

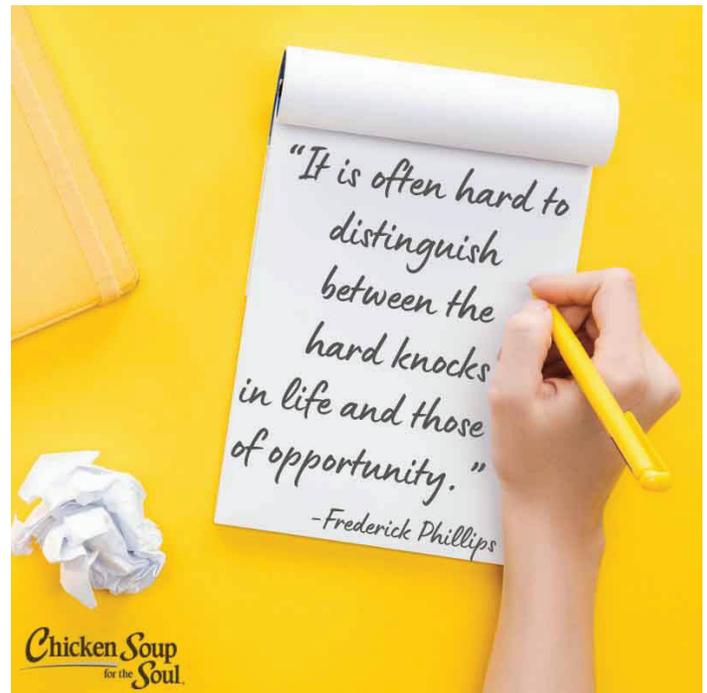
Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 1 of 59

- [2- Fall Lawn Weed Control](#)
- [3- Weather Pages](#)
- [6- Daily Devotional](#)
- [7- 2019 Groton Events](#)
- [8- News from the Associated Press](#)

Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

9:00am- 11:30am: Juniors' Post-High Planning Day Northern State University
4:00pm: Cross Country: Varsity Meet vs. Sisseton @ Sisseton Golf Course
4:00pm: Volleyball: Girls 7th/8th Match vs. Clark/Willow Lake @ Clark/Willow Lake
7th Grade @ 4 PM in field house 8th Grade @ 4 PM in the main gym
4:15pm: Football: Boys 7th/8th Game vs. Tiospa Zina @ Tiospa Zina High School. One combined game
5:00pm: Volleyball: Girls Varsity Match vs. Clark/Willow Lake @ Clark-Willow Lake High School "C" Match @ 5 PM JV @ 6 PM Varsity to Follow



OPEN: Recycling Trailer in Groton
The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave. It takes cardboard, papers and aluminum cans.

It's Volleyball Action on GDILIVE.COM

Clark/Willow Lake VS 

Groton Area Tigers

Thursday, Oct. 3, 2019
7:15 p.m. at Clark

SPONSORED BY DAKOTA RISK MANAGEMENT

Fall Lawn Weed Control

BROOKINGS, S.D. - Fall is the time to control tough perennial broadleaf lawn weeds. Good moisture in most places in August helped contribute to significant fall growth of perennial weeds. Fall is a good time to target weeds such as dandelion, ground ivy, creeping bell flower, field bindweed, and white clover. Ground ivy is also known as creeping charlie and field bindweed is often referred to as creeping jenny.

Results of the SDSU Weed Evaluation Extension Evaluation (WEED) project show fall timing has the best chance for control of dandelions. Active new growth is important for good results. Allow the grass to grow up and delay mowing to get good growth. Spraying can start anytime in September. For the toughest weeds, like ground ivy and creeping bell flower, make a repeat application as soon as the product labels allow, ideally two weeks after spraying.

Fall works best for perennial weeds because the herbicide moves into the root better. If you wait until after a light frost, other plants in the yard are less sensitive to drift. Apply with care and use low pressure and coarse droplets to reduce drift. Do not make applications if it is windy. Most broadleaf lawn products are a mixture of herbicide ingredients and they are available in several product brands. Check label guidelines for mixing and applying instructions.

GDILIVE.COM will be broadcasting the games from Clark; however, at this time, we do not have any sponsors for the matches in Redfield on Saturday. If anyone is interested, call or text Paul at 605/397-7460.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 3 of 59

Today



Cloudy

High: 48 °F

Tonight



Decreasing
Clouds then
Patchy Frost

Low: 34 °F

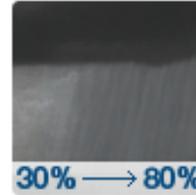
Friday



Mostly Sunny
then Mostly
Sunny and
Breezy

High: 57 °F

Friday
Night



30% → 80%
Chance
Showers then
Showers

Low: 47 °F

Saturday



60%
Showers
Likely and
Breezy

High: 58 °F

National Weather Service
Aberdeen, SD

Today	Tonight	Friday
Near 50°	Mid 30s	Near 60°
	Patchy Frost Possible	Windy

Updated: 10/3/2019 5:41 AM Central

Published on: 10/03/2019 at 1:49AM

High pressure will gradually build into the region today. This will help to dry conditions out but still keep temperatures cooler than normal for this time of year. Mostly cloudy skies can be expected with some sunny breaks at times through the afternoon. Some clearing will be possible overnight tonight with temperatures falling into the 30s for lows. Some patchy frost will be possible in the James Valley. A bit warmer and more windy conditions can be anticipated for Friday.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 4 of 59

Today in Weather History

October 3, 1985: High winds of 60 to 75 mph occurred across much of western South Dakota from the late afternoon of the 3rd into the early morning hours of the 4th. The winds blew down power lines and caused power outages for many locations in the Black Hills. The strong winds uprooted trees in Rapid City and blew the roof off of a barn near Newell in Butte County.

1780: A hurricane, which formed on October 1st, destroyed the port city of Savanna-la-Mar on the island of Jamaica on this day. By some estimates, this storm caused 3,000 deaths. This storm is documented in the Jamaica Archives and Record Department.

1903: An unusual late-season tornado moved northeast from west of Chatfield, Minnesota, passing through and devastating St. Charles, Minnesota. Seven people were killed and 30 injured as 50 homes and businesses were damaged or destroyed.

1979: An F4 tornado struck the towns of Windsor, Windsor Locks, and Suffield in Connecticut, causing an estimated \$400 million in property damage, on this day. The New England Air Museum, which housed more than 20 vintage aircraft, was destroyed. This tornado also caused a United Airlines flight to abort a landing at the Bradley International Airport because the pilot saw the tornado.

1841 - An October gale, the worst of record for Nantucket, MA, caught the Cap Cod fishing fleet at sea. Forty ships were driven ashore on Cape Cod, and 57 men perished from the town of Truro alone. Heavy snow fell inland, with 18 inches near Middletown, CT. (David Ludlum)

1912 - The longest dry spell of record in the U.S. commenced as Bagdad, CA, went 767 days without rain. (David Ludlum)

1964 - Hurricane Hilda struck Louisiana spawning many tornadoes, and claimed twenty-two lives. (Sandra and TI Richard Sanders)

1979 - The first killer tornado of record in October in Connecticut destroyed sixteen vintage aircraft at the Bradley Air Museum in Windsor Locks. The tornado damaged more than one hundred homes causing 200 million dollars damage. Three persons were killed, and 500 others were injured. (The Weather Channel)

1986 - Remnants of Hurricane Paine deluged Oklahoma and southeastern Kansas with 6 to 10 inch overnight rains. Hardy, OK, was drenched with 21.79 inches. Heavy rain between September 26th and October 4th caused 350 million dollars damage in Oklahoma. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Twenty-five cities in the Upper Midwest, including ten in Iowa, reported record low temperatures for the date. Duluth MN, Eau Claire, WI, and Spencer, IA, dipped to 24 degrees. Temperatures warmed into the 80s in the Northern and Central High Plains Region. At Chadron, NE, the mercury soared from a morning low of 29 degrees to an afternoon high of 88 degrees. Temperatures soared above 100 degrees in southern California. The high of 108 degrees at Downtown Los Angeles was a record for October. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Cold Canadian air invaded the north central U.S. bringing an end to the growing season across those states. Unseasonably warm weather prevailed in the southwestern U.S. Phoenix, AZ, reported a record high of 105 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Unseasonably cold weather prevailed from the Pacific Northwest to the Upper Mississippi Valley. A dozen cities reported record low temperatures for the date, including Bismarck, ND, and Williston, ND, with readings of 16 degrees above zero. An upper level weather disturbance brought snow to parts of Idaho, Wyoming and Montana, with five inches re

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 6 of 59



ALL YOU CAN BE

Years ago, after being introduced to the students in a small college in South Carolina, the guest speaker stood quietly for a moment.

She then began her remarks by saying, "I was born to a mother who was deaf and could not speak. I do not know who my father is or where he may be. The first job I ever had was in a cotton field."

Smiling, she continued and said, "I stand before you today as the Treasurer of the United States. My name is Azie Taylor Moore. Nothing has to remain the way it is if that's not the way you want it to be."

Paul said that "I can do everything with the help of Christ who gives me the strength that I need." Does that mean we can become the Treasurer of the United States? The chief executive officer of a large corporation? The driver of an eighteen-wheeler? The crossing guard for an elementary school? Perhaps.

The power that is ours through Christ is available to meet every challenge in life as long as we are doing His will. His strength will prevail in us, for us, and through us whenever we do what He has called us to do. But we must be willing and committed to fulfilling the purpose He has for our lives. It is inappropriate for us to expect God to empower us to be or do anything that is not in keeping with His will. What we do must be in keeping with what His character is!

Prayer: Help us, Lord, to be faithful to You in everything we do, and to always seek Your will for our lives. May what we do and think follow the example of Your Son. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Philippians 4:13 I can do everything with the help of Christ who gives me the strength that I need.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 7 of 59

2019 Groton SD Community Events

- 09/07/2019 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
- 09/08/2019 Sunflower Classic at Olive Grove Golf Course
- 09/12/2019 St. John's Lutheran Luncheon
- 09/20/2019 Presbyterian Luncheon
- 09/28/2019 Granary Living History Fall Festival
- 10/11/2019 Lake Region Marching Band Festival (2nd Friday in October)
- 10/12/2019 Pumpkin Fest (Saturday before Columbus Day)
- 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

- 01/26/2020 Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm (Last Sunday of January)
- 04/04/2020 Groton Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt, 10 a.m. Sharp (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
- 04/25/2020 Fireman's Stag (Same Saturday as GHS Prom)
- 05/02/2020 Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. (1st Saturday in May)
- 05/25/2020 Groton American Legion Post #39 Memorial Day Services (Memorial Day)
- 06/8-10/2020 St. John's VBS
- 07/04/2020 Firecracker Golf Tourney (4th of July)
Groton Hosting State B American Legion Baseball Tournament
- 07/12/2020 Summer Fest/Car Show
- 09/12/2020 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. (1st Sat. after Labor Day)
- 10/10/2020 Pumpkin Fest
- 10/31/2020 Groton United Methodist Trunk or Treat (Halloween)
- 11/14/2020 Groton American Legion Post #39 Annual Turkey Party (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)

News from the Associated Press

SD Lottery

By The Associated Press undefined

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

Dakota Cash

06-08-20-28-29

(six, eight, twenty-eight, twenty-nine)

Estimated jackpot: \$167,000

Lotto America

16-23-34-43-49, Star Ball: 10, ASB: 3

(sixteen, twenty-three, thirty-four, forty-three, forty-nine; Star Ball: ten; ASB: three)

Estimated jackpot: \$3.2 million

Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: \$50 million

Powerball

04-08-10-43-53, Powerball: 7, Power Play: 2

(four, eight, ten, forty-three, fifty-three; Powerball: seven; Power Play: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$60 million

Searchers looking for missing hunter in South Dakota

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Searchers are looking for a missing hunter in western South Dakota.

Pennington County authorities say 66-year-old Larry Genzlinger of Howard was last seen Tuesday afternoon. Genzlinger was hunting elk with his nephew near Deerfield Lake.

A sheriff's spokeswoman tells the Rapid City Journal that Genzlinger and his nephew separated, but that Genzlinger never returned to their planned meeting spot.

The nephew called 911 Tuesday night to report Genzlinger was missing. Searchers looked for Genzlinger until early Wednesday, then resumed the search that morning. Authorities say a helicopter was taken up for about 20 minutes but stopped its search due to fog.

Authorities say Genzlinger is diabetic and has been without food and insulin for 24 hours.

Steelers bring in QB Christion to prepare for Lamar Jackson

By The Associated Press undefined

PITTSBURGH (AP) — When he got the call from the Pittsburgh Steelers on Tuesday evening, Taryn Christion was getting his hair cut.

Shaved clean near his ears and neck and faded into a less-cropped look on the top, Christion's new 'do bears little resemblance to the bushier style Lamar Jackson adorns. But Christion spent his Wednesday doing his best imitation of Jackson anyway.

Added to the Steelers' practice squad Wednesday afternoon, Christion quickly took to the practice field to serve as the scout team stand-in for Jackson, the Baltimore Ravens quarterback whom the Steelers will face in a crucial early-season AFC North game Sunday.

"I am more of a mobile quarterback, and they are playing the Ravens," Christion said following the early-afternoon practice; he arrived at the Steelers' facility just 10 minutes prior to its start. "So (Christion mimicked) Lamar Jackson just running around a little bit and slinging things on the scout team."

During his weekly news conference Tuesday, Steelers coach Mike Tomlin gushed about Jackson, the 2016 Heisman Trophy winner and 2018 first-round draft pick who took over the Ravens' offense late during his rookie season. Joe Flacco was still Baltimore's starter during each of last year's Steelers-Ravens matchups.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 9 of 59

"It's difficult to duplicate (the Ravens') talents in preparation," Tomlin said Tuesday, "because we don't have a quarterback that looks like Lamar Jackson in terms of how he moves and throws and all of those things. So we'll have some challenges there."

The Steelers chose to address those challenges, in part, by bringing in Christian, who was something of a Jackson clone at the FCS level the past three-plus seasons for South Dakota State. Christian accounted for 131 touchdowns, 13,050 passing yards and 1,515 rushing yards in his college career. That's more than comparable to the 119 touchdowns, 9,043 passing yards and 4,132 rushing yards Jackson put up in three seasons as the starter at Louisville – albeit against a higher level of competition.

"You can't really replicate (Jackson in practice), but you can get as close as possible," Steelers defensive back Mike Hilton said. "Having a guy that moves around and is able to keep plays going is going to be big for us. We know we have to have good rush lanes and keep him in the pocket."

Christian and Jackson are the same height (6-foot-2), though Christian's listed weight is 13 pounds heavier at 225. Jackson reportedly can run the 40-yard dash in less than 4.4 seconds, while Christian was timed in the sub-4.5 range. Each is known to have a strong arm; the knock on Christian was that he is not as accurate by NFL standards.

Christian spent a few spring weeks with the Seattle Seahawks as an undrafted free agent, and he spent training camp with the Dallas Cowboys. But he was training in Sioux Falls, South Dakota for the month before the Steelers called.

With starter Ben Roethlisberger out for the season following elbow surgery, the Steelers have three other quarterbacks ahead of Christian among their 64 signed players: 2019 starter Mason Rudolph and rookie Devlin Hodges on the active roster, and Denver's 2016 first-round pick Paxton Lynch on the practice squad.

The organization, like most in the NFL, typically carries no more than three quarterbacks during the regular season. Christian said the Steelers did not give him any indication if he had a future in the organization or that his stay with the team would be only a one-week stand imitating Jackson.

Either way, Christian sounded content in approaching his temporary duties with gusto.

"I am not Lamar Jackson, but I am going to play hard and run fast and do those things," said Christian, who added he was open to playing other positions. "But I am still going to be me in a sense, too. Obviously, he's an athletic quarterback, so I'm trying to give the guys a good look."

More AP NFL: <https://apnews.com/NFL> and https://twitter.com/AP_NFL

Hospital: SD Hutterite colony moved members into Medicaid

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota hospital accuses a Hutterite colony of shifting its members into the state Medicaid program for the poor after they ring up large medical bills.

Select Specialty Hospital of Sioux Falls filed a federal lawsuit this week against Brentwood Hutterian Brethren near Faulkton after one of its members needed nearly \$2 million in care.

According to the lawsuit, the member had been insured through the religious colony, which had a contract with Dakotacare to access its network of health providers.

When the hospital contacted Dakotacare about the patient's outstanding bills in January, it was told the charges were being denied.

A spokesman for Dakotacare told the Argus Leader the insurance company doesn't comment on pending litigation. Court records don't list an attorney who could comment for the colony.

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

Truckers plan 'slow roll' protest Thursday in South Dakota

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A group of truckers plans to drive slowly on interstates in the Sioux Falls area on Thursday to raise awareness of issues facing the trucking industry.

The "slow roll" protest involving a line of semi-trucks driving at reduced speed will loop around Sioux

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 10 of 59

Falls and continue on to Pierre, organizer Jeremy Johnson said.

The goal is to protest proposed federal legislation to limit truck speed, increase the minimum personal liability that truckers must carry, and mandate safety equipment to keep cars from sliding under trucks, the Argus Leader reported.

Johnson said the group will have a "slow roll" on Interstates 29, 229 and 90. The native of Marshall, Minnesota, said during another "slow roll" in April that he saw more support from passers-by than frustration at the line of trucks.

"Every time someone hears the word protest they think it's bad," Johnson said. "We're just trying to get our voices heard respectfully."

This time, eight to 10 trucks will line up as they loop around Sioux Falls, driving at about 50 mph within Sioux Falls and 60 mph outside city limits, Johnson said. He said he hopes the protest will not affect rush hour, since the trucks won't reach Sioux Falls until after 8 a.m.

Johnson said he does not want the protest to back up traffic or make anyone late to work. He plans to have the trucks drive in the right-hand lane with enough space between each truck so other vehicles can merge and exit between the trucks.

"We don't want to cause any accidents, hurt anyone or prevent anyone from going about their day," Johnson said. "We just want our voices to get heard."

Truckers plan to hand out flyers at a truck stop in Pierre on Thursday and speak to lawmakers at the state Capitol on Friday.

A similar truckers' demonstration _ "That's A Big 10-4 On DC" _ is planned this week for Washington, D.C.

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

Excerpts from recent South Dakota editorials

By The Associated Press undefined

Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, Sept. 27

Impeachment in a new digital age

Fall arrived this week, and so did a season of presidential impeachment. It's almost enough to make me want to escape for a while to someplace like New Zealand, where spring has just started and perhaps there may be quieter days on the horizon.

This week's events in Washington have resurrected memories from 20 years ago, when this nation was shackled to another impeachment crisis. It was a seemingly endless and angry time when trivial developments became big news as they bounced around the cable news channels and a newly emerging medium called the internet. Just dredging up my memories of those contentious days drains me.

However, as I was thinking back on the Bill Clinton impeachment the other night and contemplating whatever may await us now, something awful occurred to me:

This time, the impeachment process _ however far it goes _ will be played out against the backdrop of a trolling, predatory, omnipresent, hounding, scolding, relentless internet and social media.

God help us.

Two decades ago, the Bill Clinton scandal was a wall-to-wall circus on television and online, and that spotlight drove the exhausting narrative during many news cycles. But the internet was a more basic domain, social media was a dream and most of us used our clunky, un-smart cellular phones as phones _ and ONLY phones.

But all that might pale compared to the tsunami of coverage, commentary and relentless spin that may be crashing our way as this current inquiry unfolds in this vast, accessible digital age.

Now, if you aren't on social media _ if you have avoided Facebook or, especially, Twitter _ my hat's off to you. You may not realize how good you have it, how blessedly free you are of the trolls and bots, how untethered you are from the rants and ridicule of others who would likely infest your interactions. (News

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 11 of 59

sites are generally the worst for this, but sports sites run a surprisingly close second.)

But if you ARE on social media ... hang on for what could be a brutal ride.

In many ways, we're already there, at least in basic human terms _ and I'm not referring solely to Donald Trump's current impeachment situation.

The internet _ especially social media _ can coax the worst out of people. And some individuals have no problem at all going with it, trashing anyone who disagrees with them, spewing insults at anyone or anything they choose _ all without having to deal with their targets face to face. And that's the key: There is a certain amount of freedom in NOT being there when you, say, disparage someone's character or offend an entire sub-group of humanity at large. As I've noted in the past, social media can bring out the inner bully in some people in ways that are both sickening and perversely riveting.

Imagine all the festering dark energy that could be unleashed during a presidential impeachment, with the stakes already high and emotions boiling over. This could be rather unpleasant, which is like calling the current flooding along the James River a tad damp.

And naturally, it figures that the president who is the subject of this impeachment inquiry is a high-profile Twitter addict himself. Imagine what life in America might be like right now if Trump had never taken to Twitter. Imagine what his presidency might be like. I can't provide any specifics, but I can confidently guess that both life and his presidency would be operating somewhat more smoothly than they are now.

As the impeachment process grinds on, social media, which can play to our worst impulses, will be there every step of the way serving as a mostly unfiltered sounding board, and the president will certainly be part of that fray. He can't help himself.

Meanwhile, the internet in general has grown dramatically _ it's become an indispensable staple of life, quite unlike the 1990s _ and the public is now far more sophisticated in using it. But of course, that also means people are now more adept at exploiting its reach and power. It's become a seductive conduit for propaganda, conspiracy theories and forged realities, and it lets you tune out anything you don't want to deal with. This will challenge our sensibilities and our sense of unity, which has been the tactical point of some of the foreign incursions into our political and social proceedings.

And that's why I find what we are about to endure so mind-numbing to even contemplate. The possibilities and the appalling depths feel endless.

However, it might also help rewrite one piece of our recent history: It could make us nostalgic for the bygone days of the Clinton impeachment, which could wind up looking quaint and convivial by comparison.

Daily Leader, Madison, Oct. 1

Box Elder residents deserve to know truth

The city attorney in Box Elder, South Dakota, has been paid \$100,000 to resign. Government officials there, however, are not telling citizens why.

