand of New York raised \$2.3 million — about \$500,000 less than last quarter. Washington Gov. Jay Inslee improved his numbers but still pulled in only about \$3 million.

Thanks to a strong Democratic debate performance, former Housing Secretary Julian Castro more than doubled his previous haul. But his \$2.8 million still puts him toward the back of the pack.

Sens. Cory Booker of New Jersey and Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota both brought in enough money to forge ahead. But Klobuchar, who raised nearly \$4 million, and Booker, who raised just a little more, per-



**Democratic presidential candidate, former U.S. Rep. Beto O'Rourke speaks at the Manchester Democrats annual Potluck Picnic at Oak Park in Manchester, N.H., Saturday, July 13, 2019.** (AP Photo/Cheryl Senter)

formed worse than they did during the first quarter.

One of the most immediate challenges for candidates who have struggled to gain traction is notching enough donors to qualify for the next round of debates.

The Democratic National Committee has increased the thresholds to reach the fall debate stage, leaving a wide swath of the field scrambling to qualify. To secure a slot, candidates have to reach 2% in a handful of polls while racking up contributions from at least 130,000 donors in at least 20 states.

That requires raising a significant amount online from low-dollar donors, a metric that is touted as a sign of a candidate's support from the party's grassroots.

However, developing a serious online fundraising operation costs a lot, forcing some to decide whether to plunge money into digital consultants and social media advertising, or hire staff and build a national operation.

Indeed digital consultants and online advertising topped the list of spending by many lower-tiered candidates during the second quarter, FEC records show.

But those who build out their network of small-dollar donors aren't just capable of raising money — they are winning over the same party activists needed to turn out the vote, organize and proselytize, said Robert Zimmerman, a donor and Democratic National Committeeman from New York.

"Not too many top donors from Bel Air, Manhattan, Scottsdale and Palm Beach are going to be knocking on doors through the snows of Iowa and New Hampshire," he said. "But small-dollar donors and grassroots supporters, they build the campaign."

Follow Slodysko on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/BrianSlodysko>

## Polls show sour views of race relations in Trump's America

By HANNAH FINGERHUT Associated Press

Even before President Donald Trump's racist tweets toward four Democratic congresswomen of color, Americans considered race relations in the United States to be generally bad — and said that Trump has been making them worse.

On Sunday, Trump tweeted that the congresswomen should go back to the "broken and crime infested" countries they came from, despite the fact that all are American citizens and three were born in the U.S.

Since his election, polling has shown Americans wary of Trump when it comes to race. But views of the president, racism in the U.S. and what defines American culture vary significantly based on political alignment.

What polls show:

### RACE RELATIONS IN THE TRUMP ERA

In January, a CBS News poll found nearly 6 in 10 Americans saying race relations in the country are generally bad.

It wasn't always that way. Positive views of the state of race relations in the country peaked with President Barack Obama's inauguration, after which 66% of Americans said race relations were generally good in an April 2009 CBS News/New York Times poll. But views started to sour in 2014 following a number of high-profile shootings of black men by police officers and have continued to be more negative than positive in the Trump era.

And Americans think Trump is contributing to the problem. A Pew Research Center poll earlier this year showed 56% of Americans saying Trump has made race relations worse.

Americans gave similarly poor assessments of the president's impact on specific racial, ethnic and religious minorities. Nearly 6 in 10 considered Trump's actions to be bad for Hispanics and Muslims, and about half said they were bad for African Americans, according to a February 2018 poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research .

That poll also found that 57% of Americans considered Trump to be racist.

RACE AS A POLITICAL FAULT LINE



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Polls show stark differences in assessments of the state of race relations and Trump's impact by party identification, along with racial and ethnic identity and educational attainment.

In Pew's poll, fully 84% of Democrats said Trump has worsened race relations, while only about 2 in 10 Republicans agreed. About a third of Republicans said Trump has made progress toward improving race relations, while a quarter said he has tried but failed.

Majorities of Americans who are black, Hispanic and Asian said Trump has made race relations worse, compared with about half of white Americans. Among white Americans, views diverged by education — 64% of whites with a college degree think Trump has worsened race relations, compared with 41% of those without.

## RACIST LANGUAGE

Democrats in Congress immediately called out the president's comments on Sunday as racist and divisive, while many Republicans have remained silent.

Polling shows Democratic and Republican Americans fundamentally disagree on the way people should approach offensive language in the country.

Eighty-two percent of Republicans feel that too many people are easily offended over language today, according to a poll conducted in May by Pew Research Center, compared with about half as many Democrats who said the same. A majority of Democrats said people need to be more careful with their language.

Since Trump's election, most Americans think it has become more common for people to express racist views, and 45% said it has become more acceptable as well, according to Pew's February poll.

Majorities of Democrats said it has become both more common and more acceptable. Among Republicans, 42% said it has become more common and 22% said it has become more acceptable.

## DIVERGING VIEWS OF AMERICA'S IDENTITY

Throughout his presidency, Trump has stoked racial and ethnic division building on his campaign promise to secure the border and country. In 2017, Trump instituted a travel ban restricting entry into the U.S. for people from five predominantly Muslim countries. Earlier this year, the president declared a national emergency to appropriate billions of dollars in funds from government agencies to expand the U.S.-Mexico border wall. And most recently, Trump moved on Monday to halt protections for most Central American asylum seekers.

Trump's response to the firestorm signaled that he thinks it's a winning stance for him. "It doesn't concern me because many people agree with me," Trump said.

In an AP-NORC poll from February 2017, half of Americans said the mixing of culture and values from around the world is an important part of America's identity. Fewer — about a third — said the same of a culture established by early European immigrants.

But partisans were divided over these aspects of the nation's identity. Nearly half of Republicans, but just about a quarter of Democrats, saw the culture of early European immigrants as important. By comparison,



**President Donald Trump speaks during a Made in America showcase on the South Lawn of the White House in Washington, Monday, July 15, 2019.** (AP Photo/Andrew Harnik)

about two-thirds of Democrats, and about a third of Republicans, considered the mixing of world cultures important to the country's identity.

The AP-NORC poll also found 57% of Americans saying that the U.S. should be a country with an essential culture that immigrants adopt when they come. Eight in 10 Republicans preferred immigrants to the U.S. adapt to an American culture, though a similar share said they thought recent immigrants have not done so.

## Venezuelan migrants take arepas to new lands amid crisis

By CHRISTINE ARMARIO Associated Press

BOGOTÁ, Colombia (AP) — Venezuelans like to jest that their beloved arepas are so widely consumed that babies come out of the womb with the corn flatbreads already in hand.

Now, as millions flee their homeland's turmoil, they are taking Venezuela's most ubiquitous dish with them.

Humble street stalls and sit-down restaurants serving arepas are popping up throughout the streets of Colombia's capital and in cities around the world, where many are finding the white corn flour patties an ideal means for gaining their footing in a foreign nation. Others are exchanging traditional fillings for local flavors in a nod to their adopted countries.

"For us, the arepa represents Venezuela," says Alejandra Castro, who opened an arepa business in Buenos Aires, Argentina over a year ago. "It's our culture, our daily bread. What one misses and longs for the most is an arepa."

