

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 1 of 46

[1- Winter Storm Warning into effect until Saturday evening](#)

[1- Band Parade Event moved into Arena](#)

[1- Pumpkin Festival moved to Community Center](#)

[2- Three golf at state](#)

[2- Northeast Conference Cross Country Meet](#)

[3- 2019 Glacial Lakes Marching Festival Lineup](#)

[4- Trick or Treat on Main Street](#)

[5- Pumpkin Fest moved to Community Center](#)

[6- Winter Storm Warning](#)

[7- Weather Pages](#)

[10- Daily Devotional](#)

[11- 2019 Groton Events](#)

[12- News from the Associated Press](#)

Thursday, October 10, 2019

4:00pm: Volleyball: Girls 7th/8th Match vs. Milbank
@ Groton Area High School
7th Grade at 4:00; 8th Grade at 5:00

5:00pm: Football: Boys 7th/8th Game vs. Aberdeen Roncalli @ Groton Area High School
One Game.



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

Winter Storm Warning into effect until Saturday evening

The National Weather Service has issued a Winter Storm Warning for the local area starting at 4 p.m. today and lasting until 7 p.m. Saturday. Anywhere from 6 to 11 inches of snow will be possible. More details on page 6.

Band Parade Event moved into Arena

The Groton Glacial Lakes Band Festival is scheduled for Friday in Groton and is being planned to be held in the Groton Area Arena. The event is scheduled to start at 10 a.m. with awards at 11:20 a.m. The schedule is on Page 3.

Pumpkin Festival moved to Community Center

The annual Groton Pumpkin Festival is being moved to the Groton Community Center on Saturday. It is scheduled to run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 2 of 46



Three golf at state

Three Groton Area golfers at state tournament held Oct. 7-8 in Spearfish. Pictured are Tristan Traphagen, placing 68th; Cade Guthmiller, placing 21st; and Hunter Kasube, placing 95th. (Courtesy Photo)

Place	Player	Score Over Par	Day One	Day Two	Total Strokes
T21	Cade Guthmiller	29	85	88	173
T68	Tristan Traphagen	57	105	96	201
95	Hunter Kasube	94	125	113	238

Northeast Conference Cross Country Meet

The Northeast Conference cross country meet originally scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 10, was moved to early afternoon on Wednesday due to the impending winter storm moving in. The results are as follows:

Boys Varsity 5K Race

- 32 Abeln, Dillon 8 Groton Area 22:06.81
- 37 Garstecki, Jackson 8 Groton Area 22:33.90
- 40 Paulson, Steven 11 Groton Area 23:39.20
- 42 Coats, Kannon 11 Groton Area 25:01.18

Girls Varsity 5K Race

- 38 Rosenau, Riley 12 Groton Area 25:49.61
- 44 Ehresmann, Sierra 9 Groton Area 27:57.40

Girls JV 3K Race

- 15 Senlouanrat, Kiara W7 Groton Area 23:28.89

Boys JV 3K Race

- 31 Freeman, Braden M11 Groton Area 19:22.53
- 33 Brooks, James M9 Groton Area 19:44.91

2019 Glacial Lakes Marching Festival Lineup

The event is still scheduled for tomorrow. However, with the impending winter storm warning, officials will make the call at 8 p.m. today to decide to have it or not. No alternate date was available, so it will be tomorrow or not at all this year. If the event is held, it will be broadcast on GDILIVE.COM.

- 10:00- Simmons Holgate MS
- 10:05- Milbank MS
- 10:10- Redfield HS
- 10:15- Northwestern HS
- 10:20- Great Plains Lutheran HS
- 10:25- Warner HS
- 10:30- Waubay
- 10:35- Langford
- 10:40- Wilmot
- 10:45- Roncalli
- 10:50- Ipswich
- 10:55- Groton MS (Exhibition)
- 11:00- Groton HS (Exhibition)
- 11:20- Awards in the Arena

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 4 of 46

Trick or Treat on Main Street!

Bring the kids down on Main Street, Groton,
for trick or treating fun!

Thursday, Oct 31 - 4pm-6pm

MANY downtown Groton businesses will be open late
and handing out Halloween Goodies to the kids!



Businesses participating:

Main St- City Hall, Bahr Spray Foam/Next Level Nutrition, Professional Management Services, Olde Bank N' Café, Midwest Masonry, The Fitness Project, The Groton Independent, Jungle Lanes & Lounge, Cheri's on Main, Bierman Farm Service, Groton American Legion, Farmer's Union Insurance, Dakota Press, Base Kamp Lodge, Elementary PAC/ RC Roosters Lodge, Johnson Agency, Kolker Law Office, Karma Salon & Boutique, Wells Fargo (4-5pm use NE Door)
1st Ave- J. Simon Photography, James Valley
Railroad Ave- LW Sales, Krueger Bros

GROTON'S 4TH



Saturday, October 12, 2019

10am-3pm

~~Groton City Park~~

Groton Community Center

109 N 3rd Street

**Free Pumpkins, Hayrides, Train Rides,
Face Painting, Pumpkin Painting**

Lunch Served 11am-1pm

Thanks to our many sponsors!!

Alternate Date: October 13, 2019

Winter Storm Warning

URGENT - WINTER WEATHER MESSAGE
National Weather Service Aberdeen SD
343 AM CDT Thu Oct 10 2019

...MAJOR WINTER STORM HEADED THIS WAY...

Brown-Marshall-Day-Including the cities of Aberdeen, Britton, and Webster
343 AM CDT Thu Oct 10 2019

...WINTER STORM WARNING IN EFFECT FROM 4 PM THIS AFTERNOON TO 7 PM CDT SATURDAY...

* WHAT...Heavy mixed precipitation expected. Total snow accumulations of 6 to 11 inches and light ice accumulations possible. Winds gusting as high as 45 mph.

* WHERE...Brown, Marshall and Day Counties.

* WHEN...From 4 PM this afternoon to 7 PM CDT Saturday.

* IMPACTS...Travel could be very difficult. Areas of blowing snow could significantly reduce visibility. The hazardous conditions could impact the morning or evening commute.

* ADDITIONAL DETAILS...The worst visibility is expected Friday night into Saturday.

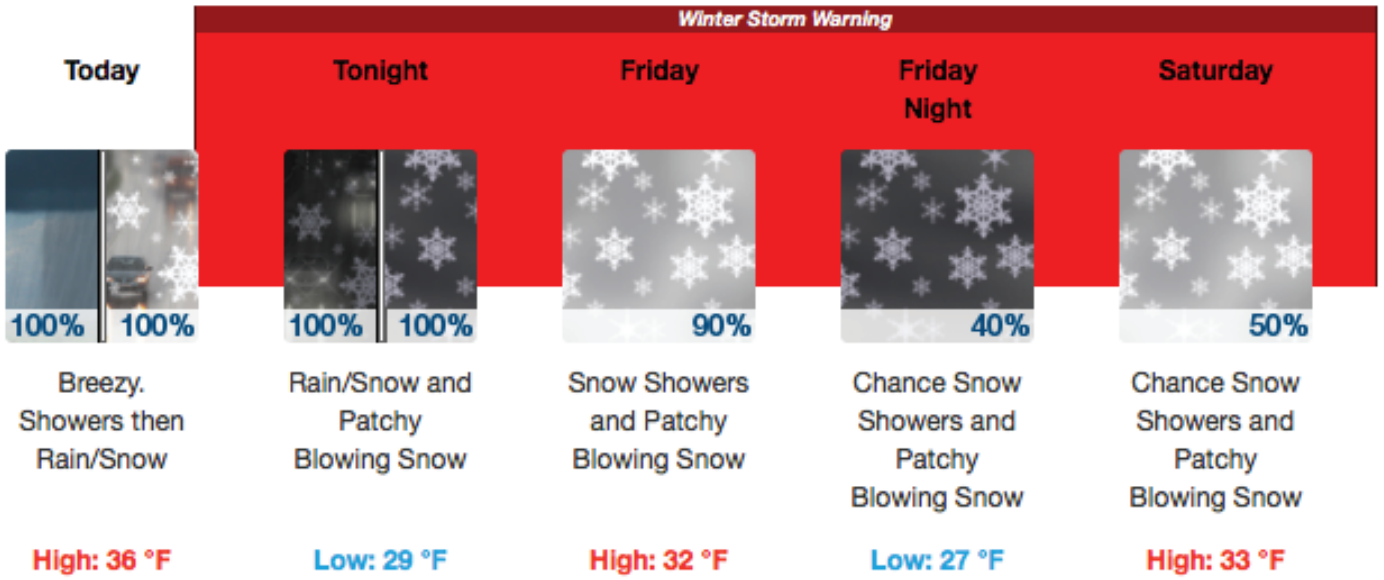
PRECAUTIONARY/PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS...

If you must travel, keep an extra flashlight, food, and water in your vehicle in case of an emergency.

The latest road conditions can be obtained by calling 5 1 1.

Broton Daily Independent

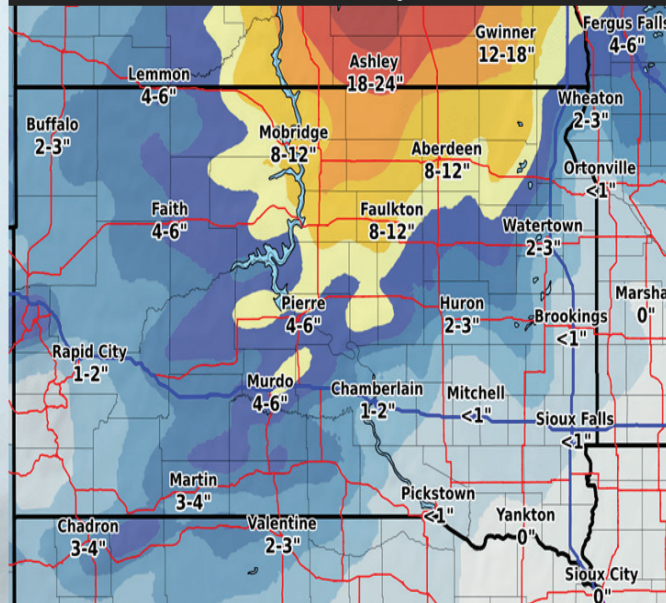
Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 7 of 46



Major Winter Storm System Oct 10-12

Heavy snow has started in areas west of the Missouri and will continue to expand eastward throughout the day.

Storm total snowfall from 7 am CDT this morning through 7 pm CDT Saturday.



National Weather Service
Aberdeen, SD

www.weather.gov/abr

Published on: 10/10/2019 at 12:49AM

Graphic Created
10/10/2019 4:43 AM

The forecast winter storm has begun to impact the area this morning. So far, heavy snow has been confined mostly to areas on the western side of the Missouri River. Snowfall will continue to expand in coverage towards the east throughout the day. North northwest winds will also begin to crank up during the day and gusts of 35 to 50 mph are possible. One note about the total snow graphic is that it starts at 7 am CDT today, so storm total snows along and west of the Missouri where heavy snow is already falling will be higher.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 8 of 46

Today in Weather History

October 10, 1928: The temperature reached 90 degrees at Minneapolis, Minnesota, the latest such reading on record.

October 10, 1982: October 8th through October 10th, 1982, record amounts of snow piled up in the northern Black Hills. Not only was the storm an unprecedented breaker because it came so early in the season, but it was also a record snowfall producer for any time of year. Amounts of three to six feet were typical across the northern hills. On October 9th, 1982, thirty-two inches of snow buried Lead. The thirty-two inches that day is the most on record for 24 hours in South Dakota.

1780: The Great Hurricane of 1780 made landfall on the island of Barbados on this day with estimated wind gusts of 200 mph. This hurricane went on to affect the islands of St. Vincent, where only 14 of 600 homes stood at Kings Town. St. Lucia, Martinique, Dominica, and Puerto Rico were all impacted by this hurricane. This storm is the deadliest Atlantic hurricane on record, with between 20,000 and 22,000 deaths.

1804 - A famous snow hurricane occurred. The unusual coastal storm caused northerly gales from Maine to New Jersey. Heavy snow fell across New England, with three feet reported at the crest of the Green Mountains. A foot of snow was reported in the Berkshires of southern New England, at Goshen CT. (David Ludlum)

1846: A major hurricane, likely a Category 5, moved through the Caribbean Sea. This Great Havana Hurricane struck western Cuba on 10 October. It hit the Florida Keys on 11 October, destroying the old Key West Lighthouse and Fort Zachary Taylor.

1928 - The temperature at Minneapolis, MN, reached 90 degrees, their latest such reading of record. (The Weather Channel)

1949: A rapidly deepening area of low pressure produced gale to hurricane-force winds across much of Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Michigan, and the Dakotas. Sustained 1-minute winds reached 85 mph at Rochester, MN, and 79 mph at La Crosse, WI, during the early afternoon. Winds gusts were as high as 100 mph. This storm produced extensive damage to buildings and power lines. Also, many corn crops were flattened.

1970: A slow-moving tropical depression produced 41.68 inches of rain in Jayuya, Puerto Rico from October 2-10th, 1970.

1973 - Fifteen to 20 inch rains deluged north central Oklahoma in thirteen hours producing record flooding. Enid was drenched with 15.68 inches of rain from the nearly stationary thunderstorms, which established a state 24 hour rainfall record. Dover OK reported 125 of 150 homes damaged by flooding. (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1979 - A storm blanketed Worcester, MA, with 7.5 inches of snow, a record snowfall total for so early in the season for that location. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Eleven cities in the north central U.S. reported record low temperatures for the date, including Colorado Springs CO with a reading of 23 degrees, and Havre MT with a low of 11 degrees above zero. Light snow was reported as far south as Kansas. Omaha NE reported their third earliest snow of record. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Sunny and mild weather prevailed across the nation for Columbus Day. The afternoon high of 77 degrees at Kalispell MT was the warmest reading of record for so late in the autumn season. Thunderstorms developing along a cold front produced wind gusts to 56 mph at Lorain OH. Snowflakes were observed at Milwaukee WI around Noon, but quickly changed to rain as temperature readings were in the lower 60s. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Thunderstorms produced torrential rains along the northeast coast of Florida. Augustine was deluged with 16.08 inches of rain. The heavy rain caused extensive flooding of homes and businesses, and left some roads under three feet of water. Ten cities from South Carolina to New England reported record low temperatures for the date, including Concord NH with a reading of 23 degrees. Temperatures dipped into the 30s in the Carolinas. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

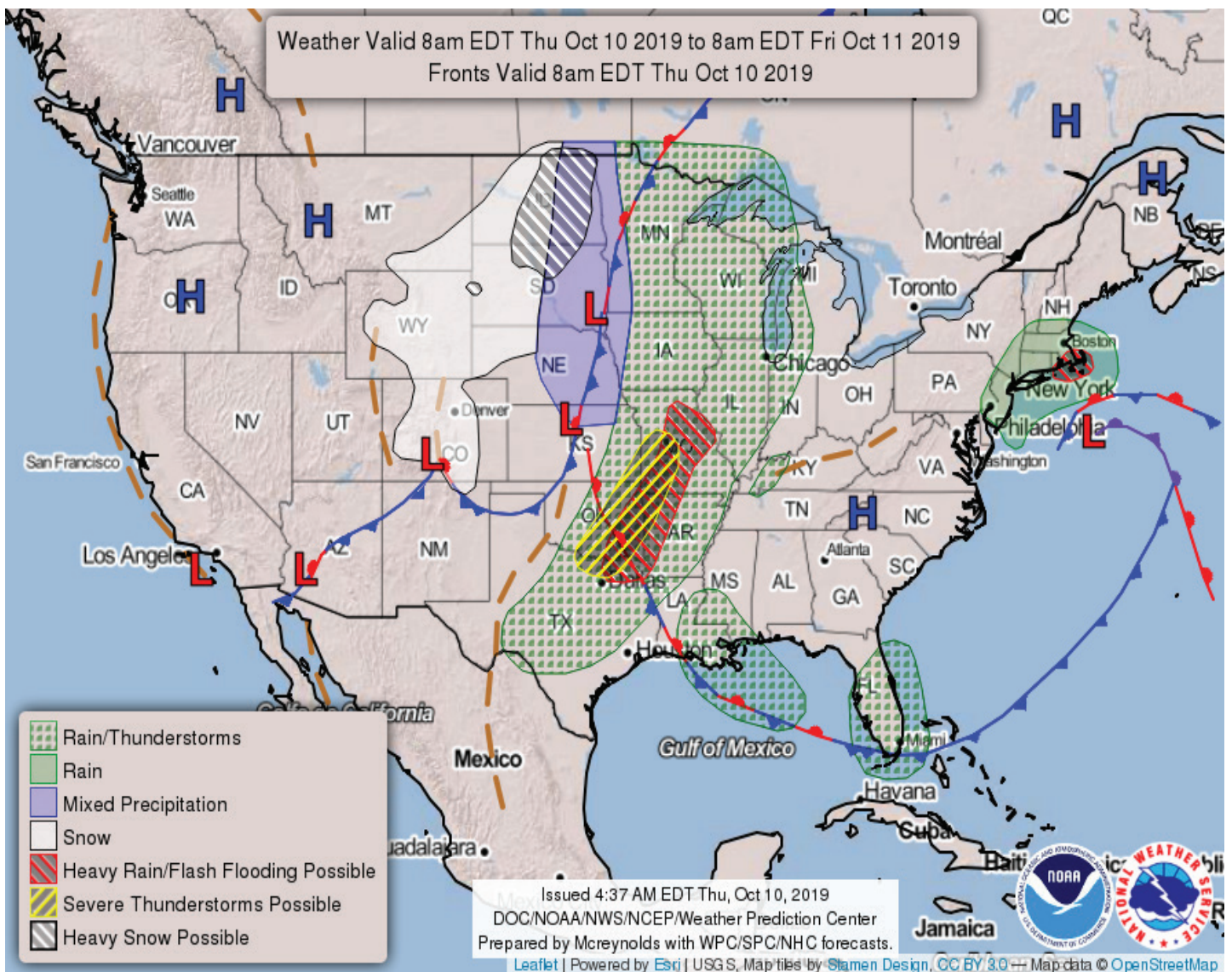
Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 9 of 46

Yesterday's Groton Weather Today's Info

High Temp: 63 °F at 1:49 PM
Low Temp: 43 °F at 10:23 PM
Wind: 25 mph at 3:05 AM
Day Rain: 0.00

Record High: 93° in 2015
Record Low: 10° in 1919
Average High: 61°F
Average Low: 35°F
Average Precip in Oct.: 0.67
Precip to date in Oct.: 0.38
Average Precip to date: 19.15
Precip Year to Date: 25.40
Sunset Tonight: 6:58 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:44 a.m.



Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 10 of 46



GOD-LOVE

Perhaps there is no one word that is more confusing, more misunderstood, more diminished in its significance or abused than the word "love." Although it contains feelings, it is much more than feelings. Although it includes emotions, many times emotions are abused and misused. While it includes sentiments, it is more than sentimental desires that fluctuate from day to day.

Feelings, emotions, and sentiments change from moment to moment and day to day because life is dynamic, and every situation different. True love, God-love, must be seen, observed, lived, and expressed in the behavior of a Christian.

What I do with and to and for someone is what matters most in demonstrating and describing love. If we have any questions about this type of love, we simply need to look at the life of Jesus and meditate on His words: "God so loved this world that He gave His one and only begotten Son!" This is not a sentimental love, nor an emotional or feeling type of love. It is a love that was initiated by God, demonstrated in the life of Jesus and to be seen today in and through the lives of Christians today.

This love is the foundation of all relationships: first for our relationship with God and then our relationships with others. "God-love" will keep a relationship strong and healthy and bring individuals together in a common bond. In fact, this love will unite people in spite of flaws and faults, failures and foolish deeds. As Christians, we are obligated to "demonstrate God-love."

Prayer: Father, fill our hearts with God-love, a love that has no limits, never gives up, puts others first, always demonstrates compassion, and proves our concern. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: John 3:16 For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 11 of 46

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)

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 12 of 46

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

01-13-15-20-24

(one, thirteen, fifteen, twenty, twenty-four)

Estimated jackpot: \$186,000

Lotto America

06-09-13-23-46, Star Ball: 7, ASB: 2

(six, nine, thirteen, twenty-three, forty-six; Star Ball: seven; ASB: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$3.38 million

Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: \$60 million

Powerball

05-18-33-43-65, Powerball: 2, Power Play: 2

(five, eighteen, thirty-three, forty-three, sixty-five; Powerball: two; Power Play: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$80 million

Wednesday's Scores

By The Associated Press

Volleyball

Sioux County, Neb. def. Edgemont, 25-21, 17-25, 26-24, 27-25

PREP FOOTBALL

Crow Creek 42, Tiospa Zina Tribal 8

Little Wound 60, Cheyenne-Eagle Butte 24

Lower Brule 50, St. Francis Indian 0

Some high school football scores provided by Scorestream.com, <https://scorestream.com/>

Governor: No action against Minnehaha prosecutor

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Gov. Kristi Noem said Wednesday that she would take no action against Minnehaha County's top prosecutor despite an investigation that found he might have a drinking problem.

Noem asked the attorney general to investigate after Aaron McGowan was absent from work without explanation from mid-July through mid-September. She called Attorney General Jason Ravnsborg's investigation report "unsettling" but said it concluded there wasn't evidence to pursue charges.

A woman who answered the phone in McGowan's office said staff had been instructed not to take messages for him and that he would decide whether to comment after receiving the report.

McGowan was first elected state's attorney in Minnehaha, the state's most populous county, in 2008. After his absence was noted by news organizations, McGowan said he was on medical leave.

The attorney general's report said McGowan's family sought to have an intervention for alcohol use on July 13, but McGowan refused to participate. A 911 call that night brought police and a mobile crisis team to the house, but they eventually determined that McGowan wasn't a threat to himself or others.

Some office employees told investigators of incidents involving McGowan and alcohol. Those included asking employees to bring alcohol to his house when he was at home during business hours. Some em-

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 13 of 46

ployees also said McGowan sometimes asked them to take him to work because he was too drunk to drive.

Investigators said McGowan denied both claims, and some other employees in the office said it ran effectively while he was gone, with McGowan checking in daily.

Ravnsborg noted in his report that Noem could remove McGowan if he failed to perform his duties due to intoxication, but he cited three earlier cases where attempts to invoke the law failed.

Prosecutor: South Dakota teen killed girl after argument

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota teenager charged with killing a girl whose body was found in his basement shot her after an argument, a prosecutor alleged Wednesday.

The 17-year-old defendant is charged as an adult with second-degree murder, which carries a mandatory life sentence upon conviction. The teen made his initial court appearance Wednesday and will remain in juvenile detention with his bond set at \$1 million.

The teen is charged in the death of the girl, whose body deputies found Monday in the basement of the teen's home near Sturgis, which is in western South Dakota just north of Rapid City and near the state's border with Wyoming. Authorities believe it is 16-year-old Shayna Ritthaler, of Moorcroft, Wyoming, who has been missing since last Thursday. Moorcroft is about 70 miles (113 kilometers) west of Sturgis.

Michele Bordewyk, the acting Meade County state's attorney, said in court that the defendant was with the victim when an argument turned violent and "he shot her," the Rapid City Journal reported.

Defense attorney Steven Titus, of Gillette, Wyoming, told The Associated Press that he will ask that the case be returned to juvenile court and that his client will plead not guilty at his next court appearance, which is scheduled for Oct. 17. The Associated Press isn't naming the defendant because his case might end up back in juvenile court.

Meade County Sheriff Ron Merwin said he couldn't yet share details on how the girl died. An autopsy is scheduled for Thursday. He told the newspaper that he doesn't know how the defendant and victim knew each other.

The body was found when deputies and agents from the South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigation executed a search warrant on the request of the Lawrence County Sheriff's Office, which was working with investigators in Wyoming, the sheriff's office said in a Facebook post.

Bordewyk said the boy lived at the home with his mother and that he had recently moved there from Brookings, which is in eastern South Dakota near the state's border with Minnesota.

2 tribal leaders resign from task force to protest pipeline

HELENA, Mont. (AP) — Two tribal leaders have resigned from a Montana task force in protest of the state attorney general's support of a proposed oil pipeline from Canada.

Montana Department of Justice spokesman John Barnes confirmed Wednesday Jestin Dupree of Fort Peck and Brandi King of Fort Belknap stepped down from the Missing Indigenous Persons Task Force.

State lawmakers created the 11-member task force to better report and find missing Native Americans, and they put the panel under Attorney General Tim Fox.

On Monday, Fox intervened in a lawsuit in support of constructing the Keystone XL pipeline from Alberta's tar sands.

Dupree wrote in a Facebook post that his tribe opposes the pipeline and Fox's intervention is a "slap in the face."

Barnes says the resignations are disappointing and officials will ask the tribal governments to recommend replacements.

The Montana Free Press first reported the resignations.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 14 of 46

Badlands National Park to celebrate expanded bison range

BADLANDS NATIONAL PARK, S.D. (AP) — Bison will have more room to roam in Badlands National Park in southwestern South Dakota.

People are invited to celebrate expansion of the park's bison range during a public ceremony Friday. The Return of the Bison Celebration begins at 11 a.m. at Pinnacles Overlook and will feature a ceremonial fence cutting, a bison release and a grass dance performed by students from American Horse Middle School.

The park will open over 22,000 acres to bison. Thanks to \$743,000 in contributions, the park installed 43 miles of new fence along with new cattle guards to expand the bison grazing area to 80,193 acres.

Park officials say the expanded grazing area will contribute to the health and genetic integrity of a herd estimated at 1,200 bison and continued health of the prairie.

Judge weighs renewed Keystone XL oil pipeline arguments

HELENA, Mont. (AP) — A Montana judge must decide whether to once again block the proposed Keystone XL oil pipeline or side with U.S. government attorneys who want him to uphold President Donald Trump's permit to cross the U.S.-Canada border.

U.S. District Judge Brian Morris hears arguments Wednesday by environmental groups seeking to halt the 1,184-mile (1,900-kilometer) pipeline and by government attorneys who say the presidential permit isn't subject to environmental laws.

Last year, Morris blocked construction after ruling officials had not fully considered oil spills and other environmental effects.

Trump signed the new permit in March, prompting the plaintiffs to accuse the president of trying to get around the judge's previous order.

A separate lawsuit by Native American tribes alleges Trump's approval did not take into consideration the potential damage to cultural sites.

Fall snowstorm blasts Rockies, heading toward Midwest

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) — A fall snowstorm is snarling traffic and causing power outages in the Rocky Mountains as it slowly moves across the northern U.S. toward the Great Plains.

Winter storm watches and warnings stretched from eastern Washington state to Minnesota, along with freeze warnings as far south as Colorado and Nebraska on Wednesday.

In Spokane, wet, heavy snow snapped tree branches and took out power lines. Avista Utilities was restoring power to 32,000 customers Wednesday.

Driving conditions are deteriorating across Montana and northern Wyoming as ice and blowing snow covered roadways.

Up to 2 feet (0.61 meters) of snow is expected to fall in the mountains, and up to a foot in lower-elevation towns and cities.

The storm is expected to bring the first snow of the season to Denver by Thursday.

Excerpts from recent South Dakota editorials

By The Associated Press undefined

Rapid City Journal, Oct. 4

Who deserves blame for poor student testing?

The dismal statistics of a recent South Dakota News Watch story painted a simple picture: Just under half of state students fared poorly on English tests, and they fared worse in math and science.

Poor, immigrant and Native American children - many of them poor — depressed the curve.

Gov. Kristi Noem demanded remedies.

The story sketched solutions used with some success, but they all cost money, so expect the same

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 15 of 46

dismal story to appear next year and in years following.

You don't have to be in school to ignore important lessons.

A ridiculous amount of scholarly research has mapped available paths to better student outcomes. In essence: Kids need to be in secure and stable environments, understand the lessons presented, feel supported, receive help as needed and be held accountable.

Meanwhile, many taxpayers really don't want to provide security or stability to struggling children. They want, they say, for parents to be held responsible, but really, for most, it's sufficient that they blame the parents. Blame provides cover for the indifference showered onto struggling kids feeling hungry, insecure and neglected. Blame permits us to avoid our responsibilities for fixing problems, because, well, it's not our fault.

Politicians use blame to further erode funding, ignoring volumes of educational research. Blame is an expedient solution to saving money. Too bad it never fixes anything.

Things were better, say some, in the days before we spent money to feed hungry students, counsel the abused and tutor those who can't speak English well.

Yes, they certainly were different times. Back then, stay-at-home mothers had a sandwich waiting for a child who walked home for lunch. Back then, three TV channels played cartoons on Saturday mornings. There were no cellphones or internet games. Importantly, everybody was middle class.

In truth, poor or abused children struggled then, too, but they did so silently. We blamed them anyway.

The state's lackluster test results came just two years after lawmakers addressed South Dakota's last-in-the-nation teacher wages using revenue from a half-cent sales tax. So, either South Dakota invested in teachers and it didn't pay off, or more must be done to address a problem generations in the making.

Blamers will take away the wrong lesson. Money blinds them.

In those good old days, grandparents and parents truly revered schools. Education was the key to a better future for everyone. They celebrated schools, students and all educational centers.

Today, many prefer to distrust education, fearing it fosters foreign ideas. Many blame administrators, teachers, parents and even the children. Blame absolves them.

Abundant distrust and blame will cause schools to leave many children unprepared for the technologically dependent 2030s. We'll all suffer because of it. Today's students will be our doctors, nurses, co-workers and bosses. Inadequate educations will restrict our country as it battles in an increasingly competitive world.

We already suffer from poor decisions made 30 years ago. Ask any employer. It's getting harder to find capable, conscientious workers. We should expect more of the same.

Every parent knows they shoulder blame for some of their children's failings. It's a hard job. It's even harder for those without money, good role models or a good education.

But blaming parents shouldn't permit us to ignore the needs of children who will either become a productive part of our communities or dependent upon them.

We're in a hole. We all see it. We don't need another politicians' plan to fix our schools. We need the political will and determination of ordinary citizens to do what is necessary.

We know what works: Parents helping children, early childhood education, programs that support English language learning, mentors, role models, good teachers, well-equipped schools and loads of long-lasting community support.

If you can't identify your own roles in that picture, don't blame somebody else for education's demise. Blame yourself.

Sioux Falls Argus Leader, Oct. 4

'We're failing utterly' with state's drug laws. We don't have to be.

In South Dakota, we've become accustomed to leading the nation in disheartening statistical categories. So it was alarming but not necessarily surprising when a national nonprofit recently published data revealing that South Dakota jails more people per capita than any other state in America.

The Bureau of Justice report added that half the arrests in that data were drug- or alcohol-related,

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 16 of 46

compared to 29 percent nationally, which was also not a major revelation.

On a per capita basis, according to FBI statistics, South Dakota ranks No. 1 in overall narcotics arrests, the byproduct of a system in which stiff drug laws swell jails and prisons with low-level offenders while failing to adequately address addiction counseling and continuing treatment.

As Minnehaha County puts the finishing touches on a nearly \$50 million jail expansion, it's a good time for state leaders to assess South Dakota's largely reactive approach to the longstanding and complex conundrum of drug enforcement.

One thing we can all agree on is that the system isn't working. The national statistics make that clear. But this isn't a throw-up-your-hands scenario where nothing can be done to help reverse course.

A committee of legislators and court and law enforcement officials are studying state laws regulating controlled substances to determine if changes need to be made during the 2020 legislative session.

Of particular interest is the fact that South Dakota is the only state that treats ingestion of a controlled substance as a felony rather than misdemeanor, which helps fuel the incarceration rate.

Previous bills meant to lessen the penalty have failed, but lawmakers should take a fresh look as they explore ways to help non-violent offenders try to end the cycle of dependence and become less of a burden on the system.

Part of the answer lies with the state's drug court system, which aims to reduce recidivism and substance abuse while increasing the likelihood of rehabilitation. But it's only as good as the people and processes within it, so resources should be used to hire and retain qualified counselors and other support personnel.

David Gilbertson, chief justice of South Dakota Supreme Court, has spoken in favor of an inpatient program as part of the drug courts system and an expansion of those who qualify for services. Part of this is the understanding that a sturdy support system is critical to long-term sobriety, as is gainful employment and continuing education.

Having a felony ingestion conviction on one's record makes it more difficult to assimilate back into the community, a factor which can contribute to recidivism and relapse.

Pennington County State's Attorney Mark Vargo pointed out that many narcotics cases he prosecutes are still pending when the defendant runs afoul of the law again.