The Rapid City Journal reported that the Box Elder City Council approved the payment in July during a closed session. Attempts to get a copy of the separation agreement between the city and former City Attorney Kristi Vetri resulted in a redacted document with no information about the reason for the separation or payment.

Half the money will come directly from the city and half will come from the South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance, an insurance carrier of sorts. The two sides release each other from further claims.

We certainly have no additional information about the situation, but the citizens of Box Elder deserve to know more. The \$100,000 is their money (half of it is directly their money, the other half is indirectly their money through insurance premiums).

We recognize that private businesses aren't required to release information about these kinds of things, but that seems to be the biggest problem: local governments aren't private businesses. They are legitimately owned and controlled by the citizens. Elected officials are directly responsible to citizens, not the other way around. Governments are public trusts, and the public deserves to know what is happening with the institution they "own."

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 12 of 59

We certainly appreciate those citizens who are working to get the information released, as well as the Rapid City Journal which is doing the same. We hope their efforts pay off soon, and avoid expensive legal action required to get the reasons made public.

Box Elder residents are entitled to know the truth.

Rapid City Journal, Oct. 1

State needs larger bonds from energy companies

So what has state government learned from its experience with Spyglass Cedar Creek of Texas?

Spyglass is the energy company that abandoned 40 natural-gas wells in Harding County, leaving the state and landowners in a difficult position. Abandoned wells can cause environmental damage and are costly to cap as anyone who has followed the Journal's coverage of this saga knows.

South Dakota only requires energy companies to post a \$10,000 bond for wells shallower than 5,500 feet and \$30,000 for a blanket bond that covers an unlimited number of wells. For deeper wells, it's \$50,000 per well and a \$100,000 for the blanket bond.

In the case of Spyglass, a \$30,000 bond was required.

The problem, however, is that amount of money won't come close to covering the cost of capping the wells, which the state estimates will be around \$1.2 million. So, who is on the hook for the rest of it? It is not the out-of-state company, which has already complied with the state's requirement.

So that likely leaves taxpayers stuck with the bill if the wells are capped unless the state finds funds elsewhere. If they are not capped by the state, innocent landowners get stuck with an expensive problem that has the potential to devalue or pollute their land.

Compare that to how the state handles private citizens who owe it money.

If an individual owes as little as \$50, the state can deny that person a hunting or fishing license or the opportunity to make a camping reservation at a state park. If the debt is greater than \$1,000, it can suspend the driver's license and vehicle registration of the debtor. The state also will enlist the help of its Obligation Recovery Center, an out-of-state collection company. It appears no stone is left unturned in the effort to hold citizens accountable, a policy many in South Dakota likely support.

So, the state holds individuals accountable but not energy companies that seem to be coming here in greater frequency if the recent gold-exploration projects in the Black Hills are any indication.

At least some members of the Board of Minerals and Environment seem to realize that energy companies need to be treated more like people.

In September, the administrator of the Minerals and Mining program for the Department of Natural Environment said his department will ask the Legislature to increase bonding requirements to \$50,000 for a single bond and \$100,000 for a blanket bond for an unlimited number of wells regardless of depth.

Yes, the needle has moved but only incrementally. In fact, one can argue that it encourages energy companies to post the \$100,000 bond for the opportunity to do unlimited drilling.

In the case of Spyglass, the proposed change would still leave the state with a \$1.1 million obligation. So, what's really changed? What's the best path forward if the state wants to hold energy companies more accountable?

There are those in state government who want to see that. Mike Lees, administrator of the Mineral and Mining program, asked at a recent meeting if it should be "the taxpayers' responsibility to pay for the Spyglass mess?"

John Scheetz, a member of the Board of Minerals and Environment, blamed lawmakers for the inadequate bonding requirements and asked them to address it. "The Legislature should take responsibility," he said.

Most South Dakotans understand and support incentives for businesses in the state. What is troubling, however, is when the state asks those same taxpayers to subsidize exploration projects that are as likely to fail as succeed.

The Legislature needs to look at the Mineral Board's proposal as a starting point. According to Lees, other states don't offer blanket bonds, which seems prudent. The state should also base the bond on the

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 13 of 59

projected cost of capping each well a company drills.

Otherwise, the state of South Dakota has learned little from this affair and taxpayers still have to worry about being on the hook for failed exploration projects.

Parents of autistic son take restraint lawsuit to high court

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Parents who say their son was improperly restrained at a children's hospital and school have taken their case to the South Dakota Supreme Court.

Neil and Deb Graff are suing Children's Care Hospital and School on behalf of their autistic son over its use of the prone restraint at the institution in 2010. The restraint involves bringing a person to the floor face-down and holding that person's arms and legs. The Graff's 2013 lawsuit says the restraint was used on Ben more than 130 times while he was a resident. The Argus Leader says it's now prohibited under administrative rules.

The Graff's attorney Michael Luce says a judge improperly excluded state Department of Health surveys which would have showed deficiencies in Ben's care. There's no timeline on when the Supreme Court will decide the case.

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

4-year-old found wandering, Sioux Falls mother arrested

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A Sioux Falls mother has been arrested after police say they found her 4-year-old son wandering outside an apartment building.

Police say the mother and child had been staying in an apartment where methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia were found Monday night. The Argus Leader says officers responding to a report of the wandering child brought him back inside. Police eventually found the apartment renter who told officers he was letting the woman and her child stay with him.

The 29-year-old man was arrested for possessing a controlled substance and allowing a child to be exposed to meth.

The 24-year-old mother was found later and told police she had left the child in the apartment to go grocery shopping.

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

US House panel taps defunct startup for Facebook files

By FRANK BAJAK AP Technology Writer

A U.S. congressional committee has requested a trove of internal Facebook documents that the company's critics say will demonstrate how the social media giant unfairly leveraged its market dominance to crush or absorb competitors.

The request by the House Judiciary Committee comes amid a flurry of new antitrust investigations of technology giants, including ones by the Federal Trade Commission and state attorneys general. At issue here is a cache of internal Facebook documents unearthed in a case brought by Six4Three, a defunct startup whose founders have waged a bitter four-year legal battle with the social network.

In a nine-page Sept. 13 letter obtained by The Associated Press, the House committee requested all substantive filings from Six4Three's lawsuit. That would include thousands of pages of internal Facebook documents and emails, some authored by CEO Mark Zuckerberg, that were ordered sealed by a California judge. The AP has obtained many of these documents.

The Wall Street Journal recently reported that the House committee made document requests to "dozens" of smaller companies that compete with Facebook, Google, Amazon and Apple.

Six4Three, however, could offer unique insights into Facebook's behavior, as its documents provide an inside view of executive deliberations and decisions that might be viewed as anticompetitive conduct. Some

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 14 of 59

antitrust investigators have already cited them as potentially important evidence in probes of the company.

Several hundred pages of the documents became public in late 2018 after British lawmakers ordered Six4Three managing director Ted Kramer to turn over much of the trove while he was visiting the U.K. Others were leaked to British journalist Duncan Campbell and shared with the AP and NBC .

Kramer and his founding investor, Thomas Scaramellino, allege that Facebook deceived and then crushed their startup — and thousands of others — by abruptly shutting down access to user data essential to their businesses.

Documents unearthed in the Six4Three case suggest that Facebook separately targeted specific outside apps for cutoff because they competed with Facebook's own core services , particularly messaging and photo/video sharing. One was the now-shuttered MessageMe, which has also received a document request from the House committee, according to its former CEO, Arjun Sethi. So has at least one other aggrieved startup, although its founders did not want to be named.

Facebook publicly minimized the scope of its data access shift, describing it as minor changes necessary to protect user privacy. But the effect, its critics charge, was to let the social giant pick winners and losers among companies whose existence depended on Facebook user data.

A few Facebook employees objected to the plan as unethical, according to documents . "It just makes me feel like a bad person," wrote one.

Facebook denies the allegations and otherwise declines to discuss the case, the documents or their wider implications. In a statement, the company's deputy general counsel, Paul Grewal, said Six4Three "continues to mischaracterize documents and testimony" in the service of "meritless claims."

Grewal also stated that the company acted to protect user privacy: "We stand by our decision to limit the data that apps can access and protect people's information."

The U.K. parliamentary committee, which requested the documents as part of a broader inquiry into misinformation on social networks, published key emails and presentations from the Six4Three trove. It said companies like Facebook should not be allowed to act like "digital gangsters" in deciding whether other businesses succeed or fail.

It also rejected Facebook's privacy explanation for the change, noting that the company continued to share — and sometimes overshare — user data with favored partners who spent heavily on Facebook's ad network and posed little competitive threat.

Six4Three makes an unlikely crusader. Its only product was an app called Pikinis that let Facebook users seek out swimsuit photos shared by their friends. The feminist site Jezebel called it " creepy " when it launched in 2013 . In an interview, Kramer said Pikinis was merely a way of testing pattern recognition technology the company planned to deploy in future apps, that it respected user privacy settings and never made more than a few hundred dollars.

To Luigi Zingales, a University of Chicago finance professor who recently co-authored an academic report on reining in digital platforms , the Six4Three case has exposed "how much Facebook has succeeded in blocking competition in a lot of behind-the-scenes ways," whatever anyone makes of Pikinis.

The startup's lawsuit, however, has not gone well for Kramer and Scaramellino. Facebook, one of the largest companies in the world, launched a withering legal counterattack that, among other things, forced the plaintiffs' trial attorneys to quit the case.

The trial judge also allowed a forensics firm that has previously worked for Facebook to collect 15 years of sensitive electronic records from the entrepreneurs, including email exchanges with journalists and antitrust investigators. Facebook's lawyers justified the intense scrutiny by alleging a conspiracy to leak the sealed documents.

Kramer and Scaramellino could also face potentially ruinous legal fees should the state court in San Mateo, California, order them to pay legal costs for Facebook and executives, including Zuckerberg, listed as defendants.

"The message is, if you go after Facebook, you're done," Kramer said in a recent interview.

Judge Raymond Swope has yet to rule on whether Facebook gets to see all the data its forensic inves-

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 15 of 59

tigators have amassed. But the new developments in Washington augur a crucial showdown in his California courtroom. Kramer and Scaramellino hope the legal and political scrutiny will force him to unseal the documents.

A Facebook lawyer has demanded that the plaintiffs refuse to provide the documents to Congress, a company spokesperson confirmed without discussing the letter's content. Scaramellino said he and Kramer are "evaluating" their response.

After suing in April 2015, Kramer and Scaramellino could find no willing co-plaintiffs among the 35,000 or so startups the documents indicate were affected. Four developers they contacted told the AP that while they supported Six4Three, they lacked stomach for the fight or feared being blacklisted. Afraid of retribution from Facebook or its allies, they asked not to be identified.

One developer still active in Silicon Valley said multiple Facebook executives told him they would make his life "a living hell" if he sued. Others have moved on to other endeavors, some with financial backing from Facebook.

Six4Three did pick up an ally last year after Frans Rosén, the Swedish principal of another affected startup, Styleform IT, met Kramer in an ethical hacking competition the latter organized. After comparing notes, Rosén said he realized Facebook had carried out, in his words, a "devastating extortion scheme."

Rosén sued Facebook in November, although his case is in peril because he hired the same trial lawyers as Six4Three. He's now seeking new counsel _ and additional plaintiffs _ and has until Dec. 1 to find them.

Frank Bajak on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/fbajak>

Shot teen charged as Hong Kong considers ban on masks

HONG KONG (AP) — The teenager who was the first victim of police gunfire in Hong Kong's monthslong pro-democracy protests was charged Thursday with rioting and attacking police, as calls grew for the government to ban the wearing of masks to subdue rising violence in the semi-autonomous Chinese territory.

The shooting of the 18-year-old Tuesday during widespread clashes marred China's National Day celebration and marked an alarming escalation in violence in the unrest that has rocked one of the world's top financial hubs since June.

Local media reported that Chief Executive Carrie Lam will hold a special Executive Council meeting on Friday to discuss a ban on masks, which have helped protesters conceal their identities, and other tough measures under a colonial-era emergency law.

Lam's office said it had no comment. Pro-Beijing legislator Michael Tien confirmed the meeting. Activists and some lawmakers warned that such harsh measures would only further alienate the people and could prompt a more ferocious backlash.

Anger against the government has built up since Tsang Chi-kin was shot at close range after he struck a police officer with a rod.

Tsang was among seven people charged Thursday with rioting, which carries a penalty of up to 10 years in prison. He also faces two additional counts of attacking two police officers, punishable by up to six months in prison.

Tsang and two others who were hospitalized did not appear in court. The government said Tsang's condition is stable. Dozens of supporters, many in black, sat outside the courthouse.

Thousands of people rallied Wednesday to demand police accountability for the shooting, which has deepened anger against police, who have been accused of being heavy-handed against protesters. Pockets of black-clad youths vented their anger at night, lobbing gasoline bombs at police quarters, vandalizing subway stations and blocking traffic in several districts. Police responded with tear gas in some areas.

More than 1,000 students marched Thursday at the Chinese University in a continuing show of support for Tsang and vowed to keep up their fight for more democratic freedoms. Many students felt that firing at Tsang's chest, close to his heart, was an attempt to kill him.

Police defended the shooting as "reasonable and lawful" because the officer had feared for his life and

those of his colleagues.

Videos on social media of the shooting showed a group of black-clad protesters with bars and umbrellas clashing with police. They closed in on a lone officer, who opened fire as Tsang came at him with a rod. Just as another protester rushed in to try to drag Tsang away but was tackled by an officer, a gasoline bomb landed in the middle of the group of officers in an explosion of flames.

The protests that started in June over a now-shelved extradition bill have since snowballed into an anti-China campaign amid anger over what many view as Beijing's interference in Hong Kong's autonomy that was granted when the former British colony returned to Chinese rule in 1997. More than 1,750 people have been detained so far.

Police associations and some pro-Beijing groups have called for tougher measures.

The Junior Police Officers Association, representing front-line officers, said the force has been stretched thin. In a statement Wednesday, it urged the government to impose a curfew and other emergency measures to maintain public order.

A pro-government group, including lawmakers and lawyers, said Thursday that authorities should use the example of a Canadian law that imposes a jail sentence of up to 10 years on anyone wearing a mask during a riot or unlawful assembly.

Lawmaker Elizabeth Quat said the ban would specifically target rioters and wouldn't curb citizens' freedom of assembly. While it wouldn't bring protests to a halt, she said it would help reduce the violence that has wracked the territory.

But Ip Kin-yuen, a legislator representing the education sector, warned it would be akin to "adding oil to the fire" and could further weaken the government in dealing with the crisis.

Legislator Tien said protesters could challenge a mask ban and any curfew order, just as tens of thousands of people have defied police bans on rallies and taken to the streets in the past months.

But he said it could work if the government also responds to at least the key demand of the protesters, which is to hold an independent inquiry into alleged police brutality.

"They need to use carrot and stick at the same time," Tien said.

Forgiveness, anger after ex-Dallas cop sentenced to 10 years

By JAKE BLEIBERG Associated Press

DALLAS (AP) — A white Dallas police officer who said she mistook a neighbor's apartment for her own and fatally shot him in his living room was sentenced to a decade in prison in a stunning courtroom scene that included the dead man's brother and the black judge embracing the sobbing officer.

People outside of the courtroom reacted angrily to the sentence given to Amber Guyger in the death of Botham Jean, believing it was too lenient. But Jean's brother addressed her directly from the witness stand.

Brandt Jean told Guyger that his brother would have wanted her to turn her life over to Christ, and that if she asks God for forgiveness, she will get it.

"I love you as a person. I don't wish anything bad on you," he said to the 31-year-old Guyger, before asking the judge, "I don't know if this is possible, but can I give her a hug?"

The judge said he could, and Brandt and Guyger stood up, met in front of the bench and embraced while Guyger cried. Judge Tammy Kemp also hugged Guyger before she was led from the courtroom Wednesday.

The shooting in September 2018 drew widespread attention because of the strange circumstances and because it was one in a string of shootings of unarmed black men by white police officers.

Guyger, arrested three days after the shooting and later fired, was convicted of murder Tuesday. The jury, which was largely made up of women and people of color, could have sentenced her to up to life in prison or as little as two years. But prosecutors asked them to send her to prison for 28 years, which is how old Botham Jean would have been if he were still alive.

She will be eligible for parole in five years, after serving half of her sentence.

As video of the dramatic hearing circulated online, critics blasted the judge, saying her hug was inap-

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 17 of 59

appropriate for the jurist overseeing the case. Meanwhile at a Dallas church where the Jean family gathered to worship and Botham Jean used to lead congregation singing, video of Brandt Jean embracing Guyger in court drew applause and "amens" when showed Wednesday night.

Dallas County District Attorney John Creuzot, a former trial judge, called Brandt's embrace of Guyger "an amazing act of healing and forgiveness that is rare in today's society ... especially for many of our leaders."

If Jean's 18-year-old brother "can heal and express healing in that fashion, in his words and in his deeds, I would hope that the greater community, not just Dallas but all of Texas and all of the United States, could gain a message from that," he told reporters.

Dallas Mayor Eric Johnson issued a statement saying he would "never, ever forget the incredible examples of love, faith and strength personified by Botham, Brandt and the entire Jean family."

Dozens of demonstrators marched through parts of downtown Dallas on Wednesday night to protest the sentence. One woman was taken into custody after she appeared to disregard police orders not to obstruct traffic.

Guyger's attorney had asked jurors to show mercy, pointing to the good she did for people, including some who spoke at the sentencing hearing.

Among them was officer Cathy Odhiambo, who described Guyger as a longtime friend who dreamed of being a police officer when they waited tables at a TGI Fridays. She said the two of them went through the academy and then came through the police ranks together.

"Everybody that knows her knows that Amber is the sweetest person," Odhiambo said.

Odhiambo, who is black, was not asked about text messages that prosecutors said indicated a lack of sensitivity by Guyger toward black people. However, another fellow officer, Thomas MacPherson, said some of those texts sounded "out of character" for Guyger, whom he described as "someone you could depend on."

When a sniper opened fire on police during a rally in downtown Dallas three years ago, killing five of them, Guyger was "so brave," MacPherson said. He said the two of them ran toward the gunfire and helped panicked citizens along the way.

LaWanda Clark, who is black, said she was struggling with a crack cocaine addiction when she met Guyger during a drug house bust. She said Guyger, while ticketing her, told her it could be the catalyst for turning her life around. She said Guyger treated her as a person, not an addict, and that she's sober now.

Jean's father told jurors about how his son's death upended his life back in St. Lucia. Bertrum Jean said that after his son left their Caribbean island for college in Arkansas, he would call home every Sunday after church to catch up with the tightly knit family. Now, he said, his Sundays "have been destroyed."

"How could we have lost Botham? Such a sweet boy. He tried his best to live a good honest life. He loved God. He loved everyone. How could this happen to him?" the father said, breaking into tears.

After the hearing, Jean's mother, Allison Jean, criticized the investigation into her son's death and the police training to shoot to kill.

If Guyger "was trained not to shoot in the heart, my son would be alive today. He was no threat to her. He had no reason to be a threat to her, because he was in his own apartment," Allison Jean said.

The basic facts of the shooting were not in dispute. Guyger, returning from a long shift that night, parked on the wrong floor and mistook Jean's apartment for her own, which was directly below his. Finding the door ajar, she entered and shot him, thinking he was a burglar. He had been eating a bowl of ice cream before she fired.

In the frantic 911 call played repeatedly during the trial, Guyger said "I thought it was my apartment" nearly 20 times. Her lawyers argued that the identical physical appearance of the apartment complex from floor to floor frequently led to tenants going to the wrong apartments.

But prosecutors questioned how Guyger could have missed numerous signs that she was in the wrong place. They also asked why she did not call for backup and suggested she was distracted by sexually explicit phone messages she had been exchanging with her police partner, who was also her lover.

Associated Press video journalist John Mone and writer Jamie Stengle in Dallas, and writer Jill Bleed in

Little Rock, Arkansas, contributed this this report.

Follow Jake Bleiberg on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/jzbleiberg>

Democrats answer Trump's ire and name-calling with subpoenas

By **LISA MASCARO, MARY CLARE JALONICK and JONATHAN LEMIRE** Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Agitated and angry, President Donald Trump squared off against House Democrats, packing his increasingly aggressive impeachment defense with name-calling and expletives. Quietly but just as resolutely, lawmakers expanded their inquiry, promising a broad new subpoena for documents and witnesses.

Democratic leaders put the White House on notice that the wide-ranging subpoena would be coming for information about Trump's actions in the Ukraine controversy, the latest move in an impeachment probe that's testing the Constitution's system of checks and balances. They said they'd be going to court if necessary.

Amid the legal skirmishing, Wednesday was a day of verbal fireworks.

The president complained that House Speaker Nancy Pelosi was handing out subpoenas "like cookies," railed against a government whistleblower as "vicious" and assailed the news media as corrupt and the "enemy." All that alongside a presidential tweetstorm punctuated with an accusation that congressional Democrats waste time and money on "BULL---."

Pelosi said Democrats had no choice but to take on the most "solemn" of constitutional responsibilities to put a check on executive power after the national security whistleblower's complaint that recently came to light. The administration and Congress are on a collision course unseen in a generation after the whistleblower exposed a July phone call the Republican president had with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy in which Trump pressed for an investigation of Democratic political rival Joe Biden and his family.

"We take this to be a very sad time" for the American people and the country, Pelosi said. "Impeaching the president isn't anything to be joyful about."

Standing beside her, intelligence committee Chairman Adam Schiff accused Trump of "an incitement to violence" with his attacks on the unnamed whistleblower, who is provided anonymity and other protections under federal law. He said the investigation is proceeding "deliberately" but with a sense of "urgency."

Unlike Trump, Schiff never raised his voice but said firmly: "We're not fooling around here."

Pelosi, in an ABC interview that aired Thursday on "Good Morning America," said Trump is "scared" of the impeachment inquiry and the arguments that can be made against him.

"We feel that we are on very firm ground as we go forward," she said.

Democrats are now talking of basing an impeachment charge of obstruction on the White House's slow-walking of documents and testimony — administration actions that echo the months of resisting Congress in its other investigations into special counsel Robert Mueller's report and Trump's business dealings.

