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Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

Saturday, October 19, 2019

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.: Groton Pumpkin Fest
Oral Interp at Florence High School
Robotics at GHS Gymnasium

Volleyball: Girls Varsity Tournament at Milbank High School

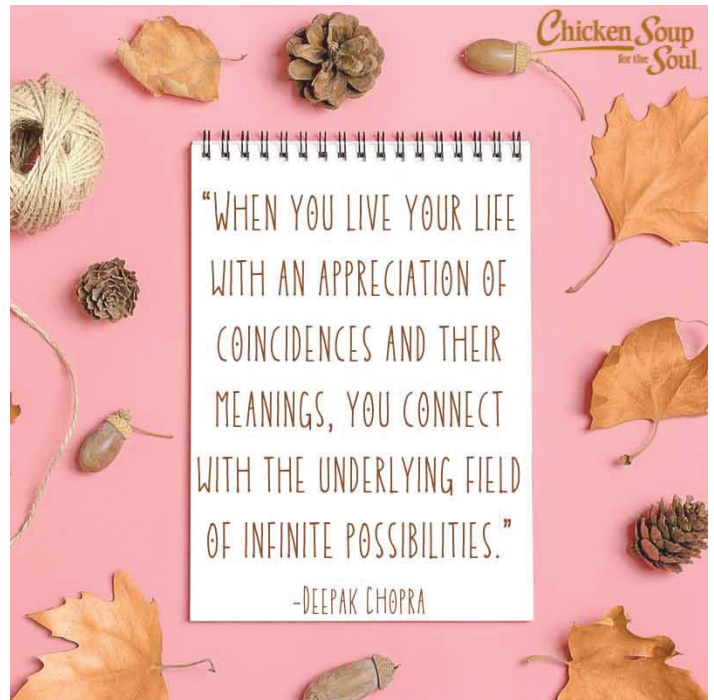
8 a.m.: Groton Area vs. Clark/Willow Lake at Milbank High School Armory (west court)

11 a.m.: Groton Area vs. Aberdeen Christian at Milbank High School Armory (west court)

Next match at 1:30 p.m. with the third place match at 3:30 p.m. and the championship match at 4:30 p.m.

OPEN: Recycling Trailer in Groton

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



Jackson Cogley gets ready to give the football a good kick. (Photo by Julianna Kosel)

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Hanson gets 101st win as Groton beats Clark-Willow Lake

Groton Area's volleyball team defeated Clark-Willow Lake in the first match in the Milbank Tournament held Saturday. Game scores were 25-17 and 25-8. This win was Coach Chelsea Hanson's 101st win in Groton.

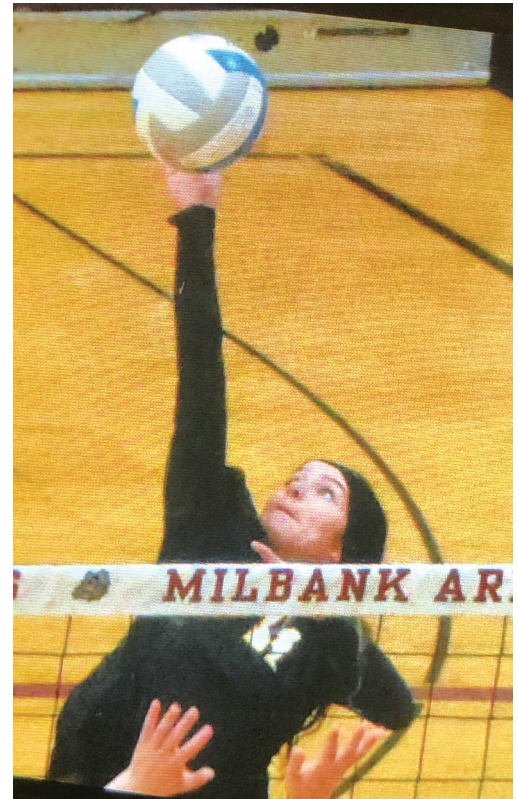
The match was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Milbrandt Enterprises Inc., C & B Operations, Weber Landscaping, Karma Salon, Groton American Legion Post #39 and Dakota Risk Management.

The first game was tied seven times with three lead changes before the Tigers took a 9-7 lead. Tadyn Glover had the game winning ace serve. Eliza Wanner had eight kills while Nicole Marzahn had seven, Indigo Rogers had two kills and Madeline Fliehs had one. Glover and Payton Colestock each had two ace serves.

Groton Area jumped out to an 11-0 lead in the second game and went on for the 25-8 win. Clark-Willow Lake had only two earned points in the second game Glover had the game winning ace serve. Marzahn had five kills, Wanner three, Rogers and Stella Meier each had two. Colestock had five ace serves in this game while Wanner, Kucker and Grace Wambach each had one ace serve.

- Paul Kosel

Vs Clark	Digs	Kills	Aces	Assists
Nicole Marzahn	7	12	0	0
Eliza Wanner	10	12	1	1
Indigo Rogers	2	4	0	0
Kaylin Kucker	1	2	1	27
Stella Meier	1	0	0	0
Madeline Fliehs	0	0	0	0
Payton Colestock	2	0	5	0
Tadyn Glover	4	0	3	0
Grace Wambach	2	0	1	0



Eliza Wanner reaches high in the air to get this attack. (Photo by

Jeslyn Kosel)

Groton Area beats Aberdeen Christian

Two Brown County teams played each other at the second match of the Milbank Tournament on Saturday. Groton Area defeated Aberdeen Roncalli, 2-0.

The first game went extra points. Aberdeen Christian had the early lead before Groton Area came back to tie the game at five and six. The Tigers then scored four straight points to take a 10-6 lead. Groton Area led, 22-18, but the Knights came back to tie the game at 23 and 24 and then took a 25-24 lead. The game was tied at 25 and 26 before Groton Area took the lead, 27-26. The game was tied at 27 before Groton Area scored the last two points for the 29-27 win as a serving error gave the Tigers the win.

In the first game, Aberdeen Christian had six serving errors while Groton Area had two. Eliza Wanner led the Tigers with eight points and an ace serve while Nicole Marzahn had four kills, Indigo Rogers had three kills, Madeline Flihs two kills and Stella Meier and Kaylin Kucker each had one kill. Wanner and Kucker each had an ace serve.

Groton Area dominated the second game as Aberdeen Christian earned only five of its 11 points. Groton Area won the game, 25-11. Marzahn had four kills, two ace serves and a block, Wanner had three kills, Meier had three kills and a block and Kucker had two ace serves.

Groton Area will play Aberdeen Roncalli at 1:30 p.m Saturday with the winner advancing to the championship match at 4:30 p.m. and the loser playing for third at 3:30 p.m.

- Paul Kosel



Kaylin Kucker sets up the ball for Madeline Flihs and Nicole Marzahn.

(Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)

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Mobridge-Pollock beats Groton Area in the Battle of the Tigers

It was the annual Battle of the Tigers Friday in Mobridge with the home team of Mobridge-Pollock posting a 34-12 win over Groton Area.

The game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Groton Chiropractic Clinic, Allied Climate Professionals, DeHoet Trucking, Bahr Spray Foam, Doug Abeln Seed Company, Hanlon Brothers, Mike-N-Jo's Body-N-Glass, Olson Development, Milbrandt Enterprises Inc., Aberdeen Chrysler Center, BaseKamp Lodge, Groton Auto Works and the John Sieh Agency.

Mobridge-Pollock scored on its first possession after Groton Area failed to get a first down on fourth and one at the 43 yard line. Mobridge-Pollock would get one first down and then would score on third and four with 5:17 left in the first quarter on a 29 yard pass play from Caden Halsey to Gavin Zimmer. The PAT kick was good and it was 7-0.

Groton Area would score midway in the second quarter with the drive starting at its own 25 yard line. The Tigers got three first downs and the ball down to the Mobridge-Pollock 15 yard line. Brodyn DeHoet would score on a 15-yard pass from Kaden Kurtz. The PAT kick was no good and it was 7-6, Mobridge-Pollock.

Mobridge-Pollock would punt on fourth and 22. The punt was blocked and Groton Area secured the ball at the Mobridge-Pollock 23 yard line. Two costly penalties by Groton Area foiled the touchdown attempt and the Tigers ended up punting on fourth and 24.

Mobridge-Pollock would start the next drive at its own nine-yard line. Mobridge-Pollock would get four first downs and it was first and goal at the Tigers five yard line. Braden Goehring would punch it in with 1:26 left in the first half. The two-point conversion failed and it was 13-7, Mobridge-Pollock, at half time

Mobridge-Pollock would receive the opening kickoff of the second half and started at its own 40 yard line. The Tigers would get three first downs before Caden Halsey would score on a four-yard run with 8:16 left in the third quarter. Groton Area only had four plays on its drive, punting it away and Mobridge-Pollock would start at the Groton Area 40 yard line. The Tigers would get two first downs and Bryston Goehring would make an 11-yard catch to score. The PAT was kicked and it was 27-6.

A big first down and the Groton Area Tigers were first and goal at the Mobridge-Pollock five-yard line. Kaden Kurtz would score on a five-yard run 2:33 to go in the third quarter. The PAT pass attempt was no good and it was 27-12.

Mobridge-Pollock would fumble which was recovered by Trey Gengerke. Groton Area had the ball right a midfield, but ended up punting right away in the fourth quarter on fourth and 15.

Both teams would fumble the ball in four plays with the latter fumble being recovered by Mobridge-Pollock as the Tigers started at the Groton Area 35 yard line.

	School	Seed Points	W-L
1	Bridgewater-Emerly/Ethan	46.875	8-0
2	Winner	46.875	8-0
3	Webster Area	45.750	8-0
4	Mobridge-Pollock	44.125	7-1
5	McCook Central/Montrose	43.750	7-1
6	Mt. Vernon/Plankinton	43.125	6-2
7	St. Thomas More	43.000	7-1
8	Sioux Valley	41.750	5-3
8	Sisseton	41.750	5-3
10	Elk Point-Jefferson	41.125	4-4
11	Chamberlain	41.000	5-3
12	Stanley County	40.125	3-5
13	Garretson	39.750	3-5
14	Groton Area	39.625	4-4
15	Lead-Deadwood	39.375	3-5
16	Hot Springs	39.250	4-4

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Mobridge-Pollock was down to the seven yard line, but ended up punting on first and goal at the 33 yard line. Mobridge-Pollock's Bryston Goehring would intercept the ball and return it 42 yards with 61 seconds to go in the game. The PAT kick was good and the final score ended up, 34-12.

Mobridge-Pollock would have more first downs, 17-9, more yards rushing, 209-81, and more yards passing, 131-119.

Jonathan Doeden would have 31 yards rushing, 34 yards receiving, 15 tackles and one sack. Kaden Kurtz would have 25 yards rushing, threw for 119 yards, had 12 tackles and one sack. Austin Jones had 11 tackles while Trey Gengerke and Chandler Larson each had a fumble recovery.

Groton Area, now 4-4 on the season, will travel to Webster on Thursday for the first round of the football playoffs.

- Paul Kosel

	GROTON AREA		MOBRIDGE-POLLOCK
First Downs	9		17
Rushing	29-81		41-209
Jonathan Doeden	13-31	Caden Halsey	27-157
Kaden Kurtz	13-25	Trace Cerney	7-29
Darrien Shabazz	1-6	Braden Goehring	6-17
Thomas Cranford	2-18	Reese Cerney	1-6
Passing			
Kaden Kurtz	6-11-119-1TD, 1Int.	Caden Halsey	13-17-131-2TD
Receivers			
Brodyn DeHoet	3-72	Braden Goehring	7-70
Jonathan Doeden	2-34	Gavin Zimmer	1-29
Thomas Cranford	1-13	Bryston Goehring	1-11
Fumbles	Had 1 lost 1		Had 2 lost 2
Penalties	8-60		6-59
Defense			
Jonathan Doeden	15 tackles, 1 sack	Trace Cerney	11 tackles
Kaden Kurtz	12 tackles, 1 sack	Jacob Steiger	6 tackles
Austin Jones	11 tackles		
Trey Gengerke	1 fumble recovery, 1 sack		
Chandler Larson	1 fumble recovery		
Peyton Johnson	1 sack		
Record	4-4		6-1

Scoring

First Quarter

5:17 M-P - Gavin Zimmer 29 yard pass from Caden Halsey (PAT kicked by Paul Mueller)

Second Quarter

7:31 Groton - Brodyn DeHoet 15 yard pass from Kaden Kurtz (PAT kick no good)

1:26 M-P - Braden Goehring, 5 yard run. (PAT run no good)

Third Quarter

8:16 M-P - Caden Halsey 4 yard run. (PAT kicked by Paul Mueller)

3:38 M-P - Bryston Goehring 11 yard pass from Caden Halsey. (PAT kicked by Paul Mueller)

2:33 Groton - Kaden Kurtz 5 yard run. (PAT run failed)

Fourth Quarter

1:01 M-P Bryston Goehring 42 yard interception return. (PAT kicked by Paul Mueller)

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Today



Sunny

High: 60 °F

Tonight



Increasing
Clouds

Low: 37 °F

Sunday



Showers
Likely

High: 54 °F

Sunday
Night



Showers
Likely

Low: 42 °F

Monday



Rain Likely
and Windy

High: 46 °F

Cooling Down Showers returning Sunday - Monday

Saturday

57 to 62°



Sunday

49 to 57°



Rain showers over W SD, expanding all of SD through the day. An isolated rumble of thunder possible. **Most precipitation falling Sunday night.** Rain may mix or change over to Snow over W & N Central SD Sunday night.

Monday

40s



Rain showers. Rain ending over most of W & central SD. Rain may mix with or change to all Snow Monday night, before ending.



National Weather Service
Aberdeen, SD

www.weather.gov/abr

Created:
10/18/2019 2:00 PM

Published on: 10/18/2019 at 10:02AM

Rain showers over western South Dakota will expand across all of South Dakota during the day Sunday. Most of the rain is expected to fall Sunday night. Rainfall amounts will likely range from around 0.50 to 1". At this point, the higher rainfall amounts are expected to be over far eastern South Dakota, and western Minnesota. Wet weather will slowly diminish west to east Monday into Monday night. Temperatures may be cool enough over north central South Dakota to create a mix of rain and snow Sunday night. Rain may again mix with or change over to all snow over far eastern South Dakota and western Minnesota Monday night.

Today in Weather History

October 19, 1982: An early fall snowstorm dropped 3 to 12 inches of wet snow over the southeastern corner of South Dakota. The wet snow combined with the gusty winds of 20 to 40 mph dropped wind chills to around zero. Numerous trees snapped downing power lines. Power outages were extensive from Vermillion to Mitchell. Thunder rumbled, and lightning flashed amidst the height of the snowstorm. Almost a foot of snow fell in northern Union and southern Lincoln counties. High wind gusts knocked out television and radio transmitters in Sioux Falls. The weight of the snow collapsed a panel on the covered stadium at the University of South Dakota at Vermillion.

1996: The opening game of World Series between the Braves and Yankees in New York was postponed by heavy rains and high wind from a major storm system affecting the East Coast, marking the third time in history that the World Series opener had been postponed. Overall, nine of the 22 games that have been canceled in Series history were scheduled in New York or Brooklyn.

2007: A total of 87 tornadoes were reported in the United States from Oct. 17-19, a new record outbreak for the month, according to NOAA's Storm Prediction Center in Norman, Oklahoma. The outbreak also contributed to the monthly total of 105 tornado reports – the second highest for October, behind the 117 tornadoes in October 2001. Records date back to 1950.

1844 - The famous "Lower Great Lakes Storm" occurred. Southwesterly winds were at hurricane force for five hours, driving lake waters into downtown Buffalo NY. The storm drowned 200 persons. (David Ludlum)

1961 - Rain changed to a record early season, heavy wet snow over the southern mountains of West Virginia. Leaves were still on trees, resulting in the worst forest disaster since the fires of 1952 and 1953. One to two feet of snow fell near Summersville and Richwood. (19th-20th) (The Weather Channel)

1984 - Thunderstorms deluged the town of Odem, TX (located 15 miles northwest of Corpus Christi) with 25 inches of rain in just three and a half hours. Most businesses in Odem were flooded, as were 1000 homes in nearby Sinton. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - A cold front brought rainshowers to parts of the central U.S., and ushered cool Canadian air into the Great Plains Region. Daytime highs were only in the 30s in North Dakota and eastern Montana. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Thunderstorms produced high winds in eastern Colorado, with gusts to 63 mph reported at La Junta. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Record breaking snows fell across northern and central Indiana. Totals ranged up to 10.5 inches at Kokomo, and 9.3 inches was reported at Indianapolis. The 8.8 inch total at South Bend was a record for the month as a whole. Up to seven inches of snow fell in extreme southern Lower Michigan, and up to six inches fell in southwestern Ohio. The heavy wet snow downed many trees and power lines. Half the city of Cincinnati OH was without electricity during the morning hours. Temperatures dipped below freezing across much of the Great Plains Region. Twenty cities, including fourteen in Texas, reported record low temperatures for the date. North Platte NE reported a record low of 11 degrees. In Florida, four cities reported record high temperatures for the date. The record high of 92 degrees at Miami also marked a record fourteen days of 90 degree weather in October,

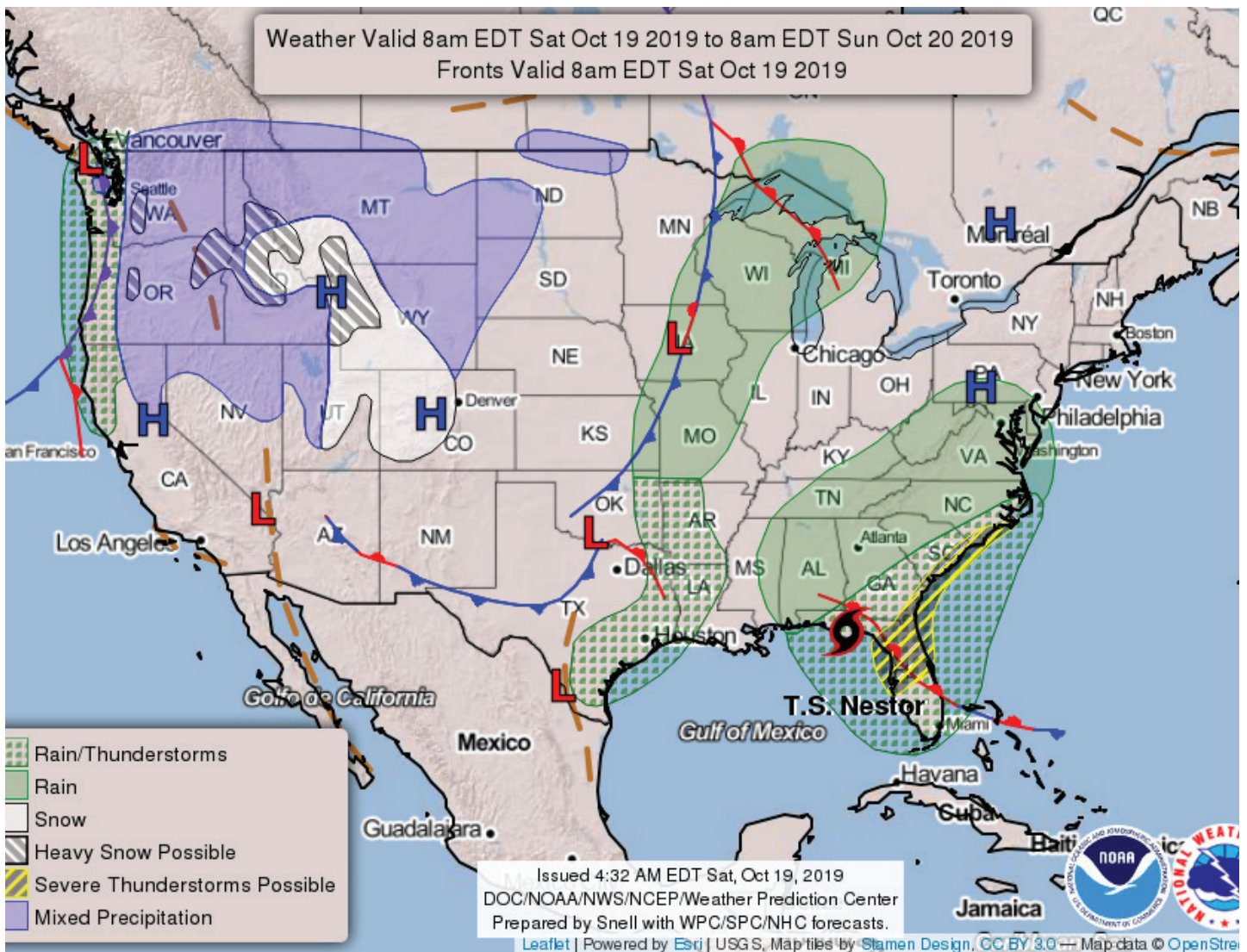
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Yesterday's Groton Weather Today's Info

High Temp: 65 °F at 4:12 PM
Low Temp: 51 °F at 8:52 PM
Wind: 26 mph at 1:51 AM
Day Rain: 0.00

Record High: 86° in 1958, 1947
Record Low: 10° in 1917
Average High: 56°F
Average Low: 32°F
Average Precip in Oct.: 1.30
Precip to date in Oct.: 1.27
Average Precip to date: 19.78
Precip Year to Date: 26.29
Sunset Tonight: 6:42 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:56 a.m.