"What the numbers show me is that we're failing utterly to address behaviors," he said. "If you want to change people's behaviors, we need to be doing something different than we are doing right now."

That should be a rallying cry for Gov. Kristi Noem and Attorney General Jason Ravnsborg, whose sincere desire to address the state's drug epidemic could use a more nuanced approach.

Opioids in the form of prescription painkillers, heroin and fentanyl have joined methamphetamine as a legitimate crisis in the heartland — manifested by crippling addiction, drug-related crime, overcrowded prisons and overdose deaths.

Rather than digging in heels that more resources and latitude for law enforcement is the answer, which could mean more jail expansion on the way, why not use the existing research to chart a new path?

A glance at the state's history on this matter and its placement in national crime statistics make it clear: We don't have much to lose.

Aberdeen American News, Oct. 5

Vital to South Dakota, ethanol facing challenging times

Ethanol is vital to the Midwest, especially to South Dakota.

Our state has 16 ethanol biorefineries, according to the Renewable Fuels Association. South Dakota is one of the nation's leaders in ethanol production.

That is why this summer's ethanol plant closings in the Midwest have been unsettling. Industry leaders are looking for Washington, D.C., leaders to make changes to help ethanol survive.

President Donald Trump and his administration have taken much of the blame; though, he is promising relief for the ethanol industry via Twitter.

A step in that direction came Friday. That's when he the Environmental Protection Agency announced

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 17 of 46

that it will request public comments on expanding biofuel requirements beginning next year.

The "EPA will seek comment on actions to ensure that more than 15 billion gallons of conventional ethanol be blended into the nation's fuel supply beginning in 2020, and that the volume obligation for biomass-based diesel is met. This will include accounting for relief expected to be provided for small refineries," according to the announcement.

Final action is expected yet this year, and farmers in the Dakotas need that action.

Since taking office, the Trump administration has granted 85 oil refineries waivers from blending 4 billion gallons of renewable fuel into the nation's fuel supply, according to a report in the Des Moines Register.

Those waivers have killed demand for 1.4 billion bushels of corn used to make ethanol, and wiped out demand for 825 million bushels of soybeans that go into biodiesel, industry leaders say.

That hit is significant for states like South Dakota, where farmers grow corn and soybeans used to make ethanol and biodiesel.

When Ag Processing Inc., commonly called AGP, opened its \$300 million soybean facility in Aberdeen this July, there was optimism about a biodiesel facility being added to the plant site down the road. AGP is a leading producer of the biofuel at other locations.

Last month, the farmer-owned ethanol plant Siouxland Energy Cooperative in northwest Iowa shut down — the second in Iowa.

In August, South Dakota-based ethanol producer POET said it would cease production by mid-October at its Cloverdale plant, one of four ethanol plants it operates in Indiana.

There have been others, and talk of even more.

Some have described the situation as "a ticking time bomb" for the industry. South Dakota Gov. Kristi Noem and Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz wrote in a letter to President Trump noting that they were "extremely concerned by your Administration's actions to continue to grant small refinery hardship waivers under the Renewable Fuel Standard."

South Dakota U.S. Rep. Dusty Johnson called the move "a step backward" and introduced legislation aimed at increasing transparency in the waiver process.

But the state's congressional delegation and Noem praised Friday's announcement.

The Des Moines Register also reported that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency determines each year how much ethanol and biodiesel must be blended into the nation's fuel supply. The agency does so under a federal mandate called the Renewable Fuel Standard.

The EPA can grant exemptions to small, financially distressed oil companies, but biofuel advocates say the agency has been awarding them to giants such as ExxonMobil and Chevron Corp.

And the agency has failed to reallocate the exempted gallons to those companies not receiving waivers. The EPA has been "handing out waivers like candy," said Kelly Nieuwenhuis, board president of the closing Siouxland Energy Cooperative ethanol plant in Iowa.

Nieuwenhuis added that the EPA could "decimate the investment farmers have made in this industry."

Many farmers are standing firm in their support of the president. Farmer approval for Trump rose to 76 percent in September.

That was according to the latest Farm Journal Pulse Poll. The president's ratings rebounded from a fall in August amid turmoil over trade deals and corn grower discontent over oil industry exemptions to ethanol blending requirements. Given the news this week, Trump's numbers are likely to remain strong.

It has been a tremendously tough year for agriculture in much of South Dakota. Mounting, multiplying problems have led to mountains of stress on the farm and ranch.

There have been major declines in many commodity prices. There has been major flooding to deal with. First, many farmers had trouble getting their crops in, and now they can't get them harvested.

All of this year's water — first from heavy snowfall and now rains that won't seem to end — have been hard on livestock growers as well.

Plus, there have been economic effects from the trade war.

Farmers got some relief last week when President Trump signed an interim trade deal with Japan. It calls for lower Japanese tariffs on U.S. farm exports, such as beef and pork. That's reason for more hope.

But our farmers and ranchers need even more action, because some may go broke.

The agriculture and renewable fuels industries cannot sustain the loss of markets or demand right now. The Trump administration and the EPA should not be prioritizing the oil industry over the industries that help sustain the Heartland and conserve our planet's nonrenewable fuels.

Friday's announcement seems an indication that the president is considering farmers and ranchers — not just oil companies. And we applaud that.

The proposal was good. The next step is action. We need it and expect it.

Millions playing waiting game over electricity shutoffs

By **BRIAN MELLEY and TERENCE CHEA Associated Press**

SONOMA, Calif. (AP) — Millions of Californians played a waiting game with the winds Thursday as Pacific Gas & Electric watched the weather before deciding whether to restore power to an enormous portion of the state blacked out on purpose.

The state's largest utility pulled the plug to prevent a repeat of the past two years when wind-blown power lines sparked deadly wildfires that destroyed thousands of homes.

The unpopular move that disrupted daily life — prompted by forecasts calling for dry, gusty weather — came after catastrophic fires sent PG&E into bankruptcy and forced it to take more aggressive steps to prevent blazes.

The blackouts began Wednesday, hitting more than 500,000 homes and businesses north of San Francisco Bay, in the wine country, the Central Valley and the Sierra Nevada foothills, where a November wildfire blamed on PG&E transmission lines killed 85 people and virtually incinerated the town of Paradise.

Late Wednesday night, after a full day of delays, PG&E began cutting power in the Bay Area, excluding the city of San Francisco.

One of the areas was the town of Moraga in Contra Costa County, where a neighborhood was ordered evacuated as a wildfire spread in the hills early Thursday.

Overall, about 734,000 customers and as many as 2 million people could be affected. PG&E has warned that they might have to do without power for days after the winds subside because "every inch" of the power system must be inspected by helicopters and thousands of groundworkers and declared safe before the grid is reactivated.

"It's just kind of scary. It feels worse than Y2K. We don't know how long," Tianna Pasche of Oakland said before her area was powered down. "My two kids, their school situation keeps moving every second. It's not clear if we need to pack for a week and go out of town or what to do. So I'm just trying to make sure we have water, food, charging stations and gas."

"For me, this is a major inconvenience in my life as a parent but also, if it saves a life, I'm not going to complain about it," she said.

Residents of the Oakland Hills, where a wildfire in 1991 killed 25 people and destroyed thousands of homes, spent the morning buying bottled water, getting cash and filling their cars with gas.

In the northern wine country, most of downtown Sonoma was pitch black when Joseph Pokorski, a retiree, showed up for his morning ritual of drinking coffee, followed by beer and cocktails.

The Town Square bar was open and lit by lanterns, but coffee was out of the question and only cash was accepted. Pokorski decided to forgo a 30-minute wait for a cup of joe from the bakery next door and move on to beers and a couple greyhound cocktails of vodka and grapefruit juice.

"I'm not a coffee freak," Pokorski said. "I can take it or leave. It's no big thing."

In the El Dorado Hills east of Sacramento, California, Ruth Self and her son were taking an outage in stride while leaving a Safeway grocery store that had been stripped nearly bare of bottled water and ice.

Self said she wasn't upset, given the lives lost nearly a year ago in Paradise, invoking images of people who burned in their cars trying to escape.

"I just can't imagine," she said. "Hopefully (the outages) are only for a couple days. I think it's more of a positive than a negative. Ask me again on Friday night when I haven't had a shower in two days, when I've had to spend two days playing card games."

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 19 of 46

There was some good news. PG&E also announced that by reconfiguring its power system, it had restored electricity to 44,000 customers who weren't in areas of high fire risk, and it could bring back power to 60,000 to 80,000 customers in the Humboldt area, where gusty winds had subsided.

Also because of shifting forecasts, the utility said it was reducing the third phase of its blackout plan, set to begin Thursday, to only about 4,600 customers in Kern County — one-tenth of the original estimate.

Unsurprisingly, the unprecedented blackouts sparked anger. A customer threw eggs at a PG&E office in Oroville. A PG&E truck was hit by a bullet that shattered a window in Colusa County before Wednesday's outages, although authorities couldn't immediately say whether it was targeted. PG&E put up barricades around its San Francisco headquarters.

"We realize and understand the impact and the hardship" from the outages, said Sumeet Singh, head of PG&E's Community Wildfire Safety Program. But he urged people not to take it out on PG&E workers.

"They have families that live in your communities, they have friends, they are members of your communities," he said. "They're doing this work in the interest of your safety."

PG&E took drastic action because of hot, dry Diablo winds sweeping into Northern California, said Scott Strenfel, PG&E's principal meteorologist. They were also part of a California-wide weather system that will produce Santa Ana winds in the south in the next day or so, he said.

"These (weather) events historically are the events that cause the most destructive wildfires in California history," Strenfel said.

Winds gusting as high as 70 mph in places were forecast to begin hitting Southern California later Thursday. Southern California Edison warned that it might cut power to nearly 174,000 customers in nine counties, including Los Angeles and its surrounding areas. San Diego Gas & Electric has notified about 30,000 customers they could lose power in back-country areas.

While many people said the blackouts were a necessity, others were outraged — the word that Gov. Gavin Newsom used in arguing that PG&E should have been working on making its power system sturdier and more weather-proof.

"They're in bankruptcy due to their terrible management going back decades," Newsom said in San Diego. "They've created these conditions. It was unnecessary."

Singh said the utility has more than 8,000 employees and contractors who have been clearing brush, inspecting power lines and putting power lines underground.

But he said the power grid wasn't built to withstand the changing weather and the previous safety factor "no longer exists."

Although fire agencies had beefed up their crews because of red-flag conditions of extreme fire danger, very few fires were currently burning in California. Only a tiny fraction of acreage has burned, so far, this year compared with recent years, though no one has attributed that to the power cuts.

Melley reported from Los Angeles. Associated Press writers Janie Har and Olga Rodriguez in San Francisco, Jocelyn Gecker in Moraga, Don Thompson in El Dorado Hills, Haven Daley in Oakland, and Christopher Weber and John Antczak in Los Angeles contributed to this story.

Turkey makes small advances in 2nd day of Syria invasion

By **LEFTERIS PITARAKIS** and **MEHMET GUZEL** Associated Press

AKCAKALE, Turkey (AP) — Turkish ground forces seized at least one village from Kurdish fighters in northern Syria as they pressed ahead with their assault Thursday, launching airstrikes and unleashing artillery shelling on towns and villages the length of its border.

The Turkish invasion, now in its second day, has been widely condemned around the world. In northern Syria, residents of border areas scrambled in panic as they tried to get out on foot, in cars and with rickshaws piled with mattresses and a few belongings.

It was wrenchingly familiar for the many who only a few years ago, had fled the advances on their towns and villages by the Islamic State group.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 20 of 46

A Kurdish-led group and Syrian activists claimed Thursday that despite the heavy barrage, Turkish troops had not made much progress on several fronts they had opened over the past hours. But their claims could not be independently verified and the situation on the ground was difficult to assess.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan claimed that 109 "terrorists" were killed since Ankara launched the offensive into Syria the previous day — a reference to the U.S.-allied Syrian Kurdish fighters. He did not elaborate, and the reports on the ground did not indicate anything remotely close to such a large number of casualties.

Erdogan also warned the European Union not to call Ankara's incursion into Syria an "invasion," and renewed his threat of "opening the gates" and letting Syrian refugees flood Europe.

Turkey's state-run news agency said Turkey-allied Syrian opposition fighters cleared two villages across the border in Syria, Yabisa and Tel Fander, and entered them. It did not provide further details.

Maj. Youssef Hammoud, a spokesman for the Turkish-backed Syrian fighters, tweeted that they were in Yabisa, near the town of Tal Abyad, describing it as "the first village to win freedom."

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said Turkish commandos entered the village of Beir Asheq.

Turkey began its offensive in northern Syria on Wednesday with airstrikes and artillery shelling, and then ground troops began crossing the border later in the day.

U.S. troops pulled back from the area, paving the way for Turkey's assault.

Turkey has long threatened to attack the Kurdish fighters whom Ankara considers terrorists allied with a Kurdish insurgency in Turkey. Expectations of an invasion increased after President Donald Trump's abrupt decision Sunday to essentially abandon the Syrian Kurdish fighters, leaving them vulnerable to a Turkish offensive.

The Kurds, who have been America's only allies in Syria fighting the Islamic State group, stopped on Thursday all their operations against the IS extremists in order to focus on fighting advancing Turkish troops, Kurdish and U.S. officials said.

Turkey considers its operations against the Kurdish militia in Syria a matter of its own survival and has long insisted it won't tolerate a local Kurdish administration in Syria along its border. It says Kurdish fighters there are linked to its outlawed Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK, which has led an insurgency against Turkey for 35 years, killing tens of thousands.

Turkey's PKK is considered a terror group by Turkey and its Western allies, including the United States. Ankara has been infuriated by U.S. support for the Syrian Kurdish fighters, claiming that Washington was arming an extension of a terror group — charges both the U.S. and the Syrian Kurds deny.

The Turkish Defense Ministry statement Thursday did not provide further details on the offensive but shared a brief video of commandos in action. The ministry said Turkish jets and artillery had struck 181 targets east of the Euphrates River in Syria since the incursion started.

Mustafa Bali, a spokesman for the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces, said their fighters have repelled Turkish forces ground attacks.

"No advance as of now," he tweeted Thursday.

The Observatory, a war monitor that has activists throughout the country, said that since Turkey began its operation, seven civilians have been killed.

Turkey says it intends to create a "safe zone" that would push the Kurdish militia away from its border and eventually allow the repatriation of up to 2 million Syrian refugees in the area.

Trump's decision to have American troops step aside in northeastern Syria was a major shift in U.S. policy and drew opposition from all sides at home. It also marked a stark change in rhetoric by Trump, who during a press conference in New York last year vowed to stand by the Kurds, who have been America's only allies in Syria fighting IS.

Trump said at the time that the Kurds "fought with us" and "died with us," and insisted that America would never forget.

After Erdogan announced the offensive, Trump called the operation "a bad idea." Later Wednesday, he

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 21 of 46

said he didn't want to be involved in "endless, senseless wars."

Turkey's campaign — in which a NATO member rained down bombs on an area where hundreds of U.S. troops had been stationed — drew immediate criticism and calls for restraint from Europe.

Australia on Thursday expressed concerns the Turkish incursion could galvanize a resurgence of the Islamic State group and refused to endorse the close ally U.S. for pulling back its troops from the area. Prime Minister Scott Morrison said he had been in contact with the Turkish and U.S. governments overnight and admitted to being worried about the situation.

In Washington, officials said Wednesday that two British militants believed to be part of an Islamic State cell that beheaded hostages had been moved out of a detention center in Syria and were in U.S. custody.

The two, El Shafee Elsheikh and Alexandra Amon Kotey, along with other British jihadis allegedly made up the IS cell nicknamed "The Beatles" by surviving captives because of their English accents. In 2014 and 2015, the militants held more than 20 Western hostages in Syria and tortured many of them.

The group beheaded seven American, British and Japanese journalists and aid workers and a group of Syrian soldiers, boasting of the butchery in videos released to the world.

Associated Press writers Suzan Fraser in Ankara, Turkey, Zeynep Bilginsoy in Istanbul and Bassem Mroue in Beirut contributed to this report.

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. TURKISH FORCES PRESS ADVANCE AGAINST KURDS

Turkey says its military launched airstrikes and unleashed artillery shelling against Kurdish fighters in northern Syria. Kurds and Syrian activists say that despite the barrage, Turkish troops had not made much progress on several fronts.

2. WHITE HOUSE OFFICIALS PULL DISAPPEARING ACT

As the impeachment inquiry swirls around Trump, they've skipped the high-profile Sunday TV shows and avoided driveway gaggles with reporters.

