

# Groton Daily Independent

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"IF YOU CARRY YOUR CHILDHOOD WITH YOU, YOU NEVER BECOME OLDER."

-TOM STOPPARD

## Veteran's Day Program

A Veteran's Day Program will be held at the GHS Arena beginning at 2:00 PM. The public is invited and encouraged to attend. Students will be dismissed from HS following the program.

## School Board Meeting

7 p.m., Nov. 11, 2019

## Veteran's Day Program

2 p.m.

GHS Arena

### **OPEN:** Recycling Trailer in Groton

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

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## Groton Area First Quarter Honor Roll

### Seniors

4.0 GPA: Indigo Rogers, Kaycie Hawkins, Kayla Jensen, Nicole Marzahn, KaSandra Pappas, Kaylin Kucker, Madeline Schuelke, Kya Jandel

3.99-3.50: Noah Poor, Caitlynn Barse, Payton Colestock, Benjamin Higgins, Ashley Fliehs, Kimberly Kohrs, Tadyn Glover, Eliza Wanner, Jamesen Stange

3.49-3.00: Austin Jones, Brodyn DeHoet, Peyton Johnson, Colby Merkel, Cyruss DeHoet, Joseph Gleason, Rylee Rosenau

### Juniors

4.0 GPA: Isaac Smith, Grace Wambach, Tanae Lipp, Alexis Hanten, Samantha Pappas, Alexa Herr, Sage Mortenson, Trey Gengerke

3.99-3.50: Erin Unzen, Alex Morris, Hailey Monson, Tessa Erdmann, Brooklyn Gilbert, Regan Leicht, Grace Wiedrick, Kannon Coats, Dragr Monson,

3.49-3.00: Chandler Larson, Jasmine Gengerke, Alyssa Fordham, Tucker Carda, Kale Pharis, Steven Paulson, Eh Tha You Say

### Sophomores

4.0 GPA: Stella Meier, Travis Townsend

3.99-3.50: Allyssa Locke, Madeline Fliehs, Seth Johnson, Kansas Kroll, Hannah Gustafson, Trista Keith, Pierce Kettering, Jordan Bjerke, Madisen Bjerke, Kennedy Anderson, Lane Krueger, Jace Kroll, Alyssa Thaler, Christina Zoellner,

3.49-3.00: Kaden Kurtz, Julianna Kosel, Trinity Smith, Kristine Tank, Landon Kokales, Cassaundra Schultz, River Pardick, Jackson Cogley, Ryder Daly, Megan Fliehs

### Freshmen:

4.0 GPA: Ethan Clark, Jackson Dinger, Jacob Lewandowski, Andrew Marzahn

3.99-3.50: Cole Simon, Elliana Weismantel, Kaleb Antonsen, Caleb Hanten, Cadance Tullis, Cole Bisbee, Carter Barse, Aspen Johnson, Brenna Carda, Sierra Ehresmann, Jacelynn Gleason, Shallyn Foertsch, Brooke Gengerke, Porter Johnson, Gracie Traphagen

3.49-3.00: Kamryn Fliehs, Isaac Higgins, KayLynn Overacker, Ashtyn Bahr, Cade Larson, James Brooks, Michael Aalseth, Hollie Frost, Tate Larson, Tyson Parrow, Shaylee Peterson, Dylan Anderson, Marlee Tollifson, Chase Gackle

### Eighth Grade

4.0 GPA: Claire Heinrich

3.99-3.50: Camryn Kurtz, Emily Clark, Jaycie Lier, Holden Sippel, Kyleigh Englund, Lydia Meier, Hannah Monson, Lexi Osterman, Ashlyn Sperry, Sara Menzia, Dillon Abeln, Cadence Feist, Anna Fjeldheim, Karsyn Jangula

3.49-3.00: Anna Bisbee, Faith Fliehs, Emma Schinkel, Colby Dunker, Abigail Jensen, Bradin Althoff, Lane Tietz, Veronica Tank, Carly Guthmiller, Ava Wienk, Shea Janel, Bryson Wambach

### Seventh Grade

4.0 GPA: Axel Warrington

3.99-3.50: Gretchen Dinger, Elizabeth Fliehs, Blake Pauli, Payton Mitchell, Blake Dennert, Faith Traphagen, Carson Herrick, Aiden Heathcote

3.49-3.00: Jeslyn Kosel, Ashlyn Feser, Kaden Kampa, Logan Pearson, Christian Ehresmann, Laila Roberts, Carter Simon, Kellen Antonsen, Easten Ekern, Emma Kutter, Kayla Lehr

### Sixth Grade

4.0 GPA: none

3.99-3.50: Carly Gilbert, Nathan Unzen, Mia Crank, Jerica Locke, Jaedyn Penning, Natalia Warrington, Talli Wright, Karter Moody, Lucas Carda, Benjamin Hoeft

3.49-3.00: Rylee Dunker, Logan Warrington, Keegen Tracy, De Eh Tha Say, Ryder Johnson, London Bahr, Olivia Stiegelmeier, Lincoln Krause, Raelee Lilly, Garrett Schultz, Nevaeh Brooks, Gage Sippel, Cali Tollifson

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## Weekly Vikings Roundup

By Jordan Wright

Even though there are some things that need to be cleaned up, this game ended up being the Minnesota Vikings' most impressive win so far this season. Sunday's game was the perfect opportunity for the Vikings to rewrite the narrative that they couldn't win in primetime or a close game against a quality opponent. A 28-24 win in Dallas on Sunday night proves the Vikings are a legitimate contender in 2019.

The Vikings came out of the gates in a fury, taking a 14-0 lead into the second quarter. The Cowboys responded with two touchdowns of their own, but a last-second Dan Bailey field goal at the end of the half gave the Vikings a 17-14 lead heading into halftime. Minnesota got the ball to start the second half and moved down the field but settled for three points. Dallas responded with a touchdown, and suddenly the Vikings were trailing for the first time all game. Instead of folding under the pressure, the Vikings put together their best drive of the season – a 13-play, 75-yard drive that took seven minutes off the clock. The offense took the lead back and the defense closed the game out, sealing the victory with an interception on a desperation heave by Dak Prescott to end the game.

Head coach Mike Zimmer came into the game with a simple strategy: control the clock on offense and shut down the run on defense. To control the clock, the Vikings handed the ball off to Dalvin Cook and Alexander Mattison early and often. As a team, the Vikings ran the ball 36 times for 153 yards and a touchdown. The Vikings' offensive line can't be overlooked either, as they did a great job setting their blocks against a Cowboys' defense that is built on speed and athleticism.

Kirk Cousins was efficient on Sunday, completing 23 of 32 (72%) passes for 220 yards and two touchdowns. Of his 23 completed passes, 15 of them went for a first down. The Vikings relied heavily on play action, freezing the defense just long enough to get the ball out quickly. Cousins did a great job of remaining calm and leading the team, a trait that had previously disappeared in primetime games. Stefon Diggs had three catches for 49 yards, Irv Smith Jr. had five catches for 34 yards, and Kyle Rudolph continued his mini hot streak by catching four passes, two of which went for touchdowns.

The Vikings were without Linval Joseph for this game, but they still did a phenomenal job of limiting Ezekiel Elliott, one of the best running backs in the league. Elliott carried the ball 20 times but only had 47 yards (2.35 yards per carry). With the Vikings focused on stopping the run, Dak Prescott had all the time he needed to throw the ball and torched the Vikings through the air. Dallas chose to pick on Mike Hughes, who got the start because Tray Waynes was out. Hughes gave up a lot of yards, but he also made some good plays and came out of this contest fairly even.

The player of the game on offense was Dalvin Cook, who led the team in both rushing and receiving. His seven catches for 86 yards, when combined with his rushing yards, gave him 183 total yards and a win in this matchup of two elite running backs.

The player of the game on defense was Eric Kendricks. With under a minute left in this game, the Cowboys had driven down the field but faced fourth and five at the MN 14-yard line. Needing a touchdown, Dak Prescott threw to his running back who had flared out to the left, but Kendricks was there, got a hand in the way, and effectively handed the Vikings a win.

Looking ahead, the Vikings will be home (where they are 4-0) and take on the Denver Broncos. This is a game the Vikings, who want to be taken seriously, should dominate from beginning to end. ESPN is giving the Vikings a 79% chance to win. The game will air on CBS at noon (CT) this Sunday. Skol!

If you have any questions or comments, please reach out to me on Twitter (@JordanWrightNFL)



## Desiree Yeigh chosen as Teacher of the Week

by Kiersten Sombke

Congratulations to Desiree Yeigh, Groton Area MS/HS Music Teacher, who is this week's "MS/HS Teacher of the Week"! Groton Area is grateful for Mrs. Yeigh's continued dedication and service to our students, parents, families, staff, and community. Please give Mrs. Yeigh a well deserved, "Well Done!" when you see her! We also wish to recognize Mrs. Yeigh and the Yeigh family for their sacrifice and service as a military family, having Mrs. Yeigh's husband actively currently deployed overseas. We recognize that the gift of this service comes from the entire Yeigh family, and we offer our heartfelt gratitude to them on this Veterans Day! Thank you for serving!

Each Week a different MS/HS Staff member is recognized for their service to the Groton Area School District, being honored in receiving "Miller-Teacher of the Week Pet", Teacher of the Week Black Executive Chair, and use of the new Teacher of the Week Personalized Parking Spot. All MS/HS Teacher of the Week supplies and items are sponsored by the Groton Area MS/HS PAC.

The MS/HS PAC works hard to actively support, encourage, and recognize the efforts of all staff. The MS/HS PAC are always ready to welcome new members, and are grateful for any amount of time, talent, or ideas you have to share! Please see Mrs. Sombke if you would like more information on how you can participate in upcoming PAC activities.





## Ashley Seeklander chosen as last week's Teacher of the Week

by Kiersten Sombke

Congratulations to Ashley Seeklander, Groton Area MS/HS School Counselor, who is this week's "MS/HS Teacher of the Week"! Groton Area is grateful for Ms. Seeklander's continued dedication and service to our students, parents, families, staff, and community. Please give Ms. Seeklander a well deserved, "Way to Go" when you see her! Each Week a different MS/HS Staff member is recognized for their service to the Groton Area School District, being honored in receiving "Miller-Teacher of the Week Pet", Teacher of the Week Black Executive Chair, and use of the new Teacher of the Week Personalized Parking Spot. All MS/HS Teacher of the Week supplies and items are sponsored by the Groton Area MS/HS PAC.

The MS/HS PAC works hard to actively support, encourage, and recognize the efforts of all staff. MS/HS PAC are always ready to welcome new members and are grateful for any amount of time, talent, or ideas you have to share! Please see Mrs. Sombke if you would like more information on how you can participate in upcoming PAC activities.

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**Veterans  
Day**



Scattered  
Flurries

**High: 14 °F**

**Tonight**



Mostly Clear

**Low: 1 °F**

**Tuesday**



Mostly Sunny  
then Mostly  
Cloudy and  
Breezy

**High: 26 °F**

**Tuesday  
Night**



Mostly Cloudy  
then Slight  
Chance Snow

**Low: 21 °F**

**Wednesday**



Chance Snow

**High: 33 °F**

**TODAY**  
10-20°  
Flurries  
COLD with occasional  
flurries and variable  
cloudiness

**TUESDAY**  
23-45°  
**BREEZY**  
A little warmer and  
breezy region-wide

www.weather.gov/abr 11/11/2019 3:30 AM

Published on: 11/10/2019 at 10:33PM

Other than some flurries, it should be dry today, but COLD! Highs mainly in the teens are expected. It'll turn warmer on Tuesday as gusty southerly breezes return to the region.

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## Today in Weather History

November 10, 1998: Heavy snow fell across most of central, north central, and northeast South Dakota from the early morning hours of the 9th into the late afternoon hours of the 10th. Heavy snow also fell across west central Minnesota from late in the evening on the 9th to the early morning hours of the 10th. Snowfall amounts ranged from 6 to 14 inches. Early in the storm, much of the precipitation fell as rain, freezing rain, and heavy wet snow. During the early morning hours of the 10th, northwest winds increased to 20 to 50 mph and gusted at times to 60 mph. These high winds brought widespread blizzard conditions into the late evening hours of the 10th. On both the 10th and 11th, most area schools were closed, along with many highways, including Highways 12 and 83. Interstates 29 and 90 were also closed due to slick roads and near-zero visibilities. Hundreds of vehicles were stranded in this storm, with many people needing rescue, and many motorists also slid off the roads. There were also numerous accidents, with a few resulting in injuries. Due to the ice buildup from the rain, freezing rain, and wet snow early in the storm, along with the high winds, many tree limbs, some trees, and power lines and poles were brought down, which resulted in multiple power outages across the region. The area most affected by power outages was north of a line from Mobridge to Ipswich, along Highway 212, to the North Dakota border. Some 25 cities were affected by power outages. Hosmer was without power for over 40 hours. At South Shore, a family lost power for 120 hours. A lineman tried to get to the home twice, but could not because of the low visibility. A teenager was also lost overnight near South Shore while he was hunting with friends. He was found at 8 am the next morning. In Watertown, two people were injured in an accident. Several of the downed trees across parts of the area blocked traffic for a time. Numerous businesses were closed, and activities were canceled on the 9th and 10th. In Pierre, the strong winds ripped the canopy off the Amoco gas station. The blizzard brought the fifth lowest barometric pressure on record to Watertown. Some snowfall amounts from this horrible blizzard included; 15.4 inches near Bryant; 12.5 inches in Webster; 12.3 in Pierre; 10.8 in Sisseton; 10.5 inches near Summit; 10.0 inches in Pollock and near Onida; and 9.0 in Blunt and Conde.

1975: The SS Edmund Fitzgerald sinks 17 miles northwest of Whitefish Point, at the northeastern tip of Michigan's Upper Peninsula on Lake Superior. While the cause of the sinking is unknown, strong winds and high waves likely played a significant role. The crew of 29 members was lost from this event.

2002: The second largest November tornado outbreak on record over the eastern United States occurred during the Veterans Day weekend of November 9-11, 2002. Seventy-six tornadoes were reported in seventeen states. Of the 76 tornadoes, almost one out of every six was a killer, resulting in 36 fatalities.