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READY OR NOT

A truck came speeding down a steep hill. It was necessary to make a quick turn at the bottom of the hill to avoid going into a lake. Unfortunately, the driver failed to make the turn and ended up in the lake. Fortunately, the driver escaped, unharmed.

As he climbed from the cab of the truck and waded from the lake to the crowd that had assembled onshore, he was shaking his head from side to side. Finally someone asked, "What happened?"

"Well," he said, "I guess I should have gotten brake fluid before I needed it."

Procrastination, at times, seems to invade everyone's life. Occasionally, we "all plan to do tomorrow what we could have done today." And there are many excuses that encourage us to do so. One might be fear. Another might be thinking the task is unimportant or even too difficult. Again, we may not want to be bothered by a request or even have a desire to inconvenience the one who is depending on us. Time is one of God's greatest gifts. Once gone, it can never be reclaimed or returned. So, we must learn to see time from God's perspective and place a high value on it. God gives us time, first of all, to accept His salvation. Then, whatever days He allows us to live, are to be lived in service to Him and others who need to know Him as Savior and Lord.

Prayer: Help us, Father, to make the most of the time You give us, so that we may accomplish the purpose You have for us. May we live each day realizing that it is a gift. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Zechariah 1:4 Don't be like your ancestors who would not listen or pay attention when the earlier prophets said to them, 'This is what the Lord of Heaven's Armies says: Turn from your evil ways, and stop all your evil practices.'

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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)

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News from the Associated Press

Friday's Scores By The Associated Press

Volleyball

Mitchell def. Rapid City Central, 25-21, 25-22, 16-25, 25-20
Rapid City Stevens def. Huron, 26-24, 25-14, 25-21

PREP FOOTBALL

Aberdeen Roncalli 16, Woonsocket/Wessington Springs/Sanborn Central 6
Alcester-Hudson 42, Corsica/Stickney 34
Bennett County def. McLaughlin, forfeit
Brandon Valley 47, Harrisburg 21
Bridgewater-Emery 64, Beresford 20
Britton-Hecla 38, Warner 28
Brookings 47, Spearfish 0
Burke 62, Scotland 16
Canton 42, Sioux Falls Christian 22
Centerville 36, Colome 20
Chamberlain 36, Wagner 21
Clark/Willow Lake 49, Great Plains Lutheran 20
Custer 14, Hot Springs 7
Dakota Valley 41, Vermillion 20
DeSmet 28, Elkton-Lake Benton 0
Dell Rapids 14, West Central 0
Dell Rapids St. Mary 44, Oldham-Ramona/Rutland 20
Deuel 36, Florence/Henry 20
Edgemont 72, Dupree 38
Elk Point-Jefferson 35, Flandreau 12
Estelline/Hendricks 20, Wilmot 15
Faulkton 50, Potter County 6
Gayville-Volin 34, Tripp-Delmont/Armour/Andes Central/Dakota Christian 6
Gregory 47, Kimball/White Lake 40
Harding County 62, Timber Lake 30
Herreid/Selby Area 51, Northwestern 0
Howard 53, Baltic 30
Jones County/White River 40, Rapid City Christian 27
Kadoka Area 56, Hill City 6
Langford 59, Waverly-South Shore 20
Lemmon/McIntosh 66, Bison 8
Lennox 32, Madison 28
McCook Central/Montrose 63, Redfield/Doland 6
Menno/Marion 64, Avon 24
Mobridge-Pollock 34, Groton Area 12
Mt. Vernon/Plankinton 54, Miller/Highmore-Harrold 0
New Underwood 22, Wall 17
North Border 34, Hitchcock-Tulare 0
Philip 32, Lyman 0

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Pierre 75, Mitchell 7
Platte-Geddes 18, Parkston 0
Sioux Falls Lincoln 50, Rapid City Stevens 21
Sioux Falls O'Gorman 29, Aberdeen Central 14
Sioux Falls Roosevelt 64, Watertown 16
Sioux Falls Washington 40, Rapid City Central 8
Sioux Valley 50, Garretson 0
St. Thomas More 24, Stanley County 8
Sturgis Brown 49, Belle Fourche 35
Sully Buttes 58, Ipswich/Edmunds Central 8
Tea Area 43, Milbank 6
Todd County 54, Pine Ridge 20
Tri-Valley 14, Huron 13
Viborg-Hurley 46, Canistota-Freeman 20
Webster 38, Sisseton 0
Wolsey-Wessington 50, Sunshine Bible Academy 6
Yankton 41, Douglas 13

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

Seniors bake doggie treats

By KATHERINE GRANDSTRAND Aberdeen News

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — Many of the residents at Primrose Place have been baking their whole lives. So this autumn, the life enrichment coordinators at different Primrose properties in town challenged some of the residents to try a new recipe — one for the dogs, the Aberdeen News reported.

"We basically want to instill quality programming — more like purposeful programming," said Kelsey Hunt, the life enrichment coordinator for Primrose Place.

On a snowy October Friday, Gina Breitling, Mary Ellen Heitmann and Alene Hilsendeger were mixing up dough for dog treats — something none of them would have made before moving to the assisted-living facility.

I asked them about what they thought about baking for dogs, adding that I know what my own 91-year-old grandmother would think of it. She's a woman who likes pets outside, and I'm pretty sure the only thing she'd ever feed a pet from her kitchen is scraps.

"I think I'd be with your grandma," said Breitling, who previously lived in Ipswich.

The residents do bake for humans quite a bit, Hunt said.

"Sometimes we'll do baking where they'll make a treat and maybe we'll send it with them to a doctor's appointment," Hunt said. "Especially around the holidays we do that quite frequently just because it's such a nice surprise."

It was something they did out of necessity when they were younger, raising families.

"If I wanted sweets I had to bake them," said Heitmann, who lived in Eden before moving to Aberdeen.

The dog treats will head out to the animals awaiting adoption at the Aberdeen Area Humane Society, she added.

Not only do the residents get to make the dog treats, they go out and visit the dogs when the treats are dropped off, said Erin Paulson, life enrichment coordinator at Primrose Cottages, which is on the south side of town.

Making the treats was a group effort. Each lady measured a different ingredient. Breitling ended up having to measure out the sticky peanut butter. The dough is stiff, but that's needed for the crispy crunch dogs like in a treat.

There are dogs that visit Primrose Place quite frequently and one resident has a cat, Hunt said. And

many of Friday's bakers previously had pets.

Hilsendeger, who has lived in Aberdeen since childhood, didn't have pets after her husband died. That was when her youngest son was 5. But it was a different story when he was alive.

"When he was around, he had more dogs than kids I think," said Hilsendeger, who had six kids.

While the dog treats are safe for humans to eat, they're likely much more tasty for canine companions.

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

BHSU student hopes to promote cultural understanding

By TANYA MANUS Rapid City Journal

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Joining the Army National Guard and heading to college opened Jacey Garcia's eyes to stark differences between life on and off South Dakota's Indian reservations. Teaching is one of his ambitions so he can promote understanding between the two worlds in which he lives.

Jacey, 19, was born in Pine Ridge and grew up there and in Lake Andes on the Yankton Sioux Reservation. Jacey currently is an electrician in a National Guard engineering unit. He's also a second-semester freshman at Black Hills University, where he's learning about the history of his Native culture through the American Indian Studies program.

"Growing up, our reservation was very mixed. We had Natives and whites. There was a lot of tension, a lot of stereotypes against whites and against Natives. We have to eliminate that closed-mind thinking about each other," Jacey told the Rapid City Journal. "A lot of Natives are stubborn and say you're only Native if you're enrolled or know the language. If people want to come into our communities and help us, we have to be open to that. Once we stop working against and start working with, then the changes will come."

Jacey's father, Dr. Tony Garcia, inspired Jacey to go to college and join the military. Tony is a Vietnam veteran and the CEO and academic dean for Ithanktonwan Community College in Marty. Like his father, Jacey is an enrolled member of the Yankton Sioux Tribe. Jacey's mother, Janell Garcia, a school psychologist, is an enrolled member of the Oglala Lakota Sioux Tribe.

"I wanted to be like my dad. He's a very big influence on me," Jacey said.

As part of his American Indian studies at BHSU, Jacey is taking a Lakota language class. He often practices the language by texting his father in Lakota. His father fueled Jacey's interest in learning about Native American history.

"In high school, I learned a little about Native history. I started to ask my dad a lot of questions about the history of Native people. It intrigued me a lot," he said. "Learning about a lot of the history made me want to continue to learn about it and teach more people about it. It's not taught throughout our country."

Through friendships he's made in his Guard unit and at BHSU, Jacey is working to bridge the divide between Native and non-Native cultures. When his friends have questions, Jacey takes those opportunities to discuss what he experienced on the reservation, and in turn, he learns about their lives and backgrounds.

"It's good to be open to that. I got to see a lot of different people and points of view in life I hadn't seen. I got really lucky with that," Jacey said. "Just listening to each other, there's all these ups and downs. If you can put effort into listening, then you'll be able to understand."

Explaining the problems Native people face on reservations — and meeting people who've never encountered those issues — can be culture shock, Jacey said.

"Some of the kids (at BHSU) weren't exposed to stuff throughout their lives," he said. "For those kids, when they learn (about life on the reservation), it's a difficult thing to talk to them about it, but when we do, it's good. We can learn from each other.

"If you look at the statistics and facts of what it's like to live on an Indian reservation, it's very much like living in a Third World country," Jacey said. "If you come off the reservation, you try to relate that to people, but it's hard. It's a process."

For example, violence against tribal women is much higher than that against their non-tribal peers. According to information from Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, indigenous women are murdered

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at more than 10 times the national average. Pine Ridge has the lowest per capital income in the United States and an unemployment rate topping 80%.

"All my life I grew up seeing stuff that some of my friends here at college didn't see. Having siblings and cousins addicted to drugs or alcohol, poverty, seeing people take their own lives — these are common problems on reservations that are affecting Native people," said Jacey, who does not use drugs or alcohol because of the toll it has taken on some of his family members.

"I saw it, but I didn't understand it. It became part of life, hearing that somebody's back drinking or on drugs, or to have all these kids living with their grandparents because their parents are drinking alcohol nonstop," Jacey said. "I don't want to use the word numb, but it became normal things to see."

Jacey hopes more people will learn about Native American history and the historical trauma that continues to affect tribes and that the problems facing Native Americans will become a priority locally and nationally.

"I think there's going to be a change coming, but it's going to take more time and effort. Hopefully a time is coming where we can live in that world of no hate, but that's something we have to pray for," Jacey said.

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

SD Lottery

By The Associated Press undefined

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

Mega Millions

18-58-60-65-67, Mega Ball: 20, Megaplier: 3

(eighteen, fifty-eight, sixty, sixty-five, sixty-seven; Mega Ball: twenty; Megaplier: three)

Estimated jackpot: \$71 million

Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$110 million

Official arrested, accused of breaking open records law

SELBY, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota county auditor accused of failing to make documents available for a public meeting was arrested and charged with violating the state's open meetings law, in a rare move seen as extreme by some media and open-government experts.

Walworth County State's Attorney James Hare issued an arrest warrant last week for the county's auditor, Rebecca Krein, after he received a complaint about materials that weren't made available for an Aug. 6 meeting but should have been.

Krein is charged with a misdemeanor that carries a maximum sentence of 30 days in jail. She declined to comment when reached by the Sioux Falls Argus Leader, citing advice from her lawyer.

By law, South Dakota government entities have to make documents available to the public when they are used during official meetings.

Hare did not return a call Friday from The Associated Press. He told the Argus Leader the county had a chronic problem of failing to follow public meeting and record laws, which he said had created mistrust among some residents.

"You don't want the people coming into meetings with pitchforks and torches creating havoc," Hare said. "Give the people what they want."

David Bordewyk, the executive director of the South Dakota Newspaper Association, told the Argus Leader that it's likely the first time a public official has been arrested in the state for violating open meeting laws, which were drafted in 1965.

Jane Kirtley, who teaches media ethics and media law at the University of Minnesota and was a longtime director of the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, said arrests are "very, very rarely used" in cases where public officials don't comply with open-records laws. She also said they're unlikely to be

effective.

"I've never been sold on the idea that this is a great way to terrorize government officials into following the law," she said.

Sandy Davidson, an attorney who taught communications law at the University of Missouri, said few states even allow criminal charges in such cases and called the prospect "more theoretical than real." She said the charges amount to "an extreme form of public shaming."

Hare's move sparked criticism from Katie Zerr, news editor of the county's Mobridge Tribune. She wrote in an editorial that she has had run-ins with the auditor's office, but she questioned the arrest, saying it seemed to be "more like teaching her a lesson rather than a need to protect the public."

"I am inclined to view this arrest as a mistake on all levels," she wrote.

This story has been corrected to reflect that the quote that begins, "You don't want the people coming...," is from the prosecutor, James Hare, not David Bordewyk.

Lost hunter found safe in S. Dakota; another still missing

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Authorities say a lost hunter has been found safe in western South Dakota. Pennington County sheriff's authorities say the 72-year-old man from Alexandria, South Dakota, was elk hunting with friends when he was reported missing around 9 p.m. Thursday.

A sheriff's deputy found the man about 90 minutes later. The Rapid City Journal reports the man was not hurt.

The search included the use of a thermal drone.

The man is the second hunter reported missing in October in the Black Hills.

On Oct. 1, 66-year-old Larry Genzlinger of Howard was hunting near Deerfield Lake in western Pennington County when he was reported missing. Searchers were out again Friday looking for Genzlinger.

2 arrested, man accused of attacking officer in Watertown

WATERTOWN, S.D. (AP) — Police say a domestic assault call in Watertown led to two arrests for child abuse, drug charges and a racially-motivated attack on an officer.

The 48-year-old man and 27-year-old woman were arrested at their apartment Wednesday night after police say they found marijuana plants, a loaded shotgun and cash. Their four-month-old child was taken into protective custody.

KELO-TV reports police say the man became violent during his arrest and punched an officer in the face. Sgt. Chad Stahl says the man made some vulgar comments to the Hispanic officer.

The couple is being held in the Codington County Jail.

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

Turkish-backed forces, Kurds clash despite Syria cease-fire

By MEHMET GUZEL and SARAH EL DEEB Associated Press

AKCAKALE, Turkey (AP) — Turkish-backed Syrian fighters clashed with Kurdish-led forces in several parts of northeastern Syria on Saturday, with some crossing the border from Turkey to attack a village, a war monitor said. Both sides blamed each other for fighting that has rattled the U.S.-brokered cease-fire.

Nearly two days into the five-day halt in fighting, the two sides were still trading fire around the key border town of Ras al-Ayn. There has also been no sign of a withdrawal of Kurdish-led forces from positions along the Syrian-Turkish border as called for under the agreement, reached between Turkey and the United States.

Turkey's Defense Ministry said it was "completely abiding" by the accord and that it was in "instantaneous coordination" with Washington to ensure the continuity of calm. The ministry accused Kurdish-led fighters

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of carrying out 14 "attacks and harassments" the past 36 hours, most in the town of Ras al-Ayn, which is besieged by allied fighters before the cease-fire. It said the Syrian Kurdish fighters used mortars, rockets, anti-aircraft and anti-tank heavy machine guns.

Turkey also said Saturday it has recaptured 41 suspected Islamic State members who had fled a detention camp amid the chaos caused by the fighting earlier this week.

The Kurds, meanwhile, appealed to Vice President Mike Pence to enforce the deal saying Turkey has failed to abide by its provisions and has continued the siege of Ras al-Ayn.

The Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces said there were still clashes inside Ras al-Ayn and medical personnel could not enter to help the wounded.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said the Turkish-backed fighters entered Syria and advanced into Kurdish-held Shakariya, a village east of Ras al-Ayn that saw clashes and a Turkish strike a day earlier.

Video posted online showed the fighters driving alongside the wall Turkey has erected along the border and boasting that they were headed on "an assault" into Syria. The video did not show them crossing the border.

