

# Groton Daily Independent

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## Top 3 reasons to get your dog licensed!

- 1) It greatly improves your chance of getting your dog back if it goes missing.
- 2) It lets people know that your dog is up-to-date on its rabies vaccine.
- 3) It's the Law!

**2020 DOG LICENSES ARE AVAILABLE NOW!!**

Licenses due by December 31, 2019

Fines start January 2, 2020

Spayed/Neutered dogs are \$5 per dog; otherwise \$10 per dog

**Proof of rabies shot information is REQUIRED!!**

Email proof to [city.peggy@nvc.net](mailto:city.peggy@nvc.net)

fax to (605) 397-4498 or bring a copy to City Hall!!!

Please contact City Hall at (605) 397-8422 as soon as possible if you no longer have a dog(s) that was previously licensed.



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

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



## Senior Snow Queen Candidates

The 2019-2020 Groton Area Snow Queen candidates are (L-R):

Kaycie Hawkins - daughter of Lance and Kristie Hawkins

Ashley Flihs - daughter of Jarod and Kristie Flihs

Caitlynn Barse - daughter of Chris and Pam Barse

Join us on Sunday, November 17th at 7pm for the 73rd Annual Groton Area Snow Queen.

Photo Credit: Kristi Peterson



## Junior Snow Queen Candidates

The 2019-2020 Groton Area Junior Snow Queen candidates are:

Back Row (L-R):

Gracie Traphagen - Daughter of Trent & Heather Traphagen

Marlee Tollifson - Daughter of Travis & Debbie Kurth

Elliana Weismantel - Daughter of Marty & Amy Weismantel

Front Row (L-R):

Jacelynne Gleason - Daughter of Edward & Angela Gleason

Brooke Gengerke - Daughter of Collin & Deb Gengerke

Shaylee Peterson - Daughter of Ben & Kristi Peterson

Shallyn Foertsch - Daughter of Joe & Teri Foertsch

The Groton Area Snow Queen Committee invites everyone to join us this Sunday, November 17th at 7pm for the 73rd Annual Groton Area Snow Queen.

Photo Credit: Kristi Peterson

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**Mary Anne Clark**  
PEO - 55 Years



**Chris Nyberg**  
PEO - 50 Years



**Jean Kramer and Gaylene (Hosley) Haber**  
PEO - 50 Years

## **Clark, Nyberg honored for half century membership in PEO**

In an awards ceremony held in Mitchell, Mary Anne Clark, Groton, was honored by the South Dakota State P.E.O. Chapter for her 55 years of membership in P.E.O. Also being honored at this time was Chris Nyberg for 50 years of membership. Jean Kramer and Gaylene (Hosley) Haber had been honored last year for 50 years of membership.

P.E.O. is a philanthropic organization of women who are dedicated to the advancement of women through education. To help in this worthy endeavor, the members award scholarships, grants, and loans to motivate women to achieve their highest aspirations.

(Courtesy Photos)



**Pictured left to right are Kannon Coats, Tessa Erdmann and Samantha Pappas.**  
(Photo from GHS Website)

## **Three students qualify for FFA Leadership Development** **by Adam Franken**

The following FFA members placed and qualified for the state FFA leadership development event in Pierre.

- 1st Place Public Speaking - Sam Pappas
- 1st Place Job Interview - Tessa Erdmann
- 1st Place Ag Broadcasting - Kannon Coats
- 1st Place Extemp Speaking - Sam Pappas
- District I FFA President - Tessa Erdmann

## Letter to the Editor: Open Meeting Violations

Dear Editor,

The recent arrest of a Walworth County official for violation of the Open Meetings Law prompted me to find out how criminal penalties became attached to Open Meetings violations. The results were startling.

When the Open Meetings Law was enacted in 1965, no specific penalties were provided, so violations were presumed to be 2nd class misdemeanors under SDCL 22-6-2(2), which provides "...if the performance of an act is prohibited by a statute, and no penalty for the violation of such statute is imposed by a statute, the doing of such act is a Class 2 misdemeanor".

However, SDCL 22-6-2(2) does not apply to the Open Meetings Law. 22-6-2(2) lists a number of specific exceptions in the code to which it does not apply, including Title 1, of which Open Meetings Laws are a part.

In spite of the fact that criminal penalties were inappropriately presumed to apply to the Open Meetings Law, they became so firmly attached to it over the next 25 years that in 1990 the Committee on Judiciary introduced House Bill #1030 on behalf of the South Dakota Code Commission for "An Act to correct minor errors and internal inconsistencies in the South Dakota Codified Laws". This bill officially designated violations of the Open Meetings Law as Class 2 Misdemeanors.

So that's how criminal penalties became attached to Open Meetings Law violations, as a correction of a "minor error or internal inconsistency" in the Code.

Now the Legislature should seriously consider whether criminal penalties are the best way to ensure compliance with Open Meetings Laws. Perhaps an alternative such as the current Open Meetings Commission, whose reprimands are sufficient "public shaming" for violators and have the added advantage of establishing standards by which public officials must abide, would be a better way of ensuring compliance.

Betty Breck

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## Life After High School

By Toby Doeden

The following is the manuscript written by Toby Doeden and presented to the Groton Area Board of Education meeting held Monday night.

Good Evening everyone...and thank you for allowing me to speak at tonight's Groton Area School board meeting.

I would like to start by stating very clearly, my words this evening are not in regard to any one individual, or any group of specific individuals. But rather, the entire school district, including faculty, administrators, students, and parents, as well as anyone else who has a vested interest in the Groton Area school district.

As many of you know I attended and graduated from High School in Groton, as did most all my family including my wife and soon to be our fourth child. For decades the School system in Groton has done an outstanding job of developing its students by surrounding them with quality teachers and leaders, that have prepared most of them well for life after high school.

Tonight, I want to talk specifically about that: life after high school and where we are falling short in real life preparation of Groton Area's student athletes.

Many occupations and careers require a higher level of education than high school. We all know you can't become a nurse, a teacher, an accountant, a doctor, and countless other occupations without a degree of higher education. What many often don't consider enough is the fact that while 35% of the job openings will require at least a bachelor's degree, 30% of the job openings will require only some college or an associate's degree and a whopping 36% of the job openings will not require any education beyond high school at all. So, 66% of the American work force needs only some or no post-secondary education. Am I saying we shouldn't be preparing our students for a post-secondary education? Absolutely not.

Every student that attends the Groton Area School district should have the opportunity to be prepared for a higher education if they so choose to go that route. But what I am saying, and this is primarily why I'm here tonight, is that we aren't doing nearly enough to prepare the large percentage of our graduates that won't attain a college degree.

What jobs are these people doing by the way you may be wondering? Mail carriers, claims adjusters, pilots, train conductors, construction, law enforcement, farmers and ranchers, sales of any kind, management positions, military, and entrepreneurs and business owners. What has prepared this group of people and the millions of other Americans that have great careers with no college education? It's not just the academics they learned in High School; in fact I believe it to be far less important than what actually prepares many of these individuals. What actually prepares these teenagers for life in the real world? Discipline, character, toughness, street smarts, team building, and competition, among others. What do all of those characteristics have in common? ATHLETICS. Athletics & other extracurricular activities. And that's where we have failed.

The athletic culture in the Groton Area School system is broken. It's broken. It's absolutely broken, and anyone that doesn't believe that is either in denial, is part of the problem, or worse yet, incapable of seeing something so obviously negative happening right in front of their eyes.

I'm not here tonight to cast blame, though there is plenty to go around. Administrators are to blame, teachers are to blame, coaches are to blame, and parents are to blame, including me.

Casting blame will get us nowhere, but all of the people I just mentioned acknowledging that there is a problem with our athletic culture would be a great start. Other than the occasional outlier, our athletic teams as a whole for many years have lacked the basic structure, discipline, and leadership needed to properly develop our student athletes.

And for those of you thinking to yourself right now that this is just about winning, it isn't. Winning is important, but there are many other valuable lessons in sports aside from winning. Things like team building, camaraderie, structure, physical fitness, strategy, reliability, dependability, time management, and countless other benefits, provide an unmeasurable amount of value in shaping teenagers to be prepared

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for life beyond high school.

There was a report in the New York times regarding this exact topic. The research in this article clearly shows that students that participate in high school athletics get better jobs and higher pay than those who don't participate. Hiring managers expect former student-athletes to have more self-confidence, self-respect and leadership; actual measures of behavior in a sample of people who had graduated from high school more than five decades earlier showed those expectations proved accurate.

I'll take it a step further by saying just competing in sports isn't enough. The benefits of competing in athletics are greatly reduced if the kids are being subjected to athletic programs that lack energetic leaders that don't have the passion for developing their student athletes to the best of their ability. Or lack the discipline and knowledge to guide the student athletes through the process of team sports to get maximum effort and results.

Whether the academic community and administration of the Groton School District wants to admit it or not, athletics plays as large of a role in developing successful students as does the classroom. Research proves it, many of the people we all know proves it, my lackluster high school GPA and flunking out of not 1, but 2 colleges proves it. High School was simply a necessary step for me, and for millions of others just like me. I did just enough to get good enough grades to get by, while simultaneously participating in every extracurricular activity I could to help me sharpen my senses, team building, competitiveness, and countless other tools I acquired from those activities.

I couldn't do algebra for you tonight very well, I couldn't give you accurate facts about much of the history I was taught, nor could I explain pronouns, nouns, verbs, and adverbs in any intelligent way. But I do remember all of the life lessons from sports that I use every single day in running my businesses. Businesses that pay taxes, employ many people, develop future leaders, and supports local schools and communities.

I'm about done. My youngest, Jonathan, graduates in May and then we are done. So, I'm clearly not here for me, or for him, but rather for all of the parents out there who will have kids in this school district in the coming years. And I can't be clear enough on this point, just participating in sports is not enough. Just offering sports to the kids is not enough. Just filling coaching vacancies for the sake of filling coaching vacancies is not enough. Just having administrators focusing primarily on academics is not enough.

If we can at least agree that athletics plays a large role in developing and preparing students for life, then we need to act like it. We need to stop acting like sports is a privilege, because they are not. Sports are a necessity. Sports are a necessity to the development of young people. Participation in athletics that provide a successful culture is crucial to the development of young people, plain and simple.

I know my message will probably fall on many deaf ears, and that's fine, I get it. But my hope is that there are at least a few leaders in this school district, and perhaps more importantly, in this room tonight that will at least listen to what I've said and put some honest to goodness thought and consideration into its validity. Then, maybe that will lead to some discussions. And who knows, maybe those discussions could lead to some real long-term improvement into the culture of all of our athletic programs and other extracurricular activities. Thank you again for your time tonight.

Toby Doeden



## THINKING ABOUT HEALTH

### Meal programs struggle as funding dwindles

By Trudy Lieberman, Community Health News Service

Two years ago in Dallas I met an 85-year-old woman and her 65-year-old son. Both were very hungry with almost no food in their fridge or in their cupboards. After they had paid their bills, their meager monthly income from Social Security was dwindling. For lunch the mother wanted boiled cabbage with lima beans and collards, but the son reminded her there was no money for that. It was the second week of the month.

They had been on waiting list for food from the Visiting Nurse Association of Texas, the Meals-on-Wheels provider in Dallas. About 800 names were on the list the day I visited.

Indeed, there are waiting lists all over the country, and the statistics are as grim as the prospect of having no food for lunch. The anti-hunger group Feeding America found that nearly 8 percent of Americans 60 and older were food insecure: about 5.5 million seniors.

This year's congressional budgets are, at least, beginning to address that horrifying statistic.

In the meantime, Feeding America found that almost 10 percent of the Dallas population age 60 and older were "food insecure" meaning they didn't have consistent access to enough food for good health.

The numbers were even worse in other parts of the South. Nearly 12 percent of the senior population in Mississippi and about 10 percent in Alabama, for example, were food insecure. The problem is hardly confined to the South, though. In Indiana, Feeding America said, nearly 8 percent of seniors were not getting proper food; in South Dakota it was 7.3 percent.

The number of hungry seniors has more than doubled since 2001 and is expected to keep increasing. Meal programs almost everywhere struggle to keep up with the growing demand.

This was the third time in 20 years I found myself reporting on hunger among seniors in America. The numbers of elders on waiting lists has grown since I first visited the topic in 1998 and called attention to the irony of older people coming home from the hospital but finding themselves without the food they needed to heal. When I worked with Kaiser Health News on a third story published just two months ago, focusing on the plight of seniors in Memphis, we found the same thing. Very little had changed except that many more people needed help.

"There are tens of thousands of seniors who are waiting," said Erika Kelly, chief advocacy officer for Meals on Wheels America. "While they're waiting, their health deteriorates, and in some cases we know seniors have died."

Why is this problem so severe in a country so rich? The answer, very simply, is disagreements over funding. In 1965 Congress anticipated an aging population would need social services and passed the Older Americans Act. In 1972 it added the home-delivered meals program as well as congregate meals available in many locations. But federal dollars haven't kept pace with need, and funds from state and local governments, which often filled in the gaps, have also fallen short.

When that happens, programs must scramble to make up the shortfall, often relying on local philanthropy to help out. But that's hard to do in places like Pine Bluff, Arkansas, for example, where there are few community resources to tap.

Meals on Wheels America says the nutrition programs are serving 21 million fewer meals a year than in 2005 because of funding shortages. Kelly told me that last year Congress bumped up funding for the program by only \$10 million, which means many local programs still experience serious shortfalls.

This year an appropriations bill that has passed the House of Representatives calls for a hefty increase, raising the funding from \$906.7 million to one \$1 billion. Kelly says, "It would be a record increase."

The Senate's appropriations bill, however, is calling for "flat funding," which means no increase for next year. Advocacy groups are lobbying to change that before the Senate votes on a final bill.

You'd never know from the constant news drumbeat about impeachment and the president that there is other news in Washington. But there is. Whether the Senate decides to increase the budget for home-delivered meals is one story that will tell us whether seniors across America will have enough to eat.

Have you known seniors who have needed food but couldn't get it? Write to Trudy and [trudy.lieberman@gmail.com](mailto:trudy.lieberman@gmail.com)

## South Dakota's "Mount Rushmore's American Pride" Float Appears in the Annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade®

PIERRE, S.D. — For the tenth consecutive year, the "Mount Rushmore's American Pride" float will appear in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade®.

Country music star Chris Young has been announced as the talent on the float.

An estimated three million spectators will watch from the streets of New York City while more than 50 million television viewers will watch nationwide. The goal of this effort by the Department of Tourism is to drive new and repeat visitors to the state and to generate brand awareness.

"This is a tremendous partnership opportunity to showcase South Dakota and provide exposure to our state's great assets," said Governor Kristi Noem. "Our family has been longtime fans of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade®, and it makes me proud to see South Dakota's continued presence in this annual tradition."

Chris Young has a record of success, including membership in the Grand Ole Opry, two billion on-demand streams, 12 million singles sold, and 11 number one singles. In 2019, he released new music, including "Raised on Country" and "Drowning" from his forthcoming album. Young will be joined on the South Dakota float by the Department of Tourism's Mount Rushmore mascots.

"Partnerships with brands like Macy's provide a valuable touchpoint to potential visitors across the nation and, with the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade®, tremendous international exposure as well," said James Hagen, Secretary of the Department of Tourism.

The float will make its national appearance on NBC-TV on Thursday, Nov. 28 between 9 a.m. and noon in all time zones.

The South Dakota Department of Tourism is comprised of Tourism and the South Dakota Arts Council. The Department is led by Secretary James D. Hagen.

## Volleyball Team is State A Bound!

The drought is over! For the first time since volleyball has been a sport in Groton Area in 1986 Groton Area will be advancing to the State A Volleyball Tournament. The Tigers sported a 3-0 win over Pine Ridge in the SoDak16 for the win.



**Groton Area's volleyball team made a stop at the Groton Area Elementary School prior to leaving for the SoDak 16.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)

The match was carried live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Aberdeen Chrysler Center, Allied Climate Professionals, BaseKamp Lodge, Bierman Farm Service, BK Custom T's & More, Blocker Construction, Dakota Risk Management, Tyson DeHoet Trucking, Groton American Legion Post #39, Groton Chiropractic Clinic, Harr Motors, Jark Real Estate, Lori's Pharmacy, Mike-N-Jo's Body-N-Glass, Milbrandt Enterprises Inc., Northeast Chiropractic Clinic, Olson Development, Professional Management Services, S & Lumber, Weber Landscaping,



**The volleyball parents held the "faces" of their players at the elementary school.** (Photo from Angela Glover's facebook page)



**Tadyn Glover**

(Cellphone photo by Jeslyn Kosel)

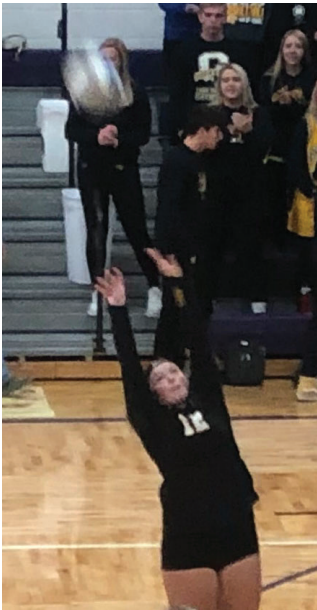
In the first game, Pine Ridge jumped out to a 2-0 lead before the Tigers

scored five straight to take a 5-2 lead. The Wanner and Marzahn duo teamed for 11 kills as the Tigers went on to win, 25-16, with Marzahn having the game winning kill. Marzahn had six kills while Wanner had five kills and an ace serve, Indigo Rogers had three kills and an ace serve, Tadyn Glover, Madeline Flihs and Kenzie McInerney each had a kill and Kaylin Kucker had an ace serve.

Pine Ridge jumped out to a 4-0 lead in the second set and the Tigers had a tough time trying to put away the Thorpe. Two serving errors by Pine Ridge gave the Tigers a couple of points and Groton Area tied the game at five. Pine Ridge maintained the lead and took a 9-6 lead. Groton Area tied the game at 10 and took an 11-10 lead when Pine Ridge called time out. The game was tied at 11, 12 and 13. Pine Ridge had a seven point rally and took a 19-13 lead. Pine Ridge maintained a six-point lead at 21-15. Then the Tigers started to fight back. Scoring three points the

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**Kaylin Kucker**  
(Cellphone photo by Jeslyn Kosel)

Thorpe lead was down to three, 21-18. Pine Ridge scored to make it 22-18. Groton Area would score the last seven points of the game to win the set, 25-22. Nicole Marzahn led the Tigers with five kills and an ace serve, Eliza Wanner had four kills, Payton Colestock had four ace serves, Madeline Fliehs had a kill and Kaylin Kucker had two kills and an ace serve. Rhiannon Little Dog led Pine Ridge with nine kills while Taysha Big Crow had three kills and Angel Walking and Bree Belt each had an ace serve.

By the time the third set rolled around, the Tigers were in full gear. The third game was tied four times in the early goings before the Tigers scored four straight points and would later score eight unanswered points to take a 20-8 lead. The Tigers went on to win, 25-13. In the third game, Nicole Marzahn had four kills, Kaylin Kucker had a kill and an ace serve, Indigo Rogers had four kills and a block, Tady Glover had an ace serve, Eliza Wanner had an ace serve, Madeline Fliehs had two kills, Kenzie McInerney had a kill and a block, Payton Colestock had an ace serve and Stella Meier had a block. Leading the way for Pine Ridge was Little Dog with three kills, Big Crow had two kills and Walking had a kill.

For the night, Groton Area earned 57 of its 75 points for 76 percent while Pine Ridge earned 30 of its 51 points for 59 percent. Each team had three serving errors.

- Paul Kosel

Total	Digs	Kills	Aces	Blocks	Assists
Nicole	13	17	1	0	0
Eliza	12	9	2	0	0
Indigo	1	9	1	1	1
Kaylin	9	5	3	0	36
Stella	1	1	0	0	0
Madeline	3	3	0	0	0
Kenzie	4	1	0	1	0
Payton	11	0	4	0	2
Tady	15	1	1	0	2
Grace	0	0		0	0

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I am not sure where this popped up at, but it was too neat to pass up. I think Julianna found it on SnapChat.

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**When the team bus arrived in Pierre, they were very early. So instead of heading to the gym, they took a quick stop at the state Capital where Jenna Strom took a selfie with the coaches and team members. It was posted on her facebook page.**

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**The GHS Volleyball team and student body posed for a quick picture with one of the photographers.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)

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**Groton Area had a great showing by the fans at the SoDak 16 that was played at Stanley County in Ft. Pierre.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)

## Thank You!

**It's not every broadcaster that gets a cheer from the crowd. It was neat hearing the cheer, "Paper Paul" from the student body last night. I will say it's been an honor following the Tigers through GDILIVE.COM. Thanks!**

**And thank you to the viewers who have followed the Tigers on GDILIVE.COM and to the many advertisers who have made these productions possible.**

## State Tournament

**The State A Volleyball Tournament will be held Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Nov. 21-23, in Rapid City. The official pairings are not out yet, but based on the current information, Groton Area will play McCook Central-Montrose at 4:30 p.m. Mountain Time (5:30 p.m. our time)**



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## Class A Volleyball SoDak 16

Print Bracket

The eight (8) winners of the SoDak 16 contests will be re-seeded for the State Tournament.