1915 - An unusually late season tornado struck the central Kansas town of Great Bend killing eleven persons along its 35 mile track. The tornado destroyed 160 homes in Great Bend killing 11 persons and causing a million dollars damage. Hundreds of dead ducks dropped from the sky northeast of the track's end. (The Weather Channel)

1975 - Another freshwater fury hit the Great Lakes. A large ore carrier on Lake Superior, the Edmund Fitzgerald, sank near Crisp Point with the loss of its crew of 29 men. Eastern Upper Michigan and coastal Lower Michigan were hardest hit by the storm, which produced wind gusts to 71 at Sault Ste Marie MI, and gusts to 78 mph at Grand Rapids MI. Severe land and road erosion occurred along the Lake Michigan shoreline. A popular hit song by Gordon Lightfoot was inspired by the storm. (David Ludlum)

1987 - A cold front brought snow to the Appalachian Region and freezing temperatures to the central U.S. Up to nine inches of snow blanketed Garrett County of extreme western Maryland. Freezing temperatures were reported as far south as El Paso TX and San Angelo TX. Gale force winds lashed the Middle Atlantic Coast and the coast of southern New England. Thunderstorms brought fire quenching rains to Alabama, and produced large hail and damaging winds to eastern North Carolina. Ahead of the cold front, seven cities in Florida and Georgia reported record high temperatures for the date as readings warmed into the 80s. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)



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## Yesterday's Groton Weather Today's Info

**High Temp: 35 °F at 12:00 AM**

**Low Temp: 14 °F at 10:07 PM**

**Wind: 24 mph at 1:29 AM**

**Day Rain: 0.00**

**Record High: 70° in 1912, 1909**

**Record Low: -8° in 1896, 1966**

**Average High: 42°F**

**Average Low: 21°F**

**Average Precip in Nov.: 0.29**

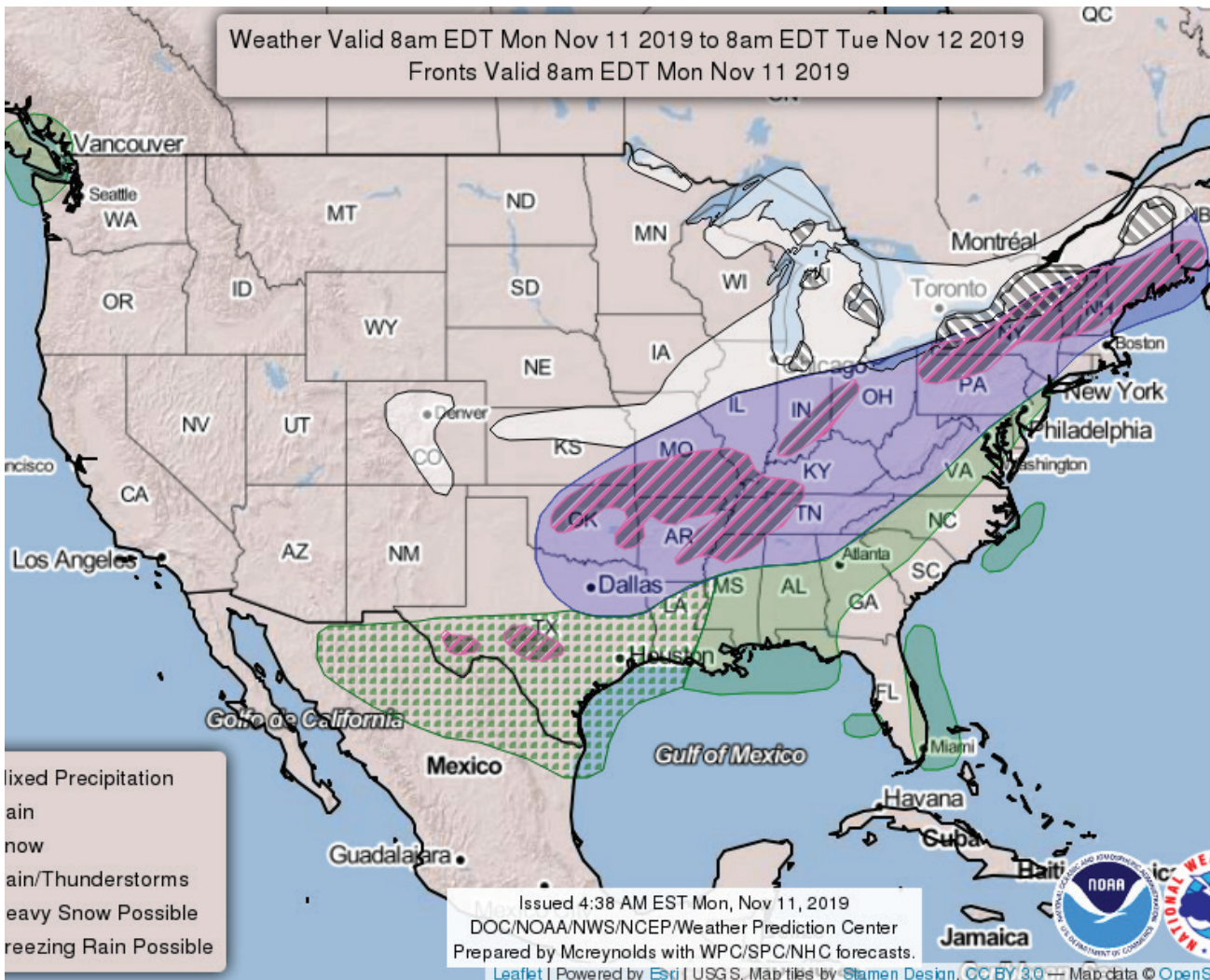
**Precip to date in Nov.: 0.00**

**Average Precip to date: 20.76**

**Precip Year to Date: 26.57**

**Sunset Tonight: 5:08 p.m.**

**Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:28 a.m.**





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## **" GOODBYE. WE'RE MOVING!"**

The discussion at dinner centered on the family's move to New York. That evening as she was saying her bedtime prayers with her mother, little Suzanne concluded them by saying, "Goodbye, Jesus. I guess we won't be talking anymore. We are moving to New York and I'm not sure you can hear me from there."

Our Heavenly Father is not confined to any city or church. He has no set hours or days off. We do not need an appointment, and He has no secretary to screen His calls. He's always there when we need Him for anything and everything. In fact, it is almost beyond belief that we have direct and immediate access to the Creator of the Universe.

When He encourages us to "call upon me," He concludes this invitation by saying that He will personally "answer us." What a gracious and generous guarantee from a loving and faithful Heavenly Father. Wherever we are and whenever any need arises, He's there waiting and listening for our call.

Prayer: Thank You, Father, for the promise that You listen, hear and will answer our prayers when we call for help. Increase our faith in Your promises. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Jeremiah 33:3 Ask me and I will tell you remarkable secrets you do not know about things to come.

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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)

## News from the Associated Press

### **Woman who called for help before assault files lawsuit**

CUSTER, S.D. (AP) — A woman who was kidnapped and sexually assaulted just hours after calling the sheriff's office for help is suing Custer County and others because deputies never responded.

In her federal lawsuit, the woman is seeking \$2 million, saying deputies could have prevented the crime. The woman told a Custer County dispatcher Sept. 5, 2017 that she had a protection order against her former boyfriend and that he had sent a threatening message after bonding out of jail.

The Rapid City Journal reports court records show deputies never responded to the woman's request for help and she was kidnapped and sexually assaulted hours later. The perpetrator, Harry Evans, was convicted and sentenced to 92 years in prison.

The defendants say in their response that dispatch had technology troubles with transferring calls to deputies that day.

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

### **Keystone pipeline restarts 2 weeks after North Dakota leak**

By **JAMES MacPHERSON** Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — The Keystone pipeline has been restarted nearly two weeks after it leaked an estimated 383,000 gallons (1.4 million liters) of oil in North Dakota.

TC Energy says the pipeline "returned to service" Sunday after approval of a repair and restart plan by the U.S. Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.

The agency ordered the company last week to keep the pipeline shut down until corrective action was taken, including sending an affected portion of the pipe to an independent laboratory for testing.

State regulators say the leak that was reported on Oct. 29 affected about 22,500 square feet (2,090 square meters) of land near Edinburg.

The cause of the leak has not been disclosed.

The company says about 285,600 gallons (1 million liters) of crude oil has been recovered.

### **Hart running for US Senate**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A woman who works to support refugee families in Sioux Falls says she's running as Democratic candidate for the U.S. Senate.

Clara Hart says the person who currently holds the seat, Sen. Mike Rounds, hasn't shown enough sympathy for struggling farmers in a state that relies on its agriculture industry. Rounds, a Republican, hasn't yet announced whether he'll seek reelection.

Hart tells the Argus Leader she was motivated to run because of farmers who are having a tough time with tariffs and the trade war with China.

Hart is from Mozambique and became a U.S. citizen in 1993. She works as a liaison for refugee families in the Sioux Falls School District and is chairwoman of the Refugee Congress.

Former Democratic legislator Dan Ahlers of Dell Rapids is also running.

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

### **Authorities: South Dakota man died in Nebraska collision**

GRAND ISLAND, Neb. (AP) — Authorities say a South Dakota man died after collision on Interstate 80 in south-central Nebraska.



The crash occurred around 4 p.m. Sunday near the U.S. Highway 281 junction at Grand Island. The Hall County Sheriff's Department says a semitrailer and two passenger vehicles were involved.

The name of the victim and other details about the collision have not been released.

## Navigating affordable housing system complex in Sioux Falls

By **TREVOR MITCHELL** Argus Leader

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Two years ago, Tabitha Chamness decided she needed a home.

In August of 2017, she'd entered treatment for a meth addiction, hoping to make a better life for her and her children.

And that meant no more sleeping on friend's couches, no more living in what she called the "slumlord kind of places" where she'd been just making do, embarrassed to allow her children to invite friends over.

But Chamness, of her own admission, hadn't the faintest idea how to start that process. She'd never applied for an apartment before. She didn't even know what a credit score was, never mind how to improve one. And she was terrible at saving money and couldn't afford to pay both a security deposit and first month's rent.

Chamness was sitting at the center of a growing issue in Sioux Falls, one that is affecting thousands of families — housing in the city is increasingly unattainable for low-income families, and navigating the complex system intended to bridge the gap can be an overwhelming struggle for those who need it most, the Argus Leader reports.

It's something the city has put years of work into addressing, and new mayor Paul TenHaken's administration has several years of benchmarks set for the future.

But it's still a massively complex issue with a high demand that can leave those most in need stuck for years on a wait list, and with so many different systems that an unlucky family can fall through the cracks between them.

What does 'affordable housing' mean?

Housing is referred to as "affordable" if the monthly fees (rent, utilities, property taxes and the like) do not exceed 30% of a family's gross monthly income. Over that mark, they become "cost-burdened."

Households paying 50% or more of their income are referred to as extremely cost-burdened.

And the lower a family's income, the more likely they are to be cost-burdened. Census data from 2013-2017 shows that more than half of households making between \$20,000 and \$34,999 are cost-burdened. It's an even more severe issue in households making less than \$20,000, of which close to 90% are cost-burdened.

Meanwhile, less than 2% of Sioux Falls households making \$75,000 or more are cost-burdened when it comes to housing.

The number of households struggling to afford housing shows no signs of dropping. The median home value in Sioux Falls nearly doubled from 2000-2017, while the median rent increased by 50%. Median income for homeowners and renters hasn't risen anywhere near as quickly over the same period.

Many of these statistics were shown the Sioux Falls City Council in a July presentation by the city's housing manager, Chellee Unruh. The presentation also focused on a 3-year plan to address some of the issues surrounding affordable housing.

It's a tall order. There's no single root cause, Unruh said in an interview. It's a tangled web of issues that all play into each other.

Affordable housing starts with developers

For one thing, a well-meaning developer can't just decide to build an affordable apartment building. It's not that simple.

"You might want to look at it from a profitability standpoint," Unruh said. "If you're a landlord, and you're looking to provide rents, it's very difficult to get your rents down to that low income mark without some type of subsidy."

And getting that subsidy presents its own challenges, said Tyler Arens with Affordable Housing Solutions.

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There's an application process that only comes around once a year, and it's a competitive field.

It's entirely possible, Arens said, that a developer could get control of the site they want to use, apply for the subsidy and have money they've put into the project ... and then not receive the subsidy.

"So now it's a whole other year to wait before I can resubmit an application to build that structure," Arens said.

So in many cases, it may be in the developer's interest to build a non-subsidized apartment building, and hope to offer rents that are high enough to make a profit but low enough to not price people out who need a home.

Unfortunately, those two goals don't always meet, and rents can still be too high for some people to meet.

Local groups try to help find people homes

That's where, hopefully, organizations like Sioux Falls Housing can step in. Through their programs, they provide rental assistance to over 2,000 households in the Sioux Falls area.

"It means the world to me. To be able to have my kids be happy to invite friends over, where I'm not embarrassed to have people over."

One of those programs is a voucher program, which allows eligible tenants to receive rental assistance in a place they choose, as long as it meets certain criteria. Sioux Falls Housing will work to find a rent that both sides find agreeable and will pay for a portion of the rent.

One client of Les Coin, the lead housing specialist with Sioux Falls Housing, lived in an apartment complex that was supposed to be non-smoking. And yet people smoked all the time — an annoyance for some, but a serious medical issue for the young girl with asthma who lived there.

"That poor child was in the emergency room all the time," said Dianne Hovdestad, deputy director of Sioux Falls Housing, "and when she moved into a house because a voucher allowed her to move into a house, that kid's health just improved immensely."

Now, Coin says, that little girl isn't missing school and doesn't dread her own home. She sends him gifts on holidays, and the family, every time they check in, thanks him for what he did.

"And that's why you come to work, right?" Coin said.

There's also Bright Futures, a program for families who are homeless or in danger of becoming homeless. It's the program that Chamness credits with changing her life.

She was partnered with case manager Elda Person, and the program helped her find a home, pay for the deposit and make the monthly rent.

"If I wouldn't have had Bright Futures, I would never even have been able to move out," Chamness said, "let alone have anywhere to go."

Now, almost a year into the program, she's managing her own money. She's building a savings account, and she is looking to buy a home.

Most importantly, she said, is what she's been able to do for her children, Lyric and Briar.

"It means the world to me," she said, "to be able to have my kids be happy to invite friends over, where I'm not embarrassed to have people over."

But you can't just sign up for these programs and have a house key in your hand the next day.

Not every story has a happy ending

For one thing, with thousands of people in the city needing assistance, only so many can be helped at once. Sioux Falls Housing's voucher program currently has a 2.5 yearlong wait list, and Chamness waited nearly a year between applying for Bright Futures and meeting her case worker.

And, more troubling, the system to get onto those waiting lists or receive other help from the city can be inscrutable.

The Sioux Falls Affordable Housing Needs Assessment, an in-depth report completed in 2016 by the Augustana Research Institute and still referenced by the city, called it "so complex and difficult to navigate that people opt out."

The report called the system "program rich but systems poor," noting that numerous programs were competing for the same resources, and at times providing identical services, creating inefficiency.

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The report was blunt: "Without a comprehensive understanding of the system as a whole and the services available, clients may fall through the cracks."

And someone dealing with a housing crisis is likely in one of the most stressful times of their life — not the easiest time to sit down, focus and learn the ins and outs of how the city can help you.

What is the city doing to help?

Addressing that issue is one of the main goals outlined in Unruh's presentation — the city, partnered with Minnehaha and Lincoln counties and a nonprofit, will establish a "Housing Clinic" by 2021.

Employees of the clinic will be tasked with guiding people through the affordable housing system, finding the programs that they're eligible for and helping them to understand their responsibilities within those programs.

Later goals for the clinic include using a software system to connect all of the city's programs together, and creating an online tool to help locate housing.

And Sioux Falls has a vested interest in this process, Unruh said. It benefits the city to keep people from falling through those cracks, get them into an affordable apartment and possibly see them transition to a homeowner.

"We want to move folks from the rental side to homeownership because that's when they stay in a community," Unruh said. "They start to plant roots. They build their family, and they're not as apt to take another opportunity in another community, if they're given a job opportunity for example."

And in two years, the city hopes they'll be on a better track, one where more people's stories sound like that of Chamness.

"They're giving me the life skills and ability and knowledge to be better for a whole lifetime," Chamness said. "I'm more responsible and more capable now than I've ever been."

As she talks, her dog is running around her home, and Lyric sits next to her on the couch, watching cartoons on a tablet. It's a far cry from the roach-infested houses she'd described living in just a few years ago, where a broken water pipe could take weeks to fix.

It's home, she says.

"I owe a lot of that to Elda and the program," she continues. "Honestly, I don't know where I'd be without it."

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

## Spain sees widening political divide as nationalism rises

By CIARÁN GILES Associated Press

MADRID (AP) — Spain looked set Monday to endure many more months of political uncertainty after the country's fourth election in as many years reflected a widening political chasm between parties on the left and the right.

After Sunday's national vote, no party has a clear mandate to govern and a far-right party has become a major parliamentary player in Spain for the first time in decades.

Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez's left-of-center Socialists won the most seats — 120 — but fell far short of a majority in the 350-seat chamber and will need to make deals on several fronts if they are to govern.

Right-wing voters, meanwhile, flocked to the far-right Vox party, giving it 52 seats to become the parliament's third-largest party, behind the Socialists and the conservative Popular Party, which surged back to win 88 seats.

Vox's surge and the gains by the Popular Party capitalized on Spanish nationalist sentiment stirred up by the Socialists' handling of the secessionist movement in the northeastern region of Catalonia.

On the streets of Madrid, many people were scratching their heads over what would happen next.

"I think we are worse than before, we are more divided," said Antonio Prados, a 44-year-old police officer. "I don't know, there's a possibility to form a government, but I don't know how they will come up with the numbers."



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Sánchez called the election after he failed to gain enough support to form a government after the previous election in April — but won three fewer seats Sunday than seven months ago.

Andrew Dowling, an expert on contemporary Spanish politics at Cardiff University in Wales, said Sánchez's plan to come out with a stronger mandate had backfired.

"The Spanish Socialist party made a major miscalculation in calling new elections," Dowling told The Associated Press.