3. CALIFORNIANS PLAY WAITING GAME WITH WINDS

Pacific Gas & Electric watches the weather before deciding whether to restore power to an enormous portion of the state blacked out on purpose, an aggressive step to prevent wildfires.

4. APPLE GIVES IN AFTER APP CRITICISM

The tech giant removed a smartphone app that allows Hong Kong activists to report police movements after a Chinese newspaper accused the company of facilitating illegal behavior.

5. WHAT UKRAINIAN LEADER SAYS ABOUT TRUMP CONVERSATION

Volodymyr Zelenskyy tells the AP that there was "no blackmail" in the phone call with the U.S. president that helped spark an impeachment inquiry.

6. WHO WON NOBEL PRIZES FOR LITERATURE

The 2018 prize goes to Polish author Olga Tokarczuk "for a narrative imagination that with encyclopedic passion represents the crossing of boundaries as a form of life," while the 2019 prize went to Austrian author Peter Handke.

7. 'I'M WILLING TO SACRIFICE AS LONG AS POSSIBLE'

Striking GM workers are scaling back groceries, giving up on eating out and some are taking on part-time jobs while trying to get by on weekly strike pay of \$250.

8. WHERE TRUMP IS HEADED

The U.S. president is headed to the liberal stronghold of Minneapolis for his first reelection rally since impeachment talk heated up.

9. MATT LAUER ACCUSED OF RAPE

Two years after the "Today" show host was abruptly fired by NBC News for sexual misconduct, questions

are emerging about just what network bosses knew and when. Lauer calls the encounter consensual.

10. NATIONALS STUN DODGERS TO ADVANCE

Howie Kendrick belts a tiebreaking grand slam in the 10th inning after Washington rallied against Clayton Kershaw, beating Los Angeles 7-3 and advancing to the NLCS.

Olga Tokarczuk, Peter Handke win Nobel literature prizes

By DAVID KEYTON Associated Press

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Polish novelist Olga Tokarczuk and Austrian writer Peter Handke won the 2018 and 2019 Nobel Prizes for literature on Thursday, after a year's hiatus in awarding the prize due to sex abuse allegations that rocked the secretive Swedish Academy, which selects the laureates.

Tokarczuk won for works that explore the "crossing of boundaries as a form of life," the academy said Thursday.

Handke's work was described as exploring "the periphery and the specificity of human experience" with linguistic ingenuity.

Tokarczuk is only the 15th woman to win the Nobel literature prize in more than a century. Of the 11 Nobels awarded so far this week, all the other laureates have been men.

The literature prize was canceled last year after an exodus at the exclusive Swedish Academy, which chooses the winners, following sex abuse allegations. Jean-Claude Arnault, the husband of a former academy member, was convicted last year of two rapes in 2011. Arnault allegedly also leaked the name of Nobel Prize literature winners seven times.

The Nobel Foundation had warned that another group could be picked to award the prize if the academy didn't improve its tarnished image, but said in March it was satisfied the Swedish Academy had revamped itself and restored trust.

The 2018 and 2019 awards were chosen by the Swedish Academy's Nobel Committee, a new body made up of four academy members and five "external specialists."

Nobel organizers say the committee suggests two names which then must be approved by the Swedish Academy. It's unclear whether the academy members simply rubber-stamped the experts' choice.

In his will, Swedish industrialist and dynamite inventor Alfred Nobel specifically designated the Swedish Academy as the institution responsible for the Nobel Prize in literature.

Nobel decided the physics, chemistry and medicine should be awarded in Stockholm, and the peace prize in Oslo. His exact reasons for having an institution in Norway hand out the peace prize is unclear, but during his lifetime Sweden and Norway were joined in a union, which was dissolved in 1905.

The coveted Nobel Peace Prize set to be awarded on Friday and the economics award on Monday.

Wednesday's chemistry prize went to John B. Goodenough, a German-born engineering professor at the University of Texas; M. Stanley Whittingham, a British-American chemistry professor at the State University of New York at Binghamton; and Japan's Akira Yoshino, of Asahi Kasei Corporation and Meijo University.

On Tuesday, Canadian-born James Peebles, 84, an emeritus professor at Princeton University, won the physics prize for his theoretical discoveries in cosmology together with Swiss scientists Michel Mayor, 77, and Didier Queloz, 53, both of the University of Geneva. The latter were honored for finding an exoplanet — a planet outside our solar system — that orbits a solar-type star.

A day earlier, two Americans and one British scientist — Drs. William G. Kaelin Jr. of Harvard Medical School and the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Gregg L. Semenza of Johns Hopkins University and Peter J. Ratcliffe of Britain's Francis Crick Institute and Oxford University — won the prize for advances in physiology or medicine. They were cited for their discoveries of "how cells sense and adapt to oxygen availability."

With the glory comes a 9-million kronor (\$918,000) cash award, a gold medal and a diploma. The laureates receive them at an elegant ceremony on Dec. 10 — the anniversary of Nobel's death in 1896 — in Stockholm and in Oslo.

Jan M. Olsen in Copenhagen, Denmark, and Jill Lawless in London contributed to this report.

Read more stories on the 2019 Nobel Prizes by The Associated Press at <https://www.apnews.com/NobelPrizes>

White House aides try disappearing act amid impeachment talk

By JILL COLVIN Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — They've skipped the high-profile Sunday TV shows and avoided driveway chat sessions with reporters. Few who are typically eager to defend the president have appeared at all on television this month.

White House officials close to President Donald Trump are pulling off a disappearing act, remaining largely absent from public view — in the middle of the storm over impeachment.

"We invited the White House on to answer questions on the show this morning," CNN's Jake Tapper explained to his viewers on Sunday's "State of the Union." "They did not offer a guest."

It's a well-worn strategy in the Trump White House: Senior officials conveniently manage to be elsewhere when major controversies engulf the building. The frequent absences of Jared Kushner, the Republican president's son-in-law and senior adviser, and presidential daughter Ivanka Trump during moments of consequence have long been a running joke among their detractors. Their detours included a trip to Florida during the partial government shutdown.

Plenty of others have jumped town during tense moments.

As Trump struggled with mounting Republican defections over his decision to declare a national emergency to pay for the stalled border wall, acting White House chief of staff Mick Mulvaney wasn't at the Capitol cajoling his former colleagues or in the West Wing making calls. Instead, he was in Las Vegas for an annual friends and family getaway.

More recently, embattled national security adviser John Bolton scheduled a trip to Mongolia while Trump became the first sitting U.S. president to set foot in North Korea, a gesture that didn't sit well with Bolton, who would leave the administration a few months later.

Indeed, knowing "when to be out of town" was one of the top nuggets of advice that Kevin Hassett, the president's former top economic adviser, said he'd received from a predecessor and had to offer his successor.

The White House did not respond to questions about the tactic Wednesday. But even when they're in Washington, many of the White House's most visible officials have been staying out of public view, letting the president's indignant Twitter feed and his frequent commentary drive the public conversation.

That includes White House spokesman Hogan Gidley, a frequent guest on Fox News shows and the gaggles with reporters that often follow on the White House driveway. White House counselor Kellyanne Conway, an aggressive defender of the president, has not made an appearance on the driveway since a highly contentious Sept. 27 gaggle in which she berated reporters and dismissed a question about whether the White House was organizing an impeachment war room.

"I'm the only person out here taking your questions," Conway noted then. She did, however, appear at an event with first lady Melania Trump, speaking with teens and young adults about their experiences with electronic cigarettes and vaping.

Appearances have come instead from lower-profile staffers, including the vice president's chief of staff, Marc Short; the acting director of Office of Management and Budget, Russell Vought; and economic adviser Larry Kudlow, who tried to stay out of the controversy. He's said repeatedly that questions about Ukraine and the president's efforts to dig up damaging information about former Vice President Joe Biden are way out of his lane.

Adding to the vacuum is the continued lack of White House briefings. White House press secretary Stephanie Grisham has yet to hold one.

"It's surprising that they're not using the many levers on the most powerful communications platform in the world, which is the White House," said Joe Lockhart, who served as press secretary during the

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 24 of 46

impeachment of President Bill Clinton . He said that the White House is losing out on effective platforms to try to drive its message.

"Nobody is vouching for him or validating him and filling in the blanks," Lockhart said of Trump.

Many aides to the president have grown reluctant to speak out on Trump's behalf for fear the president will then contradict them. Instead, they allow the president to set the day's message on his Twitter feed and vigorously defend himself.

But one of the reasons Clinton's impeachment strategy was effective, Lockhart said, was that the president almost never talked about the impeachment drama. He relied on his lawyers, his communications staff and outside allies to make the case for him.

"The president shouldn't be his own defender," Lockhart said. "The president should be focused on doing the job of the president."

But unlike Clinton, Trump has another tool at his disposal: a massive and well-funded campaign operation that has vigorously defended the president on Twitter and cut a series of ads that paint the impeachment inquiry as nothing more than a Democratic "coup" aimed at overturning the results of the 2016 election.

Another ad released Wednesday focuses on allegations against Biden and his son Hunter, which the president and his allies have been pursuing despite lacking evidence of any wrongdoing.

Tim Murtaugh, the Trump campaign's communications director, said the campaign team speaks with its counterparts at the White House every day and work in tandem.

"At all times we take our lead from the White House," he said. "The president is our boss, and we are an extension of him. We make all of our decisions accordingly."

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

Trump's Syria announcement blindsided many GOP supporters

By LAURIE KELLMAN Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — For once, Republicans and Democrats in Congress were in the same place: out of the loop.

When it came to President Donald Trump's abrupt announcement that U.S. forces would no longer protect Syrian Kurds from a Turkish invasion, his supporters knew as little as his critics.

All the effort by Republicans to assuage and court the mercurial president meant little in terms of their ability to dissuade him from a decision that most of them vehemently opposed. They found out about it like Democrats, late at night and on Twitter.

For Republicans, it was a reminder that having the president's back can be a one-way proposition, especially with a commander in chief who likes to make decisions from his "gut."

Even as Turkish bombs fell Wednesday on northern Syria, Sen. Lindsey Graham, a frequent Trump golf club buddy and a presidential educator on foreign policy, talked to the president through television appearances and Twitter. He warned on "Fox & Friends," a program that Trump is known to make part of his morning routine, that he's making the "biggest mistake of his presidency."

"It is never wise to abandon an ally who has sacrificed on your behalf," tweeted Graham, a South Carolina Republican.

He was referring to U.S.-backed Kurdish forces fighting ISIS. But that advice might also apply to Trump's relationship with his GOP allies, most of whom lined up in rare agreement with Democrats against the president's Syria policy.

House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, whom Trump has referred to as "my Kevin," said on Fox that he would have to call the president. On Wednesday, the California Republican tweeted that the Turkish attack "threatens to halt momentum against ISIS, directly assaults" partners in the Syrian Democratic Forces "and could give the likes of al-Qaeda and Iran new footholds in the region."

One of the only Republicans in Congress supportive of a Syria withdrawal, Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky, told reporters on a conference call that he heard about Trump's shift of U.S. forces from the media.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 25 of 46

The Republicans appeared to be as in the dark as a bipartisan delegation with several first-term House Democrats who heard about Trump's pullback in Syria while on a flight home from an official trip to Turkey, Afghanistan and Jordan. They quickly cobbled together a joint statement as they waited in customs at Dulles International Airport. Some sat on a bench at baggage claim to write it.

Signing on was delegation member Elise Stefanik, a Republican congresswoman from New York, who also tweeted the condemnation of Trump's policy.

Two lawmakers on the trip said that even Trump appointees they met overseas did not indicate that they knew about the president's plans.

"Quite the opposite," said Democratic Rep. Jason Crow of Colorado.

"Nowhere in the conversation (overseas) was what happens if the United States condones, accept or even encourages" any moves by Turkey, said Rep. Abigail Spanberger, another first-term Democrat who was part of the delegation.

It all highlighted the unpredictability of Trump's foreign policy, which has confounded enemies and allies alike. The president likes to make decisions with little warning, often in the form of a tweet. Longtime U.S. allies are often the last to know.

"The stupid endless wars, for us, are ending!" Trump tweeted, pledging to punish Turkey economically if it goes too far in its assault.

Trump's habit of abrupt U-turns and embellishment is part of his operating style.

"Predicting what Trump will do begins with accepting that he strives for surprise," said Trump biographer Michael D'Antonio. "He also prefers to create both the problem and the solution, so he can appear to be a savior."

Graham, a sharp-spoken critic of Trump during the 2016 election, has turned into a staunch ally. He frequently flatters the president, even kicking off his Syria criticism by saying earlier in the week, "I like President Trump. I've tried to help him."

For the third day running, Graham tweeted foreign policy lessons in staccato missives against Trump's isolationist tendencies.

"American isolationism: (asterisk) Did not work before WWII. (asterisk) Did not work before 9/11.(asterisk) Will not work now," he wrote.

Graham urged prayers for "our Kurdish allies who have been shamelessly abandoned by the Trump Administration," adding, "This move ensures the reemergence of ISIS."

That followed a remark that seemed certain to get the president's attention, likening Trump's decision to one made by Democrat Barack Obama to stand down American forces in Iraq.

"No matter what President Trump is saying about his decision," the South Carolina Republican tweeted, "it is EXACTLY what President Obama did in Iraq with even more disastrous consequences for our national security."

Trump did not back off.

He announced Tuesday that he and Erdogan will meet at the White House on Nov. 13.

Associated Press Writer Deb Riechmann contributed from Washington.

Follow Kellman on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/APLaurieKellman>

Police: Indonesia's security minister wounded in stabbing

By JIM GOMEZ Associated Press

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — A knife-wielding man who may have been influenced by a radical Islamic group wounded Indonesia's security minister, a local police chief and another person in a western province on Thursday, police said.

National police spokesman Dedi Prasetyo said security minister Wiranto was stabbed in the abdomen in the attack in Banten province, where authorities say Muslim militants have a presence.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 26 of 46

Wiranto, 72, who uses one name, was airlifted to the capital, Jakarta, where he was in stable condition, officials said. Videos showed him being carried on a stretcher, the left side of his abdomen covered with bandages and an oxygen mask strapped to his face.

Wiranto, who was armed forces chief in the late 1990s, had just stepped out of his car and was being welcomed by the police chief in Pandeglang town when the attacker dashed toward them, wounding both along with a third man. Bodyguards wrestled the attacker to the ground and tied his hands behind his back while others helped Wiranto, who stumbled to the ground.

President Joko Widodo, who appointed Wiranto to the top security post in 2016, visited him at an army hospital in central Jakarta.

The motive for the attack, which came just a few days before Widodo's inauguration for his second five-year term in office, was not immediately clear. As coordinating minister for politics, legal, and security affairs, Wiranto supervises several ministries and agencies, including the national police and defense, which have been in charge of the government's counterinsurgency campaign.

Police said they also arrested a female companion of the attacker. Prasetyo told reporters they may have been radicalized by the Islamic State group's extremist ideology.

"The perpetrators are alleged to have been exposed to Islamic State radicalism," Prasetyo told reporters, without elaborating.

He said investigators were trying to determine whether the attackers belonged to Jemaah Ansharuf Daulah, a Muslim militant network in Indonesia aligned with the Islamic State group which security officials believe has followers in Banten. The group has been blamed for past bomb attacks in Indonesia.

As chief of the armed forces from 1998 to 1999, when the national police force was still under military control, Wiranto oversaw security and defense at a time when student protests erupted nationwide and eventually led to the fall of President Suharto in 1998.

Wiranto ran unsuccessfully for president in 2004 and for the vice presidency in 2009. He led a political party in 2014 which threw its support behind Widodo's presidential campaign.

News assistant Ismira Lutfia Tisnadibrata contributed to this report.

Polls show close divide over impeachment and removal

By HANNAH FINGERHUT Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Americans are following impeachment proceedings closely and are slightly more likely to approve than disapprove of the inquiry itself. But the public is more closely split over whether President Donald Trump should be removed from office.

Several polls published since House Speaker Nancy Pelosi announced the start of an impeachment inquiry on Sept. 24 show a shift in views from earlier this year as the House of Representatives investigates whether Trump violated his oath of office in asking the government of Ukraine to investigate a political opponent.

WHERE THINGS STAND

Polls find support for impeachment has shifted significantly from earlier this year. The public is now more closely divided after earlier polls showed majority opposition to impeachment.