### #1 Miller

Scores: 25 25 25

Date: 11/12/2019  
Time: 7:30 p.m. CT  
Site: Huron Arena

Scores: 20 21 14

### #16 Sioux Valley

STATE QUALIFIER

Miller

STATE QUALIFIER

Winner

### #5 Winner

Scores: 25 25 17 25

Date: 11/12/2019  
Time: 7:00 p.m. CT  
Site: Parkston Armory

Scores: 19 10 25 10

### #12 Hamlin

### #2 Dakota Valley

Scores: 25 25 25

Date: 11/12/2019  
Time: 6:00 p.m. CT  
Site: Madison HS

Scores: 14 12 9

### #15 Mobridge-Pollock

STATE QUALIFIER

Dakota Valley

STATE QUALIFIER

Madison

### #6 RC Christian

Scores: 15 19 20

Date: 11/12/2019  
Time: 7:00 p.m. CT  
Site: Pierre T.F. Riggs HS

Scores: 25 25 25

### #11 Madison

Seed	School	Seed Pts.
1	Miller	46.188
2	Dakota Valley	45.067
3	Hill City	44.867
4	McCook Central/Montrose	44.840
5	Winner	44.464
6	RC Christian	43.969
7	Pine Ridge	43.821
8	SF Christian	43.606

Seed	School	Seed Pts.
9	Aberdeen Roncalli	43.594
10	Groton Area	43.533
11	Madison	43.107
12	Hamlin	41.692
13	Garretson	41.600
14	Elk Point-Jefferson	41.533
15	Mobridge-Pollock	40.500
16	Sioux Valley	39.156

### #3 Hill City

Scores: 23 25 25 22 7

Date: 11/12/2019  
Time: 5:30 p.m. CT  
Site: Pierre T.F. Riggs HS

Scores: 25 18 27 22 15

### #14 Elk Point-Jefferson

STATE QUALIFIER

Elk Point-Jefferson

STATE QUALIFIER

Groton Area

### #7 Pine Ridge

Scores: 16 22 13

Date: 11/12/2019  
Time: 6:00 p.m. CT  
Site: Ft. Pierre (Parkview Gym)

Scores: 25 25 25

### #10 Groton Area

### #4 McCook Central/Montrose

Scores: 25 25 25

Date: 11/12/2019  
Time: 7:30 p.m. CT  
Site: SF Roosevelt HS

Scores: 23 9 13

### #13 Garretson

STATE QUALIFIER

McCook Central/Montrose

STATE QUALIFIER

SF Christian

### #8 SF Christian

Scores: 25 25 25

Date: 11/12/2019  
Time: 7:00 p.m. CT  
Site: Watertown Civic Arena

Scores: 11 17 18

### #9 Aberdeen Roncalli



## **Diabetes Awareness Day - Wear Blue!**

**By Kiersten Sombke**

Thursday, November 14th is World Diabetes Day, and the "GO BLUE" global campaign was created to encourage supporters to wear blue to help raise awareness about Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetes.

Please join the Groton Area MS/HS PAC in showing your support for all students, staff, and families in our district living with diabetes by "GOING BLUE" on November 14th by wearing your favorite "Blue" attire!

## **Burn Ban On**

Brown County Commission has enacted a resolution on an emergency basis and imposed a ban to prohibit or restrict open burning with the exception of campfires in campfire rings or pits, burning barrels 55 gallon or less that are equipped with a screen, or barbeque grills in order to protect the public health and safety. This is in effect immediately.

This Resolution was enacted in order to protect the public health and safety, as per county ordinance 18.02.

The ban will be in place starting immediately November 12 thru Midnight on November 26th, 2019. It will be reevaluated at the November 26th Commission meeting.

This ban was put in place due to the current roadway infrastructure.

Criminal and civil penalties per County Ordinance 18.0703 be imposed if found in violation of this Resolution.

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Today

Tonight

Thursday

Thursday  
Night

Friday



Snow Likely  
then Mostly  
Sunny

High: 31 °F



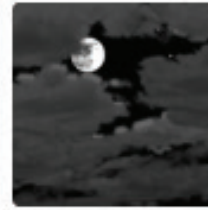
Mostly Clear

Low: 11 °F



Mostly Sunny

High: 39 °F



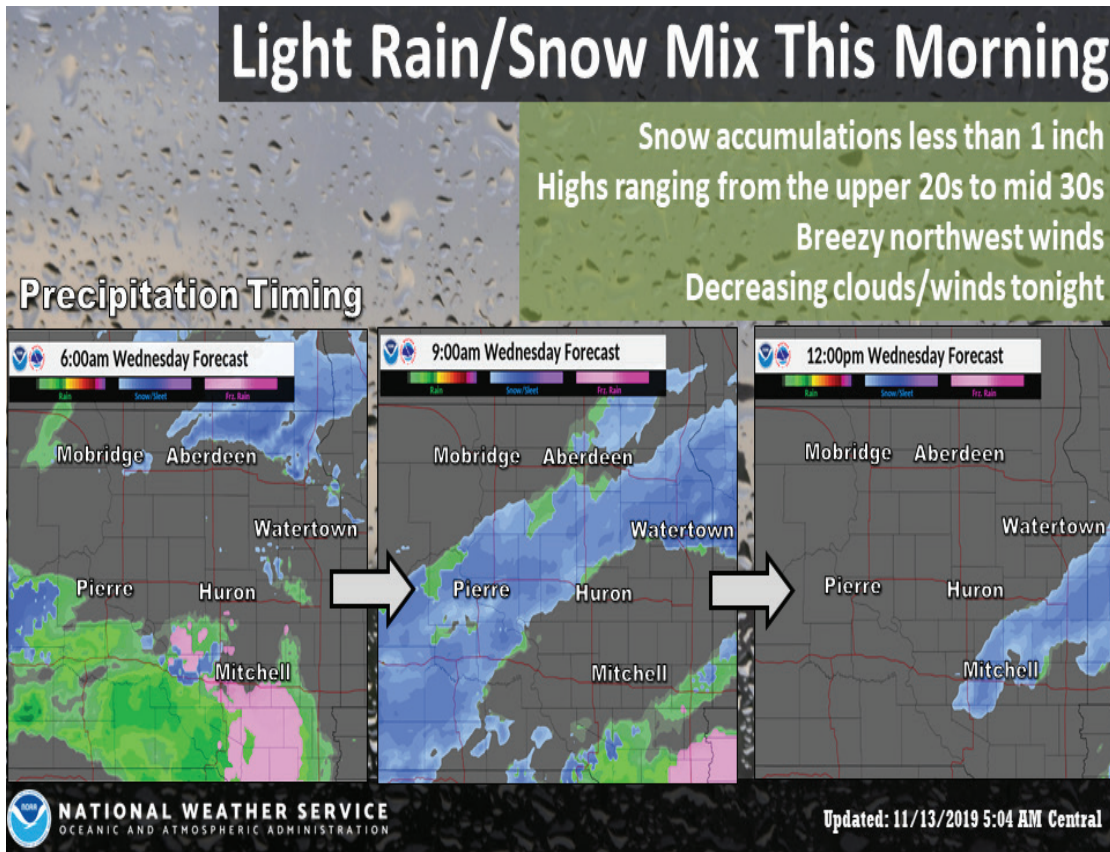
Mostly Cloudy

Low: 22 °F



Partly Sunny

High: 39 °F



Published on: 11/13/2019 at 12:05AM

Light precipitation is expected through the morning hours. A rain snow mix is possible across parts of south central South Dakota, whereas light snow is expected for areas further north. Snow accumulations will generally be less than one half inch. Decreasing clouds and winds are then expected through the late afternoon and overnight hours.

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## Today in Weather History

November 13, 1985: Snowfall of 4 to 8 inches spread from the southwest part of South Dakota on the morning of the 13th to the northeast part of the state by early morning on the 14th. Winds gusted to 35 mph in the western half of the state and produced considerable blowing and drifting snow, which significantly reduced visibilities. The snowfall caused many accidents, including a four-vehicle pileup that occurred three miles east of De Smet in Kingsbury County, during the afternoon of the 13th. Some snowfall amounts include; 7.0 inches in Britton; 5.5 inches in Timber Lake and 5.0 inches in Leola.

1833: In 1833, observers were familiar with the Leonid meteor shower, but the event that year was very intense and leads to the first formulation of a theory on the origin of meteors. By some estimates, the 1833 Leonid meteor shower had 240,000 meteors in a nine-hour period.

1933 - The first dust storm of the great dust bowl era of the 1930s occurred. The dust storm, which had spread from Montana to the Ohio Valley the day before, prevailed from Georgia to Maine resulting in a black rain over New York and a brown snow in Vermont. Parts of South Dakota, Minnesota and Iowa reported zero visibility on the 12th. On the 13th, dust reduced the visibility to half a mile in Tennessee. (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1946: General Electric scientists produced snow in the Massachusetts Berkshires in the first modern-day cloud seeding experiment. Scientist Vincent Schaefer dropped six pounds of dry ice pellets into a cloud over Pittsfield, MA. The cloud seeding experiment produced snowfall, as a 4-mile long cloud was converted into snow flurries. The success of the experiment became the basis of many weather modification projects.

1953 - Strong southeasterly winds associated with a Pacific cold front reached 70 mph at Sacramento CA to equal their all-time record. The previous record had been established in a similar weather pattern on December 12th of the previous year. (The Weather Channel)

1981 - A powerful cyclone brought high winds to Washington State and Oregon. The cyclone, which formed about 1000 miles west of San Francisco, intensified rapidly as it approached the Oregon coast with the central pressure reaching 28.22 inches (956 millibars). A wind trace from the Whiskey Run Turbine Site, about 12 miles south of Coos Bay in Oregon, showed peak gusts to 97 mph fifty feet above ground level. The wind caused widespread damage in Washington and Oregon, with 12 deaths reported. As much as four feet of snow fell in the Sierra Nevada Range of northern California. (Storm Data)

1987 - A storm moving off the Pacific Ocean produced rain and gale force winds along the northern and central Pacific coast, and heavy snow in the Cascade Mountains. Cold weather prevailed in the southeastern U.S. Five cities reported record low temperatures for the date, including Asheville NC with a reading of 21 degrees. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Low pressure brought rain and snow and gusty winds to the northeastern U.S. A thunderstorm drenched Agawam MA with 1.25 inches of rain in fifteen minutes. Winds gusted to 58 mph at Nantucket MA. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Thirty-two cities in the central and eastern U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date as readings warmed into the 70s as far north as Michigan and Pennsylvania. Afternoon highs in the 80s were reported from the Southern Plains to the southern Atlantic coast. Columbia SC reported a record high of 86 degrees, and the high of 71 degrees at Flint MI was their warmest of record for so late in the season. (The National Weather Summary)

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## Yesterday's Groton Weather Today's Info

**High Temp: 28 °F at 4:36 PM**

**Low Temp: 1 °F at 1:01 AM**

**Wind: 32 mph at 10:34 AM**

**Day Rain: 0.00**

**Record High: 71° in 1916**

**Record Low: -11° in 1919**

**Average High: 41°F**

**Average Low: 20°F**

**Average Precip in Nov.: 0.34**

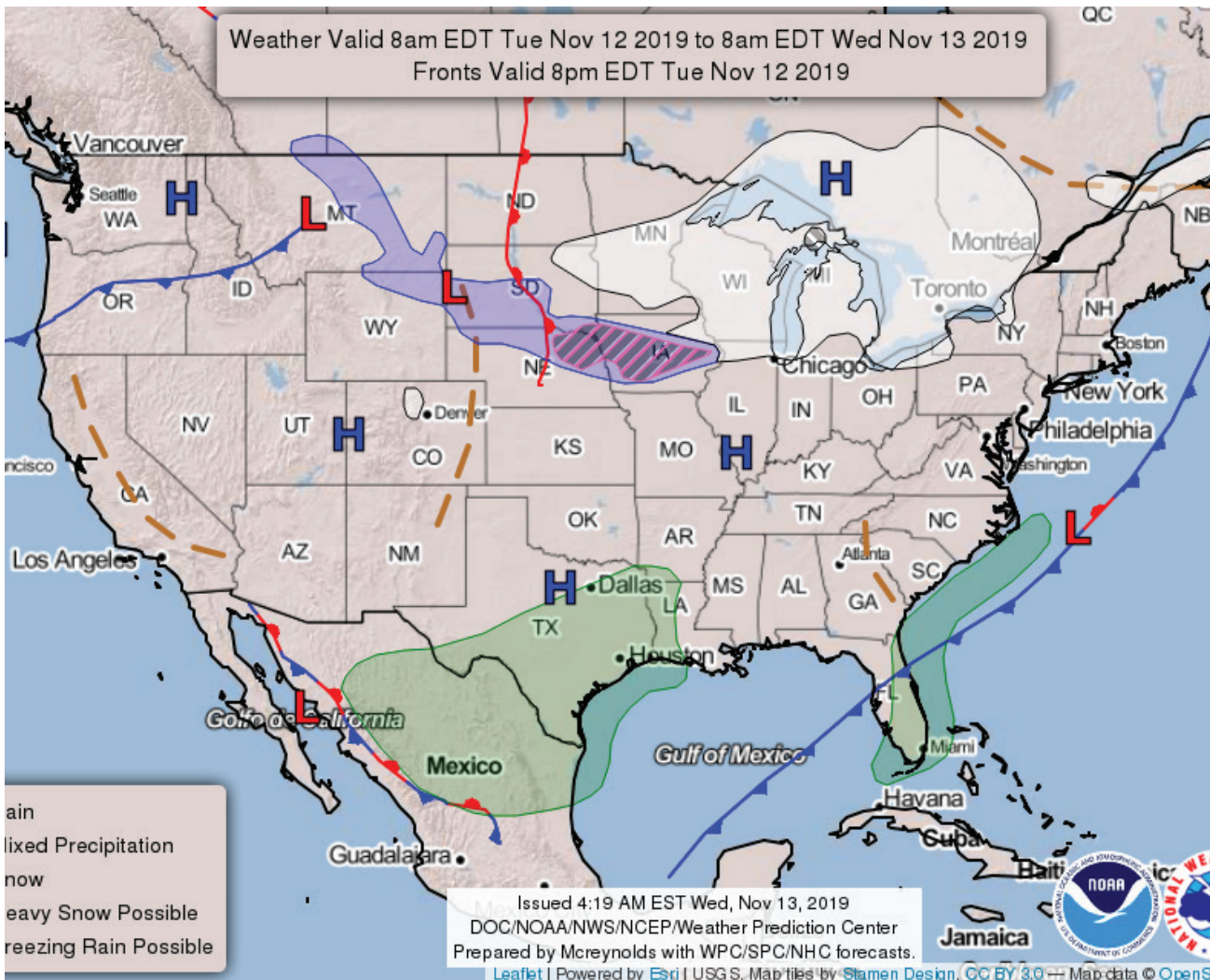
**Precip to date in Nov.: 0.00**

**Average Precip to date: 20.81**

**Precip Year to Date: 26.57**

**Sunset Tonight: 5:06 p.m.**

**Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:31 a.m.**



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## IT'S WHAT'S INSIDE THAT COUNTS

Paganini, one of the world's most famous violinists, walked onto the stage before a large crowd. Just before he began playing, he looked at the violin he was holding and realized that it was not his. He was horrified, but it was too late for him to do anything about the violin. IT was time to begin!

After the concert, the critics and audience said it was the best concert of his entire career.

When questioned about using a violin that belonged to another person, he said, "Today I learned the most important lesson of my life. I once believed that the music was in the violin. Today I learned that it was in me."

God has given each of us different abilities and gifts. They vary in name and number but not in value. They may be obvious to others or they may be seen only by Him. Our gifts come from God. What we do with them is our gift back to Him. We must realize that His gifts are within us and only come to life when we respond to the opportunities He gives us to develop them and serve Him – whatever they are and wherever we may be.

Prayer: Empower us, Lord to develop the gifts and abilities You have given us to serve others and bring honor and glory to You. May we be who we can be. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Romans 12:6 In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you.

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## 2019 Groton SD Community Events

- 09/07/2019 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
- 09/08/2019 Sunflower Classic at Olive Grove Golf Course
- 09/12/2019 St. John's Lutheran Luncheon
- 09/20/2019 Presbyterian Luncheon
- 09/28/2019 Granary Living History Fall Festival
- 10/11/2019 Lake Region Marching Band Festival (2nd Friday in October)
- 10/12/2019 Pumpkin Fest (Saturday before Columbus Day)
- 10/31/2019 Trunk or Treat/Halloween on Main (Halloween)
- 11/09/2019 Legion Post #39 Turkey Shoot (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)
- 12/07/2019 Olive Grove Golf Course Holiday Party
- 12/07/2019 Santa Claus Day at Professional Management Services
- Bingo: every Wednesday at the Legion Post #39

## 2020 Groton SD Community Events

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

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## News from the Associated Press

### Tuesday's Scores By The Associated Press

Volleyball

Class A

State Qualifier

Dakota Valley def. Mobridge-Pollock, 25-14, 25-12, 25-9

Elk Point-Jefferson def. Hill City, 25-23, 18-25, 27-25, 22-25, 15-7

Groton Area def. Pine Ridge, 25-16, 25-22, 25-13

Madison def. Rapid City Christian, 25-15, 25-19, 25-20

McCook Central/Montrose def. Garretson, 25-23, 25-10, 25-13

Miller def. Sioux Valley, 25-20, 25-21, 25-14

Sioux Falls Christian def. Aberdeen Roncalli, 25-11, 25-17, 25-18

Winner def. Hamlin, 25-19, 25-10, 17-25, 25-10

Class B

State Qualifier

Bridgewater-Emery def. Kadoka Area, 25-10, 25-19, 25-23

Burke def. Ipswich, 25-22, 25-21, 25-23

Chester def. Avon, 25-17, 22-25, 23-25, 25-11, 15-12

Ethan def. Estelline, 22-25, 25-18, 25-23, 25-21

Faith def. White River, 26-24, 25-10, 25-10

Faulkton def. Castlewood, 25-21, 25-16, 25-20

Northwestern def. Lemmon, 25-1, 25-8, 25-3

Warner def. Freeman, 25-10, 25-13, 25-19

### USC rallies in 2nd half to beat South Dakota State 84-66

By BETH HARRIS AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — It was senior night for Southern California and the season has barely begun.

Nick Rakocevic and Jonah Mathews both went over the 1,000-point mark in their careers while helping the Trojans rally twice in the second half before pulling away to beat South Dakota State 84-66 Tuesday night.

Rakocevic tied his career high with 27 points and 16 rebounds, giving him 1,007 career points. Mathews finished with 14 points and has 1,009 in his fourth season.

"To have it on the same night is something special," said Mathews, who has known Rakocevic since they were teenagers playing AAU ball.

Rakocevic added, "It's something we're going to remember forever."

Trojans coach Andy Enfield couldn't recall having two players go over 1,000 points during his career.

"They have a chance to do something special this year as a team," he said.

It was another good game for their freshman teammate Onyeka Okongwu. He added 12 points and eight rebounds after notching double-doubles in his first two games for the Trojans (3-0).

The Jackrabbits (3-1) twice pulled within one point in the second half, both times on 3-pointers by Noah Freidel and Brandon Key. The second time the Trojans responded with 11 unanswered points to go up 56-44. Grad transfer Quinton Adlesh hit two 3-pointers and Okongwu had a three-point play.

"We knew going in they could beat us if we didn't play well," Enfield said. "To have a close game in the second half and have to fight through it was good for our team."

The Jacks weren't done.

They used a 12-3 run to close to 59-56, with four different players scoring, including five points from



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Baylor Scheierman.

The Trojans responded with their own 9-3 spurt, making seven of 10 free throws for a 68-59 lead.

Tray Buchanan's 3-pointer — the Jacks' fifth of the half — left them down by six.

"Kind of got to six there with about four and half to go and just kind of lost our minds," Jacks coach Eric Henderson said. "Had some fouls there, some silly fouls, just really we weren't ourselves. We were a little out of character and that's probably what was disappointing."

From there, USC pulled away to end the game on a 16-4 run. Mathews made two 3-pointers and the Trojans hit six free throws.

Douglas Wilson led the Jacks with 15 points and David Wingett added 10 before both fouled out.

"I felt like if we would just finish like two or three more possessions we would have been either ahead or just right there with them the whole game," Wilson said, "but I think once that last four minutes came we just shut down as a team."

## BIG PICTURE

South Dakota State: The two-time defending Summit League regular season champions feature several new faces, having returned just 17 percent of their scoring from last season. The Jackrabbits were picked to finish fifth in the league.

USC: The Trojans have faced challenges in each of their first three wins. They trailed at halftime in the first two and needed multiple rallies to put away the Jacks. Okongwu needs to avoid early fouls that have taken him out for chunks of time. Grad transfer Adlesh is proving to be a reliable 3-point shooter and steady presence on the floor.