Ahead of the new subpoena, the chairmen of three House committees accused the administration of "flagrant disregard" of previous requests for documents and witnesses and said that refusal could be considered an impeachable offense.

The standoff took on a defiant tone this week when Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said he would not stand for Democrats "bullying" his employees into appearing before the congressional committees, even as he acknowledged that he, too, had been among those U.S. officials listening on the line during the Trump's phone call with the Ukraine leader.

Pompeo's admission is complicating his situation, and House leaders now consider him a "witness" to Trump's interaction with Ukraine.

One former State Department official, Kurt Volker, a former special envoy to Ukraine, will appear Thursday for a closed-door interview with House investigators. He is said to be eager to tell his side of the story. That's ahead of next week's deposition of ousted U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Maria "Masha" Yovanovitch.

The circumstances of Yovanovitch's sudden recall from Ukraine are the subject of conspiracy speculation,

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 19 of 59

and the State Department's Inspector General Michael Steve Linick sought an "urgent" meeting Wednesday to brief staff of several committees.

During that private session, Linick told them he received a packet of materials from the State Department's Counsel T. Ulrich Brechbuhl, according to one person granted anonymity to discuss the closed-door session.

Rep. Jamie Raskin, D-Md., said the package contained information from debunked conspiracy theories about Ukraine's role in the 2016 election. Trump has long pursued those theories, a topic he discussed with Zelenskyy in the phone call that sparked the impeachment inquiry.

It was unclear where the package originated, but it was in a White House envelope and included folders from Trump hotels, according to another person familiar with the briefing, a Democrat. That person said the White House sent the envelope to Pompeo and it contained notes from interviews that took place in the New York City office of Trump's personal lawyer Rudy Giuliani with various Ukrainians about the debunked conspiracies.

"It raises more questions than it answers," said Raskin.

Brechbuhl has also been called to give a deposition to the House.

Trump, in appearances in the Oval Office and a joint press conference with the president of Finland, displayed an unusual show of anger as he defended what he has called his "perfect" phone call with Zelenskyy and decried the impeachment inquiry.

He demanded that a reporter pressing him on his dealings with Ukraine move on, labeling the journalist "corrupt." Earlier in the day he said even though he popularized the phrase "fake news," he now preferred to say "corrupt" news. "This is a hoax," Trump said.

Later he called himself, as he has before, a "very stable genius" who always watches what he says in conversations.

Trump has tweeted in recent days that he wants to "find out about" the whistleblower and question him or her, though the person's identity is protected by the Whistleblower Protection Act.

Schiff's spokesman acknowledged that the whistleblower had gone to the intelligence committee before filing the formal complaint but said the staff advised the person to contact an inspector general and seek counsel, and at no point did the committee review or receive the complaint in advance.

Trump suggested, without any evidence, that Schiff "probably helped write" the whistleblower's complaint. The whistleblower's lawyers said the person had never met or spoken with Schiff about the matter.

The new subpoena coming Friday from House Oversight and Reform Chairman Elijah Cummings will be directed toward acting chief of staff Mick Mulvaney and request 13 separate batches of documents concerning the July call and related matters. The call came against the backdrop of a \$250 million foreign aid package for Ukraine that was being readied by Congress but stalled by Trump.

The whistleblower alleged in August that the White House tried to "lock down" Trump's July 25 phone call with the new Ukrainian president because it was worried about the contents being leaked to the public. The acting director of national intelligence eventually made the complaint public.

In recent days, it has been disclosed that the administration similarly tried to restrict information about Trump's calls with other foreign leaders, including Russia's Vladimir Putin and Saudi Arabia's Mohammed bin Salman, by moving memos onto a highly classified computer system.

In Russia, Putin said scrutiny over the phone call showed that Trump's adversaries are using "every excuse" to attack him.

Associated Press writers Matthew Lee in Rome, Angela Charlton in Kyiv, Ukraine, and Laurie Kellman, Zeke Miller, Jonathan Lemire, Alan Fram and Matthew Daly in Washington contributed to this report.

Trump admin shifting to privatize migrant child detention

By GARANCE BURKE AND MARTHA MENDOZA Associated Press

SAN BENITO, Texas (AP) — On a recent day in a remodeled brick church in the Rio Grande Valley, a

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 20 of 59

caregiver tried to soothe a toddler, offering him a sippy cup. The adult knew next to nothing about the little 3-year-old whose few baby words appeared to be Portuguese. Shelter staff had tried desperately to find his family, calling the Brazilian consulate and searching Facebook.

Nearby, infants in strollers were rolled through the building, pushed by workers in bright blue shirts lettered "CHS," short for Comprehensive Health Services, Inc., the private, for-profit company paid by the U.S. government to hold some of the smallest migrant children.

Sheltering migrant children has become a growing business for the Florida-based government contractor, as the number of minors in government custody has swollen to record levels over the past two years. More than 50 babies, toddlers and teens were closely watched on this day inside the clean, well-lit shelter surrounded by chain link fences.

The children, many in matching black pants and gray sweatshirts, are officially under the custody of the federal government. But a joint investigation by The Associated Press and FRONTLINE has found that the Trump administration has started shifting some of the caretaking of migrant children toward the private sector and contractors instead of the largely religious-based nonprofit grantees that have long cared for the kids.

EDITOR'S Note: This story is part of an ongoing joint investigation between The Associated Press and the PBS series FRONTLINE on the treatment of migrant children, which includes an upcoming film.

So far, the only private company caring for migrant children is CHS, owned by beltway contractor Caliburn International Corp. In June, CHS held more than 20% of all migrant children in government custody. And even as the number of children has declined, the company's government funding for their care has continued to flow. That's partly because CHS is still staffing a large Florida facility with 2,000 workers even though the last children left in August.

Trump administration officials say CHS is keeping the Florida shelter on standby in case they need to quickly provide beds for more migrant teens, and that they're focused on the quality of care contractors can provide, not about who profits from the work.

"It's not something that sits with me morally as a problem," said Jonathan Hayes, director of the Department of Health and Human Service's Office of Refugee Resettlement. "They're not getting any additional money other than the normal grant or contract that would be received. We're not paying them more just because they're for profit."

Former White House Chief of Staff John Kelly joined Caliburn's board this spring after stepping down from decades of government service; he joined the Trump administration as Secretary of Homeland Security, where he backed the idea of taking children from their parents at the border, saying it would discourage people from trying to immigrate or seek asylum.

Critics say this means Kelly now stands to financially benefit from a policy he helped create.

Houston Police Chief Art Acevedo, who served on a federal advisory panel with Kelly, said the retired general told him first-hand that he believed enforcing a "zero tolerance" policy would serve as a deterrent.

"What's really the motivator, the deterrence or the dollar?" said Acevedo, who signed an Aug. 14, 2019, letter with dozens of law enforcement leaders asking Trump to minimize the detention of children. "I would question that if he's getting one dollar for that association."

Kelly did not respond to requests for comment. But in a statement, Caliburn's President Jim Van Dusen said: "With four decades of military and humanitarian leadership, in-depth understanding of international affairs and knowledge of current economic drivers around the world, General Kelly is a strong strategic addition to our team."

Earlier this year after leaving government, Kelly was widely criticized by activists who spotted him in a golf cart at Homestead.

One teenage girl who spoke with AP and FRONTLINE said she and other children were constantly watched while detained inside Homestead, not allowed to touch each other, and there were alarms on the windows.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 21 of 59

"It looks like a camp, but sometimes it seems like a jail because you feel very trapped," said the girl, who spoke on condition of anonymity out of concern for her safety.

All teens were transferred out of Homestead in August after critics _ ranging from members of Congress to onsite protesters _ said holding that many migrant children in a single facility was abusive. Meanwhile CHS was getting more business housing migrant children. Today it's operating six facilities including three "tender age" shelters in the Rio Grande Valley that can house the youngest, infants and toddlers. And CHS has plans underway to run a 500-bed shelter in El Paso, the company said.

"The United States is the country in the world that detains the most children for immigration reasons, and probably for the longest period of time. No other country comes close," said Michael Bochenek, a Human Rights Watch attorney who serves on a United Nations research team examining the global detention of children. "To have private companies move into the area of the care and custody of children in detention-like settings is especially troubling."

Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Refugee Resettlement runs migrant children programs by funding 46 organizations that operate more than 165 shelters and foster programs for over 67,000 migrant children who came to the U.S. on their own or were separated from parents or caregivers at the border this fiscal year.

Overall, the federal government spent a record \$3.5 billion caring for migrant children over the past two years to run its shelters through both contracts and grants.

During that time, CHS swiftly moved into the business of caring for migrant children, an AP analysis of federal data found. In 2015, the company was paid \$1.3 million in contracts to shelter migrant children, and so far this year the company has received almost \$300 million in contracts to care for migrant kids, according to publicly available data. The company also operates some shelters under government grants.

The Obama administration also grappled with how to handle large numbers of children crossing the border. In fiscal year 2014, some 68,000 migrant kids were apprehended at the border, as compared to 72,000 this year. President Barack Obama's head of U.S. Customs and Border Protection Gil Kerlikowski said the difference between now and five years ago was how quickly the government reunited kids with their families or other sponsors.

Under Trump, the numbers of detained children grew in part due to new, strict requirements to screen every adult in a potential home, which significantly slowed reunifications until the policy ended late last year.

The government doesn't disclose the names of individual shelters, nor how many children are in each one. But confidential government data obtained by the AP shows that in June nearly one in four migrant children in government care was housed by CHS. That included more than 2,300 teens at Homestead, Florida, and more than 500 kids in shelters in Brownsville, Los Fresnos and San Benito, Texas. For each teen held at Homestead at that time, it cost taxpayers an average \$775 per day.

At the time, a total of 13,066 migrant children were being held in federally funded shelters. Those numbers have dropped sharply over the summer. By early October, HHS said there were 5,100 children in their care.

Andrew Lorenzen-Strait, who until recently helped run adult custody programs at U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, said some former ICE staff now work at HHS, and have brought the concept of privatization as another model for detaining migrant children. He said it mirrors a similar shift that occurred with ICE's adult immigration detention centers, where populations soared after immigrants were moved from county jails and into for-profit, private facilities.

"The Office of Refugee Resettlement has acted like they have a kind of a shield and they don't work with DHS. They say we are the children people, you are the enforcement people, but that is blurred now," Lorenzen-Strait said.

After 18 years in federal service, he recently quit in frustration over concerns about government actions including the treatment of migrant children. He went to work for nonprofit Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service which places migrant children in foster homes.

"These aren't commodities. They're kids, and they don't need to have big box stores serving them," he said. "This isn't Amazon.com. You can't just order up migrant care."

At the CHS shelter in San Benito the doors are locked and the routines rarely vary. There is one case

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 22 of 59

manager for every 8 children, who sleep four to a room. Spanish language signs in the hallways explain how to report abuse.

In a windowless science classroom girls are handed worksheets about natural disasters _ hurricanes, tsunamis, earthquakes, mudslides, volcanos. For an English lesson, they can complete sentences: "Today is _____," read one. "Tomorrow will be _____." No one had filled them in.

"We do a little bit of verbal, ABCs, colors and months," a veteran teacher explained. "They'll come in here, some of them with no English."

In their downtime some of the girls watch telenovelas, paint their nails, braid their hair. At lunchtime, there's a clatter as some teens joke to one another across the cafeteria. Other girls stay silent.

This fall, about 50 migrant children were at San Benito, but at its peak in December, 2018, there were almost twice as many.

Melissa Aguilar, the executive director of CHS's shelter care programs, said her trained, professional staff doesn't separate children, they care for them.

"We're doing the best that we possibly can," she said, dodging a passing stroller as she led a reporter down a hallway. "The children are borrowed. They're borrowed for our purpose, right? So a lot of times when something is borrowed, you take care of them better than you would something that is your own."

Washburn University law professor David Rubenstein, whose research focuses on the privatization of immigration detention, sees red flags in a private business model for migrant child care. While privatization can reduce bureaucracy and make care more efficient, there are fewer ways to hold for-profit providers accountable, he said.

"The profiteering incentive comes at the cost of cutting programs or rights or treatment or conditions in these facilities," he added. Also, having Kelly on the board "makes people mistrust government."

"They might have gotten those contracts anyway, it's hard to prove, but for appearances, that's not a good look," he said.

After Kelly stepped down as leader of the U.S. military's Southern Command in January 2016, he joined an Obama administration advisory council that studied ICE's continued use of privately operated immigration detention facilities for adults. Later that year, the federal government announced plans to phase out privately run prisons and further study immigration detention.

While on the committee, Kelly joined the board of DC Capital Partners, a financial firm that would go on to found Caliburn in February 2016. He stepped down from that board _ comprised of former senior diplomatic, intelligence, and military officials _ in January, 2017, divesting because President Donald Trump picked him to head the Department of Homeland Security.

Just over a year later, DC Capital Partners bought CHS, a company with a troubled past. The firm agreed in 2017 to pay out \$3.8 million to settle an investigation involving allegations that it double billed and overcharged the federal government for medical services.

Despite the fraud settlement, CHS went on to win a no-bid contract to operate Homestead. At the time, federal officials said they didn't have to open the bidding to competitors, typically the way taxpayer dollars are spent, because there was "unusual and compelling urgency."

The government's justification for the no-bid contract said there could be increased "industry participation" in bidding for migrant child care contracts going forward.

No-bid contracts can lead to higher costs. CHS, a contractor, typically hires locally, staffing up as quickly as it can, hiring hundreds of people through online ads and at community job fairs. In contrast, nonprofits typically are paid through grants. They have screened staffers on call, who can be flown in if a shelter needs to care for a sudden increase of children for a short period.

As a result, although Homestead temporarily closed in August, there are still about 2,000 people working there, said Hayes. In contrast, a nonprofit that operates a now-empty 500-bed shelter in Carrizo Springs, Texas, has just two security guards onsite but is ready to ramp up as needed.

CHS's business plan going forward depends on having more kids in their shelters, according to a prospectus its parent company Caliburn filed last year to go public with a \$100 million stock offering.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 23 of 59

"In a recent shift, the U.S. federal government has started to transition to utilizing private contractors for medical and shelter maintenance," said the prospectus. "We believe that as a result of our past performance and longstanding relationship with HHS, we are positioned to be a leading provider of these services."

Kelly and other corporate directors including Retired Gen. Anthony C. Zinni, Retired Admiral James G. Stavridis and Retired Rear Admiral Kathleen Martin could have received at least \$100,000 a year for their service and advice, and a \$200,000 bonus if the company went public.

The prospectus warned of "negative publicity" surrounding care of migrant children, past and future. Nonetheless, it said the work presents a financial opportunity.

Caliburn withdrew its proposal to go public earlier this year citing "variability in the equity markets."

The Obama administration gave CHS its first contract at Homestead after a competitive bidding process. But when the government needed to house a new surge of children in 2016, a traditional religious-based organization was soon deemed better equipped to quickly take in children, former HHS officials said.

Maria Cancian, a former HHS deputy assistant secretary under the Obama administration, said that during their first try at Homestead, CHS could not ramp up as quickly as the government expected.

"They had promised they will have this many (beds and staff) by this date, and we don't have very flexible standards," said Cancian. "We had expectations around how quickly we were going to be able to ramp up and we were unable to do that."

Nonprofit providers, however, have faced criticism of their own. Earlier this year, a review of 38 legal claims obtained by the AP — some of which have never been made public — showed taxpayers could be on the hook for more than \$200 million in damages from parents who said their children were harmed while under care from nonprofit foster providers and other shelters.

Former financial executive Thomas Cartwright says separating and holding children in shelters is bad, but profiting from it is worse.

In a citizen whistleblower complaint to the SEC, Cartwright — who wanted to use his financial acumen to advocate for social causes — said Caliburn's revenues could increase from \$65 million in 2017 to about \$275 to \$325 million per year just from the child detention business. Caliburn failed to warn potential investors about the risks of "operating the only for-profit prison for children in the United States on Federal land," he wrote.

Those undisclosed risks include a proposed law in Congress that calls for stricter background checks for childcare workers and increased federal oversight of shelters.

CHS said their profit seeking had no impact on the care the children received.

"There is a profit. There is a price incentive, but it's not a detention incentive. The question about, 'Is there incentive to detain children?' Absolutely not, because that will close down the moment that there's no children," Aguilar said.

While CHS is the first private company providing shelter to migrant children, other private firms have been involved for more than five years in providing other services relating to the care of migrant children. The GEO Group, for example, runs several migrant family shelters. Defense contractor General Dynamics Information Technology, whose board includes Trump's former Defense Secretary James Mattis, has contracts to review children's case files and make sure they are reunited with their parents or in safe homes, often with other relatives. Intelligence contractor MVM, Inc. holds contracts to transport migrant children by bus, van or even airplane.

Going forward, the government plans to stand up its own facilities for migrant children and bring in providers, undefined at this point, who would get paid to run them. Site searches are underway to open shelters with about 500 beds each in Phoenix, Dallas-Fort Worth, Houston and San Antonio, according to HHS spokesman Mark Weber.

The idea is, in part, a response to widespread criticism about very large shelters.

But child trauma expert Ryan Matlow at Stanford University, who has met with children inside the largest facilities, said 500 is still too large for the children's welfare.

"I don't think, in that sort of setting, that kids can receive the individual attention and care that they

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 24 of 59

need, that's typical of child development," he said.

Matlow said migrants can face cumulative physical and emotional damage _ from depression to heart disease _ due to the trauma of separation and detention.

Weber said the agency hopes to better manage large surges in the number of children and teens arriving at the border, which have in the past led the Obama and Trump administrations to open emergency influx shelters that lacked state licensing and full background checks.

"We're in the process right now of looking for standard, state licensed shelters that we'd have vacant and ready to go in times of a surge," said Weber. "When you look at the economics of standing up, closing down, all the confusion that it creates, it just is a better long-term investment for the country, and actually for the kids."

FRONTLINE reporters Daffodil Altan and Andrés Cediél, and AP Data Journalist Larry Fenn contributed to this report. Mendoza reported from Washington.

Trump will find friendly Florida crowd amid impeachment talk

By **BRENDAN FARRINGTON Associated Press**

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — President Donald Trump is leaving Washington for the first time since House Democrats ramped up their impeachment inquiry _ and he's heading straight into the warm embrace of a Republican stronghold.

Trump is due to visit The Villages, a sprawling retirement hub about an hour north of Orlando that is a must-stop for GOP candidates. The president plans to announce an executive order to protect Medicare and address an invitation-only group during his visit Thursday.

Support for Trump appears to be holding firm in Florida, the largest swing state in the 2020 election with 29 electoral votes that are crucial for the president's reelection.

Gov. Ron DeSantis and the Republican Party of Florida sent out a fundraising email in which it promised to put all donations into a newly established "Presidential Protection Fund." Chairman Joe Gruters, a state senator who served as co-chair of Trump's 2016 Florida campaign, said response to the email has been "great," but he said he didn't know how much money had been raised.

"When I served in Congress, I fought back against the Democrats' witch hunts every single day," DeSantis wrote in the email. "I REFUSED to let them overturn the 2016 election and erase your vote from history. Now that Democrats are officially moving to impeach our duly elected president, my duty to protect him isn't over. I want the President to know that we have his back in this fight 100%."

DeSantis credits Trump for helping him win office in November, and it was the president who appointed Peter O'Rourke, a candidate the governor backed, as the new executive director of the state Republican party after several months of instability.

"The party's moving forward," Gruters said. "We're united: the president, the governor and myself. ... We are firing on all cylinders."

As for the impeachment inquiry, Gruters said it will only drive up turnout for Trump among the GOP base.

"The president has been under siege non-stop ... since he won the election," he said, adding that Democrats "don't have a candidate that can win and they're not right on the issues, so the only thing they can do is try to discredit the president."

More than 120,000 people live in The Villages, which is 55 percent Republican. The community is mostly located in Sumter County, which supported Trump with 68% of the vote in 2016, compared to 49% state-wide. The White House hand-picked each of the approximately 1,000 guests from a list provided to them by local GOP elected officials and party leaders, said county party chairman John Temple.

"The strongest support for Trump in Florida, arguably, is in The Villages," said University of Florida political science professor Dan Smith, who agreed that the impeachment inquiry would only strengthen that support.

Retiree and Villages resident Paula Bedner, a Republican who didn't get an invitation to Thursday's event, said she and others "are madder than ever because it's like, 'Enough of this nonsense.'"

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 25 of 59

Democratic strategist Steve Schale, who ran former President Barack Obama's 2008 Florida campaign and was a top Florida adviser for Obama's 2012 reelection, said it makes sense for Trump to visit The Villages during the impeachment inquiry.

"It's very hard to see a scenario where he would lose Florida and win the presidency," Schale said. "He's going to a friendly crowd. There aren't going to be any detractors."

Thursday will mark Trump's ninth visit to Florida this year. Most of his trips have been to his Mar-a-Lago resort, but he's also had rallies in Orlando and Panama City Beach; official visits to Miami to address Venezuelan expatriates; and Lake Okeechobee to tour a waterways project. Florida is by far Trump's favorite state for rallies before appreciative crowds: He's held seven here since taking office _ far more than in any other state.

In contrast to harsh criticism of the impeachment inquiry from many Florida Republicans, U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio has taken a more measured approach on the issue.

Rubio told Fox News on Wednesday that he doesn't think Trump should have brought up Biden with the Ukraine government, but on Twitter he said there shouldn't be a rush to judgment.

"Avoid hysteria, red herrings & straw men. ... Learn the facts BEFORE forming opinions," Rubio tweeted.

Republican U.S. Sen. Rick Scott was more pointed in his remarks, ridiculing Democrats for focusing on the inquiry instead of other issues facing the country.

"The Democrats, if Trump changes shoes, that must be an impeachable offense," Scott said on Fox News last week. "I mean, every day it's just, 'Impeach him!'"

Associated Press reporter Mike Schneider in Orlando contributed to this report.

GOP veterans of Clinton's impeachment urge caution on Trump

By ANDREW TAYLOR Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Some have regrets. A few can't talk about it. Others would do it all again.