Syrian state media said Turkish-backed fighters also made an "infiltration attempt" south of Ras al-Ayn but were repelled in clashes with the Syrian government military that had just moved into the area. The reports gave no further details.

The Observatory said Saturday that Turkey-backed Syrian fighters have prevented a medical convoy from reaching Ras al-Ayn. It said a medical convoy arrived outside the town Friday but Turkey-backed factions closed the road ahead and behind, leaving it stuck outside Ras al-Ayn.

The agreement — reached in negotiations between Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and U.S. Vice President Mike Pence — would virtually hand Turkey its aims in the invasion, requiring Kurdish fighters to vacate a swath of territory in Syria along the Turkish border during the cease-fire.

The Kurdish-led force, which said it was in contact with the Americans during the negotiations, said it will abide by the halt in fighting but has not committed to any pull-out. Erdogan warned Friday that Turkey will relaunch its assault on Tuesday when the deal runs out if the Kurdish fighters don't pull out of a zone 30 kilometers (20-miles) deep running the entire length of the border.

On Saturday, the Turkish Interior Minister Suleyman Soylu said 41 suspected Islamic State members were re-captured after fleeing a detention camp amid fighting earlier this week in Syria. He said 195 other suspected IS members had already been recaptured. He said the captured IS suspects would be relocated to areas controlled by Turkey in northern Syria, including Afrin and al-Bab.

Last week, there were reports that after a Turkish shell landed near Ein Issa camp that holds members of IS families, more than 700 managed to flee amid the chaos.

Turkey's state-run English language broadcaster TRT World said the IS members and families were captured by Turkey-backed Syrian opposition forces.

Erdogan has accused Syrian Kurdish forces of releasing some 750 IS members and families, amid Turkey's offensive. The Kurds say they broke out of their camp a week ago, attacking guards, amid heavy clashes and Turkish airstrikes nearby.

El Deeb reported from Beirut. Zeynep Bilginsoy in Istanbul contributed.

UK lawmakers vote to delay final Brexit decision again

By JILL LAWLESS and MIKE CORDER Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — In a major blow to British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, U.K. lawmakers voted Saturday to postpone a decision on whether to back his Brexit deal with the European Union, throwing a wrench into government plans to leave the bloc at the end of this month.

At a special session of Parliament intended to ratify the Brexit deal, lawmakers voted 322-306 to withhold their approval on the Brexit deal until legislation to implement it has been passed.

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The vote aims to ensure that the U.K. can't crash out of the EU without a divorce deal on the scheduled Oct. 31 departure date. But it means Johnson he has to ask the EU to delay Britain's departure, since Parliament previously passed a law compelling him to do that if a Brexit divorce deal had not been passed by Saturday.

The government still hopes it can pass the needed legislation by the end of the month so the U.K. can leave on time.

A defiant Johnson said after the vote that he was not "daunted or dismayed" by the result and would push ahead with plans to leave the EU.

As lawmakers debated, tens of thousands of anti-Brexit demonstrators descended on London to march to Parliament Square, demanding a new referendum on whether Britain should leave the EU or remain. Protesters, many wearing blue berets emblazoned with yellow stars symbolizing the EU flag, poured out of subway trains and buses for the last-ditch protest effort.

Bruce Nicole, a vicar from Camberley southwest of London, said the Brexit deal would harm Britain.

"I fervently believe that we should remain in the EU," he said. "I am British but I am also European."

In Parliament before the vote, Johnson implored legislators to ratify the deal he struck this week with the bloc's 27 other leaders. He said members of the House of Commons should "come together as democrats to end this debilitating feud" over Brexit, which has bitterly divided the country since British voters narrowly chose in a 2016 vote to leave the EU.

"Now is the time for this great House of Commons to come together... as I believe people at home are hoping and expecting," Johnson told lawmakers.

But he did not get the result he sought.

Trouble began when House of Commons Speaker John Bercow said he would first allow a vote on an amendment that puts the vote on the deal off until another day.

The amendment makes support for the deal conditional on the legislation to implement it being passed by Parliament, something that could take several days or weeks. It also gives lawmakers another chance to scrutinize — and possibly change— the Brexit departure terms while the legislation is passing through Parliament.

Johnson called any delay to Britain's Brexit departure date "pointless, expensive and deeply corrosive of public trust."

And he warned Saturday that the bloc's approval could not be guaranteed.

"There is very little appetite among our friends in the EU for this business to be protracted by one extra day," Johnson said. "They have had three and a half years of this debate."

French President Emmanuel Macron made the same point a day earlier in Brussels.

"I want us to finish this off and speak about the future," Macron said. "The Oct. 31 date must be respected. I don't believe new delays should be granted."

The EU's budget commissioner, Guenther Oettinger, told Germany's Welt am Sonntag newspaper that if British lawmakers reject Johnson's Brexit deal, the U.K. is likely to crash out of the bloc with no deal.

Britain could still leave the EU on Oct. 31, if Parliament approves the legislation — the Withdrawal Agreement Bill — in time. The government plans to introduce the bill early next week and could hold late-night sittings of Parliament in hope of getting it passed within days.

As lawmakers thundered on in their first Saturday sitting since the 1982 Falklands War, the streets of London turned into a sea of blue. Some demonstrators with bells strapped to their legs and wielding sticks performed a traditional morris dance and chanted: "Morris, not Boris!" to cheers from onlookers.

Others were deeply fearful about leaving the EU.

Sarah Spoor from west London said she had two children with disabilities and feared for their health because of possible shortages of medicines and the fact that EU doctors and nurses could leave the U.K. after Brexit.

"I'm distraught. Distraught. It's really distressing," she said, tears welling up.

Johnson hopes for success in getting a fractious Parliament to back the deal after his predecessor, The-

resa May, failed three times to get lawmakers behind her Brexit plan.

Yet his hopes of getting the deal through Parliament were dealt a blow when his Northern Ireland ally, the Democratic Unionist Party, said it would not back him. The party says Johnson's Brexit package — which carves out special status for Northern Ireland to keep an open border with EU member Ireland — is bad for the region and weakens its bonds with the rest of the U.K.

To make up for the votes of 10 DUP lawmakers, Johnson has tried to persuade members of the left-of-center Labour Party to support the deal. Late Friday the government promised to bolster protections for the environment and workers' rights to allay Labour fears that the Conservative government plans to slash those protections after Brexit.

Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn dismissed those promises as inadequate.

"This deal is not good for jobs, damaging for industry and a threat to our environment and natural world," he said. "Supporting the government this afternoon would merely fire the starting pistol in a race to the bottom in regulations and standards."

Gregory Katz contributed to this story.

Follow AP's full coverage of Brexit and British politics at <https://www.apnews.com/Brexit>

Trump outstripping Obama on pace of executive orders

By KEVIN FREKING Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — It wasn't too long ago that Donald Trump derided presidential executive orders as "power grabs" and a "basic disaster."

He's switched sides in a big way: In each year of his presidency, he has issued more executive orders than did former President Barack Obama during the same time span. He surpassed Obama's third-year total just recently.

Back in 2012, Trump had tweeted: "Why Is @BarackObama constantly issuing executive orders that are major power grabs of authority?"

That criticism continued once he entered the presidential race.

"The country wasn't based on executive orders," Trump said at a South Carolina campaign stop in February 2016. "Right now, Obama goes around signing executive orders. He can't even get along with the Democrats, and he goes around signing all these executive orders. It's a basic disaster. You can't do it."

But Trump appears to have learned what his predecessors discovered as well: It's easier and often more satisfying to get things done through administrative action than to get Congress to go along, said Andrew Rudalevige, a professor at Bowdoin College who studies the history and effectiveness of presidential executive actions.

"Most candidates don't realize the utility of executive actions while campaigning," Rudalevige said. "When they become president, they quickly gain an appreciation of how difficult it is to get things done in government."

The White House declined to comment on Trump's use of executive orders. He surpassed Obama's third-year total when, in the last two weeks, he issued five executive orders relating to Medicare, government transparency, federal spending and imposing sanctions on Turkish officials.

An executive order can have the same effect as a federal law — but its impact can be fleeting. Congress can pass a new law to override an executive order and future presidents can undo them.

Every president since George Washington has used the executive order power, according to the National Constitution Center, and some of those orders played a critical role in American history. President Franklin Roosevelt established internment camps during World War II. President Harry Truman mandated equal treatment of all members of the armed forces through executive orders. And President Dwight Eisenhower used an executive order to enforce school desegregation in Little Rock.

When Obama became frustrated with how difficult it was to push legislation through Congress, he warned

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Republicans he would take executive action when he considered it necessary.

He famously declared in 2014: "We're not just going to be waiting for legislation in order to make sure that we're providing Americans the kind of help they need. I've got a pen, and I've got a phone."

Few candidates for office have placed so much emphasis on criticizing a predecessor's executive orders as Trump did. He reasoned that Obama's use of executive orders made him look like a weak negotiator. But Trump himself has had little success with Congress in that regard. His biggest legislative achievement so far, a \$1.5 trillion tax cut, failed to gain one Democratic vote.

Trump has so far issued 130 executive orders. By comparison, Obama issued 108 in his first three years.

Still, Rudalevige says that comparing executive orders from one president to the next can provide a misleading snapshot of a president's propensity for taking executive action. That's because presidents also use memoranda and proclamations to achieve policy goals or to get the message out about their priorities. One president's executive order might be another's memoranda, or phone call even.

Obama relied on memoranda and proclamations for some of his most disputed executive actions, so just counting his executive orders understates his efforts to take action without Congress passing a bill.

For example, protections for young immigrants brought into the country illegally as children came about through a Department of Homeland Security memorandum. That effort allowed eligible individuals to request temporary relief from deportation and apply for authorization to work in the U.S.

Obama took the action after Congress had declined to pass the Dream Act, legislation that would have helped a similar group of migrants. Republicans argued Obama overstepped his constitutional authority. In November, the U.S. Supreme Court will hear arguments over the Trump administration's plan to end the program, which has protected roughly 700,000 young immigrants from deportation. Lower courts have so far blocked the administration from ending the program.

Obama also issued proclamations to declare new national monuments in Utah and Nevada in his final days in office. In all, he issued 34 monument proclamations, including designating 29 new monuments and enlargement of five existing monuments as he brandished his conservation legacy. Some of the largest monument designations were heavily criticized by state and local officials.

Rudalevige said that Trump appears to favor the pomp and ceremony that often comes with an executive order. He routinely makes a speech, administration officials and potentially affected Americans get to thank him for taking action and Trump often signs the order before the cameras, holding it up in the air for photographers to capture the moment.

"I think it fits his personality," Rudalevige said.

Analysis: Confronted by impeachment, Trump adds to the chaos

By JULIE PACE AP Washington Bureau Chief

WASHINGTON (AP) — The impeachment investigation into President Donald Trump has thrust Washington into a political crisis. And Trump keeps adding to the chaos.

In the four weeks since House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., launched the investigation, Trump has taken steps that have drawn more criticism, not less, repeatedly testing the loyalty of his stalwart Republican allies. His actions have both intensified the questions at the center of the inquiry and opened new areas of concern.

Trump angered GOP leaders and U.S. allies by clearing the way for Turkish attacks on Syrian Kurdish fighters, key American partners in the fight against the Islamic State group. He brazenly announced plans to hold next year's Group of Seven summit at one of his own Florida properties, prompting an outcry from ethics experts and members of both parties. And Trump and his advisers have repeatedly muddied their defense on the Democratic-led impeachment, initially denying some of the central allegations against the president only to acknowledge them, out loud and on camera.

"It is his persona to surround himself with chaos," said Alice Stewart, a Republican strategist who advised Texas Sen. Ted Cruz's 2016 presidential campaign.

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Chaos has indeed been a hallmark of Trump's presidency. Each controversy bleeds into the next — often so fast that the public doesn't have time to absorb the details of any one issue. Whether that is a deliberate Trump strategy or simply the consequence of Americans electing a highly unconventional, nonpolitician as commander in chief remains one of the fundamental questions of his presidency.

The most pressing question now is how the cascading controversies will impact Trump at one of his most vulnerable moments since taking office.

Already saddled by low approval ratings, he could face reelection with the dubious distinction of being just the third American president ever impeached. Though conviction and removal from office by the Republican-controlled Senate seems virtually impossible, Trump's handling of the coming weeks could linger with some of the voters he needs to hold in order to win in 2020.

His response thus far has been pulled from the standard Trump playbook : hurling deeply personal, sometimes vulgar, insults at his opponents, questioning the legitimacy of the investigations into his actions and distracting with other jarring decisions.

For example, there was his public call for China to investigate baseless corruption claims against Democrat Joe Biden just days after Democrats launched impeachment proceedings to probe Trump's similar request of Ukraine.

There are some signs that Trump's words and actions are being received differently, both in Washington and across the country, from other points in his presidency.

Polls now show more Americans in favor of opening the impeachment inquiry than those who are opposed, a shift since earlier this year. A recent Pew Research Center poll found that 54% of Americans approved of the House decision to conduct an inquiry, while 44% disapproved. In a Pew poll conducted a few weeks earlier, the public was evenly divided on the question.

A few prominent Republicans have moved in favor of the investigation, which centers in part on whether Trump used his office for personal political gain by asking Ukraine to investigate the unfounded accusations against former Vice President Biden.

John Kasich, the former Republican governor of Ohio, is among the Republicans who now back an impeachment inquiry, though he told The Associated Press in an interview that he isn't ready to call for Trump's removal from office.

"This is an extremely serious matter," Kasich said. "I wrestled with it for a very long time."

Kasich was persuaded by the White House's shifting story on why Trump withheld \$400 million in military aid for Ukraine, one of the issues under investigation by the House.

After insisting there was no quid pro quo at play — and allowing Republicans to use that as a rationale for opposing the impeachment inquiry — acting White House chief of staff Mick Mulvaney said Thursday that one of the reasons the aid was held up was that Trump wanted Ukrainian officials to investigate a debunked conspiracy involving the Democratic National Committee. Mulvaney later tried to back away from that statement.

His televised news conference left some Republicans flabbergasted. Many in the party were already reeling from Trump's decision to withdraw American troops from Syria, allowing Turkey to move into the country and attack Kurdish forces aligned with Washington. Reliable Trump allies such as Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., and Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., panned the president's move as dangerous and deeply flawed.

And Mulvaney opened his news conference by announcing another controversial decision: Trump plans to host world leaders next year at his golf resort near Miami, putting him in position to personally profit from his office. Some Republicans found the move difficult to defend as well.

"I am not surprised at all that the president wanted to hold the G-7 at Doral. Never occurred to me that he would want to do anything different," Stewart said. "I am surprised there's no one in there who would advise him against doing that."

For now, the Republican frustration with Trump's actions over the past few weeks isn't affecting the party's views on the impeachment investigation, which is opposed by the majority of GOP lawmakers and voters.

"Republicans have already shown that they're compartmentalizing this," said Brendan Buck, an adviser

to former House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis. "They're able to be very upset about Syria in the morning and rationalize the other issues in the afternoon."

Associated Press writer Alexandra Jaffe in Des Moines, Iowa, contributed to this report.

EDITOR'S NOTE — Washington Bureau Chief Julie Pace has covered the White House and politics for The Associated Press since 2007. Follow her at <http://twitter.com/jpaceDC>

Tropical Storm Nestor forms, threatening US Gulf Coast

By **BRENDAN FARRINGTON** Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — Tropical Storm Nestor bore down on the northern Gulf Coast with high winds, surging seas and heavy rains Saturday, threatening to hit an area of the Florida Panhandle devastated one year ago by Hurricane Michael.

But unlike with Michael, a powerful October 2018 storm that left thousands homeless and nearly wiped out the Panhandle city of Mexico Beach, Florida wasn't bracing for catastrophe. Nestor was forecast to hit the area Saturday morning without strengthening into a hurricane.

"We've done very little preparation only because there's nothing really to prepare for," said Mexico City Beach Mayor Al Cathey, whose city is still recovering. "We haven't seen any alarm at all."

The state had activated its emergency operations center, but only at its lowest level. In an area that's recently gone weeks without rain, the storm was seen more as a welcome sight.

"You have to keep it in perspective: 75 percent of our city was destroyed," Cathey said. "A little rain is welcome. Hopefully it won't be something crazy, but if that's all it is, I can deal with that. There's nothing in this system that I've seen that tells me Mexico Beach needs to be alarmed."

The National Hurricane Center said high winds and dangerous storm surge were likely along parts of the northern Gulf Coast. And heavy rains had already begun pelting parts of the coastline, welcome relief for a parched region dealing with a drought. The system could dump from 2 to 4 inches (5 to 10 centimeters) of rain from the central Gulf Coast to the eastern Carolinas and as much as 6 inches (15 centimeters) in spots, forecasters said.

Seawater pushed inland by the storm could rise as much as 5 feet (1.5 meters) as storm surge in Florida's Big Bend region, much of which is less-developed than the rest of the state's coast.

Forecasters said Nestor was centered early Saturday about 80 miles (128 kilometers) south-southwest of Panama City, Florida. It had top sustained winds of 50 mph (80 kph) and was moving to the northeast at 17 mph (27). Its center is expected to make landfall about midday Saturday.

A tropical storm warning was in effect from the line between Okaloosa and Walton counties east to Yankeetown, Florida. A previous warning west of the county line was discontinued by Saturday morning. A storm surge warning is in effect for Indian Pass, Florida, to Clearwater Beach, Florida.

The hurricane center said Nestor was expected to head inland across the Panhandle on Saturday morning and cross parts of the Southeast over the weekend before moving into the Atlantic off North Carolina by late Sunday.

Forecasters expect blustery winds and heavy rain in parts of Alabama, Georgia and northern Florida, reaching the Carolinas and Virginia by Sunday.

The Coast Guard said 20-foot (6-meter) seas were possible around Panama City, and dangerous rip currents were possible along beaches during what is still a busy tourism period.

In New Orleans, winds hampered crews that were trying to place explosives to topple to damaged construction cranes towering over a partially collapse hotel project at the edge of the French Quarter. Officials delayed plans to bring down the structures before Nestor approached.

"We're working as fast as possible," said Fire Chief Tim McConnell.

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

38 people cited for violations in Clinton email probe

By MATTHEW LEE and MARY CLARE JALONICK Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The State Department has completed its internal investigation into former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's use of private email and found violations by 38 people, some of whom may face disciplinary action.

The investigation, launched more than three years ago, determined that those 38 people were "culpable" in 91 cases of sending classified information that ended up in Clinton's personal email, according to a letter sent to Republican Sen. Chuck Grassley this week and released Friday. The 38 are current and former State Department officials but were not identified.

Although the report identified violations, it said investigators had found "no persuasive evidence of systemic, deliberate mishandling of classified information." However, it also made clear that Clinton's use of the private email had increased the vulnerability of classified information.