## BEHIND TIME

Mathews was late to class again, according to Enfield, so he didn't start. He's started just once in three games because of tardiness. Mathews had three points playing just over nine minutes in the first half. Adlesh started in Mathews' place.

## UP NEXT

South Dakota State: Visits Nebraska on Friday, one of four Power 5 schools on the Jackrabbits' non-conference schedule.

USC: Visits Nevada on Saturday and its new coach Steve Alford, who was fired at UCLA last New Year's Eve. It's the Trojans' only road game among their first six. USC leads the series 2-1 but lost 73-61 last season.

More AP college basketball: <https://apnews.com/Collegebasketball> and [https://twitter.com/AP\\_Top\\_25](https://twitter.com/AP_Top_25)

## SD Lottery

By The Associated Press undefined

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

Mega Millions

19-30-44-56-65, Mega Ball: 24, Megaplier: 2

(nineteen, thirty, forty-four, fifty-six, sixty-five; Mega Ball: twenty-four; Megaplier: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$163 million

Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$60 million

## Williams scores 19 to lift UTEP over New Mexico St. 65-50

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — Bryson Williams scored 19 points on 7-for-11 shooting as UTEP topped New Mexico State 65-50 on Tuesday night.

Jordan Lathon had 13 points for UTEP (2-0), which made 23 of 49 shots (47-).

Trevelin Queen had 21 points for the Aggies (1-1), who were held to 37-% shooting and converted just two of 11 free throws. Terrell Brown added 10 points.

The Miners scored 22 points off 16 Aggies turnovers and owned a 34-28 edge in points in the paint de-

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spite being outrebounded, 39-33.

UTEP plays Eastern New Mexico at home on Friday. New Mexico State takes on Southern at home on Thursday.

For more AP college basketball coverage: <https://apnews.com/Collegebasketball> and [http://twitter.com/AP\\_Top25](http://twitter.com/AP_Top25)

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## South Dakota tribe wants 1863 removal law changed

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota tribe is asking for the state's help to change an 1863 federal law that technically keeps them from owning land in Minnesota.

The law removed Dakota people from Minnesota and relocated them to several states in the Midwest. It was signed by President Abraham Lincoln after conflicts between white settlers and Dakota people in Minnesota.

Though the law is no longer enforced, tribal leaders call it racist. They're asking the state to pass a resolution of support, and raised the subject Tuesday at a meeting of the State-Tribal Relations committee in Pierre.

Crow Creek Sioux Chairman Lester Thompson Jr. called it similar to old Jim Crow laws of the South.

A similar request did not make it out of committee at the Legislature this year. Thompson says he's taking a new approach — educating lawmakers and Gov Kristi Noem on the history of the law.

## Report: UnityPoint, Sanford Health merger abruptly halted

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Iowa's UnityPoint Health and South Dakota-based Sanford Health have abruptly halted plans to merge.

The Des Moines Register reported the development Tuesday, saying Sanford CEO Kelby Krabbenhoft confirmed the news. UnityPoint officials declined to immediately comment.

No reason for the decision was given, but Krabbenhoft said in a statement that those who worked on the merger "are disappointed that the UnityPoint Health board failed to embrace the vision."

In June, the two regional health care systems announced they would be combining to create one of the largest nonprofit health care systems in the country, with more than \$11 billion in operating revenue.

The merged organization would have employed more than 83,000 staff and 2,600 physicians.

UnityPoint operates 32 hospitals and has relationships with 280 physician clinics throughout Iowa, western Illinois and southern Wisconsin.

Sanford Health's organization includes 44 hospitals, 1,400 physicians and more than 200 Good Samaritan Society senior care locations in 26 states and nine countries.

Information from: The Des Moines Register, <http://www.desmoinesregister.com>

## Tribe to argue against expansion of Dakota Access pipeline

By JAMES MacPHERSON Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — Standing Rock Sioux Tribe members have long maintained that a leak in the Dakota Access oil pipeline would threaten their Missouri River water supply, and on Wednesday they will argue that a new proposal to double the line's capacity magnifies the probability of a disastrous oil spill.

North Dakota regulators will hold a hearing in Linton, a town of 1,000 along the pipeline's path. The Public Service Commission will take comments from tribe members and other pipeline opponents in the community near where a pump station would be placed to increase the line's capacity from 600,000 bar-

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rels per day to as much as 1.1 million barrels. A barrel is 42 gallons.

Texas-based Energy Transfer proposed expanding its pipeline in June to meet growing demand for oil shipments from North Dakota, without the need for additional pipelines or rail shipments.

The \$3.8 billion pipeline was subject to prolonged protests and hundreds of arrests during its construction in North Dakota in late 2016 and early 2017 because it crosses beneath the Missouri River, just north of the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation. The tribe draws its water from the river and fears pollution. Energy Transfer insists the pipeline and its expansion are safe.

The company also plans additional pumping stations in South Dakota, Iowa and Illinois. Commissioners in a South Dakota county last month approved a conditional use permit for a pumping station needed for the expansion. Permits in the other states are pending.

The proposed expansion would "increase both the likelihood and severity of spill incidents," the tribe said in court filings ahead of Wednesday's hearing, which an administrative law judge will oversee.

The company said in court filings that its \$40 million pump station built on a 23-acre site would produce only "minimal adverse effects on the environment and the citizens of North Dakota."

Opponents argue North Dakota's all-Republican, three-member Public Service Commission should consider effects all along the line and not solely at the pump station location.

Energy Transfer argues the commission must only consider a permit application for its pump site and that the tribe is attempting to "confuse issues before the commission."

The company moved to strike testimony from three witnesses for the tribe, including a pipeline consultant who maintains that increasing pressure in a pipeline raises the risk of it failing.

Tribal attorneys argue in court papers that the company is seeking to prevent the tribe and the public from "meaningfully participating" in the hearing.

Public Service Commission President Brian Kroshus said it is up to the administrative law judge to decide if the testimony from the tribe's experts will be allowed. Kroshus said the commission will consider all comments from the meeting and determine "what is relevant and jurisdictional" to the panel.

The hearing comes in the wake of a 383,000-gallon (1.4 million-liter) Keystone pipeline oil spill in north-eastern North Dakota. The line owned by TC Energy restarted Sunday, nearly two weeks after the spill was reported. The cause of the leak has not been disclosed.

## Police to search for Sioux Falls woman missing since 1974

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls police are renewing a search for the remains of a woman missing for 45 years after receiving new leads in the case, authorities said Tuesday.

Ellabeth Lodermeier was 25 when she disappeared from her Sioux Falls home on March 6, 1974. She has not been seen since and is presumed dead.

At least one dog will be brought in Wednesday to search an area near the Mary Jo Wegner Arboretum along the Big Sioux River, Sioux Falls police spokesman Sam Clemens said Tuesday.

The search will take place in the area where Lodermeier's purse and pocketbook were found in 1992, nearly two decades after she went missing, the Argus Leader reported.

Family and some law enforcement officials believe Lodermeier's estranged husband, Gene Lodermeier, was responsible for her disappearance, but he was never charged in the case and died in 2013.

Seven months after Ellabeth Lodermeier disappeared, three of her credit cards were found at a railway station in Manitoba, Canada. Police believe that lead was a red herring. The discovery of Lodermeier's purse and pocketbook near the Big Sioux River renewed hope, but no new developments have occurred in the case in the 27 years since.

Months after the Argus Leader ran a lookback into Lodermeier's disappearance in 2018, police said five new leads had come in, including three with "brand-new information."

Her family and police hope to find her remains and give her a proper burial.

Lodermeier's niece, Elizabeth Crow, hopes the search brings closure to her family.

"I hope that something comes out of it," Crow said. "I really hope we can have some kind of closure."

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

## Oglala Sioux executive facing impeachment hearing

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — The vice president of the Oglala Sioux Tribe is facing an impeachment hearing later this month after she was accused of creating a hostile work environment.

Three former employees of Darla Black say she was verbally abusive, texted them late at night and made them run errands that were not related to work.

Black has declined to comment on the accusations until her hearing on Nov. 25. Black will be ousted if two-thirds of the 21-member tribal council agrees to impeach her. The hearing comes after the majority of council members recently voted to suspend Black with pay after receiving complaints from the three former employees.

The Rapid City Journal says one former employee said Black “demeaned and verbally abused me on a regular basis” when she worked as her administrative assistant.

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

## ‘Sad day’ or ‘scam’? What to watch at impeachment hearing

By LAURIE KELLMAN Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A “solemn day” or a “showtrial”?

Americans and the world can decide for themselves as House Democrats let the public in to the impeachment proceedings against President Donald Trump.

With the bang of a gavel, House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff opens the first hearings Wednesday into Trump’s pressure on Ukraine to investigate Democratic rival Joe Biden’s family. Big questions loom, including how strongly officials connected what Trump called that “favor” to U.S. military aid for Ukraine.

Impeachable offenses? Worthy of Trump’s removal? And, critically, will a parade of diplomats and their accounts nudge more Americans behind formally charging Trump in the shadow of the 2020 elections?

Here’s what to know about the first hearing, with the charge d’affaires in Ukraine, William Taylor, and a career diplomat, George Kent, at the witness table, beginning at 10 a.m.:

### WHO’S UP FIRST?

Shortly after Schiff’s gavel, he and ranking Republican Devin Nunes will begin the questioning. They get 45 minutes each or can designate staff attorneys to do so.

Members of the panel will then get five minutes each to ask questions, alternating between Republicans and Democrats.

There will also be exhibits. Democrats, at least, are expected to display excerpts from transcripts, text messages, relevant news articles and social media posts.

The goal is to end the hearing by 4:30 p.m.

### FIRST, KNOW THIS

“The President, Vice President and all civil officers of the United States, shall be removed from office on impeachment for, and conviction of, treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors.”

Expect numerous mentions of Article 2, Section 4 of the Constitution, especially on whether Trump’s own words and actions meet the vague threshold of “high crimes and misdemeanors.” Some Democrats and diplomats say conditioning U.S. aid on whether Ukraine goes after Biden’s son Hunter sounds like “bribery.” Republicans deny that, saying Trump did not explicitly offer aid for the Biden probe.

What it’s not: a trial, which would be conducted by the Senate if the House approves articles of impeach-

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ment. So no matter what the president tweets, he is not entitled to a defense attorney. The proceedings are the due process he says he's being denied, though they are controlled by Democrats in ways Republicans will say is unfair.

## ... AND THIS

It's only the fourth time in American history that Congress has launched impeachment proceedings against a sitting president. Two of those — against Andrew Johnson in 1868 and Bill Clinton 130 years later — resulted in their impeachments, or formal charges approved by the House. Both were acquitted by the Senate.

Former President Richard Nixon resigned in 1974 before the House could vote to impeach him.

## THE SPIN

With only hours to go before the gavel, Republicans and Democrats from Congress to the campaign trail were spinning their points of view.

"Well, it's a calm day, it's a prayerful day, it's a solemn day for our country," House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said Tuesday night on the eve of the hearings. "It's a sad day, which I wish we never had to face."

"A phony showtrial," Trump grouched a few hours later.

He's offering his own counterprogramming with a White House visit from Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan, which is its own story of war, trade and tension.

## THE SPARK

A whistleblower's complaint about Trump's July 25 telephone call with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy ignited the impeachment investigation. Trump responded on Sept. 24 by releasing a rough transcript.

During the hearing Wednesday, listen for discussion about a key exchange during that 30-minute call, in which Zelenskyy invokes the still-blocked military aid and the U.S. president responds: "I would like you to do us a favor though." Trump then asks Zelenskyy to investigate a debunked conspiracy theory about the 2016 election, and later explicitly mentions the Bidens.

Trump says the call was "perfect" and contained no "quid pro quo," or this for that.

Democrats say it shows Trump using his office to pressure a foreign government to help him politically.

## 'INVESTIGATIONS, BIDEN and CLINTON'

Democrats chose Taylor and Kent to start the storytelling of public hearings. They will describe a parallel foreign policy toward Ukraine led by Trump's personal attorney Rudy Giuliani and other White House officials.

"I discovered a weird combination of encouraging, confusing and ultimately alarming circumstances," Taylor testified in an Oct. 22 statement. He is a West Point graduate and Vietnam War veteran who has served under every presidential administration, Republican and Democrat, since 1985, and worked for then-Sen. Bill Bradley, D-N.J.

Kent, the bow tie-wearing career foreign service officer, testified on Oct. 15 that there were three words Trump wanted to hear from the Ukraine president: "Investigations, Biden and Clinton."

He also told the investigators about the "campaign of lies" against former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine Marie Yovanovitch that he said was waged by Giuliani and contributed to her being recalled from the position.

## THE RINGER

Republicans have added House Rep. Jim Jordan to the Intelligence Committee. Although Nunes is the senior Republican, look for the congressman from Ohio to act as an especially fierce attacker of the witnesses' credibility and the Democrats' case for impeachment.

At its heart, the GOP argument is that the impeachment effort is unfair and sparked because "unelected and anonymous bureaucrats disagreed" with Trump's decisions on Ukraine.

Some Republicans have urged the outing of the whistleblower.

## WHAT AMERICANS THINK NOW

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An AP-NORC Center poll conducted in late October found Americans more approving than disapproving of the impeachment inquiry, 47% to 38%.

Even in the throes of impeachment, approval of the president's job performance has not changed significantly.

## NEXT UP

Yovanovitch, a two-time ambassador, testifies Friday as the next in the series of hearings expected to stretch through next week.

She has twice served as an ambassador — to the Kyrgyz Republic and to Armenia — before being confirmed as the U.S. ambassador to Ukraine in a Senate voice vote in July 2016.

Next week's schedule:

— Nov. 19, morning: Jennifer Williams, an aide to Vice President Mike Pence; Lt. Col. Alexander Vindman, director for European affairs at the National Security Council.

— Nov. 19, afternoon: Ambassador Kurt Volker, the former U.S. special envoy to Ukraine; Tim Morrison, a White House aide with the National Security Council.

— Nov. 20, morning: Gordon Sondland, U.S. ambassador to the European Union.

— Nov. 20, afternoon: Laura Cooper, deputy assistant secretary of defense for Russian, Ukrainian and Eurasian affairs; David Hale, undersecretary of state for political affairs.

— Nov. 21, morning: Fiona Hill, former National Security Council senior director for Europe and Russia.

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

Associated Press researcher Randy Herschaft and Associated Press writer Hannah Fingerhut contributed to this report.

## Trump, Erdogan to meet as thorny issues stress relations

By **DEB RIECHMANN** Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and President Donald Trump will meet as relations between the two NATO allies are at their lowest point in decades, with Turkey rebuffing the U.S. and turning toward Russia on security issues and Ankara facing a Washington backlash over attacks on Kurdish civilians during its incursion into Syria last month.

Erdogan and Trump have a difficult agenda Wednesday that includes Turkey's decision to buy a Russian air defense system and its attack on U.S.-allied Kurdish forces in northern Syria. Their scheduled afternoon news conference, however, will give Trump a stage to counter the first public hearings in the House impeachment inquiry.

Trump says Turkey has been a critical U.S. ally for decades, cites the strong economic upside to the relationship and maintains that the two countries have enough in common to overcome their differences. Some in Congress say Erdogan should never have been invited to the White House in the first place.

Last month, the House overwhelmingly passed a bill to sanction senior Turkish officials and its army for the military incursion into Syria to fight the Kurds. Erdogan sees Kurdish forces in Syria as an extension of a separatist Kurdish group that's been fighting inside Turkey since the 1980s.

In the Senate, two Democrats introduced legislation denouncing Turkey's targeting of journalists, political opponents, dissidents, minorities and others. They said the Turkish government had imprisoned more than 80,000 Turkish citizens, closed more than 1,500 non-governmental organizations on terrorism-related grounds and dismissed or suspended more than 130,000 civil servants from their jobs.

"This is not the time or place to be extending hospitality and exchanging niceties with a dictator," said Sen. Jeanne Shaheen, a New Hampshire Democrat who sits on the Foreign Relations and Armed Services committees.

In October, Trump moved U.S. troops in Syria out of the way of invading Turkish troops, a decision that

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critics said amounted to abandoning America's Kurdish allies to be attacked.

"It has upended what was an oasis of stability, damaged U.S. credibility and standing on the world stage and strengthened the hands of Russia, Iran" and the Syrian government of Bashar Assad, Shaheen said.

Trump administration officials have said the president told Turkey not to invade Syria. But when Erdogan insisted, they say Trump decided to move 28 Green Berets operating on the Turkey-Syria border so they wouldn't be caught in a crossfire between Turkish-backed forces and the Kurds.

A State Department official said Trump is not rewarding Erdogan with a White House visit but is conducting diplomacy. The official said high-level consultations are needed because of the volatile situation in Syria that has displaced tens of thousands of people.

Amnesty International recently released a report documenting killings, human rights violations and possible war crimes caused by Turkey-backed forces in northern Syria.

"There has been a callous disregard for civilian lives, including attacks on residential areas," said Margaret Huang, executive director of Amnesty International USA. "Over 100,000 people have fled this offensive and there are fears that the displaced are not getting access to food, to clear water, or to medical supplies."

She said Trump must send a message to Erdogan that these actions and unlawful behavior must stop and that those responsible be held accountable.

A senior State Department official said that the U.S. is following up on reports of human rights violations and indiscriminate killings. The official was not authorized to discuss the issue publicly and spoke only on condition of anonymity.

The U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights has urged Turkey to investigate reported cases of summary executions committed by a Turkish-backed armed group in northern Syria. The U.N. cited video footage showing fighters with the Ahrar al-Sharqiya armed group filming themselves capturing and executing three Kurdish captives on a highway in northern Syria.

The State Department has looked into these killings and has asked Turkey to investigate. The Turks have told the U.S. that the Syrians have set up a commission, the official said, but it's unclear what, if any, action the panel will take.

Turkey reached truce agreements with Russia and the United States last month that halted the incursion and forced Kurdish fighters to retreat from Turkey's southern border. But Erdogan claims the Kurds have not vacated border areas and says he will give Trump a list of attacks carried out by Mazloum Abdi, the commander of the U.S.-backed Syrian Kurdish-led force.

On the U.S. side, Trump will be expressing continued concern about Erdogan's purchase of the Russian S-400 air defense system. The U.S. and fellow NATO nations say the S-400 would aid Russian intelligence and compromise a U.S.-led fighter jet program.

The U.S. has since kicked Erdogan out of a multinational program producing components of America's high-tech F-35 fighter jet. In response, Erdogan attended an annual Russian air show this summer in Moscow and expressed interest in buying the latest Russian Su-35 fighter jets.

Trump has not yet decided whether to impose congressional sanctions on Turkey for the S-400 purchase.

During his visit, Erdogan will be trying to get Turkey back in the F-35 program and also try to end an ongoing prosecution against a major Turkish bank, said Max Hoffman at Center for American Progress. Halkbank is accused of carrying out a scheme to evade sanctions against Iran by moving billions of dollars of Iranian oil revenue illegally.

Birol Baskan, a scholar at the Middle East Institute, says Turkey needs the U.S. on its side to balance Russia and Iran's interests in Syria. "The problem is, the U.S. seems not to be interested in doing that," Baskan said.

## Uncertainty in Bolivia as senator claims interim presidency

By LUIS ANDRES HENAO and CARLOS VALDEZ Associated Press

LA PAZ, Bolivia (AP) — Bolivians have new uncertainty to grapple with now that opposition Sen. Jeanine Añez declared herself interim president of the crisis-torn Andean country just hours after Evo Morales flew

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off to self-exile in Mexico.

Questions remained about who might rally around Añez, while Morales' supporters angrily accused her of trying to seize power in her declaration Tuesday, raising the prospect of more troubles following weeks of clashes over the disputed Oct. 20 presidential election.

Some people took to the streets cheering and waving national flags Tuesday night after Añez claimed the post of Senate leader, the position next in line for the presidency. Furious supporters of Morales responded by trying to force their way to the Congress building in La Paz yelling, "She must quit!"

Añez, a women's rights activist and former TV presenter, seemed in a tenuous position. She declared herself interim president even though she lacked a quorum in the Senate after Morales' party boycotted the session, and she wasn't sworn in by anyone before appearing on a balcony of the old presidential palace wearing the presidential sash.

"My commitment is to return democracy and tranquility to the country," she said. "They can never again steal our vote."

Morales resigned Sunday under pressure from Bolivia's military chief following the weeks of violent protests fed by allegations of electoral fraud in the Oct. 20 election, which he claimed to have won.

Although Añez met with Gen. Williams Kaliman, the armed forces commander, it was uncertain how much support she could count on from other power centers.

Morales resigned shortly after an Organization of American States audit reported widespread irregularities in the vote count. Bolivia's first indigenous president arrived in Mexico on Tuesday under a grant of asylum. But his resignation still needed to be approved by both houses of Congress, and lawmakers could not assemble the numbers needed for formal sessions.