A Fox News poll conducted Sunday through Tuesday found 51% of Americans now say Trump should be impeached and removed from office, up from 42% who said that in July.

Likewise, a Washington Post-Schar School survey conducted in early October shows 58% of Americans are supportive of the decision by Congress to initiate an inquiry, including 49% who say Congress was right to begin an investigation and should also take the next step to remove Trump from office. Earlier this year, Post-ABC polls found less than half saying Congress should begin impeachment proceedings.

And polls show that the shift was closely tied to Pelosi's announcement of the inquiry. An early October poll from Quinnipiac University finds 45% of voters say Trump should be impeached and removed from office, up from 37% in a poll conducted immediately before that announcement.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 27 of 46

CONSISTENT (AND POLARIZED) VIEWS OF TRUMP

Approval of Trump's overall performance has remained steady, as it has over the course of his presidency. The Quinnipiac poll shows Trump's approval rating standing at 40%, where it was in its poll conducted just before the inquiry began.

But, as with most political issues in today's environment, views of the Republican president and impeachment are intensely polarized. A wide share of Democrats express support for impeachment, while the vast majority of Republicans stand opposed.

PRECEDENT

Today's presidential impeachment inquiry is only the fourth in U.S. history, and polling demonstrates different scenarios for how opinion has changed as impeachment proceedings proceeded.

While opinions of President Bill Clinton and support for his removal from office moved slightly throughout 1998 and 1999, he emerged largely unscathed. According to polling by Gallup, support for Clinton's removal reached no more than about a third of Americans throughout impeachment proceedings over Clinton's handling of allegations of his extramarital affair with Monica Lewinsky, a White House intern. Before, during and after the impeachment process, Clinton's job approval was much higher than that of Trump.

By comparison, approval ratings for President Richard Nixon took a severe hit as the public learned more about his transgressions, according to Gallup polling. At the same time, support for impeachment steadily grew.

Even so, far less than half supported Nixon's removal from office throughout 1973 and into 1974; it wasn't until after the House Judiciary Committee passed articles of impeachment in late July that more than half held that view.

Ukraine president: 'No blackmail' in conversation with Trump

By YURAS KARMANAU Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Thursday there was "no blackmail" in the phone call with U.S. President Donald Trump that helped spark an impeachment inquiry.

Zelenskyy is trying to save his reputation and distance himself from the U.S. political drama. In an all-day "media marathon" held in a food court, he played down suggestions that Trump pressured him to investigate Democratic rival Joe Biden in exchange for military aid to help Ukraine battle Russian-backed separatists.

Responding to questions from The Associated Press, Zelenskyy said he only learned after their July 25 phone call that the U.S. had blocked hundreds of millions of dollars in military aid to Ukraine.

"We didn't speak about this" during the July call, Zelenskyy said.

"There was no blackmail."

Trump asked Zelenskyy during the call to "look into" Biden and his son, according to a rough White House transcript. Congressional Democrats believe Trump was holding up the military aid to use as leverage to pressure Ukraine and advance his domestic political interests before next year's U.S. presidential election.

The July call is central to the impeachment inquiry, and embarrassed Zelenskyy because it showed him as eager to please Trump and critical of European partners whose support he needs to strengthen Ukraine's economy and to end the conflict with Russia.

He said he "didn't even check" whether the Ukrainian transcript of the July call is the same as that of the White House, but says "I think they match."

Trump later said the military aid was frozen because of concerns about corruption in Ukraine, but the move prompted congressional outcry and the money was released in September.

But Zelenskyy said the call "wasn't linked to weapons or the story with (Ukrainian gas company) Burisma," where Biden's son Hunter served on the board.

Asked what Ukraine did to persuade the U.S. to release the aid, Zelenskyy said: "We have many diplomatic contacts. And in case we need to find a solution to questions of this level, questions about our country's security, we use all our powerful possibilities." He didn't elaborate.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 28 of 46

"I don't want to interfere in any way in the elections" in the U.S., he said. Zelenskiy appears to be playing to both U.S. political camps to ensure Ukraine has continued support no matter who wins the presidential election next year.

Zelenskiy said he thought the call would lead to an in-person meeting with Trump, and wanted the American leader to come to Ukraine. Zelenskiy said the "key question" for him was to try to persuade the White House to "change its rhetoric" about Ukraine as a corrupt and untrustworthy country.

He said he wanted to meet with Trump in person but that there were "no conditions" set for such a meeting.

He said he had "several calls" with Trump, but bristled at repeated questions about their relationship. "We are an independent country, we have relations with many countries," not just the U.S., he said.

A TV and film comedian, Zelenskiy overwhelmingly won the presidency in April on promises to fight corruption and end the five-year conflict with Moscow-backed separatists in eastern Ukraine. He's treading carefully to ensure continued support from the U.S. while trying to make peace with powerful neighbor Russia.

Most of the questions at Thursday's unusual media event related to the Russia conflict or Ukraine's economic troubles.

In the July call, Trump sought help on two fronts. The first involves Trump's claims that Ukraine allied with the Democrats in a plot to derail his 2016 presidential campaign. No evidence of such a plot has emerged.

At the same time, Trump is also pushing Ukraine to investigate any potential wrongdoing by the Bidens. Trump has said the United States has an "absolute right" to ask foreign leaders to investigate corruption cases, though no one has produced evidence of criminal wrongdoing by the former U.S. vice president or his son.

Zelenskiy also joked about Trump's Twitter missives, saying he doesn't expect a change in U.S.-Ukrainian relations in the future, "but if there is, we'll learn about it on Twitter."

Angela Charlton, Lynn Berry and Inna Varenysia in Kyiv contributed to this report.

Super typhoon on track to drench Japan's main island

By MARI YAMAGUCHI Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — Japan is bracing for a super typhoon on track to hit central and eastern regions over the three-day weekend, with sport events and domestic flights canceled and sandbags given away to minimize potential damage from torrential rains and strong winds.

Typhoon Hagibis has already caused cancellations of two Rugby World Cup matches that were to be played Saturday. Organizers canceled the England-France match planned in Yokohama, near Tokyo, and New Zealand-Italy game in Toyota, in central Japan.

Organizers also called off a marathon in Sendai and other northern coastal towns. Formula One auto racing in Suzuka in central Japan may also be affected.

Japan's Defense Ministry scrapped the first two days of the annual Oct. 12-14 navy review.

Hagibis, which means speed in Filipino, had maximum sustained winds of up to 270 kilometers (168 miles) and stronger gusts at noon Thursday near Chichi island in the Pacific, about 1,000 kilometers (620 miles) off Tokyo's southern coast. It was moving north at the speed of 20 kph (12 mph) and is expected to weaken over cooler waters as it nears Japan's main island.

It's the equivalent of a Category 5 hurricane.

The Japan Meteorological Agency says the typhoon is forecast to hit ashore in the Tokyo area late Saturday and urged people to take precautions to avoid potentially life-threatening danger. Japan's central Pacific coast may see torrential rains beginning Friday while high waves and tides may cause flooding.

Airlines and train services anticipate cancellations affecting holidaymakers traveling over the three-day weekend that includes Sports Day holiday on Monday. All Nippon Airways said it is grounding all domestic flights Saturday in and out of Tokyo's Haneda and Narita international airports.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 29 of 46

Depending on the typhoon's movement, All Nippon Airways and Japan Airlines said they may cancel flights as early as Friday.

The approaching typhoon is spreading fear especially in Chiba, near Tokyo, which was hit by Typhoon Faxai last month and many residents are still recovering from damage to their homes. The typhoon tore many electrical poles and snapped cables, triggering extensive outages that lasted for weeks, contributing to heat illnesses and other health problems among elderly people.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga, at a regular news conference, said the government will do the utmost for the people's safety, and urged residents near the typhoon route to take precautions early.

In some places, preparations have started.

Local offices in Chiba city started distributing free sandbags to shield against flooding. The city also cautioned against power outages from potential typhoon damage and urged residents to make sure they have enough food, water and their phones are charged.

In Chofu in Tokyo's western suburbs, workers at the city hall renovation site reinforced scaffolding and placed protective nets to prevent equipment and construction materials from being blown off.

At a winery in Yamanashi, north of Tokyo, workers picked grapes Thursday to save them from the typhoon, Japan's NHK television said.

East Japan Railway Co. said it may suspend services on most local lines and bullet trains around Tokyo before the typhoon arrives.

Japan is regularly hit by Pacific storms, including Faxai in September. Typhoon Jebi flooded a terminal and a runway at Kansai International Airport last year.

This story corrects spelling of a rugby match venue.

Follow Mari Yamaguchi on Twitter at <https://www.twitter.com/mariyamaguchi>

Tension over gay rights moves to fore in Polish election

By VANESSA GERA Associated Press

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — Adam Juda had just left a bar in Warsaw late one night in August when he started chatting with a group of strangers walking his way. The three men and a woman were friendly at first, but when they realized he was coming from a gay bar, the men set upon him, beating him unconscious and breaking his nose.

Activists say reports of that kind of attack are up in Poland, where months of anti-gay rhetoric by politicians and church leaders before Sunday's parliamentary elections have created an atmosphere that's increasingly hostile to the LGBT community, setting back years of slow progress in this conservative, Roman Catholic nation.

In an effort to capitalize on a wedge issue, the leader of the conservative ruling Law and Justice party, Jaroslaw Kaczynski, vowed to protect Poles from an "LGBT offensive" that he said seeks the "radical destruction of the moral and cultural order." An archbishop called the LGBT community a "rainbow plague." And far-right politician Janusz Korwin-Mikke said "one must slaughter" those who promote gay rights.

Juda says that kind of rhetoric has made life in Poland increasingly untenable — and he's not alone. Many gay people are considering leaving, activists say.

"I am nearly 40 and was beaten for the first time in my life because I am gay. When they call us a plague or perverts or pedophiles, they are stigmatizing us," said Juda, 39, who works for a PR agency. "It makes me sick and angry that gay people are forced to pay taxes that support the ruling party's programs and the church when we are treated in such a dehumanizing way."

While gays and lesbians have never had the right to marry or to form civil unions, as they can in much of Europe, gay rights activists until not long ago felt that society was becoming more open and that those rights would one day come.

But the election has brought simmering tensions to the fore in Poland, setting off a back-and-forth

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 30 of 46

between an increasingly vocal and assured LGBT community and those who say they are defending traditional values.

In an effort to counter growing hostility, there was a mass “coming-out” this summer, in which thousands declared, “I am LGBT” on their social media profiles. One activist superimposed rainbow halos on a portrait of the Virgin Mary and baby Jesus, creating a much-reproduced image that some Catholics found offensive. This year, there has been a record number of more than 25 gay pride parades, even in small conservative towns. That compares to seven in 2017 and 15 in 2018.

In response, some people turned out with brooms and cleaning chemicals to “disinfect” the streets after parades. Towns have declared themselves “LGBT free.” About 200 people marched in Warsaw, the capital, on Saturday, holding rosaries and crucifixes and praying to apologize for the “desecration” they say pride parades represent.

Mirosława Makuchowska from the Campaign Against Homophobia said there is no reliable data on how many people are attacked because they are gay each year in Poland, in part because police don’t such keep statistics. But she said based on reports to her organization and media accounts, there has been a “dramatic rise” in violence. She has also seen a sharp rise in reports of parents who kick out their gay children.

There have been several high-profile attacks in recent months. Białystok, an eastern Polish city that is a skinhead stronghold, had its first LGBT march parade in July — and protesters threw glass bottles and firecrackers at participants and police.

In late September, a couple was arrested with homemade explosive devices at a pride parade in Lublin, while a man with two knives was stopped as he headed toward a pride parade in Wrocław last weekend.

Poland’s ruling officials have never called for violence, but they also haven’t seemed quick to condemn it.

On a campaign stop this week, Kaczyński, the head of the Law and Justice party, insisted that the Polish state is tolerant — noting that police provide protection for LGBT marches — but that it wouldn’t be bullied into surrendering its values.

“There is a thesis that is being often pounded into our heads: If you want to live like in (Western) Europe, then Poland must be like (Western) Europe: two fathers, two mothers, etc. No, ladies and gentlemen, it does not have to be that way,” Kaczyński said at another recent rally. “We are defending, and we will defend the traditional family.”

Mariusz Kurc, the editor of Replika, Poland’s only LGBT magazine, sees the growing assertion of rights by the gay community and even the backlash as part of a larger move forward. While the political leadership is hostile to gay rights, he says, society is still growing more accepting.

“It’s the emancipation of the LGBT community that has caused this backlash,” Kurc said. “We are victims less now. We became warriors this year.”

But in the meantime, many wonder if they can wait for change.

Jakub, a computer specialist in Rzeszów, came out 15 years ago — but has seen his mother’s views toward gays grow much more negative in recent months, under the influence of state propaganda. While they don’t support violence, he said his mother also has begun to believe anti-gay stereotypes. He is considering moving away from his conservative town to Warsaw, the more liberal capital city. If things get even worse, he says he would consider leaving Poland.

“It’s difficult for me to erase from my memory that my family, despite their love for me, stood on the side of those who wanted to kill me in Białystok,” said Jakub, 38, who spoke on condition that his last name not be used to protect his mother’s privacy.

Klaudia Madejska, a 44-year-old in a long-term relationship with another woman, already felt the mood growing hostile toward anyone who breaks the mold when Law and Justice took power in 2015, so she and her longtime partner moved to Denmark in March.

Madejska said the abuse hurled at participants at pride parades, not being allowed to marry and contending with a friend who advised her to find a man became too much.

By contrast, Madejska was able to marry her partner in Denmark this year, and her neighbors treat their

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 31 of 46

union as a normal thing.

"In Poland, I feel like I am in the Middle Ages," Madejska said. The move "was difficult at the beginning, but I only wish we had made the change four or five years ago."

This story has been corrected to show that the Campaign Against Homophobia activist's name is Miroslawa, not Miroslaw.

10-spot: Cards oust Braves from NLDS with record 1st inning

By PAUL NEWBERRY AP Sports Writer

ATLANTA (AP) — The St. Louis Cardinals turned the diamond into a giant pinball machine, dinging hits all over SunTrust Park.

By the time the Atlanta Braves finally got the third out, it was the most productive first inning in post-season history.

The Cardinals scored 10 runs their first time up and dealt Atlanta another playoff heartbreak, routing the Braves 13-1 in decisive Game 5 of the NL Division Series on Wednesday.

"That was crazy," said Marcell Ozuna, one of five players who batted twice in the stunning outburst. "We got a good opportunity — and we took it."

Before many fans had reached their seats, the Cardinals were already booking plans for the NL Championship Series, where they will face Washington in a best-of-seven set beginning Friday at Busch Stadium. The wild-card Nationals knocked off the favored Los Angeles Dodgers 7-3 in their own Game 5, getting a grand slam from Howie Kendrick in the 10th inning.

It will be St. Louis' first NLCS trip since 2014.

"We know we can beat anyone at this point," Kolten Wong said.

For the Braves, it might take a while to get over this debacle.

After pitching seven scoreless innings in a Game 2 win, Mike Foltynewicz retired only one hitter before getting yanked. First baseman Freddie Freeman booted a potential double-play ball that might have limited the damage. The Cardinals scored their final run of the inning on a strikeout — a wild pitch in the dirt that skipped away from catcher Brian McCann.

"We just strung together a bunch of great at-bats," Wong said.

It was Atlanta's 10th straight postseason round loss since its last victory 18 long years ago, tying the ignominious mark set by the Chicago Cubs between 1908 and 2003.

Carrying on the tradition that started at Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium, moved on to Turner Field and is now becoming an annual occurrence at SunTrust Park, it was a visiting team that got to celebrate in the A-T-L.

The Cardinals broke out T-shirts and caps, hopped around in the middle of the infield and gathered on the pitcher's mound for a team portrait with the center field video board looming as a backdrop.

For the 13th time in 21 postseason appearances since moving to Atlanta, the Braves finished the year with a loss on their home field.

"It was more of a shock than anything," said Josh Donaldson, whose homer provided the lone Atlanta run. "You don't expect something like that to happen, especially with how well we played all season."

The Cardinals batted around and got more than halfway through their order a second time before the Braves even came to the plate.

Tommy Edman, Dexter Fowler and Wong all had two-run doubles as St. Louis equaled the highest-scoring inning in postseason history, a record set by the Philadelphia Athletics against the Chicago Cubs in the 1929 World Series. It was matched by the Detroit Tigers (1968 World Series vs. St. Louis), the Anaheim Angels (2002 ALCS vs. Minnesota) and, now, the Cardinals.