The Associated Press sent an email seeking comment to a Clinton representative.

The investigation covered 33,000 emails that Clinton turned over for review after her use of the private email account became public. The department said it found a total of 588 violations involving information then or now deemed to be classified but could not assign fault in 497 cases.

For current and former officials, culpability means the violations will be noted in their files and will be considered when they apply for or go to renew security clearances. For current officials, there could also be some kind of disciplinary action. But it was not immediately clear what that would be.

The report concluded "that the use of a private email system to conduct official business added an increased degree of risk of compromise as a private system lacks the network monitoring and intrusion detection capabilities of State Department networks."

The department began the review in 2016 after declaring 22 emails from Clinton's private server to be "top secret." Clinton was then running for president against Donald Trump, and Trump made the server a major focus of his campaign.

Then-FBI Director James Comey held a news conference that year in which he criticized Clinton as "extremely careless" in her use of the private email server as secretary of state but said the FBI would not recommend charges.

The Justice Department's inspector general said FBI specialists did not find evidence that the server had been hacked, with one forensics agent saying he felt "fairly confident that there wasn't an intrusion."

Grassley started investigating Clinton's email server in 2017, when he was chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee. The Iowa Republican has been critical of Clinton's handling of classified information and urged administrative sanctions.

Democratic voters concentrate on candidates, not impeachment

By THOMAS BEAUMONT and ALEXANDRA JAFFE Associated Press

AMES, Iowa (AP) — In the liberal strongholds of Des Moines' west side and the Iowa State University campus in Ames, not once was South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg asked by voters recently about the impeachment inquiry of President Donald Trump.

It's not that the investigation into the president's request for foreign help in his reelection effort is an afterthought for Democrats whose votes in Iowa will start the nominating process. Quite the opposite.

Instead, it's that the impeachment inquiry is so ingrained in the 2020 campaign that there's little point in bringing it up.

Democratic voters say they don't expect that the president will be removed from office, so they are concentrating instead of selecting the strongest opponent to unseat him.

"Impeachment is about getting the facts, and right now they look pretty damning," said Lisa Banitt, an Ames physician, who was among about 900 who came to hear Buttigieg at Iowa State. "But it doesn't

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really affect my thinking. We need to act as though Trump is going to be the candidate and concentrate on who should challenge him.”

To that end, Democratic voters appear to be marching more uniformly than their party’s candidates, who, as a group, have offered at times uneven responses to the prospect of an incumbent president facing impeachment while seeking reelection.

“It’s one of those matters of such gravity and such importance that you simply have to let the politics play out however they will,” Buttigieg said. “So, we’re just going to have to let it play out and deal with the politics on the back end.”

Questions to candidates about impeachment in early voting states have been often sporadic at best.

Michele Slawson, a Democrat from Des Moines, firmly supports the impeachment of Trump for requesting Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy’s help in investigating Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden and his son Hunter.

But she was uninterested in Buttigieg’s approach, talking before the South Bend, Indiana, mayor took the stage outside Theodore Roosevelt High School on a recent Saturday evening.

“Do I expect him to solve it? No,” said Slawson, a financial systems analyst. “I’m really looking for any differentiation on policy and personal interaction between him and others, like Elizabeth Warren and Beto O’Rourke.”

Roy Hagen, a factory worker from small-town Welton in rural eastern Iowa, put it more simply.

“I don’t think they ought to be consumed with that because there’s a lot of important things out there and he’s not one of them,” he said, attending a campaign event for California Sen. Kamala Harris on Thursday.

There’s little point in trying to convince early primary and caucus audiences, it would seem. While polls show Americans overall divided over Trump’s impeachment and removal from office, Democrats are firmly in support of both the proceedings and the outcome.

Fully 89% of Democrats approve of the House of Representatives’ decision to conduct an impeachment inquiry, according to a recent Pew Research Center survey. Ninety-three percent think Trump has done things that are grounds for impeachment.

A recent Quinnipiac poll, in addition to finding 9 in 10 Democrats expressing approval of the impeachment inquiry, found 85% of Democrats saying they think Trump should be impeached and removed from office.

Whether they’re asked about it or not, candidates nod to the inescapable topic of impeaching a sitting president seeking a second term, but it is not a point of emphasis.

Warren, an early impeachment supporter in April, only briefly touched on it at the top of her remarks before diving into her standard speech during a house gathering in Keene, New Hampshire, one day after House Speaker Nancy Pelosi announced plans for the inquiry.

“I’m glad to see that the House has stepped up, and I hope we do this, and I hope we do it quickly,” Warren said.

Shortly after Pelosi’s announcement, New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker got an unusually vague question while campaigning in suburban Des Moines: “Can you say a few words about the I-word?”

After Booker’s puzzled look disappeared after realizing the subject was impeachment, he riffed on a string of clunker jokes before turning serious and recalling the day he took his oath of office in the Senate.

It’s an example of how some approach the topic grudgingly, if rarely.

Harris declined to discuss impeachment at all during her first trip back to Iowa this month, and mentioned it only briefly the following day: “We have a crook in the White House who deserves to be impeached.”

That same day, Harris, campaigning in rural Cedar County, received no questions from her audience about impeachment.

Biden is an exception, announcing his support two weeks after Pelosi’s announcement, and in a major speech in New Hampshire that echoed his campaign’s theme of challenging Trump’s moral authority.

“He’s not just testing us,” Biden said. “He’s laughing at us.”

Buttigieg offered a nuanced view, suggesting that impeachment is a symptom of the deep divisions that would await a new president, who he argues will be tasked with uniting the country.

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"We certainly can't ignore what's going on with the impeachment process," he told his Ames audience. "We've got to have that constitutional process play out and continue to focus on these issues that really can bring Americans together."

But Democrats need no convincing of the need for it, retired nurse Judy Voss of Davenport said Thursday at a Biden campaign stop there.

"I think they've talked enough about it," Voss said. "The Democrats can't do anything at this point except let people know what's going on."

Jaffe reported from Tipton and Davenport, Iowa. Associated Press writers Hunter Woodall in Manchester, N.H., and Will Weissert and Hannah Fingerhut in Washington also contributed to this report.

AP FACT CHECK: Trump's Syrian mission-accomplished moment

By CALVIN WOODWARD, HOPE YEN, and LOLITA C. BALDOR Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — As President Donald Trump describes it, the U.S. swooped into an intractable situation in the Middle East, achieved an agreement within hours that had eluded the world for years and delivered a "great day for civilization."

It was a mission-accomplished moment that other Republican leaders, Democrats and much of the world found unconvincing.

Trump spent much of the past week trying to justify his decision to pull U.S. troops away from America's Kurdish allies in Syria, leaving those Kurdish fighters vulnerable on several fronts and already reeling from attacks by Turkish forces.

In the process, Trump exaggerated the scope of a deal bringing a temporary cease-fire to Turkish-Kurdish hostilities and mischaracterized the history of the conflict and even the geography of it.

A look at his rhetoric on that topic and other subjects over the past week as well as a sampling of statements from the latest Democratic presidential debate:

SYRIA

TRUMP: "This is a great day for civilization. I am proud of the United States for sticking by me in following a necessary, but somewhat unconventional, path. People have been trying to make this 'Deal' for many years. Millions of lives will be saved. Congratulations to ALL!" — tweet Thursday.

TRUMP: "A lot of things are in that agreement that nobody ever thought possible." — remarks at Dallas rally Thursday.

THE FACTS: The agreement he is hailing is not nearly as consequential to the prospects for peace as he claims. It provides for a five-day cease-fire in the Turks' deadly attacks on Kurdish fighters in northern Syria, which began after Trump announced he would withdraw U.S. troops.

The agreement requires the Kurds to vacate a swath of territory in Syria along the Turkish border in an arrangement that codifies nearly all of Turkey's stated goals in the conflict and relieves it of U.S. sanctions.

It imposes no apparent long-term consequences for Turkey's move against the Kurds, important U.S. partners in the fight against the Islamic State group. Trump calls that fight a mission accomplished despite the U.S. officials' fears of an IS resurgence.

TRUMP, on the Syrian areas of Turkish-Kurdish conflict: "It's a lot of sand. They've got a lot of sand over there. So there's a lot of sand that they can play with." — remarks Wednesday.

THE FACTS: The area of conflict is not known for being particularly sandy. In contrast to Trump's imagery of arid, worthless land that other countries — not the U.S. — should fight over, it's actually the breadbasket of Syria.

The area is part of what was historically known as the Fertile Crescent, where settled farming and early civilizations first began.

TRUMP: "We were supposed to be in Syria for one month. That was 10 years ago." — news conference

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Wednesday.

THE FACTS: Previous administrations never set a one-month timeline for U.S. involvement in Syria.

The U.S.-led coalition began airstrikes on Islamic State militants in Syria in September 2014. About a year later, the Pentagon said teams of special operations forces began going into Syria to conduct raids and start efforts to partner with the Kurdish forces.

Then-Defense Secretary Ash Carter made it clear to Congress at that time that the Pentagon was ready to expand operations with the Kurds and would continue to do so as needed to battle IS, without setting a specific deadline.

TRUMP: "Our soldiers are mostly gone from the area." — news conference Wednesday.

THE FACTS: They're mostly still there.

Close to 30 U.S. troops moved out of two outposts near the border area where the Turkish attack was initially centered. But the bulk of the roughly 1,000 U.S. troops deployed to Syria are still in the country.

According to officials, most of the U.S. troops have largely been consolidated into a few locations in the north, including an airfield facility in the western part of the country known as the Kobani landing zone. A couple hundred have left in recent days with military equipment, and officials say the withdrawal will take weeks.

TRUMP: "It's time to bring our soldiers back home." — news conference Wednesday.

THE FACTS: That's not what he's doing. U.S. forces in Syria won't be returning home in mass numbers anytime soon.

While the U.S. has begun what the Pentagon calls a deliberate withdrawal of troops from Syria, Trump himself has said that the 200 to 300 U.S. service members deployed to a southern Syria outpost in Al-Tanf will remain there.

As well, military officials are developing plans to station U.S. forces in nearby locations, including Iraq, Kuwait and possibly Jordan, where they will still be able to monitor and, if needed, continue to conduct operations against IS.

JOE BIDEN: "I would not have withdrawn the troops, and I would not have withdrawn the additional 1,000 troops that are in Iraq, which are in retreat now, being fired on by Assad's people." — Democratic debate on Tuesday.

THE FACTS: The former vice president is wrong. There is no evidence that any of the approximately 1,000 American troops preparing to evacuate from Syria have been fired on by Syrian government forces led by President Bashar Assad. A small group of U.S. troops came under Turkish artillery fire near the town of Kobani last week, without anyone being injured, but there is no indication that Syrian troops have shot at withdrawing Americans.

Also, Biden was addressing the situation in Syria, not Iraq.

WOMEN IN SPACE

TRUMP: "This is the first time for a woman outside of the Space Station. ... They're conducting the first-ever female spacewalk to replace an exterior part of the Space Station." — speaking to flight engineers Jessica Meir and Christina Koch outside the International Space Station in a teleconference Friday.

THE FACTS: Meir corrected the record, telling Trump: "First of all, we don't want to take too much credit, because there have been many other female spacewalkers before us. This is just the first time that there have been two women outside at the same time."

AMMUNITION

TRUMP: "When I first got in, a general told me we could have had a conflict with someone. Said, Sir, we don't have ammunition. And I said I never want to hear a president — I just never want to hear somebody

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have that statement made to them again as president of the United States. We don't have ammunition. Think of how bad. Now we have so much ammunition we don't know what to do with it." — Dallas rally Thursday.

THE FACTS: Trump periodically quotes unidentified generals as saying things that he wants to hear and that are hard to imagine them actually having said. This is no exception. The U.S. doesn't go to war without sufficient ammunition.

At most, budget constraints may have restricted ammunition for certain training exercises at times and held back the development of new forms of firepower. It's not unusual for generals to want more people and equipment at their disposal than they have. But they don't run out of bullets.

ECONOMY and TRADE

TRUMP: "Just out: MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME IS AT THE HIGHEST POINT EVER, EVER, EVER! How about saying it this way, IN THE HISTORY OF OUR COUNTRY!" — tweet Tuesday.

THE FACTS: Another way of saying it is that median household income has been this high before.

Trump also builds his boast on the records of others.

In the Census Bureau's definitive annual report on income and poverty, it found that median household income in 2018 matched the previous peak of \$63,200, in inflation-adjusted dollars, reached in 1999.

While that was a welcome increase after household income fell sharply in the Great Recession, it also suggests that the median American household went back to where it was 19 years ago. (The median is the point where half of households earn more and half earn less).

Household income began rising in 2014, after falling in the aftermath of the recession, and jumped 5.1% in 2015, making its most significance gains in President Barack Obama's second term.

It grew just 0.9% in 2018, the slowest in three years. The Census Bureau says its data is difficult to compare with previous years because it changed its methods in 2013.

It released a supplemental report showing that, adjusted for those methodological changes, median incomes in 2018 matched those in 1999. A separate census report, which has fewer details on incomes, said last month that median household income has reached a record high, but those data only go back to 2005.

TRUMP, on a World Trade Organization ruling allowing the U.S. to tax impose tariffs on \$7.5 billion worth of European imports annually: "I think the WTO award has been testament to a lot of good work by the Trump administration. We never won with the WTO, or essentially never won. Very seldom did we win. And now we're winning a lot." — remarks Wednesday before meeting with Italy's president.

TRUMP: "We didn't win anything for years practically. Now we've won a lot of cases. You know why? Because they know I'll leave if they don't treat us fairly." — Dallas rally Thursday.

THE FACTS: He's incorrect to say the U.S. never or rarely got any WTO victories under other presidents.

The U.S. has always had a high success rate when it pursues cases against other countries at the WTO. In 2017, trade analyst Daniel Ikenson of the libertarian Cato Institute found that the U.S. had won 91% of time it brought a complaint that ended up being adjudicated by the Geneva-based trade monitor. True, Ikenson noted, the countries bringing complaints tend to win overwhelmingly. That's because they don't bother going to the WTO in the first place if they don't have a pretty strong case.

The WTO announcement culminated a 15-year fight over EU subsidies for Airbus — a fight that began long before Trump was in office.

JULIÁN CASTRO: "Ohio, Michigan, and Pennsylvania actually in the latest jobs data have lost jobs, not gained them." — Democratic debate.

THE FACTS: No. Figures from the Labor Department show that the former Housing and Urban Development secretary is wrong.

Ohio added jobs in August. So did Michigan. Same with Pennsylvania.

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So Castro's statement is off.

These states do still have economic struggles. Pennsylvania has lost factory jobs since the end of 2018. So has Michigan. And Ohio has shed 100 factory jobs so far this year.

TRUMP: "MORE PEOPLE WORKING TODAY IN THE USA THAN AT ANY TIME IN HISTORY!" — tweet Tuesday.

THE FACTS: True, but it's due to population growth, not just steady hiring.

A more relevant measure is the proportion of Americans with jobs, and that is still far below record highs.

According to Labor Department data, 61% of people in the United States 16 years and older were working in September. That's below the all-time high of 64.7% in April 2000, though higher than the 59.9% when Trump was inaugurated in January 2017.

CLIMATE CHANGE

BERNIE SANDERS: "We're forgetting about the existential threat of climate change." "Right now the CEOs in the fossil fuel industry know full well that their product is destroying this world and they continue to make huge profits." — Democratic debate.

THE FACTS: Earth's existence and life on the planet will not end because of climate change, as the Vermont senator suggests. Fossil fuels do not have Earth on a path of destruction.

Science says climate change will cause great harm, but it won't wipe out everything and won't end humanity.

"It's an existential threat for many species," said Princeton University climate scientist Michael Oppenheimer. "It's an existential threat for many ecosystems. I don't think it's an existential threat for humanity."

Life will be dramatically altered if the burning of fossil fuels continues unabated, said Oppenheimer, a co-author of many of the most dire international science reports on climate change.

"Existential" has perhaps lost its literal meaning, as politicians in general and Democrats in particular cast many threats as existential ones even when existence is not on the line. In the debate, for example, New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker described the closing of two Planned Parenthood clinics in Ohio as an existential threat to abortion rights in America.

GUN CONTROL

PETE BUTTIGIEG: "On guns, we are this close to an assault weapons ban. That would be huge." — Democratic debate.

AMY KLOBUCHAR: "I just keep thinking of how close we are to finally getting something done on this." — Democratic debate.

THE FACTS: No, the U.S. is not close to enacting an assault-weapons ban, as Buttigieg claimed, nor close on any significant gun control, as Klobuchar had it. Congress is not on the verge of such legislation. Prospects for an assault-weapons ban, in particular, are bound to remain slim until the next election at least.

Legislation under discussion in the Senate would expand background checks for gun sales, a politically popular idea even with gun owners. But even that bill has stalled because of opposition from the National Rifle Association and on-again, off-again support from Trump. Democrats and some Republicans in Congress say they will continue to push for the background checks bill, but movement appears unlikely during an impeachment inquiry and general dysfunction in Congress. And Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., has made it clear he won't move forward on gun legislation without Trump's strong support.

Buttigieg was citing the chance for an assault-weapons ban as a reason for not supporting the more radical proposal by Democratic presidential rival Beto O'Rourke to force gun owners to give up AR-15s and other assault-style weapons. Klobuchar spoke in a similar context.

RUSSIA INVESTIGATION

ELIZABETH WARREN: "Mueller had shown to a fare-thee-well that this president obstructed justice." — Democratic debate.

THE FACTS: That's not exactly what special counsel Robert Mueller showed.

It's true that prosecutors examined more than 10 episodes for evidence of obstruction of justice, and that they did illustrate efforts by Trump to stymie the Russia investigation or take control of it.

But ultimately, Mueller did not reach a conclusion as to whether the president obstructed justice or broke any other law. He cited Justice Department policy against the indictment of a sitting president and said that since he could not bring charges against Trump, it was unfair to accuse him of a crime. There was no definitive finding that he obstructed justice.

Associated Press writers Christopher Rugaber, Seth Borenstein, Josh Boak, Robert Burns, Matthew Daly, Eric Tucker and Paul Wiseman in Washington, Lisa Marie Pane in Boise, Idaho, and Amanda Seitz in Chicago contributed to this report.

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Jane Fonda returns to civil disobedience for climate change

By ELLEN KNICKMEYER Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Inspired by the climate activism of a Swedish teenager, Jane Fonda says she's returning to civil disobedience nearly a half-century after she was last arrested at a protest.

Fonda, known for her opposition to the Vietnam War, was one of 17 climate protesters arrested Friday at the U.S. Capitol on charges of unlawful demonstration by what she called "extremely nice and professional" police. Fellow actor Sam Waterston was also in the group, which included many older demonstrators.