The arepa's surge on the world stage comes as its consumption steadily declines back home amid a punishing financial crisis worse than the U.S. Great Depression, leading an estimated 4 million people to flee.

Migrants throughout the world have long brought their culinary traditions with them in something of an antidote for nostalgia. Cubans fleeing Fidel Castro's revolution in the 1960s cooked classics like ropa vieja and picadillo in their small apartments in Miami's Little Havana.

In some cases, traditional recipes are kept more alive abroad than back home.

More often than not, however, migrants slowly fuse the flavors of the country they left behind with the one they now call home. Chinese and Japanese migrants profoundly altered Peruvian cuisine, creating a delicate hybrid with Incan and European influences that has garnered worldwide acclaim. The influence of Lebanese arrivals cooking shawarma in Mexico led to the creation of tacos "al pastor" with spit-roasted pork.

Jeffrey Pilcher, a history professor at the University of Toronto, said migrants are often forced to reconcile a longing for the authentic taste of home with the need to make a living and offer more local flavors.

"So there are all manners of adaptations people make to balance those two, kind of contradicting de-



**In this June 11, 2019 photo, a food server shows a Venezuelan arepa made with Colombian ingredients at the "Arepas Cafe" fast food restaurant in Bogota, Colombia. Venezuelans like to jest that their beloved arepas are so widely consumed that babies come out of the womb with the corn flatbreads already in hand. Now, as millions flee their homeland's turmoil, they are taking Venezuela's most ubiquitous dish with them.** (AP Photo/Fernando Vergara)

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sires," he said.

Venezuelans in Bogotá are now serving up arepas with Colombian flavors like local chorizo and red beans. In Lima, they are stuffing the patties with lomo saltado, a Peruvian marinated, stir-fried beef. And in Argentina, one business adds in a dash of chimichurri sauce.

Migrant Edgar Rodríguez became one of the earliest ambassadors of the food when he fled to Spain over a decade ago and opened up an arepa restaurant. He now has several fusion items on the menu including Spanish staples like serrano ham.

"As they say in Venezuela, 'The arepa can withstand anything,'" he said.

The story of the arepa begins before the arrival of Spanish colonizers, when indigenous chefs in Colombia and Venezuela ground white corn into round patties and baked them on clay griddles. Today, Colombian arepas are relatively wide and flat, while the Venezuelan ones are smaller, fuller and stuffed with fillings in the same style as pita bread. In both countries, they are a dietary staple.

When Venezuela was one of Latin America's most prosperous countries, the poor and the wealthy would typically eat two or three arepas a day. In the 1990s, the country's production of white corn flour rose to 800,000 tons a year, said Carlos Paparoni, an opposition lawmaker who tracks the country's agrarian crisis. But last year, production dipped to a paltry 140,000 tons, he said.

Empresas Polar, Venezuela's largest private food supplier, said in its most recent financial report that it received just over half of the required amount of raw corn product needed to maintain production levels of its gold standard corn flour.

The government itself provides boxes of subsidized food which now include Mexican corn flour used for tortillas that tends to result in unrecognizable arepas.

Venezuelans apt to find humor even amid crisis have taken to social media to share sometimes comical creations with the Mexican flour.

One woman tried making tacos filled with Venezuelan favorites like black beans and plantains and ended up with a plate of beige-colored tortillas with crispy edges and a rubbery consistency. Another person made a lackluster cake.

More recently, the so-called CLAP boxes to Venezuela's poor came with actual kernels of corn instead of corn flour, sparking a wave of outrage.

"The regime wants us to sit back and watch the destruction of our country with popcorn," one angry recipient opined on Twitter.

The first migrants to flee the Venezuela's shortages found it hard to track down white corn flour in distant lands like Spain and Argentina. But these days, new arepa restaurants abroad are opening monthly and shipping in pallets of Venezuelan ingredients, often produced in the U.S. and other countries.

"It's the unexpected and even 'tasty' culinary counterpart of a humanitarian tragedy," Venezuelan journalist Vanessa Rolfini wrote recently.

Not everyone, however, is finding their new takes on the arepa to be easily accepted.

Jorge Udelman tried putting Mexican ingredients like cochinita pibil, a slow-roasted pork, in arepas. Customers said they liked his food but already had restaurants they'd going to for decades to get traditional flavors.

"I can't compete with three generations of a family making the same recipes," he said. "It's not in my DNA."

Today, he sticks to traditional Venezuelan recipes at his arepa restaurant in Mexico City.

Such experiences are somewhat reflective of the hurdles that Venezuelans are encountering as they try to integrate into new cultures.

"There is certainly no guarantee that the acceptance of the food is going to lead to positive feelings around the migrants themselves," Pilcher said.

But Gerson Briceño is one of the migrant success stories.

The former head of a publicity company in Venezuela fled to Colombia after his wife and young daughter were briefly kidnapped at gunpoint. He first started a cellphone business, but opened an arepa stand outside a mall in December 2017 when he found himself wanting to pay tribute to his cherished homeland.

Today, Arepas Café has eight locations around Bogotá.

"I always missed the flavor of home," he said.

He said he takes pride in seeing Colombians become repeat customers and order classics like the reina pepiada with chicken salad and avocado. But he's also created two new arepas filled with Colombian flavors. One is stuffed with cheese and sausage, while the other features most of the ingredients in a typical bandeja paisa, a dish common in Medellín that includes an egg, red beans, steak, crispy fried pork skin and a plantain.

Colombia Martha Patricia Chaparro and her daughter recently gave it a try, marveling at the unorthodox invention.

"I don't think it would have ever occurred to us," she said, "to put a bandeja paisa in an arepa!"

Follow Christine Armario on Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/cearmario>

## Protests flare over construction of telescope in Hawaii

By CALEB JONES and JENNIFER SINCO KELLEHER Associated Press

MAUNA KEA, Hawaii (AP) — Singing, chanting and lying on the ground in the road, hundreds of people demonstrated on Monday against the construction of a giant telescope on a mountaintop that some Native Hawaiians consider sacred.

The protests were the latest salvo in a yearslong fight that pits scientific discovery against cultural preservation.

Scientists hope the massive telescope planned for the site, a world-renowned location for astronomy, will help them peer back to the time just after the Big Bang and answer fundamental questions about the universe. But some Native Hawaiians consider the land holy, as a realm of gods and a place of worship.

The protesters gathered in response to an announcement by the state that officials would close the road to the summit of Mauna Kea on Monday so they could begin bringing equipment to the construction site in coming days.

At about daybreak, a group of kupuna, or elders, sitting in chairs, tied themselves together with rope and blocked the road to the summit in hopes of preventing construction equipment from getting past. Another group of protesters spent the day lying prone on the ground, with their arms shackled under a grate in the road.

After two protest leaders spoke with police, they addressed the crowd and told them anyone who didn't move would be arrested. The group would move aside, but the elders were expected to remain, protest leaders Kaho'okahi Kanuha and Andre Perez said.