Añez forged ahead anyway, arguing that Bolivia could not wait and be left in a power vacuum. After Morales quit, resignations by allies left vacancies in the only posts listed by the constitution as presidential successors — the vice president, the head of the Senate and the leader of the lower house.

Añez was a second-tier opposition figure until Morales, Latin America's longest serving leader resigned after nearly 14 years in power.

She immediately tried to set differences with the socialist leader. She greeted supporters at an old palace instead of the nearby modern 26-story presidential palace with a heliport that was built by Morales and that his foes had criticized as one of his excesses. She also carried a Bible, which had been banned by Morales from the presidential palace after he reformed the constitution and recognized the Andean earth deity Pachamama instead of the Roman Catholic Church.

Morales said on Twitter from Mexico that Añez's "self-proclamation" was an affront to constitutional government. "Bolivia is suffering an assault on the power of the people," he wrote.

Even before Añez acted, thousands of his supporters were in the streets of the capital in peaceful demonstrations clamoring for his return. Military fighter jets flew repeatedly over La Paz in a show of force that infuriated Morales loyalists who were blocked by police and soldiers from marching to the main square.

"We're not afraid!" shouted demonstrators, who believe Morales' departure was a coup d'état and an act of discrimination against Bolivia's indigenous communities.

"Evo was like a father to me. We had a voice, we had rights," said Maria Apasa, who like Morales is a member of the Aymara indigenous group.

Morales' detractors accused him of becoming increasingly authoritarian and rigging the election.

Morales was met at Mexico City's airport by Foreign Secretary Marcelo Ebrard after a flight from Bolivia on a Mexican government plane and repeated his allegations he had been forced to resign by a coup.

"The president of Mexico saved my life," Morales said, thanking President Andrés Manuel López Obrador for granting him asylum. He vowed to "continue the struggle."

Ebrard said Mexican diplomats had to scramble to arrange a flight path for the plane because some nations initially closed airspace to it. The plane stopped in Paraguay to refuel.

Morales' departure was a dramatic fall for the one-time llama shepherd from the Bolivian highlands and former coca growers' union leader who as president helped lift millions out poverty, increased social rights



and presided over stability and high economic growth in South America's poorest country.

In the end, his downfall was prompted by his insistence on holding onto power. He ran for a fourth term after refusing to accept the results of a referendum that upheld term limits for the president — restrictions thrown out by a top court that critics contend was stacked in his favor.

Gen. Kaliman, the chief of the armed forces, announced a joint police-military operation in a television address Monday seeking to calm street fighting. He said the hope was to "avoid bloodshed and mourning of the Bolivian family," and he urged Bolivians to help restore peace.

Ronald Arias said he had left his home in El Alto and walked for three hours to his job in downtown La Paz because the cable car connecting the cities was suspended for security reasons and barricades blocked access to public transportation.

Arias, a native Aymara, said that thanks to Morales, his parents in the countryside gained access for the first time to running water and gas for cooking.

"I was so saddened by his resignation," he said. "A lot of people in El Alto shed tears for the president."

Associated Press writers Paola Flores in La Paz and Christopher Torchia in Mexico City contributed to this report.

## Impeachment hearings go live on TV with the 1st witnesses

By LISA MASCARO AP Congressional Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — The closed doors of the Trump impeachment investigation are swinging wide open. When the gavel strikes at the start of the House hearing on Wednesday morning, America and the rest of the world will have the chance to see and hear for themselves for the first time about President Donald Trump's actions toward Ukraine and consider whether they are, in fact, impeachable offenses.

It's a remarkable moment, even for a White House full of them.

All on TV, committee leaders will set the stage, then comes the main feature: Two seasoned diplomats, William Taylor, the graying former infantry officer now charge d'affaires in Ukraine, and George Kent, the deputy assistant secretary in Washington, telling the striking, if sometimes complicated story of a president allegedly using foreign policy for personal and political gain ahead of the 2020 election.

So far, the narrative is splitting Americans, mostly along the same lines as Trump's unusual presidency. The Constitution sets a dramatic, but vague, bar for impeachment, and there's no consensus yet that Trump's actions at the heart of the inquiry meet the threshold of "high crimes and misdemeanors."

Whether Wednesday's proceedings begin to end a presidency or help secure Trump's position, it's certain that his chaotic term has finally arrived at a place he cannot control and a force, the constitutional system of checks and balances, that he cannot ignore.

The country has been here just three times before, and never against the backdrop of social media and real-time commentary, including from the Republican president himself.

"These hearings will address subjects of profound consequence for the Nation and the functioning of our government under the Constitution," said Democratic Rep. Adam Schiff of California, the chairman of the Intelligence Committee leading the inquiry, in a memo to lawmakers.

Schiff called it a "solemn undertaking," and counseled colleagues to "approach these proceedings with the seriousness of purpose and love of country that they demand."

"Total impeachment scam," tweeted the president, as he does virtually every day.

Impeachments are rare, historians say, because they amount to nothing short of the nullification of an election. Starting down this road poses risks for both Democrats and Republicans as proceedings push into the 2020 campaign.

Unlike the Watergate hearings and Richard Nixon, there is not yet a "cancer on the presidency" moment galvanizing public opinion. Nor is there the national shrug, as happened when Bill Clinton's impeachment ultimately didn't result in his removal from office. It's perhaps most like the partisanship-infused impeachment of Andrew Johnson after the Civil War.

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Trump calls the whole thing a “witch hunt,” a retort that echoes Nixon’s own defense. Republicans say Democrats have been trying to get rid of this president since he took office, starting with former special counsel Robert Mueller’s investigation into Russian interference to help Trump in the 2016 election.

Democratic House Speaker Nancy Pelosi was initially reluctant to launch a formal impeachment inquiry. As Democrats took control of the House in January, Pelosi said impeachment would be “too divisive” for the country. Trump, she said, was simply “not worth it.”

After Mueller’s appearance on Capitol Hill in July for the end of the Russia probe, the door to impeachment proceedings seemed closed.

But the next day Trump got on the phone.

For the past month, witness after witness has testified under oath about his July 25 phone call with Ukraine’s newly elected president, Volodymyr Zelenskiy, and the alarms it set off in U.S. diplomatic and national security circles.

In a secure room in the Capitol basement, current and former officials have been telling lawmakers what they know. They’ve said an earlier Trump call in April congratulating Zelenskiy on his election victory seemed fine. The former U.S. reality TV host and the young Ukrainian comedian hit it off.

But in the July call, things turned.

An anonymous whistleblower first alerted officials to the phone call. “I have received information from multiple U.S. Government officials that the President of the United States is using the power of his office to solicit interference from a foreign country in the 2020 election,” the person wrote in August to the House and Senate Intelligence committees. Democrats fought for the letter to be released to them as required.

“I am deeply concerned,” the whistleblower wrote.

Trump insisted the call was “perfect.” The White House released a rough transcript. Pelosi, given the nod from her most centrist freshman lawmakers, opened the inquiry.

“The president has his opportunity to prove his innocence,” she told Noticias Telemundo on Tuesday.

Defying White House orders not to appear, witnesses have testified that Trump’s acting chief of staff, Mick Mulvaney, was withholding U.S. military aid to the budding democracy until the new Ukraine government conducted investigations Trump wanted into Democrats in the 2016 election and his potential 2020 rival, Joe Biden, and his son, Hunter.

It was all part of what Taylor, the long-serving top diplomat in Ukraine, called the “irregular” foreign policy being led by Trump’s personal attorney, Rudy Giuliani, outside of traditional channels.

Taylor said it was “crazy” that the Trump administration was withholding U.S. military assistance to the East European ally over the political investigations, with Russian forces on Ukraine’s border on watch for a moment of weakness.

Kent, the bowtie-wearing State Department official, told investigators there were three things Trump wanted of Ukraine: “Investigations, Biden, Clinton.”

On Friday, the public is scheduled to hear from Marie Yovanovitch, the former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, who told investigators she was warned to “watch my back” as Trump undercut and then recalled her.

Eight more witnesses will testify in public hearings next week.

“What this affords is the opportunity for the cream of our diplomatic corps to tell the American people a clear and consistent story of what the president did,” said Rep. Mike Quigley, D-Ill., a member of the Intelligence panel.

“It takes a lot of courage to do what they are doing,” he said, “and they are probably just going to be abused for it.”

Republicans, led on the panel by Rep. Devin Nunes, a longtime Trump ally from California, will argue that none of those witnesses has first-hand knowledge of the president’s actions. They will say Ukraine never felt pressured and the aid money eventually flowed, in September.

Yet Republicans are struggling to form a unified defense of Trump. Instead they often fall back on criticism of the process.

Some Republicans align with Trump’s view, which is outside of mainstream intelligence findings, that

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Ukraine was involved in 2016 U.S. election interference. They want to hear from Hunter Biden, who served on the board of a gas company in Ukraine, Burisma, while his father was the vice president. And they are trying to bring forward the still-anonymous whistleblower, whose identity Democrats have vowed to protect.

The framers of the Constitution provided few details about how the impeachment proceedings should be run, leaving much for Congress to decide. Democrats say the White House's refusal to provide witnesses or produce documents is obstruction and itself impeachable.

Hearings are expected to continue and will shift, likely by Thanksgiving, to the Judiciary Committee to consider actual articles of impeachment.

The House, which is controlled by Democrats, is expected to vote by Christmas.

That would launch a trial in the Senate, where Republicans have the majority, in the new year.

Associated Press writer Mary Clare Jalonick in Washington 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. IMPEACHMENT HEARINGS GO LIVE ON TV

Two seasoned diplomats, William Taylor and George Kent, will be the first witnesses to publicly testify in the House impeachment inquiry into Donald Trump's dealings with Ukraine.

### 2. WHAT'S AT STAKE FOR TRUMP

The president comes face to face with the limits of his power, as public impeachment hearings will help shape how he will be viewed by voters next year and his place in history.

### 3. TRUMP, ERDOGAN TO MEET AT WHITE HOUSE

Relations between the two NATO allies are at their lowest point in decades, with Turkey turning toward Russia on security issues and Ankara facing a Washington backlash over attacks on Kurdish forces and civilians.

### 4. SENATOR CLAIMS INTERIM PRESIDENCY IN BOLIVIA

Questions and uncertainty remain about who might rally around opposition Sen. Jeanine Añez, while supporters of exiled leader Evo Morales angrily accuse her of trying to seize power.

### 5. AS HONG KONG DESCENDS INTO CHAOS, CHINA MULLS OPTIONS

Analysts say that the violent protests, now in their sixth month, may give Beijing the justification it needs to take more direct action.

### 6. KABUL'S AIR POLLUTION MAY BE EVEN DEADLIER THAN WAR

A research group says more than 26,000 deaths in Afghanistan's capital could be attributed to air pollution in 2017, compared to 3,483 civilians killed that year in the Afghan war.

### 7. ISRAEL VOWS TO KEEP HITTING MILITANTS

Israeli airstrikes kill more Islamic Jihad militants in Gaza as rocket fire toward Israel resumes, raising the death toll in the strip to 18 Palestinians in the heaviest round of fighting in months.

### 8. VENICE DELUGED BY FLOODING

Flooding in Italy's historic canal city reaches the second-highest level ever, touching nearly the level of the infamous 1966 flooding.

### 9. 'I'VE FINALLY IMPRESSED HER'

R&B crooner John Legend says model-wife Chrissy Teigen is proud of him after he was named the Sexiest Man Alive by People magazine.

### 10. COLIN KAEPERNICK TO GET NFL SHOWCASE

The exiled former Pro Bowl quarterback plans to audition for teams on Saturday in a private workout arranged by the league to be held in Atlanta.

## Trump to face limits of his power in impeachment hearings

By JONATHAN LEMIRE Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — For three years, Donald Trump has unapologetically defied the conventions of the American presidency. On Wednesday, he comes face to face with the limits of his power, confronting an impeachment process enshrined in the Constitution that will play out in public and help shape how the president will be viewed by voters next year and in the history books for generations.

Trump accepted the Republican nomination, declaring that “I alone can fix” the nation’s problems. Once elected, he set about reshaping the presidency, bending and dismantling institutions surrounding the 230-year-old office.

Now a parade of career public servants will raise their hands and swear an oath to the truth, not the presidency, representing an integral part of the system of checks and balances envisioned by the Founding Fathers.

“Trump can do away with the traditions and niceties of the office, but he can’t get away from the Constitution,” said Douglas Brinkley, presidential historian at Rice University. “During Watergate, many people feared that if a president collapsed, America is broken. But the lesson of Nixon is that the Constitution is durable and the country can handle it.”

The Democrats will try to make the case that the president tried to extort a foreign nation, Ukraine, to investigate a political rival, former Vice President Joe Biden. But even if the House ultimately votes to make Trump only the third American president to be impeached, few expect the Republican-controlled Senate to eventually remove Trump from office.

“Even if reelected, it’s a dark mark,” Brinkley said. “He does not get off scot-free. There is a penalty you pay.”

Trump enters the crucible of the public hearings largely alone — by his own design.

He has killed the White House daily press briefing, likes to make announcements himself on Twitter and prefers to get his message out during chaotic jousting sessions with reporters in the Oval Office or as he comes and goes to his presidential helicopter. He has railed against the lack of support from his staff and Republicans on Capitol Hill, insisting that they stop limiting their complaints to the impeachment process and start defending his actions, a request that has unsettled some Republicans trying to get a handle on ever-shifting explanations coming from the White House.

Although a number of the president’s advisers believe that impeachment could be a political winner for Trump on the campaign trail next year, the president has reacted angrily to the probe. He defends his summer phone call with Ukraine’s leader, which is at the heart of the inquiry, as “perfect” while deriding the impeachment effort as a conspiracy among Democrats and the “deep state.”

Some help is on the way. The White House bolstered its communications team by hiring former Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi and former Treasury spokesman Tony Sayegh. But Bondi and Sayegh may not be in place before Wednesday’s hearings, owing to paperwork associated with entering White House employment, according to a White House official who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss personnel matters.

The Republican National Committee will be lining up supporters to publicly defend the president, including a Thursday conference call for regional reporters with presidential son Eric Trump that is aimed at putting pressure on vulnerable House Democrats. Many of them represent districts that the president won in 2016.

Although Trump teased Tuesday that he will soon release the transcript of his April phone call with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, White House officials are not confirming that any such release is forthcoming. That first call to Zelenskyy is widely known to have been largely a congratulatory conversation after Zelenskyy’s election. It was the rough transcript of Trump’s second call with Zelenskyy, in July, that prompted a whistleblower’s complaint.

Releasing a transcript of the first call could be an attempt by the White House to distract from the congressional hearings, though the impeachment inquiry has moved well beyond the phone calls into broader attempts by the president and his allies to prod Ukraine to investigate Democrats by using U.S. military

aid as leverage.

Trump has his own version of counterprogramming ready to go up against the hearings. He is scheduled to hold a noon meeting Wednesday with Turkey's Recep Tayyip Erdogan and hold a joint afternoon news conference with the Turkish leader. Their meeting comes just weeks after Trump's decision to pull most U.S. forces out of Syria led to a violent Turkish invasion.

In the morning, Trump is expected to watch the impeachment proceedings from the White House residence and on a TV just off the Oval Office.

The president's supporters, meanwhile, have been working to discredit the proceedings by finding fault with the way the process has played out and the cast of witnesses who have come forward to testify.

"At its core, this is an impeachment push by career bureaucrats to undermine President Trump's 'America First' foreign policy and politically minded Democrats who want to kneecap him ahead of the 2020 election," said Jason Miller, senior adviser to Trump's 2016 campaign. "If Republicans stick together, Trump will not just survive this, he will defeat the impeachment hoax and be re-elected. It's merely the latest episode in a pattern of Democrats and unelected bureaucrats trying to undermine the presidency."

The timetable for the impeachment proceedings is not firm. But a trial in the Senate, were it to occur, could stretch until the first presidential votes are cast in February's Iowa caucus. The final stakes could rest with the voters next year.

"Trump is now up against the Constitution, but he's not the only thing on trial: So are we the people, as the preamble described us so long ago," said presidential historian Jon Meacham of Vanderbilt University. "Impeachment is a political, not a legal, process, and those with a political stake in this presidency — which is to say, his supporters at large and in the House and the Senate — need to decide which is more important: the efficacy of checks and balances or the continued reign of a president who seems to take pleasure in flouting those checks and balances."

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Associated Press writer Zeke Miller contributed to this report.

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## Venice flooding nearly touches level of infamous 1966 flood

By COLLEEN BARRY Associated Press

MILAN (AP) — The mayor of Venice is blaming climate change for flooding in the historic canal city that has reached the second-highest levels ever recorded, as another exceptional water level was recorded Wednesday.

The high-water mark hit 187 centimeters (74 inches) late Tuesday, meaning more than 85% of the city was flooded. The highest level ever recorded was 194 centimeters (76 inches) during the infamous flood of 1966.

A man in his 70s died on the barrier island of Pellestrina, apparently of electrocution, said Danny Carrella, an official on the island of 3,500 inhabitants. He said the situation there remained dramatic, with a meter (more than 3 feet) of water still present due to broken pumps.

Photos on social media showed a city ferry, taxi boats and gondolas grounded on walkways flanking canals. At least 60 boats were damaged in the floods, according to civil protection authorities, including some pedestrian ferry boats.

Floodwaters inundated the famed St. Mark's Basilica, raising anew concerns over damage to the mosaics and other artworks. The electrical system at La Fenice theater was deactivated after waters entered the service area, and firefighters brought under control a blaze in the Ca' Pesaro modern art gallery, caused by a short circuit.

Officials said a second exceptional high of 160 centimeters (63 inches) was recorded at midmorning Wednesday, but was quickly receding.

"Venice is on its knees," Mayor Luigi Brugnaro said on Twitter. "St. Mark's Basilica has sustained serious

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damage like the entire city and its islands.”

The head of the Venice hotel association said the damage was enormous, with many hotels losing electricity and lacking pumps to remove water. Tourists with ground floor rooms were had to be evacuated to higher floors as the waters rose Tuesday night, the association director Claudio Scarpa told ANSA.

Brugnaro blamed climate change for the “dramatic situation” and called for a speedy completion of a long-delayed project to construct offshore barriers.

Called “Moses,” the moveable undersea barriers are meant to limit flooding of the city, caused by southerly winds that push the tide into Venice. But the controversial project opposed by environmentalists concerned about damaging the delicate lagoon eco-system has been delayed by cost overruns and corruption scandals, with no launch date in site.

Luca Zaia, governor of the Veneto region, told SkyTG24 that the barriers were almost complete, but it wasn’t clear if they would work against such flooding.

“Despite 5 billion euros under water, St. Mark’s Square certainly wouldn’t be secure,” Zaia said, referring to one of Venice’s lowest points that floods when there is an inundation of 80 centimeters (31.5 inches).

Brugnaro said that the flood levels represent “a wound that will leave indelible signs.”

Across the Adriatic Sea, heavy storm and sweeping winds also collapsed caused floods in towns in Croatia and Slovenia.

In the Croatian town of Split, authorities on Wednesday said that the flooding submerged the basement area of the Roman-era Diocletian’s Palace where emergency crews battled to pump out the water.

Slovenia’s coastal towns of Piran, Izola and Koper reported that sea levels reached the second highest point in the last 50 years.

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Jovana Gec in Belgrade contributed to this report.

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This story has been corrected to give the highest level ever recorded as 194 centimeters, not 198.

## Chinese students flee Hong Kong as violence intensifies

By **KEN MORITSUGU** and **PATRICK QUINN** Associated Press

HONG KONG (AP) — University students from mainland China are fleeing Hong Kong, and classes in primary and secondary schools have been suspended as clashes turn increasingly violent in the city’s 5-month-long anti-government unrest.

Marine police used a boat Wednesday to help a group of mainland students leave the Chinese University of Hong Kong, which remained barricaded by demonstrators after violent clashes with police on Tuesday.

The Technical University of Denmark urged 36 students in Hong Kong to return home, saying “some of our students have been forced to move from their dormitories because they were put on fire.”

The protests have taken on a strong anti-China bent, with radical demonstrators trashing branches of mainland banks, China’s official Xinhua News Agency and restaurant chains whose owners support the Beijing government.

Hong Kong is part of China but has its own legal system and greater freedoms than the mainland. The protesters say those freedoms are under threat from a city government that is beholden to Beijing. China says the protesters are rioters who want to break away from Chinese rule.

For the third day in a row, protesters caused major train service disruptions, blocked streets and rallied in the central business district. They hunkered down for expected clashes with police at university campuses.

Mainland students have said in online posts that they are being targeted by protesters who have broken into their dormitories, spray-painted insults on walls and banged on their doors, the Beijing Evening News reported.

Many are taking advantage of a program that offers a week of free accommodation in one of a dozen hotels and hostels in the neighboring mainland city of Shenzhen, Chinese media reported.

The “Grads Home” service was established in 2013 to provide short-term accommodations for recent

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graduates looking for jobs in the tech hub.

Many subway and rail stations were closed after protesters threw debris on tracks and vandalized train cars. University classes remained suspended.