Now 81, Fonda said she plans to get arrested every Friday to advocate for urgent reduction in the use of fossil fuels. She hopes to encourage other older people to protest as well.

Getting arrested in 2019, poses some entirely new challenges, Fonda told The Associated Press in an interview.

These days, "they use white plastic things on your wrists instead of metal handcuffs, and that hurts more," she said.

"The only problem for me is I'm old," Fonda said. After her first arrest last week, she had trouble getting into the police vehicle because she was handcuffed behind her back and "had nothing to hang on to."

On Friday, Fonda emerged from a cluster of officers and stepped smartly into the police wagon, her hands cuffed in front of her.

"Thanks, Jane!" some of the protesters called out.

"What would you tell President Trump?" someone in the crowd yelled to her earlier, as she and other protesters stood on their platform in front of the Capitol.

"I wouldn't waste my breath," she shouted back, drawing laughter.

The rally drew at least a couple of hundred people, young and old.

While Fonda has taken part in many climate demonstrations, she said Greta Thunberg's mobilization of international student strikes and other activism, along with the climate writing of author Naomi Klein, prompted her to return to courting arrests for a cause.

Fonda cannot remember precisely which cause led to her last arrest in the 1970s.

She said her target audience now is people like her who try to cut their plastic use and drive fuel-efficient cars, for instance, but otherwise "don't know what to do and they feel helpless," she said. "We're trying to encourage people to become more active, across the age spectrum."

Especially in the U.S., young people appear to be driving many of the protests and rallies demanding government action on climate change, University of Maryland sociologist Dana Fisher said.

Nearly half of the people who turned out for a September climate protest in Washington were college age or younger, and a quarter were 17 or younger, for instance, Fisher said. Most were female.

On the other hand, it was older, white females who turned out for earlier protests during the Trump

administration, like the women's marches, Fisher noted.

"There's a whole group of very activated, middle-age white women. They woke up after the election, and they haven't gone back to bed," Fisher said.

So far, those people have not been involved in the youth climate movement. Fonda's efforts could "get them out there," Fisher said.

If her efforts misfire, Fisher added, the older people risk making the movement look uncool.

Asked how she would answer any young climate activist who complained of being co-opted, Fonda said, "I would hug them."

And she did just that with some of the teenagers and other young activists she invited up to the stage to speak.

"It's a good thing that Jane is doing, to try to shift the paradigm so it's not just falling on young people" to rally the public on fossil fuel emissions, said Joe Markus, a 19-year-old Washington-area student attending Friday's protest.

Leslie Wharton, 63, from Bethesda, Maryland, sat out the Vietnam War protests that drew out Fonda. She came out Friday as part of a group calling itself Elders Climate Action.

Lots of people of all ages are worried about climate change and want to do something, Wharton said, but "us elders are retired or part-time. We can take the time."

Shifting explanations from White House alarm some in GOP

By **LISA MASCARO, ANDREW TAYLOR and MARY CLARE JALONICK Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — The shifting White House explanation for President Donald Trump's decision to withhold military aid from Ukraine drew alarm Friday from Republicans as the impeachment inquiry brought a new test of their alliance.

Trump, in remarks at the White House, stood by his acting chief of staff, Mick Mulvaney, whose earlier comments undermined the administration's defense in the impeachment probe. Speaking Thursday at a news conference, Mulvaney essentially acknowledged a quid pro quo with Ukraine that Trump has long denied, saying U.S. aid was withheld from Kyiv to push for an investigation of the Democratic National Committee and the 2016 election. He later clarified his remarks.

Trump appeared satisfied with Mulvaney's clarification and the president dismissed the entire House inquiry as "a terrible witch hunt. This is so bad for our country."

But former Ohio Gov. John Kasich, who ran against Trump in the 2016 Republican primary, said he now supports impeaching the president.

Mulvaney's admission, he said, was the "final straw." "The last 24 hours has really forced me to review all of this," Kasich said on CNN.

In Congress, at least one Republican, Rep. Francis Rooney of Florida, spoke out publicly, telling reporters that he and others were concerned by Mulvaney's remarks. Rooney said he's open to considering all sides in the impeachment inquiry. He also said Mulvaney's comments cannot simply be undone by a follow-up statement.

"It's not an Etch-A-Sketch," said Rooney, a former ambassador to the Holy See under President George W. Bush.

"The only thing I can assume is, he meant what he had to say — that there was a quid pro quo on this stuff," he said.

The tumult over Mulvaney's remarks capped a momentous week in the impeachment investigation as the admission, from highest levels of the administration, undercut the White House defense and pushed more evidence into the inquiry.

GOP leaders tried to contain the fallout. But four weeks into the inquiry, the events around Trump's interaction with the Ukraine president, which are at the heart of impeachment, have upended Washington.

A beloved House chairman, Rep. Elijah Cummings, D-Md., a leading figure in the investigation, died amid ongoing health challenges.

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The Energy Secretary, Rick Perry, who has been caught up in the probe, announced his resignation. On Friday, the Energy Department sent a letter to House committee chairs saying it would not comply with a subpoena for documents and communications.

The march toward an impeachment vote now seems all but inevitable, so much so that the highest-ranking Republican, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, privately told his GOP colleagues this week to expect action in the House by Thanksgiving with a Senate trial by Christmas.

Speaker Nancy Pelosi has given no timeline for conclusion but wants the inquiry completed "expeditiously." She said Thursday that facts of the investigation will determine next steps.

"The timeline will depend on the truth line," she told reporters.

This week's hours of back-to-back closed-door hearings from diplomats and former top aides appeared to be providing investigators with a remarkably consistent account of the run-up and aftermath of Trump's call with Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

In that July call, Trump asked the newly elected Zelenskyy for a "favor" in investigating the Democratic National Committee's email situation, which was central to the 2016 election, as well as a Ukraine gas company, Burisma, linked to the family of Trump's 2020 Democratic rival, Joe Biden, according to a rough transcript of the phone conversation released by the White House.

Republican leaders tried to align with Trump Friday, amid their own mixed messages as House Democrats, who already issued a subpoena to Mulvaney for documents, now want to hear directly from him.

Rep. Kevin McCarthy, the House GOP leader, cited Mulvaney's clarification as evidence that there was no quid pro quo. He said witnesses have also testified similarly behind closed doors in the impeachment inquiry.

"We've been very clear," McCarthy said. "There was no quid pro quo."

Lawmakers involved in the three House committees conducting the investigation want to hear more next week, which promises another packed schedule of witnesses appearing behind closed doors.

Republicans want the interviews made open to the public, including releasing transcripts.

Democrats in the probe being led by Rep. Adam Schiff, chairman of the Intelligence Committee, are keeping the proceedings closed for now, partly to prevent witnesses from comparing notes.

Three House committees investigating impeachment have tentatively scheduled several closed-door interviews next week, including one with Bill Taylor, the current top official at the U.S. Embassy in Ukraine.

Taylor's interview, scheduled for Tuesday, is significant because he was among the diplomats on a text message string during the time around the July phone call. He raised a red flag and said it was "crazy" to withhold the military aid for a political investigation.

It's unclear whether all the witnesses will appear, given that the White House is opposing the inquiry and trying to block officials from testifying.

The schedule includes a mix of State Department officials and White House aides.

Trump touts Turkey cease-fire, even as it appears shaky

By **ROBERT BURNS** and **ZEKE MILLER** Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump is pushing back at criticism that his Syria withdrawal is damaging U.S. credibility, betraying Kurdish allies and opening the door for a possible resurgence of the Islamic State. He touted a cease-fire agreement that seemed at risk as Turkey and Kurdish fighters differed over what it required and whether combat had halted.

"We've had tremendous success I think over the last couple of days," Trump declared Friday. He added that "we've taken control of the oil in the Middle East" -- a claim that seemed disconnected from any known development there.

He made the assertion twice Friday, but other U.S. officials were unable to explain what he meant.

Calling his Syria approach "a little bit unconventional," the president contended that Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan as well as the Syrian Kurdish fighters the Turks are battling agree that the U.S.-

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brokered cease-fire was the right step and were complying with it.

"There is good will on both sides & a really good chance for success," he wrote on Twitter.

That optimism seemed at odds with Erdogan's own words. He told reporters in Istanbul that Turkish forces would resume their offensive in four days unless Kurdish-led fighters withdraw "without exception" from a so-called safe zone 20 miles (30 kilometers) deep in Syria running the entire 260-mile (440-kilometer) length of the border with Turkey.

There was no sign of any pullout by the Kurdish-led forces, who accused Turkey of violating the cease-fire with continued fighting at a key border town.

They also said the accord covers a much smaller section of the border. And some fighters have vowed not to withdraw at all, dismissing the deal as a betrayal by the U.S., whose soldiers they have fought alongside against the IS.

Eric Edelman, a former U.S. ambassador to Turkey who served as the Pentagon's top policy official during the George W. Bush administration, said he doubts Turkey and its Syrian proxies could control the entire border area from the Euphrates to Iraq without help from Russia or others.

"That's a very big expanse of territory to hold, albeit a lot of it is uninhabited," Edelman said. "That probably means they've cut already some deal with the Russians and the Iranians."

Even so, Trump insisted peace was at hand.

"There is a cease-fire or a pause or whatever you want to call it," he said. "There was some sniper fire this morning," as well as mortar fire, but that was quickly halted and the area had returned to a "full pause," he said.

Trump also asserted that some European nations are now willing to take responsibility for detained IS fighters who are from their countries.

"Anyway, big progress being made!!!!" he exclaimed on Twitter.

Trump said nothing further about the European nations he now contends have agreed to take some of the IS fighters, a demand he has repeated often. No European government announced an intent to take control of IS prisoners.

Speaking in Brussels after briefing NATO ambassadors on the Syria situation, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said, "We've seen comments today from a number of countries who said they may well be prepared to take back these fighters." He, too, identified no such countries.

At the Pentagon, Defense Secretary Mark Esper said U.S. troops are continuing their withdrawal from northern Syria. He also said no U.S. ground troops will participate in enforcing or monitoring the cease-fire.

"The force protection of our service members remains our top priority and, as always, U.S. forces will defend themselves from any threat as we complete our withdrawal from the area," Esper told reporters.

One important unknown in the wake of Turkey's military incursion, which began Oct. 9, is whether IS fighters who have been held by U.S.-allied Kurdish fighters known as the Syrian Democratic Forces will escape in large numbers. Even before the Turkish offensive, some U.S. officials had noted signs that IS was seeking to regroup.

Officials have said a number of ISIS fighters, likely just over 100, have escaped custody since Turkey launched its invasion last week.

There are 11 prisons with IS detainees in the so-called safe zone between Tal Abyad and Ras al-Ayn.

Accounting for the broader border area that the Turks contend is the safe zone - that number grows to 16 prisons. It's unclear exactly how many of those are currently under Turkish control - but as they push the Kurds out, the Turks are supposed to take control of the prisons.

Trump has been widely criticized for turning his back on the Kurds, who have taken heavy casualties as partners with the U.S. since 2016. Even some Republicans are taking aim.

"Withdrawing U.S. forces from Syria is a grave strategic mistake. It will leave the American people and homeland less safe, embolden our enemies, and weaken important alliances," Sen. Majority Leader Mitch McConnell wrote Friday in a Washington Post opinion column.

Erdogan said Friday he and Trump share "love and respect," but he also left little doubt that he was offended by an Oct. 9 letter from Trump telling him, "Don't be a fool!"

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Erdogan told reporters Trump's words were not compatible with "political and diplomatic courtesy" and would not be forgotten. He said he would "do what's necessary" about the letter "when the time comes." He did not elaborate.

While U.S. officials have insisted that Trump did not authorize Turkey's invasion, the cease-fire codifies nearly all of Turkey's stated goals in the conflict.

During a campaign rally in Texas on Thursday night, Trump said, "Sometimes you have to let them fight, like two kids in a lot, you got to let them fight and then you pull them apart."

AP writers Lolita C. Baldor, Deb Riechmann, Alan Fram, Darlene Superville, Jill Colvin and Zeke Miller contributed from Washington.

Some worries about nuclear weapons at Turkey base

By **ROBERT BURNS** AP National Security Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Frayed U.S. relations with Turkey over its incursion in Syria raise a sensitive question rarely discussed in public: Should the United States remove the nuclear bombs it has long stored at a Turkish air base?

It's a tricky matter for several reasons, including the fact that by longstanding policy, the U.S. government does not publicly acknowledge locations of nuclear weapons overseas. Still, it is almost an open secret that the U.S. has as many as 50 B-61 bombs stored under heavy guard at Incirlik air base in southern Turkey.

President Donald Trump implicitly acknowledged the stockpile this week when asked by a reporter how confident he was of the bombs' security.

"We're confident," he said.

Turkey, a NATO ally, has reportedly hosted American nuclear weapons for 60 years. The bombs could be dropped by U.S. planes in a nuclear war. The arrangement at Incirlik air base is part of NATO's policy of linking Turkey and other member countries to the alliance's aim of deterring war by having a relatively small number of nuclear weapons based in Europe. Removing them, therefore, would be a diplomatic complication.

There is no known evidence that the nuclear weapons at Incirlik are at direct risk, but relations between Washington and Ankara are at perhaps a historic low and the war in Syria has grown more complex and unpredictable. Incirlik is about 150 miles from Syria by road.

Thursday's announced U.S. deal with Turkey to pause its offensive against Kurdish fighters in northern Syria may have slowed the deterioration of relations. But the overall direction has been decidedly and increasingly negative.

"The arc of their behavior over the past several years has been terrible," Defense Secretary Mark Esper said last Sunday, noting that Ankara defied repeated U.S. warnings not to purchase a Russian air defense system that the White House has likened to a portal for Russian spying. He added: "I mean, they are spinning out of the Western orbit, if you will."

In July, the Pentagon kicked Turkey out of its F-35 fighter jet program because Turkey refused to halt its purchase of the Russian-made air defense system. This was a major blow to U.S.-Turkey relations and raised questions in Washington about whether Turkey was a reliable ally.

Eric Edelman, a former U.S. ambassador to Turkey and senior Pentagon official, said Friday he believes the nuclear weapons are safe and secure. He sees risk in removing them.

"I'm not in favor of taking any actions that would potentially accelerate Turkey's thinking about pursuing its own independent nuclear deterrent," he said, noting that Erdogan as recently as September mentioned this possibility.

Some American arms control experts say the U.S. bombs at Incirlik would be safer in another NATO member country.

Hans Kristensen of the Federation of American Scientists, who has followed the issue for many years, said in an interview that a review of options for the U.S. bombs at Incirlik, near the city of Adana, is long

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overdue. He believes the Air Force, which is responsible for the bombs, has grown concerned about their security in recent years.

"The Air Force is concerned about not only the standard physical perimeters — whether they are good enough — but also about the manpower on the base, whether they have enough to hold back an attack from someone," Kristensen said.

The conflict in northern Syria, which has only grown more complex and unpredictable with a U.S. troop withdrawal, has added a new layer of worry for American officials, he said.

"They're afraid of the spillover" inside Turkey, he said.

The Pentagon has declined to comment on the matter.

"It is U.S. policy to neither confirm nor deny the presence or absence of nuclear weapons at any general or specific location," said Air Force Lt. Col. Uriah Orland, a Pentagon spokesman. "The U.S. does not discuss the movement of nuclear weapons, the capability to store weapons at U.S. or foreign locations or planning for any of these activities."

Even private experts who study the matter are not sure how many weapons are stored there, but Kristensen believes there are up to 50 B-61 bombs designed to be dropped by U.S. fighter aircraft. He says the U.S. has had nuclear weapons in Turkey continuously since 1959.

The bombs in Turkey are part of a network of roughly 150 U.S. air-delivered nuclear weapons based in Europe. Kristensen says the host countries, in addition to Turkey, are Belgium, Italy, Germany and the Netherlands.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said Friday he and Trump share "love and respect," but he also let little doubt that he was offended by an Oct. 9 letter from Trump telling Erdogan, "Don't be a fool!"

Erdogan told reporters Trump's words were not compatible with "political and diplomatic courtesy" and would not be forgotten. He said he would "do what's necessary" about the letter "when the time comes." He did not elaborate.

LeMahieu, Hicks lift Yanks over Astros, close to 3-2 in ALCS

By RONALD BLUM AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — James Paxton was filled with nerves, and so were New York Yankees fans, worried the season was slipping away.

Tension only surged when the top of the first featured a little grounder that got away, a passed ball and a run-scoring wild pitch.

No worries.

Boom! DJ LeMahieu drove Justin Verlander's second pitch over the wall to tie the score.

Clang! Aaron Hicks hit a three-run homer off the foul pole later in the inning.

Just like that, the Bronx Bombers were back — in the game, and in this matchup of powerhouses.

A day after a brutal loss, and with little margin for more errors, the Yankees played like a 103-win team. Paxton chilled Houston's bats and the bullpen followed with shutdown relief to beat the Astros 4-1 Friday night, cutting New York's AL Championship Series deficit to 3-2.

"I wasn't ready to go home yet," Paxton said, "so I wanted to go out and give my team everything I had and just battle away."

Now the teams rush to Texas, where the series resumes Saturday night without a day off. With pitching plans disrupted by a rainout earlier this week, both teams plan all-bullpen efforts in Game 6. But Gerrit Cole, 19-0 since May, looms as the Astros' starter on Sunday if New York manages to extend the matchup to the seven-game limit.

"We've just got to go back home and finish the job," Houston's Carlos Correa said.

Paxton, a fishing aficionado born outside Vancouver in Ladner, British Columbia, wore three-quarter-length sleeves on a night with a game-time temperature of 52 degrees. That was the coldest for a Verlander start since last year's ALCS opener at Boston, according to STATS — he had on long sleeves and half of Houston's fielders had hoodies or balaclavas.

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After lasting just 2 1/3 innings in Game 2, Paxton struck out nine in six innings, allowing four hits and four walks. Punching his pitching hand into his glove after big strikeouts, he saved his biggest emotion for his 112th and final pitch. Manager Aaron Boone had just made a trip to the mound, unsure whether he would make a change.

"He just said, 'Are you ready? Do you have anything more left in the tank?'" Paxton said.

"And I said, 'Yeah, let's go. I want this.'"

Robinson Chirinos hit a first-pitch fastball that Brett Gardner caught in front of the left-field scoreboard with a runner on.

"When it first left the bat: 'Oh, no!'" Boone remembered thinking to himself.

After Tommy Kahnle allowed George Springer's one-out single in seventh and walked José Altuve, Zack Britton retired Michael Brantley and Alex Bregman. Britton struck out two in a perfect eighth, and Aroldis Chapman finished with a 1-2-3 ninth for the save.