But the Republicans who carried out President Bill Clinton's impeachment in 1998 are unanimous in urging caution and restraint as Congress embarks on yet another impeachment struggle, this time over accusations that President Donald Trump pressured Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy to investigate his political rival Joe Biden and Biden's son.

The impeachment veterans of two decades ago were thrust into a seismic political event that was sober and circus-like at the same time. It opened a new, angry chapter of American politics that strained Washington institutions that were stronger then than now. They urge a pause in the tribalism of the Trump era.

"You've got a race to judgment, people apparently have already made up their minds, and I don't think there's a lot of openness about this. And I think there should be," said former Rep. Bill McCollum, R-Fla., one of 14 House impeachment managers who presented the case against Clinton to the Senate.

"People ought to wait before they make judgment on whether or not there's even an impeachable offense out here to be considered until all the facts are on the table," he added. "That's not been the case for a number of congressmen on both sides of the aisle that I can see."

The managers during Clinton's impeachment were all solidly conservative white men. Most are out of politics. A few are judges. Some do some lobbying, while others have simply retired. The chairman, Henry Hyde of Illinois, died in 2007.

The best-known is Lindsey Graham, a former Air Force prosecutor who was among those most aggressively gunning for Clinton. In 1999, speaking from the well of the Senate, the South Carolina congressman made the case: "Impeachment is not about punishment. Impeachment is about cleansing the office. Impeachment is about restoring honor and integrity to the office."

Now a senator, Graham seems to be part of the defense rather than the prosecution

"I have zero problems with this phone call" with Zelenskiy, Graham said on CBS' "Face The Nation."

The only Clinton prosecutor remaining in the House is Rep. Jim Sensenbrenner of Wisconsin, a 41-year veteran of Congress who is retiring at the end of next year. He insists charges that Trump abused his of-

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 26 of 59

fice are nowhere near being proven.

In 1998, independent counsel Ken Starr offered up two vanloads of testimony and evidence, effectively dropping the full case for impeachment in Congress' lap.

"I think that Starr's report, which said that the president may have committed impeachable offenses, obligated the Judiciary Committee and the House of Representatives to conduct an inquiry to see if that was the case," Sensenbrenner said in an interview. Congress had removed judges in comparable perjury cases, he said.

History is calling again, this time with accusations that Trump abused his power to help his political fortunes.

Sensenbrenner in July aggressively questioned special counsel Robert Mueller, whose report didn't find criminal wrongdoing by the president in Russia's 2016 election interference but spelled out 10 instances in which Trump may have obstructed the probe. Mueller didn't indict Trump, citing Justice Department guidelines against charging a sitting president. Nor did he say whether impeachment could be a remedy.

"You didn't use the words 'impeachable conduct' like Starr did," Sensenbrenner told Mueller. "Even the president is innocent until proven guilty." Mueller said his mandate didn't include offering opinions on other remedies like impeachment.

McCollum, who left Congress to lose a 2000 Senate campaign but staged a political comeback as Florida's attorney general, cautions that lots of facts, testimony and evidence have yet to surface. The investigation into Trump's festering scandal is in its opening stages.

"There are really a lot more questions than there are answers," McCollum said, adding that so far he sees "just a really weak case."

Democrats say they already have their "smoking gun," having obtained a rough transcript of Trump's call with Zelenskiy, and they accuse Republicans of downplaying a clear-cut abuse of presidential power.

Former Indiana Rep. Lee Hamilton, a Democrat who served in the House from 1965 to 1999 during both the Watergate scandal that brought down President Richard Nixon and the impeachment of Clinton, has said he'd vote to indict and convict Trump if he were in Congress. Hamilton said he's "deeply concerned" that more Republicans have not publicly favored impeachment proceedings against Trump or even spoken out against his actions with Russia and Ukraine.

Trump's call was "certainly egregious conduct" because it was for personal gain, Hamilton said.

"If his conduct is acceptable, then we have lowered the bar on what the office and public trust really means," Hamilton said. "If we legitimize the kind of behavior that he has exhibited, then our political system is going to be greatly reduced."

Aside from Graham and Sensenbrenner, Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson is the only one of the 1998 impeachment managers remaining in political office. Hutchinson was reelected by a landslide last year.

"The facts have to be developed," Hutchinson told the Arkansas Democrat Gazette on Saturday, in little-noticed remarks that amount to apostasy in today's GOP. "The allegations raised should be taken seriously."

Three of the other former managers are now on the bench. Former Rep. Ed Bryant, R-Tenn., is a federal district court judge, while Charles Canady, R-Fla., and James Rogan, R-Calif., serve on state courts.

Rogan cheerfully responded to an email seeking an interview but said he couldn't comment.

"I would like to help you, but I fear I am rather hamstrung by our Canons of ethics," Rogan said. "Not only am I precluded from discussing anything related to the current situation, I am precluded from saying anything that might be interpreted that way (such as giving advice)."

Then there's former Rep. Bob Inglis, a Republican from South Carolina who wasn't an impeachment manager but forced a Judiciary Committee discussion on easily the most vulgar accusation levied against Clinton for his conduct. He seemed almost sheepish when encountered in the Capitol recently.

"We made a mistake" impeaching Clinton, Inglis said, adding that the substance of the matter "wasn't so very consequential."

"I can say that now, in retrospect — I didn't think that at the time — but I think that was because I was probably sort of blinded by my dislike of President Clinton, you know, and wanting to stop him," Inglis said.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 27 of 59

"So there may be some similarities there in this scenario."

"If somebody's the president of the United States and they do something that's bad enough, then even their own followers are generally going to turn on them," McCollum said. "And that's not happened yet. It happened with Nixon. That did not happen with Clinton and that does not appear to me to be likely to be happening with Trump _ at least on the facts that are out there right now."

Associated Press writer Andrew Selsky contributed from Salem, Ore.

Democratic demands test Trump's impeachment strategy

By **ZEKE MILLER, JONATHAN LEMIRE, and MARK SHERMAN** Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump is rapidly confronting a decision at the core of House Democrats' nascent impeachment inquiry: Should he comply with congressional demands and risk disclosure of embarrassing information? Or should he delay and possibly deepen his legal and political predicament?

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Rep. Adam Schiff, the intelligence committee chairman, issued a blunt warning to the president Wednesday, threatening to make White House defiance of a congressional request for testimony and documents potential grounds for an article of impeachment.

With the prospect of new subpoenas coming as soon as Friday, Trump's official policy of deliberate non-cooperation, and his view of executive power, could be tested quickly.

"We want to make it abundantly clear that any effort by (Secretary of State Mike Pompeo), by the president or anyone else to interfere with the Congress' ability to call before it relevant witnesses will be considered as evidence of obstruction of the lawful functions of Congress," Schiff said in a Wednesday news conference.

For his part, Trump maintained, "Well, I always cooperate," without explicitly saying he would comply with the request. He then derided Pelosi, saying she "hands out subpoenas like they're cookies."

The White House strategy toward congressional oversight has often been open scorn. The Republican president's aides have ignored document requests and subpoenas, invoked executive privilege _ so far as to argue that executive privilege extends to informal presidential advisers who've never held White House roles _ and all but dared Democrats to hold them in contempt.

As the impeachment inquiry accelerates, the White House's stonewalling appears likely to continue.

"This is a hoax," Trump said, immediately after professing his commitment to cooperation. He then launched into a diatribe on the impeachment inquiry, which has centered on his request for Ukraine's president to assist in digging up dirt on former Vice President Joe Biden. "This is the greatest hoax. This is just a continuation of what's been playing out since my election."

In public and private, Trump has angrily dismissed the impeachment investigation as an illegitimate, purely partisan effort to topple him, according to three White House officials not authorized to speak about private conversations. And he praised Pompeo's initial combative response to the Democrats' requests this week, one of the officials said.

It's part of an emerging political and legal strategy informed by Trump's time in the two-year crucible of the special counsel's Russia investigation.

The president's first team of lawyers was inclined to cooperate with Robert Mueller, believing it would help bring the investigation to a swift conclusion. But once Jay Sekulow and Rudy Giuliani took over, they largely ceased cooperation, attacked Mueller's integrity and shielded Trump from testifying in person. They believe the moves inoculated the president legally and solidified his standing politically. Giuliani and Sekulow remain part of the president's outside counsel.

Trump's legal team privately cheered as the Mueller investigation bled into its third year in 2019 _ in part because of their stall tactics on whether Trump would consent to the Mueller interview. Now they are bent on ensuring the current probe is anything but the quick process desired by Democrats, who are wary of its impact on the 2020 presidential campaign.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 28 of 59

"We're not fooling around here," Schiff said. "We don't want this to drag on for months and months, which appears to be the administration's strategy."

White House allies argue that the Democratic demands are overly broad and raise issues of executive privilege and immunity, jeopardizing the longstanding interests of the co-equal branch of government. But Democrats are making the precise counter-argument, that Trump is claiming superiority of the executive branch over the legislative in a manner that defies the Constitution.

It's a foot-dragging response that also serves Trump's political interests _ he has hoped to use impeachment as a rallying cry for his supporter base in the election year.

Democrats have sought to use their declared impeachment investigation to bolster their case to access all sorts of documents from the administration, most recently secret grand jury information that underpinned Mueller's report. And where courts have generally required congressional oversight requests to demonstrate a legitimate legislative purpose, impeachment requests could be wide-ranging.

Some Republicans have raised doubts that the unilateral declaration of impeachment would grant the House those powers. Trump allies have questioned the form of the impeachment investigation, which, unlike those into Richard Nixon and Bill Clinton, was begun without a formal vote of the House.

They suggest that without a formal vote, the House is merely conducting oversight. The Justice Department raised similar arguments last month, though it was before Pelosi announced the impeachment investigation.

There's no clear-cut procedure in the Constitution for launching an impeachment inquiry, leaving many of these questions about obstruction untested in court, said Allan Lichtman, a history professor at American University.

"There's no specification in the Constitution in what does and does not constitute a more formal impeachment inquiry or investigation," he said. "One can argue if they're in an impeachment investigation, they're in an impeachment."

It is unclear if Democrats would wade into a lengthy legal fight with the administration over documents and testimony _ or if they would just move straight to considering articles of impeachment.

Schiff said Democrats will "have to decide whether to litigate, or how to litigate."

Democrats might have a marginally stronger case in court fights over documents they want from the administration now that they've initiated an impeachment inquiry. But more important is the prospect of incorporating into impeachment itself the White House's refusal to cooperate, said Elliot Minberg, senior counsel for the liberal People for the American Way.

If the White House won't provide fuller transcripts of Trump's July 25 call with Ukraine's president, for example, that could serve "both as evidence to support other allegations and itself impeachable conduct. That's leverage the Democrats did not previously claim that they have now quite explicitly claimed," said Minberg, who previously served as a lawyer for the House Judiciary Committee.

Jennifer Victor, a political science professor at George Mason University, said the impeachment inquiry "ups the ante in a checks-and-balances political game with the executive branch. The heightened public spotlight makes it more difficult for the executive branch to skirt requests to appear or deliver documents."

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

APNewsBreak: Colleges got \$60M-plus from OxyContin family

By COLLIN BINKLEY and JENNIFER McDERMOTT Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — Prestigious universities around the world have accepted at least \$60 million over the past five years from the family that owns the maker of OxyContin, even as the company became embroiled in lawsuits related to the opioid epidemic, financial records show.

Some of the donations arrived before recent lawsuits blaming Purdue Pharma for its role in the opioid crisis. But at least nine schools accepted gifts in 2018 or later, when states and counties across the country began efforts to hold members of the family accountable for Purdue's actions. The largest gifts in that

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 29 of 59

span went to Imperial College London, the University of Sussex and Yale University.

Major beneficiaries of Sackler family foundations also included the University of Oxford in England and Rockefeller, Cornell and Columbia universities in New York, according to tax and charity records reviewed by The Associated Press.

In total, at least two dozen universities have received gifts from the family since 2013, ranging from \$25,000 to more than \$10 million, the records show.

Some skeptics see the donations as an attempt to salvage the family's reputation.

"Money from the Sacklers should be understood as blood money," said Dr. Andrew Kolodny, a leading critic of Purdue and the Sacklers who heads a program on opioid policy at Brandeis University, which was not among the schools identified in tax records as receiving donations from the Sacklers. "Universities shouldn't take it, and universities that have taken it should give it back."

Representatives of family members declined to comment.

The AP reviewed charitable giving from more than a dozen Sackler family foundations as reported to the Internal Revenue Service, the Canada Revenue Agency and the Charity Commission for England and Wales. The recipients included schools in the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada and Israel.

For decades, the family has been a major philanthropic figure in the worlds of art, medicine and education. They were listed by Forbes magazine in 2016 as one of the nation's 20 wealthiest families, with holdings of \$13 billion.

Much of their giving to universities has fueled research in areas including genetics and brain development. Other gifts supported medical schools, student scholarships and faculty jobs. It amounts to a small fraction of schools' overall fundraising, but some say the money has been a boon to important programs.

When evaluating the ethics of Sackler gifts, some experts argue, it's important to consider what schools knew about the family and when they knew it.

"We're looking at this through the lens of what people know now," said Ross Cheit, chairman of the Rhode Island Ethics Commission and a professor at Brown University, which has accepted donations from the Sacklers. "My sense is, during the time period we're talking about, people's views about that source of money changed _ a lot."

As opioid deaths have mounted, some schools joined with businesses and museums cutting ties with the family, but none plans to return the money. One school is redirecting unspent donations. Most schools refused to say whether they would accept donations in the future.

Kolodny, who is also director of the group Physicians for Responsible Opioid Prescribing, said the money, if returned, could be used to help cities and states harmed by the opioid crisis, which has killed more than 400,000 people in the U.S. in the past two decades.

The family's ties with colleges have come under fire recently from some students, alumni and politicians.

Petitions at New York University and Tel Aviv University called on the schools to strip the Sackler name from research institutes. A 2018 lawsuit from the Massachusetts attorney general argued that Purdue Pharma used its influence at Tufts University and other schools to promote the company's opioids.

Tufts, near Boston, said it is reviewing its relationship with Purdue and declined to answer questions until the review is finished. The university's school of graduate biomedical studies was founded with a Sackler gift in 1980 and carries the family's name.

Kolodny said schools should have known about the Sacklers' role in the opioid crisis after 2007, when Purdue pleaded guilty to federal charges that it misled the public about the risks of OxyContin. In that case, the company agreed to pay more than \$600 million in civil and criminal penalties. By 2017, he said, the Sacklers' ties to Purdue and OxyContin were common knowledge.

The records reviewed by the AP may not capture all giving by the family. Colleges are not required to disclose donation information, and many refused to provide details.

Purdue Pharma separately provides research money to some schools. Unlike nonprofit groups, it is not required to disclose its giving in publicly available tax forms.

Rockefeller University accepted more Sackler money than any other school in recent history, receiving more than \$11 million from the Sackler Foundation in Canada. Most came from a single \$10 million gift in

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 30 of 59

2014. Smaller donations continued through at least 2017. Richard Sackler, a former president of Purdue Pharma, previously taught at the school.

Rockefeller, which enrolls about 200 students in graduate science programs, did not respond to requests for comment.

Behind Rockefeller was the University of Sussex in England, which received \$9.8 million, according to tax records. A university spokesman said the school actually received about \$4 million over the past decade, while another pledge "was not progressed." The funding supports Sussex's Sackler Centre for Consciousness Science, which performs research of "paramount importance" that will continue for years, the school said.

Sussex did not say how it would handle future gift proposals from the Sacklers.

Oxford, the University of Glasgow in Scotland and Cornell each received \$5 million to \$6 million, tax records show. Columbia University followed with nearly \$5 million, while Imperial College London and McGill University in Montreal each received more than \$3 million.

The Sacklers have long held a presence in Britain, where Mortimer Sackler, one of three brothers who founded Purdue, lived for decades before his death in 2010. Some of the family's major foundations in the United Kingdom have suspended giving.

England's opioid addiction rates are far lower than those in the U.S., but they have climbed steadily in recent years, stoking fears of a crisis. Rising overdoses and deaths in Canada have spurred health officials to declare a crisis there, too.

Oxford said all gifts must pass a review committee and school gift guidelines. The panel weighs the source of the wealth and may reconsider donations "in the light of new information," the school said.

The AP contacted all universities that were identified in tax records as receiving more than \$1 million, along with some that were not listed in tax records but previously publicized major gifts from the Sacklers.

Of those 20 schools, three — Cornell, Yale and the California Institute of Technology — said they had made formal decisions to reject future funding from the family.

Yale spokeswoman Karen Peart said the school decided this year not to accept new gifts. Richard Sackler, the former Purdue president, previously served on an advisory board at the Yale Cancer Center, and a science institute at Yale is named after the family.

Some schools said they had no plans to accept Sackler funding for the foreseeable future, including Brown and the University of Washington. Most others refused to disclose their plans.

University of Connecticut spokeswoman Stephanie Reitz said all the school's substantial gifts came prior to 2012. Returning the money, she said, would harm students and researchers who benefit from it, while doing nothing to "undo the damage of the opioid crisis."

At many schools, the money has already been spent. And even if officials wanted to return what's left, it isn't as simple as writing a check. There are tax hurdles and legal obstacles that can make it difficult to return gifts from charities.

Brown said it will redirect unspent money to Rhode Island nonprofit groups that treat opioid addiction. The school received \$1 million from the Sackler Foundation in 2015, tax records show, along with smaller gifts as recently as 2017, totaling nearly \$500,000.

The 2015 gift was intended to create a new arts initiative called the Brown Sackler Arts Alliance, but the school says it was never spent. Brown officials decided to pause discussions about the arts series because of the "growing national conversation" about Purdue, the family and the opioid epidemic, school spokesman Brian Clark said.

At Harvard University, activists have pressured the school to strip the Sackler name from a campus museum, but administrators argue that the money for the building was given before OxyContin was developed. Tax records reviewed by the AP show a single gift to Harvard in recent history, a \$50,000 donation in 2016.

Connecticut-based Purdue Pharma filed for bankruptcy v last month as part of an effort to settle some 2,600 lawsuits accusing it of fueling the opioid crisis to drive profits. The company has no connection to Purdue University in Indiana.

McDermott reported from Providence, Rhode Island.

Follow Collin Binkley on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/cbinkley>. Follow Jennifer McDermott on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/JenMcDermottAP>.

10 Things to Know for Today

By The Associated Press undefined

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

1. TRUMP, DEMOCRATS A STUDY IN CONTRASTS IN PROBE

The president turns to name-calling and foul language as he defends himself from the impeachment inquiry, while House Democrats quietly vow new subpoenas for documents and witnesses.

2. HOW IMPEACHMENT VETERANS VIEW CURRENT INQUIRY

Republicans who carried out Bill Clinton's impeachment in 1998 are urging caution and restraint as Congress embarks on yet another impeachment struggle.

3. WHITE HOUSE SHIFTING TO PRIVATIZE MIGRANT CHILD DETENTION

The Trump administration is shifting care of some migrant children from religious nonprofits to the private, for-profit sector, AP finds.

4. HOUSE PANEL TAPS STARTUP FOR FACEBOOK FILES

The company's critics say documents unearthed in a legal battle with a defunct startup will show how the social media giant leveraged its market dominance to crush or absorb competitors.

5. SHOT HONG KONG TEEN CHARGED

The teenager who was the first victim of police gunfire in Hong Kong's monthslong pro-democracy protests has been charged with rioting and attacking police.

6. 'I LOVE YOU AS A PERSON'

The brother of Botham Jean, fatally shot in his own apartment by Dallas police officer Amber Guyger, hugged the sobbing officer in a stunning courtroom scene after she was sentenced to a decade in prison.

7. BLOODSHED INCREASES IN IRAQ PROTESTS

The death toll since seemingly spontaneous anti-government corruption protests erupted across the country earlier this week has now risen 19.

8. WALMART TO TEST NEW HEALTH CARE SERVICES FOR WORKERS

The retail giant will curate a list of high quality providers for employees but offer fewer choices than under the current plan.

9. WHERE A SEAL POPULATION IS RISING

Alaska's northern fur seals are showing up in growing numbers at an unlikely location _ a tiny island that forms the tip of an active undersea volcano.

10. RAYS BEAT A'S TO ADVANCE

Yandy Diaz homers twice as Tampa Bay beats Oakland 5-1 in the AL wild-card for the right to take on the Houston Astros _ baseball's best team in the regular season.

Friends say ticking clock drove wounded Hong Kong protester

By JOHN LEICESTER and EILEEN NG Associated Press

HONG KONG (AP) — Born after the historic July 1 day when Britain handed Hong Kong back to China in 1997, the 18-year-old protester who was shot at close range in the chest by a police officer during violent demonstrations this week and then arrested in the hospital is part of a generation for whom the clock is ticking.

In the lifetimes of young Hong Kong citizens born after 1997, the sands will run out on China's promise _ enshrined in the territory's constitution _ that Hong Kong's "capitalist system and way of life shall remain unchanged for 50 years."

That looming deadline and uncertainty about what, exactly, will happen after 2047 weigh like a sword

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 32 of 59

of Damocles in the minds of many people in Hong Kong.

But protesters who have flooded the streets since June are certain about what they don't want: For Hong Kong to become like all of China's other cities, its special freedoms snuffed out, its status lost as a freewheeling international hub for business and ideas.

Those fears, his schoolmates say, drove Tsang Chi-kin to become a protest leader in his high school, which bubbled with fury Wednesday following the teenager's shooting during widespread and violent demonstrations that wracked Hong Kong on Tuesday, as Communist leaders in Beijing were celebrating 70 years in power.

As other pupils at the Ho Chuen Yiu Memorial College in Hong Kong's Tsuen Wan district used their lunchbreak to chant in anger, a 17-year-old student who previously joined Tsang on marches said he and others born after 1997 feel that if they don't fight now to defend the territory's liberties, they may never get a second chance.

"That's why, I think, Kin is so passionate," said the schoolmate. Like many who fear they could face repercussions for protesting, he would only give a single name, Sam. "He believes that this is the last time, the last chance for us to fight for what we have."