Adding to the prime minister's woes, his closest allies, the left-wing United We Can party, fell from 42 to 35 seats.

Sunday's ballot also went badly for the right-of-center Citizens party, which captured just 10 seats, down from 57 seats in April. Party leader Albert Rivera quit Monday after the debacle but was not the only person hurt by it.

Sánchez, who will struggle to form a government, has "fewer options because of the collapse of Citizens," said Dowling.

Disputes over the independence sentiment in Catalonia — Spain's most serious political issue in decades — will continue to fester, with three Catalan separatist parties winning a combined 23 seats on Sunday.

On Monday, Catalan radicals resumed their protests by blocking a major highway border pass between France and Spain and promising to keep it cut off for three days.

One analyst said Catalan separatists have succeeded in disrupting Spanish politics and helped give rise to the radical Vox.

"The one thing that the Catalans have achieved is to get a radical right equally as radical as they are on the other end, a kind of a mirror thing, and with that making everyone's life more miserable," said José Ignacio Torreblanca from the European Council on Foreign Relations.

The next step will be for parliamentarians to select a house speaker in the coming weeks and then for talks between King Felipe VI and party leaders to begin so that one of them, most likely Sánchez, will be called on to try to form a government.

Sánchez was meeting with his party leadership later Monday. Party secretary José Ábalos said Sánchez will sound out other party leaders over the coming days and seek to form a government as soon as possible.

Ábalos said the Socialists would not build any coalitions with parties on the right, indicating it would seek support instead from other leftist groups and regional parties.

Right-wing populist and anti-migrant leaders across Europe, meanwhile, celebrated Vox's strong showing. Marine Le Pen, who heads France's National Rally party, congratulated Vox leader Santiago Abascal, saying his impressive work "is already bearing fruit after only a few years."

In the northeast, many Catalans have been angered by the Supreme Court's prison sentences last month for nine Catalan politicians and activists who led a 2017 drive for the region's independence. The ruling triggered massive daily protests in Catalonia that left more than 500 people injured and activists vowed to keep up the pressure on the Spanish government.

Capital Economics, a London-based research company, said it expected no short-term economic difficulties after Sunday's vote because Spain's economy has remained healthy despite the past four years of political gridlock.

But it warned Monday that deep, long-term economic reforms are needed in Spain's labor markets and pension systems to keep Spain competitive.

Helena Alves in Madrid and Barry Hatton in Lisbon, Portugal contributed to this story.

## **GOP Rep. Peter King retiring, giving Dems new 2020 target**

**By ANDREW TAYLOR and ALAN FRAM Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Rep. Peter King, a moderate Republican who has represented a Long Island congressional district for nearly 30 years, announced Monday he won't seek reelection, presenting Democrats with a fresh suburban target as they defend their majority in 2020.

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The decision comes days after voters flocked to Democratic candidates in state elections in Kentucky and Virginia, underscoring Republican vulnerability in a suburban revolt against President Donald Trump.

But in the latest indication that congressional Republicans are rallying behind Trump for now, King said he will oppose Democratic efforts to impeach Trump. King also opposed Bill Clinton's impeachment in 1998.

"In the coming weeks and during the next year I intend to vote against President Trump's impeachment and will support the President's bid for re-election," King said.

The 14-term congressman, 75, said in a Facebook post that he's retiring because he wants "flexibility to spend more time" with his children and grandchildren "after 28 years of spending 4 days a week in Washington, D.C."

King, a former chair of the House Homeland Security Committee, has cultivated a reputation for bipartisanship while maintaining a hard line on immigration and crime. He is the longest-serving Republican member of New York's congressional delegation. Still, he won reelection in 2018 by just 6 percentage points.

King's keen political instincts and deserved reputation as a fighter for New York's interests gave him remarkable political resiliency; at one point, after the 2008 election that sent Barack Obama to the White House, he was the state's lone GOP member of Congress.

He teamed up with powerful Democrats such as Chuck Schumer to win a huge Superstorm Sandy aid package after the 2012 storm, despite foot-dragging by GOP leaders. On Monday, the Senate Democratic leader took to Twitter to lavish praise on King.

"Peter King stood head & shoulders above everyone else," Schumer wrote. "He's fiercely loved America, Long Island, and his Irish heritage and left a lasting mark on all 3."

His district includes once-reliably GOP territory in southwestern Suffolk County and a portion of Nassau County, about an hour's drive east of Manhattan. It went narrowly for Trump in 2016.

Democrats seem certain to target the district in 2020. Many suburban districts around the country have been moving steadily toward Democrats as moderate, well-educated voters swing away from the polarizing president.

Twenty House Republicans have announced they will not seek reelection. Three other GOP lawmakers have resigned and already left Congress.

House Democrats retook the majority in 2018, and are looking to defend their majority and grab new seats in suburban districts in what they see as a backlash against Trump.

Only a handful of the Republican-held districts being vacated by retirements are expected to be seriously competitive next year. But King's district will be one of them, underscoring GOP vulnerability in suburban areas, spotlighted last week as suburban voters in Virginia and Kentucky flocked to Democratic candidates in elections for state offices.

## What's coming in impeachment: The inquiry goes public

WASHINGTON (AP) — For only the fourth time in U.S. history, the House of Representatives has started a presidential impeachment inquiry. House committees are trying to determine whether President Donald Trump violated his oath of office by asking Ukraine to investigate political rival Joe Biden's family and the 2016 U.S. presidential election all while the White House was withholding military aid to the East European ally that borders Russia.

A quick forecast of what's coming this week:

LIGHTS, CAMERAS, HEARINGS

Americans will have their first public view of the impeachment inquiry, as the proceedings emerge from the secure closed-door facility in the Capitol basement to live hearings.

House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff, D-Calif., will gavel in the sessions Wednesday and Friday.

What's unclear, though, is what people will see in two days of hearings. Will the proceedings serve as a clarifying moment for the country, when a common narrative emerges over the president's actions and whether or not they are, in fact, impeachable? Or in this era of peak partisanship, will the days devolve into a reality-TV episode showcasing the divide?

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Unlike Watergate in the 1970s or even Bill Clinton's impeachment in the 1990s, Americans consume their news at different times and in different ways, making it hard to know if this week will produce a where-were-you-when moment.

## SPOTLIGHT ON WITNESSES

Bill Taylor . George Kent . Marie "Masha" Yovanovitch.

Once little-known State Department officials are about to become household names as they testify publicly in the impeachment inquiry.

Taylor, a Vietnam War veteran who has spent 50 years in public service, will set the tone as the first witness. All three have testified in the closed setting, defying the White House's instructions not to comply. But they are providing a remarkably consistent account of the Trump administration's actions.

Republicans want to hear from others , including Biden's son Hunter, as well as the anonymous government whistleblower who sparked the impeachment inquiry, but Democrats who have majority control are not likely to agree to those requests.

## PERSUADING VOTERS

Republicans have struggled to articulate a unified defense of Trump. Democrats have had difficulty synthesizing their arguments into a simple narrative for the public.

Both will be sharpening efforts to persuade American voters.

Rep. Jim Himes, D-Conn., said Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press" what the public will hear is "immensely patriotic, beautiful articulated — articulate people telling the story of a president who — let's forget quid pro quo; quid pro quo is one of these things to muddy the works — who extorted a vulnerable country by holding up military aid."

But Republicans have focused their attacks with a resolution criticizing the House process. Some in the party want to reveal the name of the government whistleblower.

Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., said on "Fox News Sunday, "I consider any impeachment in the House that doesn't allow us to know who the whistleblower is to be invalid, because without the whistleblower complaint, we wouldn't be talking about any of this."

Graham added that there's a "need for Hunter Biden to be called to adequately defend the president. And if you don't do those two things, it's a complete joke."

## WHAT WILL TRUMP DO?

For those watching television Wednesday afternoon, the president is offering some counterprogramming to the impeachment inquiry's public hearing: a joint news conference with Turkey's president, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, amid strains in relations between the two nations.

On impeachment, the president tried to give his allies on Capitol Hill some talking points Sunday, tweeting out his advice for how they should defend him — namely by insisting, as he did, that his call with the Ukrainian president was "PERFECT."

"Read the Transcript!" Trump intoned on Twitter. "There was NOTHING said that was in any way wrong. Republicans, don't be led into the fools trap of saying it was not perfect, but is not impeachable. No, it is much stronger than that. NOTHING WAS DONE WRONG!"

The White House released a rough transcript of his July call and Trump also says he will release, probably on Tuesday, an account of an April phone call he had with Ukraine's leader, Volodymyr Zelenskyy, soon after Zelenskyy won election.

Testimony in the closed proceedings shows that the April congratulatory call did not raise concerns, but the tone shifted on the July call that caused alarms among U.S. officials.

## MORE TRANSCRIPTS, MORE HEARINGS COMING

House investigators have been steadily releasing transcripts from hundreds of pages of testimony they



received behind closed doors.

More transcripts are expected. Nearly a dozen people have testified in the inquiry and investigators are building the public record of their findings. But this week's hearings will probably not be the last.

House investigators may still call others to testify, most likely Lt. Col. Alexander Vindman, an Army officer assigned to the National Security Council, and Fiona Hill, a former White House adviser on Russia. Both testified behind closed doors of their concerns about the Trump administration's effort to push Ukraine to investigate Democrats.

Eventually the Intelligence Committee will send a report of its findings to the Judiciary Committee, which would decide whether to pursue articles of impeachment against the president. A House vote on impeachment could come by Christmas.

## WORTH READING

The House committees probing Trump's Ukraine dealings are releasing transcripts of the depositions:

Taylor transcript: <http://apne.ws/vtAi9aX>

Kent transcript: <http://apne.ws/gX69QfC>

Yovanovitch transcript: <http://apne.ws/mBvxghb>

Vindman transcript: <http://apne.ws/hOMTyHP>

Hill transcript: <http://apne.ws/ShWUXZO>

Gordon Sondland, U.S. ambassador to the European Union: <http://apne.ws/8NmlA02>

Kurt Volker, former U.S. envoy to Ukraine: <http://apne.ws/rTdEmG4>

Michael McKinley, former adviser to Secretary of State Mike Pompeo: <http://apne.ws/PrBMFaM>

## Turkey starts returning IS fighters, deports US national

By SUZAN FRASER Associated Press

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — Turkey on Monday deported a U.S. citizen who fought for the Islamic State group as the government began a new push to send back captured foreign fighters to their home countries, a Turkish official said.

A German and a Danish national would also be repatriated later Monday, while seven other German nationals would be returned on Nov. 14, Interior Ministry spokesman Ismail Catakli told Turkey's state-run Anadolu Agency,

The U.S. and Denmark did not immediately comment on Ankara's announcement. Germany said it will not refuse entry to its own citizens.

The move comes just over a week after the Turkish interior minister said Turkey was not a "hotel" for IS fighters and criticized Western nations for their reluctance to take back citizens who had joined the ranks of the extremist militant group as it sought to establish a "caliphate" in Iraq and Syria.

In Denmark, the weekly newspaper Weekendavisen said the name of the Danish citizen being extradited was Ahmad Salem el-Haj, who faces terror charges in Denmark.

While Turkey has quietly deported IS sympathizers for years, it raised the issue more forcefully after Western nations refused to back its invasion of northeastern Syria and its offensive against Syrian Kurdish fighters, whom Ankara considers terrorists linked to Kurdish insurgents fighting inside Turkey. Many countries have voiced concerns that the Turkish incursion would lead to a resurgence of the Islamic State group.

Catakli did not provide further information on the IS suspects being sent home but said they were held in Turkish deportation centers.

"This morning, a foreign terrorist fighter from the United States was deported from Turkey after the procedures at the deportation center were completed," Anadolu quoted Catakli as saying.

Two Irish nationals, two German nationals and 11 French nationals who were captured in Syria would also be transferred to their countries of origin soon, he added.

Turkey has been accused of enabling the influx of thousands of foreign IS sympathizers into Syria over the years and at the height of the extremist group's power, the Turkish border crossings were the main

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route for those hoping to join IS in Syria.

Turkey denies that it enabled foreign fighters to cross into Syria. It later stepped up security at its borders, including profiling possible IS fighters at airports and building a wall along parts of its porous border.

Turkey was hit by a wave of IS attacks in 2015 and 2016, including one by a gunman who opened fire at an Istanbul nightclub during New Year celebrations in the early hours of 2017 and killed 39 people.

In Berlin, German foreign ministry spokesman Christofer Burger said Turkey told Germany about its plan to deport one person on Monday, seven on Thursday and two more German nationals on Friday. The group comprises three men, five women and two children.

So far, Burger said, German authorities cannot confirm that the 10 were involved with IS and, in the case of the person being deported Monday, they know of no link to IS. There are indications that two of the women were in Syria, but neither of the children is believed to have been in Syria.

There was no dispute about these people's German citizenship, he said, and therefore no doubt about them being let back into the country — Germany can't and doesn't refuse entry to its own citizens.

Burger said that authorities have not yet been able to verify whether some 20 people — who are known to be in pre-deportation custody in Turkey — have German citizenship. Ankara has not yet officially notified Germany that it plans to deport them.

Turkey has over the past few weeks criticized Western nations, including Britain and the Netherlands, for refusing to take back their nationals who had joined the militant group and vowed to send back IS militants — even if their citizenship has been revoked.

Turkish Interior Minister Suleyman Soyly said last week that about 1,200 foreign IS fighters were in Turkish prisons and 287 members, including women and children, were re-captured during Turkey's offensive in Syria. He did not provide any numbers or further details on those who would be sent back.

Several European countries, including Britain, have stripped IS fighters of their nationalities, to prevent their return.

Associated Press writer Geir Moulson in Berlin and Jan M. Olsen in Copenhagen, Denmark, contributed to this report.

## After push from Perry, backers got huge gas deal in Ukraine

By **DESMOND BUTLER, MICHAEL BIESECKER, STEPHEN BRAUN and RICHARD LARDNER**

**Associated Press**

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — Two political supporters of U.S. Energy Secretary Rick Perry secured a potentially lucrative oil and gas exploration deal from the Ukrainian government soon after Perry proposed one of the men as an adviser to the country's new president.

Perry's efforts to influence Ukraine's energy policy came earlier this year, just as President Volodymyr Zelenskiy's new government was seeking military aid from the United States to defend against Russian aggression and allies of President Donald Trump were ramping up efforts to get the Ukrainians to investigate his Democratic rival Joe Biden.

Ukraine awarded the contract to Perry's supporters little more than a month after the U.S. energy secretary attended Zelenskiy's May inauguration. In a meeting during that trip, Perry handed the new president a list of people he recommended as energy advisers. One of the four names was his longtime political backer Michael Bleyzer.

A week later, Bleyzer and his partner Alex Cranberg submitted a bid to drill for oil and gas at a sprawling government-controlled site called Varvynska. They offered millions of dollars less to the Ukrainian government than their only competitor for the drilling rights, according to internal Ukrainian government documents obtained by The Associated Press. But their newly created joint venture, Ukrainian Energy, was awarded the 50-year contract because a government-appointed commission determined they had greater technical expertise and stronger financial backing, the documents show.

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Perry likely had outsized influence in Ukraine. Testimony in the impeachment inquiry into Trump shows the energy secretary was one of three key U.S. officials who were negotiating a meeting between Trump and the Ukrainian leader.

The sequence of events suggests the Trump administration's political maneuvering in Ukraine was entwined with the big business of the energy trade.

Perry made clear during trips to Kyiv that he was close to Bleyzer, a Ukrainian-American investor and longtime Perry supporter who lives in Houston, and Cranberg, a Republican mega-donor who provided Perry the use of a luxury corporate jet during the energy secretary's failed 2012 presidential bid.

Perry's spokeswoman said Wednesday that the energy secretary has championed the American energy industry all over the world, including in Ukraine.

"What he did not do is advocate for the business interests of any one individual or company," said Shaylyn Hynes, the press secretary for the Energy Department.

Jessica Tillipman, who teaches anti-corruption law at George Washington University, said even if Perry did seek to influence foreign officials to award contracts to his friends, it is likely not illegal.

"My gut says it's no crime," she said. "It's just icky."

Zelenskiy's office did not respond to requests for comment.

In a statement to AP, Bleyzer denied that Perry helped his firm get the gas deal.