**Demonstrators gather to block a road at the base of Hawaii's tallest mountain, Monday, July 15, 2019, in Mauna Kea, Hawaii, to protest the construction of a giant telescope on land that some Native Hawaiians consider sacred.**

(AP Photo/Caleb Jones)

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By mid-afternoon, law enforcement hadn't arrested anybody, saying their priority was installing concrete barriers along a nearby highway to create a buffer between speeding cars and the large numbers of people congregating in the area.

Those on the grate left after being told they wouldn't be arrested.

Walter Ritte, an activist, said it was difficult lying there for 11 hours. He said protesters' arms were connected through a series of metal pipes under the grate. Authorities would have had to cut the pipes to remove them, he said.

"It was so cold at 4 o'clock in the morning," Ritte said. "It was a test of our fortitude. This mountain is like our last stand."

Telescope opponent Jennifer Leina'ala Sleightholm said she hoped peaceful protests would lead to an end of the project while acknowledging that was an unlikely scenario.

"I think I know what will happen, but what I hope will happen is I hope that they would just turn around and save our kupuna," she said, using the Hawaiian word for elders.

Protesters vowed to return on Tuesday.

Richard Ha, a Native Hawaiian farmer who supports the project, said he's encouraged that there seems to be some cooperation between protesters and law enforcement.

He said he sympathized with the protesters, but is hopeful construction will begin.

It can be hard for Native Hawaiians to support the telescope because they fear backlash for being perceived as opposing Hawaiian beliefs, he said.

"It's very difficult when you have family members on different sides," he said.

The project has been delayed by years of legal battles and demonstrations, drawing attention from the likes of "Aquaman" actor Jason Momoa, who has Native Hawaiian ancestry and has voiced opposition to the telescope.

Scientists selected Mauna Kea in 2009 after a five-year, worldwide search for the ideal site.

Protests disrupted a groundbreaking and Hawaiian blessing ceremony at the site in 2014. After that, the demonstrations intensified.

Construction stopped in April 2015 after protesters were arrested for blocking the work. A second attempt to restart construction a few months later ended with more arrests and crews pulling back.

Hawaii's Supreme Court has ruled the construction is legal, permits are in place, and the state has given the company behind the telescope a green light to resume building. The company is made up of a group of universities in California and Canada, with partners from China, India and Japan.

Ancient Hawaiians considered the location kapu, or forbidden, according to the University of Hawaii. Only the highest-ranking chiefs and priests were allowed to make the long trek to Mauna Kea's summit above the clouds.

Today, the university leases the land at the summit from the state for existing telescopes and observatories on the summit. A road built for telescope access decades ago is used by thousands of tourists and locals each year, including Native Hawaiians who go there to pray.

Supporters of the \$1.4 billion telescope say the cutting-edge instrument will not only make important scientific discoveries but bring educational and economic opportunities to Hawaii.

The telescope's primary mirror would measure 98 feet (30 meters) in diameter. It would be three times as wide as the world's largest existing visible-light telescope, with nine times more area.

Gov. David Ige has said unarmed National Guard units would be used to transport personnel and supplies and enforce road closures but would not be used in law enforcement capacity during what could be weeks of protests.

In a news conference Sunday, Ige said that he "respected the right of people to protest" at the telescope site as long as protesters behave lawfully.

"As construction begins, our number one priority is keeping everyone safe," Ige said, adding that he wants to make sure construction workers and truck drivers have unimpeded access to the telescope site.

\_\_\_ Kelleher reported from Honolulu.

## Trump digs in on racist tweets: 'Many people agree with me'

By ZEKE MILLER, JILL COLVIN, and JONATHAN LEMIRE Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defiant in the face of widespread criticism, President Donald Trump renewed his belligerent call on Monday for four Democratic congresswomen of color to get out of the U.S. "right now," cementing his position as the most willing U.S. leader in generations to stoke the discord that helped send him to the White House.

Content to gamble that a sizeable chunk of the electorate embraces his tweets that have been widely denounced as racist, the president made clear that he has no qualms about exploiting racial divisions once again.

"It doesn't concern me because many people agree with me," Trump said at the White House. "A lot of people love it, by the way."

The episode served notice that Trump is willing to again rely on incendiary rhetoric on issues of race and immigration to preserve his political base in the leadup to the 2020 election.

There was near unanimous condemnation from Democrats for Trump's comments and a rumble of discontent from a subset of Republicans — but notably not from the party's congressional leaders.

Republican Sen. Mitt Romney of Utah, the GOP White House nominee in 2012 and now one of the president's most vocal GOP critics, said Trump's comments were "destructive, demeaning, and disunifying."

Far from backing down, Trump on Monday dug in on comments he had initially made a day earlier on Twitter that if lawmakers "hate our country," they can go back to their "broken and crime-infested" countries. His remarks were directed at four congresswomen: Reps. Ilhan Omar of Minnesota, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez of New York, Ayanna Pressley of Massachusetts and Rashida Tlaib of Michigan. All are American citizens and three of the four were born in the U.S.

"If you're not happy in the U.S., if you're complaining all the time, you can leave, you can leave right now," he said.

The president's words, which evoked the trope of telling black people to go back to Africa, may have been partly meant to widen the divides within the House Democratic caucus, which has been riven by internal debate over how best to oppose his policies. And while Trump's attacks brought Democrats together in defense of their colleagues, his allies noted he was also having some success in making the controversial progressive lawmakers the face of their party.

The president questioned whether Democrats should "want to wrap" themselves around this group of four people as he recited a list of the quartet's most controversial statements.

The four themselves fired back late Monday, condemning what they called "xenophobic bigoted remarks" from the president and renewing calls for their party to begin impeachment proceedings.

Trump "does not know how to defend his policies and so what he does is attack us personally," said Ocasio-Cortez.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, who said Trump's campaign slogan truly means he wants to "make America



**President Donald Trump speaks during a Made in America showcase event on the South Lawn of the White House, Monday, July 15, 2019, in Washington.** (AP Photo/Alex Brandon)

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white again," announced Monday that the House would vote on a resolution condemning his new comments. The resolution "strongly condemns President Donald Trump's racist comments" and says they "have legitimized and increased fear and hatred of new Americans and people of color."

The Senate's top Democrat, Chuck Schumer of New York, said his party would also try to force a vote in the GOP-controlled chamber.

Trump, who won the presidency in 2016 in part by energizing disaffected voters with inflammatory racial rhetoric, made clear he has no intention of backing away from that strategy in 2020.

"The Dems were trying to distance themselves from the four 'progressives,' but now they are forced to embrace them," he tweeted Monday afternoon. "That means they are endorsing Socialism, hate of Israel and the USA! Not good for the Democrats!"

Trump has faced few consequences for such attacks in the past. They typically earn him cycles of wall-to-wall media attention. He is wagering that his most steadfast supporters will be energized by the controversy as much, or if not more so, than the opposition.

"It's possible I'm wrong," Trump allowed Monday. "The voters will decide."

The president has told aides that he was giving voice what many of his supporters believe — that they are tired of people, including immigrants, disrespecting their country, according to three Republicans close to the White House who were not authorized to speak publicly about private conversations.

Trump on Monday singled out Omar, in particular, accusing her of having "hatred" for Israel, and expressing "love" for "enemies like al-Qaida."

"These are people that, in my opinion, hate our country," he said.