But while friends used the word "brave" to describe their wounded schoolmate, the police chief defended the officer's use of force as "reasonable and lawful." Police Commissioner Stephen Lo said the officer had feared for his life and made "a split-second" decision to fire a single shot at close range. Video of the shooting showed the protester striking the officer's shooting arm with a metal rod, and that he was part of a group of about a dozen black-clad and masked demonstrators who swarmed the officer and other riot police, some hurling objects.

Police said Thursday that Tsang would be charged with rioting and two counts of "attacking police." Rioting carries a potential maximum sentence of 10 years in prison.

The shooting — the first time a protester is known to have been hit by gunfire — was a fearsome escalation in what is already the most serious crisis faced by any post-1997 Hong Kong leader and is severely testing the strength of Beijing's commitments to let the territory be largely its own boss, at least until 2047.

For schoolmates of Tsang, the injured protester, those promises are becoming ever-harder to believe. Exhibit A for sceptics was a Hong Kong government proposal that would have allowed criminal suspects to be extradited to mainland China for trials in Communist Party-controlled courts. Although its withdrawal was promised in September, the bill blew away trust that Hong Kong won't slowly lose its freedoms.

"It's becoming a small town in China. That's why we need to stand out," said Sam, who recalled riding the bus with Tsang to march in central Hong Kong, where protesters have repeatedly targeted government and police headquarters and been repelled by tear gas, water cannons and arrests.

He said Tsang, as a protest regular, advised others about how and where to demonstrate and gave "absolutely everything for this movement."

"He is a good leader," he said.

A female classmate, tears welling in her eyes, said, "Just last Friday, we were sitting next to each other and chatting and now he's been shot and in critical condition."

"We heard police say they may want to press charges against him. It's preposterous," said the 16-year-old, who gave only her initials, SY. "Police fired the shot but they want to charge him. Instead of being a victim, he's been made the perpetrator."

Seeing youngsters organize, march and be swept up by riot police has infuriated many older Hong Kong residents and swung them behind the movement.

"They try to bind up our hands and feet and then thrust a towel into our mouth to shut us up. It's tyranny," said a 60-year-old woman who showed up outside Tsang's school on Wednesday in a show of support. She gave only her surname, Chan.

But the protests have also split families.

Aiden Chan, another 17-year-old schoolmate of Tsang's who said they had played basketball and worked out together, wanted to join the protests China's National Day but was grounded by his parents.

"They think that the protests are destroying the city," he said. He said his parents also believe protesting

kids are being brainwashed and “controlled” by foreign powers, suspicions Chan dismissed as “nonsense.”

“When I try to go out, they don’t understand me,” he said. “They just think that as a student I should work hard and I should get into university and that’s all. So there’s quite a generation gap.”

The shooting is likely to increase the gulf between those who fear that the chaos is ruining Hong Kong’s economy and prospects, and protesters who view the police use of lethal weaponry as a harbinger of repression they see in mainland China.

“I saw the video (of Tsang’s shooting) and I’m really shocked,” Chan said. “I still can’t calm down.”

“How can these things happen in Hong Kong?”

World War II-era bomber crashes; at least 7 reported dead

By CHRIS EHRMANN and DAVE COLLINS Associated Press

WINDSOR LOCKS, Conn. (AP) — A World War II-era plane with 13 people aboard crashed and burned at the Hartford airport after encountering mechanical trouble on takeoff Wednesday, killing seven of them.

The four-engine, propeller-driven B-17 bomber struggled to get into the air and slammed into a maintenance building at Bradley International Airport as the pilots circled back for a landing, officials and witnesses said.

It had 10 passengers and three crew members, authorities said.

Connecticut Public Safety Commissioner James Rovella said hours after the crash that some of those on board were burned, and “the victims are very difficult to identify.”

Some of the survivors of the crash were critically injured, authorities said. One person on the ground was also hurt in the crash and a firefighter involved in the response suffered a minor injury. No children were on the plane.

The death toll of seven could rise, Rovella said. He said some lives were likely saved by the efforts of people including a person who raced to help the victims and people on the plane who helped others to escape the fire by opening a hatch, Rovella said.

“You’re going to hear about some heroic efforts from some of the individuals that were in and around that plane,” he said.

The retired, civilian-registered plane was associated with the Collings Foundation, an educational group that brought its Wings of Freedom vintage aircraft display to the airport this week, officials said.

The vintage bomber _ also known as a Flying Fortress, one of the most celebrated Allied planes of World War II _ was used to take history buffs and aircraft enthusiasts on short flights, during which they could get up and walk around the loud and windy interior.

“Right now my heart really goes out to the families who are waiting,” Gov. Ned Lamont said. “And we are going to give them the best information we can as soon as we can in an honest way.”

The National Transportation Safety Board sent a team of 10 to investigate the cause of the crash.

The plane was a few minutes into the flight when the pilots reported a problem and said it was not gaining altitude, officials said. It lost control upon touching down and struck a shed at a de-icing facility just before 10 a.m.

The airport _ New England’s second-busiest _ was closed afterward but reopened a single runway about 3½ hours later.

Flight records from FlightAware shows the plane had traveled about 8 miles (13 kilometers) and reached an altitude of 800 feet (244 meters).

In recordings of audio transmissions, the pilot told an air traffic controller that he needed to return to the airport and land immediately. Asked why, he said: “Number four engine, we’d like to return and blow it out.”

Brian Hamer, of Norton, Massachusetts, said he was less than a mile away when he saw a B-17, “which you don’t normally see,” fly directly overhead, apparently trying without success to gain altitude.

One of the engines began to sputter, and smoke came out the back, Hamer said. The plane made a wide turn and headed back toward the airport, he said.

“Then we heard all the rumbling and the thunder, and all the smoke comes up, and we kind of figured

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 34 of 59

it wasn't good," Hamer said.

Antonio Arreguin, who had parked at a construction site near the airport, said he did not see the plane but heard the explosion and could feel the heat from "this big ball of orange fire" about 250 yards (229 meters) away.

The same plane also crashed in 1987 at an air show near Pittsburgh, injuring several people, the Collings Foundation said. Hit by a severe crosswind as it touched down, the bomber overshot a runway and plunged down a hill. It was later repaired.

The crash reduces to nine the number of B-17s actively flying, said Rob Bardua, spokesman for the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force, near Dayton, Ohio.

Boeing-built B-17 Flying Fortresses _ 74 feet (23 meters) long, with a wingspan of 104 feet (32 meters) _ were used in daylight bombing raids against Germany during the war. The missions were extremely risky, with high casualty rates, but helped break the Nazis' industrial war machine.

The B-17 that went down was built in 1945, too late to see combat in the war, according to the Collings Foundation.

It served in a rescue squadron and a military air transport service before being subjected to the effects of three nuclear explosions during testing, the foundation said. It was later sold as scrap and eventually was restored. The foundation bought it in 1986.

Dave Collins reported from Hartford. Associated Press writers Michael Melia and Susan Haigh contributed to this report from Hartford.

Chris Ehrmann is a corps member for Report for America, a nonprofit organization that supports local news coverage, in a partnership with The Associated Press for Connecticut. The AP is solely responsible for all content.

Diaz hits 2 homers, Rays beat A's 5-1 in AL wild-card game

By JANIE McCAULEY AP Baseball Writer

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — When he got to second base, Yandy Diaz stole a glance back toward the dugout and saw all his teammates going crazy. He gleefully kept running.

Out for two months, no matter.

Diaz slugged baseball's lowest spender into a playoff matchup with mighty Houston, Charlie Morton silenced the powerful Athletics on the mound, and the Tampa Bay Rays beat Oakland at its own game with a 5-1 win in the AL wild-card round Wednesday night.

After playing only one game since late July because of a foot injury, Diaz hit a leadoff homer and went deep again in the third inning.

"When I looked to the bench and saw the guys super excited, it pumped me up to go around the bases," Diaz said through a translator. "I thought we had to carry that momentum throughout the game."

Avisail Garcia hit a two-run drive in the second, and Morton had all the support he needed as Tampa Bay advanced to face the AL West champion Astros in a best-of-five Division Series.

Game 1 is Friday at Houston, which piled up a major league-best 107 wins this season.

"We have a tough road ahead of us, Houston's a great team, but we played them well this year. It's going to be a dogfight," Tommy Pham said.

Pham homered in the fifth for the 96-win Rays, who had the smallest payroll in the majors at \$66.4 million. And in a playoff meeting between creative, small-budget teams that make the most of limited resources, it was Tampa Bay that came out on top.

The Rays were unfazed by a towel-swirling Oakland crowd of 54,005 that established a wild-card record, having recently played at Dodger Stadium and on the road against the Yankees and Red Sox during the season's final two weeks.

"I really feed off the energy of this situation. I that helped us," Morton said. "It helped us to come in

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 35 of 59

here and be in a high-pressure situation. The stadium was pretty rowdy but I think that helped us focus.”

And when Marcus Semien struck out to end it, Tampa Bay players raced out of their dugout to celebrate and put on fresh playoff T-shirts and caps. Once in the clubhouse, the Rays drenched Morton with booze.

“It’s a beautiful thing having the lowest payroll in baseball and having the success we did,” center fielder Kevin Kiermaier said before the game. “It always feels good to stick it to the man any time you’re able to in this game, and that’s something to be very proud of.”

The A’s have lost nine straight winner-take-all games since 2000, going 1-15 with a chance to advance to the next postseason round. Their only win came in 2006 against the Twins before being swept in the AL Championship Series by the Tigers.

A year ago in the wild-card game, Oakland’s first time back in the playoffs since 2014, the A’s fell behind fast and lost 7-2 at Yankee Stadium. They won 97 games again to earn a wild card.

This game had a far different feel in the familiar, friendly confines of the Coliseum, but the A’s dug themselves another quick hole.

And the visitors were the ones putting on a happy home run show this time. Oakland, which hit a franchise-record 257 homers, is 0-6 in winner-take-all playoff games at home since 2000.

Even a day earlier, Rays manager Kevin Cash wasn’t sure Diaz would play given how much time he missed during the season’s second half.

Diaz returned for the finale last Sunday at Toronto after being sidelined since July 23. He played in just 79 games this season, 22 of those at first base with 17 starts.

“He probably caught us off guard a little bit with how quickly he turned around over the last five, six days,” Cash said.

Never one to shy from the unorthodox _ the Rays used four outfielders against Matt Olson _ Cash started Diaz at first to make sure his best bat against lefties was in the lineup.

Kiermaier noted Diaz is “just one of those guys, he just wakes up out of bed and rakes. Everyone knows him for his muscles and what he can do in the weight room and stuff like that, but the guy finds the barrel so much throughout this whole season, and any time we’re able to have him available, we’re happy.”

Morton, with a career-high 16 wins and his best ERA yet of 3.05 this season, counted on his playoff experience giving him an edge. He won Game 7 of the ALCS and World Series for the Astros in 2017.

Morton gave up five hits without an earned run over five innings. He struck out four and walked three in his seventh postseason start and eighth appearance, having spent the last two seasons with Houston.

The right-hander walked Mark Canha to load the bases with two outs in the first before retiring Jurickson Profar on a flyball and had already thrown 32 pitches.

Morton quickly settled in and once his turn was done, the Rays’ shutdown bullpen did the rest.

“When the first inning ended, I kind of said to myself, we were fortunate to have Charlie Morton on the mound. We get the 1-0 lead. A young pitcher in that situation, that environment, you just wonder how he’s going to be able to handle that,” Cash said. “But Charlie, been there, done that, his veteran, his experience, I think allowed that. And I would still say, I don’t think Charlie was at his best today, but he certainly made his best pitches when they counted the most.”

Semien reached third on a three-base error by third baseman Mike Brosseau in the third and scored on Ramon Laureano’s sacrifice fly. Oakland did little else.

Diaz hit the fifth pitch of the night from Sean Manaea over the wall in right-center. Manaea then struck out the side after Diaz’s drive, but was done after two innings.

“That’s kind of our game. They kind of beat us with our game. We’re normally a home run-hitting team,” Oakland manager Bob Melvin said.

Melvin handed Manaea the ball based on his triumphant September return after missing nearly a year following shoulder surgery. Manaea went 4-0 with 1.21 ERA in five starts last month.

Manaea earned his first career playoff start over 15-game winner Mike Fiers, who pitched a no-hitter May 7 against the Reds to begin a 21-start unbeaten stretch in which he went 12-0.

“That’s the tough part about a one-game playoff. Those nights where it’s not happening are going to

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 36 of 59

be your last game," Semien said. "That's what happened."

ALL OVER THE INFIELD

Brosseau started at second then moved to third and first, becoming the first to play three infield spots in one wild-card game.

TRAINER'S ROOM

Rays: INF Eric Sogard, who played for the A's from 2010-15, could be on the ALDS roster as he is close to healthy from a bone bruise in his right foot, Cash said. Sogard hasn't played since Sept. 15 at the Angels. "He's getting closer," Cash said.

Athletics: RF Stephen Piscotty, out with a sprained right ankle since Aug. 25, wasn't on the roster. Piscotty, who batted .249 with 13 homers and 44 RBIs, also missed extended time with a sprained right knee from June 30 to Aug. 2. "The hard part is getting him at-bats against live pitching. That was part of the thinking leading up is he just didn't have enough at-bats," Melvin said.

UP NEXT

RHP Tyler Glasnow is a strong candidate to start Friday for the Rays at Houston, with 2018 AL Cy Young Award winner Blake Snell following in Game 2. Tampa Bay had success against the Astros this year, winning four of seven meetings. Three of those victories came in a season-opening series at Tropicana Field.

More AP MLB: <https://apnews.com/MLB> and https://twitter.com/AP_Sports

Warren turns corporate criticism into bona fides in '20 race

By WILL WEISSERT Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Facebook's CEO said his company is ready to "go to the mat" to stop Elizabeth Warren from breaking up tech giants. Amazon accused her of getting facts wrong. And some Democratic donors with ties to Wall Street have quietly said they'll sit out the election or vote for President Donald Trump if Warren wins her party's presidential nomination.

On the surface, none of this would seem encouraging for Warren. But the Massachusetts senator and her allies are relishing her growing number of high-profile corporate enemies, betting their disdain will reinforce her image as an anti-corruption crusader.

"Many of the people who will be voting for a president who will break up Amazon and Facebook are users of Amazon and Facebook (and) don't like having their privacy abused or their prices jacked up," said Adam Green, co-founder of the Progressive Change Campaign Committee and a top Warren backer. "Elizabeth Warren is able to really make that case."

Warren, along with her chief liberal rival, Bernie Sanders, is testing how far Democratic voters are willing to go in taking on some of the nation's wealthiest citizens and most powerful companies. They argue that the concentration of profits on Wall Street and in Silicon Valley have hurt the middle class, so introducing a wealth tax and curbing the power of mammoth companies will improve the well-being of everyday Americans. But that's a risky strategy at a time when the country faces economic headwinds and searing political divides.

Facebook and Amazon occupy a rarified space in American life with millions of people using their services every day. The companies have come under criticism from both liberals and President Donald Trump for having outsized influence on the control of information and products.

While technology and financial companies have become easy political targets, Warren's views are under growing scrutiny as she emerges near the top of the Democratic pack. She's surpassed Sanders in many polls and is in a close race for first with former Vice President Joe Biden.

As she rises, some business leaders are expressing alarm. Facebook chief Mark Zuckerberg was heard in leaked audio published this week by The Verge saying of Warren, "If someone's going to try to threaten something that existential, you go to the mat and you fight."

He said Warren "thinks that the right answer is to break up the companies" and "If she gets elected president, then I would bet that we will have a legal challenge, and I would bet that we will win the legal

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 37 of 59

challenge.”

“And does that still suck for us? Yeah,” Zuckerberg said in the audio, recorded during a Facebook employee town hall in July.

Warren tweeted a response: “What would really ‘suck’ is if we don’t fix a corrupt system that lets giant companies like Facebook engage in illegal anticompetitive practices, stomp on consumer privacy rights, and repeatedly fumble their responsibility to protect our democracy.”

The exchange was typical: Warren targeting top firms, believing such skirmishes bolster her political brand _ even if some of the companies she decries are popular.

In April, when Amazon tweeted objections to Warren’s complaints that it collected information “on every buyer or seller,” Warren fired back, “Here are the facts,” and linked to news coverage she said showed the company doing just that.

Warren spent years calling on Wells Fargo President and CEO Tim Sloan to step down after word emerged in 2016 that the bank had been falsifying bank accounts. Sloan long brushed off those calls but quit in March _ prompting Warren to tweet “about damn time.”

Similarly, when CNBC published a story last week saying Democratic donors on Wall Street and with ties to big businesses might boycott the election, or vote to reelect the president, if Warren is the party’s nominee, she linked to the story under the tweet: “I’m not afraid of anonymous quotes, and wealthy donors don’t get to buy this process.”

Warren kept up the offensive this week, announcing a proposal that would impose taxes on firms and organizations that spend at least \$500,000 annually on lobbying some 35% of those expenditures _ with those levies increasing up to 75% of expenditures for entities spending \$5 million-plus per year.

She’s hardly the only Democrat decrying tech and financial firms. California Sen. Kamala Harris this week called on Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey to suspend Trump’s account, arguing that his references to violence are counter to the platform’s terms of service. And Sanders, the Vermont senator, is a democratic socialist who frequently calls for a political revolution.

Warren has taken different stances than Harris and Sanders. She said Wednesday that Trump shouldn’t be banned from tweeting. And she says she’s a capitalist who wants to work within the system to reform it _ not tear it down.

The question is whether voters will recognize such subtle distinctions.

“In the general election, the same people who kind of are not thrilled with Elizabeth Warren, this will not make them any more thrilled with her,” said Tim Groeling, a UCLA communication studies professor whose research focuses on political communication and new media. “But the moderates aren’t going to be voting in the primary.”

Democrats have been burned by feuding with big business in the past.

While campaigning for reelection in 2012, President Barack Obama said in a speech, “If you’ve got a business _ you didn’t build that.” He was trying to channel Warren, who was then running for Senate, and noted that anyone building a factory benefited from public services that were collectively financed through taxes, including policing, roads and workers who were educated in public schools.

Obama’s opponent, Republican Mitt Romney, seized on the idea in campaign ads, leading Obama to respond with a spot of his own, declaring: “Those ads taking my words about small business out of context — they’re flat-out wrong.”

The bigger challenge may be proving that the middle class would automatically benefit if Warren succeeded in whittling down big tech.

Calculating the impact on the economy would involve “billions of people, not to mention the political, sociological and legal issues, all of which combined are beyond human understanding,” said Thibaut Schrepel, a faculty associate specializing in antitrust issues at Harvard University’s Berkman Center. “So, as a whole, nobody knows.”

Associated Press writers Josh Boak in Washington and Kathleen Ronayne in Las Vegas contributed to

this report.

Harris faces questions about whether Iowa focus is too late

By **JUANA SUMMERS, ALEXANDRA JAFFE and KATHLEEN RONAYNE Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Kamala Harris is refocusing on Iowa in hopes that momentum there will reinvigorate a presidential campaign that is so far falling short of expectations. But the California senator has a problem: She may be too late.

Harris is hardly the first candidate to pin her hopes on Iowa to catapult herself to the nomination. John Kerry virtually stopped campaigning everywhere other than Iowa and New Hampshire in 2004 and ultimately became the Democratic Party's nominee, though he lost the general election. And Barack Obama's Iowa victory helped him prove his viability to wary voters in states later on the calendar.

Veterans of Iowa politics concede that the caucuses are notorious for their unpredictability, with plenty of candidates mounting come-from-behind wins. But they say success in the state often depends on relationship building that takes longer than a few months' commitment.

"Other candidates have had a lot of time with Iowans," said Marygrace Galston, Obama's deputy state director in 2008. "It's late in the game. It's a tough state to play catch-up in."

Nearly a dozen Harris aides, allies and supporters spoke with The Associated Press about her prospects, many on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss internal matters. Several said that if Harris wins Iowa, or performs strongly, it will put to rest questions about her "electability."

As the only black woman among the Democratic contenders, she is facing a challenge similar to Obama's in 2007, when the then-U.S. senator from Illinois silenced questions about his crossover appeal with a triumph in the January caucuses. A similar victory could slingshot Harris to states later in the calendar, including South Carolina and California.

"The only people counting out Kamala Harris are people who don't know they shouldn't count out a black woman," said Bakari Sellers, a top surrogate for Harris' campaign in South Carolina.

Harris hired her first Iowa staffers soon after officially launching her campaign in January. Her visit this weekend is her ninth to Iowa. But her campaign's public statement that she was all-in on Iowa two weeks ago marked a tacit admission that her campaign needs to reconfigure its Iowa approach if she hopes to break out of the middle of the polling pack.

A September Des Moines Register/CNN/Mediacom poll found that 6% of likely caucusgoers said Harris would be their first choice for the nomination, putting her well behind Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren and former Vice President Joe Biden, who led all other candidates in the poll.

Harris returns to Iowa on Sunday after a two-week absence and on the heels of early October visits to Nevada and South Carolina, the states that follow Iowa and New Hampshire in the Democratic primary race. Her three-day trip will focus on suburban women, students and teachers.

Her Iowa staff says she's begun a hiring push, though they declined to share details on how many staffers they've added so far. They also say they've opened two new offices in the state, with five more expected to open in the coming days.

She's making time on this swing to meet more intimately with the super volunteers who make up their precinct-level leadership teams, the kinds of people who help run the campaign's caucus-night operation.

Penny Rosfjord, a former chair of the Woodbury County Democratic Party who endorsed Harris recently, said she thought Harris still had plenty of time.

"Honestly, the only thing that matters is caucus time. If it was this time in 2016, Hillary Clinton would have won this state by 20 points over Bernie Sanders," she said, referring to what was ultimately Clinton's narrow victory. "So you take the temperature of what's going on, but I don't know how realistic it is."

Still, some Harris supporters said they'd like to see the campaign accelerate. State Rep. Phyllis Thede, who represents a Davenport-area district, said she was planning to do more door-to-door canvassing for Harris but was waiting for instruction from the campaign.