Paxton outpitched Verlander, an eight-time All-Star and former AL MVP and Cy Young Award winner, on a night when each team had five hits.

Verlander opened with a JV first inning — not Justin vintage, but junior varsity. He allowed a pair of first-inning homers for the first time in 28 postseason starts and gave up four runs in an inning for the first time since Houston acquired him from Detroit in August 2017.

"Fastball command wasn't very good, and the slider was just hanging," Verlander said.

Verlander retired 10 in a row after Hicks' homer and wound up allowing five hits in seven innings with nine strikeouts and no walks.

"We took advantage of his missed locations when he was a little vulnerable," LeMahieu said. "And that's the difference in the game."

A night after the Yankees made four errors in one of their messier games this season during an 8-3 loss, Paxton fell behind after 14 pitches. Springer reached on an infield hit, took second on Gary Sánchez's passed ball, advanced on a groundout and scored when Paxton bounced a breaking ball off Sánchez's glove for a wild pitch.

"A lot of nerves," Paxton said. "I was just overthrowing a little bit early."

New York came out swinging against Verlander, who had been 4-0 with a 2.38 ERA against the Yankees in seven postseason starts.

LeMahieu fouled off a pitch, then drove a fastball 355 feet to right-center for New York's first postseason leadoff homer since Derek Jeter in the 2009 ALCS against the Angels.

"Woke up the building," Astros manager AJ Hinch said.

Aaron Judge singled and Gleyber Torres doubled. Verlander struck out Giancarlo Stanton, who went 0 for 3 with two strikeouts after missing three games with a strained right quadriceps.

Hicks was sidelined for more than two months by a right elbow injury that made him wonder whether he would need Tommy John surgery, then made a surprise return for the ALCS and re-entered the starting lineup for Game 3.

He fell behind 0-2, took three straight balls and sent a chest-high slider down the right field line. He dropped his bat, turned and watched the ball, took a half-dozen slow steps toward first and started jogging after it clanked off the pole for his first home run since July 24.

"It curved a lot more than I thought it would," Hicks said.

New York had never hit a pair of first-inning homers in 404 previous postseason games. Verlander could only crouch on the infield grass as Hicks circled the bases.

Hicks ended a stretch of 15 straight hitless at-bats for the Yankees with runners in scoring position. New York has relied on the long ball, scoring 12 of its 17 runs against the Astros on seven homers.

"We just always fight back," Judge said. "That's what we talked about in our meeting today. Let's go back to being ourselves."

FIRSTS

This was the 1,609th postseason game in major league history, and the first in which both teams scored in the first inning and neither scored the rest of the game.

SABATHIA

CC Sabathia dislocated his left shoulder while pitching in Game 4 and was replaced on the Yankees active roster by RHP Ben Heller. That ended the 19-season career of the 39-year-old left-hander, who is retiring. He was given a big ovation when shown on the video board in the sixth and waved to fans from the dugout.

UP NEXT

Neither team announced a Game 6 starter. Rookie RHP José Urquidy is Houston's most likely option, and New York could go with RHP Chad Green as an opener or start LHP J.A. Happ. New York would start RHP Luis Severino in a Game 7.

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

Opioid negotiations fail to produce deal just before trial

By GEOFF MULVIHILL Associated Press

Negotiations aimed at reaching a major settlement in the nation's opioid litigation reached an impasse Friday.

Key differences were between state attorneys general and lawyers representing local governments, rather than with the drugmakers and distributors they are suing.

One of the negotiators, North Carolina Attorney General Josh Stein, said late Friday that local governments did not accept a deal worth \$48 billion in cash, treatment drugs and services.

"We're disappointed that the cities and counties refused to go along with that deal," he said during a news conference in Cleveland after talks under the watch of a federal judge had ended for the day. "This would have helped the entire nation, not just a few counties, not just a few cities."

Stein and attorneys general for Pennsylvania, Tennessee and Texas led the talks on behalf of the states. They said going to trial would mean that the first local governments to win cases would get relief, rather than having money and treatment drugs distributed equitably across the country.

Paul Farrell, a lead lawyer for the local governments, told The Associated Press that one hang-up was the states' desire to be in charge of dividing the money. They said that the deal would provide free Suboxone, a drug used to treat opioid addiction, across the country.

State and local governments have been at odds for during the litigation. Ohio's attorney general even tried to get the federal trial put on hold, arguing the state's claims in state court should go first.

Earlier in the day, another of the lead lawyers, Paul Hanly, told The Washington Post that the drugmakers Teva and Johnson & Johnson as well as the distributors AmerisourceBergen, Cardinal Health and McKesson were not willing to increase their offer.

In a statement, the lead lawyers for the local governments said their goal with a settlement would be one that would ensure "these resources will be directed exclusively toward efforts to abate the opioid epidemic."

Talks can continue, but opening statements are scheduled for Monday in the first federal trial over the opioid epidemic, which has contributed to the deaths of 400,000 Americans over the past two decades.

"When the first day of trial starts Monday, we look forward to sharing the facts — and the facts will show that opioid makers and distributors conspired to create and benefit from the worst public health crisis in decades," the lawyers said.

In a statement, Cardinal Health expressed disappointment.

"The attorneys general and the distributors reached common ground. We worked hard all day and into the evening to find a path forward, for everyone. Unfortunately, some parties to this litigation, and their lawyers, would not agree," the company said. "Those parties asked for more, and we dug deep. They would not accept our good faith efforts."

That trial involves claims by two Ohio counties, but it's considered a test case for similar lawsuits from governments across the country. The defendants in the case are Teva, the three major distributors, the

smaller distributor Henry Schein, and Walgreens.

Johnson & Johnson previously settled with the two counties. Three other manufacturers also settled with the counties and another, OxyContin maker Purdue, is attempting to reach a deal to end all its lawsuits through bankruptcy court; on that, about half the states and many local governments oppose accepting the offer as it stands.

U.S. District Court Judge Dan Polster has said he wants the parties to strike a settlement in such a way that it would make a real difference in resolving the crisis. He invited state attorneys general to participate in the negotiations even though their lawsuits against the industry were filed in state courts.

Sharpton searches for the words to eulogize _ and galvanize

By ERRIN HAINES AP National Writer

A life taken at the hands of police. A grieving family. A divided nation. A stirring eulogy by the Rev. Al Sharpton.

The 65-year-old civil rights activist has become a constant of the Black Lives Matter era with his presence in the pulpit after police shootings of African Americans, showing up in cities like Baltimore, Sacramento and Ferguson, Missouri to comfort loved ones and call for justice.

On Saturday, the scene will unfold again, as Sharpton delivers remarks at a service for Atatiana Jefferson, who was playing video games with her 8-year-old nephew when she was killed by a white Fort Worth, Texas, police officer. Again, Sharpton is left searching for the words to soothe — and to galvanize.

"I try to frame a message that, as a minister, gives some comfort and meaning to the family," Sharpton told The Associated Press. "Whether it was 30 years ago, or whether it's Saturday, this is somebody's child, this is somebody's sister, brother. At the same time, it is opening a scar in black America that makes us all feel vulnerable."

The head of the National Action Network, MSNBC host and Baptist preacher has delivered dozens of eulogies over his long career, including for celebrities like Michael Jackson and James Brown, but it's the police shooting funerals that have taken on the greatest poignancy. As the cycle repeats itself on social media and on cable television, through headlines and hashtags, a drumbeat of grief and death, Sharpton delivers more than just a speech to a grieving congregation — he offers his words as a balm for all of black America.

"His presence brings the attention that is needed for an America that keeps saying we don't have an issue," said attorney Benjamin Crump, who has represented several black families whose loved ones were killed by police in recent years. "He brings his influence, his platform, his national audience with him when he comes into that church to eulogize those people."

At the center of Sharpton's work is his faith.

"God calls on some people to build big churches," he said. "I believe my calling is to help those that go through this, and if my being there and words and whatever kind of notoriety I can bring helps them, then that's what I'm supposed to do."

Sharpton's ministering of families doesn't end after a family's loved ones are buried. Two decades after Amadou Diallo was shot by New York City police officers who mistook him for a rape suspect, Sharpton still calls Diallo's mom on Mother's Day. He does the same for many others, including Gwen Carr, whose son Eric Garner's chokehold death gained attention largely because of Sharpton's efforts.

Carr noted Sharpton paid for her son's funeral. She has since lost a daughter and her husband, and Sharpton has shown up every time.

"A lot of people in his position, after everything was over, after the lights of the cameras go out, they go on to the next story, they forget about you," she said. "He's not like that."

While many cases come to Sharpton's attention through attorneys or local clergy and activists, he never comes where he isn't called, and won't do anything he isn't asked.

"Somebody has called him to help because they can't get justice, because people are not listening to them," said Sybrina Fulton, whose son Trayvon Martin was killed by a neighborhood watch volunteer in

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Sanford, Florida, in 2012.

She recalled the time Sharpton missed his mother's funeral to attend a rally for her son. "He said, 'This is what my mom would want me to do,'" Fulton said.

Still, the work does take a toll.

"Some of the worst nights of my life are the nights after I speak at a funeral of somebody that I don't think should've been dead," Sharpton said. "Emotionally, it's very, very draining. It's almost depressing psychologically."

Among the deaths that still haunt him is that of Ramarley Graham. Graham's grandmother and then-6-year-old brother were witnesses when a New York City police officer killed the 18-year-old in his grandmother's bathroom in the Bronx in 2012.

As he delivered Graham's eulogy, Sharpton's eyes were trained on the younger brother.

"It took all I had to try to find something to say that we still have to struggle on, we still have to fight on, we can't give up," Sharpton recalled. "But I kept looking at that little boy — who, you could tell looking in his eyes, he just couldn't understand how this could happen."

Then there was the time he accompanied Diallo's family back to Guinea to bury him.

"How do you explain to Africans in the middle of the bush why this guy was killed?" Sharpton said.

Before Sharpton spoke at the funeral of Stephon Clark in Sacramento, California, last year, he called Clark's brother, Stevante, on stage. As the emotional young man bounded to the front of the church, Sharpton began the call-and-response protest chant: "I am!"

"Stephon Clark!" the audience responded.

"You don't tell people in pain how to handle their pain," Sharpton told the crowd, Stevante Clark's arm draped around him. "You don't tell people when you kill their loved one how to grieve."

Crump recalled the scene as masterful.

"I don't know any other preacher who could have delivered that eulogy with dignity, with a brother having a crisis right there in the pulpit with him," said Crump.

His goal Saturday is the same as it usually is for such funerals: Try to process what happened and the need for justice. But also think of the person who was killed, who she was, what she was about, what made her unique. Steer people who may be enraged away from actions that could desecrate the memory of the deceased.

In some ways, this one feels more personal for Sharpton, a new grandfather and the father of two daughters not much older than Jefferson.

"I can't even tell my daughters to go home and be safe . when a 28-year-old woman babysitting her nephew loses her life," he said. "That's what I'm thinking about: How you make sense out of that and where do we go from here?"

"Saturday is a test," he declared. "I've got to find a way to give meaning to that family, meaning to a nation that now has to ask, 'Are we even safe in our own homes?' Somewhere between now and that flight to Dallas, I've got to figure out the words. By the time I get there, I'm going to try to have some answers."

Errin Haines is national writer on race and ethnicity for The Associated Press. Follow her work on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/emarvelous> .

Trump touts Turkey cease-fire, even as it appears shaky

By **ROBERT BURNS** and **ZEKE MILLER** Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump punched back Friday at criticism that his Syria withdrawal is damaging U.S. credibility, betraying Kurdish allies and opening the door for a possible resurgence of the Islamic State. He touted a cease-fire agreement that seemed at risk as Turkey and Kurdish fighters differed over what it required and whether combat had halted.

"We've had tremendous success I think over the last couple of days," Trump declared. He added that "we've taken control of the oil in the Middle East" -- a claim that seemed disconnected from any known

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development there.

He made the assertion twice Friday, but other U.S. officials were unable to explain what he meant.

Calling his Syria approach "a little bit unconventional," the president contended that Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan as well as the Syrian Kurdish fighters the Turks are battling agree that the U.S.-brokered cease-fire was the right step and were complying with it.

"There is good will on both sides & a really good chance for success," he wrote on Twitter.

That optimism seemed at odds with Erdogan's own words. He told reporters in Istanbul that Turkish forces would resume their offensive in four days unless Kurdish-led fighters withdraw "without exception" from a so-called safe zone 20 miles (30 kilometers) deep in Syria running the entire 260-mile (440-kilometer) length of the border with Turkey.

There was no sign of any pullout by the Kurdish-led forces, who accused Turkey of violating the cease-fire with continued fighting at a key border town.

They also said the accord covers a much smaller section of the border. And some fighters have vowed not to withdraw at all, dismissing the deal as a betrayal by the U.S., whose soldiers they have fought alongside against the IS.

Eric Edelman, a former U.S. ambassador to Turkey who served as the Pentagon's top policy official during the George W. Bush administration, said he doubts Turkey and its Syrian proxies could control the entire border area from the Euphrates to Iraq without help from Russia or others.

"That's a very big expanse of territory to hold, albeit a lot of it is uninhabited," Edelman said. "That probably means they've cut already some deal with the Russians and the Iranians."

Even so, Trump insisted peace was at hand.

"There is a cease-fire or a pause or whatever you want to call it," he said. "There was some sniper fire this morning," as well as mortar fire, but that was quickly halted and the area had returned to a "full pause," he said.

Trump also asserted that some European nations are now willing to take responsibility for detained IS fighters who are from their countries.

"Anyway, big progress being made!!!!" he exclaimed on Twitter.

Trump said nothing further about the European nations he now contends have agreed to take some of the IS fighters, a demand he has repeated often. No European government announced an intent to take control of IS prisoners.

Speaking in Brussels after briefing NATO ambassadors on the Syria situation, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said, "We've seen comments today from a number of countries who said they may well be prepared to take back these fighters." He, too, identified no such countries.

At the Pentagon, Defense Secretary Mark Esper said U.S. troops are continuing their withdrawal from northern Syria. He also said no U.S. ground troops will participate in enforcing or monitoring the cease-fire.

"The force protection of our service members remains our top priority and, as always, U.S. forces will defend themselves from any threat as we complete our withdrawal from the area," Esper told reporters.

One important unknown in the wake of Turkey's military incursion, which began Oct. 9, is whether IS fighters who have been held by U.S.-allied Kurdish fighters known as the Syrian Democratic Forces will escape in large numbers. Even before the Turkish offensive, some U.S. officials had noted signs that IS was seeking to regroup.

Officials have said a number of ISIS fighters, likely just over 100, have escaped custody since Turkey launched its invasion last week.

There are 11 prisons with IS detainees in the so-called safe zone between Tal Abyad and Ras al-Ayn.

Accounting for the broader border area that the Turks contend is the safe zone - that number grows to 16 prisons. It's unclear exactly how many of those are currently under Turkish control - but as they push the Kurds out, the Turks are supposed to take control of the prisons.

Trump has been widely criticized for turning his back on the Kurds, who have taken heavy casualties as partners with the U.S. since 2016. Even some Republicans are taking aim.

"Withdrawing U.S. forces from Syria is a grave strategic mistake. It will leave the American people and homeland less safe, embolden our enemies, and weaken important alliances," Sen. Majority Leader Mitch McConnell wrote Friday in a Washington Post opinion column.

Erdogan said Friday he and Trump share "love and respect," but he also left little doubt that he was offended by an Oct. 9 letter from Trump telling him, "Don't be a fool!"

Erdogan told reporters Trump's words were not compatible with "political and diplomatic courtesy" and would not be forgotten. He said he would "do what's necessary" about the letter "when the time comes." He did not elaborate.

While U.S. officials have insisted that Trump did not authorize Turkey's invasion, the cease-fire codifies nearly all of Turkey's stated goals in the conflict.

During a campaign rally in Texas on Thursday night, Trump said, "Sometimes you have to let them fight, like two kids in a lot, you got to let them fight and then you pull them apart."

AP writers Lolita C. Baldor, Deb Riechmann, Alan Fram, Darlene Superville, Jill Colvin and Zeke Miller contributed from Washington.

Failed raid against El Chapo's son leaves 8 dead in Mexico

By ANDRÉS VILLARREAL and PETER ORSI Associated Press

CULIACAN, Mexico (AP) — Mexican security forces aborted an attempt to capture a son of imprisoned drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman after finding themselves outgunned in a ferocious shootout with cartel henchmen that left at least eight people dead and more than 20 wounded, authorities said Friday.

The gunbattle Thursday paralyzed the capital of Mexico's Sinaloa state, Culiacan, and left the streets littered with burning vehicles. Residents took cover indoors as automatic gunfire raged outside.

It was the third bloody and terrifying shootout in less than a week between security forces and cartel henchmen, raising questions about whether President Andrés Manuel López Obrador's policy of avoiding the use of force and focusing on social ills is working.

López Obrador defended the decision to back down, saying his predecessors' strategy "turned this country into a cemetery, and we don't want that anymore."

But Mike Vigil, a former chief of international operations for the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration who worked undercover in Mexico, called the violence "a massive black eye to the Mexican government" and a "sign that the cartels are more powerful" than it is.

Streets in Culiacan, a city of over 800,000, remained blocked with torched cars Friday morning, schools were closed, and some public offices asked their employees to stay home. Few buses were running.

Teresa Mercado, who had just returned to her native Culiacan on Thursday, said: "This is worse than what I had lived through years ago."

Authorities said 35 troops arrived at a home Thursday afternoon to arrest Ovidio Guzmán López on a 2018 extradition request from the U.S. They entered the home, where Guzman and three others were inside.

Heavily armed men in greater force surrounded the house and also unleashed mayhem elsewhere, taking over toll booths and main roads into the city. Men carrying high-caliber weapons blocked major intersections.

Amid the chaos, inmates at a prison rioted, seized weapons from guards and fled. Fifty-six prisoners escaped, and 49 were still at large Friday, according to Sinaloa Public Security Secretary Cristóbal Castañeda. Two guards were taken captive and later freed.

The attacks were so brazen that Sinaloa cartel gunmen took several soldiers hostage and even attacked the housing complex where soldiers' wives and children live.

Defense Secretary Gen. Luis Cresencio Sandoval said "they did approach the housing complex, they entered the housing complex and opened fire on the housing complex, and they abducted a civilian security guard ... and a soldier in civilian clothes who was returning from leave."

Videos on social media showed a scene resembling a war zone, with gunmen, some in black ski masks,

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riding in the back of trucks and firing mounted machine guns as smoke rose above the cityscape. People ran for cover as gunfire rattled around them, and motorists drove frantically in reverse, trying to escape the bullets.