Omar, in an interview, once laughed about how a college professor had spoken of al-Qaida with an intensity she said was not used to describe "America," "England" or "The Army."

She addressed herself directly to Trump in a tweet, writing, "You are stoking white nationalism (because) you are angry that people like us are serving in Congress and fighting against your hate-filled agenda."

Republicans, for their part, largely trod carefully with their responses.

Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham, a close ally of the president who golfed with him over the weekend, advised him to "aim higher" during an appearance on "Fox and Friends," even as he accused the four Democrats of being "anti-Semitic" and "anti-American."

Marc Short, chief of staff to Vice President Mike Pence, said "I don't think that the president's intent in any way is racist," pointing to Trump's decision to choose Elaine Chao, who was born outside the country, as his transportation secretary.

Chao is one of the few minorities among the largely white and male aides in high-profile roles in Trump's administration. She is the wife of Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell, who declined comment Monday on Trump's attacks.

The latest provocation came just two days after Trump inserted himself further into a rift between Pelosi and Ocasio-Cortez, offering an unsolicited defense of the Democratic speaker. Pelosi has been seeking to minimize Ocasio-Cortez's influence in the House Democratic caucus in recent days, prompting the freshman lawmaker to accuse Pelosi of trying to marginalize women of color.

Trump told advisers later that he was pleased with his meddling, believing that dividing Democrats would be helpful to him, as would elevating any self-proclaimed socialists as a way to frighten voters to steer clear of their liberal politics, the Republicans said.

Among the few GOP lawmakers commenting Monday, Rep. Pete Olson of Texas said Trump's tweets were "not reflective of the values of the 1,000,000+ people" in his district. "We are proud to be the most diverse Congressional district in America. I urge our President immediately disavow his comments," he wrote.

Several other Republicans went out of their way to say they were not condoning the views of the Democrats, while encouraging Trump to retract his comments.

Maine Sen. Susan Collins, who is up for re-election next year, said Trump's tweet was "way over the line and he should take that down."

Sen. Patrick Toomey of Pennsylvania said of the Democrats, "We should defeat their ideas on the merits, not on the basis of their ancestry."

In an Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research poll from February 2017, half of Americans said the mixing of culture and values from around the world is an important part of America's identity as a nation. Fewer — about a third — said the same of a culture established by early European immigrants.

But partisans in that poll were divided over these aspects of America's identity. About two-thirds of Democrats but only about a third of Republicans thought the mixing of world cultures was important to the country's identity. By comparison, nearly half of Republicans but just about a quarter of Democrats saw the culture of early European immigrants as important to the nation.

Associated Press writer Hannah Fingerhut contributed from Washington.

Lemire reported from New York. Follow Miller on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/@ZekeJMiller>, Colvin at <http://twitter.com/@ColvinJ> and Lemire at <http://twitter.com/@JonLemire>.

## **GOP won't fully rebuke Trump attacks on women lawmakers**

**By LISA MASCARO and ALAN FRAM Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans found themselves unwilling Monday to swiftly and unequivocally rebuke President Donald Trump's attack on progressive women of color in Congress, almost ensuring no real fallout from his party in Congress.

Some Republicans spoke up against Trump's suggestion that the women should "go back" to the countries they came from. But others leveled their criticism of Trump in careful comments that also criticized the women. Most notably, the GOP leadership in Congress said more than most by staying silent or defending the president's incendiary remarks.

The result is that once again Republicans in Congress are allowing Trump to break the norms of civic behavior — as when he equivocated over the neo-Nazi rally in Charlottesville and used a vulgarity to describe immigrants from Africa and other countries — with a muffled response that does little to change outcomes.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., declined to discuss the situation after he opened the chamber Monday, telling reporters he'd "address whatever questions you have" at his regularly scheduled news conference Tuesday.

Asked if Trump's comments were racist, the top Republican in the House, Kevin McCarthy of California, said: "This is about ideology. And the ideology of the Democratic Party is socialist. This debate is going to go on for a long time."

Part of the problem for Republicans is a strategic one — they, too have piled on the freshmen lawmakers, using their liberal views to scare off voters.

Hardly a day goes by without Republicans raising warnings against the "squad" of newcomers: Reps.



**President Donald Trump arrives at a Made in America showcase on the South Lawn of the White House in Washington, Monday, July 15, 2019.** (AP Photo/Andrew Harnik)



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Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez of New York, Ocasio-Cortez, Ilhan Omar of Minnesota, Ayanna Pressley of Massachusetts and Rashida Tlaib of Michigan. They have become big money-makers for the GOP, portrayed as a more daunting threat than House Speaker Nancy Pelosi. Omar, a Muslim refugee from Somalia, has been criticized by Republicans almost since she arrived.

With an uneven response from leaders on Capitol Hill, it fell to rank-and-file Republicans to deliver some of the more critical rebukes.

Sen. Mitt Romney of Utah, the party's 2012 presidential nominee, said in a tweet, "The president failed badly."

Romney said, "The President of the United States has a unique and noble calling to unite the American people — of all different races, colors, and national origins." He called the remarks "destructive, demeaning, and disunifying."

Sen. Tim Scott of South Carolina, the only black Republican senator, said Trump made "unacceptable personal attacks" and used "racially offensive language."

For lawmakers in tough reelection battles, the open-ended reaction allowed them to craft the message that best fit their brand.

Sen. Susan Collins, the centrist Maine Republican who faces a potentially tough reelection race alongside Trump in 2020, called the president's comment "way over the line." But Collins also said she disagrees "strongly" with many of the views of the "far-left" members of the House Democrats.

Another Republican up for another term, Sen. Steve Daines of Montana, tweeted that people in his state are "sick and tired of listening to anti-American, anti-Semitic, radical Democrats trash our country and our ideals." Daines tweeted, "I stand with @realDonaldTrump."

One party leader, Sen. John Cornyn of Texas, put Trump's remarks in terms of a political strategy rather than the moral or civic debate the comments inspired.

"I think it's a mistake and an unforced error," said Cornyn. "I don't think the president is a racist."

Strategic thinking has guided Republicans throughout the Trump era, as they have repeatedly shown they are unwilling, and unable, to confront Trump even when he pushes the outer bounds of political rhetoric.

When Trump derided immigrants from Africa and Caribbean countries with a vulgarity, saying he preferred those from places like Norway, some Republicans objected. But two Republicans who were in the private meeting, Sens. Tom Cotton of Arkansas and David Perdue of Georgia, issued a statement at the time saying they could not recall the president using that specific insult.

When Trump said there were good people "on both sides" of a white supremacist neo-Nazi rally in Charlottesville that resulted in the death of a protester, then-House Speaker Paul Ryan said Trump "messed up."

On Sunday morning, Trump tweeted that the "'Progressive' Democrat Congresswomen" should "go back" and help fix the "broken and crime infested" countries they came from and then return and "show us how it is done."

Trump almost certainly was referring to the four new lawmakers — Ocasio-Cortez, Omar, Pressley and Tlaib — who are among the most outspoken against Trump administration policies and have made headlines in their ongoing divisions with Pelosi. They all support impeachment.