"I need to get some direction from (the campaign) about what kinds of things they want us to take to

the doors and call people on," she said.

Harris advisers concede that the campaign struggled through a summer in which fundraising was a top priority, putting intense demands on the senator's time. One described it as a necessary tradeoff to ensure that Harris had enough money to compete through the early state contests, but one that appears to have weakened her standing in those same states.

Harris raised \$11.6 million over the past three months, roughly the same amount she'd raised in the prior two quarters.

The team is also working to beat back the narrative that her campaign is unstable, after reports that she had reorganized her senior staff, elevating her Senate chief of staff, Rohini Kosoglu, and a senior adviser, Laphonza Butler, into senior management positions. The staffing changes were first reported by Politico.

Harris said Wednesday in Las Vegas, where she was attending a gun policy forum, that her "strong" team has helped her become "by most accounts, one of the four top-tier candidates" in the presidential race.

"We have folks on the ground in all of the early states," she said. "We have always had a plan that after Labor Day, there would be a ramp up to meet the needs and demands that we have to be present in these places and to accommodate the kind of enthusiasm that we're seeing. I'm very proud of my team."

People with knowledge of the decisions offered diverging explanations for why Harris' campaign had decided to make some staffing changes. One described the recalibration as aimed in part at eliminating bottlenecks in decision-making, which have hampered communications strategy and interactions with supportive outside groups. Others pointed to the fact that no one was fired and that the staffers who were elevated had already been a part of Harris' orbit and already bore significant responsibility to the campaign.

There is a general sense within the campaign and among donors that there is a problem and things need to change, said one person familiar with campaign discussions. But, the person added, there is also a sense of uncertainty as to whether the staffing shuffles would have much practical effect.

Matt Paul, a veteran Iowa Democratic operative who ran Clinton's 2016 Iowa campaign, said it was important for Harris to keep the conversation focused on her message when she returns this weekend.

"What matters in Iowa is that she's here, she's on-message and her campaign is making their goals in terms of contacts, precinct captains. The nuts and bolts need to work," he said. "That's what should drive the attention on her campaign, not palace intrigue."

Summers reported from Washington and Ronayne reported from Sacramento, Calif. Associated Press writers Julie Pace and Emily Swanson in Washington, Michael R. Blood in Los Angeles and Errin Haines in Philadelphia contributed to this report.

2020 Democrats put focus on guns amid impeachment fever

By **KATHLEEN RONAYNE** and **MICHELLE L. PRICE** Associated Press

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Democratic presidential candidates reiterated their call for gun control Wednesday and urged Americans to keep up the fight for change, sidestepping the issue of impeachment in Washington and whether it will divert lawmakers.

At a gun policy forum in Nevada, Cory Booker said the National Rifle Association and the corporate gun lobby are not the only forces stopping progress on gun control.

"Change never comes from Washington. It comes to Washington by Americans that demand it," the New Jersey senator said. He added later that "Every one of us in America, right now, by doing nothing, we are implicated in this. We all have to take responsibility."

The forum _ located about 2 miles from the Las Vegas Strip, the site of the deadliest mass shooting in modern American history _ was held amid an effort to keep gun violence front and center of the debate and gave 2020 presidential candidates a chance to showcase their plans to combat the epidemic. Negotiations between President Donald Trump's administration and lawmakers have halted over background checks legislation passed by the Democratic-controlled House, an effort that faced long odds even before the impeachment inquiry began.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 40 of 59

"This president has gotten nothing done about much of anything," California Sen. Kamala Harris said Wednesday, adding that Trump will use impeachment as an excuse to avoid action.

Former Vice President Joe Biden made a similar prognosis, saying, "Nothing is going to change until we get this guy out of office."

They were among nine White House hopefuls to speak at the forum Wednesday, almost two years to the day after a man rained gunfire from the window of a high-rise hotel onto a country music festival below, killing 58 people. The forum was hosted by MSNBC, March for Our Lives and Giffords, the advocacy organization set up by former Arizona congresswoman Gabby Giffords, who was shot and gravely wounded during a constituent meeting in 2011 in Tucson.

Giffords opened the event with brief remarks calling for Democrats, Republicans and independents to come together and fight for change.

"Stopping gun violence takes courage. The courage to do what's right. The courage of new ideas," Giffords said.

In addition to Booker, Harris and Biden, the other candidates who spoke were South Bend, Indiana, Mayor Pete Buttigieg; former Obama Housing Secretary Julián Castro; Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar; former Texas Rep. Beto O'Rourke; Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren; and businessman Andrew Yang.

Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders was expected to attend, but he ended up undergoing a heart procedure for a blocked artery. His campaign said he was canceling appearances "until further notice."

O'Rourke recast his campaign around gun control after the August shooting in his hometown of El Paso, Texas, where a gunman targeting Hispanics killed 22 people. O'Rourke vowed to ban assault weapons, saying at a debate in Houston in September, "Hell, yes, we're gonna take your AR-15, your AK-47, and we're not going to allow it to be used against your fellow Americans anymore." That's a shift from his position during his 2018 U.S. Senate campaign, when he did not support mandatory buybacks.

O'Rourke criticized Buttigieg for saying that a mandatory government gun buyback program has "mixed results" and likening it to a "shiny object" that makes it harder to pass other gun control policies.

"I was really offended by those comments, and I think he represents a kind of politics that is focused on poll testing and focus group driving and triangulating and listening to consultants before you arrive at a position," O'Rourke told reporters later.

O'Rourke himself was criticized earlier in the day by Booker, who said O'Rourke only supported a gun licensing program after the shooting in his hometown.

While Buttigieg didn't endorse mandatory gun buybacks, he did speak in support of banning assault weapons, saying it's not true that the Second Amendment bars the government from banning certain weapons.

"In America, it is already the case that, anybody, as far as I know, can have a slingshot. And nobody can have a nuclear weapon," he said. "If you think about it, that means we have already decided, as a society, consistent with our Constitution, within the boundaries of the Second Amendment, that there's a line."

Booker and Harris also said they support some type of mandatory buyback program. Castro said he's open to hearing arguments for a mandatory gun buyback, "but I think there are 15 things _ different things _ that we can do."

Most candidates have focused on expanding background checks and banning the future manufacture and sale of certain high-powered weapons.

Warren echoed a key theme of her campaign when she said inaction on gun policy is a symptom of corruption in Washington.

"This is a fundamental question about who Washington works for, and the answer for decades now has been Washington works great for the gun industry _ it just doesn't work great for everyone else in America."

Biden on Wednesday released a detailed gun policy plan emphasizing his role as a leading senator in adopting a background check law in 1993 and a ban on certain semi-automatic weapons as part of a sweeping 1994 crime law. That ban expired after 10 years.

Besides renewing that ban and including high-capacity magazines, Biden wants a ban on the online sales of guns and ammunition, along with a voluntary buyback program for military-style guns. He proposes a

\$900 million, eight-year grant program for evidence-based intervention programs in 40 cities with high homicide rates. The idea reflects a point Biden and some other candidates make often when campaigning: Mass shootings account for only a small fraction of U.S. gun deaths.

At the Capitol earlier Wednesday, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said Democrats will continue to press for gun control.

"Let me just say on gun violence prevention: We are not going away until we get legislation signed into law that protects our children," she said.

Associated Press writers Bill Barrow in Atlanta and Matthew Daly in Washington contributed to this report.

Follow Ronayne on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/kronayne>

Cities push opioid lawsuits against family that owns Purdue

By GEOFF MULVIHILL Associated Press

Local government lawsuits against the family that owns Purdue Pharma should be allowed to proceed even as the company attempts to reach a nationwide settlement in bankruptcy court over the toll of the opioids crisis, according to a court filing on Wednesday.

The filing by 19 cities and towns in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey and Virginia comes amid acrimonious settlement negotiations with the maker of the painkiller OxyContin that is now playing out in a bankruptcy court in White Plains, New York.

Purdue and members of the family that owns it, the Sacklers, are seeking a grand settlement to end more than 2,600 lawsuits against the company that have been filed in federal court and hundreds more filed against the family in state courts. The federal cases against Purdue and many other players in the opioid industry had been consolidated in U.S. District Court in Cleveland, a process that produced the outlines of a tentative settlement last month between Purdue and some of the plaintiffs.

Purdue's bankruptcy filing was anticipated under that tentative deal, although half of state attorneys general have rejected the terms so far and have vowed to continue suing the Sacklers in their state courts.

Wednesday's filing by the local governments argued against having an injunction placed on the lawsuits targeting the family while Purdue's federal bankruptcy case plays out.

"In light of the well-documented pattern by the Sackler Family of hiding their assets from creditors, the Debtors' application is simply a transparent and improper effort on the part of the Debtors to protect the bulk of their beneficial owners' fortune from disclosure and recovery by any of their creditors," the local governments' court filing states.

The family, which Forbes magazine listed in 2016 as one of the 20 wealthiest in the country, said the bankruptcy judge should halt all lawsuits against it.

"The stay is designed to allow all parties, even those parties who oppose that proposed settlement, to collaborate in finding a solution to the current litigation morass that the company faces," descendants of Raymond Sackler, one of the late patriarchs of the company, said in a statement. "We are hopeful the bankruptcy court will grant the stay so that progress toward meaningful solutions can continue. If a stay is not granted, precious resources will be wasted on litigation expenses and that will benefit no one."

Last month, New York's attorney general said in a legal filing that the family had used Swiss and other hidden bank accounts to transfer \$1 billion to themselves. An Associated Press investigation found that the Sacklers have sought to shield their fortune through a web of companies and trusts, many of them based outside the U.S.

The settlement terms call for Purdue to contribute as much as \$12 billion over time to help states and local governments address the opioid crisis, with the Sackler family contributing \$3 billion to \$4.5 billion. The amount depends on how much they would get from selling their international drug companies.

Purdue's subsequent bankruptcy filing removes the Stamford, Connecticut-based company from the first federal trial over the toll of the opioids crisis, scheduled to begin later this month in Cleveland.

Wednesday's filing by the cities and towns says the settlement discussions remain "in their infancy" and that neither Purdue nor the Sackler family has so far made financial disclosures. Those disclosures are necessary to show whether the Sacklers would actually make good on their promise to pay, according to the court filing.

The local governments also take aim at a statement in a Purdue legal filing that sought to have all lawsuits against the family halted. That filing said the Sacklers might be "unwilling _ or unable _ to make the billions of dollars of contributions" if they have to face additional lawsuits.

The local government lawyers say that with the family willing to back out and half states pushing back, the nationwide settlement long sought by the Sacklers is unlikely to happen.

Some state attorneys general are expected to make similar arguments in filings due to the bankruptcy court by Friday.

Follow Mulvihill at <http://www.twitter.com/geoffmulvihill>

5 bulls found dead in Oregon; then the story gets weird

By **ANDREW SELSKY** Associated Press

SALEM, Ore. (AP) — The first dead bull was found in a timbered ravine in eastern Oregon. There was no indication it had been shot, attacked by predators or eaten poisonous plants.

The animal's sex organs and tongue had been removed. All the blood was gone.

In the next few days, four more Hereford bulls were found within 1.5 miles (2.5 kilometers) in the same condition. There were no tracks around the carcasses.

Ranch management and law enforcement suspect that someone killed the bulls. Ranch hands have been advised to travel in pairs and to go armed.

Ever since the bulls were found over several days in July, Harney County sheriff's Deputy Dan Jenkins has received many calls and emails from people speculating what, or who, might be responsible.

The theories range from scavengers such as carrion bugs eating the carcasses to people attacking the animals to cause financial harm to ranchers.

Jenkins, who is leading the investigation that also involves state police, has run into only dead ends and has no witnesses.

"If anyone has concrete information or knows of any cases that have been solved in the past, that would definitely be helpful," he said.

Colby Marshall, vice president of the Silvies Valley Ranch that owned the bulls, has another theory: "We think that this crime is being perpetuated by some sort of a cult."

Residents speculate there could be UFO involvement. One person suggested that Jenkins look for craters underneath the carcasses, saying it would be evidence that the bulls had been levitated into a spaceship, mutilated, and then dropped back to the ground. Similar incidents in the past have also garnered UFO theories.

The case recalls mutilations of livestock across the U.S. West and Midwest in the 1970s that struck fear in rural areas. Thousands of cattle and other livestock ranging from Minnesota to New Mexico were found dead with their reproductive organs and sometimes part of their faces removed.

Ranchers began carrying guns. Folks said helicopters had been heard around the kill sites. A federal agency canceled an inventory by helicopter of its lands in Colorado, worried that it would get shot down.

A couple of U.S. senators urged the FBI to investigate, according to FBI documents. After saying it lacked jurisdiction, the FBI agreed to investigate cases on tribal lands. But the mutilations stopped.

Former FBI agent Kenneth Rommel, who headed the investigation, said there was no indication that anything other than common predators were responsible.

Cases have emerged sporadically since then. In the 1980s, a few cows were found dead and mutilated in eastern Oregon. More recently, there have been cases on a ranch near Flagstaff, Arizona.

Some of the mutilations can be attributed to natural causes. An animal drops dead, the blood pools at

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 43 of 59

the bottom of the carcass, it bloats, and the skin dries out and splits. The tears often appear surgical. Carrion bugs, birds and other scavengers go for the soft tissues.

Dave Bohnert, director of Oregon State University's Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center in Burns, said he believes people killed the most recent bulls because there is no indication they were felled by predators or had eaten poisonous plants.

However, the state of the carcasses could be attributable to nature, said Bohnert, who is not officially investigating the case.

If people killed the bulls, a motive could be to financially harm the ranch, he said, noting that breeding bulls cost thousands of dollars each, and the 100-plus calves each of them sire are collectively worth much more.

Marshall doubts it was a malicious attack on the ranch, which employs 75 people, many from local communities. Silvies Valley Ranch covers 140,000 acres (57,000 hectares) of deeded and leased National Forest lands around a mile above sea level.

In 2006, a wealthy veterinarian bought the ranch and made it a combination working ranch and an elite destination resort. It has four golf courses, a spa, shooting ranges, fishing and luxury cabins going for up to \$849 per night.

Marshall suspects the bulls were killed to get the organs of the free-ranging bulls for some reason. The bull parts would be available cheaply or free at a slaughterhouse, but he believes some people are going to a lot of trouble to get these parts on the range.

There's no sign that scavengers removed the organs of the bulls, and instead someone using a knife or scalpel probably did, Marshall said.

"To lose a completely healthy animal would be an oddity," Marshall said. "To lose five young, very healthy, in great shape, perfect bulls that are all basically the same age ... that is so outside the bounds of normal activity."

Marshall speculates the bulls were darted with a tranquilizer that knocked them out. While some people acted as lookouts, others bled the animals out by inserting a large-gauge needle into the tongue and into an artery, then removed the organs after the heart stopped beating, he surmised.

Jenkins, the deputy, has a similar theory.

"Personally, I would lean more toward the occult, where people for whatever reason _ whether it's a phase of the moon or whatever rituals they're going to do with their beliefs _ are coming to different areas and doing that," he said.

The Oregon Cattlemen's Association is offering a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the conviction of those responsible. The ranch is offering \$25,000.

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

Impeachment standoff: Trump sees hoax, Dems see stonewalling

By **LISA MASCARO, MARY CLARE JALONICK and JONATHAN LEMIRE** Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Agitated and angry, President Donald Trump squared off against House Democrats on Wednesday, packing his increasingly aggressive impeachment defense with name-calling and expletives. Quietly but just as resolutely, lawmakers expanded their inquiry, promising a broad new subpoena for documents and witnesses.

Democratic leaders put the White House on notice that the wide-ranging subpoena would be coming for information about Trump's actions in the Ukraine controversy, the latest move in an impeachment probe that's testing the Constitution's system of checks and balances. They said they'd be going to court if necessary.

Amid the legal skirmishing, it was a day of verbal fireworks.

The president complained that House Speaker Nancy Pelosi was handing out subpoenas "like cookies," railed against a government whistleblower as "vicious" and assailed the news media as corrupt and the

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 44 of 59

"enemy." All that alongside a presidential tweetstorm punctuated with an accusation that congressional Democrats waste time and money on "BULL----."

Pelosi said Democrats had no choice but to take on the most "solemn" of constitutional responsibilities to put a check on executive power after the national security whistleblower's complaint that recently came to light. The administration and Congress are on a collision course unseen in a generation after the whistleblower exposed a July phone call the president had with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in which Trump pressed for an investigation of Democratic political rival Joe Biden and his family.

"We take this to be a very sad time" for the American people and the country, Pelosi said. "Impeaching the president isn't anything to be joyful about."

Standing beside her, intelligence committee Chairman Adam Schiff accused Trump of "an incitement to violence" with his attacks on the unnamed whistleblower, who is provided anonymity and other protections under federal law. He said the investigation is proceeding "deliberately" but also with a sense of "urgency."

Unlike Trump, Schiff never raised his voice but said firmly: "We're not fooling around here."

Pelosi, in a "Good Morning America" interview that will air Thursday, said Trump is "scared" of the impeachment inquiry and the arguments that can be made against him.

Democrats are now talking of basing an impeachment charge of obstruction on the White House's slow-walking of documents and testimony _ administration actions that echo the months of resisting Congress in its other investigations into special counsel Robert Mueller's report and Trump's business dealings.

Ahead of the new subpoena, the chairmen of three House committees accused the administration of "flagrant disregard" of previous requests for documents and witnesses and said that refusal could be considered an impeachable offense.

The standoff took on a defiant tone this week when Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said he would not stand for Democrats "bullying" his employees into appearing before the congressional committees, even as he acknowledged that he, too, had been among those U.S. officials listening on the line during the Trump's phone call with the Ukraine leader.

Pompeo's admission is complicating his situation, and House leaders now consider him a "witness" to Trump's interaction with Ukraine.

One former State Department official, Kurt Volker, a former special envoy to Ukraine, will appear Thursday for a closed-door interview with House investigators. He is said to be eager to tell his side of the story. That's ahead of next week's deposition of ousted U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Maria "Masha" Yovanovitch.

The circumstances of Yovanovitch's sudden recall from Ukraine are the subject of conspiracy speculation, and the State Department's Inspector General Michael Steve Linick sought an "urgent" meeting Wednesday to brief staff of several committees.

During that private session, Linick told them he received a packet of materials from the State Department's Counsel T. Ulrich Brechbuhl, according to one person granted anonymity to discuss the closed-door session.

Rep. Jamie Raskin, D-Md., said the package contained information from debunked conspiracy theories about Ukraine's role in the 2016 election. Trump has long pursued those theories, a topic he discussed with Zelenskyy in the phone call that sparked the impeachment inquiry.

It was unclear where the package originated, but it was in a White House envelope and included folders from Trump hotels, according to another person familiar with the briefing, a Democrat. That person said the White House sent the envelope to Pompeo and it contained notes from interviews that took place in the New York City office of Trump's personal lawyer, Rudy Giuliani, with various Ukrainians about the debunked conspiracies.

"It raises more questions than it answers," said Raskin. Brechbuhl has also been called to give a deposition to the House.

Trump, in appearances in the Oval Office and a joint press conference with the president of Finland, displayed an unusual show of anger as he defended what he has called his "perfect" phone call with Zelenskyy and decried the impeachment inquiry.

At one point, he demanded that a reporter pressing him on his dealings with Ukraine move on, labeling

the journalist "corrupt." Earlier in the day he said even though he popularized the phrase "fake news," he now preferred to say "corrupt" news. "This is a hoax," Trump said.

Later he called himself, as he has before, a "very stable genius" who always watches what he says in conversations.

Trump has tweeted in recent days that he wants to "find out about" the whistleblower and question him or her, though the person's identity is protected by the Whistleblower Protection Act.

Schiff's spokesman acknowledged that the whistleblower had come to the intelligence committee before filing the formal complaint but said the staff advised the person to contact an inspector general and seek counsel, and at no point did the committee review or receive the complaint in advance.

Trump suggested, without any evidence, that Schiff "probably helped write" the whistleblower's complaint. The whistleblower's lawyers said the person had never met or spoken with Schiff about the matter.

The new subpoena coming Friday from House Oversight and Reform Chairman Elijah Cummings will be directed toward acting chief of staff Mick Mulvaney and request 13 separate batches of documents concerning the July call and related matters. The call came against the backdrop of a \$250 million foreign aid package for Ukraine that was being readied by Congress but stalled by Trump.

The whistleblower alleged in August that the White House tried to "lock down" Trump's July 25 phone call with the new Ukrainian president because it was worried about the contents being leaked to the public. The acting director of national intelligence eventually made the complaint public.

In recent days, it has been disclosed that the administration similarly tried to restrict information about Trump's calls with other foreign leaders, including Russia's Vladimir Putin and Saudi Arabia's Mohammed bin Salman, by moving memos onto a highly classified computer system.

In Russia, Putin said scrutiny over the phone call showed that Trump's adversaries are using "every excuse" to attack him.

Associated Press writers Matthew Lee in Rome, Angela Charlton in Kyiv, Ukraine, and Laurie Kellman, Zeke Miller, Jonathan Lemire, Alan Fram and Matthew Daly in Washington contributed to this report.

Pence, a loyal No. 2, finds himself caught up in impeachment

By ZEKE MILLER and JILL COLVIN Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump told Vice President Mike Pence to cancel his plans to attend the inauguration of Ukraine's new president earlier this year after initially pushing for him to go, according to a person familiar with the matter, confirming an assertion from the whistleblower now at the center of an impeachment investigation into Trump.

Aides to Pence disputed that, blaming logistics _ not Trump _ for the decision.

The aides who rushed to defend Pence added that the vice president never mentioned Trump's potential Democratic rival Joe Biden in repeated conversations he has had with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy, including some that were part of a campaign to pressure the new government on corruption.

Trump has said he raised Biden as an example of corruption in Ukraine in a summertime phone call with Zelenskiy that now at the center of the impeachment probe. There is no evidence that Biden was involved in corruption in the eastern European nation.