Hong Kong Baptist University told students that instruction and exams would be conducted online for the two remaining weeks of the semester, with arrangements for students who have returned to the mainland to join in.

The Education Bureau said initially that parents could decide whether to keep their children at home, then later announced that classes at primary and secondary schools would be suspended Thursday for safety reasons.

Describing the situation as outrageous, the bureau said students should stay at home "and must not participate in any unlawful activities."

Many of the masked protesters are thought to be high school and university students.

Police subdued a few protesters as a crowd gathered for a third straight day in a central business and high-end retail district, public broadcaster RTHK reported. Protesters and police remained in the area, and office workers watched from the sidewalks.

At the Chinese University of Hong Kong, students and others readied for another possible clash with police. Gasoline bombs and fires lit up parts of the campus Tuesday night, as police battled back with tear gas and rubber bullets.

Police said that over the course of Tuesday, police fired 1,567 tear gas canisters, 1,312 rubber bullets and 380 beanbag rounds. A total of 142 people were arrested and 10 people were taken to hospitals with injuries.

Security Secretary John Lee said the use of force at Chinese University was needed because protesters were dropping objects onto a roadway below.

"The police have a duty to ensure that this public safety is maintained," he told reporters. "That is why they had to ensure that they would take charge of this bridge, which previously was occupied by the mobsters."

Groups of riot police were deployed around central Hong Kong and its outlying territories to try to contain new violence. Many students at Chinese University on the outskirts of the sprawling metropolis were armed with gasoline bombs while some carried bows and arrows.

"We are afraid the police will come to attack our home and our school, and we have to protect our home and our school," said one student, who gave his name as X Chan.

The university's student union president, Jacky So, appealed for an injunction from the High Court to ban police from entering the campus without a warrant or the school's approval. Police raided the campus and fired tear gas and used a water cannon late Tuesday.

The injunction would also block police from using crowd control weapons, such as tear gas and rubber bullets, at the university. A decision was expected late Wednesday.

The city's religious leaders appealed Wednesday for an end to the violence and called on both police and protesters to show restraint.

"At this very critical point, the people of Hong Kong must unite and say no to violence," the leaders of Hong Kong's six major religious groups said in a statement.

The Chinese government's liaison office in Hong Kong said the semi-autonomous territory is "slipping into the abyss of terrorism." It called the setting of a man on fire an act of "flagrant terrorism."

On Monday, a police officer drew his gun during a struggle with protesters, shooting one in the abdomen. In another neighborhood, a 57-year-old man who was defending China was set on fire after an apparent argument.

The man remained in critical condition Wednesday, and the protester was in serious condition, the Hospital Authority said.

Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said members of the U.S. Senate should stop trying to promote bills on human rights or democracy in Hong Kong.

"I want to reiterate that Hong Kong is China's Hong Kong. Hong Kong affairs are purely China's internal

affairs and cannot be interfered by any external forces," he said at a daily briefing.

Recent weeks have been marked by escalating vandalism of train stations and shops, and assaults by both protesters and pro-Beijing supporters.

Police have arrested more than 3,500 people since the movement began in June over a now-withdrawn extradition bill.

Activists saw the bill as another sign of an erosion in Hong Kong's autonomy and civic freedoms, which China promised would be maintained for 50 years under a "one nation, two systems" principle when the former British colony returned to Chinese control in 1997.

Associated Press journalists Yanan Wang in Beijing, Alice Fung in Hong Kong, and Jan M. Olsen in Copenhagen contributed to this report.

## Israel vows to keep hitting militants as 18 killed in Gaza

By **FARES AKRAM and ARON HELLER** Associated Press

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — Israeli airstrikes killed more Islamic Jihad militants in Gaza on Wednesday as rocket fire toward Israel resumed after a brief overnight lull, raising the death toll in the strip to 18 Palestinians in the heaviest round of fighting in months.

The military said more than 250 rockets have been fired at Israeli communities since the violence erupted following an Israeli airstrike that killed a senior Islamic Jihad commander accused of being the mastermind of recent attacks. Israel stepped up its battle against Iran and its proxies across the region.

The latest fighting brought life in much of Israel to a standstill. Schools remained closed in Israeli communities near the Gaza border and restrictions on public gatherings continued as rockets rained down.

Those attacks came after the early morning strike on Tuesday killed Bahaa Abu el-Atta and his wife as they were sleeping. Rocket fire from Gaza reached as far north as Tel Aviv, and two people were wounded by shrapnel.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told a special Cabinet meeting that Israel has no interest in sparking a wider confrontation but warned the Iranian-backed Islamic Jihad that Israel will keep pounding them until the rockets stop.

"They know we will continue to strike them without mercy," Netanyahu said. "They have one choice: either stop these attacks or absorb more and more blows."

Gaza's Hamas rulers have yet to enter the fray — a possible sign the current round of violence could be brief. Although larger and more powerful than Islamic Jihad, Hamas is also more pragmatic. With Gaza's economy in tatters, it appears to have little desire for more fighting with Israel.

U.N. Mideast envoy Nickolay Mladenov arrived in Cairo from Tel Aviv on Wednesday in efforts to deescalate the latest Israel-Gaza violence. He was to meet President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, Egyptian officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity under regulations.

Egypt, which frequently mediates between Israel and Gaza militants, has been working to de-escalate tensions. The Islamic Jihad rejected the efforts, with spokesman Musab al-Berim saying the group's priority is to "respond to the crime and confront the Israeli aggression."

Seeking to keep the outburst under control, the Israeli military has restricted its operations to Islamic Jihad, and nearly all the Gaza casualties so far have been members of the militant group.

Israel's new defense minister said Israel wouldn't hesitate to carry out additional targeted killings against those who threaten it.

"Whoever plans to harm us during the day, will never be safe to make it through the night," he said after taking office Tuesday.

Netanyahu appointed him to fortify his hard-line political base as he clings to office after two inconclusive elections. Bennett has long advocated tougher action against Palestinian militants but wasn't part of the plans to strike Abu el-Atta.

No Israeli deaths have been caused by the rockets attacks, mostly thanks to Israel's Iron Dome defense



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system, which the military said intercepted some 90% of the projectiles. A few homes suffered direct strikes, though, and there was a near miss on a major highway, where a rocket crashed down just after a vehicle had passed.

In Gaza, the Islamic Jihad said 38-year-old Khaled Faraj, a brigade commander, was killed early Wednesday along with another militant from the group's Quds radio network. Four others were killed in an airstrike, including a father and two sons, and two others were targeted later. Their identities were unclear.

Along with Tuesday's pre-dawn strike in Gaza, another strike attributed to Israel targeted a senior Islamic Jihad commander based in Syria. The strikes appeared to be a new surge in the open warfare between Israel and Iranian proxies in the region.

Iran has forces based in Syria, Israel's northern neighbor, and supports Hezbollah militants in Lebanon. In Gaza, it supplies Islamic Jihad with cash, weapons and expertise.

Netanyahu has also claimed Iran is using Iraq and far-off Yemen, where Tehran supports Shiite Houthi rebels at war with a Saudi-led coalition backing the government, to plan attacks against Israel. Hamas also receives some support from Iran.

Israel frequently strikes Iranian interests in Syria but Tuesday's attack in Damascus appeared to be a rare assassination attempt there of a Palestinian militant.

Despite the disruption to daily life, there appeared to be widespread support in Israel for the targeting of Abu el-Atta — a "ticking bomb" who was actively orchestrating new attacks, according to officials. Netanyahu said the military operation was approved by the Cabinet 10 days in advance.

"We showed that we can strike terrorists with minimum damage to innocents," Netanyahu said. "Anyone who harms us, we will harm them."

Still, some opposition figures suggested the timing could not be divorced from the political reality in Israel, where Netanyahu leads a caretaker government while his chief challenger, former military chief Benny Gantz, is currently trying to build a coalition government of his own.

Despite their rivalry, both men support a unity government, but each demands that he lead such a government.

Gantz said he'd been briefed on the airstrike in advance, calling it "the right decision." Netanyahu updated his rival on developments later, according to his office. But a successful military operation could bolster Netanyahu as he seeks to hold onto power — especially if he is indicted on corruption charges.

Israel's attorney general is to decide in the coming weeks whether to indict Netanyahu. An indictment would increase pressure on him to step aside. Netanyahu has sought to portray himself as one best capable of steering the country through its many security challenges.

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Heller reported from Jerusalem. Associated Press writer Samy Magdy in Cairo contributed to this report.

## Neglected heartland seen as key to Brexit-dominated election

By JILL LAWLESS Associated Press

HARTLEPOOL, England (AP) — In Hartlepool, a tough, proud English port town whipped by bitter North Sea winds, people have long felt ignored by politicians in far-off London. But not anymore.

Political parties in Britain's Brexit-dominated December election are battling fiercely to win Hartlepool and places like it: working-class former industrial towns with voters who could hold the key to the prime minister's office at 10 Downing Street.

Hartlepool has elected lawmakers from the left-of-center Labour Party for more than half a century. But in 2016, almost 70% of voters here backed leaving the European Union. More than three years later, the U.K. is still an EU member, and loyalty to Labour has been eroded by frustration at the political gridlock.

"I've always been a Labour voter," said Diane Jordan, a hypnotherapist enjoying an evening of music and bingo at the Hartlepool Working Men's Club. "My parents were always Labour. My grandparents were always Labour.

"I've never been on the Conservative side, but to me that's looking the best option at the moment, be-

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cause they're the ones that are wanting to put Brexit through."

That's good news for Conservative Prime Minister Boris Johnson, who pushed for the Dec. 12 election, more than two years early, in hope of breaking Britain's parliamentary deadlock over Brexit. He withdrew his EU divorce deal from Parliament last month after lawmakers demanded more time to scrutinize it. If he gets a majority of the 650 House of Commons seats, he will be able to ratify the package and take Britain out of the bloc as scheduled on Jan. 31.

Johnson's Conservatives are ahead in most opinion polls, but analysts say this election is particularly hard to predict because Brexit cuts across traditional party divides. The 2016 referendum on Britain's EU membership split the country into two camps: leavers and remainers.

Leavers, who are concentrated in small towns and post-industrial cities across England, are eager to cut Brussels red tape, reassert British sovereignty and take control of immigration. Remainers, who most often live in big cities and university towns, would rather stay in an alliance that has eased the flow of goods, services and people across 28 nations with half a billion inhabitants.

Hartlepool, a former shipbuilding center 250 miles (400 kms) north of London where unemployment is more than double the national average, is a town full of leavers.

Tom O'Grady, a lecturer in political science at University College London, said Conservatives need to win seats like Hartlepool to compensate for the likely loss of pro-EU areas in southern England and Scotland.

"They're going to have to gain seats in the north of England and the Midlands from Labour if they're going to win a big majority," he said.

But the Conservatives' challenge is complicated by the insurgent Brexit Party, led by veteran euroskeptic Nigel Farage. He rejects Johnson's deal with the EU because it would keep the U.K. bound to the bloc's rules until the end of 2020, and possibly longer.

He'd rather leave the EU without an agreement, which would free Britain to strike new trade deals around the world. It would also, according to most economists, leave the country poorer, by imposing barriers to business with the EU, Britain's biggest trading partner.

Farage accuses both Conservatives and Labour of watering down and delaying Brexit. Hartlepool, where the Brexit Party controls the town council, is the party's top target in the election.

Richard Tice, the Brexit Party's chairman and its Hartlepool candidate, argues that backing the Conservatives here is "a wasted vote."

"The Conservatives can never win in Hartlepool. They never have done in over 60 years. They never will do," he said.

He urged people to vote for the Brexit Party in areas held by Labour and other parties that want to stop Brexit. "Then we can make sure a proper Brexit is delivered."

Not all Brexiteers welcome the party's message. This week Farage — under pressure from some of his own supporters — pulled his candidates out of 317 Conservative-dominated electoral constituencies to avoid splitting the pro-Brexit vote.

He faces continued pressure to withdraw from Labour seats as well, to give the Conservatives a better chance. So far, Farage refuses to budge, arguing that the Tories should stand aside to let the Brexit Party take on Labour in places like Hartlepool.

Labour's complex stance on Brexit has angered some supporters. The party wants to renegotiate the divorce deal, then hold a new referendum on whether to leave the EU or remain. But Labour hopes that social issues such as crime, health care and welfare — all affected by a decade of Conservative public-spending cuts — matter more to voters than Brexit.

"People on the doorstep are talking about anything but Brexit," said Mike Hill, who is running for re-election as the town's Labour lawmaker. He predicted locals wouldn't warm to Tice, a wealthy property developer from the south of England.

"The Brexit Party seem to think they can come here with some southern billionaire candidate and just waltz into the place," Hill said. "Well, the people of Hartlepool are not fools. They can see right through that."

No one, though, is taking Hartlepool's voters for granted. People here are weary — and wary of politi-

cians' promises.

This area has had a rough few decades, and many here voted for Brexit in hope of reversing the decline. Once-bustling shipyards are closed, though rusting hulks are reduced to scrap at a site just outside town. Most of the steelworks that once employed thousands shut down in the 1970s and 1980s.

In the harbor, trawlers still land with holds full of fish, lobster and crab, but the number of boats has fallen. Fishermen, who rail against the EU's quotas and red tape, are among the staunchest supporters of leaving the bloc.

They have put their faith in Brexit. But they have little trust in Britain's politicians, no matter what the party.

"I hope Boris Johnson fetches us out of this friggin' EU," said Robert Corner, a retired fisherman chatting to friends in a quayside shack. "I hope he does what he says.

"Mind you, he might be a bit of a liar. But if he's as good as his word, he will get us out of it."

Vicky Ferrar in London contributed to this story.

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

## **Afghan capital's air pollution may be even deadlier than war**

**By RAHIM FAIEZ Associated Press**

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Yousuf fled with his family from his home in eastern Afghanistan eight years ago to escape the war, but he couldn't escape tragedy. In the capital, Kabul, five of his children died, not from violence or bombings, but from air pollution, worsened by bitter cold and poverty.

At the camp for displaced people they live in, they and other families keep warm and cook by burning the garbage that surrounds them. One by one over the years, each of the children got chest infections and other maladies from the pollution and never made it to age seven, he told The Associated Press. The 60-year-old has nine surviving children.

"We didn't have enough money for the doctor and medicine ... I can barely feed my children," said Yousuf, who works as a porter in a vegetable market earning barely a dollar a day. Like many Afghans he uses only one name.

Afghanistan's pollution may be even deadlier than its war, now 18 years long.

There are no official statistics on how many Afghans die of pollution-related illnesses, but the research group State of Global Air said more than 26,000 deaths could be attributed to it in 2017. In contrast, 3,483 civilians were killed that year in the Afghan war, according to the United Nations.

Kabul, a city of some 6 million, has become one of the most polluted cities in the world — ranking in the top of the list among other polluted capitals such as India's New Delhi or China's Beijing. Decades of war have wrecked the city's infrastructure and caused waves of displaced people.

On most days, a pall of smog and smoke lies over the city. Old vehicles pump toxins into the air, as do electrical generators using poor quality fuel. Coal, garbage, plastic and rubber are burned by poor people at home, as well as at the many brick kilns, public baths and bakeries. Many apartment buildings have no proper sanitation system, and garbage is piled on roadsides and sidewalks.

The large majority of victims are poisoned by the air in their own homes, as families burn whatever they can to keep warm in Kabul's winters, with frequent sub-zero temperatures and snow. Children and elderly are particularly vulnerable. At least 19,400 of the 2017 deaths were attributable to household pollution, which also contributed to a loss of two years and two months of life expectancy at birth, according to the State of Global Air survey.

Yousuf's camp, home to more than a hundred families, has no proper water or sanitation system and is surrounded by garbage dumps. His and other families' children search through the garbage for paper, cloth, sticks or plastic, anything that can be burned for fuel.

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"We are so poor, and we have lots of problems, we don't have enough money for medicine, wood or coal for heating, so this is our life, my children collect garbage from dump yards and we use it for cooking and heating to keep the kids warm," he added.

Decades of war have worsened the damage to Afghanistan's environment and have made it a huge challenge to address them. Environmental issues are far down the list of priorities for a government struggling with basic security issues, rampant corruption and a plunging economy.

Three or four decades ago, "it was a wish for people to come to Kabul and breath this air," said Ezatullah Sediqi, deputy director for the National Environmental Protection Agency. But in the wars since, "we lost all our urban infrastructure for water, electricity, public transportation, green areas, all these things," he said.

Kabul's environmental department has launched a new program to control old vehicles, one significant source of pollution.

"Fighting pollution is an important as fighting terrorism," said Mohammad Kazim Humayoun, the department's director.

Authorities warn that this winter is expected to be colder than usual and fear that will only increase the use of pollution-creating fuels to keep warm. The Kabul municipality has also called on residents to stop burning garbage for heat and instead use fuel.

"If everyone follows the instructions laid out by Kabul Municipality, the pollution could be controlled," the municipality's spokeswoman, Nargis Mohmand, said. But if not, "then we might live with this untreatable wound for years to come."

But fuel is either too expensive or not available for many in Kabul. Electrical heaters are too pricey for most, and power outages are frequent.

Doctors at Kabul's Indira Gandhi Children's Hospital say they've seen the numbers of patients with pollution-related illnesses increase, though they could not give exact figures. In the winter, hundreds of children a day sometimes come in, suffering from respiratory illnesses, according to hospital officials.

Dr. Saifullah Abassin, a specialist trainer at the hospital, said his ward has a capacity of 10 patients but often has three times that number.

The government has launched an environmental awareness campaign. Ads on TV, programs at schools and universities and sermons at mosques talk about pollution's harm to society and tell listeners about steps to reduce it.

But there are steps the state needs to take, like encouraging the planting of trees and creating green spaces, as well as implementing a city master plan to stop unplanned development around the capital, often a source of pollution because of their lack of services.

Sediqi, of the NEPA, said that ever since the first post-Taliban government was created in 2001, there was no planning on urban infrastructure, which left individuals to build on their own.

"Unfortunately, that led to unplanned development," he said. "So now we have numerous urban problems and challenges and organizational challenges, which is causing the environmental pollution."

## As Hong Kong descends into chaos, China mulls its options

By YANAN WANG Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — A sharp escalation of violence in Hong Kong is once again raising the question of how China's central government will respond: Will it intervene, or allow the chaos to persist?

The Liaison Office, which represents mainland authorities in Hong Kong, said Wednesday that actions in the semi-autonomous territory were "slipping into the abyss of terrorism." It pointed out that a man was set on fire Monday during an argument with demonstrators, leaving him in critical condition.

On the same day, a police officer shot a protester who was then taken to a hospital, also in critical condition.

The unabating tumult, now in its sixth month, may give China's ruling Communist Party the justification it needs to take more direct action, analysts said.

"Beijing is hoping that the Hong Kong community will start blaming the protesters and support the res-

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toration of order," said Jean-Pierre Cabestan, a political science professor at Hong Kong Baptist University.

The central government must wait for the right moment to step in, Cabestan said, adding that if China acts before public opinion is fully on its side, it could exacerbate existing discontent.

While the movement began peacefully in June to oppose a now-withdrawn extradition bill, it has been increasingly defined by smaller groups of hard-core demonstrators bent on sowing chaos. Their actions, which have included setting cars on fire and smashing storefronts, have alienated many residents.

The Liaison Office described the act of setting the man on fire as "flagrant terrorism," and pledged support for Hong Kong authorities taking measures to curb "various illegal acts of violence and acts of terrorism."

Whereas Chinese authorities previously called the demonstrators "rioters" with behavior "close to terrorism," they are now calling them "murderers" and tying them more explicitly to terrorism. This label may presage more severe enforcement measures and impact how demonstrators are ultimately prosecuted.

A former British colony, Hong Kong was returned to China in 1997 under the framework of "one country, two systems," a policy that promises Hong Kong certain democratic rights not granted to the mainland. But the arrests of pro-democracy activists and booksellers in recent years have raised fears among Hong Kong residents that Beijing is encroaching on the city's freedoms.

During a key meeting of the party's Central Committee at the end of October, Chinese leaders proposed establishing and strengthening the "legal system and enforcement mechanism for safeguarding national security" in special administrative regions like Hong Kong and Macao.

A meeting summary from China's official Xinhua news agency did not elaborate on what this would entail, but Chinese officials have variously pointed to Article 14, Article 18 and Article 23 of the Basic Law, Hong Kong's de facto constitution.

Article 14 allows the Hong Kong-based garrison of the Chinese military to help with public order maintenance at the request of the local government. Article 18 states that national laws may be applied in Hong Kong if China's ceremonial parliament decides that the region is in a "state of emergency" that endangers national unity or security.

"When necessary, the People's Armed Police Force and the People's Liberation Army Hong Kong Garrison will back you up," the nationalistic Global Times said in an editorial Monday, addressing the Hong Kong police.

Zhang Xiaoming, head of the Cabinet's Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office, said over the weekend that Hong Kong has yet to fulfill Article 23, which stipulates that the city will "enact laws on its own to prohibit any act of treason, secession, sedition, subversion" against the central government. These laws should also ban the theft of state secrets and prevent foreign political organizations from conducting political activities in Hong Kong. Beijing has repeatedly accused foreign forces of fomenting the unrest.