No team had ever scored 10 runs in the very first inning of a postseason game. It was the first time the Braves franchise has allowed that many opening-inning runs in any game since they were in Boston on

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 32 of 46

July 2, 1925, against the Brooklyn Robins.

The Cardinals made several changes after their 10-spot in what might've been the first set of defensive moves ever made by a team before its opponent had batted. There was no need to worry about any more offense with budding ace Jack Flaherty on the mound, coming off one of the great second halves by a starting pitcher in baseball history.

"We took the crowd out of it," Fowler said. "We knew Folty would try to get ahead of us. We were trying to get some good pitches to hit. It was a little easier to see the ball today."

Manager Mike Shildt let the 23-year-old Flaherty throw 104 pitches over six innings, surrendering four hits for the first postseason win of his blossoming career. Flaherty loaded the bases in the fifth after drilling Ronald Acuña Jr. with a fastball, but induced an inning-ending groundout from Freeman.

This one, though, will long be remembered for what happened before Flaherty even took the mound.

BLOW BY BLOW

Foltynewicz, who didn't walk anyone in Game 2, started ominously with a walk to Fowler. Wong followed with a sacrifice bunt — the only hitter Foltynewicz retired.

Paul Goldschmidt reached on an infield hit, and the crowd stirred nervously when Marcell Ozuna lined another single to right to bring home the first run.

Then, the play that essentially finished off the Braves. Yadier Molina drilled a one-hopper to first that Freeman likely would've turned into an inning-ending double play if he made the scoop. Instead, everyone was safe when the ball deflected off his glove and rolled slowly toward second base to leave the bases loaded.

"This one is on me," Freeman said.

Matt Carpenter walked to force in a run and Edman ripped a two-run double to make it 4-0. After Paul DeJong was handed an intentional walk to re-load the bases, Atlanta manager Brian Snitker emerged from the dugout to call in 17-game winner Max Fried.

Flaherty drew another bases-loaded walk and Fowler lined a two-run double down the left-field line to make it 7-0. Wong followed with yet another two-run double, pushing the score to a staggering 9-0.

Wong tagged and hustled to third on Goldschmidt's lineout to right. Ozuna appeared to end the inning when he flailed at a ball in the dirt for strike three, but McCann couldn't corral the wild pitch. The catcher fell down picking the ball up near the backstop and threw late to first from his backside while Wong sped home.

McCann announced after the game that he's retiring.

TRAINER'S ROOM

Cardinals: After missing two weeks with a strained left hamstring, 2B Wong has held up well in his postseason return. "He feels great and hasn't really missed a beat," Shildt said.

Braves: 2B Ozzie Albies remained in the game after appearing to hurt his right hand while dropping a throw from SS Dansby Swanson attempting to turn a double play in the third inning. A trainer gave Albies' hand a quick examination during a pitching change.

UP NEXT

The Cardinals lost to San Francisco in five games at the 2014 NLCS, their last of four straight trips to the round. The NL Central champions went 5-2 against Washington in their 2019 season series.

After a second straight NL East title, the Braves head into the offseason with a solid nucleus of young talent but the burden of another postseason flop. Donaldson is a potential free agent, along with pitcher Dallas Keuchel, who struggled in his two NLDS starts.

Follow Paul Newberry on Twitter at www.twitter.com/pnewberry1963 and find his work at <https://apnews.com>

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

US moves 2 British IS members known as 'Beatles' from Syria

By DEB RIECHMANN and LOLITA C. BALDOR Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two British militants believed to be part of an Islamic State group that beheaded hostages and was known as “The Beatles” have been moved out of a detention center in Syria and are in American custody, U.S. officials said Wednesday.

President Donald Trump said earlier Wednesday that the U.S. has moved some of the Islamic State prisoners amid fears some could escape custody as Turkey invades northeast Syria.

The two men, El Shafee Elsheikh and Alexandra Amon Kotey, along with other British jihadis, allegedly made up the IS cell nicknamed “The Beatles” by surviving captives because of their English accents. In 2014 and 2015, the militants held more than 20 Western hostages in Syria and tortured many of them. It beheaded seven American, British and Japanese journalists and aid workers and a group of Syrian soldiers, boasting of the butchery in videos released to the world.

U.S. officials said the two were taken out of Syria by U.S. military and law enforcement personnel to ensure they did not escape if security broke down as a result of the Turkish incursion. So far they are the only two IS militants removed from Syria by the U.S., but officials say a number of others could also be moved if needed.

Another official said the two men were taken to Iraq out of an abundance of caution, adding that the United States is still fully committed to seeing them brought to justice.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss military movements.

Turkey is attacking the U.S.-backed Syrian Defense Forces, a Kurdish force that battled the Islamic State group alongside American troops and now is responsible for guarding thousands of detained militants.

But guarding those prisoners is now expected to be less of a priority for the Kurdish forces as they rush to defend their territory against the invading Turkish military.

Trump told reporters at the White House that some of the “most dangerous” had been moved, but he provided no details. Although just the two have been relocated so far, but thousands of other Islamic State group detainees remain in custody and there are no immediate concerns the Kurds will completely abandon the facilities.

“We’re putting them in different locations where it’s secure,” Trump said.

The U.S. officials said that some Kurds left the prisons to join the fight but did not flee in large numbers. The officials said operations against remaining members of the Islamic State group are on hold following the invasion Wednesday by Turkey, which sees the Kurds as a threat and is trying to create a buffer zone between the territory held by the SDF and the Syrian border.

The two British men were captured in January in eastern Syria by the Kurdish forces amid the collapse of IS. Their detention set off a debate in the U.S. and Europe over how to prosecute their citizens who joined IS.

Among the journalists they killed was American James Foley, who was first, followed by fellow Americans Steven Sotloff and Peter Kassig, British aid workers David Haines and Alan Henning and Japanese journalists Haruna Yukawa and Kenji Goto. The beheadings, often carried out on camera, horrified the world soon after IS took over much of Iraq and Syria in 2014.

In March, Kurdish and U.S. forces cleared the last members of the Islamic State group from what was left of their self-declared caliphate, which once sprawled across a large part of Iraq and Syria.

U.S. officials said American forces are not out doing patrols looking for Islamic State group fighters because their Kurdish partners are more focused on the Turkish fight. But they said U.S. operations could restart quickly if needed.

About 30 to 50 U.S. troops were moved out of the way from two outposts in the border region. There are a number of U.S. forces in other bases just outside the so-called safe zone as well as in Manbij and other locations around the country. They have not been moved but are mainly staying in place to avoid attacks.

There are about 2,500 Islamic State foreign fighters being detained in Syria, along with about 10,000 fighters from Syria and Iraq.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 34 of 46

Trump and other U.S. officials have repeatedly pressed other nations across Europe and the Middle East to take back the detainees from their countries. But international leaders have been largely reluctant and have been slow to take any back.

"They should go back, by the way, they should go back to Europe. Many of them came from Europe. And they should go back to Germany and France," Trump said Wednesday.

Trump said other leaders told him they didn't want the detainees.

"We don't want them either," he said. "Nobody wants them but they're bad and somebody has to watch over 'em."

Associated Press writers Sarah El Deeb in Beirut and Eric Tucker in Washington contributed to this report.

'Welcome to Minneapolis': Trump rally roils liberal bastion

By **STEVE KARNOWSKI** Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The conflict and Twitter battles arrived in Minnesota well ahead of President Donald Trump's touchdown in the state.

Trump traded Twitter insults with the Minneapolis mayor over who should pay more than \$500,000 in security costs for Thursday's rally at a downtown arena. He denounced Jacob Frey as a "Radical Left" lightweight and blasted the Democrat for a police policy banning officers from wearing their uniforms in support of political candidates. He sprinkled in a reference to his favorite foil — the city's Rep. Ilhan Omar — just for good measure.

"Yawn," Frey tweeted back. "Welcome to Minneapolis where we pay our bills, we govern with integrity, and we love all of our neighbors."

It was just a warmup to Trump's first campaign rally since being engulfed in the swirl of an impeachment investigation, an event expected to pack an extra punch. Heading to Omar's home turf, a liberal outpost in the Midwest, Trump quickly stirred up passions and partisanship as few politicians can.

Trump will land in Minnesota as polls show Americans' support for impeachment and for removing him from office have ticked up in the weeks since House Democrats launched an impeachment investigation. While his GOP allies have launched a campaign to reverse the trend, Trump's self-defense may be the best preview of how he intends to fight back in the weeks ahead.

"He needs to be able to show right now, given all of this impeachment stuff, that America is rallying to his defense. And I don't think that that is going to be the optic that's created," said Ken Martin, the state Democratic chairman.

Both sides are tuned in to the symbolism of the moment. The rally at Target Center— the city's basketball arena— is expected to draw thousands of supporters as well as protesters outside. Trump will be joined by Vice President Mike Pence, who had a separate schedule of appearances in the state Trump is trying to tip his way next year.

At a White House event Wednesday, Trump made it clear he was looking forward to the rally.

"I think it's a great state, and we're going to have a lot of fun tomorrow night," he said.

Minneapolis is a difficult place for the president to try to bask in the glow of support. Trump won just 18% of the vote in the dense, relatively diverse and liberal congressional district where he's staging his rally.

But the venue serves another purpose: The district is now held by Omar, the Somali-American lawmaker whom Trump often holds up as a symbol of the liberal shift in the Democratic Party. It's a message viewed as racist by some. He has tweeted that Omar should "go back" to her home country if she wants to criticize the U.S. Trump supporters broke into chants of "Send her back!" at a rally this summer in North Carolina.

The episode is weighing heavily on Trump's Thursday rally. It drew criticism from fellow Republicans uncomfortable with the prospect of putting race at the center of the campaign.

Some lawmakers, including Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, and some of the president's closest outside advisers privately warned Trump about the damage those chants could inflict on the GOP, according to four Republicans close to the White House who were not authorized to discuss private conversations.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 35 of 46

They believed the sight of thousands of mostly white attendees chanting "Send her back!" would dominate news coverage and turn off moderate voters, particularly women and suburbanites.

Trump has held four rallies since. The chant has not erupted since.

Still, the attacks on the "socialist" wing of the Democratic Party are the heart of Trump's plan to hold onto the Rust Belt and become the first Republican presidential candidate to carry Minnesota since Richard Nixon in 1972. Trump fell about 45,000 votes short of beating Democrat Hillary Clinton statewide in 2016. He's had staff in the state since June, and they have been busy building a network to turn out supporters next November.

The campaign needs to pump up Trump's support in the rural and suburban areas he carried in 2016 to overcome Democratic strength in Minneapolis, St. Paul and some other cities, plus suburbs that swung Democratic in 2018. The Minneapolis rally will also win media coverage well into western Wisconsin, widely seen as a critical battleground in 2020.

GOP Rep. Tom Emmer, who leads the House Republican campaign arm and will attend the rally, said the opposition to Trump's visit could backfire on Democrats. Emmer was among Republicans accusing Frey of trying to block Trump's rally.

Federal campaign law does not require presidential campaign committees to pay for expenses incurred by state and local governments in connection with a campaign event.

"I think this visceral hatred, the blatant attempt to shut down some people's point of view and deny thousands of Minnesotans their voice ... I think Democrats are going to pay for it at the ballot box next November," Emmer said.

Indeed, the rally plans provoked strong passions.

Omar, whose family fled Somalia when she was a child and who became an American in 2000, tweeted shortly after the trip was announced: "Our beautiful state welcomes everyone with open arms. But to be clear: we will continue to reject you and your campaign of lies and bigotry."

Sophia Jungers, 21, of Minneapolis, was planning to protest Thursday, just as she did when Trump rallied in the southern Minnesota city of Rochester last October.

"I feel like we're falling apart as a democracy, and we're not taking advantage of all the voices that need to be heard," said Jungers, a University of Minnesota student.

Michelle Urevig-Grilz, 49, a teacher from suburban Ramsey who identified herself as a longtime Republican voter but a Trump opponent, said she was considering joining the protests.

"He's a misogynist pig. He always has been. ... And it is surprising to me how many women voters did vote for Trump. That's absolutely scary," she said.

But few of Trump's Minnesota supporters could be more excited than Mike Lindell, known to TV viewers nationwide as the "MyPillow guy" after the pillow company he founded.

Lindell, a significant donor who has appeared at previous Trump rallies, credits the president with creating a booming economy and giving entrepreneurs like him the confidence to take chances. He said he's scheduled to speak Thursday.

"Everybody voted for him on faith that there would be something good, finally, and boy has he provided it," Lindell said.

Associated Press writer Jonathan Lemire in Washington contributed to this report.

GM workers worry about paying bills as strike continues

By JOHN SEEWER and TOM KRISHER Associated Press

TOLEDO, Ohio (AP) — Nearly four weeks into the United Auto Workers' strike against General Motors, employees are starting to feel the pinch of going without their regular paychecks.

They're scaling back at the grocery, giving up on eating at restaurants and some are taking on part-time jobs while trying to get by on weekly strike pay of \$250.

"In a couple of more weeks, I think everybody's going to be calling the bank or their creditors, going,

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 36 of 46

'Hey, probably going to be late or delinquent,'" said Mike Armentrout, who works at GM's transmission plant in Toledo.

While pressure is intensifying to reach a deal, the losses for both sides are mounting and spilling over into the auto supply chain.

Striking full-time workers are losing roughly \$1,000 each week, and that's not counting the overtime many of them make.

Dolphin Green, a temporary worker at an engine and transmission plant in the Detroit suburb of Romulus, Michigan, took a job washing dishes at a restaurant to help make ends meet.

"I'm willing to sacrifice as long as possible," he said.

He's only been with GM for four months, making just under \$16 per hour, but has hopes of going full-time so he can support a family.

Use of temporary workers has been a major issue in the contract negotiations, along with outsourcing work to other countries, a point that surfaced on Tuesday.

Green has cut spending and has a girlfriend with a good job. But he's worried about a child support payment coming up at the end of the month and has talked to his case worker about temporarily reducing the payments.

Dennis Earl, president of UAW Local 14 in Toledo, said the union is doing what it can to help workers by advising them how to deal with bills that are piling up.

The union hall's kitchen is serving meals around the clock and donations of food and household items are pouring in from other labor groups in the area. "Nobody's going to go hungry," he said.

"As this goes on and becomes more difficult, there's going to be some agitation, but for the most part these people are in it for the long haul," he said.

A Wall Street analyst estimates that GM has lost over \$1.6 billion since the work stoppage began, and is now losing about \$82 million per day. At some point, the losses will exceed what GM would save in holding out for more favorable terms from the union.

GM dealers across the country report still-healthy inventory on their lots, but they're running short of parts to fix their customers' vehicles, and some have had to cancel service appointments.

The strike immediately shut down about 30 GM factories across the U.S., essentially ending the company's production. Factories in Canada and Mexico remained open for a while, but one assembly plant in Canada and another in Mexico have been forced to shut down due to parts shortages. Analysts expect the closures to spread to the few remaining plants that are open.

Many workers stocked away emergency cash after being warned for months by union leaders about the possibility of a strike, but they said GM's temporary workers who make much less couldn't do that.

"We all knew this was coming for a long time, I'm set up. A lot of guys aren't in that same spot," said Tim Leiby, an eight-year employee in Toledo. "I've got all my bills paid, but I know some people who don't."

Still, he's cutting back on eating out, going to the movies and spending money on hobbies because "we don't know how long this will last."

He also said he has a cousin who won't talk to him now because the strike has shut down the welding shop where she works.

"It's affecting everybody, it's affecting families. Even families that don't work here," he said.

The Anderson Economic Group, a consulting firm in East Lansing, Michigan, estimates that 75,000 workers at auto parts supply companies have been laid off or had their wages reduced because of the strike.

That doesn't include waitresses, convenience store clerks and others who are seeing their hours cut because striking workers aren't out spending money.

Truck driver Glen Hodge, who hauls scrap metal from a stamping plant in Spring Hill, Tennessee, has been off the job the past three weeks.

Since then, he's filed for unemployment, dropped his cable TV package, stopped going out to eat with his wife and even cut back on dog treats. It upsets him a bit when he sees gift cards and donations pouring in for the striking workers.

"What about the rest of us?" he said on Wednesday. "There's a bunch of us sitting around getting nothing."