Throughout Trump's presidency, Pence has been a loyal lieutenant, praising him effusively and defending him aggressively. But the vice president has rarely been drawn into any direct controversy involving the president until now.

The controversy focuses on a July 25 phone call in which Trump, according to a rough transcript released by the White House, repeatedly pressed Zelenskiy to investigate Biden and his family. The intelligence community whistleblower said it was part of a broader effort by the president and his lawyers to solicit a foreign country to dig up dirt on a political rival for president in 2020.

Pence, according to aides, did not listen in on that call.

Pence has served as a key intermediary between the United States and Ukraine. In the complaint, the

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 46 of 59

whistleblower says he or she had learned from U.S. officials that "on or around 14 May, the President instructed Vice President Pence to cancel his planned travel to Ukraine to attend President Zelenskiy's inauguration on 20 May" and sent Energy Secretary Rick Perry to lead the delegation instead.

The whistleblower also alleged that Trump had made clear that a meeting or phone call between himself and Zelenskiy would depend on whether Zelenskiy "showed willingness to 'play ball'" on issues including investigating the Bidens and a conspiracy theory about the origins of the investigation into Russian election meddling.

A person familiar with the discussions, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss private conversations, said it was Trump who directed Pence to skip the event.

Pence aides offered an alternate explanation for the whistleblower's assertion that the vice president had canceled his attendance at Zelenskiy's inauguration as part of an alleged broader pressure campaign. They cited logistical challenges, noting Ukraine's Parliament formally set the date of Zelenskiy's inauguration just a week before it took place on May 20.

"As of May 13, no inauguration date had been set and no advance team had been sent to advance the trip, no USSS sent, nothing confirmed. So we told them we wouldn't attend," said Marc Short, the vice president's chief of staff, using an abbreviation for the U.S. Secret Service.

Pence instead traveled to Canada to promote the benefits of the United States-Mexico-Canada trade agreement.

"I think that there's a lot of facts that would run counter to the whistleblower's," Short said.

Pence, according to his aides, had two phone conversations with Zelenskiy. They also met last month in Warsaw, Poland, a meeting Pence attended at the last minute in Trump's place. Pence told reporters the next day that he and Zelenskiy had not discussed Biden during their closed-door meeting, though they had discussed the White House's decision to halt security aid to the nation meant to counter Russian aggression.

"As President Trump had me make clear, we have great concerns about issues of corruption," Pence said, adding that, to invest additional taxpayer money in Ukraine, "the president wants to be assured that those resources are truly making their way to the kind of investments that will contribute to security and stability in Ukraine. And that's an expectation the American people have and the President has expressed very clearly."

Katie Waldman, the vice president's press secretary, said in a statement, "It is crystal clear that the Vice President directly and effectively delivered the President's anti-corruption and European burden sharing messages overseas and, upon his return, the financial aid to Ukraine was released."

Trump, however, said Wednesday that he restored the funding because of concerns raised by congressional lawmakers that the military assistance was necessary to help Ukraine serve as a bulwark against Russian aggression in the region.

Pence aides said the Bidens were also not discussed during Pence's two phone calls with Zelenskiy — one on April 23 and one on Sept. 18 — nor had Biden come up in Pence's other conversations with world leaders. They also said the vice president had not spoken about the matter with the president's personal lawyer, Rudy Giuliani.

Trump and Giuliani have sought, without evidence, to implicate Biden and his son Hunter in the kind of corruption that has long plagued Ukraine. Hunter Biden served on the board of a Ukrainian gas company at the same time his father was leading the Obama administration's diplomatic dealings with Kyiv. Though the timing raised concerns among anti-corruption advocates, there has been no evidence of wrongdoing by either the former vice president or his son.

It was notably Trump who publicly flagged Pence's phone calls with Zelenskiy, telling reporters at a news conference last week that they should request transcripts of Pence's calls.

Short said his office was still reviewing whether the transcripts should be released.

Aides to the vice president also pointed to comments Pence has made on Twitter and in television interviews in recent days trying to diminish the seriousness of the controversy.

"The American people deserve better," Pence tweeted last week. "I'll make you a promise. Whatever Democrats in Congress want to do to obstruct our agenda or roll out their latest accusations to divide our country, President @realDonaldTrump & I will never stop fighting for the policies & ideals that have made this country Great Again!"

Follow Colvin and Miller on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/colvinj> and <https://twitter.com/ZekeJMiller>

Dallas shooting victim was a 'big personality, nice person'

By PAUL J. WEBER and JAKE BLEIBERG Associated Press

DALLAS (AP) — Botham Jean organized church mission trips. He installed Skype for elderly parents who missed their kids. One time he met a stranger who shared his mom's birthday, so the bighearted 6-foot-1 choir singer got the woman a cake.

He cried after getting a job in Dallas at the powerhouse accounting firm PwC. His eyes were set on senior management when his downstairs neighbor, a white Dallas police officer, entered his apartment, drew her gun and fatally shot him.

Jean "was a near-perfect person of color," said Ben Crump, a lawyer for the Jean family. "A 26-year-old college-educated black man, certified public accountant, working for one of the big three accounting firms in the world ... it shouldn't take all of that for unarmed black and brown people in America to get justice."

The jury that convicted Amber Guyger of murder sentenced her Wednesday to 10 years in prison. The 31-year-old former police officer, who says she believed she was in her own apartment and mistook Jean for an intruder, had faced up to life in prison for the September 2018 killing.

The sentence was met with boos and jeers by a crowd gathered outside the courtroom. But Brandt Jean, 18, told Guyger his brother would have wanted her to turn her life to Christ before getting permission to hug Guyger in an unusual and emotionally intense courtroom scene.

It unfolded just a day after Jean's family and activists in Dallas — a diverse city where the mayor, police chief and district attorney are all black — rejoiced over the guilty verdict, calling it a hopeful sign of turning tides on police accountability in the deaths of unarmed black men.

Jean's mother, Allison Jean, said Wednesday the sentence was a decade for Guyger to change her life. Then she ripped into Dallas and what she characterized as police corruption and incompetence.

"If Amber Guyger was trained to not shoot in the heart, my son would be standing here today," she said.

In his native Caribbean island country of St. Lucia, Jean won trophies for academic excellence, started a choir and organized school clubs. He confided to an uncle that he aspired to become the prime minister of the mostly black population of about 180,000 people.

Allison Jean has said her son, the middle child in her family, was socially conscious and mindful about being black in America after leaving the island to attend Harding University in Arkansas.

She told The New York Times last year that he drove the speed limit and kept his car in good repair. When she asked why he wore such dressy clothes, according to the newspaper, Jean told her he didn't want police to stop him and think he was somebody he wasn't.

Who Jean really was, attorneys told the mostly black and Hispanic jury, was a literal choirboy. The deeply religious young man spent Sundays on the phone with his father critiquing sermons and writing his own.

His mom fretted about affording college in America. St. Lucia's currency is weak against the U.S. dollar. But Jean — who also went by "Bo" — was determined to attend a Christian campus where he could sing.

"It was almost his aura. When he went to a meeting or he joined your group or whatever it was, you knew Bo. He was just big personality, nice person, big smile," said Kerry Ray, Jean's boss at PwC. "Never really had a bad thing to say about anybody."

Crump said spotless character shouldn't be required for minorities in the U.S. to get justice. Even Jean's family and activists had been on guard for character attacks, at one point fuming that a smear campaign was afoot after police revealed early in the investigation that marijuana had been found in Jean's apartment. Guyger's attorneys did not make an issue of Jean's marijuana use, and it came out during the trial

that Guyger herself admitted to having used pot when she applied for a job with Dallas police. Jean's sister, Allisa Findley, told jurors her brother used marijuana after not liking how he felt on Adderall, which he was prescribed for attention hyperactivity disorder.

She said Jean was excited about his life. She wanted her baby brother to move closer to her in New York, but he told her he still had career plans in Dallas.

Their last conversation was the night he died. Jean was about to turn 27 and had just two cooking pans in his apartment. He wanted Drake concert tickets for his birthday, but Findley was bent on a more practical gift.

"I told him, 'I thought we agreed you were going to be a grown up this year?'" Findley recalled. "He said, 'OK, fine. Get me the pots and pans.'"

Weber reported from Austin. Associated Press Writer Jill Bleed in Little Rock, Arkansas, contributed to this report.

Group pulls video that stirred talk of designer babies

By MARILYNN MARCHIONE AP Chief Medical Writer

A government-funded group that's leading efforts to set standards for gene editing has pulled a video it posted in the wake of concern about how it portrayed the ethically dicey science and its possible use to make designer babies.

The National Academy of Sciences posted the video earlier this week along with a tweet it later removed.

The tweet read: "Dream of being stronger? Or smarter? Do you dream of having a top student or star athlete? Or a child free of inheritable #diseases? Can human #GeneEditing eventually make this and more possible? #TheScienceBehindIt Take the quiz!" It included emojis of a brain, bulging muscles, a professor and an athlete.

"I am disappointed by this," said Alta Charo, a University of Wisconsin, Madison ethicist involved in past academy panels on gene editing. She said the tweet and video could further misunderstanding about editing's most important uses or wrongly suggest that it's possible now to bestow traits like intelligence.

The video gives the inaccurate impression that gene editing can give positive traits without any potential downsides — "the definition of hubris," said Harvard Medical School dean Dr. George Q. Daley, who also has been involved in academy work. "We are not there yet."

Making designer babies has long been feared by opponents of gene editing that alters DNA in embryos, eggs or sperm, in part because such changes can pass to future generations. Last year, a Chinese researcher's claim to have done this in twin girls was widely denounced and led to new calls for oversight. The academy and the World Health Organization separately formed scientific panels to consider that.

The new video is part of a series aimed at improving public understanding of the science behind complex issues, said academy spokeswoman Molly Galvin. The tweet was replaced by one noting the academy's position that gene editing should only be done to treat or prevent disease.

Wednesday night, after The Associated Press published a story on the matter, the group removed the video and issued a statement saying the video "left the misimpression that the use of genome editing for the 'enhancement' of human traits is permissible or taken lightly," which was not the intent. "We apologize for any concern or confusion we caused."

Galvin did not respond to requests for more information, such as whether public money paid for the video. The academy is a private group Congress created to advise the federal government, and about 85% of its funding comes from there.

The video includes a clip of gene editing pioneer Jennifer Doudna of the University of California, Berkeley, discussing the science.

The video opens with people putting notes on a diagram of a body while saying "I guess I would like to be taller," "I would like to change body fat," "let's prevent baldness" and "take away dyslexia."

The script says: "This type of gene editing is still in the realm of science fiction. But it might not always

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 49 of 59

be." It says five "everyday people" were asked to consider pros and cons.

One man says, "create the perfect human being ... that's pretty cool," while others shake their heads and say no.

"You want the best qualities to be put into your offspring," one man says. "I want my child to be the best version of not just me but him or her. So if I can control that or have some control over that, I don't mind it. I don't hate it."

The video and tweet suggest "a cavalier attitude toward this serious topic," said Paul Knoepfler, a University of California, Davis biologist who criticized them on Twitter.

University of Minnesota bioethicist Leigh Turner said the video portrayed serious issues with a "reality television feel" and "in this bubbly, superficial way."

"I'm trying to imagine what was going on in their minds," he said of those responsible for the video. "It's kind of funny and cringe-inducing at the same time."

Marilynn Marchione can be followed on Twitter at @MMarchoneAP

The Associated Press Health and Science Department receives support from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Department of Science Education. The AP is solely responsible for all content.

Placido Domingo resigns as general director of LA Opera

By JOCELYN GECKER Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Opera star Placido Domingo resigned Wednesday as general director of the Los Angeles Opera and withdrew from all future performances, following multiple allegations from women who say the legendary tenor sexually harassed them there and at opera companies around the country over a period of decades.

Domingo's departure from LA Opera raises questions about his future career in the United States, where he has been removed or has stepped down from all scheduled appearances since the allegations were first reported by The Associated Press.

In two reports published Aug. 13 and Sept. 5, the AP spoke to more than 20 women who accused Domingo of sexual harassment or other inappropriate, sexually charged conduct. Many said Domingo tried to pressure them into sexual relationships and sometimes punished them professionally if they rejected him. All said they feared reporting him because of his power to make or break their careers, and that his behavior was an open secret in the opera world.

The accusers' stories laid out strikingly similar patterns of behavior that included Domingo persistently contacting them — often calling them repeatedly at home, late at night — expressing interest in their careers and urging them to meet him privately at his apartment or a hotel room, or for a drink or meal, under the guise of offering professional advice. Several women said they took extreme measures to avoid Domingo, hiding from him in dressing rooms, not answering their phones or asking male colleagues to walk them to their cars so they wouldn't be alone.

In a statement Wednesday, Domingo said that his ability to continue at LA Opera was "compromised" by the accusations against him.

"I hold Los Angeles Opera very dearly to my heart and count my work to create and build it as among my most important legacies," said Domingo, 78, who helped found the company in the 1980s and is credited with raising its international profile.

"However, recent accusations that have been made against me in the press have created an atmosphere in which my ability to serve this company that I so love has been compromised," Domingo said, adding that he would continue to work to clear his name but decided "it is in the best interests of LA Opera for me to resign as general director and withdraw from my future scheduled performances at this time."

Domingo had been scheduled to headline six performances of "Roberto Devereux" in February and March. The resignation comes a week after the Metropolitan Opera's bombshell announcement that Domingo

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 50 of 59

would not be taking the stage in the season premiere of "Macbeth" and possibly ever again. Three other companies — the Philadelphia Orchestra, San Francisco Opera and Dallas Opera — had already removed Domingo from upcoming performances in the wake of the AP stories.

One singer, Angela Turner Wilson, told AP that Domingo reached into her robe and forcefully grabbed her breast in a makeup room during a 1999 production at the Washington Opera. Another singer said when she worked with Domingo at LA Opera in the mid-2000s, he stuck his hand down her skirt after asking her to sing for him at his apartment. Others said he forced wet kisses on their lips.

Debra Katz, an attorney for mezzo-soprano Patricia Wulf, who told AP that Domingo made repeated, unwanted propositions to her when they sang in Washington, said in a statement the singer's resignation from LA Opera was "an important and welcome step in the effort to end sexual misconduct by powerful men in the opera industry."

Wulf and other accusers have said they spoke up because they felt shining a light on Domingo's behavior could help stop misconduct across the industry.

"I feel at peace knowing that speaking publicly is leading to changes that will hopefully protect the next generation of women in the industry," Wulf said Wednesday.

Domingo has denied any wrongdoing. He has called the claims "in many ways, simply incorrect," but has not elaborated or addressed any of the accusations directly.

For years, Domingo has been the opera world's most bankable star, with the celebrity power to fill seats in an era of dwindling ticket sales. Over time, he also widened his portfolio, becoming a prolific conductor and powerful administrator as the general director of two major American companies, first at Washington Opera and later at LA Opera, where he served as an artistic consultant from 1984 to 2000, artistic director from 2000 to 2003 and, finally, general director from 2003 until now. His current contract ran through the 2021-22 season.

Christopher Koelsch, the LA Opera's president and chief executive, thanked Domingo for "his integral role in the creation of our company and his decades of service," in an email sent to LA Opera staff on Wednesday.

He noted that an independent investigation that LA Opera launched into Domingo's alleged misconduct would "continue until its resolution."

LA Opera had removed Domingo from day-to-day operations as general director after the allegations were published. It has not given a timeframe for the investigation, which is being led by Debra Wong Yang, a former U.S. attorney and Los Angeles County Superior Court judge, now a partner at the law firm of Gibson Dunn & Crutcher.

"This has been a painful and challenging period for all of us," Koelsch wrote in the email. "But it is also engendering difficult, and productive, conversations that I believe will ultimately prove critical in strengthening and improving the company."

"LA opera knows we must take further steps to guarantee we are doing everything we can to foster a professional and collaborative environment," Koelsch wrote.

Domingo is also being investigated by the American Guild of Musical Artists, the union representing many opera employees. The union's national executive director, Len Egert, said that investigation will also continue despite Domingo's LA Opera resignation.

"Our internal investigation has never been just about allegations against one individual," Egert said in an email, adding the union was committed to confronting "systemic failures" in the industry that may have allowed the alleged conduct to continue for decades. "We owe it to our members to continue our investigation."

For at least the rest of the year, Domingo's career will be centered in Europe, where the accusations of harassment have not hurt him professionally. He was greeted with ovations at concerts in August in Austria, shortly after the accusations emerged.

None of Domingo's upcoming performances in Europe have been canceled; he has a busy fall lineup of operas and concerts in Switzerland, Russia, Austria, Germany, Spain, Italy and Poland.

AP-NORC poll: Most say whites treated more fairly by police

By ERRIN HAINES and HANNAH FINGERHUT Associated Press

Majorities of Americans across racial lines say white people are treated more fairly than black people by the police, according to a new poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

But the poll finds a disconnect between white Americans who identify disparate treatment of people of color by the police, but who don't see police violence as a serious problem — a contrast on display this week as many black Americans welcomed the guilty verdict against former Dallas officer Amber Guyger as a singular victory, rather than proof of changing attitudes.

About 7 in 10 black Americans, and about half of Hispanics, call police violence against the public very serious, compared with about a quarter of white Americans. Roughly another third of white Americans call it a moderately serious problem.

The dynamic has played out in the wake of the Black Lives Matter movement, which began in 2014 with the fatal shooting of unarmed 18-year-old Michael Brown by white, former Ferguson, Missouri, police officer Darren Wilson.

The work of activists around the issue of policing in communities of color has helped to raise awareness, said poll respondent Warren Miller, a 62-year-old realtor living in Fairview, Michigan, who said his black friends helped him realize that white people are treated more fairly by police.

But Miller, who is white, also said he doesn't believe police violence against the public is a serious problem. Asked why, he laughed nervously before responding: "In northern Michigan, we don't have as many problems, the city issues. It's small town America, where everybody knows everybody. That could've influenced part of my perception as well."

"White folks are trying to grapple with the difference between what they want to and need to believe about their country, and what their eyes increasingly are telling them is true," said anti-racist author and educator Tim Wise, adding that for many black and brown Americans, the notion that racism is systemic and not limited to individual instances is easier to accept "because it's their lived experience."

"For white folks, there's a need to hold on to the myth that America is an equal justice kind of place," said Wise, who is white. "People of color have never had to, nor have they ever been able to, buy into the fiction of liberty and justice for all."

According to the Mapping Police Violence project, black people are three times more likely to be killed by police than white people, and 99 percent of those cases in 2015 did not result in an officer being convicted of a crime. The project uses Justice Department statistics and compiles information from the three largest crowdsourced databases.

Overall, about a third of Americans think police violence against the public is a very serious problem in the U.S., though another third call it moderately serious. By comparison, close to half say violence against police is very serious.

But the poll also finds 55% of Americans say they think police in most communities are more likely to use deadly force against a black person compared with a white person.

"I think there's a misconception that black citizens are inherently more dangerous or more likely to react violently to a police encounter," said Gabe Wood, 49, of Wilmington, North Carolina.

The Democrat, who is white, cited "a laundry list of issues that go back a long time" like stereotypes about different races and the threats they present.

"I do think in some areas of the country and some parts of towns, I think police officers are quicker to resort to deadly force because of a perceived and sometimes unreal threat," Wood said.

Guyger's trial was the latest in a string of high-profile cases in recent years in cities including Baltimore, Cleveland and Minneapolis, as well as Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and North Charleston, South Carolina, to highlight the issue of disparate policing in communities of color.

Those cases and others prompted Justice Department efforts to reform local police departments under former President Barack Obama and former Attorney General Eric Holder. Such efforts have stalled under President Donald Trump, who has embraced law enforcement. His administration in 2017 labeled Black

Lives Matter as "black identity extremists."

Guyger, a 31-year-old white former officer, was convicted Tuesday of murder in the killing of 26-year-old accountant Botham Jean after apparently entering his home by mistake and concluding that he was an intruder. She was sentenced Wednesday to 10 years in prison.

Some observers cited the rare circumstances of the case as a factor in the rare outcome, as officer-involved shootings of unarmed black people are sometimes prosecuted, but often result in acquittals.

Others will point to the guilty verdict as evidence of progress, said Georgetown University law professor and former federal prosecutor Paul Butler.

"People's understandings about the police are going to be based on their own experiences with the police," Butler said. "The more typical case is when the officer is on-duty and the victim is not as sympathetic, and the officer is seen by many white folks as 'just trying to do his job.' We're still a long way from equal justice under the law."

The AP-NORC poll of 1,286 adults was conducted Sept. 20-23 using a sample drawn from NORC's probability-based AmeriSpeak Panel, which is designed to be representative of the U.S. population. The margin of sampling error for all respondents is plus or minus 3.8 percentage points. Respondents were first selected randomly using address-based sampling methods and later were interviewed online or by phone.

Associated Press Writer Deepti Hajela contributed from New York. Haines is The Associated Press' national writer on race and ethnicity. Follow her work on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/emarvelous>.

Online:

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

Sanders has heart procedure, cancels campaign events for now

By NICHOLAS RICCARDI and LAURAN NEERGAARD Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Bernie Sanders' campaign said Wednesday that the Democratic presidential candidate had a heart procedure for a blocked artery and was canceling events and appearances "until further notice."

The 78-year-old Vermont senator experienced chest discomfort during a campaign event Tuesday and sought medical evaluation. Two stents were "successfully inserted," and Sanders "is conversing and in good spirits," according to the campaign. He's recovering at a Las Vegas hospital.

Sanders tweeted on Wednesday afternoon that he was "feeling good. I'm fortunate to have good health care and great doctors and nurses helping me to recover."

Then, sounding one of his favorite themes from the campaign trail, he added: "None of us know when a medical emergency might affect us. And no one should fear going bankrupt if it occurs. Medicare for All!"

The Democratic field's oldest candidate, Sanders sometimes jokingly refers to his age at town halls and other events, especially when interacting with younger participants. He is one of three candidates over age 70 in the Democratic primary, which has spurred debate over whether the party should rally behind a new generation of political leaders. Sanders' health issue is certain to revive that discussion in the weeks before the next presidential debate this month.