"I believe that Secretary Perry's conversations with Ukrainian government officials, if they in fact took place, did not play any role in Ukrainian Energy winning its bid," Bleyzer said Tuesday. He said the process was competitive and transparent and "will hopefully serve as an example of how the Ukrainian energy market can be opened for new investments."

Amy Flakne, a lawyer for Cranberg's company Aspect Holdings, said Wednesday that Perry and other U.S. officials supported "a fair, competitive process to bring foreign capital and technology to Ukraine's lagging energy sector."

"Aspect neither sought, nor to our knowledge received, special intervention on its behalf," Flakne said.

## 'FREEDOM GAS'

As Trump's energy secretary, Perry has flown around the globe to push for U.S. exports of liquefied natural gas, which he calls "Freedom Gas." He's made multiple trips to Ukraine and other former Soviet-bloc nations, where shipments of American gas and drilling technology take on strategic importance as a potential alternative to continued dependence on imports from Russia.

Ukraine has long suffered from a reputation for political corruption, particularly in its oil and gas sector. In the chaotic days following the breakup of the Soviet Union, the newly independent Ukrainian government sold off many state-owned businesses worth billions to a cadre of well-connected oligarchs who amassed immense fortunes.

As Ukraine sought economic and security support from the U.S. and other Western democracies, those countries pressed it to put in place a more open and transparent process for awarding oil and gas exploration rights on state land.

At the urging of Western partners, Ukraine's government created a process requiring that exploration contracts be put out to bid and awarded following review from a selection board appointed by the president's cabinet of ministers. The board recommends the winners, pending final approval from the ministers.

Those Western partners also advised Ukraine to appoint an independent supervisory board at Naftogaz, the state-owned energy company, as a guard against corruption and self-dealing.

In February, the Ukrainian government opened up bidding for nine oil and gas blocks encompassing 4,428 square miles (11,469 square kilometers) of land. Ukrainian Energy, the joint venture between Bleyzer's investment firm SigmaBleyzer and Cranberg's Aspect Energy, submitted a single bid for the largest block, which covers 1,340 square miles (3,471 square kilometers).

Under the contracts, the winning bidder is awarded exclusive rights to extract petroleum for up to 50 years. After the initial costs are recovered, the company and the government split the profits.

An internal review of the proposals by the Ukrainian Ministry of Energy and Coal Mining obtained by the



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AP show they were not the highest bidder.

The only competing bidder, UkrGasVydobuvannya, known by the acronym UGV, offered more than \$60 million for the first phase of the project, compared with \$53 million from Bleyzer and Cranberg, the document shows. UGV is Ukraine's largest domestic gas producer and is a subsidiary of Naftogaz, the state-owned company where Perry sought to replace board members.

Despite the lower upfront investment, the selection board gave the Americans higher scores for technical expertise and overall financial resources, according to the document reviewed by AP.

Of the nine gas deals awarded on July 1, Bleyzer and Cranberg's bid was the only one of the winners that didn't include the participation of a Ukrainian company. UGV won four of the remaining bids.

Two members of the board that helped select the bid winners told the AP that the process is designed to be difficult to improperly influence because it is a mix of government representatives and industry experts.

Roman Opimakh, a commission member who is the head of the State Service of Geology and Subsoil of Ukraine, said the government was looking for foreign investment, particularly U.S., and the board considered that as a factor. He said it's an advantage if a company is well-connected in Washington but added that he saw no indication that U.S. officials influenced the process.

Perry, who served 14 years as the governor of Texas, has publicly championed the potential of U.S. hydraulic fracturing technology to boost oil and gas production in Ukraine and pressed for the bidding process to be opened up to U.S. companies.

At an energy industry roundtable in Kyiv in November 2018, Perry said the potential for oil and gas development in Ukraine is "staggering." Ukraine, he declared, had a chance to become "the Texas of Europe."

At the same event, which was co-sponsored by the nonprofit U.S.-Ukraine Business Council, Perry plugged Cranberg's expertise. Both Cranberg and Bleyzer were in the room, along with several American and Ukrainian energy industry officials.

"You know, Alex Cranberg, who has been in this business a long time, can attest to this probably as well as anyone sitting around the table, that we have the potential to change the world," Perry said, according to a transcript released by the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv.

During the same 2018 trip, Perry had a private meeting with then-Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko, where they discussed deepening the ties between the two country's energy industries, according to a U.S. Embassy summary of the meeting.

Records suggest Perry has also met regularly with Bleyzer. Visitor logs released by the Energy Department through a public records request show Bleyzer entering through the VIP check-in desk at the building where Perry's office is at least three times, most recently on May 8.

Less than two weeks later, Perry was on a plane to Kyiv to attend the inauguration ceremony for Zelenskyy, who had defeated Poroshenko in an April election. It was during that trip that Perry presented his list of recommended advisers that included Bleyzer and remarked on their long friendship, according to a person in the room who spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of retaliation. Attendees left the meeting with the impression that Perry wanted to replace an American representative on the Naftogaz board with someone "reputable in Republican circles," according to the person who was there.

Bleyzer said Tuesday that he had been included in what he described as a brainstorming session with Energy Department officials about creating an informal group knowledgeable about Ukraine's energy industry to help develop U.S. strategy, but he had no idea his name would be forwarded to the country's new president.

"I was not aware at any time that my name was recommended by Secretary Perry to the Ukrainian government to act in any capacity," Bleyzer said.

Perry's work in Ukraine places him at the center of the House impeachment inquiry into efforts by Trump and his personal lawyer Rudy Giuliani to press Zelenskyy to open an investigation into Biden and his son Hunter's business dealings with Burisma, another Ukrainian gas company.

Perry, who announced last month that he is resigning by the end of the year, has refused to cooperate with the congressional probe. In an Oct. 4 interview with the Christian Broadcasting Network, Perry said

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that “as God as my witness” he never discussed Biden or his son in meetings with Ukrainian or U.S. officials.

But Perry was at the White House for a key July 10 meeting where senior Ukrainian officials were told continued U.S. support was conditional on Zelenskiy’s government opening investigations into Democrats and Burisma, Army Lt. Col. Alexander Vindman, an aide on Trump’s National Security Council, testified last month.

## TEXAS TIES

Bleyzer and Perry’s ties go back at least a decade. As governor, Perry appointed Bleyzer in 2009 to serve as a member of a Texas state advisory board overseeing state funding to emerging technology ventures. The following year, Bleyzer contributed \$30,000 to Perry’s 2010 campaign for Texas governor.

The Ukrainian-born Texan cuts a flamboyant figure in the energy world. A 2012 profile in the Houston Chronicle is set in his modernist 15,000-square-foot mansion. In an accompanying photo, he stands next to his wife, a mane of gray hair to his shoulders, on a balcony overlooking a swimming pool.

A former engineer at Exxon, Bleyzer was born in Ukraine’s Kharkiv region and trained in digital electronics and quantum physics. In 1994, he founded SigmaBleyzer Investment group, a private equity firm that specializes in developing corporate stakes in Eastern Europe. The company says it manages about \$1 billion in assets.

Bleyzer also has ties to Giuliani. In 2008, Bleyzer’s company hired Giuliani’s former Houston-based law firm, Bracewell & Giuliani, to help it acquire and consolidate cable holdings in 16 Ukrainian cities, including Kyiv, according to an announcement at the time. The same year, Bleyzer donated \$2,300 to Giuliani’s presidential campaign.

Bleyzer’s company is the primary funder of the U.S.-Ukraine Business Council, which promotes the interests of American businesses operating in Ukraine. According to tax records, the business council is run out of the Washington, D.C., offices of its president and CEO, Morgan Williams, who is also listed as the government affairs director for SigmaBleyzer.

The council, which sponsors events that feature senior U.S. and Ukrainian government officials, pushes for policy priorities that dovetail with Bleyzer’s business interests — including lobbying to create the very process that opened Ukraine’s state-controlled oil and gas fields to foreign investment, according to the webpage of the state geology service.

Days after the government in Ukraine posted the gas blocks for bidding in February, visitor logs show Williams accompanied Bleyzer through the VIP entrance at the Energy Department.

On May 28, the day the bids were due in Kyiv, Williams again accompanied Bleyzer, who photos show was sporting a Western-style shirt with a Stars and Stripes pattern, to the offices of Ukraine’s energy ministry to submit their company’s bid.

On June 5 — while Bleyzer and Cranberg’s proposal was under review — Williams met with a key Zelenskiy adviser, Oleg Ustenko, and told him that significant expansion of oil and gas production in Ukraine could only be achieved with investments from private companies, including ones from the United States, according to a summary of the meeting posted on the business council’s website.

In an apparent dig at the company competing against Bleyzer and Cranberg for the gas deal, Williams also told Ustenko that the “participation of the state monopoly player” undermined the chances of private companies to win, according to the summary.

What the council’s media release failed to mention is that, like Williams, Ustenko serves dual roles. In addition to advising the Ukrainian president, the economist is the longtime executive director of The Bleyzer Foundation, a Kyiv-based nonprofit organization founded by Bleyzer in 2001. The group’s website describes its mission as promoting private-sector investment in Ukraine.

Less than four weeks later, Ukraine Energy was named the winner of the Varvynska block over the Naftogaz subsidiary.

Bleyzer would not say whether he considered it a conflict for his employee to simultaneously be leading the international trade group while also advocating for his private business interests.

He said the U.S.-Ukraine Business Council is just one of many organizations that strongly support the participation of foreign companies in the bidding process "as one of the key factors in helping Ukraine achieve its energy independence from Russia."

As with Bleyzer, Cranberg also has longtime ties to Perry.

A graduate of the University of Texas in Austin, Cranberg was appointed by Perry in 2011 to serve a six-year term on the state university system's board of regents. He is a generous political donor, giving more than \$3 million since the mid-1980s primarily to Republican candidates and fundraising committees, according to federal and state campaign finance records.

In the last 13 months, Cranberg has contributed just over \$650,000 to two committees focused on electing Republicans to House seats, \$637,000 to the National Republican Senatorial Committee and \$258,000 to the National Republican Congressional Committee. He and his wife each gave \$50,000 last April to Trump Victory, the joint entity that funds the president's reelection campaign and the Republican National Committee.

When Perry campaigned for president in 2011, federal disclosures show his campaign paid more than \$16,000 to a holding company for a private jet used by Cranberg.

Cranberg is also among those who entered through the VIP desk at the Energy Department, logging in with his wife for a visit in April 2018.

His company last year hired Perry's former campaign manager, Jeff Miller, as a lobbyist. Miller has been to the Energy Department's headquarters at least a dozen times since Perry became secretary, according to the visitor logs. He mostly signed in through the VIP entrance.

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Biesecker, Braun and Lardner reported from Washington.

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## **AP Exclusive: Buttigieg would pick VA's 1st female secretary**

**By HOPE YEN Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democratic presidential candidate Pete Buttigieg says if elected he'd like to name a woman to lead the Department of Veterans Affairs for the first time as 2020 hopefuls take aim at President Donald Trump's record on stemming military suicide and helping female vets.

On Veterans Day, several candidates rolled out proposals to meet the needs of America's 20 million former service members.

Buttigieg, the 37-year-old mayor of South Bend, Indiana, said female veterans and service members have been neglected, including on concerns about sexual harassment and women's health. Women are the military's fastest-growing subgroup.

"I think leadership plays a huge role so absolutely I'd seek to name a woman to lead VA," Buttigieg, a former Navy intelligence officer, said in an interview with The Associated Press. His comments went a step beyond his 21-page wide-ranging plan released on Monday.

"The president has let veterans down," Buttigieg said.

Of the Cabinet and Cabinet-level roles, four have never been held by a woman: Veterans Affairs, Defense, Treasury and White House chief of staff. Buttigieg says he'd take a close look at appointing a female defense secretary as well.

Former Vice President Joe Biden's campaign said he would seek to build on current gains for vets that were started under the Obama-Biden administration, such as stemming homelessness and improving mental health care.

"Joe has a long record of support for veterans and our military families," press secretary Jamal Brown

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said. "Bringing down the high rate of suicide among our military and veterans will be a top priority for a Biden administration."

In a dig at Trump, Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders released a video on Monday highlighting his role in working with the late Republican Sen. John McCain, a decorated war hero, to pass legislation that included the Veterans Choice program in 2014.

Trump routinely takes credit for being the first to enact the Choice program, ignoring the fact that it was signed into law by President Barack Obama. What Trump got done was an expansion of the program achieved by McCain and Sanders.

That expanded program, one of Trump's signature accomplishments, seeks to steer more veterans over the next decade to private-sector doctors outside the VA.

Sanders, a former chairman of the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee who voted against Trump's plan, says the expanded program goes too far in its investments in the private sector, rather than core VA health care, which many veterans view as better suited to treat battlefield injuries such as post-traumatic stress disorder. Sanders joins Buttigieg and Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren in urging increases in doctor pay to attract top VA candidates and fill 49,000 VA positions that have sat vacant as the Trump administration promoted private health care options.

Sanders said he would fill those vacancies in his first year as president and provide at least \$62 billion in new funding to repair and modernize VA facilities to provide cutting-edge care.

"We will not dismantle or privatize the VA. We will expand and improve the VA," Sanders said Monday.

Buttigieg told the AP that he would look at rolling back some of the Trump administration's rules expanding Choice.

All the Democratic candidates who have articulated veterans' plans call for added funding and training for suicide prevention. Buttigieg specifically proposes a new 24/7 VA "concierge" service aimed at guiding at-risk vets into mental health care.

Currently, about 20 veterans die by suicide each day, a rate basically unchanged during the Trump administration. Trump earlier this year directed a Cabinet-level task force to develop a broader roadmap for veterans' suicide prevention, due out next spring.

Buttigieg, like Warren, would seek to improve responses to sexual assault in the military by shifting prosecution from military commanders to independent prosecutors. He also wants to put particular focus on stemming homelessness among women vets, many of whom may have experienced sexual trauma.

He pointed to his seven-month deployment in Afghanistan in 2014 and watching the impact a female general had "culturally" on the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force.

"When a leadership body is more gender diverse, it makes better decisions. So I would absolutely be looking at that," Buttigieg told the AP. He's previously pledged to appoint women to at least 50% of his Cabinet positions.

While veterans overall have strongly backed Trump throughout his presidency, views vary widely by party, gender and age, according to AP VoteCast, a survey of 2018 midterm voters. In particular, younger veterans and women generally were more skeptical of Trump, who received multiple draft deferments to avoid going to Vietnam.

A study released by the VA earlier this year found 1 in 4 women veterans using VA health care reported inappropriate comments by male veterans on VA grounds, raising concerns they may delay or miss their treatments. The VA also has rebuffed efforts by Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America and other groups to change the VA motto, which some vets believe is outdated and excludes women. That motto refers to the VA's mission to fulfill a promise of President Abraham Lincoln "to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan."

Buttigieg said he would direct his VA secretary to change that motto to "fairly represent the diversity of service members and veterans."

Currently, about 10% of the nation's veterans are female. In the U.S. military forces, about 17% of those enlisted are women, up from about 2% in 1973.



## **AP-NORC poll: Many say high school diploma enough to succeed**

**By COLLIN BINKLEY and HANNAH FINGERHUT Associated Press**

Although most young Americans believe in the value of higher education, many still consider a high school diploma alone to be enough for success, according to a survey of teens and young adults by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

The findings alarm some experts who say young Americans don't seem to be getting the message that college pays off. Federal labor data shows a wide earnings gap between Americans who do and do not have a college degree, and unemployment rates are far lower for those with a bachelor's or master's degree.

More than half of Americans ages 13 through 29 do see college as a path to economic success, but about 4 in 10 believe a bachelor's degree prepares people only somewhat well, or even poorly, for today's economy.

Meanwhile, about half said their high school education has provided the skills they need to get a good job right after they graduate. And 45% say a high school diploma is good preparation for future successful workers.

Researchers disputed that notion, saying it has been decades since a high school diploma was enough to earn a good living.

"The data just do not support that," said Thomas Brock, a research professor and director of the Community College Research Center at Columbia University. "With a high school diploma alone, it's very hard to earn the kinds of wages one would need to support a family."