Krisher reported from Romulus, Michigan. Associated Press video journalist Mike Householder contributed to this report.

Defying impeachment inquiry, Trump makes charge more certain

By MARY CLARE JALONICK, MATTHEW DALY and JONATHAN LEMIRE Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The combative White House letter vowing to defy the “illegitimate” impeachment inquiry has actually put President Donald Trump on a more certain path to charges. His refusal to honor subpoenas or allow testimony would likely play into a formal accusation against him.

The letter sent to House leaders by White House Counsel Pat Cipollone Tuesday evening declared the president would not cooperate with the investigation — a clear reason, Democrats say, to write an article of impeachment charging him with obstruction.

The White House insists that a formal House vote is necessary just to start the impeachment process. But Democrats are moving ahead without one, confident for now that they are backed by the Constitution and Trump’s own acknowledgements of trying to persuade a foreign government to investigate a political foe.

“The White House should be warned that continued efforts to hide the truth of the president’s abuse of power from the American people will be regarded as further evidence of obstruction,” said House Speaker Nancy Pelosi in response to the letter. “Mr. President, you are not above the law. You will be held accountable.”

Trump again defended his decision not to cooperate, calling a whistleblower’s complaint about his call with Ukraine’s leader “a fraud being perpetrated on the American public” and saying Republicans are being treated unfairly. He repeated he was being vilified for “a perfect phone call.”

But the president also undercut his no-cooperation argument Wednesday by putting conditions on his willingness, saying he would cooperate only if the House held a vote and Democrats would “give us our rights.”

Bolstered by polls showing increased public support for impeachment, Pelosi has shown no signs of shifting her strategy. Democrats plan to continue investigating while focusing on the president’s own acknowledgements that he asked Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy to investigate his country’s involvement in the 2016 presidential election and also political rival Joe Biden and his family.

“The evidence provided by the president and his people has already been overwhelming,” even without additional witness testimony, said Connecticut Rep. Jim Himes. Himes is a Democratic member of the House intelligence committee, which is leading the Ukraine investigation.

The intelligence panel, along with the Foreign Affairs and Oversight and Government Reform panels, subpoenaed Gordon Sondland, the U.S. European Union ambassador, on Tuesday after Trump’s State Department barred him from showing up at a scheduled deposition. Texts provided by another diplomat last week showed Sondland and others navigating Trump’s demands for investigations as they spoke to Ukrainian government officials about a possible visit to Washington.

Trump’s stonewalling of impeachment comes as polls find that Americans are more likely to approve than disapprove of the inquiry, even as they divide on whether Trump should be removed from office. A new Washington Post-Schar School poll finds 58% supportive of the decision by Congress to launch an impeachment inquiry that could lead to Trump being removed from office. About half of all Americans also think Congress should remove Trump from office.

Still, the White House signaled it would not give an inch. Trump has taken to Twitter frequently to bash the probe, charging that the inquiry is not about anything more than partisan politics.

“The Do Nothing Democrats are Con Artists, only looking to hurt the Republican Party and President,” Trump wrote. “Their total focus is 2020, nothing more, and nothing less.”

After two weeks of an unfocused response to the impeachment probe, the White House letter amounted to the first volley in a strategy that is more defined — but one that carries its own risks.

“All that defiance does is add to the case” against the president, including obstruction of Congress, said

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 38 of 46

Virginia Rep. Gerry Connolly, a Democrat who sits on the Oversight and Foreign Affairs panels. He said the White House strategy actually works to convince the public of the president's guilt, citing the recent polls. "The public gets what's happening," Connolly said.

But Trump allies both inside and outside the West Wing were pleased at the shot the letter represented. They argue their best chance at winning the politics of impeachment is to emulate the just-say-no tactics they used for much of the special counsel's Russia probe and against other investigations launched by Democrats in the House majority.

By making the fight as contentious as possible, the White House hopes to convince voters that the impeachment process is simply about politics. They also want to push the proceedings into next year, when the first ballots of the 2020 primaries are cast. That would make it easier for Republicans to demand that impeachment be put aside in favor of letting the voters decide in November.

He also said that the impeachment fight will end up in the Supreme Court, but it's unclear whether Democrats will go to court at all and risk long delay. They could simply move to an article of impeachment on obstruction.

Aware of the risks, Democrats are planning to move quickly — unlike the two-year Russia investigation, which Republicans had ample time to try and discredit. Multiple subpoenas sent by the House panels — including to the White House, Cabinet agencies and Trump lawyer Rudy Giuliani — came with a deadline to respond within the next two weeks.

Fiona Hill, a former White House adviser who focused on Russia, is expected to meet with three House committees behind closed doors Monday, according to an official working on the impeachment inquiry who requested anonymity to discuss the confidential meeting.

As the House returns from a recess next Tuesday, the Democrats plan to hold hearings and votes to make their case, including legislation designed to improve the security of elections and prevent foreign interference. But they are so far declining to hold high profile hearings featuring fierce, argumentative allies of the president, including Giuliani, who was involved in the negotiations with Ukraine.

Democrats believe the president's own words are paramount to impeachment and don't want to distract from that.

But they will also continue to investigate.

"I think what we have is overwhelming evidence that the president has engaged in multiple wrongdoings," said Florida Rep. Val Demings, a member of both the intelligence and Judiciary panels. "But what we don't know is how much more is out there."

Associated Press writers Lisa Mascaro, Jill Colvin and Darlene Superville contributed.

Turkey begins offensive against Kurdish fighters in Syria

By **LEFTERIS PITARAKIS** and **SARAH EL DEEB** Associated Press

AKCAKALE, Turkey (AP) — Turkey launched airstrikes, fired artillery and began a ground offensive against Kurdish fighters in northern Syria on Wednesday after U.S. troops pulled back from the area, paving the way for an assault on forces that have long been allied with the United States.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan announced the start of the campaign, which followed the abrupt decision Sunday by U.S. President Donald Trump to essentially abandon the Syrian Kurdish fighters, leaving them vulnerable to a Turkish offensive that was widely condemned around the world.

The decision was a major shift in U.S. policy and drew opposition from all sides at home. It also marked a stark change in rhetoric by Trump, who during a press conference in New York last year vowed to stand by the Kurds, who have been America's only allies in Syria fighting the Islamic State group. Trump said at the time that the Kurds "fought with us" and "died with us," and insisted that America would never forget.

After Erdogan announced the offensive, Trump called the operation "a bad idea." Later Wednesday, he said he didn't want to be involved in "endless, senseless wars."

In northern Syria, residents of the border areas were in a panic and got out on foot, in cars and with

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 39 of 46

rickshaws piled with mattresses and a few belongings. It was a wrenchingly familiar scenario for the many who, only a few years ago, had fled the advances on their towns and villages by the Islamic State group.

Plumes of smoke could be seen rising near the town of Qamishli and clashes continued late Wednesday amid intense shelling as Turkey struck at least six different border towns along a 290-mile (300-kilometer) stretch. At least seven civilians and three members of the Kurdish-led force known as the Syrian Democratic Forces were killed in the Turkish bombardment, Kurdish activists and a Syria war monitor said.

Turkey's campaign — in which a NATO member rained down bombs on an area where hundreds of U.S. troops had been stationed — drew immediate criticism and calls for restraint from Europe. In his statement, Trump emphasized that there are no American soldiers in the immediate area under attack.

"Our mission is to prevent the creation of a terror corridor across our southern border, and to bring peace to the area," Erdogan said in a tweet announcing what he called "Operation Peace Spring."

He said that Turkish forces, with Ankara-backed Syrian fighters known as the Syrian National Army, had begun to eradicate what he called "the threat of terror" against Turkey.

Mustafa Bali, a spokesman for the U.S.-backed SDF, said Turkish warplanes were targeting "civilian areas" in northern Syria and that shells also had fallen near a prison guarded by Kurds and holding some of the most dangerous IS militants. The AP could not verify the report independently.

In Washington, officials said two British militants believed to be part of an Islamic State group that beheaded hostages and was known as "The Beatles" had been moved out of a detention center in Syria and were in U.S. custody.

Before Turkey's attack, Syrian Kurdish forces who control nearly 30 percent of Syria's territory warned of a "humanitarian catastrophe." More than 2 million people live in the area impacted by the attacks, according to aid groups.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said those killed in the Turkish bombardments included two Christian Assyrians in Qamishli, a married couple and their child, a man in a village outside the town of Tal Abyad, and a child in a village west of Qamishli.

The Turkish operation meant to create a "safe zone" carries potential gains and risk for Turkey by getting its forces even more deeply involved in the Syria war. It also ignites new fighting in Syria's 8-year-old war, potentially displacing hundreds of thousands.

A resident of Tal Abyad said one of the bombs hit an SDF post, and he fled with his wife and mother by car to Raqqa, nearly 100 kilometers (60 miles) to the south, to flee the bombing. The resident, who gave his name as Maher, said the road to Raqqa was packed with vehicles and families, some fleeing on foot "to get away from the bombing."

"People fled and left everything behind," he said in a text message after he reached safety.

Turkey has long threatened to attack the Kurdish fighters that Ankara considers terrorists allied with a Kurdish insurgency in Turkey. Expectations of an invasion increased after Trump's announcement Sunday, although he also threatened to "totally destroy and obliterate" Turkey's economy if the Turkish push went too far.

U.S. critics said he was sacrificing an ally, the Syrian Kurdish forces, and undermining Washington's credibility. Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham, a Trump ally, told "Fox & Friends" that if Trump "follows through with this, it would be the biggest mistake of his presidency."

Trump later said the U.S. "does not endorse this attack and has made it clear to Turkey that this operation is a bad idea."

Trump said he made clear from the start of his political career that "I did not want to fight these endless, senseless wars — especially those that don't benefit the United States. Turkey has committed to protecting civilians, protecting religious minorities, including Christians, and ensuring no humanitarian crisis takes place — and we will hold them to this commitment."

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg, while noting that Turkey "has legitimate security concerns" after suffering "horrendous terrorist attacks" and hosting thousands of refugees, said the country should not "further destabilize the region" with its military action in Syria.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 40 of 46

German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas condemned the offensive, saying it will “further destabilize the region and strengthen IS.” The operation also was criticized by European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker.

The EU is paying Turkey 6 billion euros (\$6.6 billion) to help the country cope with almost 4 million Syrian refugees on its territory in exchange for stopping migrants leaving for Europe.

The Turkish presidency’s communications director urged the international community to rally behind Ankara. In a Washington Post column published Wednesday, Fahrettin Altun said Turkey aimed to “neutralize” Syrian Kurdish militants in northeastern Syria and to “liberate the local population from the yoke of the armed thugs.”

Erdogan discussed the incursion by phone with Russian President Vladimir Putin. Erdogan’s office said he told Putin the military action “will contribute to the peace and stability” and allow for a political process in Syria.

In its call for a general mobilization, the local civilian Kurdish authority known as the Autonomous Administration of North and East Syria asked the global community to fulfill its responsibilities and for the U.S.-led coalition to set up a no-fly zone in northeastern Syria to protect the civilian population from Turkish airstrikes.

The Syrian Kurdish group urged Moscow to broker talks with the Syrian government in Damascus in light of the Turkish operation. The Syrian Kurdish-led administration said it viewed positively calls from Moscow encouraging the Kurds and the Syrian government to settle their difference through talks.

Syria’s Foreign Ministry condemned Turkey’s military strike, calling it a “blatant violation” of international law and vowing to repel the incursion.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov accused Washington of playing “very dangerous games” with the Syrian Kurds, saying the U.S. first propped up the Kurdish “quasi state” in Syria and now is withdrawing support.

“Such reckless attitude to this highly sensitive subject can set fire to the entire region, and we have to avoid it at any cost,” he said in Kazakhstan.

Earlier Wednesday, three IS militants targeted the SDF in Raqqa, once the de facto IS capital at the height of the militants’ power. An activist collective in Raqqa reported an exchange of fire and an explosion; the Observatory said two IS fighters engaged in a shootout before blowing themselves up.

IS claimed responsibility, saying one of its members killed or wounded 13 SDF members.

The SDF, which holds thousands of IS fighters in detention facilities in northeastern Syria, has warned that a Turkish incursion might lead to the resurgence of the extremists. The U.S.-allied Kurdish-led force captured the last IS area controlled by the militants in eastern Syria in March.

El Deeb reported from Beirut. Associated Press writers Suzan Fraser in Ankara, Turkey; Mehmet Guzel in Akcakale, Turkey; Nasser Karimi in Tehran, Iran; Nataliya Vasilyeva in Moscow; and Bassem Mroue in Beirut contributed.

Shooting latest indication of increasing anti-Semitism

By The Associated Press Associated Press

The shooting that left two dead and several injured in Halle, Germany, on Wednesday — when Jews celebrated Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the year for their faith — has shined a spotlight on the worldwide rise of anti-Semitic incidents.

The attack in Germany, where investigators are pursuing anti-Semitic motives after the assailant reportedly shot at the door of a synagogue in an attempt to gain entry, drew swift condemnation from United Nations Secretary General António Guterres and renewed calls from Jewish groups in the U.S. to step up cooperation in combating anti-Semitism.

“We have been saying for several years that anti-Semitism is real, it’s resurgent, it’s lethal and it’s multi-sourced,” American Jewish Committee CEO David Harris said in an interview.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 41 of 46

Harris added that Wednesday's Yom Kippur attack in Halle, coming on the heels of the one-year anniversary of an anti-Semitic shooting that killed 11 worshippers at Pittsburgh's Tree of Life synagogue, "should all be triggering alarm bells. The question is whether they are."

Robert Bank, President and CEO of American Jewish World Service, issued a statement calling on people "of every background around the world to combat the increasing waves of hatred and intolerance against all people, including anti-Semitic, racist, Islamophobic, misogynistic, homophobic and transphobic violence."

A brief look at the state of global anti-Semitism:

UNITED STATES AND CANADA

The Anti-Defamation League, which called the Germany shooting "heartbreaking" in a Wednesday statement, reported earlier this year that violent anti-Semitic episodes in the United States doubled in 2018. Wednesday's holy day of Yom Kippur also saw an anti-Semitic incident reported in New York, where Gov. Andrew Cuomo issued a statement condemning what he called "the desecration of a Holocaust memorial" in the city of White Plains on the eve of the holiday.

In Canada, the government reported a 4% dip in anti-Semitic attacks last year — but only after a sharp rise in 2017.

EUROPE

Anti-Semitism is a top concern in Germany, where data shows reported, anti-Semitic incidents rose 10% last year, according to Tel Aviv University's Kantor Center, and where the trial of a group of alleged neo-Nazis for planning an attack in Berlin began last week. Chancellor Angela Merkel's government earlier this year affirmed its commitment to protecting Jews who wear skullcaps from anti-Semitic threats.

But beyond Germany, several other nations are grappling with spiking reports of anti-Semitic sentiment as well as behavior.

In the United Kingdom, the Community Security Trust charity recently reported a 10% rise in anti-Semitic incidents during the first six months of this year. In the Czech Republic, the Federation of the Jewish Communities reported a rise in anti-Semitic incidents last year.

'We're not alone' - 'Sesame Street' tackles addiction crisis

By **MARK KENNEDY AP Entertainment Writer**

NEW YORK (AP) — "Sesame Street" is taking a new step to try to help kids navigate life in America — it's tackling the opioid crisis.

Sesame Workshop is exploring the backstory of Karli, a bright green, yellow-haired friend of Elmo's whose mother is battling addiction. The initiative is part of the Sesame Street in Communities resources available online.

"Sesame Street" creators said they turned to the issue of addiction since data shows 5.7 million children under age 11 live in households with a parent with substance use disorder.

"There's nothing else out there that addresses substance abuse for young, young kids from their perspective," said Kama Einhorn, a senior content manager with Sesame Workshop. It's also a chance to model to adults a way to explain what they're going through to kids and to offer simple strategies to cope.

"Even a parent at their most vulnerable — at the worst of their struggle — can take one thing away when they watch it with their kids, then that serves the purpose," Einhorn said.

This summer in Manhattan, The Associated Press looked on as puppeteers, producers and show creators crammed into a small studio in the nonprofit's Manhattan headquarters to tape some of the upcoming segments.

Karli, voiced and manipulated by puppeteer Haley Jenkins, was joined by a young girl — 10-year-old Salia Woodbury, whose parents are in recovery.

"Hi, it's me, Karli. I'm here with my friend Salia. Both of our parents have had the same problem — addiction," Karli told the camera.