President Donald Trump is 73.

Sanders' campaign wouldn't say whether the candidate had suffered a heart attack before the blockage was opened. But a doctor not involved in the care said, if not, Sanders could expect to be back to a normal busy schedule in about a week.

"This will give him more energy," said Dr. Ron Waksman, an interventional cardiologist at MedStar Heart & Vascular Institute in Washington.

Sanders' hospitalization came on a day of celebration for his campaign, which had earlier announced the Democratic field's strongest quarterly fundraising numbers so far. On a telephone call with supporters,

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 53 of 59

campaign manager Faiz Shakir said, "The state of our campaign, we feel, is strong and getting stronger. We've got work to do because our path is the most ambitious path of any candidate out there." He also touted the first television ad, which the campaign was scheduled to launch in Iowa.

But those spots were suspended on Wednesday.

The health issue comes as Sanders has been trying to turn a corner after a summer that saw him eclipsed as the premier liberal in the field by Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren. Sanders has dropped well behind Warren, 70, and former Vice President Joe Biden, 76, in most polls and recently reshuffled his staffing in early states to become more competitive.

"Given his recent stalls in the polls, the timing is pretty bad here," Democratic strategist Jim Manley said of Sanders' heart procedure.

Sanders' 2020 rivals were quick to wish him well. Warren told liberal activists in Las Vegas that she called and texted Sanders and that she "wants to see him strong and back on the trail as soon as possible."

"We want to send our best wishes for a quick recovery to @BernieSanders today," tweeted Julián Castro, an Obama administration housing chief. Added Sen. Kamala Harris of California: "If there's one thing I know about him, he's a fighter, and I look forward to seeing him on the campaign trail soon."

Sanders mounted an insurgent campaign against Hillary Clinton for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination in 2016. He is a top contender in the 2020 primary and announced Tuesday that he raised more than \$25 million over the past three months. But he is facing stiff competition from Biden and Warren, who have overtaken him in many polls.

This is the second time during the 2020 campaign that health problems have forced Sanders to ease up on what has otherwise been a robust campaign schedule. Just last month, he canceled some appearances in South Carolina because he lost his voice. The campaign said at the time he felt fine.

Sanders is not the first candidate to face health issues in recent years while seeking the presidency. Clinton had to take time off from campaigning in 2016 after being treated for pneumonia.

In 2000, former New Jersey Sen. Bill Bradley, the leading Democratic challenger to then-Vice President Al Gore, had to cut short a campaign swing for treatment of an atrial fibrillation, an irregular heartbeat that is treatable but potentially serious. Bradley later resumed his campaign.

In Sanders' case, when doctors insert a stent, they first thread a tiny balloon inside a blocked artery to widen it. The stent is a small wire mesh tube that then is propped inside to keep the artery open. The number of stents needed depends on the size of the clog.

The treatment can immediately improve symptoms such as chest pain or shortness of breath. The stents are threaded into place through blood vessels in the groin or wrist, requiring only a tiny incision. Most are coated with medication to prevent the targeted artery from reclosing. That is still a risk, requiring monitoring, and patients also often are prescribed blood thinners to prevent clots from forming in the stents.

A letter released by Sanders' physician in 2016 cited a history of mildly elevated cholesterol but no heart disease.

Riccardi reported from Denver. Associated Press writers Zeke Miller and Will Weissert in Washington, Michelle L. Price in Las Vegas and Wilson Ring in Burlington, Vt., contributed to this report.

Soaring eagle films crumbling Alpine glaciers as Earth warms

By **CLAIRE PARKER** and **JOHN LEICESTER** Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — The images will be stunningly beautiful yet also hint of dire future consequences. Filmed with a camera mounted between his majestic wings, they'll show how a white-tailed eagle named Victor sees the world as he flies over the Alps and capture its once-magnificent glaciers now crumbling because of global warming.

Their wasting away is unlikely to be a pretty sight. And that's the whole point.

Victor will embark upon five flights this week over the Alps. Organizers hope his spectacular eagle's-view footage will help jolt the world out of climate-change apathy and toward swifter action to combat its effects.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 54 of 59

His handler hopes that seeing the world as an eagle sees it will also convince viewers of the importance of protecting birds and their environments, especially after a devastating recent report chronicled their decline.

"Humanity has two dreams: to swim with dolphins and fly with eagles," French falconer and Freedom Conservation founder Jacques-Olivier Travers said. "This is the first time that we'll really ride on an eagle's back over such distances and such vistas, and see how he flies."

"How can you convince people to protect the birds and their environment if you never show them what the birds see?" he added.

Weather permitting, the nine-year-old Victor will set off Thursday from the top of the Swiss mountain Piz Corvatsch with a 360-degree camera on his back and a GPS to track his progress. He'll fly through Germany, Austria and Italy before ending his mountain tour in France on Oct. 7.

A colleague will release Victor from the top of each peak. During each flight, the eagle will fly three to five kilometers (1.8 to 3.1 miles) — and descend 1,500 to 3,000 meters (5,000 to 9,800 feet) — in search of Travers below.

"I don't have a remote control. So if he doesn't see me and decides not to come to me, he could go anywhere," Travers said.

That's why the flights are weather dependent. If Victor's vision is obscured by clouds, "he won't come," Travers said. "It's essential that he sees me."

Carrying a camera does slow Victor down.

"It's a bit like putting a washing machine on the roof of your car. You don't go as fast and you use more energy," Travers said. "It's the same for him. He doesn't fly as fast with that on his back and it demands a greater effort from him."

But Victor's earlier flights over Paris and Burj Khalifa garnered millions of views, and organizers hope the bird's heavy lifting will yield powerful images that make disappearing glaciers impossible to ignore.

Travers has witnessed the melting firsthand during scouting trips ahead of Victor's travels. A German glacier that had hard-packed snow when he first visited last year is now mushy, he said.

"I was stunned," he said. "The difference over a year was incredible."

Disintegrating permafrost, which now glues a glacier's rocks together, can cause them to crumble with potentially devastating consequences.

Victor's flight comes as Italian authorities are scrambling to respond to fears that part of a large Italian glacier near Mont Blanc is on the verge of collapsing. They've warned that falling ice could endanger homes and people in the Val Ferret area, a popular hiking area.

At the rate the planet is warming, it's too late to save the Alps' glaciers, Freedom Conservation Managing Director Ronald Menzel said. But it's not too late to fight climate change more broadly. He hopes Victor's popularity will spur viewers into action.

"We hope that once more, people are going to see nature from a totally different perspective and just reconnect to it and realize that wow, it's actually something that is amazing and that we want to do something to preserve," he said.

John Leicester reported from Hong Kong.

For more Associated Press stories about climate change, go to <https://www.apnews.com/Climate>

Eagle Wings on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/EaglewingsF>

Weather scientist dies in rough surf after forecast of risk

DUCK, N.C. (AP) — A top weather forecasting official, who oversaw the government's prediction centers that track ocean, hurricane and even space conditions, has died in rough seas on North Carolina's Outer Banks.

William Lapenta, 58, died Monday after lifeguards pulled him from the surf off the coastal town of Duck,

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 55 of 59

local officials said. The National Weather Service had issued a warning earlier Monday about the area's high risk of rip currents, a beach phenomenon that can pull swimmers out to sea.

Lapenta was swimming alone and it's not clear if he'd been caught by a rip current, town spokeswoman Christian Legner said Wednesday. Lifeguards pulled Lapenta to shore, but responding emergency medical workers said he was dead at the scene, Legner said. While the specific reason he ran into trouble isn't known, Monday's surf conditions were likely a factor, Legner said.

The weather service has recorded seven previous deaths in rip currents in North Carolina this year, among 41 nationwide.

Lapenta was director of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Centers for Environmental Prediction, which issues forecasts and warnings for aviation, ocean, storm and climate conditions in U.S. territories and beyond. Lapenta led NOAA's efforts to develop enhanced weather prediction methods by allowing outside scientists virtual access to help improve government models, National Weather Service Director Louis Uccellini said in a statement.

"Bill Lapenta was a friend to us all. He was a brilliant scientist, a leader in weather modeling, an amazing partner and collaborator, an energetic mentor, and a devoted husband and father," Uccellini said.

Lapenta, a native of Nyack, New York, lived in northern Virginia with his wife, Cathy, who is also a meteorologist, according to his weather service biography.

US tariffs on EU goods would include cheese, wine, aircraft

By PAUL WISEMAN and JAMEY KEATEN Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Trump administration plans to impose tariffs on \$7.5 billion worth of European imports — from gouda cheese to single-malt whiskey to large aircraft — beginning Oct. 18 to retaliate against illegal European Union subsidies for aviation giant Airbus.

The latest escalation in the administration's tariffs will open a new chapter in the trade wars that are depressing the world economy and heightening fears of a global recession. It comes just as the Trump administration is in the midst of trying to negotiate a resolution to its high-stakes trade war with China.

The administration received a green light for its latest import taxes Wednesday from the World Trade Organization, which ruled that the United States could impose the tariffs as retaliation for illegal aid that the 28-country EU gave to Airbus in its competition with its American rival Boeing.

The WTO announcement culminates a 15-year fight over EU subsidies for Airbus.

EU aircraft will face a 10% import tax; other products on the list will be hit with 25% tariffs. The administration insists that it has the authority to increase the tariffs whenever it wants or to later the products in its list.

President Donald Trump called the WTO ruling a "big win for the United States" and asserted that it happened because WTO officials "want to make sure I'm happy."

"The WTO has been much better to us since I've been president because they understand they can't get away with what they've been getting away with for so many years, which is ripping off the United States," Trump said at a joint White House news conference with President Sauli Niinisto of Finland.

Stock markets around the world, which were already down on concerns for the world economy, added to their losses on the news.

Wednesday's award follows a WTO ruling in May 2018 that the EU had illegally helped Airbus with subsidies. It does not, however, end the long-running trans-Atlantic dispute over aircraft. WTO arbitrators are expected to rule next year about how much the EU can impose in tariffs following a separate decision that went against Boeing.

The EU's top trade official had said the bloc would prefer to reach a settlement with the United States to avoid a tariff war but that it will respond if Trump imposes new duties on EU products.

Speaking after the WTO's ruling Wednesday but before the Trump administration announced the new tariffs, EU Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmstrom said a tariff war "would only inflict damage on businesses and citizens on both sides of the Atlantic, and harm global trade and the broader aviation industry

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 56 of 59

at a sensitive time.”

“If the U.S. decides to impose WTO authorized countermeasures, it will be pushing the EU into a situation where we will have no other option than to do the same,” she said.

Italian Foreign Minister Luigi Di Maio, who was meeting with U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo in Rome on Wednesday, vowed to “defend our businesses.” Italian wine and cheeses could face an impact from U.S. tariffs.

Unlike Trump’s unilateral tariffs on billions of dollars-worth of steel, aluminum and other goods from China, the EU and elsewhere, the retaliatory tariffs authorized in the Airbus case have the stamp of approval from the WTO, an organization that he has repeatedly criticized.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel acknowledged “we have lost a matter under WTO law.”

“This means it’s not some sort of arbitrary question but a verdict according to international law that now weighs on Airbus, one must sadly say,” she told reporters in Berlin. “We have to see how the Americans will react now.”

The WTO in May 2018 found that EU aid for Airbus had resulted in lost sales for Boeing in the twin-aisle and very large-aircraft markets. The ruling centered on Airbus’ 350XWB — a rival of Boeing’s 787 — and the double-decker A380, which tops the Boeing 747 as the world’s largest commercial passenger plane.

Airbus and Boeing dominate the market for large airliners, and Boeing’s deliveries have plummeted this year because of the grounding of its 737 Max jet after two deadly crashes. This limits options for airlines looking to expand their fleets to accommodate increased air travel.

U.S. airlines have argued against tariffs on planes and parts that they buy from Europe, and they have mobilized supporters in Congress. In a letter this week to Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer, 34 congressional Republicans and Democrats expressed opposition to tariffs on imported airplanes and parts. And they suggested that if the tariffs were imposed that they apply only to future orders.

The lawmakers noted that because aircraft orders usually stretch out years, it’s hard for airlines to change or cancel them. Tariffs on European planes “would simply make these aircraft more expensive ... and would do nothing to encourage the EU to end the illegal subsidies,” they wrote. By contrast, they said, imposing tariffs only on future orders from the EU would give airlines an incentive to buy U.S.-made planes.

The case itself dates to 2004, a testament to the plodding and thorough rhythm of the Geneva-based trade body.

Rod Hunter, a partner at the law firm Baker McKenzie and a former White House economic official, saw three possible outcomes: The EU can end the offending subsidies to Airbus, decide to absorb the tariffs or try to reach a negotiated settlement with the Trump administration.

In a statement, Lighthizer said, “We expect to enter into negotiations with the European Union aimed at resolving this issue in a way that will benefit American workers.”

The \$7.5 billion represents a fraction of EU exports to the United States, which last year amounted to \$688 billion.

But the specter of more tariffs comes at a sensitive time. Trump’s aggressive use of tariffs — especially against China — has shaken financial markets, hobbled global trade and hurt manufacturers paralyzed with uncertainty about where to buy supplies, situate factories and sell their products. On Tuesday, a private index of U.S. manufacturing output dropped to its lowest level since the recession year 2009.

“The market effect could be larger than just the impact on the European exports and their U.S. customers,” Hunter said.

Gary Hufbauer, a senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics and a former U.S. trade official, cast doubt on prospects for a EU-US trade deal that will ease tensions and ward off tit-for-tat tariffs, at least before the 2020 U.S. presidential election.

“Election years are bad for trade deals,” Hufbauer said.

The WTO is already examining a dozen cases involving U.S. tariffs and countermeasures brought by its trading partners over the administration’s steel and aluminum tariffs. Trump has insisted the move is needed to protect U.S. national security interests, but the Europeans claim it is simply protectionism and breaks global trade rules.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 57 of 59

The EU has introduced "rebalancing" tariffs on about 2.8 billion euros (\$3 billion) of U.S. steel, agricultural and other products. Trump has also threatened to slap duties on European automakers.

Keaten reported from Geneva. AP Writers Lorne Cook in Brussels, Frank Jordans in Berlin, Matthew Lee and Giada Zampano in Rome, David Koenig in Dallas and Darlene Superville in Washington contributed to this report.

Asian stocks fall further on economy worries

By **JOE McDONALD AP Business Writer**

BEIJING (AP) — Asian stocks fell for a fourth day Thursday as weaker U.S. manufacturing and hiring data fueled jitters about the global economy.

Tokyo's Nikkei 225 fell by an unusually wide margin of 2% and market benchmarks in Hong Kong, Sydney and Southeast Asia also retreated. Chinese and Korean markets were closed for a holiday.

Wall Street's benchmark Standard & Poor's 500 index lost 1.8% on Wednesday after a survey by payroll processor ADP found hiring weakened in September. Investors saw the report "as further proof that the U.S. economy is slowing and possibly on the verge of a recession sending," Stephen Innes of AxiTrader said in a report.

That added to concern about earlier data showing U.S. manufacturing shrank last month by its widest margin in a decade, and sent markets around the world tumbling.

The Nikkei 225 fell to 21,337.94 and Hong Kong's Hang Seng lost 0.7% to 25,871.73. Sydney's S&P-ASX 200 fell 2.1% to 6,502.70. New Zealand, Taiwan and Southeast Asian markets also fell.

Adding to uncertainty was a World Trade Organization ruling that cleared the United States to impose tariffs on up to \$7.5 billion of European goods to make up for illegal subsidies given to aircraft manufacturer Airbus.

The Trump administration said tariffs would begin Oct. 18.

A separate WTO ruling found Airbus rival Boeing Co. received similar improper aid from Washington. The EU is expected to rule next year on possible tariffs Europe can impose in response to that.

Markets already were on edge about whether President Donald Trump's tariff battle with Beijing, which is weighing on trade worldwide, might tip the global economy into recession.

U.S. and Chinese negotiators are due to meet this month for a 13th round of talks aimed at ending the fight over Beijing's trade surplus and technology policies. The two sides have made conciliatory gestures including postponing or lifting some punitive tariffs, but there has been no sign of progress toward settling the core issues in the dispute.

Also Wednesday, investors increased their bets the Federal Reserve will slash interest rates at its next meeting to shield the economy from slowing growth abroad and the effects of the trade war.

Markets are pricing in a 75% probability the Fed will cut short-term rates by half a percentage point at its Oct. 29-30 meeting. The Fed hasn't cut rates by that large a margin since the 2008 financial crisis.

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude gained 13 cents to \$52.77 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract plunged 98 cents on Wednesday to close at \$52.64. Brent crude, used to price international oils, lost 6 cents to \$57.63 per barrel in London. It fell \$1.20 the previous session to \$57.69.

CURRENCY: The dollar edged down to 107.14 yen from Wednesday's 107.19 yen. The euro was unchanged at \$1.0961.

Today in History

By **The Associated Press** undefined

Today in History

Today is Thursday, Oct. 3, the 276th day of 2019. There are 89 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 58 of 59

On Oct. 3, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed the last Thursday in November Thanksgiving Day. On this date:

In 1226, St. Francis of Assisi, founder of the Franciscan order, died; he was canonized in 1228.

In 1789, President George Washington declared Nov. 26, 1789, a day of Thanksgiving to express gratitude for the creation of the United States of America.

In 1941, Adolf Hitler declared in a speech in Berlin that Russia had been "broken" and would "never rise again." "The Maltese Falcon" — the version starring Humphrey Bogart and directed by John Huston — premiered in New York.

In 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt established the Office of Economic Stabilization.

In 1955, "Captain Kangaroo" and "The Mickey Mouse Club" premiered on C-B-S and A-B-C, respectively.

In 1961, "The Dick Van Dyke Show," also starring Mary Tyler Moore, made its debut on CBS.

In 1967, folk singer-songwriter Woody Guthrie, the Dust Bowl Troubadour best known for "This Land Is Your Land," died in New York of complications from Huntington's disease; he was 55.

In 1995, the jury in the O.J. Simpson murder trial in Los Angeles found the former football star not guilty of the 1994 slayings of his former wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and Ronald Goldman (however, Simpson was later found liable for damages in a civil trial).

In 2001, the Senate approved an agreement normalizing trade between the United States and Vietnam.

In 2003, a tiger attacked magician Roy Horn of duo "Siegfried & Roy" during a performance in Las Vegas, leaving the superstar illusionist in critical condition on his 59th birthday.

In 2008, O.J. Simpson was found guilty of robbing two sports-memorabilia dealers at gunpoint in a Las Vegas hotel room. (Simpson was later sentenced to nine to 33 years in prison; he was granted parole in July 2017 and released from prison in October of that year.)

In 2017, President Donald Trump, visiting Puerto Rico in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria, congratulated the U.S. island territory for escaping the higher death toll of what he called "a real catastrophe like Katrina;" at a church used to distribute supplies, Trump handed out flashlights and tossed rolls of paper towels into the friendly crowd.

Ten years ago: Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad hit back at President Barack Obama's accusation that his country had sought to hide its construction of a new nuclear site, arguing that Tehran reported the facility to the U.N. even earlier than required. Eight U.S. soldiers were killed, 22 wounded, when their outpost in Afghanistan's Nuristan province was attacked by hundreds of militants.

Five years ago: An Internet video was released showing an Islamic State group militant beheading British hostage Alan Henning, the fourth such killing carried out by the extremist group being targeted by U.S.-led airstrikes.

One year ago: The Federal Emergency Management Agency conducted its first-ever national wireless emergency alert test, causing electronic devices across the country to sound, with a message that carried the subject, "Presidential Alert." (Some people got as many as four alerts on their phones, while others didn't get any.) Researches at Columbia University presented evidence that astronomers for the first time may have found a moon outside our solar system, orbiting a planet as big as Jupiter about 8,000 light-years away. Peru's Supreme Court overturned a medical pardon for former President Alberto Fujimori and ordered the 80-year-old to be returned to jail to serve out a long sentence for human rights abuses.

Today's Birthdays: Composer Steve Reich is 83. Rock and roll star Chubby Checker is 78. Actor Alan Rachins is 77. Former Sen. Jeff Bingaman, D-N.M., is 76. Magician Roy Horn is 75. Singer Lindsey Buckingham is 70. Jazz musician Ronnie Laws is 69. Blues singer Keb' Mo' is 68. Former astronaut Kathryn Sullivan is 68. Baseball Hall of Famer Dave Winfield is 68. Baseball Hall of Famer Dennis Eckersley is 65. Civil rights activist Rev. Al Sharpton is 65. Actor Hart Bochner is 63. Actor Peter Frechette is 63. World Golf Hall of Famer Fred Couples is 60. Actor-comedian Greg Proops is 60. Actor Jack Wagner is 60. Actor/musician Marcus Giamatti is 58. Rock musician Tommy Lee is 57. Actor Clive Owen is 55. Actress Janel Moloney is 50. Singer Gwen Stefani (No Doubt) is 50. Pop singer Kevin Richardson is 48. Rock singer G. Love is 47. Actress Keiko Agena is 46. Actress Neve Campbell is 46. Actress Lena Headey is 46. Singer India.Arie is

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 094 ~ 59 of 59

44. Rapper Talib Kweli is 44. Actress Alanna Ubach is 44. Actor Seann (cq) William Scott is 43. Actress Shannyn Sossamon is 41. Rock musician Josh Klinghoffer (Red Hot Chili Peppers) is 40. Actor Seth Gabel is 38. Rock musician Mark King (Hinder) is 37. Actor Erik Von Detten is 37. Singer-musician Cherrill Green (Edens Edge) is 36. Actress Tessa Thompson is 36. Country singer Drake White is 36. Actress Meagan Holder is 35. Actor Christopher Marquette is 35. Actress-singer Ashlee Simpson is 35. Rapper A\$AP Rocky is 31. Actress Alicia Vikander is 31. Actor Noah Schnapp (TV: "Stranger Things") is 15.

Thought for Today: "Life has got a habit of not standing hitched. You got to ride it like you find it. You got to change with it." _ Woody Guthrie, American folk singer-songwriter (1912-1967).