In 2018, the median earnings for workers with only a high school diploma was \$730 a week, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. For those with a bachelor's degree, it was \$1,200, while those with a master's degree typically made \$1,400 a week.

Teens are especially likely to think high school is a good path to success in today's economy, while young adults were less likely to say so, 51% versus 42%. And there were stark differences by race: At least half young black and Hispanic Americans said high school is a good path to success, compared with 41% of young white Americans.

And more than any type of degree, 73% of young Americans said they think job experience is good preparation for success. Their esteem for practical experience is shared by the Trump administration, which has pushed to expand apprenticeship programs, and experts say it reflects today's economy, in which more employers require internships or other work experience.

While 6 in 10 said a bachelor's degree is a route to success, an equal number said they see vocational school as good preparation, and about half see the same value in an associate degree. The finding was a surprise to some researchers who say students — and their parents — often think of college only as a bachelor's degree.

"That's not what I would expect to see," said Heather McKay, director of the Education and Employment Research Center at Rutgers University. "It's really great that young people are thinking of these alternatives, because there are some really good non-degree credential options out there."

The survey also found disparities in the types of colleges young Americans choose. Overall, 3 in 4 said they plan to attend some type of college or have already done so. For about half, their plans included a four-year university, while about a quarter opted for community college or vocational school. Another quarter had no college plans.

Wealthier Americans were more likely to pursue four-year universities, while those from poorer families leaned toward other options or no college at all. Those from wealthier families were also more likely to say their parents were helping pay for tuition and many forms of college preparation.

McKay said the findings suggest students are steering toward education choices they think they can afford. "Some of these decisions might be based on money rather than value or anything else," she said.

A common thread among many young Americans is a concern over the cost of education. Nearly 8 in 10 said they think college affordability is a very or extremely serious problem, and a majority said they were at least somewhat concerned about debt. Of those with college plans, a majority said they were

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borrowing or planning to borrow loans to pay for tuition.

In some ways, young Americans are right to be worried, said Anthony Carnevale, director of Georgetown University's Center on Education and the Workforce. The transition to adult independence is taking place later in life, he said. Education requirements for good jobs have grown, and there are fewer available to young people.

Still, he said, there's evidence that investments in college pay off.

"Eighty percent of four-year college degrees do bring sufficient earnings to pay for the cost over a career," Carnevale said. "The truth is, it's very hard for colleges at the four-year level to build programs that aren't worth the loan."

Debate over student debt and college affordability has come to the fore recently as Democratic presidential candidates court young voters with promises to make college free and erase debt. And many young Americans say they like those ideas, the poll found.

Overall, 65% of young Americans said they support making tuition free at community colleges, an idea that has been adopted by some states and is being proposed nationally by Democrats including former Vice President Joe Biden.

Meanwhile, 60% support plans to make tuition free at all public colleges and universities, a proposal that's supported by Sens. Elizabeth Warren and Bernie Sanders.

Both ideas have wider support from Democrats, but each one had backing from nearly half of young Republicans.

Young Americans also widely support plans allowing student debt to be refinanced and plans to forgive debt for households earning less than \$100,000 a year, the poll found.

Despite their reservations about debt and affordability, young Americans ultimately see value in college. Only about a quarter said attending a four-year college brings more disadvantages than advantages. More than 7 in 10 said college brings more benefits or that the balance is equal.

The AP-NORC poll of 2,573 teens and young adults ages 13 through 29 was conducted Aug. 7-Sept. 9 using a combined sample of interviews from NORC's probability-based AmeriSpeak Panel, which is designed to be representative of the U.S. population, and interviews from opt-in online panels. The margin of sampling error for all respondents is plus or minus 3.7 percentage points. The AmeriSpeak panel is recruited randomly using address-based sampling methods, and respondents later were interviewed online or by phone.

Online:

AP-NORC Center: <http://www.apnorc.org/>

## China-US trade uncertainty weighs on global stocks

The Associated Press undefined

LONDON (AP) — Shares around the world fell Monday as hopes for a breakthrough in the trade war between the United States and China diminished after President Donald Trump said Washington had not agreed to gradually roll back tariffs as negotiations progress.

Hopes were shaken when Trump on Friday dismissed a Chinese official's assertion that the U.S. side had agreed to gradually lift tariffs on Chinese goods that it has imposed in the conflict over trade and technology policies.

A Chinese Commerce Ministry spokesman had said Thursday that the two sides had agreed to a phased cancellation of their tariff hikes as part of an agreement now under negotiation.

"They'd like to have a rollback," Trump told reporters at the White House. "I haven't agreed to anything."

That raised doubts in the markets that some sort of agreement is imminent.

"Market participants have become more cautious over the potential positive impact for global growth from a partial US-China trade deal," said Lee Hardman, an analyst at MUFG Bank.

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In Europe, Germany's DAX fell 0.4% to 13,176 while the CAC 40 in France was down 0.1% at 5,884.

Britain's FTSE 100 index underperformed, falling by 1.2% to 7,270 after the pound struck a one-week high of \$1.2880 following the news that the Brexit Party won't contest seats won by the governing Conservative Party in 2017 so as not to split the pro-Brexit vote. That announcement could boost the chances that Prime Minister Boris Johnson's Conservatives win a majority in the general election on Dec. 12.

U.K. stocks often have an inverse relationship with the pound as many companies listed on the index are international companies so a higher currency could weigh on exports as well as reducing their dollar earnings.

In Asia, Hong Kong led the retreat, with the Hang Seng losing 2.6% to 26,926.55 after a police officer shot and wounded a protester.

Uncertainty has risen in the city after more than five months of protests that began with a fight over an extradition bill that has expanded to include demands for greater democracy and police accountability.

Elsewhere in Asia, the Shanghai Composite index declined 1.8% to 2,909.97, while Japan's Nikkei 225 index lost 0.3% to 23,331.84. South Korea's Kospi dropped 0.6% to 2,124.09 while the Sensex in India lost 0.1% to 40,287.29.

Australia's S&P ASX/200 was the sole major index to advance, gaining 0.7% to 6,772.50. Taiwan's benchmark dropped 1.3% and shares were lower in Southeast Asia.

In other trading, benchmark crude oil lost 75 cents to \$56.49 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange while Brent crude oil, the international standard, lost 70 cents to \$61.81 per barrel.

In currency markets, the euro was up 0.2% at \$1.1036 while the dollar fell 0.3% to 108.93 yen.

## Palestinian shot in back says Israelis abused him for hours

By **MOHAMMED DARAGHMEH** Associated Press

HEBRON, West Bank (AP) — A young Palestinian man who was shot in the back by Israeli forces in an incident caught on video last year says the footage shows just a small part of what was a horrifying day for him.

Speaking to The Associated Press after the video emerged last week, Karam Qawasmi said he was run over by a military jeep, then beaten for several hours before troops released him, only to shoot him in the back with a painful sponge-tipped bullet as he walked away. He said Israeli investigators have never contacted him.

"I died several times that day," he said in an interview at his home in the Israeli-occupied West Bank. "They tortured me in a way that I felt they are killing me. And when they shot me, I felt it's my end. I closed my eyes and prayed."

Palestinians often charge that Israeli security forces use excessive or unnecessary force against them. But incriminating video evidence is rare, making such claims hard to prove.

Israel captured the West Bank in the 1967 Mideast War and has kept it under military occupation for over 50 years. While the Palestinian Authority has limited autonomy in parts of the territory, Israel wields overall security control.

The incident occurred a year and a half ago, but only came to public attention last week, when Israel's Channel 13 TV broadcast a leaked video of the shooting, allegedly carried out by a member of the Israeli paramilitary border police unit.

In the video, a woman is heard screaming at a young Palestinian man to "get out of here" as he slowly walks away with his hands in the air. A male voice tells him to lower his hands as the woman again shouts at him. Some 20 seconds later, a shot is heard as the man crumples to the ground, screaming in pain.

The shooter is not seen in the video, which appears to have been taken by a member of the security force.

Qawasmi, 22, said that he was the man in the video, saying his troubles began early on the morning of May 25, 2018.

He said he had recently completed his accounting studies at a technical college. With few jobs available in the West Bank, he set out from his home in Hebron to the West Bank town of Azayim, outside of

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Jerusalem, in hopes of finding work at a gas station.

After a meeting at the station, he was walking back toward a checkpoint when he says a military jeep pulled up and struck him, tossing him several meters. Border police officers jumped out of the vehicle and grabbed him, he said.

"They took me into the jeep. They handcuffed me and drove me to a nearby tunnel and started beating me up," he said. "They twisted my arms, hit me with their hands, boots, and guns all over my body."

He said he was carrying a small bag with work clothes, but Qawasmi, who does not speak much Hebrew, says he thinks the forces suspected he was armed with a knife.

"I recognized some words, like 'knife,'" he said. "I thought they are going to kill me and leave a knife next to my body." He said a crowd of policemen beat him up, as one officer recorded it on a mobile phone.

One female officer was especially aggressive. "She twisted my arms to my back and made me kneel in a very painful way," he said. Another female officer stood and watched, he said.

After more than three hours, Karam said the forces gave him his ID card and ordered him to leave.

"I walked, and when I looked back I saw three soldiers pointing their guns at me," he said. "I was terrified. I walked slowly, and my heart was beating quickly. One shot me, I was hit in the back. I fell down and thought I'm dying. I stared praying and closed my eyes."

A soldier rushed to him and told him to leave. "I stood up terrified and walked. I kept walking for more than an hour," he said.

Israeli forces often use sponge-tipped bullets to disperse crowds. The bullets are meant to not be lethal, though they are fired at high velocity and can be extremely painful.

Qawasmi said he eventually made it to a nearby Palestinian village where he changed his clothes and continued back to Hebron. "I went to the hospital for a checkup. There were bruises everywhere. The rubber bullet hit the end of the spine," he said.

He said he recovered at home for a month and suffered nightmares and physical pain for many months afterward. He showed off what he said was the white Adidas T-shirt he wore that day, with a hole in the back where the bullet hit him.

Since the video was broadcast, Qawasmi has become a bit of a local celebrity. During the interview, he took a call from an Israeli lawyer offering to represent him. Several people approached him at a restaurant, some jokingly asking how much money he now expects from a legal settlement.

Israel's Justice Ministry said last week that it has completed an investigation into the case and will soon announce a final decision on whether to indict officers who were at the scene, including a woman who is believed to have fired the bullet.

Israeli police said the woman was immediately removed from duty after the force became aware of the incident. They said other officers who were at the scene were reassigned.

"This is a case that does not characterize in any way whatsoever the behavior or operations of the Border Police," a statement said.

Qawasmi said he did not file a complaint against the security forces, believing it would make no difference.

Palestinians and Israeli human rights groups accuse Israeli security forces of routinely covering up abuses and carrying out half-hearted investigations.

Qawasmi, for instance, said Israeli investigators have never asked to question him. Justice officials did not respond to a query as to why Qawasmi has not been interviewed.

In 2016, the Israeli human rights group B'Tselem stopped working with the Israeli military on such investigations, accusing it of whitewashing the cases.

Amit Gilutz, spokesman for the group, said it is common for alleged victims not be interviewed, and rarely are forces seriously punished.

"The only exceptional aspect of this incident is that it was filmed and published," he said.



## Hong Kong police shoot protester, man set on fire

By ALICE FUNG Associated Press

HONG KONG (AP) — Hong Kong's leader pledged on Monday to "spare no effort" in bringing an end to anti-government protests that have wracked the city for more than five months, following a day of violence in which one person was shot and another set on fire.

Carrie Lam's comments are likely to fuel speculation that harsher legal and police measures may be in the works to curb the protests.

"I do not want to go into details, but I just want to make it very clear that we will spare no effort in finding ways and means that could end the violence in Hong Kong as soon as possible," Lam told reporters.

Lam also refused to accept the protesters' demands for political concessions.

"If there is still any wishful thinking that, by escalating violence, the Hong Kong SAR government will yield to pressure to satisfy the so-called political demands, I am making this statement clear and loud here: That will not happen," Lam said, using the initials for Special Administrative Region, which describes the city's status as a semi-autonomous Chinese territory.

Monday's violence is likely to further inflame passions in Hong Kong after a student who fell during an earlier protest succumbed to his injuries on Friday and police arrested six pro-democracy lawmakers over the weekend on charges of obstructing the local assembly during a raucous May 11 meeting. All were freed on bail.

China's ruling Communist Party has also indicated it may try to find a way to enact anti-subversion laws in the territory, after such measures were shelved previously due to public opposition.

While Beijing has dismissed reports it may replace Lam next year, the party last week issued a statement saying it would "perfect" the system to appoint and dismiss Hong Kong's leader and top officials.

In a widely distributed video, a police officer is shown shooting away a group of protesters at an intersection Monday morning, then drawing his gun on a masked protester in a white hooded sweatshirt who approaches him.

As the two struggle, another protester in black approaches, at whom the officer points his gun. He then fires at the stomach area of the second protester, who falls to the ground. The officer appeared to fire again as a third protester in black joined the tussle.

The protester in white manages to flee, bounding up a nearby stairway, and the officer and a colleague pin the two in black to the ground.

Police said that only one protester was hit and that he was undergoing surgery. The Hong Kong hospital authority said the person was initially in critical condition but was stable after surgery.

It was the second time a protester has been shot since the demonstrations began in early June, although police have repeatedly drawn their firearms to ward off attacks. More than 3,300 people have been arrested in the protests.

Few details were available about the burning incident in the Ma On Shan neighborhood. Video posted online shows the victim arguing with a group of young people before someone douses him with a liquid and strikes a lighter. The man was in critical condition.

Police fired tear gas and deployed a water cannon in various parts of the city on Monday and charged onto the campus of Chinese University, where students were protesting. Video posted online also showed a policeman on a motorcycle riding through a group of protesters in an apparent attempt to disperse them.

Police spokesman Tse Chun-chung said the shooting, burning and motorcycle incidents were all under investigation, but defended the officers' actions as necessary to safeguard their own safety. Tse said two people were arrested in the shooting incident, including the person shot, but no one has yet been detained over the burning.

Protesters built barricades and blocked roads at about 120 locations across the city of 7.4 million and demonstrations were still ongoing, Tse said.

"Continuing this rampage is a lose-lose situation for Hong Kong. Everyone is a loser," Tse said.

Rail service was partly suspended because of fires and obstacles on the tracks and windows were smashed

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at a branch of the state-owned Bank of China. Large parts of the downtown business district were closed to traffic as protesters surrounded by onlookers engaged in a standoff with police.

The protests began over a proposed extradition law and have expanded to include demands for greater democracy and police accountability. Activists say Hong Kong's autonomy and Western-style civil liberties, promised when the former British colony was returned to China in 1997, are eroding.

The video of Monday's shooting was posted on Facebook by Cupid Producer, an outlet that started last year and appears to post mostly live videos related to local news.

The shooting occurred in a crosswalk at a large intersection strewn with debris that had backed up traffic in Sai Wan Ho, a neighborhood on the eastern part of Hong Kong Island.

In a statement, the Hong Kong government said police had been responding to vandalism and disruptions of traffic, including protesters throwing heavy objects onto roads from above.

"During police operations, one police officer has discharged his service revolver, one male was shot," the statement said, adding that officers also drew their guns in the Shatin and Tung Chung neighborhoods.

The statement denied what it called online rumors that police had been ordered to "recklessly use their firearms," calling the allegation "totally false and malicious"

"All police officers are required to justify their enforcement actions," the statement said.

A patch of what looked like dried blood could be seen in a cordoned-off area after the shooting, as onlookers shouted insults at the police.

Masked protesters continued to try to block other intersections in the area. Police chased them away with pepper spray, hitting some bystanders as well.

On Sunday, police fired tear gas and protesters vandalized stores at shopping malls in anti-government demonstrations across Hong Kong. They targeted businesses whose owners are seen as pro-Beijing and also damaged the Sha Tin train station.

Police said they arrested at least 88 people on various charges, including unlawful assembly, possession of an offensive weapon, criminal damage and wearing masks at an unlawful assembly.

The city has been rocked by the death Friday of the university student who fell from a parking garage when police fired tear gas at protesters.

The territory is preparing for Nov. 24 district council elections that are viewed as a measure of public sentiment toward the government.

Pro-democracy lawmakers accuse the government of trying to provoke violence to justify canceling or postponing the elections.