Five attackers, a member of the National Guard, a civilian and a prisoner died in the gun battles, Cresencio Sandoval said. He said seven members of the security forces were wounded and eight held captive before being released unharmed.

The government's security cabinet made the decision to withdraw the troops to avoid greater loss of life. "The capture of one criminal cannot be worth more than the lives of people. They made the decision and I supported it," López Obrador said. He added: "We do not want deaths. We do not want war."

Security cabinet officials said they were not informed about the operation beforehand. They said troops surrounded the house without a search warrant and came under fire before one could be delivered, at that point deciding to enter without the warrant. And they said the troops underestimated the cartel's response.

Sandoval said that if the security cabinet had known about the operation, it would have gone about it differently and deployed more troops and even sent air support.

"This group ... rushed things. It did not consider the consequences," he said.

It was not clear what happened to Guzmán after the troops left. Federal Security Secretary Alfonso Durazo said he was never under formal detention.

José Luis González Meza, a lawyer for the Guzman family, said Friday that the Guzmán family would cover the expenses of those wounded and killed.

"In this case, the family apologizes to the people of Sinaloa, and particularly to the people of Culiacan," González Meza told a news conference in Mexico City. "They will take care (of the expenses) of the wounded and the dead ... however many there were, man, no problem, they will help them economically."

Juan Pablo Badillo, a lawyer who represents the drug lord in Mexico, praised López Obrador, saying Ovidio Guzman was freed "by a manly order, an intelligent order, a sensible order from President Andrés Manuel López Obrador."

José Reveles, the author of several books on the Sinaloa cartel, said the operation was done clumsily from both an operational and a political standpoint.

"If the government says it did not know anything, that's absolutely unheard of, and especially for an operation of this magnitude," Reveles said. "If you're going to do an operation of this size, you should do it right — guard all flanks, add security in the prison."

At the same time, he allowed that "doing a surgical operation there is impossible; the strength of the Sinaloa cartel was made clear."

Vigil, the former DEA agent, worried that the retreat could lead to more bloodshed.

"This is going to set an example for the other groups," Vigil said. "It sends them the message that if they capture a member of the cartel, all they have to do is go in the city and intimidate the citizenry and security forces."

On Friday, the defense department announced it was flying two planeloads with 230 army special forces troops into Culiacan as reinforcements.

The elder Guzman is serving a life sentence in the U.S. after being convicted last February of industrial-scale drug trafficking.

Ovidio is not one of the drug lord's best-known sons. Iván Archivaldo Guzmán and Jesús Alfredo Guzmán are known as "Los Chapitos," or "the little Chapos," and are believed to be running their father's cartel together with Ismael "El Mayo" Zambada.

But Ovidio Guzmán was indicted in 2018 in Washington, along with a fourth brother, on charges of trafficking cocaine, methamphetamine and marijuana.

Gun battles between gangs and security forces are relatively common in Mexico, but this week has seen three notable and frightening clashes. On Monday, 13 police officers were killed in a cartel ambush in the state of Michoacán, and the following day soldiers killed 14 gunmen while losing one of their own in neighboring Guerrero state.

Peter Orsi reported from Mexico City. Associated Press writers María Verza and Mark Stevenson in Mexico City contributed.

Asylum-seeking Mexicans are more prominent at US border

By CEDAR ATTANSIO and ASTRID GALVAN Associated Press

CIUDAD JUAREZ, Mexico (AP) — Lizbeth Garcia tended to her 3-year-old son outside a tent pitched on a sidewalk, their temporary home while they wait for their number to be called to claim asylum in the United States.

The 33-year-old fled Mexico's western state of Michoacan a few weeks ago with her husband and five children — ages 3 to 12 — when her husband, a truck driver, couldn't pay fees that criminal gangs demanded for each trailer load. The family decided it was time to go when gangs came to their house to collect.

"I'd like to say it's unusual, but it's very common," Garcia said Thursday in Juarez, where asylum seekers gather to wait their turn to seek protection at a U.S. border crossing in El Paso, Texas.

Mexicans are increasingly the face of asylum in the United States, replacing Central Americans who dominated last year's caravan and a surge of families that brought border arrests to a 13-year-high in May. Arrests have plummeted since May as new U.S. policies targeting asylum have taken hold, but Mexicans are exempt from the crackdown by virtue of geography.

A legal principle that prevents countries from sending refugees back to countries where they are likely to be persecuted has spared Mexicans from a policy that took effect in January to make asylum seekers wait in Mexico while their claims wind through U.S. immigration courts. They are also exempt from a policy, introduced last month, to deny asylum to anyone who travels through another country to reach the U.S. border without applying there first.

Mexico resumed its position in August as the top-sending county of people who cross the border illegally or are stopped at official crossings, surpassing Honduras, followed by Guatemala and El Salvador. Mexicans accounted for nearly all illegal crossings until the last decade as more people from Central America's "Northern Triangle" countries decided to escape violence and poverty.

Fewer Mexicans are crossing from the peaks reached in May, but the drop in Central Americans is much sharper, making Mexicans the biggest part of the mix, according to U.S. Customs and Border Protection figures. Mexicans arrested or stopped at the border fell 8% from May to August, but border crossers were down 80% from Guatemala, 63% from Honduras and 62% from El Salvador during the same period.

It is unclear precisely what is driving the change, perhaps some mix of U.S. policies and violence in Mexico. The Mexican government's retreat from an attempted capture of a son of imprisoned drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman on Thursday followed a ferocious shootout with cartel henchman that left at least eight people dead.

"Given the deterioration in the security situation in many parts of Mexico, with homicide levels that are exceeding even the record high numbers from 2018, it seems likely that more Mexicans are fleeing their hometowns out of fear and the growing sense that the Mexican government, at all levels, is either unable or unwilling to protect them," said Maureen Meyer, director for Mexico and migrant rights at the Washington Office on Latin America, a human rights research group.

People traveling as families accounted for 23% of all Mexicans arrested or stopped at the border in August, a major shift from earlier immigration waves when nearly all Mexicans came as single men, according to CBP figures. Another big change: 36% of Mexicans presented themselves at official crossings — the U.S. government's prescribed way to claim asylum — instead of earlier times when nearly all tried to cross illegally.

The U.S. government has limited detention space for families and, under a court settlement, must release families within 20 days. Asylum-seeking families have generally been released in the United States with an ankle monitor on the head of the household and a notice to appear in backlogged immigration courts, where cases can take years to resolve. That changed for everyone except Mexicans with the new

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U.S. limits on asylum and its policy to make asylum seekers wait in Mexico, known officially as "Migrant Protection Protocols" and colloquially as "Remain in Mexico."

"It's a pretty drastic change from what we have been observing in the past couple of years," said Guadalupe Correa-Cabrera, an associate professor at the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University. "Now the word has been spread out, and the Mexicans are the only ones that can apply for asylum right now."

In Phoenix, only about 40 to 50 people are being released in the U.S. each day, roughly half from the height of arrivals. One of the places families get released to is The Welcome Center, an abandoned elementary school-turned-shelter run by the International Rescue Committee that can host about 70 people now but is increasing its capacity by nearly quadruple.

Since opening July 27, the Welcome Center has seen 567 people come through, IRC spokesman Stanford Prescott said. Nearly 64% were Mexican, and nearly 7 percent were Guatemalans. In March and June, before the Welcome Center opened but when IRC and others were already assisting migrant families, Guatemalans were about 76% of families served.

At a family detention center in Dilley, Texas, roughly 30% of families that the Dilley Pro Bono Project is serving are Mexican, compared with only 1% prior to this month.

Mexicans, like all nationalities, still must wait in Mexico, usually for months, to make initial claims under ticketing systems that were created last year because the U.S. processes a limited number of claims each day.

In Juarez, about 100 families make up the camp of tents that lines both sides of a side street leading to the city's main promenade and Paso Del Norte border crossing, where asylum claims are processed. Some at the camp said they were coming because of a lack of jobs in southern Mexico.

A man who did not give his name said he left Michoacán because a gang said it would force his 18-year-old son to join. He and others living in a tent camp said there were two shootings near the camp, one Wednesday and one on Tuesday. The first shooting prompted him to get a hotel room for his family, though he left his tent in place on the sidewalk.

Galvan reported from Phoenix. Associated Press writer Elliot Spagat in San Diego contributed to this report.

Shifting explanations for withholding aid draw GOP alarm

By LISA MASCARO, ANDREW TAYLOR and MARY CLARE JALONICK Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The shifting White House explanation for President Donald Trump's decision to withhold military aid from Ukraine drew alarm Friday from Republicans as the impeachment inquiry brought a new test of their alliance.

Trump, in remarks at the White House, stood by his acting chief of staff, Mick Mulvaney, whose earlier comments undermined the administration's defense in the impeachment probe. Speaking Thursday at a news conference, Mulvaney essentially acknowledged a quid pro quo with Ukraine that Trump has long denied, saying U.S. aid was withheld from Kyiv to push for an investigation of the Democratic National Committee and the 2016 election. He later clarified his remarks.

Trump appeared satisfied with Mulvaney's clarification and the president dismissed the entire House inquiry as "a terrible witch hunt. This is so bad for our country."

But former Ohio Gov. John Kasich, who ran against Trump in the 2016 Republican primary, said he now supports impeaching the president.

Mulvaney's admission, he said, was the "final straw." "The last 24 hours has really forced me to review all of this," Kasich said on CNN.

In Congress, at least one Republican, Rep. Francis Rooney of Florida, spoke out publicly, telling reporters that he and others were concerned by Mulvaney's remarks. Rooney said he's open to considering all sides in the impeachment inquiry. He also said Mulvaney's comments cannot simply be undone by a follow-up statement.

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"It's not an Etch-A-Sketch," said Rooney, a former ambassador to the Holy See under President George W. Bush.

"The only thing I can assume is, he meant what he had to say — that there was a quid pro quo on this stuff," he said.

The tumult over Mulvaney's remarks capped a momentous week in the impeachment investigation as the admission, from highest levels of the administration, undercut the White House defense and pushed more evidence into the inquiry.

GOP leaders tried to contain the fallout. But four weeks into the inquiry, the events around Trump's interaction with the Ukraine president, which are at the heart of impeachment, have upended Washington.

A beloved House chairman, Rep. Elijah Cummings, D-Md., a leading figure in the investigation, died amid ongoing health challenges.

The Energy Secretary, Rick Perry, who has been caught up in the probe, announced his resignation. On Friday, the Energy Department sent a letter to House committee chairs saying it would not comply with a subpoena for documents and communications.

The march toward an impeachment vote now seems all but inevitable, so much so that the highest-ranking Republican, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, privately told his GOP colleagues this week to expect action in the House by Thanksgiving with a Senate trial by Christmas.

Speaker Nancy Pelosi has given no timeline for conclusion but wants the inquiry completed "expeditiously." She said Thursday that facts of the investigation will determine next steps.

"The timeline will depend on the truth line," she told reporters.

This week's hours of back-to-back closed-door hearings from diplomats and former top aides appeared to be providing investigators with a remarkably consistent account of the run-up and aftermath of Trump's call with Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

In that July call, Trump asked the newly elected Zelenskyy for a "favor" in investigating the Democratic National Committee's email situation, which was central to the 2016 election, as well as a Ukraine gas company, Burisma, linked to the family of Trump's 2020 Democratic rival, Joe Biden, according to a rough transcript of the phone conversation released by the White House.

Republican leaders tried to align with Trump Friday, amid their own mixed messages as House Democrats, who already issued a subpoena to Mulvaney for documents, now want to hear directly from him.

Rep. Kevin McCarthy, the House GOP leader, cited Mulvaney's clarification as evidence that there was no quid pro quo. He said witnesses have also testified similarly behind closed doors in the impeachment inquiry.

"We've been very clear," McCarthy said. "There was no quid pro quo."

Lawmakers involved in the three House committees conducting the investigation want to hear more next week, which promises another packed schedule of witnesses appearing behind closed doors.

Republicans want the interviews made open to the public, including releasing transcripts.

Democrats in the probe being led by Rep. Adam Schiff, chairman of the Intelligence Committee, are keeping the proceedings closed for now, partly to prevent witnesses from comparing notes.

Three House committees investigating impeachment have tentatively scheduled several closed-door interviews next week, including one with Bill Taylor, the current top official at the U.S. Embassy in Ukraine.

Taylor's interview, scheduled for Tuesday, is significant because he was among the diplomats on a text message string during the time around the July phone call. He raised a red flag and said it was "crazy" to withhold the military aid for a political investigation.

It's unclear whether all the witnesses will appear, given that the White House is opposing the inquiry and trying to block officials from testifying.

The schedule includes a mix of State Department officials and White House aides.

'Final straw': GOP ex-Ohio Gov. Kasich supports impeachment

By ALEXANDRA JAFFE Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former Ohio Gov. John Kasich, who ran against President Donald Trump in the

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2016 Republican primary, said Friday that he supports impeaching the president — but isn't ready to call for his removal from office.

Kasich said he decided to back impeachment after hearing acting White House chief of staff Mick Mulvaney acknowledge Thursday that Trump's decision to hold up military aid to Ukraine was linked to his demand that Ukraine investigate the Democratic National Committee and the 2016 U.S. presidential campaign. Mulvaney later claimed his remarks were misconstrued.

"This is an extremely serious matter," Kasich told The Associated Press in an interview. "I wrestled with it for a very long time."

It marked a reversal for Kasich, who previously said he hadn't seen evidence of a quid pro quo on Trump's part. Congress is conducting an impeachment inquiry sparked by a whistleblower's allegation that Trump pressed Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to dig up dirt on Trump's potential 2020 Democratic presidential rival Joe Biden as Trump delayed military aid to the country.

"I can understand why executives would withhold military aid if it was in the sense of public policy, but you don't withhold military aid to anybody ... for political reasons," Kasich said.

He first announced his change of heart on CNN on Friday afternoon, calling Mulvaney's acknowledgement the "final straw" and saying, "The last 24 hours has really forced me to review all of this."

In an interview later with the AP, he declined to call for Trump's ouster, saying only, "Slow down, one thing at a time." Kasich said he wanted to see the articles of impeachment and the process by which the Democrats conduct their investigation.

"There's a long way to go and a lot of witnesses to see," he said.

Acknowledging that he's the rare Republican to have broken with Trump, Kasich said it was "difficult to believe (Republicans) think they can look the other way on these things." But he also declined to criticize his party, saying, "I'm not interested in berating them. I don't think it helps."

Kasich is touring the nation promoting his new book "It's Up to Us," which he says outlines ways in which individuals have "the power to bring about change." The former Ohio governor said that he hasn't yet ruled out a 2020 bid for president, and that he still gets requests from supporters daily asking him to run for president. He emerged as the last moderate Republican standing against Trump during the 2016 presidential primary and bowed out of the primary after winning only his home state.

But he wasn't bullish about his chances this time around, lamenting that "there's no way for me to win right now." He noted that Republicans "are still very much behind Trump" and that some states have already canceled their Republican presidential primaries.

Kasich doesn't know who he'll vote for in 2020 — and he declined to answer when asked whether he'd support a Democrat. He is certain of one thing, though.

"I'm not going to vote for him!" he said.

Deep-sea explorers find Japanese ship that sank during WWII

By CALEB JONES Associated Press

MIDWAY ATOLL, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (AP) — Deep-sea explorers scouring the world's oceans for sunken World War II ships are focusing in on debris fields deep in the Pacific, in an area where one of the most decisive battles of the time took place.

Hundreds of miles off Midway Atoll, nearly halfway between the United States and Japan, a research vessel is launching underwater robots miles into the abyss to look for warships from the famed Battle of Midway.

Weeks of grid searches around the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands already have led the Petrel to one sunken warship, the Japanese aircraft carrier Kaga. This week, the crew is deploying equipment to investigate what could be another.

Historians consider the Battle of Midway an essential U.S. victory and a key turning point in WWII.

"We read about the battles, we know what happened. But when you see these wrecks on the bottom of the ocean and everything, you kind of get a feel for what the real price is for war," said Frank Thompson,

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a historian with the Naval History and Heritage Command in Washington, D.C., who is onboard the Petrel. "You see the damage these things took, and it's humbling to watch some of the video of these vessels because they're war graves."

Sonar images of the Kaga show the bow of the heavy carrier hit the seafloor at a high rate of speed, scattering debris and leaving an impact crater that looks as if an explosion occurred in the ocean. The front of the vessel is buried in mud and sediment after nose-diving about 3 miles (4.8 kilometers) to the bottom.

The U.S. bombs that struck the Kaga caused a massive fire that left it charred, but the ship stayed mostly together. Its guns, some still intact, stick out the side.

Until now, only one of the seven ships that went down in the June 1942 air and sea battle — five Japanese vessels and two American — had been located.

The expedition is an effort started by the late Paul Allen, the billionaire co-founder of Microsoft. For years, the crew of the 250-foot (76-meter) Petrel has worked with the U.S. Navy and other officials around the world to find and document sunken ships. It is illegal to otherwise disturb the underwater U.S. military gravesites, and their exact coordinates are kept secret.

The Petrel has found 31 vessels so far. This is the first time it has looked for warships from the Battle of Midway, which took place six months after Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor and left more than 2,000 Japanese and 300 Americans dead.

The attack from the Japanese Imperial Navy was meant to be a surprise, a strike that would give Japan a strategic advantage in the Pacific. It was thwarted when U.S. analysts decoded Japanese messages and baited their enemy into revealing its plan.

As Japanese warplanes started bombing the military installation at Midway Atoll, a tiny group of islands about 1,300 miles (2,090 kilometers) northwest of Honolulu, U.S. forces were already on their way to intercept Japan's fleet. U.S. planes sank four of Japan's aircraft carriers and a cruiser, and downed dozens of its fighter planes.

One of the American ships lost was the USS Yorktown, an aircraft carrier that was heavily damaged and being towed by the U.S. on the battle's final day when it was hit by torpedoes. The other, the USS Hammann, went down trying to defend the Yorktown.

Retired Navy Capt. Jack Crawford, who recently turned 100, was among the Yorktown's 2,270 survivors. Japanese dive bombers left the Yorktown badly damaged, with black smoke gushing from its stacks, but the vessel was still upright.

Then the torpedoes hit, Crawford told The Associated Press by telephone from his home in Maryland.

"Bam! Bam! We get two torpedoes, and I know we're in trouble. As soon as the deck edge began to go under, I knew she wasn't going to last," said Crawford, whose later military career was with the naval nuclear propulsion program. He also served as deputy assistant secretary for nuclear energy in the Department of Energy.

The Yorktown sank slowly, and a destroyer was able to pick up Crawford and many others.

In May 1998, almost 56 years later, an expedition led by the National Geographic Society in conjunction with the U.S. Navy found the Yorktown 3 miles (5 kilometers) below the surface.