Ocasio-Cortez was born in the Bronx, Pressley in Cincinnati, Tlaib in Detroit. Omar has been a top target of Republicans for being critical of the U.S., and of Israel over its treatment of Palestinians.

By Monday, as the White House sought to smooth Trump's tweets, the president doubled down and said it was up to the women to apologize for "their horrible & disgusting actions!"

One Republican ally of Trump's, Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, piled on, calling the women "communists" and "anti-American" as he also sought to nudge the president to focus on their policies.

It was left to lesser-known Republicans to offer some of the strongest rebuttals.

Rep. Mike Turner, an Ohio Republican, said the president's tweets were "racist" and Trump should apologize. "We must work as a country to rise above hate, not enable it," said the nine-term congressman.

Sen. Lisa Murkowski, a moderate Republican from Alaska, said, "There is no excuse for the president's spiteful comments — they were absolutely unacceptable and this needs to stop."

Pressed Monday on whether the women should go, McCarthy, the House minority leader, conceded that

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"nobody believes somebody should leave the country."  
McCarthy added, "The president is not a racist."

Associated Press writers Matthew Daly, Laurie Kellman and Monika Mathur in Washington; David Eggert in Lansing, Mich.; and Meg Kinnard in Columbia, S.C., contributed to this report.

## Final blast of torrential rains unleashed by weakened Barry

By KEVIN MCGILL and JEFF MARTIN Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Tropical Depression Barry spared New Orleans and Baton Rouge from catastrophic flooding, but even as it weakened and moved north through Arkansas, its trailing rain bands swamped parts of Louisiana with up to 17 inches (43 centimeters) of rain and transformed part of the Mississippi Delta into "an ocean."

As of Monday evening, with the center of the storm about 105 miles (170 kilometers) northwest of Little Rock, the National Weather Service said flash flood watches remained in effect in southeast Texas through the lower Mississippi Valley.

Forecasters said the storm was expected to produce up to 4 inches (10 centimeters) of rain — and in isolated spots as much as 8 inches (20 centimeters) — across Arkansas, western Tennessee and Kentucky, southeast Missouri, and northwest Mississippi.

No fatalities or serious injuries reported from Barry.

Some of the earliest fears that the storm posed didn't play out: A shift in its path decreased the possibility of major Mississippi River levees being overtopped at New Orleans, where catastrophic levee breaches along canals devastated the city after Hurricane Katrina in 2005. And the torrents of rain forecasters had said were possible — portending repeats of catastrophic Baton Rouge area flooding in 2016 — didn't happen.

"This was a storm that obviously could have played out very, very differently," Gov. John Bel Edwards said. "We're thankful that the worst-case scenario did not happen."

But the storm was still a huge headache for many. Levees were overtopped along waterways in some coastal parishes. More than 90 people were rescued because of high water in at least 11 parishes, Edwards said.

And the problems persisted long after Saturday's landfall — when Barry came ashore as a weak hurricane. Deluges hit parts of southwest Louisiana late Sunday into Monday morning.

Calcasieu Parish emergency director Dick Gremillion estimated northern parts of the parish got 17 inches (43 centimeters) in a few hours. Two people had to be rescued from swamped cars and 19 others were moved from residences threatened by high water, he said.

In Oakdale, Louisiana, Mayor Gene Paul estimated 14 inches (36 centimeters) fell overnight. He spent



**Roadways and yards are flooded after heavy rain from Tropical Depression Barry fell in Lake Charles, La. Monday, July 15, 2019. Barry was downgraded from a tropical storm on Sunday afternoon, but its torrential rains continued to pose a threat Monday. Much of Louisiana and Mississippi were under flash-flood watches, as were parts of Arkansas, eastern Texas, western Tennessee and southeastern Missouri.** (Kirk Meche/Lake Charles American Press via AP)

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part of Monday gathering information on businesses and homes that took on water.

In Evangeline Parish, north of Lafayette, KLFY television showed scenes of water-covered streets and flooded cars in the town of Ville Platte.

For much of Monday a continuous line of showers extended from the southwest to the northeast.

"Please don't drive through these flooded areas," Calcasieu Parish Sheriff Tony Mancuso pleaded with motorists.

"I noticed our rivers coming up real quick," Mancuso said in an interview aired on KPLC-TV . "It's just very serious right now."

In Mississippi, forecasters said 8 inches (20 centimeters) of rain had fallen in parts of Jasper and Jones counties by Monday, with several more inches possible.

"The South Delta has become an ocean," Mississippi Gov. Phil Bryant wrote on Twitter on Monday.

He's calling on the federal government to build pumps to drain water from the confluence of the Yazoo and Mississippi Rivers. The EPA shelved the project in 2008 amid concerns about wetlands and wildlife. The Trump administration has said it might reconsider that decision.

The Edison Electric Institute, a trade association, estimated that there were more than 325,000 power outages reported in multiple states over the course of the storm, and that about 33,000 remained without power as of Monday evening.

Martin reported from Atlanta. Contributing to this report were Associated Press writers Rebecca Santana in New Orleans; Jay Reeves in Mandeville; Rogelio Solis in Morgan City; Emily Wagster Pettus in Jackson, Mississippi; Jeff Martin in Atlanta; and Jeffrey Collins in Columbia, South Carolina.

For the latest on Tropical Storm Barry, visit <https://apnews.com/Hurricanes> .

## Trump abortion restrictions effective immediately

By RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Taxpayer-funded family planning clinics must stop referring women for abortions immediately, the Trump administration said Monday, declaring it will begin enforcing a new regulation hailed by religious conservatives and denounced by medical organizations and women's rights groups.

The head of a national umbrella group representing the clinics said the administration is following "an ideological agenda" that could disrupt basic health care for many low-income women.

Ahead of a planned conference Tuesday with the clinics, the Health and Human Services Department formally notified them that it will begin enforcing the ban on abortion referrals, along with a requirement that clinics maintain separate finances from facilities that provide abortions. Another requirement that both kinds of facilities cannot be under the same roof would take effect next year.

The rule is widely seen as a blow against Planned Parenthood, which provides taxpayer-funded family planning and basic health care to low-income women, as well as abortions that must be paid for separately. The organization is a mainstay of the federally funded family planning program and it has threatened to quit over the issue.

Planned Parenthood President Leana Wen said in a statement that "our doors are still open" as her organization and other groups seek to overturn the regulations in federal court. "We will not stop fighting for all those across the country in need of essential care," Wen said.

HHS said no judicial orders currently prevent it from enforcing the rule while the litigation proceeds.

Clare Coleman, president of the umbrella group National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association, said "the administration's actions show its intent is to further an ideological agenda."

Abortion opponents welcomed the administration's move. "Ending the connection between abortion and family planning is a victory for common-sense health care," Kristan Hawkins, president of Students for Life, said in a statement.

Known as Title X, the family-planning program serves about 4 million women annually through inde-

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pendent clinics, many operated by Planned Parenthood affiliates, which serve about 40 percent of all clients. The program provides about \$260 million a year in grants to clinics.

The family planning rule is part of a series of Trump administration efforts to remake government policy on reproductive health. Other regulations tangled up in court would allow employers to opt out of offering free birth control to women workers on the basis of religious or moral objections, and grant health care professionals wider leeway to opt out of procedures that offend their religious or moral scruples.