## **Bolivia in power void as Morales, would-be successors resign**

**By PAOLA FLORES and CARLOS VALDEZ Associated Press**

LA PAZ, Bolivia (AP) — Bolivia entered a sudden era of political uncertainty on Monday as President Evo Morales, pushed by the military and weeks of massive protests, resigned after nearly 14 years in power and seemingly every person constitutionally in line for the job quit as well.

Crowds of jubilant foes of the socialist leader celebrated in the streets with honking horns and fireworks after Morales's announcement Sunday, treating as a triumph of democracy the ouster of a man who pushed aside presidential term limits and claimed victory in a widely questioned October election.

"We are celebrating that Bolivia is free," said one demonstrator near the presidential palace.

But others — including Morales himself — saw it as a return to the bleak era of coups d'état overseen by Latin American militaries that long dominated the region. Morales stepped aside only after the military chief, Gen. Williams Kaliman, called for him to quit to allow the restoration of peace and stability.

Morales earlier in the day had already accepted calls for a new election by an Organization of American States team that found a "heap of observed irregularities" in the Oct. 20 election whose official result showed Morales getting just enough votes to avoid a runoff against a united opposition.

It wasn't immediately clear who would succeed Morales, or how his successor would be chosen.

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His vice president also resigned as did the Senate president, who was next in line. The only other official listed by the constitution as a successor, the head of the lower house, already had resigned.

There were no immediate signs that the military itself was maneuvering for power, but "I think we have to keep a close eye on what the military does over the next few hours," said Jennifer Cyr, associate professor of political science and Latin American studies at the University of Arizona. "Are they overstepping their role?"

She said "the power vacuum opens up space for the military to potentially step in."

Morales was the first member of Bolivia's indigenous population to become president and he brought unusual stability and economic progress, helping cut poverty and inequality in the impoverished nation, and he remains deeply popular among many Bolivians. Backers of the president have clashed with opposition demonstrators in disturbances that have followed the October vote.

After nightfall, there were reports of tensions in La Paz and the neighboring city of El Alto, with reports of looting and burning of public property and some houses.

The leadership crisis had escalated in the hours leading up to Morales' resignation. Two government ministers in charge of mines and hydrocarbons, the Chamber of Deputies president and three other pro-government legislators announced their resignations. Some said opposition supporters had threatened their families.

In addition, the head of Bolivia's Supreme Electoral Tribunal, Maria Eugenia Choque, stepped down after the release of the OAS findings. The attorney general's office said it would investigate the tribunal's judges for possible fraud, and police later said Choque had been detained along with 37 other officials on suspicion of electoral crimes.

Morales, whose whereabouts were unknown, went on Twitter late Sunday to claim authorities were seeking to arrest him, but police Gen. Yuri Calderon denied any apprehension order had been issued for him.

In his tweet, Morales said: "I report to the world and Bolivian people that a police officer publicly announced that he has instructions to execute an unlawful apprehension order against me; in addition, violent groups also stormed my home."

Armed intruders did break into Morales' home in Cochabamba.

Mexico's government reported Sunday night that 20 members of Bolivia's executive and legislative branches were at the official Mexican residence in the capital seeking asylum.

Mexican Foreign Secretary Marcelo Ebrard also said on Twitter that Mexico would offer asylum to Morales if should ask for it, though there was no indication he had.

Morales was elected in 2006 and went on to preside over a commodities-fed economic boom in South America's poorest country. The combative former leader of a coca growers union paved roads, sent Bolivia's first satellite into space and curbed inflation.

But even many backers eventually grew wary of his reluctance to leave power.

He ran for a fourth term after refusing to abide by the results of a referendum that upheld term limits for the president — restrictions thrown out by a top court critics claimed was stacked in his favor.

After the Oct. 20 vote, Morales declared himself the outright winner even before official results indicated he obtained just enough support to avoid a runoff with opposition leader and former President Carlos Mesa. A 24-hour lapse in releasing results fueled suspicions of vote-rigging.

The government accepted an OAS team sent to look into the election, and that group called for a new contest with a new electoral tribunal.

"Mindful of the heap of observed irregularities, it's not possible to guarantee the integrity of the numbers and give certainty of the results," the OAS said in a statement.

The U.S. State Department issued a statement calling for the OAS to send a mission to Bolivia to oversee the electoral process. "The Bolivian people deserve free and fair elections," it said.

The state news agency ABI said Morales announced his resignation from Chapare province, where he began his career as a union leader. At the end of his speech, he said he was returning to Chapare.

"I return to my people who never left me. The fight goes on," he said.

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Associated Press writer Luis Andres Henao in Buenos Aires, Argentina, contributed to this report.

## 10 Things to Know for Today

By The Associated Press undefined

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

### 1. PROTESTER SHOT BY POLICE IN HONG KONG IN DAY OF SPIRALING VIOLENCE

The shooting of an anti-government protester in the stomach by an officer was captured on video as demonstrators blocked train lines and roads and a man was set on fire following an apparent dispute over national identity.

### 2. WHO SOUGHT PROFIT FROM ENERGY IN UKRAINE

Two political supporters of U.S. Energy Secretary Rick Perry secured a potentially lucrative oil and gas exploration deal from the Ukrainian government soon after Perry proposed one of the men as an adviser to the country's new president.

### 3. IMPEACHMENT: WHAT'S NEXT

Americans will have their public first view of the impeachment inquiry, as proceedings emerge from closed doors to live hearings.

### 4. WHAT PROMPTED BOLIVIA'S PRESIDENT TO RESIGN

President Evo Morales left office after his reelection victory triggered weeks of fraud allegations and deadly protests.

### 5. PALESTINIAN RECOUNTS HORROR OF BEING ABUSED, SHOT BY ISRAELIS

Karam Qawasmī tells the Associated Press that he was run over by a military jeep, then beaten for hours before troops released him, only to shoot him in the back as he walked away.

### 6. 'GIVING THE LITTLE GUY A CHANCE, THAT'S WHAT IT'S ABOUT'

Roughly a half-dozen candidates in the very bottom tier of the Democratic presidential primary are soldiering on, hoping that there's still a chance to catch fire.

### 7. THE NATION'S OLDEST-EVER EX-PRESIDENT DRAWS HUNDREDS TO SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

Ninety-five year old Jimmy Carter still teaches roughly twice a month at Maranatha Baptist Church in his hometown of Plains in Georgia.

### 8. KAISER PERMANENTE CEO DIES

Bernard J. Tyson, the first African American to head the company, died in his sleep at the age of 60

### 9. CHINESE E-COMMERCE GIANTS REPORT \$50 BILLION IN SINGLES DAY SALES SO FAR

The annual marketing event is the world's busiest online shopping day with retailers offering discounts on goods from craft beer to TV sets to health care packages.

### 10. COOK AND THE VIKINGS BEAT THE COWBOYS ON THE ROAD

NFL rushing leader Dalvin Cook ran for 97 yards and had 86 yards receiving leading Minnesota to beat Dallas 28-24.

## China's Alibaba, JD report booming Singles Day sales

By JOE McDONALD AP Business Writer

BEIJING (AP) — Chinese e-commerce giants Alibaba and JD.com reported nearly \$60 billion in sales Monday part way through Singles Day, an annual marketing event that is the world's busiest online shopping day.

The day was a temporary relief to retailers that face fading demand as Chinese consumers, anxious over slowing economic growth and the tariff war with Washington, tighten their belts.

University students created Singles Day in the 1990s as an alternative Valentine's Day for people without romantic partners. Alibaba adopted it as a marketing tool a decade ago. The creators picked Nov. 11 because the date is written with four singles — "11 11."

Rivals including JD.com, China's biggest online direct retailer, and electronics seller Suning joined in. The tactic has caught on in other Asian countries, too.

On Monday, retailers offered discounts on goods from smartphones to craft beer to health care packages.



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"Yesterday night, I was browsing past 11 p.m. Many of my friends around me were staying up till 2 a.m. to buy stuff," said Zhu Yirun, a graduate student in Beijing.

Alibaba said sales by merchants on its platforms totaled 221.6 billion yuan (\$31.7 billion) by 6 p.m., passing last year's total of \$30.8 billion. JD.com reported sales of 179.4 billion yuan (\$25.6 billion) by mid-afternoon.

Alibaba kicked off the event Sunday night with a concert by Taylor Swift at a Shanghai stadium.

E-commerce has grown rapidly in China due to a lack of traditional retailing networks and government efforts to promote internet use. The country has 800 million people online.

Alibaba, JD.com, Baidu and other internet giants have expanded into consumer finance, entertainment and offline retailing.

Monday was Alibaba's first Singles Day since its founder, Jack Ma, stepped down as chairman in September. He stayed on as a member of the Alibaba Partnership, a 36-member group with the right to nominate a majority of the company's board of directors.

E-commerce has created some of China's biggest fortunes.

Ma, 55, is China's richest entrepreneur with a net worth of \$39 billion, according to the Hurun Report, which tracks the country's wealthy.

Colin Huang of Pinduoduo was No. 7 on Hurun's list at \$19 billion. Zhang Jindong of Suning was No. 15 at \$14 billion and Richard Liu of JD.com was No. 28 at \$11 billion.

Last year, Alibaba reported Singles Day sales of 213.5 billion yuan (\$30.8), or more than 13 times its daily average of about 16 billion yuan (\$2.3 billion).

Suning said sales of smartphones and other electronics passed 1 billion yuan (\$160 million) in the first minute after midnight. The company said later sales were up 86% over 2018's Singles Day but gave no total.

Dangdang, an online book retailer, said it sold 6.8 million copies in the first hour.

Chinese online spending is growing faster than total retail sales but also is weakening as the economy slows. Growth declined to a multi-decade low of 6% over a year earlier in the quarter ending in September.

Online sales of goods rose 16.8% over a year earlier in the first nine months of 2019 to 5.8 trillion yuan (\$825 billion), according to official data. That was more than double the 8.2% rate for total consumer spending but down from an average of about 30% in recent years.

E-commerce made up 19.5% of Chinese consumer spending, compared with about 11% of spending for American consumers.

Yang Wei, a migrant worker in Beijing, planned to skip the online rush.

"I feel like the difference (in price) is not that big, and since everyone's buying all at once, the logistics and delivery are slower," said Yang. "I think that it's actually better for me to buy when not everyone's buying."

## 2020 Watch: Bloomberg escalates doubts about front-runners

By STEVE PEOPLES AP National Political Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Presidential politics move fast. What we're watching heading into a new week on the 2020 campaign:

Days to Iowa caucuses: 84

Days to general election: 358

THE NARRATIVE

Whether he does or doesn't run, New York billionaire Michael Bloomberg has escalated doubts about front-runners Joe Biden and Elizabeth Warren and pushed Democratic anxiety to new heights. There may be more than a dozen candidates still in the race, but several ambitious Democrats who initially opted to bypass a 2020 bid are suddenly being taken seriously as potential candidates. Less than three months before voting begins, the Democratic primary feels increasingly unsettled.

THE BIG QUESTIONS

Bloomberg: Will he or won't he?

He is one of the richest men on the planet and he's taking steps toward making a late entrance in the Democratic primary. Bloomberg's advisers insist that he's yet to make a final decision, so do not assume

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he will run — especially given the hostile reception he received from some in his adopted party's base. Still, his extraordinary wealth means he can be a major factor in the race.

How much does New Hampshire matter in 2020?

The epicenter of the Democratic primary has clearly shifted to New Hampshire in recent weeks, raising questions about how aggressively candidates will compete in the first-in-the-nation-primary state. This week offers a reminder that the top-tier candidates still have a lot to lose there. The stakes are particularly high for Elizabeth Warren, who is locked in what many consider a must-win contest against progressive rival Bernie Sanders because of their perceived neighbor-state advantage. Warren is scheduled to file her formal candidacy papers in the statehouse on Wednesday. And don't sleep on Pete Buttigieg in New Hampshire. He's starting the week on a bus tour and positioning himself to exceed expectations in the Granite State, even if he doesn't win outright.

Trump's GOP is losing the suburbs. Do they care?

It's hard to believe that it's only been a week since Democrats scored victories in Virginia, Pennsylvania and Kentucky that highlighted the Republican Party's acute problem in the suburbs. Republican-leaning voters there, particularly women, have been quite clear that they don't like President Donald Trump's leadership and the GOP's position on gun violence, among other issues. Trump and his allies largely ignored the problem in the days immediately after the election. If their silence continues this week, we'll know just how seriously Republicans are taking their suburban problem.

Will the impeachment shadow help or hurt?

The biggest week so far in the Democrats' impeachment inquiry is upon us. Televised hearings beginning on Wednesday will overshadow the 2020 presidential contest for much of the week. The impeachment inquiry effectively froze the Democratic race when it began earlier in the fall, which seemed to benefit Biden. Will that trend continue this week?

This is a big week for Trump primary challengers. Does it matter?

We forgive you for not having this on your calendars, but three Republican presidential candidates are expected to file formal candidacy papers this week in New Hampshire, which has emerged as ground zero for Republican opposition to the Republican president — to the extent it exists anywhere. Former Massachusetts Gov. Bill Weld, former Illinois congressman Joe Walsh and former South Carolina Gov. Mark Sanford have to file by Friday's deadline. It's easy to laugh them off, but their candidacies represent a larger threat to Trump: whether Republicans concerned about the president — and there are many — can be persuaded to show up to vote for him next fall or not.

THE FINAL THOUGHT

The incumbent president is facing an escalating impeachment inquiry and multiple primary challenges, while Bloomberg has exposed major concerns with the Democratic Party's leading candidates. This isn't where either party wants to be.

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2020 Watch runs every Monday and provides a look at the week ahead in the 2020 election.

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Follow Peoples at <https://twitter.com/sppeoples>

## Malaysian ex-PM Najib ordered to enter defense in 1MDB case

By EILEEN NG Associated Press

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — A Malaysian judge on Monday ordered former Prime Minister Najib Razak to enter a defense at his first corruption trial linked to the multibillion-dollar looting at the 1MDB state investment fund that helped spur his shocking election ouster last year.

Defense lawyers said Najib was shocked he wasn't acquitted. He will be the first defense witness to take the stand when the trial resumes Dec. 3.

High Court Judge Mohamad Nazlan Mohamad Ghazali said the prosecution had established its case on charges of abuse of power, breach of trust and money laundering. The seven charges relate to 42 million

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ringgit (\$10.1 million) that allegedly went into Najib's bank accounts from SRC International, a former unit of the 1MDB fund.

The judge said it was clear that Najib, who was also finance minister at the time, had "wielded overarching authority and power" in SRC and taken actions for "personal and private interest." He said prosecution had established an "ingredient of dishonesty" in the fund misappropriation.

Najib's top lawyer Muhammad Shafee Abdullah said the judge had chosen a "different interpretation of facts and laws" on the defense arguments. He maintained Najib was a victim of a conspiracy led by fugitive Malaysian financier Low Taek Jho, identified by U.S. investigators as the mastermind in the pilfering of more than \$4.5 billion from the fund.

"You will hear the true story from the accused. He has to tell his story, his version of what happened in SRC," Shafee told a news conference. "This is a person who trusted the people around him and these people let him down."

Najib, 66, denies any wrongdoing and accuses Malaysia's new government of seeking political vengeance. The patrician former leader, whose father and uncles were the country's second and third prime ministers respectively, could face years in prison if convicted.

Shafee said whatever verdict is reached, both sides will appeal until the case reaches the top court. It could last many years, "well beyond the next election," due in 2023, he said.

Najib is also charged in four other cases over 1MDB corruption that led to investigations in the U.S. and several countries. His wife, several officials from his government, and the U.S. bank Goldman Sachs also face charges related to the scandal.

Monday's ruling was seen as a key test for the legal system and the credibility of Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad's government, which won a historic victory in the May 2018 election on an anti-corruption platform. The polls led to Malaysia's first change of government since independence from Britain in 1957.

In an immediate reaction from the government, Sports Minister Syed Saddiq Syed Abdul Rahman tweeted: "Praise God. May justice be on the side of the people."

Mahathir, 94, was premier for 22 years until his retirement in 2003 but made a political comeback amid anger over the 1MDB scandal. His government soon reopened 1MDB investigations that had been quashed under Najib.