"My mom and dad told me that addiction is a sickness," Salia said.

"Yeah, a sickness that makes people feel like they have to take drugs or drink alcohol to feel OK. My

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 42 of 46

mom was having a hard time with addiction and I felt like my family was the only one going through it. But now I've met so many other kids like us. It makes me feel like we're not alone," the puppet continued.

"Right, we're not alone," Salia responded. "And it's OK to open up to people about our feelings."

In the segment, Karli and Salia each hold up hand-drawn pictures of flowers, with multiple petals representing "big feelings" — like anger, sadness and happiness. They offer ways to feel better, including art and breathing exercises.

The segment leans on carefully considered language. Creators prefer "addiction" to "substance abuse" and "recovery" to "sobriety" because those terms are clearer to children. Despite the subject, the mood was light in the room, largely thanks to Jenkins' calm and empathic manner.

"I know it feels awkward because people don't normally have conversations standing shoulder-to-shoulder," she told Salia between takes. "This is weird, but trust me, it looks good."

Karli had already been introduced as a puppet in foster care earlier this year but viewers now will understand why her mother had to go away for a while. The introduction of her backstory follows other attempts by entertainment companies to explore the issues of addiction, including "The Connors" on ABC and "Euphoria" on HBO.

The online-only segments with Karli and Salia are augmented with ones that feature Elmo's dad, Louie, explaining that addiction is a sickness, and Karli telling Elmo and Chris about her mom's special adult meetings and her own kids' ones.

Karli also opens up about her family to Abby Cadabby in another segment, and Karli tells Elmo about how she mistakenly used to feel like her mom's addiction was her fault. Karli, Elmo, Rosita and Abby Cadabby also sing "We're Special and So Are You." Viewers are referred to free online resources in both English and Spanish that include videos, storybooks, digital interactives and games.

Children's therapist Jerry Moe, the national director of the Hazelden Betty Ford Children's Program, helped craft the segments and resources, saying he was grateful to help since there's been a paucity of resources for the preschool age-group.

"These boys and girls are the first to get hurt and, unfortunately, the last to get help," he said. "For them to see Karli and learn that it's not their fault and this stuff is hard to talk about and it's OK to have these feelings, that's important. And that there's hope."

"Sesame Street," which began airing in 1969, has a long history of tackling topical issues in a way approachable to children. It's had puppets with HIV, jailed parents and autism, explored homelessness, women's rights and even girls singing about loving their hair.

"For everything we've done — from military families to homelessness — it's all about how to make children free to talk and to give parents the tools to do just that. They tend to avoid it and it's what they need more than anything," said Sherrie Westin, president of global impact and philanthropy for Sesame Workshop.

Salia's parents — Sam and Jaana Woodbury, who are raising four girls in Orange County, California — said they welcomed the show's attention on opioid and alcohol addiction. They've been in recovery for about eight years.

"When I was going through addiction, I felt extremely alone and isolated. I didn't have any connection to the outside world," said Jaana Woodbury. "I think it's amazing that 'Sesame Street' is using their platform to share resources to help other women and fathers."

At the end of the taped segment with Karli and Salia, the puppet turns to the girl. "I'm so glad we're friends, Salia," Karli said.

"Me, too, Karli," Salia responds.

"Can I have a hug?" Karli asks.

"OK," says her friend.

And they do.

Mark Kennedy is at <http://twitter.com/KennedyTwits>

A year after Michael, Florida community still in crisis

By MIKE SCHNEIDER Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — A year after Hurricane Michael, the Florida county hardest hit by the Category 5 storm is still in crisis: Thousands in Bay County are homeless, medical care and housing are at a premium, domestic violence has become a problem and severely diminished mental health services are overwhelmed with backlogs.

Michael, among the strongest hurricanes ever to make landfall in the United States, barreled onto the Florida Panhandle on Oct. 10, 2018, with 160 mph (257 kph) winds, ripping homes from their foundations, flattening others and utterly devastating Tyndall Air Force Base, home to 11,000 airmen. It left 22,000 of Bay County's then-180,000 residents homeless and resulted in total insured losses of almost \$7 billion.

This summer, county officials unveiled a nearly 300-page blueprint to rebuild. Among their ideas is to use shipping containers and 3-D technology to build new houses and to offer signing bonuses for doctors to replace those who fled when their offices and equipment were destroyed.

They have their work cut out for them: About 5,000 people are still homeless and rent for the few available living quarters has skyrocketed. About 1 in 6 insurance claims are still unresolved, and local government officials are worried about depleted tax coffers as small businesses struggle to reopen. Bay County schools have lost more than 1 in 8 students, which will affect the amount of state education funding they receive.

"The community at large is suffering from trauma and grief," officials said in their report, released in July. "Citizens are fatigued, tired and anxious."

Teri Powell Hord, whose Panama City neighborhood was blasted by Michael, said haggling with insurance companies and contractors has dragged out the recovery process and is taking its toll on residents' mental health.

"It's frustrating," Hord said.

More people than ever before are in need of mental health services. Such services were fairly limited before Michael hit. Now, officials said in their report, they are "taxed well beyond capacity."

During the past school year alone, 125 students in Bay County schools were placed in custody for a mental health evaluation under Florida's Baker Act. Because the hurricane left standing only one medical center that can receive Baker Act patients, students were sent to facilities as far as 580 miles (933 kms) away.

The school district has a waitlist of 350 students who need mental health services, and the county at large lost 40 percent of its behavioral health specialists after the storm.

"We are in the midst of a mental health crisis here in Bay County," school district officials concluded in a report.

County officials also said they had seen a disturbing amount of domestic violence cases but did not provide details immediately. Health care also has suffered.

Several months after the hurricane, Daniel Steele's fiancée, Rebecca Akins, started having breathing problems that he thinks were caused by storm-related mold in their home outside Panama City. He took her to the damaged hospital, Bay Medical Center, but it had lost its intensive care unit. Akins eventually was taken to a hospital in Pensacola, 140 miles (225 kms) away.

"The hospital was devastated by the storm and there's still no ICU. What's up with that?" Steele said.

One of the county's two hospitals, heavily damaged by the storm, has only about a quarter of the beds it did before.

The Bay County recovery blueprint calls for signing bonuses, slashed taxes and student loan forgiveness to physicians and mental health providers who come to Bay County. It recommends building a new hospital in Panama City Beach, a section of the county largely spared the worst of the damage, and enhancing security during emergencies at clinics that house pharmaceuticals. It also calls for acquiring block housing — a large number of apartments in the same building or trailer park — to house mental health providers.

In August, Florida first lady Casey DeSantis announced the installation of 63 "telehealth" kiosks where students in public schools that were affected by the hurricane can speak to a mental health professional

remotely.

Building affordable housing is another priority for the county — both for residents whose homes were damaged or destroyed and the influx of construction workers who are helping to rebuild. Hurricane Michael damaged an estimated 60,000 homes. Since the storm, rental prices have spiked. There have been increases in foreclosures as residents who lost their jobs struggled to keep up with mortgage payments.

County leaders are in talks with private builders to construct new affordable housing quickly through nontraditional means such as 3-D printing, modular construction and tiny houses.

"It's a chicken and an egg thing," said Panama City manager Mark McQueen. "You can't get employees until you get housing. You can't get housing without construction workers. We are in a vulnerable state of our recovery without housing. It crosses every sector of our community."

Associated Press reporter Jay Reeves in Birmingham, Alabama, contributed to this report.

Follow Mike Schneider on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/MikeSchneiderAP>

Good luck? US, China to begin 13th round of trade talks

By PAUL WISEMAN AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. and Chinese negotiators are scheduled to begin a 13th round of talks Thursday aimed at ending a 15-month trade war that is worrying global investors and weighing on the world economy.

Chinese Vice Premier Liu He will lead a delegation into meetings in Washington with U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin.

The world's two biggest economies are deadlocked over U.S. allegations that China steals technology and pressures foreign companies to hand over trade secrets as part of a sharp-elbowed drive to become a world leader in advanced industries such as robotics and self-driving cars.

Under President Donald Trump, the United States has slapped tariffs on more than \$360 billion worth of Chinese imports and is planning to hit another \$160 billion Dec. 15. That would extend to import taxes to virtually everything China ships to the United States. China has hit back by targeting about \$120 billion in U.S. goods, focusing on farm products.

The high cost of the tariffs and uncertainty over when and how the trade war will end have taken an economic toll, especially on manufacturing companies. A private survey last week found that U.S. factory output had dropped to its lowest level since 2009, when the economy was in the grips of a deep recession.

Expectations for this week's talks are low. Beijing has been reluctant to make the kind of substantive policy reforms that would satisfy Washington. Doing so likely would require scaling back the Chinese leaders' aspirations to technological dominance they see as crucial to their country's future prosperity.

"I'm driving a tough bargain, but I have to," Trump told reporters at the White House Wednesday.

Asian shares mostly higher amid renewed trade deal hopes

By YURI KAGEYAMA AP Business Writer

TOKYO (AP) — Asian shares were mixed Thursday following broad gains on Wall Street as investors pondered mixed reports on the likelihood of progress in resolving the trade war between the U.S. and China.

Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 added 0.3% to 21,509.54 in early trading. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 lost nearly 0.1% to 6,543.40, while South Korea's Kospi lost 0.8% to 2,029.23. India's Sensex skidded 0.4% to 38,050.81.

Hong Kong's Hang Seng picked up 0.2% to 25,726.60. The Shanghai Composite rose 0.2% to 2,930.35. Shares fell in Singapore and Thailand but rose in Jakarta.

"Updates on U.S.-China trade keep their grip on markets as we await the commencement of trade talks going into Thursday," says Jingyi Pan, market strategist at IG in Singapore.

A day after escalating trade tensions led to a sharp sell-off, investors drew encouragement from reports

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 45 of 46

that Beijing signaled it is open to a partial deal. Washington and Beijing are scheduled to begin a 13th round of trade negotiations on Thursday.

But a report by the Hong Kong newspaper South China Morning Post saying that preliminary talks for the meetings did not go well doused some of that enthusiasm.

The S&P 500 rose 0.9% to 2,919.40. The Dow Jones Industrial Average gained 0.7% to 26,346.01. The Nasdaq picked up 1% to 7,903.74 and the Russell 2000 index of smaller company stocks added 0.5%, to 1,479.46.

Washington and Beijing had held off from further escalating the conflict up until this week, when the U.S. blacklisted a group of Chinese technology companies over alleged human rights violations.

The trade war between the U.S. and China has dragged on for 15 months, inflicting economic damage on both countries. The two sides have raised import duties on billions of dollars of each other's goods, fueling fears their dispute might tip the global economy into recession.

All told, the Trump administration has imposed tariffs on more than \$360 billion worth of Chinese goods and plans to tax an additional \$160 billion of imports on Dec. 15. This would extend U.S. tariffs to just about everything China ships to the United States. China has counterpunched by taxing \$120 billion in U.S. exports, notably soybeans and other farm goods.

ENERGY: Benchmark crude oil fell 11 cents to \$52.48 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. It fell 4 cents to \$52.59 a barrel Wednesday. Brent crude oil, the international standard, lost 10 cents to \$58.22 a barrel.

CURRENCIES: The dollar was unchanged at 107.46 Japanese yen. The euro also was little changed, at \$1.0991, up from \$1.0989 on Wednesday.

AP Business Writers Alex Veiga and Damian J. Troise contributed.

Today in History By The Associated Press undefined

Today in History

Today is Thursday, Oct. 10, the 283rd day of 2019. There are 82 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 10, 2001, U.S. jets pounded the Afghan capital of Kabul. President George W. Bush unveiled a list of 22 most-wanted terrorists, including Osama bin Laden.

On this date:

In 1845, the U.S. Naval Academy was established in Annapolis, Maryland.

In 1913, the Panama Canal was effectively completed as President Woodrow Wilson sent a signal from the White House by telegraph, setting off explosives that destroyed a section of the Gamboa dike.

In 1938, Nazi Germany completed its annexation of Czechoslovakia's Sudetenland (soo-DAYT'-uhn-land).

In 1943, Chiang Kai-shek took the oath of office as president of China.

In 1957, President Dwight D. Eisenhower apologized to the finance minister of Ghana, Komla Agbeli Gbedemah, after the official was refused seating in a Howard Johnson's restaurant near Dover, Delaware.

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy, responding to the Thalidomide birth defects crisis, signed an amendment to the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act requiring pharmaceutical companies to prove that their products were safe and effective prior to marketing.

In 1964, the first Summer Olympics to be held in Asia were opened in Tokyo by Japanese Emperor Hirohito. Entertainer Eddie Cantor, 72, died in Beverly Hills, California.

In 1967, the Outer Space Treaty, prohibiting the placing of weapons of mass destruction on the moon or elsewhere in space, entered into force.

In 1973, Vice President Spiro T. Agnew, accused of accepting bribes, pleaded no contest to one count of federal income tax evasion, and resigned his office.

In 1985, U.S. fighter jets forced an Egyptian plane carrying the hijackers of the Italian cruise ship Achille

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019 ~ Vol. 28 - No. 101 ~ 46 of 46

Lauro (ah-KEE'-leh LOW'-roh) to land in Italy, where the gunmen were taken into custody. Actor-director Orson Welles died in Los Angeles at age 70; actor Yul Brynner died in New York at age 65.

In 1997, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and its coordinator, Jody Williams, were named winners of the Nobel Peace Prize.

In 2004, Christopher Reeve, the "Superman" of celluloid who became a quadriplegic after a May 1995 horse riding accident, died in Mount Kisco, New York, at age 52.

Ten years ago: Turkey and Armenia signed a landmark agreement to establish diplomatic relations and open their sealed border after a century of enmity. President Barack Obama, addressing the Human Rights Campaign, restated his campaign pledge to allow homosexual men and women to serve openly in the military.

Five years ago: Malala Yousafzai (mah-LAH'-lah YOO'-suhf-zeye), a 17-year-old Pakistani girl, and Kailash Satyarthi (KY'-lash saht-YAHR'-thee), a 60-year-old Indian man, were jointly awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for risking their lives for the right of children to receive an education and to live free from abuse.

One year ago: Stocks plunged as investors feared that rising interest rates and trade tensions could hurt company profits; the Dow industrials fell 831 points, the worst loss for the index in eight months. President Donald Trump, reacting to the market turmoil, said the Federal Reserve was "making a mistake" with its campaign of rate increases. Trump demanded answers from Saudi Arabia about the fate of missing Saudi writer Jamal Khashoggi (jah-MAHL' khahr-SHOHK'-jee), as lawmakers pushed for sanctions. Hurricane Michael slammed into the Florida Panhandle with winds of 155 miles per hour, splintering homes and submerging neighborhoods, before continuing into south Georgia as a Category 3 hurricane.

Today's Birthdays: Former Illinois Sen. Adlai Stevenson III is 89. Actor Peter Coyote is 78. Entertainer Ben Vereen is 73. Singer John Prine is 73. Actor Charles Dance is 73. Rock singer-musician Cyril Neville (The Neville Brothers) is 71. Actress Jessica Harper is 70. Author Nora Roberts (aka "J.D. Robb") is 69. Singer-musician Midge Ure is 66. Rock singer David Lee Roth is 65. Actor J. Eddie Peck is 61. Country singer Tanya Tucker is 61. Actress Julia Sweeney is 60. Actor Bradley Whitford is 60. Musician Martin Kemp is 58. Actress Jodi Benson is 58. Rock musician Jim Glennie (James) is 56. Actress Rebecca Pidgeon is 54. Rock musician Mike Malinin (mah-LIHN'-ihn) (Goo Goo Dolls) is 52. Pro Football Hall of Famer Brett Favre is 50. Actor Manu Bennett is 50. Actress Joelle Carter is 50. Actress Wendi McLendon-Covey is 50. Actor/TV host Mario Lopez is 46. Retired race car driver Dale Earnhardt Jr. is 45. Actress Jodi Lyn O'Keefe is 41. Singer Mya is 40. Actor Dan Stevens is 37. Singer Cherie is 35. MLB outfielder Andrew McCutchen is 33. Actress Rose McIver is 31. Actress Aimee Teegarden is 30.

Thought for Today: "We're born alone, we live alone, we die alone. Only through our love and friendship can we create the illusion for the moment that we're not alone." — Orson Welles (1915-1985).

Copyright 2019, The Associated Press. All rights reserved.