Abortion is a legal medical procedure, but federal laws prohibit the use of taxpayer funds to pay for abortions except in cases of rape, incest, or to save the life of the woman.

Under the administration's rule, clinic staff would still be permitted to discuss abortion with clients, along with other options. However, that would no longer be required.

The American Medical Association is among the professional groups opposed to the administration's policy, saying it could affect low-income women's access to basic medical care, including birth control, cancer screenings and testing and treatment for sexually transmitted diseases. By law, the family planning program does not pay for abortions.

Religious conservatives see the regulation as a means to end what they call an indirect taxpayer subsidy of abortion providers.

Although abortion remains politically divisive, the U.S. abortion rate has dropped significantly, from about 29 per 1,000 women of reproductive age in 1980 to about 15 in 2014. Better contraception, fewer unintended pregnancies and state restrictions may have played a role, according to a recent scientific report. Polls show most Americans do not want the Supreme Court to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, the 1973 ruling that legalized abortion.

The Trump administration's policy echoes a Reagan-era regulation that barred clinics from even discussing abortion with women. It never went into effect as written, although the Supreme Court ruled it was appropriate.

The policy was rescinded under President Bill Clinton, and a new rule took effect requiring "nondirective" counseling to include a full range of options for women. The Trump administration is now rolling back the Clinton requirement.



**FILE - In this June 28, 2019 file photo, Ashlyn Myers of the Coalition for Life St. Louis, waves to a Planned Parenthood staff member in St. Louis, Mo. The Trump administration says its new regulation barring taxpayer-funded family planning clinics from referring women for abortions is taking effect immediately.** (Robert Cohen/St. Louis Post-Dispatch via AP)

## Women urge jail until trial for Epstein as judge weighs bail

By LARRY NEUMEISTER and JIM MUSTIAN Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Two Jeffrey Epstein accusers urged a judge Monday to keep the wealthy financier behind bars until he goes on trial on federal charges that he sexually abused underage girls.

The women stood just feet from where Epstein was seated in his blue jail outfit as they asked a federal judge to reject a request by Epstein's lawyers that he remain under house arrest in his \$77 million Manhattan mansion until trial on conspiracy and sex trafficking charges.

Courtney Wild, an unnamed victim in the 2008 lawsuit against the Department of Justice for the secret plea deal that allowed Epstein to avoid similar charges, spoke for the first time in court with a fellow accuser.

Wild said she was sexually abused by Epstein in Palm Beach, Florida, when she was 14.

"He's a scary person to have walking the streets," she said.

Annie Farmer said she was 16 when she met Epstein in New York.

She said he later flew her to New Mexico to spend time with him there.

"He was inappropriate with me," she said. She did not elaborate.

The Associated Press doesn't name alleged victims of sexual abuse without their consent. Through their lawyers, both Farmer and Wild said they were willing to be publicly identified.

Judge Richard M. Berman said he'll rule Thursday whether Epstein can be freed on bail, but he noted at the outset of a two-hour hearing there was a presumption in sex trafficking cases involving juveniles that the defendant will remain locked up.

He also rescinded his decision last week to let Epstein reveal his finances under seal, criticizing a one-page "asset summary" in which Epstein claimed \$559 million in assets, including \$56 million in cash, \$112 million in equities, \$195 million in hedge funds and private equity and \$180 million in property.

Epstein seemed animated Monday, writing notes to his attorneys and leaning forward with his hands folded. He looked directly at each of his accusers before they spoke.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Alex Rossmiller said the government's case is "getting stronger every single day" since Epstein was arrested July 6 as he arrived at a New Jersey airport from Paris on his private plane.

During a raid at Epstein's Manhattan mansion following his arrest, Rossmiller said, investigators found "piles of cash," "dozens of diamonds" and an expired passport with Epstein's picture and a fake name in a locked safe.

"How many safes are there in so many other locations like these?" Rossmiller asked.

He called the well-connected Epstein, 66, a flight risk and a danger to the community, saying he should remain incarcerated until he is tried on charges that he recruited and abused dozens of underage girls in New York and Florida in the early 2000s.



**Annie Farmer, left, and Courtney Wild, right, accusers of Jeffrey Epstein, stand outside the courthouse in New York, Monday, July 15, 2019. Financier Jeffrey Epstein will remain behind bars for now as a federal judge mulls whether to grant bail on charges he sexually abused underage girls.** (AP Photo/Seth Wenig)

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Epstein's lawyer, Martin Weinberg, said his client has not committed crimes since pleading guilty to charges of soliciting a minor for prostitution in Florida in 2008 and that the federal government is reneging on a 12-year-old plea deal not to prosecute him.

Epstein had demonstrated that he "disciplined himself," Weinberg said, by not engaging in any crimes since the Florida deal, in which he agreed to submit himself to sex offender registration procedures in multiple states.

The "14-year gap is an elegant rebuttal" to expectations that he would re-offend, Weinberg said. "It's not like he's an out-of-control rapist."

But the judge later noted he had read literature related to sex offenders that indicated the chance of a sex offender committing a new crime grew over time.

In addition to the charges in the indictment, prosecutors are also reviewing dozens of electronic files seized during the raid on Epstein's New York residence, saying they have found even more photos than the trove of pictures of nude and seminude young women and girls they had reported prior to a court hearing a week ago.

Rossmiller said the pictures included at least one woman who has identified herself as one of Epstein's victims.

Farmer cited the pictures when she spoke in court, questioning whether Epstein's lawyer was accurate to say Epstein was disciplining himself.

"If he's continuing to engage with pornography of young women, I would say that would be quite the opposite of disciplining," she said.

Prior to Monday's hearing, prosecutors said in court papers that additional women in multiple jurisdictions had told the government they were abused as minors by Epstein since his arrest. Also, dozens of individuals have called the government to report information about Epstein and the charges he faces, prosecutors said.

Prosecutors said they believe Epstein might have tried to influence witnesses after discovering that he had paid a total of \$350,000 to two individuals, including a former employee, in the last year. That came after the Miami Herald reported the circumstances of his state court conviction in 2008, which led to a 13-month jail term and his deal to avoid federal prosecution.

Weinberg defended the payouts, saying sending money to an employee or a friend "is simply not witness tampering." He added that even if his client knew scrutiny was intensifying of his behavior in the early 2000s, he never tried to leave the country, although he now considers his primary residence the Virgin Islands.

Rossmiller, though, said prosecutors went to great lengths to ensure no word leaked out about their months-long investigation because they feared he would flee. He also said the probe did not stem from interactions with federal prosecutors in Florida.

"He is in a grave position, and he has every motive and means to flee," the prosecutor said.

Labor Secretary Alexander Acosta resigned last week following renewed criticism over the 2008 plea deal with Epstein that he oversaw as the U.S. attorney in Miami.

## Cyberattacks inflict deep harm at technology-rich schools

By MICHAEL MELIA Associated Press

AVON, Conn. (AP) — Over six weeks, the vandals kept coming, knocking the school system's network offline several times a day.