U.S. investigators say money stolen from 1MDB was laundered through layers of bank accounts in the U.S. and other countries to finance Hollywood films and buy hotels, a luxury yacht, art works, jewelry and other extravagances. More than \$700 million from the fund allegedly landed in Najib's bank account.

In all, Najib faces 42 charges of criminal breach of trust, graft, abuse of power and money laundering in the five criminal cases.

Shafee said Monday's ruling isn't likely to affect Najib's ongoing second trial, where he faces 25 counts of graft for allegedly receiving and using more than \$731 million from 1MDB between 2011 and 2014.

He said a U.S. settlement deal last month with financier Low Taek Jho, better known as Jho Low, that will allow the Justice Department to recover almost \$1 billion stolen from 1MDB would bolster Najib's case that he was misled by Low. Low, who faces charges in Malaysia and the U.S., is still in hiding.

"You must draw the line between naive, too trusting or even negligence as opposed to having the intention to commit crime," he said of Najib.

## Still teaching at 95, Jimmy Carter draws devotees to church

By JAY REEVES Associated Press

PLAINS, Ga. (AP) — The pilgrims arrive early and from all over, gathering hours before daybreak in an old pecan grove that surrounds a country church. They come, they say, for a dose of simple decency and devotion wrapped up in a Bible lesson.

The teacher is the 39th president of the United States, Jimmy Carter.

Nearly four decades after he left office and despite a body that's failing after 95 years, the nation's oldest-ever ex-president still teaches Sunday school roughly twice a month at Maranatha Baptist Church

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in his tiny hometown of Plains in southwest Georgia. His message is unfailingly about Jesus, not himself.

The church has only 30 or so members, but as many as 450 people attend any week Carter teaches. About 200 people fill the sanctuary, with pale-green walls and stained glass windows, and others gather in side rooms where the lesson is shown on TVs.

It's nearly impossible to separate even an ex-president from politics, and some come because they're Democrats who recall voting for Carter when he was elected in 1976. Almost uniformly, they're dismayed by the tone of President Donald Trump and his Republican administration.

But Trump has only been in office since 2017 and Carter has been drawing crowds for years. Those who attended Carter's most recent lesson on Nov. 3 said they just wanted to be in the presence of someone who seems kind, humble and godly despite having been a world leader.

"He's a role model and an inspiration for both of us both in public service and in faith," said visitor Doug Kluth. He and his wife Ramona drove 2,400 miles (3,862 kilometers) round trip from their home in Columbus, Nebraska, to see Carter in person.

John and Sarah Dyer packed their four daughters, ages 2 through 12, into their Honda Pilot for the 1,700-mile (2,736-kilometer) round trip to Plains from suburban Chicago.

"To see a man who was once on top of the world choose to spend his twilight years lifting the world higher was inspirational to my family and I," John Dyer wrote to the church's pastor in a letter shared with The Associated Press.

Carter faced mockery for his Southern Baptist faith in 1976 when he said in a Playboy magazine interview that he was guilty of adultery in his heart because he lusted after women. The soul-baring sentiment paralleled Jesus' words in the Sermon on the Mount, but it came across as odd and narrow-minded to many.

These days, with a twice-divorced president who curses in public and once said he'd never asked God for forgiveness, Carter's approach to life — with his wife of 73 years, Rosalynn, by his side — seems especially appealing to fans.

They say they admire Carter's work to eradicate disease and monitor elections worldwide; the time he has spent helping build homes as a volunteer with Habitat for Humanity; and his advocacy for food programs and rural health care in his home county. Many were touched by photos of a bruised-but-smiling Carter performing volunteer work after he fell and hit his head in October.

So they flock to Plains any week Maranatha Baptist posts on its website or Facebook page that Carter plans to teach.

Fray and Susan Carter of Russellville, Alabama, slept overnight in their car in the church parking lot to get a front-row view as Carter taught on his first Sunday back after falling and breaking his pelvis in October.

As recently as last year Carter would stand during his 45-minute lesson, but he now uses an electric lift chair at the front of the sanctuary as a concession to age. He breaks into that familiar smile when he raises the seat so he can see the crowd over a wooden lectern. A cross made by Carter, a longtime woodworker, adorns the choir loft. He also made the wooden offering plates, which bear his initials on the bottom.

Carter's lesson this day was on his belief in life after death. He ended the same way he always does, by challenging class members to do one nice thing for somebody over the next month.

"That's what I think would make America a better country. It would make you a better person, right? And a better Christian," Carter said. "Well, that's the essence of my Sunday school lesson. Not anything fancy to it. Just some personal things to think about."

Visitors that day included people from multiple U.S. states plus Venezuela and Ecuador. Rarely a week goes by without someone from overseas in the crowd, said the Rev. Tony Lowden, Carter's pastor.

The church was formed in 1977 from a split when another church refused to accept blacks as members. Lowden was hired in March as Maranatha's first black pastor. On any given Sunday, Lowden said, the congregation is a "mix of everything."

"It's a melting pot of people who are looking for faith and looking for something that they can believe in," Lowden said. After a cancer diagnosis in 2015 and three falls this year, it's unclear how much longer Carter can continue to teach, but Lowden said he's welcome as long as he's able.



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The crowd on the first Sunday in November included Chet Mulholland, an evangelical Christian from Wisconsin, and Joey and Sabrina Fretwell, faithful churchgoers from conservative Mississippi in the heart of the Deep South. The couple's daughter attended a Trump rally in Tupelo, Mississippi, just two days before they drove to Plains to see Carter.

Sabrina Fretwell, 46, doesn't really remember Carter's presidency, but she recalls hours spent listening to her grandparents talk about Carter when she was a girl. That's one reason she wanted to see the former president, she said, to somehow honor that time.

"I remember that warm feeling of sitting and listening to their conversations, and not being old enough to grab what they were talking about but knowing it was still important to them and knowing they admired the things he was doing," she said.

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Associated Press religion coverage receives support from the Lilly Endowment through the Religion News Foundation. The AP is solely responsible for this content.

## Cook leads Vikings to 28-24 prime-time road win over Cowboys

By SCHUYLER DIXON AP Pro Football Writer

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Dalvin Cook did plenty in the running game.

The NFL rushing leader from Minnesota might have had his biggest plays in the passing game while easily outshining two-time rushing champion Ezekiel Elliott.

Cook ran for 97 yards, including the go-ahead touchdown on fourth down on the final play of the third quarter, and had 86 yards receiving that boosted three other scoring drives, leading the Vikings over the Dallas Cowboys 28-24 on Sunday night.

Cook's 183 scrimmage yards gave him the league lead in that category as well at 1,415 as the Vikings (7-3) beat a winning team on the road for the first time in almost two years. Minnesota was 0-9-1 in its previous 10 such games.

"Dalvin handled everything great," coach Mike Zimmer said. "He played outstanding. Had some unbelievable runs, tough, competitive runs. I think Dalvin believes that he's really good. I believe that too."

Amari Cooper had the most circus catches on a night full of them for both teams, including a toe-tapping TD for Dallas' only lead in the third quarter.

Kirk Cousins threw for two touchdown passes, both to Kyle Rudolph, for just his second victory in nine prime-time road games.

But Minnesota's offensive star was Cook, who set up the first two Minnesota touchdowns for a 14-0 lead with catches of 27 and 29 yards on screens and got a first down with an 8-yarder early on the third scoring drive.

"We thought it was going to be a challenge to get some explosive screens and get some explosive runs in this game to have a chance, and I think we checked those two boxes," Cousins said. "That's a big reason why we're standing here with a win instead of a loss."

Elliott had 47 yards on 20 carries after three straight 100-yard games as the Cowboys (5-4) fell into a first-place tie with Philadelphia in the NFC East.

"From the standpoint of numbers, from the standpoint of where you stand, this was a big game for us, and it's going to make it that much harder to get where we want to go," Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said.

Despite throwing for 397 yards and three touchdowns, Prescott lost to Cousins for the first time after going 4-0 against the former Washington quarterback as a division rival.

"We had to make them be one-dimensional," Zimmer said. "I wish we had played better in pass defense than what we did. I thought we did a really good job with our run fits and the way that we tackled."

Cousins, who had 220 yards passing, beat the Cowboys for the second time in eight tries as the Vikings kept pace in the NFC North, a game behind division-leading Green Bay.

Trailing by four in the final two minutes, the Cowboys had a first down at the Minnesota 19 but insisted on continuing to force the ball to Elliott when the Vikings had made it clear they were stopping him first.

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Two runs netted minus-3 yards, and the Cowboys went to Elliott again on fourth down even though it was a pass. Linebacker Eric Kendricks broke up the sideline throw to Elliott, a dual threat like Cook but not on this night. He had two catches for 16 yards.

The Cowboys got the ball back with 17 seconds left, but Jayron Kearse intercepted Prescott's desperation pass from near midfield in the end zone.

Dallas was down by four because of settling for a field goal and a 28-24 deficit after having a first down at the Minnesota 6. Another smothered run by Elliott was followed by two incompletions.

## RUDOLPH'S SCORING

Rudolph started the night of circus catches with a one-handed grab in the back of the end zone and scored on another short TD toss.

Then the tight end put Minnesota up 28-21 after Cook's scoring run by winning a jump ball with cornerback Chidobe Awuzie. Rudolph's 14 points were the most in 122 career games for the ninth-year player.

## CIRCUS TIME

With the Cowboys trailing 14-0, Cooper kick-started their first TD drive with a heel-dragging catch on third-and-12, followed two plays later by Michael Gallup's 23-yard scoring grab.

Then the player Dallas gave up a first-round pick for at midseason last year had two toe-dragging catches in a row, the second a 12-yard touchdown that put the Cowboys in front for the first time 21-20 in the third quarter. Cooper had 11 catches for 147 yards.

Randall Cobb made a lunging catch in the end zone on a 22-yard touchdown catch to get Dallas even at 14.

## BLOWOUT ON GROUND

While Cook outgained Elliott by 120 scrimmage yards, the Vikings finished with 153 yards rushing to just 50 for the Cowboys. That's about 100 yards below Dallas' third-ranked rushing average.

## INJURIES

Vikings: RG Josh Kline was ruled out with a concussion in the second half.

Cowboys: S Jeff Heath left with a shoulder injury in the first half.

## UP NEXT

Vikings: Denver at home next Sunday before their open week.

Cowboys: At Detroit next Sunday.

More AP NFL coverage: <https://apnews.com/NFL> and [https://twitter.com/AP\\_NFL](https://twitter.com/AP_NFL)

## Trump impeachment inquiry heads to live TV coverage

By DAVID CRARY AP National Writer

Back in 1973, tens of millions of Americans tuned in to what Variety called "the hottest daytime soap opera" — the Senate Watergate hearings that eventually led to President Richard Nixon's resignation.

It was a communal experience, and by some estimates, more than 80% of Americans tuned in to at least part of the Watergate telecasts. They were offered by ABC, CBS and NBC, as well as PBS, which won acclaim and viewers by showing not only the live hearings but also the full-length replays in prime time.

Seeing the witnesses lay out the case against the president moved public opinion decidedly in favor of impeachment.

But this time may be different.

When the House impeachment inquiry of President Donald Trump begins its public phase on Wednesday, people will be watching on screens large and small. Many, in fact, are likely to be watching the proceedings on more than one screen, with real-time reinforcement of their preexisting views of Trump on social media platforms and other venues that did not exist in Nixon's time.

In the Watergate era, there was no Fox News or nationally prominent conservative talk radio shows, which today are favored by many of Trump's supporters. Nor was there the equivalent of MSNBC, which caters to left-of-center partisans.

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"People now have a far greater variety of options as to how to consume this," said professor Tobe Berkovitz, a former political media consultant who teaches communications at Boston University.

"Everyone might watch the same hearing, but then people are going to divide into camps in terms of how they want to engage with the analysis," he said. "You're going to pick who you want to interpret and propagandize."

Two decades before Watergate, Americans had their first collective immersion in live telecasts of a high-stakes Washington hearing when Sen. Joseph McCarthy, R-Wis., polarized the country with his relentless pursuit of suspected communist sympathizers. Joseph Welch, a lawyer representing the Army, is remembered to this day for his question to McCarthy in 1954: "Have you no sense of decency, sir?"

The Watergate hearings produced a comparably memorable catchphrase, when Sen. Howard Baker, R-Tenn., summarized the gist of the complex inquiry into a politically motivated break-in: "What did the president know and when did he know it?" A damning answer eventually surfaced after the Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities, as the Senate's Watergate Committee was officially called, obtained secret Oval Office tapes that implicated Nixon in a cover-up.

In the runup to President Bill Clinton's impeachment by the House in December 1998 and acquittal by the Senate two months later, there was a similar dramatic twist when disclosure of Monica Lewinsky's semen-stained blue dress undercut Clinton's claim that he had never had sex with her.

Kathleen Hall Jamieson, director of the University of Pennsylvania's Annenberg Public Policy Center, said Americans expecting an equally dramatic moment in the upcoming impeachment telecasts may be let down, given that so much important testimony already has been presented in closed-door sessions.

"If you're expecting revelation as opposed to confirmation, you're going to be disappointed," Jamieson said. "It's going to seem anticlimactic unless something new is discovered."

She noted another contrast between Watergate and the Trump inquiry. Nixon and his top aides struggled to communicate persuasively with the public as the investigation unfolded, whereas Trump and his advisers are making intensive use of advertising and social media "to make sure his base stays locked down."

Will the upcoming impeachment telecasts change many minds?

Mark Meckler, an early leader in the tea party movement, predicts a lot of Americans won't even watch the broadcasts because they've already reached conclusions.

Many Trump supporters won't tune in "because they think it's a sham process," he said. "And I don't think most people on the left will watch because they already know the conclusion in their minds. To them, the president has been impeachable since before he was elected."

But Darrell West, a longtime political science professor who is now vice president of the Brookings Institution, said the telecasts will boost public interest.

"They will put human faces on the closed-door testimony," he said in an email. "Viewers will be able to observe what people say and how they say it as well as the manner in which they answer questions."

West acknowledged that most people have made up their minds on Trump's guilt or innocence.

"But the testimony doesn't have to shift very many people to be politically influential," he wrote. "If only 10% are affected negatively by the testimony, Trump's removal number jumps from 50 to 60%. That would represent an enormous hit for him and could lead some Republican Senators to consider a vote to remove the President."

Arthur Sanders, a professor of politics at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, recalled that public support for Nixon's impeachment grew as the televised Watergate inquiry progressed, while most Americans remained opposed to Clinton's ouster at every stage of his impeachment process.

"The Democrats hope this follows the Nixon model — Trump has always hoped it follows the Clinton model," Sanders said.

Regardless of how the TV audience shapes up, Sanders knows of some Americans eager to follow the Trump impeachment drama.

"What's going on now is horrible for the country, but it's the best time to teach classes on American politics," he said. "The students are so curious, trying to figure out what's going on — what's normal in

American politics and what isn't."

As for PBS, it's not planning a repeat of prime-time impeachment replays but says the daytime telecasts will be available on demand via all of PBS' digital platforms.

## Socialists win Spain's election, but far right surges

By ARITZ PARRA and JOSEPH WILSON Associated Press

MADRID (AP) — Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez's Socialists won Spain's national election on Sunday but large gains by the upstart far-right Vox party appear certain to widen the political deadlock in the European Union's fifth-largest economy.

After a fourth national ballot in as many years and the second in less than seven months, the left-wing Socialists held on as the leading power in the national parliament. With 99.9% of the votes counted, the Socialists captured 120 seats, down three seats from the last election in April and still far from the absolute majority of 176 needed to form a government alone.

The big political shift came as right-wing voters flocked to Vox, which only had broken into Parliament in the spring for the first time. Sunday's outcome means there will be no immediate end to the stalemate between forces on the right and the left in Spain, suggesting the country could go many more weeks or even months without a new government.

The far-right party led by 43-year-old Santiago Abascal, who speaks of "reconquering" Spain in terms that echo the medieval wars between Christian and Moorish forces, rocketed from 24 to 52 seats. That will make Vox the third leading party in the Congress of Deputies, giving it much more leverage in forming a government and crafting legislation.

The party has vowed to be much tougher on both Catalan separatists and migrants.