Crawford doesn't see much value in these missions to find lost ships, unless they can get some useful information on how the Japanese ships went down. But he wouldn't mind if someone was able to retrieve his strongbox and the brand-new sword he left in it when he and others abandoned ship 77 years ago.

He was too far away to see the Kaga go down.

A piece of the Japanese aircraft carrier was discovered in 1999, but its main wreckage was still missing until last week.

After receiving some promising sonar readings, the Petrel used underwater robots to investigate and get video. It compared the footage with historical records and confirmed this week it had found the Kaga.

Rear Adm. Brian P. Fort, commander of U.S. Naval Forces in Japan, extended thoughts and prayers to Japan. "The terrible price of war in the Pacific was felt by all our navies," he said.

The other three Japanese aircraft carriers — the Akagi, Soryu and Hiryu — and the Japanese cruiser

Mikuma are still unaccounted for.

The Petrel crew hopes to find and survey all the wreckage from the battle, an effort that could add new details about Midway to history books.

Earlier this year, they discovered the USS Hornet, an aircraft carrier that helped win the Battle of Midway but sank in the Battle of Santa Cruz near the Solomon Islands less than five months later. More than 100 crew members died.

The Petrel also discovered the USS Indianapolis, the U.S. Navy's single deadliest loss at sea.

Rob Kraft, director of subsea operations on the Petrel, says the crew's mission started with Allen's desire to honor his father's military service. Allen died last year.

"It really extends beyond that at this time," Kraft said. "We're honoring today's service members, it's about education and, you know, bringing history back to life for future generations."

Follow Associated Press Hawaii correspondent Caleb Jones on Instagram and Twitter as he joins the crew of the Petrel on its expedition.

Associated Press writer Mark Thiessen in Anchorage, Alaska, and researcher Jennifer Farrar in New York contributed to this report.

Messages from former Boeing test pilot reveal Max concerns

By DAVID KOENIG AP Airlines Writer

DALLAS (AP) — A former senior Boeing test pilot told a co-worker that he unknowingly misled safety regulators about problems with a flight-control system that would later be implicated in two deadly crashes of the company's 737 Max.

The pilot, Mark Forkner, told another Boeing employee in 2016 that the flight system, called MCAS, was "egregious" and "running rampant" while he tested it in a flight simulator.

"So I basically lied to the regulators (unknowingly)," wrote Forkner, then Boeing's chief technical pilot for the 737.

The exchange occurred as Boeing was trying to convince the Federal Aviation Administration that MCAS was safe. MCAS was designed at least in part to prevent the Max from stalling in some situations. The FAA certified the plane without fully understanding MCAS, according to a panel of international safety regulators.

Forkner also lobbied FAA to remove mention of MCAS from the operating manual and pilot training for the Max, saying the system would only operate in rare circumstances. FAA allowed Boeing to do so, and most pilots did not know about MCAS until after the first crash, which occurred in October 2018 in Indonesia. The plane was grounded worldwide in March after the second crash, in Ethiopia.

Boeing turned over a transcript of the messages to Congress and the Transportation Department late Thursday, and the reaction was swift and negative.

"We have received hundreds of thousands of pages of documents from Boeing, but not this one. This was intentionally withheld from us, which is absolutely outrageous," House Transportation Committee Chairman Peter DeFazio, D-Ore., said in an interview Friday. He called it a smoking gun of Boeing wrongdoing.

FAA Administrator Stephen Dickson demanded an explanation from Boeing CEO Dennis Muilenburg, including why the company delayed several months before telling FAA about the messages.

"I expect your explanation immediately regarding the content of this document and Boeing's delay in disclosing the document to its safety regulator," Dickson wrote in a terse, three-sentence letter to Muilenburg. In a statement, the FAA said it "finds the substance of the document concerning" and is deciding what action to take in response.

Boeing turned over the transcript to the Justice Department earlier this year but gave it to Congress only this week in anticipation of Muilenburg's scheduled Oct. 30 testimony before DeFazio's committee, according to a person familiar with the matter.

Boeing, in a prepared statement, said the transcript contained the communications of a former employee.

Although Boeing didn't identify Forkner, he left last year and joined Southwest Airlines — the biggest operator of the Boeing 737.

Forkner's lawyer, David Gerger, said that Forkner was indicating in messages to a colleague that the flight simulator was not working like the plane.

"If you read the whole chat, it is obvious that there was no 'lie,'" he said. "Mark's career — at Air Force, at FAA, and at Boeing — was about safety. And based on everything he knew, he absolutely thought this plane was safe."

Separate Boeing documents that were disclosed Friday also outlined Forkner's role in communicating with the FAA and removing mention of MCAS from pilot-training requirements for the Max. When the FAA agreed, that helped Boeing sell the Max by holding down the cost airlines would incur to retrain their crews.

In a November 2016 email to an FAA employee whose identity was blacked out, Forkner indicated he was traveling around the world, "jedi-mind tricking regulators into accepting the training that I got accepted by FAA."

The disclosure of the internal Boeing communications comes just a week after international regulators faulted the company for not doing more to keep FAA informed about MCAS, a new automated flight system that was not included in previous versions of the 737.

Before crashes in Indonesia and Ethiopia, MCAS was activated by a single faulty sensor and pushed the nose of each plane down. Pilots were unable to regain control. The idea that a plane could crash because of one bad sensor — with no backup — is emerging as a key criticism of Boeing's design of the Max and FAA's certification of the plane.

"We weren't sure whether to blame FAA or Boeing or a combination" for the so-called single point of failure, DeFazio said. "Things have just tilted very, very heavily in terms of Boeing and deliberate concealment."

Boeing is updating software and computers to tie MCAS to two sensors instead of one, and to make the nose-down command less powerful and easier for pilots to overcome.

Boeing issued a statement Friday afternoon, saying that its CEO had called FAA Administrator Dickson to respond to his concerns. "Mr. Muilenburg assured the Administrator that we are taking every step possible to safely return the MAX to service," the company said.

Boeing shares tumbled \$25.06, or 6.8%, to close at \$344, the stock's worst day since February 2016.

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

'Only God is with us': A Syrian family feels betrayed by US

By **ANDREA ROSA** and **JOSEPH KRAUSS** Associated Press

BARDARASH, Iraq (AP) — For months, every time Turkey threatened to invade northern Syria, Salwa Hanna told her husband they should take their children and flee from the border town of Kobani. And every time, he told her not to worry, because the Americans were there.

Now the Christian family is among an estimated 160,000 Syrians who have fled Turkey's offensive, which began last week after President Donald Trump announced he would move U.S. forces out of the way, abandoning their Kurdish allies. The invasion transformed one of the safest parts of Syria into a war zone, leaving displaced residents with a deep sense of betrayal.

Hanna and her husband arrived Thursday at a newly reopened camp in Iraq with their children and two small bags of clothes. They said they borrowed \$200 to pay a smuggler to lead them across the border and have nothing left. They were shown to an empty tent with a bare concrete floor.

"I left my home, and I had just started a new home, and I left it all behind," Hanna said. "There are no emotions anymore. We live as if we are dead."

They are originally from Afrin, a Kurdish enclave in northwestern Syria that fell to Turkish troops and allied Syrian fighters in early 2018. There were no Americans in Afrin, and after the Kurds retreated there was no one to prevent the Syrian fighters — a motley crew of former rebels, Islamists, guns for hire and outright bandits — from looting and pillaging.

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"They stole cars, they stole whatever they wanted. They even stole sandals," Hanna's husband, Abdulrahman Ali, said as he waved a flip-flop in the air. "They stole everything. All in the name of revolution or whatever."

So the couple fled with their 10-year-old and their two-year-old, who suffers from asthma. "When they attacked Afrin it was winter, there were no doctors. I thought my son was going to die in front of me," Hanna said.

The harrowing journey brought them to Kobani.

A U.S.-led international coalition had partnered with Syrian Kurdish fighters to defeat the Islamic State group, a campaign that began in Kobani after the Kurds were nearly annihilated there in 2014. Northeastern Syria, where armored vehicles mounted with American flags could be seen patrolling on the outskirts of some towns, was a rare refuge from the civil war. Hanna and her husband found work and started setting up a new home.

But a shadow clouded their newfound sense of security.

Turkey views the Kurdish fighters in Afrin and northeastern Syria as terrorists because of their links to the Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK, which has waged a bloody insurgency inside Turkey since the 1980s. After Afrin, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan repeatedly threatened to expand the offensive into eastern Syria, vowing to carve out a "safe zone" extending 30 kilometers (20 miles) deep along the border.

For months, the U.S. worked to hold it off, agreeing to joint patrols and other measures aimed at easing tensions between NATO ally Turkey and America's Kurdish partners. The presence of small numbers of American troops in places like Kobani served as a trip-wire to deter an invasion. Then, earlier this month, after a phone call with Erdogan, Trump announced that U.S. forces would pull back. The operation began on Oct. 9.

"For a whole year the Turks threatened us," Hanna said. "I kept saying we should escape, because with the Turks there is no security. But my husband always said there are Americans, Britain, France, and they won't abandon us."

And then, just like that, the Americans left, and her family's fearful flight resumed.

The Trump administration has defended its decision against withering criticism, even from fellow Republicans, saying it was opposed to the invasion but powerless to stop it. After a senior U.S. delegation negotiated a halt to the offensive that locks in Turkey's gains while largely removing the threat of sanctions, Trump called it a "great day for civilization."

But nothing in the agreement will allow the family to return to either of their homes. Abandoned by America, they are trusting in an even higher and more inscrutable power.

"The foreigners are not with us, neither the Americans nor the French nor anyone else," Ali said. "Only God is with us."

Krauss reported from Jerusalem. Associated Press writer Maamoun Youssef in Cairo contributed.

NOT REAL NEWS: A look at what didn't happen this week

By BEATRICE DUPUY, ARIJETA LAJKA and AMANDA SEITZ Associated Press

A roundup of some of the most popular but completely untrue stories and visuals of the week. None of these is legit, even though they were shared widely on social media. The Associated Press checked them out. Here are the real facts:

CLAIM: Photo shows a Turkish soldier helping a child drink from a water bottle with the implication it was taken during the military offensive launched by Turkey last week in northern Syria.

THE FACTS: The photo was not taken during the recent offensive. It was taken in Turkey in 2015 by Associated Press photographer Lefteris Pitarakis. The photo was widely shared on Twitter this week, suggesting that the recent attack on U.S.-allied Kurdish fighters in northern Syria has not hurt civilians. "Not war, mercy," one Twitter user wrote with the image in one post, which was accompanied by the hashtag

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#TurkishArmyForThePeace. Turkey began its assault after U.S. President Donald Trump announced the U.S. military withdrawal all 1,000 troops in northeastern Syria. The military action has resulted in the displacement of 160,000 civilians and many casualties, according to estimates Monday from U.N. Secretary General Antonio Guterres. The photo was taken in southeastern Turkey on June 14, 2015, after thousands of Syrian refugees cut through a border fence and crossed into Turkey. The refugees were fleeing fighting between Syrian Kurds and jihadis.

CLAIM: Rep. Ilhan Omar protested outside Trump's Oct. 10 campaign rally in Minneapolis.

THE FACTS: Omar was on a five-day trade trip to Morocco with Democratic Reps. Marcia Fudge, from Ohio, and Karen Bass, of California, when social media users began circulating photos and video suggesting that the congresswoman was involved in protests outside the Trump rally in Minneapolis. The scene was chaotic outside the Target Center where anti-Trump protesters filled the streets well before the president's arrival. Andy Mannix, a reporter with The Star Tribune captured video of the scene, which included a woman wearing a headscarf and face covering. After he posted the video on social media, people shared it on Facebook and Twitter with the false claim that it showed Omar at the protests. Mannix said he hadn't given any thought to the woman in the video at the time. However, after the footage and false claim began to circulate, he reached out to confirm it was not the representative. "It's disappointing to see people invoking my journalism to make a false claim," Mannix told the AP. Jeremy Slevin, Omar's spokesman, confirmed that Omar was traveling at the time of the rally.

CLAIM: Photo shows U.S. soldiers on the ground in Syria "crying and visibly shaken saying they could stop this in 10 minutes but Trump won't let them."

THE FACTS: A photo post on Facebook falsely claimed that the image shows three U.S. soldiers crying after Trump's withdrawal of American troops working with Kurdish fighters in northern Syria. The photo actually shows U.S. soldiers in Kuwait in 2011. In the image, three soldiers are seated, bending their heads toward their knees. The falsely labeled photo began circulating Wednesday as Russia moved to fill the void left by the U.S. troop withdrawal. The photo was taken by Lucas Jackson for Reuters on December 19, 2011. According to the caption, it was taken while soldiers with the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division at Camp Virginia, Kuwait, were waiting to pack their weapons for shipment back to the United States. They were part of the last U.S. military unit to depart Iraq.

CLAIM: A nighttime photo shows fires burning in mountains overlooking a shoreline during recent wildfires in Lebanon.

THE FACTS: As wildfires raged in parts of Lebanon and Syria this week, social media users began circulating photos on Twitter and Facebook to raise awareness about them. However, one of the photos -- shared more than a thousand times on Twitter -- claimed to be from Lebanon, but showed wildfires in Kalamos Attica, Greece. The photo, found in the Getty Images archives, was taken by photographer Wassilis Aswestopoulos, who shot it from the Grecian island of Euboea on Aug. 14, 2017. Aswestopoulos told the AP that the photo has been misused to represent other fires around the world including in Russia and California.

This is part of The Associated Press' ongoing effort to fact-check misinformation that is shared widely online, including work with Facebook to identify and reduce the circulation of false stories on the platform.

Find all AP Fact Checks here: <https://apnews.com/APFactCheck>

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Today in History

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By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Saturday, Oct. 19, the 292nd day of 2019. There are 73 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 19, 1987, the stock market crashed as the Dow Jones Industrial Average plunged 508 points, or 22.6 percent in value (its biggest daily percentage loss), to close at 1,738.74 in what came to be known as "Black Monday."

On this date:

In 1765, the Stamp Act Congress, meeting in New York, adopted a declaration of rights and liberties which the British Parliament ignored.

In 1781, British troops under Gen. Lord Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown, Virginia, as the American Revolution neared its end.

In 1814, the first documented public performance of "The Star-Spangled Banner" took place at the Holiday Street Theater in Baltimore.

In 1944, the U.S. Navy began accepting black women into WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service).

In 1960, the United States began a limited embargo against Cuba covering all commodities except medical supplies and certain food products.

In 1977, the supersonic Concorde made its first landing in New York City.

In 1982, automaker John Z. DeLorean was arrested by federal agents in Los Angeles, accused of conspiring to sell \$24 million of cocaine to salvage his business. (DeLorean was acquitted at trial on grounds of entrapment.)

In 1994, 22 people were killed as a terrorist bomb shattered a bus in the heart of Tel Aviv's shopping district.

In 2001, U.S. special forces began operations on the ground in Afghanistan, opening a significant new phase of the assault against the Taliban and al-Qaida.

In 2005, a defiant Saddam Hussein pleaded innocent to charges of premeditated murder and torture as his trial opened under heavy security in the former headquarters of his Baath Party in Baghdad.

In 2008, retired Gen. Colin Powell, a Republican who was President George W. Bush's first secretary of state, broke with the party and endorsed Democrat Barack Obama for president, calling him a "transformational figure" during an appearance on NBC's "Meet the Press."

In 2017, Puerto Rico Gov. Ricardo Rossello, meeting with President Donald Trump at the White House about a month after Hurricane Maria, described the situation in the island territory as "catastrophic"; Trump rated the White House response to the disaster as a "10."

Ten years ago: The Justice Department issued a new policy memo, telling prosecutors that pot-smoking patients or their sanctioned suppliers should not be targeted for federal prosecution in states that allowed medical marijuana. Actor Joseph Wiseman, 91, who played the sinister Dr. No in the first James Bond feature film, died in New York City. Mass killer Howard Unruh, who took 13 lives during a 1949 rampage in Camden, New Jersey, died in a Trenton nursing facility at age 88.

Five years ago: Pope Francis beatified Pope Paul VI, concluding a remarkable meeting of bishops debating family issues that drew parallels to the tumultuous reforms of the Second Vatican Council which Paul oversaw and implemented. An Associated Press investigation found that dozens of Nazis war criminals and SS guards had collected millions in U.S. Social Security pension payments after being forced out of the United States. Peyton Manning broke Brett Favre's NFL record of 508 touchdown career passes as he threw four TD passes in Denver's 42-17 victory over the San Francisco 49ers.

One year ago: In the first federal case alleging foreign interference in the 2018 midterm elections, U.S. authorities accused a Russian woman of helping oversee the finances of a sweeping effort to sway American public opinion through social media. On the same day, U.S. intelligence agencies asserted that Russia, China, Iran and other countries were engaged in continuous efforts to influence American policy and voters in the upcoming elections and beyond. A speeding train ran over a crowd watching fireworks

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during a religious festival in northern India, killing at least 60 people. No ticket matched all six numbers for an estimated \$1 billion prize in the Mega Millions lottery drawing, sending the jackpot toward a record \$1.6 billion for the next drawing four days later.

Today's Birthdays: Author John le Carre (luh kah-RAY') is 88. Actor Tony Lo Bianco is 83. Artist Peter Max is 82. Author and critic Renata Adler is 82. Actor Michael Gambon is 79. Actor John Lithgow (LIHTH'-goh) is 74. Feminist activist Patricia Ireland is 74. Singer Jeannie C. Riley is 74. Rock singer-musician Patrick Simmons (The Doobie Brothers) is 71. Actress Annie Golden is 68. Talk show host Charlie Chase is 67. Rock singer-musician Karl Wallinger (World Party) is 62. Former Republican National Committee Chairman Michael Steele is 61. Singer Jennifer Holliday is 59. Retired boxer Evander Holyfield is 57. Host Ty Pennington (TV: "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition") is 55. Rock singer-musician Todd Park Mohr (Big Head Todd and the Monsters) is 54. Actor Jon Favreau is 53. Amy Carter is 52. "South Park" co-creator Trey Parker is 50. Comedian Chris Kattan is 49. Rock singer Pras Michel (The Fugees) is 47. Actor Omar Gooding is 43. Country singer Cyndi Thomson is 43. Writer-director Jason Reitman is 42. Actor Benjamin Salisbury is 39. Actress Gillian Jacobs is 37. Actress Rebecca Ferguson is 36. Rock singer Zac Barnett (American Authors) is 33. Singer-actress Ciara Renee (TV: "Legends of Tomorrow") is 29. Actress Hunter King is 26.

Thought for Today: "Dream in a pragmatic way." — Aldous Huxley, English author (1894-1963).
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