There was no breach of sensitive data files, but the attacks in which somebody deliberately overwhelmed the Avon Public Schools system in Connecticut still proved costly. Classroom lesson plans built around access to the internet had come to a halt.

"The first time I called the FBI, their first question was, 'Well, what did it cost you?'" said Robert Vojtek, the district's technology director. "It's like, 'Well, we were down for three quarters of a day, we have 4,000 students, we have almost 500 adults, and teaching and learning stopped for an entire day.' So how do

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you put a price tag on that?"

The kind of attacks more commonly reserved for banks and other institutions holding sensitive data are increasingly targeting school systems around the country. The widespread adoption of education technology, which generates data that officials say can make schools more of a target for hackers, also worsens an attack's effects when instructional tools are rendered useless by internet outages.

Schools are attractive targets because they hold sensitive data and provide critical public services, according to the FBI, which said in a written statement that perpetrators include criminals motivated by profit, juvenile pranksters and possibly foreign governments. Attacks against schools have become common, the FBI said, but it is impossible to know how frequently they occur because many go unreported to law enforcement when data is not compromised.

Attacks often have forced districts to pull the plug on smart boards, student laptops and other internet-powered tools.

Schools in the Florida Keys took themselves offline for several days last September after a district employee discovered a malware attack. Monroe County schools Superintendent Mark Porter said teachers had to do things differently but adapted quickly.

"I heard a little grumbling at the beginning and then the comment was, 'I guess we'll have to go old school,'" Porter said. "And they went back to work and did it the way they probably did it just a few years ago."

Schools with few or no employees dedicated to information security often are surprised to find themselves as targets.

The 2,000-student Coventry Local School District in Ohio had to close schools in May as staff worked to fight a virus that had infected the network. The FBI helped to guide the district through the recovery and offered assistance on best practices.

The school system did not have cybersecurity insurance, said Kelly Kendrick, the district's technology director, and her three-person department is still working to debug devices affected by the attack.

FBI officials told the district that the attackers apparently did not obtain sensitive information, but that it was clear they were after data of some kind, she said.

"Why this little school in Akron, Ohio? Why was it a target?" Kendrick said. "It has really opened my eyes to how data of any kind is marketable, sellable."

In September, the FBI issued a public service announcement warning the growth of education technologies and widespread collection of student identification data along with other information including academic progress and classroom activities "could have privacy and safety implications if compromised or exploited."

Malicious use of the data could lead to bullying, tracking, identity theft and other threats, it said.

Penalties can be severe. Students suspected of involvement in disruptive cyber pranks often have been



**FILE - In this June 19, 2018, file photo, a router and internet switch are displayed in East Derry, N.H. The FBI said cyberattacks have become common at schools, which are attractive targets because they hold sensitive data and provide critical public services. Malicious use of the data could lead to bullying, tracking and identity theft, the agency said.** (AP Photo/Charles Krupa, File)

hit with felony charges.

And in March, Olukayode Lawal, a Nigerian man living in Smyrna, Georgia, was sentenced to 10 months in prison and ordered to be deported for his role in an email scheme that used tax information from Connecticut school employees to falsely claim tax refunds.

In many cases, school officials say they never learn who was behind the attacks.

In North Dakota, where a third of schools statewide were hit with a malware attack last year, it was traced to North Korea, although it's unclear if that country was the origin of the attack or just the location of a device that was used as a stepping stone, according to Sean Wiese, the state's chief information security officer.

School networks "may be considered easy targets because they're a little bit more open than your traditional corporate culture," Wiese said. "I do feel that is changing, just not quickly enough."

In New York state, U.S. Sen. Chuck Schumer called on the U.S. Department of Homeland Security last October to investigate and help prevent future intrusions after a series of attacks caused outages at 50 school districts.

The denial-of-service attacks, designed to overload and deny access to the network, he said, "subverted teacher lesson plans and interrupted student learning."

The outages were disruptive particularly because many of the state's schools have issued digital devices to each student, part of a transition to a model where students spend part of a school day working at their own speed, according to Pam Mazzaferro, director of the Central New York Regional Information Center.

Vojtek, whose department was tasked with responding to the denial-of-service attacks on Avon schools in late 2017, said it was difficult being the one to answer to educators for why the network was down.

"It was just tough to get a handle on it and people are not resilient when it comes to their teaching resources," he said. "So if those are gone, somebody needs to pay."

## Boeing jet trouble leads to cuts at Europe's busiest airline

By GREGORY KATZ Associated  
Press

LONDON (AP) — Europe's biggest airline, budget carrier Ryanair, will cut flights and close some of its bases beginning this winter because of the delay to deliveries of the Boeing 737 Max plane, which has been grounded globally after two fatal crashes.

The airline also warned Tuesday that its growth in European summer traffic for 2020 will be lower than expected because of the slowed deliveries.

Ryanair chief Michael O'Leary said the airline "remains committed" to the Boeing 737 Max and expects it to be back in service before the end of the year but that the date is uncertain.

Ryanair, which is Europe's top airline by passengers, says some delays are expected and doubts about when the



**FILE - In this Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2018 file photo, a Ryanair plane is parked at the airport in Weeze, Germany. Europe's biggest airline by passengers, budget carrier Ryanair, will cut flights and close some of its bases beginning this winter because of the delay to deliveries of the Boeing 737 Max plane, which has been grounded globally after two fatal crashes. The airline warned Tuesday, July 16, 2019, its growth in European summer traffic for 2020 will be lower than expected because of the slowed deliveries.**

(AP Photo/Martin Meissner, File)



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plane can return to the skies means it will take delivery of only 30 Max jets a year from now, rather than the previously scheduled 58.

He says the airline will close some of its bases as a result with a hope to return to "normal" growth levels in 2021. No details about the planned base cuts were provided.

Boeing's 737 Max has been grounded after the Lion Air crash off the coast of Indonesia in October and the Ethiopian Airlines crash in March that killed a total of 346 people.

Preliminary reports indicate that flight-control software called MCAS pushed the nose of the plane down in both crashes. Chicago-based Boeing did not tell pilots about MCAS until after the first crash. The company is working on changes to make the software more reliable and easier to control.

Concerns about viability of the new aircraft remains, however.

The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration is due to review Boeing's fixes and has said it is following a thorough process, but has no timetable for when the recertification will be completed. European regulators have to then also approve the jets before they can be used in the region.

American Airlines said this week that it will keep the Boeing 737 Max plane off its schedule until Nov. 3, which is two months longer than it had planned. That will result in the cancellation of about 115 flights per day.

United Airlines has also extended its cancellations until Nov. 3. The company has 14 Max jets while American has 24 of them. Southwest Airlines, which has 34 Max jets — more than any other carrier — is canceling about 150 flights per day.

## Asian shares mixed in lackluster trading, Nikkei falls 0.6%

By YURI KAGEYAMA AP Business Writer

TOKYO (AP) — Asian shares were little changed and mixed in quiet trading Tuesday amid a lack of fresh market-moving news as investors looked ahead to earnings season.

Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 lost 0.6% in early trading to 21,549.68. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 edged 0.1% higher to 6,657.20. South Korea's Kospi added 0.3% to 2,089.54 and Hong Kong's Hang Seng rose 0.2% to 28,600.32, while the Shanghai Composite shed 0.1% to 2,939.08.