Abascal called his party's success "the greatest political feat seen in Spain."

"Just 11 months ago, we weren't even in any regional legislature in Spain. Today we are the third-largest party in Spain and the party that has grown the most in votes and seats," said Abascal, who promised to battle the "progressive dictatorship."

Right-wing populist and anti-migrant leaders across Europe celebrated Vox's strong showing.

Marine Le Pen, who heads France's National Rally party, congratulated Abascal, saying his impressive work "is already bearing fruit after only a few years."

In Italy, Matteo Salvini of the right-wing League party tweeted a picture of himself next to Abascal with the words "Congratulations to Vox!" above Spanish and Italian flags. And in the Netherlands, anti-Islam Dutch lawmaker Geert Wilders posted a photograph of himself with Abascal and wrote "FELICIDADES" — Spanish for congratulations — with three thumbs-up emojis.

With Sunday's outcome, the mainstream conservative Popular Party rebounded from its previous debacle in the April vote to 88 seats from 66, a historic low. The far-left United We Can, which had rejected an offer to help the Socialists form a left-wing government over the summer, lost some ground to get 35 seats.

The night's undisputed loser was the center-right Citizens party, which collapsed to 10 seats from 57 in April after its leader Albert Rivera refused to help the Socialists form a government and tried to copy some of Vox's hard-line positions.

Sánchez's chances of staying in power still hinges on ultimately winning over the United We Can party and several regional parties, a complicated maneuver that he has failed to pull off in recent months.

Sánchez called on opponents to be "responsible" and "generous" by allowing a Socialist-led government to remain in charge.

"We extend this call to all the political parties except for those who self-exclude themselves ... and plant the seeds of hate in our democracy," he added, an apparent allusion to far-right and also possibly to separatist Catalan parties.

United We Can leader Pablo Iglesias extended an offer of support to Sánchez.

"These elections have only served for the right to grow stronger and for Spain to have one of the strongest far-right parties in Europe," Iglesias said. "The only way to stop the far-right in Spain is to have a



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stable government.”

Pablo Casado, the leader of the Popular Party, also pledged to work to end months of political instability. He said “the ball was in the court” of Sánchez, though. In recent months his party and Citizens have struck deals with Vox to take over some cities and regional governments.

Bonnie Field, a professor on Global Studies at Bentley University in California, called the political situation a “mess government-wise.”

“Spanish politics are now increasingly complicated and any governing formula is going to require lots of negotiations, and people being open to criticism,” she said.

The Socialists took a hit in the country’s Senate, losing their absolute majority of 133 seats in the upper parliamentary chamber amid the significant conservative inroads.

Julia Giobelina, a 34-year-old web designer from Madrid, was angry at having to vote for the second time this year. But she said she cast her ballot in hopes of stopping Vox.

“They are the new fascism,” Giobelina said. “We citizens need to stand against privatization of health care and other public services.”

Spain returned to democracy in the late 1970s after a near four-decade right-wing dictatorship under the late Gen. Francisco Franco. The country used to take pride in claiming that no far-right group had seats in the national Parliament, unlike the rest of Europe. That changed in the spring, but the Socialists’ April victory was still seen by many as a respite for Europe, where right-wing parties had gained much ground.

Vox relied on its anti-migrant message and attacks on laws that protect women from domestic abuse as well as what it considers leftist ideology disguised as political correctness. Still, it does not advocate a break from the EU in the very pro-EU Spain.

It has nevertheless flourished after recent riots in Catalonia by separatists, capitalizing on Spanish nationalist sentiment stirred up by the country’s worst political conflict in decades. Many right-wingers were also not pleased by the Socialist government’s exhumation of Franco’s remains last month from his gargantuan mausoleum so he could no longer be exalted in a public place.

The debate over Catalonia, meanwhile, promises to fester.

The three Catalan separatist parties won a combined 23 seats on Sunday.

Many Catalans have been angered by the decision last month by Spain’s Supreme Court, which sentenced to prison nine Catalan politicians and activists who led a 2017 drive for the region’s independence. The ruling has triggered massive daily protests in Catalonia that left more than 500 people injured, roughly half of them police officers, and dozens arrested.

Wilson wrote from Barcelona, Spain; AP journalists Ciaran Giles in Madrid and Renata Brito in Barcelona contributed to this report.

## **Bolivia’s president resigns amid election-fraud allegations**

**By PAOLA FLORES and CARLOS VALDEZ Associated Press**

LA PAZ, Bolivia (AP) — President Evo Morales resigned Sunday under mounting pressure from Bolivia’s military and the public after his re-election victory triggered weeks of fraud allegations and deadly protests.

The decision came after a day of fast-moving developments, including an offer from Morales to hold a new election. The crisis deepened dramatically when the country’s military chief went on national television to call on the president to step down.

“I am sending my resignation letter to the Legislative Assembly of Bolivia,” the 60-year-old socialist leader said, portraying his departure as the culmination of a “coup d’etat.”

He added: “I ask you to stop attacking the brothers and sisters, stop burning and attacking.”

Before Morales had even finished his statement, people began honking their car horns in La Paz and other cities and took to the streets to celebrate, waving Bolivian flags and setting off fireworks.

“This is not Cuba, nor Venezuela. This is Bolivia, and Bolivia is respected,” a crowd in the capital shouted. Large crowds formed in the main squares in the capital, with many people rejoicing and some crying

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tears of joy. Protesters lay down in front of the presidential palace and set a coffin on fire to symbolize the death of the Morales government.

"We are celebrating that Bolivia is free," said one demonstrator near the presidential palace.

It was not immediately clear who would succeed Morales. His vice president also resigned as did the Senate president, who was next in line. The only other official listed by the constitution as a successor, the head of the lower house, already had resigned.

Morales was the first member of Bolivia's indigenous population to become president and was in power for 13 years and nine months, the longest span in the country's history.

But his claim to have won a fourth term last month set off unrest that left three people dead and over 100 injured in clashes between his supporters and opponents.

After nightfall, there were reports of tensions in La Paz and the neighboring city of El Alto, with reports of looting and burning of public property and some houses.

Earlier Sunday, the Organization of American States said in a preliminary report that it had found a "heap of observed irregularities" in the Oct. 20 election and that a new vote should be held.

Morales agreed to that. But within hours, the military chief, Gen. Williams Kaliman, made it clear that would not be sufficient.

"After analyzing the situation of internal conflict, we ask the president to resign, allowing peace to be restored and stability to be maintained for the good of our Bolivia," Kaliman said.

The leadership crisis escalated in the hours leading up to Morales' resignation. Two government ministers in charge of mines and hydrocarbons, the Chamber of Deputies president and three other pro-government legislators announced their resignations. Some said opposition supporters had threatened their families.

In addition, the head of Bolivia's Supreme Electoral Tribunal, Maria Eugenia Choque, stepped down after the release of the OAS findings. The attorney general's office said it would investigate the tribunal's judges for possible fraud, and police later said Choque had been detained along with 37 other officials on suspicion of electoral crimes.

Morales, whose whereabouts were unknown, went on Twitter late Sunday to claim authorities were seeking to arrest him, but police Gen. Yuri Calderon denied any apprehension order had been issued for the resigned leader. He called such rumors "fake news."

In his tweet, Morales said: "I report to the world and Bolivian people that a police officer publicly announced that he has instructions to execute an unlawful apprehension order against me; in addition, violent groups also stormed my home."

Armed intruders did break into Morales' home in Cochabamba.

Mexico's government reported Sunday night that 20 members of Bolivia's executive and legislative branches were at the official Mexican residence in the capital seeking asylum.

Mexican Foreign Secretary Marcelo Ebrard also said on Twitter that Mexico would offer asylum to Morales if should ask for it. There was no indication that Morales had done that.

Earlier, Ebrard criticized the involvement of the Bolivian military in the day's events crisis, saying that "we reject it."

In a tweet, Ebrard said: "Mexico will maintain its position of respect for democracy and institutions. Coup no."

Jennifer Cyr, an associate professor of political science and Latin American studies at the University of Arizona, also voiced concern about the military commander calling on Morales to resign, calling it "extremely troubling" and "sad."

The OAS report and Morales' acceptance of a new election were positive steps that could have calmed Bolivia's divisions, she said. "Now I am not sure what will happen."

Morales was first elected in 2006 and went on to preside over a commodities-fed economic boom in South America's poorest country. The combative former leader of a coca growers union, he paved roads, sent Bolivia's first satellite into space and curbed inflation.

But many who were once excited by his fairy-tale rise grew wary of his reluctance to leave power.

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He ran for a fourth term after refusing to abide by the results of a referendum that upheld term limits for the president. He was able to run because Bolivia's constitutional court disallowed such limits.

After the Oct. 20 vote, Morales declared himself the outright winner even before official results indicated he obtained just enough support to avoid a runoff with opposition leader and former President Carlos Mesa. A 24-hour lapse in releasing results fueled suspicions of vote-rigging.

The OAS sent a team to look into the election. It called for a new contest with a new electoral tribunal. "Mindful of the heap of observed irregularities, it's not possible to guarantee the integrity of the numbers and give certainty of the results," the OAS said in a statement.

The U.S. State Department issued a statement calling for the OAS to send a mission to Bolivia to oversee the electoral process. "The Bolivian people deserve free and fair elections," it said.

During the unrest, protesters torched the headquarters of local electoral tribunal offices and set up roadblocks that paralyzed parts of Bolivia.

The pressure on Morales had increased ominously Saturday when police on guard outside the presidential palace abandoned their posts, and police officers retreated to their barracks in at least three cities.

The state news agency ABI said Morales announced his resignation from Chapare province, where he began his career as a union leader. At the end of his speech, he said he was returning to Chapare.

"I return to my people who never left me. The fight goes on," he said.

Associated Press writer Luis Andres Henao in Buenos Aires, Argentina, contributed to this report.

## Kaiser Permanente CEO Tyson dies unexpectedly at 60

By MARCY GORDON AP Business Writer

Health care provider Kaiser Permanente said Sunday its chairman and CEO, Bernard J. Tyson, has died unexpectedly at the age of 60.

Tyson was the first African American to head Kaiser Permanente as CEO when he took that position in 2013 after filling a number of roles over three decades at the company.

No other details were provided in the company's announcement, which said that Tyson died in his sleep early Sunday.

Tyson is survived by his wife, Denise Bradley-Tyson, and three sons, Bernard J. Tyson Jr., Alexander and Charles.

The board of directors has named Executive Vice President Gregory Adams as interim chairman and CEO.

Tyson, who worked at Kaiser Permanente for more than 30 years in roles including hospital administrator and chief operating officer, had been on Time magazine's list of the world's most influential people and one of the "Health Care 50."

Executive Committee Chair Edward Pei called Tyson "an exceptional colleague, a passionate leader and an honorable man."

"We will greatly miss him," Pei said in the company's news release. He added that the board "has full confidence in Greg Adams' ability to lead Kaiser Permanente through this unexpected transition."

Oakland, California-based Kaiser Permanente grew under Tyson's leadership from 9.1 million members and 174,000 employees to 12.3 million members and 218,000 employees, according to the company. Its network of 17,000 physicians grew to 23,000, and annual revenue increased from \$53 billion to more than \$82.8 billion.

The head of Covered California, an independent state agency that focuses on health insurance, said Tyson's "vision and laser focus on increasing access, quality and affordable health care coverage for all has helped transform Kaiser and had a positive impact on the entire health care system."

"His efforts will have a lasting imprint on California and the nation," the agency's Executive Director Peter Lee said in a statement.

Tyson also was on the boards of the American Heart Association and Salesforce. He was a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and deputy chairman of the Americas of the International

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Federation of Health Plans.

A native of the San Francisco Bay area, Tyson received a bachelor's degree in health service management and an MBA in health service administration from Golden Gate University in San Francisco.

While at Kaiser Permanente, he was a member of the Bay Area Council, a business-led public policy organization advocating for a strong economy for area residents.

## Today in History By The Associated Press undefined

Today in History

Today is Monday, Nov. 11, the 315th day of 2019. There are 50 days left in the year. Today is Veterans Day.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 11, 1972, the U.S. Army turned over its base at Long Binh to the South Vietnamese, symbolizing the end of direct U.S. military involvement in the Vietnam War.

On this date:

In 1620, 41 Pilgrims aboard the Mayflower, anchored off Massachusetts, signed a compact calling for a "body politick."

In 1831, former slave Nat Turner, who'd led a violent insurrection, was executed in Jerusalem, Virginia.

In 1918, fighting in World War I ended as the Allies and Germany signed an armistice in the Forest of Compiegne (kohm-PYEHN'-yeh).

In 1921, the remains of an unidentified American service member were interred in a Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery in a ceremony presided over by President Warren G. Harding.

In 1929, the Ambassador Bridge spanning the Detroit River between Michigan and Windsor, Ontario, Canada, was dedicated.

In 1942, during World War II, Germany completed its occupation of France.

In 1960, South Vietnamese President Ngo Dinh Diem survived a coup attempt by army rebels. (However, he was overthrown and killed in 1963.)

In 1966, Gemini 12 blasted off on a four-day mission with astronauts James A. Lovell and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin Jr. aboard; it was the tenth and final flight of NASA's Gemini program.

In 1990, Stormie Jones, the world's first heart-liver transplant recipient, died at a Pittsburgh hospital at age 13.

In 1992, the Church of England voted to ordain women as priests.

In 1998, President Clinton ordered warships, planes and troops to the Persian Gulf as he laid out his case for a possible attack on Iraq. Iraq, meanwhile, showed no sign of backing down from its refusal to deal with U.N. weapons inspectors.

In 2004, Palestinians at home and abroad wept, waved flags and burned tires in an eruption of grief at news of the death of Yasser Arafat in Paris at age 75.

Ten years ago: For the first time since World War I, the leaders of Germany and France held a joint ceremony to commemorate the end of the conflict, saying it was time to celebrate their countries' reconciliation and friendship. Longtime CNN host Lou Dobbs announced he was leaving the network. Taylor Swift won four awards, including Entertainer of the Year, at the Country Music Association Awards.

Five years ago: Leaders of Asia-Pacific economies meeting in China agreed to begin work toward possible adoption of a Chinese-backed free-trade pact, giving Beijing a victory in its push for a bigger role in managing global commerce. Henry "Big Bank Hank" Jackson, 57, a member of the pioneering hip-hop group The Sugarhill Gang, died in Englewood, New Jersey. Carol Ann Susi, 62, a character actress best known as the unseen Mrs. Wolowitz on "The Big Bang Theory," died in Los Angeles.

One year ago: World leaders including President Donald Trump and Russia's Vladimir Putin solemnly marked the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I at a ceremony in Paris.

Today's Birthdays: Country singer Narvel Felts is 81. Former Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., is 79. Americana roots singer/songwriter Chris Smither is 75. Rock singer-musician Vince Martell (Vanilla Fudge) is 74. The



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president of Nicaragua, Daniel Ortega, is 74. Rock singer Jim Peterik (PEE'-ter-ihk) (Ides of March, Survivor) is 69. Golfer Fuzzy Zoeller is 68. Pop singer-musician Paul Cowsill (The Cowsills) is 68. Rock singer-musician Andy Partridge (XTC) is 66. Singer Marshall Crenshaw is 66. Rock singer Dave Alvin is 64. Rock musician Ian Craig Marsh (Human League; Heaven 17) is 63. Actor Stanley Tucci is 59. Actress Demi Moore is 57. Actress Calista Flockhart is 55. Actor Philip McKeon is 55. Rock musician Scott Mercado is 55. Actor Frank John Hughes is 52. TV personality Carson Kressley is 50. Actor David DeLuise is 48. Actor Adam Beach is 47. Actor Tyler Christopher is 47. Actor Leonardo DiCaprio is 45. Actor Scoot McNairy is 42. Rock musician Jonathan Pretus (Cowboy Mouth) is 38. Actress Frankie Shaw is 38. Musician Jon Batiste is 33. Actress Christa B. Allen is 28. Actor Tye Sheridan is 23. Actor Ian Patrick is 17.

Thought for Today: "I hate war as only a soldier who has lived it can, only as one who has seen its brutality, its futility, its stupidity." — President Dwight D. Eisenhower (1890-1969).

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