Proposing new national security legislation is likely to further inflame the protests, though China may not be opposed to that, said Joseph Cheng, a pro-democracy advocate and retired City University of Hong Kong political scientist.

China has made it clear that it intends to maintain a hard line politically, refusing to make any concessions to protesters while pushing ahead with unpopular security legislation, Cheng said.

A further concern is that Beijing might order the postponement of Hong Kong's local assembly elections scheduled for Nov. 24, freezing in place the current pro-China makeup of the body and avoiding possible embarrassment for the administration of Hong Kong's leader, Chief Executive Carrie Lam.

Although Lam has been criticized for a lack of leadership and her inflexibility, she has faithfully carried out Beijing's will. During meetings last week in Shanghai and Beijing, Chinese President Xi Jinping expressed support for her work.

At least for now, the central government appears to be leaving enforcement to local authorities, said Ben Bland, a research fellow at Australia's Lowy Institute and author of "Generation HK: Seeking Identity in China's Shadow."

This approach allows the party to keep the issue tied to Hong Kong, as opposed to one that requires intervention at a higher level, Bland said, adding that while Beijing has several options for cracking down on the protests, each carries its own risks and could aggravate tensions.

As protesters' tactics have become increasingly extreme, crippling regular operations in the city and

plunging various districts into mayhem, Hong Kong's government has shifted its focus toward the violence and away from the democratic reforms the movement intended to advocate.

"We all feel very depressed because we don't see the light at the end of the tunnel," Cheng said.

## AP Explains: The extraordinary rise and fall of Evo Morales

By CHRISTINE ARMARIO Associated Press

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — The surprise resignation of Evo Morales as Bolivia's president can perhaps be matched only by his equally extraordinary rise to power. The country's first indigenous chief of state upended politics in a nation long ruled by light-skinned descendants of Europeans and he vowed to reverse centuries of inequality. He succeeded on many fronts but was ultimately compelled to step down after both the military and even one-time supporters turned against him.

### WHY WAS HIS PRESIDENCY SO NOTABLE?

When Morales, the son of a llama herder, won Bolivia's highest office in a landslide 2006 election, it was hailed as a milestone achievement for the nation's sizeable indigenous population that had not gained the right to vote until 1952.

At the time, Bolivia's 36 indigenous groups represented 60% of its 8.5 million citizens. A native Aymara, Morales was the first leader for many Bolivians who looked and thought like they did.

Like many Bolivians, Morales grew up in extreme poverty. Four of his six siblings died in childhood. On the campaign trail, he ditched the traditional politico's suit and tie, preferring casual short-sleeved shirts and even a leather jacket, while affectionately calling women "sister" and men "boss."

He earned a spot in the political limelight as the leader of a coca growers union who played an important role in protests that unseated two governments and vowed to reverse centuries of inequities against the disenfranchised.

"The time has come to change this terrible history of looting our natural resources, of discrimination, of hate, of despise," he said after his triumph.

### HOW DID HE CHANGE THE SOUTH AMERICAN NATION?

Under Morales' tenure, more than a half-million Bolivians climbed out of poverty, while schoolchildren, the elderly and mothers benefited from new subsidies. The economy grew strongly thanks to high prices for its commodities.

According to the World Bank, moderate poverty stood at 59% of Bolivia's people two years before Morales became president and had fallen to 39% by 2014.

He ushered through a new constitution that created a new Congress with seats reserved for Bolivia's smaller indigenous groups and recognized the Andean earth deity Pachamama instead of the Roman Catholic Church. The charter also "refounded" Bolivia as a "plurinational" state, allowing self-rule for the nation's indigenous peoples.

However, despite fears of some that Morales would oversee a stark turn to the left economically, he kept the nation dependent on extractive industries while negotiating more favorable terms that allowed greater distribution of gas and mineral wealth.

### WHAT WAS HIS DOWNFALL?

There is no one easy moment to identify, but rather a series of missteps that led to his exit.

The same indigenous organizers who propelled Morales to power grew increasingly disenchanted with a president they felt betrayed promises to protect the environment and move away from reliance on big industries like mining. Thousands took to the streets in 2011 when he proceeded with plans for a highway across a protected Amazon reserve.

And despite improving economic indicators, a substantial part of the new middle class found job opportunities hadn't expanded sufficiently and also grew fed up with corruption many felt the president did

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not combat.

When Morales held a 2016 referendum on removing term limits, voters turned him down. He then upset many people by getting Bolivia's top court to throw out the limits, allowing him to seek a fourth term in this year's election.

He claimed victory in the Oct. 20 ballot, but unexplained lapses in reporting results drew allegations of vote fraud and set off weeks of protests by his opponents. His support weakened, and finally a push by the chief of the Bolivian military led him to resign.

"If he had tried not to force the issue of running again, he probably would have been remembered fairly positively," said Alissandra Stoyan, a professor of political science at Kansas State University.

## WHAT MIGHT BE THE RIPPLE EFFECT OF HIS DEPARTURE?

His resignation comes at a time of social upheaval around Latin America coinciding with what those on the left hoped might be a comeback.

Frustrated citizens have staged mass protests against right-wing leaders in Honduras and Chile and voters in Argentina thrust the Peronist party back into power in a rejection of an incumbent backing free market reforms.

But Morales' party, the Movement for Socialism, now will likely face an uphill battle against an empowered opposition in a new presidential election.

"It seems Latin America is getting more complex over the last few years and we can't talk about 'tides' like we used to," said Jorge Derpic, a University of Georgia sociology professor focused on Latin American social movements.

## IS BOLIVIA'S DEMOCRACY AT RISK?

Some people are concerned Bolivia could be turning back a page to a turbulent time in its long history of political volatility, after nearly 14 years of relative stability under Morales.

By one count, Bolivia has had more than 190 coup attempts and revolutions since its 1825 independence in a repetitive cycle of conflict between political elites in urban areas and disenfranchised by mobilized rural sectors.

There is uncertainty over who will step in to fill the power vacuum before elections can be held. An opposition leader in the Senate proclaimed herself interim president Tuesday, though it isn't clear how much support she has.

Nancy Postero, an anthropology professor at the University of California, San Diego, is optimistic Bolivia's young and educated middle class will find a way out, recalling how over a decade ago Morales himself charted a path toward stability after the wave of upheaval the preceded him.

"The Bolivian people wrote a new constitution, remade society and came up with a completely different way of thinking about the state," she said. "I have no doubt that is going to happen again."

## Split Supreme Court appears ready to allow Trump to end DACA

By MARK SHERMAN Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sharply at odds with liberal justices, the Supreme Court's conservative majority seemed ready Tuesday to allow the Trump administration to abolish protections that permit 660,000 immigrants to work in the U.S., free from the threat of deportation.

That outcome would "destroy lives," declared Justice Sonia Sotomayor, one the court's liberals who repeatedly suggested the administration has not adequately justified its decision to end the seven-year-old Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program. Nor has it taken sufficient account of the personal, economic and social disruption that might result, they said.

But there did not appear to be any support among the five conservatives for blocking the administration. The nine-member court's decision is expected by June, at the height of the 2020 presidential campaign.

President Donald Trump said on Twitter that DACA recipients shouldn't despair if the justices side with

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him, pledging that "a deal will be made with the Dems for them to stay!" But Trump's past promises to work with Democrats on a legislative solution for these immigrants have led nowhere.

The president also said in his tweet that many program participants, brought to the U.S. as children and now here illegally, are "far from 'angels,'" and he claimed that "some are very tough, hardened criminals." The program bars anyone with a felony conviction from participating, and serious misdemeanors may also bar eligibility.

Some DACA recipients, commonly known as "Dreamers," were in the courtroom for the arguments, and many people camped out in front of the court for days for a chance at some of the few seats available. The term comes from never-passed proposals in Congress called the DREAM Act.

The high court arguments did not involve any discussion of individual DACA recipients or Trump's claims. Instead the focus was on whether either of two administration rationales for ending DACA, begun under President Barack Obama, was enough.

Trump's anti-immigrant rhetoric was a key part of his presidential campaign in 2016, and his administration has pointed to a court ruling striking down the expansion of DACA and creation of similar protections, known as DAPA, for undocumented immigrants whose children are U.S. citizens as reasons to bring the program to a halt.

After lower courts stepped in to keep the program alive, the administration produced a new explanation memo from Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen.

Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Brett Kavanaugh were among the justices who indicated on Tuesday that the administration has provided sufficient reason for doing away with the program. Kavanaugh referred to Nielsen's memo at one point as "a very considered decision." Roberts suggested that worries that DACA is not legal might be enough to support ending it.

Roberts, who could hold the pivotal vote on the court, aimed his few questions at lawyers representing DACA recipients and their supporters. He did not seriously question the administration's argument.

However, justices' questions don't always foretell their votes. In June the chief justice surprised many when he cast the deciding vote to prevent the administration from adding a citizenship question to the 2020 census, despite not voicing much skepticism during arguments in the case.

Justices Neil Gorsuch and Samuel Alito raised questions on Tuesday about whether courts should even be reviewing the executive branch's discretionary decisions.

Sotomayor made the only direct reference to Trump, saying he told DACA recipients "that they were safe under him and that he would find a way to keep them here. And so he hasn't."

She also complained that the administration's rationale has shifted over time and has mainly relied on the view that DACA is illegal, leaving no choice but to end it.

In her most barbed comment, Sotomayor said the administration has failed to plainly say "that this is not about the law. This is about our choice to destroy lives."

Solicitor General Noel Francisco, representing the administration, did not directly respond to Sotomayor. But near the end of the 80-minute arguments, he asserted that the administration has taken responsibility for its decision and is relying on more than merely its belief that DACA is illegal. The administration has the authority to end DACA, even if it's legal, because it's bad policy, he said. "We own this," Francisco said.

If the court agrees with the administration in the DACA case, Congress could follow up by voting to put the program on surer legal footing. But the absence of comprehensive immigration reform by Congress is what prompted Obama to create DACA in the first place, in 2012, giving people two-year renewable reprieves from the threat of deportation while also allowing them to work.

Young immigrants, civil rights groups, universities and Democratic-led cities and states sued to block the administration. They persuaded courts in New York, San Francisco and Washington, D.C., that the administration had been "arbitrary and capricious" in its actions, in violation of a federal law that requires policy changes to be done in an orderly way.

If the justices sustain the challenges, the administration could try again to end the program. A lawsuit in Texas claiming that DACA is illegal also would be likely to go forward.



This story has been changed to delete because of uncertainty the reference to Trump falsely claiming of DACA participants that "some are very tough, hardened criminals."

## Court rules against warrantless searches of phones, laptops

By STEVE LeBLANC undefined

BOSTON (AP) — A federal court in Boston has ruled that warrantless U.S. government searches of the phones and laptops of international travelers at airports and other U.S. ports of entry violate the Fourth Amendment.

Tuesday's ruling in U.S. District Court came in a lawsuit filed by the American Civil Liberties Union and the Electronic Frontier Foundation on behalf of 11 travelers whose smartphones and laptops were searched without individualized suspicion at U.S. ports of entry.

ACLU attorney Esha Bhandari said the ruling strengthens the Fourth Amendment protections of international travelers who enter the United States every year.

The ACLU describes the searches as "fishing expeditions." They say border officers must now demonstrate individualized suspicion of contraband before they can search a traveler's electronic device.

The government has vigorously defended the searches as a critical tool to protect America.

The number of electronic device searches at U.S. ports of entry has increased significantly, the ACLU said. Last year, the government conducted more than 33,000 searches, almost four times the number from just three years prior.

Documents filed as part of the lawsuit claim the scope of the warrantless searches has expanded to assist in enforcement of tax, bankruptcy, environmental and consumer protection laws, gathering intelligence and advancing criminal investigations.

The court documents also said agents with U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement consider requests from other government agencies in determining whether to search travelers' electronic devices. They added that agents are searching the electronic devices of not only targeted individuals but their associates, friends and relatives.

Requests for comment from Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Department of Homeland Security were not immediately returned Tuesday.

Customs and Border Protection said in a statement that while it does not comment on matters in litigation, in Fiscal Year 2019, the department processed more than 414 million travelers at U.S. ports of entry. During that same period of time, it conducted 40,913 border searches of electronic devices, representing less than .01 percent of arriving international travelers.

Jessie Rossman, a staff attorney at ACLU's Massachusetts chapter, said the ruling is a victory for constitutional protections against unreasonable searches and seizures.

"The court said today that suspicionless searches at the border of cell phones and laptops violate the Fourth Amendment," Rossman said.

Rossman said two of the plaintiffs — Ghassan and Nadia Alasaad — were stopped as they tried to re-enter the U.S. after a visit to Canada. Both are U.S. citizens and live in Massachusetts.

Rossman said Nadia Alasaad felt uncomfortable handing over passwords because she wears a head covering as part of her religious beliefs.

She asked that a female officer review her phone because it contained photos of her and her daughters without their headscarves. Alasaad said she was told that would take a few more hours.

The couple, who had already been delayed several hours, ultimately decided to leave their phones — which they did not have returned to them for 15 days, according to Rossman.

Ten of the plaintiffs in the case were U.S. citizens. One was a permanent legal resident.

When the suit was filed in 2017, Department of Homeland Security officials said U.S. citizens and everyone else are subject to examination and search by customs officials, unless exempted by diplomatic status.

Searches, some random, have uncovered evidence of human trafficking, terrorism, child pornography, visa fraud, export control breaches and intellectual property rights violations, according to the department.

Rossman said the court acknowledged that the sheer volume of digital information accessible on a phone or laptop is vastly different than more traditional searches of briefcases or backpacks.

"It's the difference between a ride on a horse and a flight to the moon," Rossman said.

## Colin Kaepernick plans to audition for NFL teams on Saturday

By **ROB MAADDI AP Pro Football writer**

Colin Kaepernick plans to audition for NFL teams on Saturday in a private workout arranged by the league to be held in Atlanta.

The exiled former Pro Bowl quarterback posted on Twitter: "I'm just getting word from my representatives that the NFL league office reached out to them about a workout in Atlanta on Saturday. I've been in shape and ready for this for 3 years, can't wait to see the head coaches and GMs on Saturday."

The NFL hasn't confirmed Kaepernick's workout details.

A person familiar with the plans told The Associated Press the league's decision to invite all 32 teams to watch Kaepernick "came out of the blue with no prior communication." The person said Kaepernick's team was given a 2-hour window to accept the invitation and was denied a request to schedule the tryout on a Tuesday or another Saturday.

Kaepernick's representatives have asked the league to provide a rolling list of teams that plan to attend the workout to ensure it's a "legitimate process," according to the person who spoke on condition of anonymity because details haven't been made public.

Kaepernick hasn't played since 2016 with the San Francisco 49ers. He helped start a wave of protests about social and racial injustice that season by kneeling during the national anthem at games.

The NFL in February settled a collusion grievance Kaepernick and former teammate Eric Reid filed against the league. Reid now plays for the Carolina Panthers.

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

## People magazine names John Legend as 2019 Sexiest Man Alive

By **JONATHAN LANDRUM Jr. AP Entertainment Writer**

LOS ANGELES (AP) — R&B crooner John Legend has been named the Sexiest Man Alive by People magazine.

The Grammy-winning singer known for his silky-smooth vocals was revealed as this year's winner Tuesday night on NBC's "The Voice." He serves as a coach on the singing competition series with Gwen Stefani, Kelly Clarkson and Blake Shelton.

Shelton, who was named Sexiest Man Alive in 2017, announced Legend's honor on "The Voice." The country singer then handed Legend some short shorts with bedazzled letters "EGOTSMA" to signify the singer's many honors: an Emmy, Grammy, Oscar, Tony and now, Sexiest Man Alive.

Legend tells the magazine in an issue out Friday the honor comes with some pressure after following Idris Elba, who was last year's winner. He jokes it "is not fair and is not nice to me!"

The 40-year-old Legend is a 10-time Grammy winner. He scored an Oscar in 2015 for co-writing the song "Glory" from the film "Selma." He won a Tony Award for his co-producer work on "Jitney" and took home an Emmy as a producer on NBC's live version of "Jesus Christ Superstar," a project in which he also played the role of Jesus.

Legend has two children with model-television host-cookbook author Chrissy Teigen.

Other recent winners include Dwayne Johnson, Chris Hemsworth, Adam Levine, Channing Tatum and David Beckham.

"I want to thank Blake Shelton," Legend said. "I observed every move he made, every utterance that came from his mouth and I think some of it rubbed off on me."

Legend said his wife is proud of him.

"I've finally impressed her," he said.

The couple's children? Not so much. Teigen posted a video of the reveal of their daughter asking to turn off "The Voice" and go back to a movie. Teigen titled the post "The kids ... do not care."

## USC campus left shaken by 9 student deaths since August

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The first death occurred in late August, two days before classes began, when an incoming freshman was struck by a car while walking on a freeway near the University of Southern California.

In the more than 2 months since, eight other USC students have died — three by suicide, others by unknown means. The string of fatalities has left students and faculty at the prestigious university shaken and struggling for answers.

The Los Angeles Times reported Tuesday that the latest fatality — a 27-year-old student found dead Monday in an off-campus apartment — came days after administrators sent letters to students and parents about the series of deaths.

"There is a great deal of speculation about the causes of these deaths and most are being attributed to suicide. This is not correct," the Times quoted one of the letters as saying.

While officials say three of the deaths are confirmed suicides, the causes of the others are not known or haven't been released. The latest case is still under investigation.

Administrators said they decided to reach out about the deaths to be as transparent as possible and to let students who are going through emotional turmoil know there are campus resources available.

"We know that our students are looking for answers," said Sarah Van Orman, chief health officer for USC Student Health. "It's important that if we hear misinformation, we share what we do know."

Students acknowledged that word of the deaths has shaken the campus.

"It's definitely been a really tough semester for us," student body president Trenton Stone said, adding that he and every member of his executive board knew at least one of the students. "There's a lot going on, and everyone's asking the same question: 'What can we be doing?'"

Student government leaders are planning a community event to bring the campus together with health professionals, Stone said.

During a typical school year, USC student deaths have ranged from four to 15, Van Orman said. Six were reported last year at the school with 47,500 students.

"Students are pleading for answers from the university," said Natalie Bettendorf, managing editor of The Daily Trojan student newspaper. "There's a sense of desperation from within the student body. There have been too many deaths and not enough answers."

## Most distant world ever explored gets new name: Arrokoth

By MARCIA DUNN AP Aerospace Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — The most distant world ever explored 4 billion miles away finally has an official name: Arrokoth.

That means "sky" in the language of the Native American Powhatan people, NASA said Tuesday.

NASA's New Horizons spacecraft flew past the snowman-shaped Arrokoth on New Year's Day, 3 ½ years after exploring Pluto. At the time, this small icy world 1 billion miles (1.6 billion kilometers) beyond Pluto was nicknamed Ultima Thule given its vast distance from us.

"The name 'Arrokoth' reflects the inspiration of looking to the skies," lead scientist Alan Stern of Southwest Research Institute said in a statement, "and wondering about the stars and worlds beyond our own."

The name was picked because of the Powhatan's ties to the Chesapeake Bay region.

New Horizons is operated from Johns Hopkins University's Applied Physics Lab in Laurel, Maryland. The Hubble Space Telescope — which discovered Arrokoth in 2014 — has its science operations in Baltimore.

The New Horizons team got consent for the name from Powhatan Tribal elders and representatives, according to NASA. The International Astronomical Union and its Minor Planet Center approved the choice.

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Arrokoth is among countless objects in the so-called Kuiper Belt, or vast Twilight Zone beyond the orbit of Neptune. New Horizons will observe some of these objects from afar as it makes its way deeper into space.

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

## Northwestern paper's apology sparks journalism debate

By KATHLEEN FOODY Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Student editors at the newspaper covering Northwestern University have faced two waves of criticism over their coverage of protests in response to an event featuring former Attorney General Jeff Sessions.

First, student activists criticized them for publishing photos of protesters on the suburban Chicago campus. Within days, editors at The Daily Northwestern decided to apologize, but their editorial prompted a second round of criticism from journalists around the country who said they shouldn't feel any guilt about using basic reporting strategies.

In the editorial, posted online Sunday and printed Monday, editors said they shouldn't have tweeted photos of student protesters being blocked by campus police as they tried to get inside the Sessions event last week.

The photos were later deleted. Editors said they didn't want students to be at risk of punishment by the school or online harassment.

The eight editors who signed the editorial also acknowledged removing a protester's name from a story about the event at the person's request, and said they were sorry for using a student directory to text people who protested at the event and ask them for interviews.

"While our goal is to document history and spread information, nothing is more important than ensuring that our fellow students feel safe — and in situations like this, that they are benefiting from our coverage rather than being actively harmed by it," the statement read. "We failed to do that last week, and we could not be more sorry."

Professional journalists criticized the students' take as wrongheaded, inexperienced and an ominous sign for the profession's future. Others suggested that the students were right to consider the effects of interviewing and photographing protesters but communicated that goal poorly.