"The lack of impetus for Asia markets has kept prices trading in a lackluster fashion this morning," said Jingyi Pan, market strategist for IG in Singapore.

One factor weighing on sentiment is the impasse between the U.S. and China over trade.

The White House's repeated threats to raise tariffs further in retaliation for the U.S. trade deficit and policies that critics say are unfair has made companies hesitant to invest and has hurt trade internationally. They're a big reason China on Monday reported its weakest quarter of economic growth in at least 26 years.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Stephen Mnuchin told reporters in Washington on Monday that he has held "several conversations" with Chinese officials and expects another phone call this week.

The aim is to restart high-level talks that collapsed in May.

"To the extent that we make significant progress I think we'll go there," he said.

Wall Street had a wobbly day of trading with gains that were just enough to nudge benchmarks further into record territory.

The S&P 500 rose 0.53 points to 3,014.30 after drifting between a gain of 0.1% and a loss of 0.2% earlier in the day. The Dow Jones Industrial Average gained 0.1% to 27,359.16 and the Nasdaq composite added 0.2% to 8,258.19.

U.S. stocks have jumped since early June on increasing expectations that the Federal Reserve will cut interest rates to help the economy, and investors are virtually certain that it will happen at the next Fed meeting at the end of this month. The only question, investors say, is how deeply the Fed will cut when it lowers rates for the first time in a decade.

Until then, the main drivers for the market will likely be the hundreds of earnings reports scheduled to come from big companies, showing how much profit they made from April through June.

Several economic reports are also on the schedule this week, including updates on retail sales, the hous-

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ing industry and shoppers' confidence. The U.S. economy has generally remained solid, but investors don't expect this week's reports to alter the direction of the Fed, which has already given hints about rate cuts given weakening economic trends around the world.

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude was unchanged at \$59.58 a barrel. It fell 63 cents on Monday. Brent crude, the international standard, gained 7 cents to \$66.55 a barrel.

CURRENCIES: The dollar inched up to 107.98 Japanese yen from 107.92 late Monday. The euro rose to \$1.1263 from \$1.1258.

AP Business Writers Stan Choe and Damian J. Troise in New York contributed to this report.

## Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, July 16, the 197th day of 2019. There are 168 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 16, 1969, Apollo 11 blasted off from Cape Kennedy on the first manned mission to the surface of the moon.

On this date:

In 1790, a site along the Potomac River was designated the permanent seat of the United States government; the area became Washington, D.C.

In 1911, actress-dancer Ginger Rogers was born Virginia Katherine McMath in Independence, Mo.

In 1945, the United States exploded its first experimental atomic bomb in the desert of Alamogordo (ahl-ah-moh-GOHR'-doh), New Mexico; the same day, the heavy cruiser USS Indianapolis left Mare (mar-AY') Island Naval Shipyard in California on a secret mission to deliver atomic bomb components to Tinian Island in the Marianas.

In 1957, Marine Corps Maj. John Glenn set a transcontinental speed record by flying a Vought F8U Crusader jet from California to New York in 3 hours, 23 minutes and 8.4 seconds.

In 1964, as he accepted the Republican presidential nomination in San Francisco, Barry M. Goldwater declared that "extremism in the defense of liberty is no vice" and that "moderation in the pursuit of justice is no virtue."

In 1979, Saddam Hussein became president of Iraq.

In 1980, former California Gov. Ronald Reagan won the Republican presidential nomination at the party's convention in Detroit.

In 1981, singer Harry Chapin was killed when his car was struck by a tractor-trailer on New York's Long Island Expressway.

In 1999, John F. Kennedy Jr., his wife, Carolyn, and her sister, Lauren Bessette (bih-SEHT'), died when their single-engine plane, piloted by Kennedy, plunged into the Atlantic Ocean near Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts.

In 2002, the Irish Republican Army issued an unprecedented apology for the deaths of "noncombatants" over 30 years of violence in Northern Ireland.

In 2004, Martha Stewart was sentenced to five months in prison and five months of home confinement by a federal judge in New York for lying about a stock sale.

In 2008, Florida resident Casey Anthony, whose 2-year-old daughter, Caylee, had been missing a month, was arrested on charges of child neglect, making false official statements and obstructing a criminal investigation. (Casey Anthony was later acquitted at trial of murdering Caylee, whose skeletal remains were found in December 2008; she was convicted of lying to police.)

Ten years ago: Saying that civil rights leaders from decades past had paved the way for his election as the nation's first black commander in chief, President Barack Obama paid homage to the NAACP during a convention in New York, and advised members that their work remained unfinished. In an embarrassing

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acknowledgement, NASA admitted that in all likelihood, it had recorded over the original videotapes of the Apollo 11 moon landing.

Five years ago: The U.S. and the European Union imposed new economic sanctions on Russia; in his announcement, President Barack Obama said, "What we are expecting is that the Russian leadership will see once again that its actions in Ukraine have consequences." Texas blues legend Johnny Winter, 70, died in Zurich.

One year ago: After meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin in Helsinki, President Donald Trump openly questioned the finding of his own intelligence agencies that Russia had meddled in the 2016 U.S. election to his benefit. (Trump said a day later that he misspoke.) Federal prosecutors said a 29-year-old gun rights activist, Maria Butina, had been arrested on charges that she served as a covert Russian agent while living in Washington, gathering intelligence on American officials and political organizations. (Butina was sentenced to 18 months in prison after admitting gathering intelligence on the NRA and other groups at the direction of a former Russian lawmaker.) Bryce Harper of the Washington Nationals won the All-Star Home Run Derby in his home ballpark, beating Kyle Schwarber of the Chicago Cubs 19-18.

Today's Birthdays: Former U.S. Attorney General Dick Thornburgh is 87. Soul singer William Bell is 80. International Tennis Hall of Famer Margaret Court is 77. College Football Hall of Famer and football coach Jimmy Johnson is 76. Violinist Pinchas Zukerman is 71. Actor-singer Ruben Blades is 71. Rock composer-musician Stewart Copeland is 67. Playwright Tony Kushner is 63. Actress Faye Grant is 62. Dancer Michael Flatley is 61. Actress Phoebe Cates is 56. Actor Paul Hipp is 56. Actor Daryl "Chill" Mitchell is 54. Actor-comedian Will Ferrell is 52. Actor Jonathan Adams is 52. College and Pro Football Hall of Famer Barry Sanders is 51. Actress Rain Pryor is 50. Actor Corey Feldman is 48. Rock musician Ed Kowalczyk (koh-WAHL'-chek) (Live) is 48. Rock singer Ryan McCombs (Drowning Pool) is 45. Actress Jayma Mays is 40. Actress AnnaLynne McCord is 32. Actor-singer James Maslow is 29. Actor Mark Indelicato is 25. Pop singer-musician Luke Hemmings (5 Seconds to Summer) is 23.

Thought for Today: "Any life, however long and complicated it may be, actually consists of a single moment: the moment when a man knows forever more who he is." — Jorge Luis Borges, Argentine author (1899-1986).