By early this week, the student leaders were reeling but the paper's chief editor said he and the other journalists understand their right to cover protests but want to work "with empathy." He said they don't plan to take back the broad message they aimed toward classmates at Northwestern, particularly non-white students who remain in the minority on the Evanston, Illinois, campus north of Chicago.

"There's a lot of students and student activists who feel we show up into spaces and don't care about who's there, don't care about the student body that we're part of, but rather we're just there to extract a story and never talk to them again," Daily Northwestern Editor-in-Chief Troy Closson told The Associated Press on Tuesday. "That's the history and reputation we have."

Closson, a 21-year-old senior at Northwestern, is only the third black student to lead the paper since its founding in 1881. Closson said he was the only black staff member when he joined the paper as a freshman, and he found the paper lacked stories on students "who looked like me or had experiences like me."

He and other editors leading the paper in recent years were determined to change that, including the creation of a team focused on building diversity in the paper's coverage, Closson said.

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, Northwestern's enrolled undergraduates in the fall of 2018 were 45% white, 17% Asian, 12% Hispanic and 6% black. This year's freshman class is 54% white, 12.6% Hispanic/Latino and 10.2% black, according to Northwestern's admissions office.

The Daily Northwestern operates independently from the university and its journalism school. Like other student journalists, they make delicate decisions about how to cover their community and peers and how to handle complaints about coverage.

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The situation at Northwestern is the latest college-based scrutiny of basic journalism practices amid sometimes large and raucous protests of speakers headlining on-campus events, particularly former members of President Donald Trump's administration.

In October, student activists demanded an apology from The Harvard Crimson after the newspaper reached out to a federal immigration agency for a story on a campus protest. The newspaper said it stood by its decision to seek comment from the U.S. Customs and Immigration Enforcement after the protest, which called for the abolition of the agency.

Kenna Griffin, president of the College Media Association and a journalism professor, said she would have advised the Northwestern students to put out a statement explaining how they produce articles and other material, rather than apologizing.

"We have an administration (in the White House) right now who feels that anytime they don't like something reported, they can label it untrue or fake," Griffin said. "This idea is being adopted by the public. So there's definitely a need for journalists at every level to explain how the information is gathered and the decisions they make."

Criticism of coverage at the Nov. 5 campus event began almost immediately on Twitter in response to photographer Colin Boyle's images of protesters being blocked from entering the room where Sessions spoke. Messages still visible on Twitter blasted him for shooting photos showing protesters' faces, suggesting it could expose students to harassment.

Boyle, 21, said he finished photographing Sessions' remarks and attendees leaving the event before checking his Twitter account, where he saw criticism of the images he had posted. Boyle said he was shaken and that he headed for the newsroom, where he decided to delete the photos and post a statement apologizing "for adding any additional trauma," with input from editors.

"It's caused me to think a lot about what my impact is as a visual storyteller and the power and privilege this job holds," Boyle told the AP on Tuesday.

By Sunday, Closson said he and other editors felt they owed readers a fuller explanation of their decisions about covering Sessions and the protests. He didn't anticipate many people outside the campus community would read it.

Charles Whitaker, dean of the university's Medill School of Journalism, called the editorial "heartfelt though not well-considered" in a lengthy statement Monday. He suggested it was in reaction to "relentless public shaming" by student activists in the wake of the newspaper's coverage of Sessions' speech and the protests.

"I think it is a testament to their sensitivity and sense of community responsibility that they convinced themselves that an apology would affect a measure of community healing," Whitaker wrote. "I might offer, however, that their well-intentioned gesture sends a chilling message about journalism and its role in society. It suggests that we are not independent authors of the community narrative, but are prone to bowing to the loudest and most influential voices in our orbit."

Whitaker also defended the students against criticism from professional journalists that flamed across Twitter starting Monday.

"You are not living with them through this firestorm, facing the brutal onslaught of venom and hostility that has been directed their way on weaponized social media," he wrote.

Several journalists chimed in with similar messages this week. Marlon A. Walker, an education reporter with The Atlanta Journal-Constitution and a vice president of the National Association of Black Journalists, said he thinks having more support from working journalists would help the students at Northwestern and other college media outlets grow from experiences such as this.

"The last few years have made it harder for us as journalists to do our job," he told the AP. "That's amplified when you're a student journalist learning on the fly."

## Singer Andrea Bocelli: 'Absurd' to shun opera legend Domingo

By ADRIANA GOMEZ LICON Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — Italian tenor Andrea Bocelli is staunchly defending opera legend Placido Domingo, calling

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it "absurd" that opera houses have canceled the star's performances over sexual harassment allegations before they are fully investigated.

"I am still appalled at what happened to this incredible artist," Bocelli said. "I don't understand this. Tomorrow a lady can just come up and say Andrea Bocelli molested me 10 years ago, and from that day on, no one wants to sing with me anymore; the opera houses won't call me anymore. This is absurd."

Bocelli spoke to The Associated Press through an Italian translator during an interview at his Miami-area home. Bocelli, one of the world's most famous classical singers, is preparing for a U.S. tour that begins next month in San Francisco and closes with two nights at New York City's Madison Square Garden.

Three U.S. music companies canceled Domingo appearances following allegations of sexual harassment made by multiple women in two AP stories earlier this year and he withdrew from a slate of performances at New York's Metropolitan Opera.

The AP spoke to more than 20 women, many of whom said Domingo tried to pressure them into sexual relationships and sometimes punished them professionally if they rejected him. One soprano said he grabbed her bare breast under her robe.

Domingo has disputed the allegations, calling them "in many ways, simply incorrect."

Bocelli is the most prominent artist to speak out on the Spanish opera star's behalf, taking issue with the "call-out culture" and arguing that people should differentiate between public figures' morality and their artistry and skills.

If criminal accusations are brought forward, Bocelli said, people should not make a judgment until the accused person is convicted and sentenced.

"Whenever that happens, then the moral judgment against this person would of course change on my end, but not the artistic judgment, because they are two different things," he said.

"There have been in the past many artists who have dubious morality," Bocelli said, adding that there are two aspects to judging an artist. "One is the moral one, which must be dealt with in courts and here on Earth and by our good Lord up in the skies. Then there is an artistic judgment, which is subjective, and up to each one of us."

Domingo has continued to perform in Europe. On Friday, the Tokyo Olympics organizing committee said Domingo decided not to perform at a pre-Olympics event, citing the "complexity of the project."

He has resigned as general director for the Los Angeles Opera, where an internal investigation into the allegations against him is ongoing.

Bocelli and Domingo are credited with injecting new energy into opera during times when its popularity had dwindled.

Bocelli, especially, has overlapped with pop music genres and is widely known for the iconic "Time to Say Goodbye," which has been used in several sporting events and Hollywood films. The blind singer has partnered with pop sensations such as Ed Sheeran, Ariana Grande and Jennifer Lopez.

Bocelli sat down for an interview with the AP to speak about his new collaborations with "13 Going on 30" actress Jennifer Garner and pop singer Ellie Goulding. The tracks are part of a special edition of his album "Si," which launched last week.

He said opera is alive but needs to shift back to a form of entertainment for everyone, and not just affluent spectators.

"We could do a lot more so that it could go back to the origins, go back to being popular for a wider audience," he said. "Today, it risks being an elite phenomenon, and this is a pity because opera was born for the people."

## Pact reached to avert government shutdown through Dec. 20

By ANDREW TAYLOR Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A top House lawmaker announced Tuesday that Congress will pass a government-wide temporary spending bill to keep the government running through Dec. 20, forestalling a government shutdown as the House turns its focus to impeachment hearings.

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Appropriations Committee Chairwoman Nita Lowey, D-N.Y., made the announcement after meeting with Senate counterpart Richard Shelby, R-Ala., in hopes of kick-starting long-delayed efforts to find agreement on \$1.4 trillion worth of agency spending bills.

A fight over President Donald Trump's demands for up to \$8 billion in new funding for his U.S.-Mexico border fence project is largely responsible for an impasse on the huge spending package, which would implement the details of this summer's hard-won budget accord.

The politically explosive impeachment hearing and the possibility of impeachment and a trial aren't making the jobs of dealmakers like Lowey any easier. It's yet another layer of complications for senior lawmakers pressing not just for an agreement on agency budgets; it's also complicating action on a long-sought rewrite of the North American trade rules.

The coming weeks could still be the last, best opportunity for lawmakers to wrap up their work on the budget and the trade deal, even as stakeholders admit the timetable could easily slip amid foot-dragging and partisan flare-ups.

As the House returns from a quick break, the sole piece of must-do business before Thanksgiving is to pass a governmentwide stopgap spending bill to avert the second government shutdown within a year.

The top leaders of the House and Senate Appropriations committees met Tuesday afternoon to try to make progress toward a year-end deal on a massive appropriations package. Greeting reporters after a meeting with Shelby, Lowey sought to dispel worries of a shutdown when current funding expires next Thursday.

Shelby and Lowey promised a renewed push toward completing their unfinished work in coming weeks but offered no specifics.

"We had a very productive conversation," Lowey said. "It's our responsibility as the chairs of the committees to get our work done and we intend to get our work done."

Most notably, a recurring fight over Trump's U.S.-Mexico border fence and immigrant detention practices is making it difficult for House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., to make progress on a broader, full-year \$1.4 trillion spending bill. That measure is needed to implement the terms of last summer's hard-won budget agreement, which distributed budget increases to both the Pentagon and domestic agencies.

McConnell is personally invested in a successful budget outcome and both he and Pelosi have long histories on appropriations.

The other top issue is a legislative update to the landmark North American Free Trade Agreement, which is especially sought by Trump's GOP allies and the party's Main Street supporters.

Pelosi is the key figure on trade, which is always a tricky issue for Democrats, even if the politics of the new United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement are nowhere nearly as divisive as NAFTA was 26 years ago.

Passage of NAFTA in 1993 badly split House Democrats, but Pelosi, who represents the Port of San Francisco, voted "aye," as did Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, D-Md., and powerful Ways and Means Committee Chairman Richard Neal, D-Mass.

Neal is leading a working group on the measure and says the group is "on the 5-yard line" and the optimistic take is that he and Pelosi will bring USMCA in for an easy landing.

The trade updates are generally seen as an improvement over NAFTA, whose provisions enforcing Mexican labor and environmental rules are considered inadequate by many Democrats. The selling points for the new pact are that it updates NAFTA for the 21st century with hard-won provisions on digital trade, intellectual property, financial services and agriculture trade.

Still, any impeachment-related delays could tax patience and thrust politically freighted issues like the border wall and the updated U.S. trade pact directly into the heat of the presidential primary campaign.

On spending, Trump is a wild card as usual. He singlehandedly drove the 35-day partial shutdown that spanned the changeover between GOP and Democratic control of the House last winter. He has struggled to win much wall funding from Congress, where lawmakers in both parties have other designs for the money.

Trump has had more success in exploiting his transfer powers to siphon money from Pentagon anti-drug and military base construction accounts toward the wall, and construction is finally beginning on the new

segments he has long promised.

Trump could easily spin a successful wall narrative without much more in new appropriations. Simply funding the government on autopilot — though hardly anyone is advocating that — would give him perhaps \$6 billion more this year.

A battle over Trump's powers to transfer military funding to wall building also has stalled an annual military policy bill that has become law for 58 years in a row.

Trump's anger at impeachment, his poisonous relationship with Pelosi, and his unpredictability and volatility are red flags for optimists. But the forces favoring an agreement are powerful, and McConnell — a top force behind the July budget pact — appears ready to get engaged more actively.

Capitol Hill veterans say hardliners on both sides — including House progressives and White House budget chief Russell Vought — are an impediment to the kind of split-the-differences agreement that the current balance of power can produce.

And there is still time for action if the momentum stalls, even if the odds get more dicey in a presidential election year.

One of the benefits of limiting the duration of the upcoming stopgap spending bill, known as a continuing resolution or CR, is that it means another is needed before Congress adjourns for the year.

Any December stopgap measure could also provide a way to ship some unfinished business on taxes, health care and pensions to Trump's desk as part of a must-pass package. Top lawmakers hope that a full-year spending bill would serve the same purpose but acknowledge there are considerable obstacles.

"I think it would be a terrible mistake if we were still in a continuing resolution after the first of the year for a whole host of reasons," said top Senate Appropriations Committee Democrat Patrick Leahy of Vermont, citing shifting signals from the White House as contributing to the delays. "It has been difficult with the White House because ... they have not always been consistent in what they want."

## Michigan teen who vaped received double lung transplant

By COREY WILLIAMS Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) — A Michigan teenager was the recipient of what could be the first double lung transplant on a person whose lungs were severely damaged from vaping, health officials said Tuesday.

Doctors at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit described to reporters Tuesday the procedure that saved the 17-year-old's life and pleaded for the public to understand the dangers of vaping.

The teen was admitted in early September to a Detroit-area hospital with what appeared to be pneumonia. He was transferred to Children's Hospital of Michigan in Detroit and taken Oct. 3 to Henry Ford Hospital where the transplant was performed Oct. 15. The double lung transplant is believed to be the first performed on a patient due to vaping.

Doctors found an "enormous amount of inflammation and scarring" on the teen's lungs, said Dr. Hassan Neme, surgical director of thoracic organ transplant at Henry Ford. "This is an evil I haven't faced before. The damage that these vapes do to people's lungs is irreversible. Please think of that — and tell your children to think of that."

Health officials declined to release the teen's name and said he is expected to recover. They also did not specify what the teen vaped or how long he vaped.

"We asked Henry Ford doctors to share that the horrific life-threatening effects of vaping are very real!" his family said in a statement released by the hospital. "Our family could never have imagined being at the center of the largest adolescent public health crisis to face our country in decades.

"Within a very short period of time, our lives have been forever changed. He has gone from the typical life of a perfectly healthy 16-year old athlete - attending high school, hanging out with friends, sailing and playing video games - to waking up intubated and with two new lungs, facing a long and painful recovery process as he struggles to regain his strength and mobility, which has been severely impacted."

The boy had his 17th birthday after initially being admitted to the hospital.

More than 2,000 Americans who vape have gotten sick since March, many of them teenagers and young



adults, and at least 40 people have died.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention last week announced a breakthrough into the cause of a vaping illness outbreak, identifying the chemical compound vitamin E acetate as a "very strong culprit" after finding it in fluid taken from the lungs of 29 patients. Vitamin E acetate previously was found in liquid from electronic cigarettes and other vaping devices used by many who got sick and only recently has been used as a vaping fluid thickener.

Many who got sick said they had vaped liquids that contain THC, the high-inducing part of marijuana, with many saying they received them from friends or bought them on the black market.

E-cigarettes and other vaping devices heat a liquid into an inhalable vapor. Most products contained nicotine, but THC vaping has been growing more common.

Henry Ford doctors did not say Tuesday what the lung transplant recipient vaped. They did say that he was critically ill when he arrived at Henry Ford where he was placed Oct. 8 on an organ transplant waiting list. His lung damage due to vaping was so severe and he was so close to death that the teen immediately was placed at the top of the transplant waiting list, they said.

"Vaping-related injuries are all too common these days. Our adolescents are faced with a crisis," said Dr. Lisa Allenspach, pulmonologist and the medical director of Henry Ford's Lung Transplant Program. "We are just beginning to see the enormous health consequence jeopardizing the youth in our country ... these vaping products should not be used in any fashion."

The 17-year-old's case does not open any new ethical considerations about transplants for people how who irreparably damage their own lungs by vaping, Nemeh told The Associated Press.

"It won't change what we do on a routine basis. We will still evaluate every patient as an individual patient," he said. "We hope sharing this patient's story prevents anyone else from experiencing a vaping injury that would require a transplant."

Nemeh added that lung transplants have been considered for ex-smokers who have quit and demonstrated that they quit smoking, but transplants are not routinely done for people over the age of 70.

"Children do receive priority over an adult for a transplant from a pediatric donor," he said. "The United Network for Organ Sharing creates the rules and then offers the organs to recipients who are a match. We don't decide who gets an offer."

## Google's health care ambitions now involve patient data

By RACHEL LERMAN AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Google announced a partnership with a large U.S. health care system aimed at modernizing its information system and providing new tools for doctors, in the tech giant's latest foray into the health industry.

Announcement of its arrangement with the Catholic health care system Ascension followed a Wall Street Journal report on Monday that Google had access to thousands of patient health records without doctors' knowledge.

Both companies stressed that their deal is compliant with federal health-privacy law. Unlike most of the data Google collects on individuals, health data is strictly regulated by the federal government.

Google is providing cloud computing services to Ascension, which operates health centers in 21 states, mostly across the South and Midwest. It is also testing the use of artificial intelligence to examine health records and find patterns that Google says might help doctors and other providers.

Health care providers are increasingly interested in using data to help manage care and keep patients healthy. That might mean relatively simple things like tracking whether someone refills a prescription or something more complex like spotting a worsening medical condition and addressing it before the patient winds up in the hospital.

Health care systems are allowed to share patient information with business partners so long as the partners agree to safeguard the information and use it only in the way it was intended.

"To be clear: under this arrangement, Ascension's data cannot be used for any other purpose than for

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providing these services we're offering under the agreement, and patient data cannot and will not be combined with any Google consumer data," Google cloud executive Tariq Shaukat wrote in a blog post .

Still, some people are wary of the big tech company having access to sensitive personal information. Google, along with other big tech counterparts including Facebook and Apple, have been under the microscope in the last couple years about how they use — and sometimes misuse — the vast collections of customer data they collect.

This concern was kicked into mainstream view after Facebook's Cambridge Analytica scandal, in which the social network shared a vast amount of user data, without permission, with a political consultancy once affiliated with President Donald Trump's 2016 campaign.

It has since touched nearly every corner of the tech industry, where data is key to digital advertising and developing features using customer data.

That concern has not quieted as the companies continue to push into more aspects of consumer life.

Google has been pressing into the health care space in recent months, including an announced deal to buy wearable company Fitbit . The company has also hired several health care executives, hinting at larger health data strategies to come.

Ascension and Google both acknowledged privacy concerns, but say the agreement is compliant with federal law and that health data will be kept secure.

AP Reporter Tom Murphy contributed to this report from Indianapolis.

## Record cold follows early snowstorm over much of eastern US

By CAROLYN THOMPSON Associated Press

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) — Snow and cold records fell as an arctic airmass that started in Siberia spilled over a big chunk of the eastern half of the U.S., including the normally mild South, on Tuesday.

The mid-autumn taste of winter brought record single-digit temperatures to Chicago and environs; set snowfall records in Buffalo and Detroit; dusted cars with snow in Memphis, Tennessee; and froze lakes in Minnesota weeks earlier than usual.

Wisconsin farmer Bob Grove still has soybeans in the field, 20 miles south of Milwaukee, but said he can't harvest them because the snow will clog the machinery.

"Normally, you don't see this kind of weather to well into December," Grove said. "It's caught us off guard, as far as getting crops harvested. Doing what we can in between snow, rain, mud."

The roughly 10 inches of snow in Buffalo and Detroit by Tuesday morning was a record depth for the time of year, weather service records show. Areas of Vermont and Maine saw similar totals as a wintry mix also closed or delayed hundreds of schools in northern New England.

"This is an air mass that's more typical for the middle of January than mid-November," National Weather Service meteorologist Kevin Birk said in Chicago, where Tuesday morning's low of 7 degrees (minus 13 Celsius) broke the previous record of 8 (minus 13 Celsius), set in 1986. "It is pretty much about the coldest we can be this time of year (and) it could break records all over the region."

At least six cities in Kansas set new record lows Tuesday, led by Garden City, which dropped to minus 1 (minus 18 Celsius), breaking the record of 7 (minus 14 Celsius) set just last year. Records also fell in Wichita, Salina, Russell, Dodge City and Medicine Lodge.

In St. Louis, the mercury dipped to 11 degrees, breaking a record for the date that had stood since 1911.

Warming shelters in Memphis offered relief from a reading of 21 degrees (minus 6 Celsius), also a record low for the date.

Schools and businesses as far south as the Gulf Coast states opened late or closed Tuesday because of the unusual cold.

About 20 school systems delayed opening across north Alabama under the threat of wintry precipitation, including all the public schools around Huntsville.

Even more opened late or closed in Tennessee, and a handful of businesses and schools opened late

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in Georgia.

Forecasters said daytime temperatures would remain in the 30s across a wide area of the South. Freeze warnings reached from eastern Texas to coastal South Carolina, with overnight lows predicted in the 20s.

The dip to 8 degrees (minus 13 Celsius) in Indianapolis gave the city its earliest recorded fall temperature in the single digits. The closest similar reading was 11 degrees (minus 11 Celsius) recorded on Nov. 3, 1951.

Farther north, heavy lake-effect snow piled more than 10 inches high near Goshen.

In Ohio, authorities investigated two fatal wrecks in snowy and icy conditions Tuesday, one on the Ohio Turnpike in Richfield and another in Clark County. Seven passengers on a New York City-bound bus escaped serious injury when it turned on its side on a snow-slicked highway south of Syracuse. A section of Interstate 90 in Pennsylvania was back open Tuesday after being closed overnight because of jackknifed tractor-trailers.

The Eaton County Sheriff's Office in Michigan said two women, ages 81 and 64, and a 57-year-old man were killed Monday in a two-vehicle crash caused by poor road conditions. And in Kansas, the Highway Patrol said an 8-year-old girl died in a three-vehicle wreck.

Officials in central Wyoming searched for a 16-year-old boy with autism who disappeared Sunday wearing only his pajamas.

In Chicago, a plane landing Monday at O'Hare International Airport slid across the runway. No one was injured. More than 1,000 flights at O'Hare and Midway International Airport were canceled after more than 3 inches (7 centimeters) of snow fell.

In some areas, the mercury fell quickly. Temperatures in Denver climbed past 70 degrees (21 Celsius) over the weekend only to fall to 14 degrees (minus 10 Celsius) early Monday.

## Former President Carter out of surgery, no complications

By JAY REEVES and SHAMEKA DUDLEY-LOWE Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Former President Jimmy Carter was recovering Tuesday following surgery to relieve pressure on his brain from bleeding linked to recent falls.

A statement from his spokeswoman said there were no complications from the procedure, performed at Emory University Hospital for a subdural hematoma, blood trapped on the brain's surface.

Carter, 95, will remain in the hospital for observation, said Deanna Congileo, his spokeswoman at the Carter Center.

The statement said the Carters thank everyone for the many well-wishes they have received, and Congileo doesn't anticipate making more announcements until he's released.

It was unclear how long Carter might be hospitalized, said his pastor, the Rev. Tony Lowden.

"If anybody can make it through this Jimmy Carter can. His will to serve is greater than his will to give up," said Lowden.

The Carter Center said the bleeding was related to Carter's recent falls. He used a walker during his most recent public appearance.

The first fall, in the spring, required hip replacement surgery. He hit his head falling again on Oct. 6 and received 14 stitches, but still traveled to Nashville, Tennessee, to help build a Habitat for Humanity home shortly thereafter. And he was briefly hospitalized after fracturing his pelvis on Oct. 21.

Carter's wife of 73 years, Rosalynn Carter, is with him at the hospital, Lowden said. "She won't leave his side," Lowden said.

Large bleeds, usually after major trauma, can be life-threatening. But often, especially in elderly patients, the injury is a slow leak that takes a while to build up until initial symptoms such as headaches and confusion appear, said Dr. Lola B. Chambless, associate professor of neurological surgery at Vanderbilt University.

"It's very typical in this setting to see these develop a few weeks or even a month or so after a fall," said Chambless, who has not treated Carter.

To relieve pressure, surgeons most commonly drill one or two small holes through the skull to drain the leakage site. Larger bleeds causing more severe pressure may require removing a piece of skull.

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Carter has been through a series of health problems in recent years.

He received a dire cancer diagnosis in 2015, announcing that melanoma had spread. After partial removal of his liver, treatment for brain lesions, radiation and immunotherapy, he said he was cancer-free.

Despite his increasingly frail health, the nation's oldest-ever ex-president still teaches Sunday school about twice monthly at Maranatha Baptist Church in his hometown of Plains in southwest Georgia.

The church asked for prayers for Carter and his family in a message on its Facebook page. The church has announced that Carter will not be teaching his Sunday school class this week.

Carter candidly discussed his own mortality on Nov. 3, during his most recent appearance at their church. Referring to his cancer diagnosis, Carter said he assumed he'd die quickly after finding out the extent of his illness.

"Obviously I prayed about it. I didn't ask God to let me live, but I just asked God to give me a proper attitude toward death. And I found that I was absolutely and completely at ease with death," he said.

Since then, Carter said he's been "absolutely confident" in the Christian idea of life after death, and hasn't worried about his own death.

Reeves contributed to this story from Birmingham, Alabama. AP medical writer Luran Neergaard contributed from Washington.

## For 'Joy of Cooking' revision, editors mixed marriage, food

By **MARK KENNEDY** AP Entertainment Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Imagine carefully testing several thousand recipes for a beloved cookbook. Then imagine coming up with 600 brand new ones. Now imagine doing all that in your home kitchen. Without a dishwasher.

That was the monumental task John Becker and his wife, Megan Scott, took on almost a decade ago when they chose to overhaul "Joy of Cooking," which has been described as "the Swiss Army knife of cookbooks."

"Working with your spouse on something like this, we had our ups and downs," said Scott with a laugh. "I think that now that we've survived this, we can probably survive anything."

For the book's first revision since 2006, Becker and Scott added 600 new recipes on top of 4,000 newly tried-and-tested from the past. Every section of every chapter has been updated to reflect the latest ingredients and techniques available to today's home cooks.

It was a 1,200-page task that was in their blood. Becker is the great-grandson of founding editor Irma S. Rombauer, who self-published "Joy of Cooking" in 1931. It now has 20 million copies in print.

"I feel like we have inherited this amazing, amazing book. It's such a gift and we really wanted to earn it, not just inherit something and add a few bells and whistles and then release it," said Scott. "We wanted to really earn what we have."

So now, alongside old favorites like Banana Bread Cockaigne, there are new recipes for kimchi mac and cheese, gobi Manchurian, miso ramen, Cajun dirty rice and chocolate babka. There are tips on using the Instant Pot and sous vide, ways to prevent food waste, and best practices on fermenting. There are more vegetarian and vegan recipes.

"There's plenty of tweaks and shortcuts that we thought were worth adding. And really, ingredients do change as well. So sometimes you need to rewrite recipes to account for, say, like modern poultry production or how pork loin, it's not quite as fatty as it once was," said Becker.

They listened to reader feedback and rethought some of the older cake recipes, which often called for separating yolks from the egg whites. "It's a little fussy," said Scott. "It didn't seem worth it."

Perhaps the biggest update is an embrace of global food, with new entries for Guyanese pepperpot, Thai-style wings and lamb shawarma. Becker and Scott hope they've codified the most authentic version of those new dishes. A four-page bibliography can help readers learn more.

"I don't think either of us wants to come out like, 'Oh yes, we're this authority on Thai cuisine' because

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we're not. We're enthusiastic eaters and we have done a lot of research," said Scott. That research included visiting restaurants, consulting cookbooks and watching online videos.

"I spent a long time watching YouTube videos of someone's grandmother in India preparing banana blossoms because I wanted to learn more about how they're used in cooking," said Scott. (See page 955.)

"Joy of Cooking" has become a culinary bible of sorts, whose fans include everyone from Julia Child to Anita Lo. The food site Epicurious put the book atop its Cookbook Canon, calling it "the OG encyclopedic volume."

Authorship of the volume has stayed within the Rombauer family, from Irma to her daughter, Marion, then from Marion to her son, Ethan Becker. And now from Ethan to his son, John, and his wife.

Becker and Scott's work on the book spanned years, from a cabin in Tennessee to their home now in Portland, Oregon. They would each work on a chapter and then swap their work, going line by line several times through the book. They cooked in their home kitchen and only recently got a dishwasher, giving them a sense of what their readers experience.

"We didn't treat anything as sacred. There are definitely Rombauer-Becker family recipes that have been in the book forever that we wanted to keep if they were still good, but we also didn't want to keep a recipe in just because it had been in the book for a long time," said Scott. "Sometimes that meant we would update the recipe, test it and edit it again, and other times we did cut things."

The task destroyed all pretenses Scott and Becker had to any work-life balance. Even when they were exhausted and just ordered pizza, they'd discuss what should or should not be in the book. "We would wake up in the morning sometimes and I would be like 'Hey, do you think we should add so-and-so to the book?'" They took only one vacation.

The cookbook's iterations have always mirrored their time, whether taking into account wartime rationing in the 1943 edition or adding a section on frozen foods in the 1951 edition. Becker and Scott said they were given a wide editorial berth this time.

"It's a living book," Becker said. "It really has changed a lot over the eight previous editions, and this our ninth is another good example of how we've tried to respect the past but also negotiate what that tradition means with where we are right now."

Age gave no entry a pass. Eagle-eyed readers will spot a subtle change to the Chocolate Chip Cookie recipe, which has been a fixture in the book since 1943. When Becker and Scott tested it, the cookies spread too flat. So they decreased the amount of sugar. They even have a tip about the kind of baking sheet you should use: Cheap dark pans that you buy at the grocery store work best.

And in a nod to the past, they included some of their own recipes, including Scott's pumpkin seed brittle and Cheddar-scallion biscuits.

"It's not just a reflection of what we think Americans are wanting to eat. It's also kind of a family recipe book from our family," said Scott.

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

## **No. 1 milk company declares bankruptcy amid drop in demand**

**By MICHELLE CHAPMAN and DEE-ANN DURBIN AP Business Writers**

Got milk? Increasingly, Americans don't, and that led the nation's biggest milk producer to file for bankruptcy Tuesday.

Dean Foods blamed a decadeslong drop in milk consumption that has seen people turn to alternatives like soda, juice and almond milk.

The Dallas company said it may sell itself to the Dairy Farmers of America, a marketing cooperative owned by thousands of farmers.

"Despite our best efforts to make our business more agile and cost-efficient, we continue to be impacted by a challenging operating environment marked by continuing declines in consumer milk consumption," CEO Eric Berigaue said in a statement.

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Since 1975, the amount of liquid milk consumed per capita in the U.S. has tumbled more than 40%. Americans drank around 24 gallons a year in 1996, according to government data. That dropped to 17 gallons in 2018.

An increasing variety of beverages, including teas and sodas, has hurt milk consumption. So have protein bars, yogurts and other on-the-go breakfasts, which take the place of a morning bowl of cereal.

More recently, health and animal-welfare concerns have also contributed, as more shoppers seek out non-dairy alternatives.

Oat milk, for example, saw U.S. sales rise 636% to more than \$52 million over the past year, according to Nielsen data. Sales of cow's milk dropped 2.4% in that same time frame.

Not all dairy products have been affected. U.S. butter and cheese consumption is up since 1996, for example.

"We're eating our dairy, not drinking it," said Mark Stephenson, director of dairy policy analysis at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The downturn has had an outside effect on Dean Foods, which derived 67% of its sales from fluid milk last year, according to its annual report. The company has lost money in eight of its last 10 quarters and posted declining sales in seven of the last eight.

Dean employs 16,000 people and operates 60 processing facilities across the country. On any given day, it is running 8,000 refrigerated delivery trucks on U.S. roads.

It supplies milk for its own brands, like Dairy Pure, Meadow Gold and TruMoo, as well as store brands. One big blow came last year, when Walmart opened its own milk processing plant in Indiana.

Dean said it will continue operating normally while it puts its finances in order under Chapter 11 bankruptcy. It has lined up about \$850 million in financing from lenders.

The bankruptcy filing comes at a difficult time for dairy farmers, who were already struggling with low prices because of oversupply.

Linda Ceylor and her husband, Gerald, operate an organic farm near Catawba, Wisconsin, where they milk fewer than 50 cows and raise heifers.

Ceylor said Dean Foods' woes mirror what smaller producers are facing. She said the most hurtful part is watching young people go out of business, including three neighbors in their 30s.

"All they ever wanted to do is milk cows, and all three of them said they can't do it anymore," Ceylor said. "That's like watching your grandchildren go through a massive problem you can't do anything about. There's really no other choice for them to make."

Darin Von Ruden, president of the Wisconsin Farmers Union, said he is concerned about Dean Foods selling itself to Dairy Farmers of America.

"That's two of the five biggest companies in the country, and when you start looking at that kind of consolidation, is that good for producers? The answer is probably no," said Von Ruden, who is selling his dairy operation to his son.

Dean is already a product of consolidation. It was bought by Suiza Foods Corp. in 2001. The new, larger company assumed the Dean name and bought several other milk producers.

Stephenson said that left Dean with a large number of aging facilities. At the same time, it sold off some non-dairy brands, like TofuTown, becoming less diversified.

Stephenson said Dean was also slow to innovate. He cited growing sales of Fairlife milk, a Coca-Cola Co. brand that is lower in lactose and higher in protein.

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Associated Press writer Dave Kolpack in Fargo, N.D., contributed.

## Sorry, wrong number: Statistical benchmark comes under fire

By MALCOLM RITTER AP Science Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Earlier this fall Dr. Scott Solomon presented the results of a huge heart drug study to an audience of fellow cardiologists in Paris.

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The results Solomon was describing looked promising: Patients who took the medication had a lower rate of hospitalization and death than patients on a different drug.

Then he showed his audience another number.

"There were some gasps, or 'Ooohs,'" Solomon, of Harvard's Brigham and Women's Hospital, recalled recently. "A lot of people were disappointed."

One investment analyst reacted by reducing his forecast for peak sales of the drug — by \$1 billion.

What happened?

The number that caused the gasps was 0.059. The audience was looking for something under 0.05.

What it meant was that Solomon's promising results had run afoul of a statistical concept you may never have heard of: statistical significance. It's an all-or-nothing thing. Your statistical results are either significant, meaning they are reliable, or not significant, indicating an unacceptably high chance that they were just a fluke.

The concept has been used for decades. It holds a lot of sway over how scientific results are appraised, which studies get published, and what medicines make it to drugstores.

But this year has brought two high-profile calls from critics, including from inside the arcane world of statistics, to get rid of it — in part out of concern that it prematurely dismisses results like Solomon's.

Significance is reflected in a calculation that produces something called a p-value. Usually, if this produces a p-value of less than 0.05, the study findings are considered significant. If not, the study has failed the test.

Solomon's study just missed. So the apparent edge his drug was showing over the other medication was deemed insignificant. By this criterion there was no "real" difference.

Solomon believes the drug in fact produced a real benefit and that a larger or longer-lasting study could have reached statistical significance.

"I'm not crying over spilled milk," he said. "We do set the rules. The question is, is that the right way to go about it?"

He's not alone in asking that question.

"It is a safe bet that people have suffered or died because scientists (and editors, regulators, journalists and others) have used significance tests to interpret results," epidemiologist Kenneth Rothman of RTI Health Solutions in Research Triangle Park, N.C., and Boston University wrote in 2016.

The danger is both that a potentially beneficial medical finding can be ignored because a study doesn't reach statistical significance, and a harmful or fruitless medical practice could be accepted simply because it does, he said in an email.

The p-value cutoff for significance is "a measure that has gained gatekeeper status ... not only for publication but for people to take your results seriously," says Northwestern University statistician Blake McShane.

It's no wonder that a statistician, at a recent talk to journalists about the issue just before Halloween, displayed a slide of a jack-o'-lantern carved with this sight, obviously terrifying to anyone in science or medicine: "P = .06."

McShane and others argue that the importance of the p-value threshold is undeserved. He co-authored a call to abolish the notion of statistical significance, which was published in the prestigious journal *Nature* this year. The proposal attracted more than 800 co-signers.

Even the American Statistical Association, which had never issued any formal statement on specific statistical practices, came down hard in 2016 on using any kind of p-value cutoff in this way. And this year it went further, declaring in a special issue with 43 papers on the subject, "It is time to stop using the term 'statistically significant' entirely."

What's the problem? McShane and others list several:

— P-value does not directly measure the likelihood that the outcome of an experiment just is a fluke. What it really represents is widely misunderstood, even by scientists and some statisticians, said Nicole Lazar, a statistics professor at the University of Georgia.

— Using a label of statistical significance "gives more certainty that is actually warranted," Lazar said. "We should recognize the fact that there is uncertainty in our findings."

— The traditional cutoff of 0.05 is arbitrary.

— Statistical significance does not necessarily mean “significant” — or that a finding is important practically or scientifically, Lazar says. It might not even be true: Solomon cites a large heart drug study that found a significant treatment effect for patients born in August but not July, obviously just a random fluctuation.

— The term “statistical significance” sets up a goal line for researchers, a clear measure of success or failure. That means researchers can try a little bit too hard to reach it. They may deliberately game the system to get an acceptable p-value, or just unconsciously choose analytic methods that help, McShane and Lazar said.

— That can distort the effects not only of individual experiments, but also the cumulative results of studies on a given topic, so that overall a drug can look “a lot better than it actually is,” McShane said.

What should be done instead? Abolish the bright line of statistical significance, and just report the p-value along with other analyses to give a more comprehensive outline of what the test result may mean, McShane and others say.

It may not be as clear-cut as a simple declaration of significance or insignificance, but “we’ll have a better idea of what’s going on,” Lazar said. “I think it will be easier to weed out the bad work.”

Not everybody buys the idea of doing away with statistical significance. Prominent Stanford researcher Dr. John Ioannidis says that abolition “could promote bias. Irrefutable nonsense would rule.” Although he agrees that a p-value standard of less than 0.05 is weak and easily abused, he believes scientists should use a more stringent p-value or other statistical measure instead, specified before the experiment is performed.

McShane said that although calls for abolishing statistical significance have been raised for years, there seems to be more momentum lately.

“Maybe,” he said, “it’s time to put the nail in the coffin on this one for good.”

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## LA’s Gómez elected 1st Hispanic to lead US Catholic bishops

By DAVID CRARY and REGINA GARCIA CANO Associated Press

BALTIMORE (AP) — Archbishop José Gómez of Los Angeles, an immigrant from Mexico, pledged to push for a more welcoming immigration system after winning election Tuesday as the first Hispanic to head the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

“I’m humbled by your support,” said Gómez, whose predominantly Hispanic archdiocese of 4 million Catholics is the largest in the U.S. “I think it is a blessing for the Latino community.”

The issue of immigration is personal to Gómez, who has relatives and friends on both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border. He described the situation at the border as a “tragedy” and said he witnessed the “suffering of the people there” during visits to south Texas cities last year.

“It’s an essential cause,” he said of overhauling immigration policy. “Our encouragement to elected officials is to find a good, solid immigration reform that allows people to move legally.”

Gómez, 67, has been vice president of the bishops’ conference for the past three years. He is considered a practical-minded conservative in terms of church doctrine but has made clear his disappointment over key immigration-control policies adopted by the Trump administration.

He said he was praying for a favorable outcome from the U.S. Supreme Court after it heard arguments Tuesday on whether the administration could end a program that allows some immigrants to work legally in the U.S. while protecting them from deportation. Gómez and other bishops want the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program to be extended.

“Archbishop Gomez is a quiet pastor with a powerful voice for immigrants,” tweeted John Gehring, Catholic program director at a Washington-based clergy network called Faith in Public Life. “The first Latino to lead Catholic bishops at a time when the Trump administration is attacking immigrants won’t be afraid to call out racism and nativism.”

Gómez succeeds Cardinal Daniel DiNardo, archbishop of Galveston-Houston, whose three-year presidency



was complicated by the church's clergy sex-abuse crisis.

Following the election of Gómez, the bishops chose Detroit Archbishop Allen Vigneron, 71, as the new vice president. By tradition, that puts him in line to become president in three years, although he would be close to the mandatory retirement age of 75 at that point.

Like Gómez, Vigneron has criticized some U.S. policies he deemed hostile to immigrants. He is considered a staunch conservative on many other Catholic issues, though some conservatives have complained that he should halt a long-running Dignity Mass in Detroit that advocates full inclusion of LGBT Catholics.

Ordained in 1975, Vigneron was named archbishop of Detroit in 2009 by Pope Benedict XVI. Before that, the Michigan native served as a bishop in Oakland, California.

Gomez was born in Monterrey, Mexico, and studied theology at the University of Navarra in Spain. He was ordained an Opus Dei priest in 1978 and worked in the Galveston-Houston area and in Denver before being named archbishop of San Antonio in 2004. He became archbishop of Los Angeles in 2011.

In August, after a gunman targeting Mexicans killed 22 people at a Walmart in El Paso, Texas, Gómez wrote a powerful statement condemning white supremacy and noting that Spanish was spoken in North America before English.

Also Tuesday, the Catholic bishops voted to authorize development of a "comprehensive vision" for Hispanic ministry, to be completed over the next few years.

While Hispanics account for about 37% of all U.S. Catholics, they are no longer a majority-Catholic group, according to the Pew Research Center. A recent Pew survey said 47% of Hispanics in the U.S. now call themselves Catholic, down from 57% in 2009.

In discussing outreach to Hispanics, many bishops brought up the role of Catholic education.

"I'd like to see you really promote our Catholic schools," said Cardinal Sean O'Malley, the archbishop of Boston, "But we know that the vast majority of our Hispanic families cannot afford them."

He suggested the use of tax credits and vouchers to help offset the cost of tuition.

He also suggested building more youth centers for Hispanic children that offer after-school and weekend programs, which he said keep young people "out of gangs" and "close to the church."

One of the most heated exchanges among the bishops was over whether opposition to abortion should be designated the "preeminent" priority for the church in the U.S.

Some bishops in the conference's relatively liberal faction expressed concern that this phrasing undercuts Pope Francis' recent calls for emphasizing other priorities as well.

But an effort to modify the letter failed by a 2-to-1 margin.

"I like the pope's text, and I believe it — but I am against anyone denying that abortion is the preeminent social issue of our time," said Archbishop Charles Chaput of Philadelphia.

Crary reported from New York.

## Supreme Court lets Sandy Hook shooting lawsuit go forward

By MARK SHERMAN and DAVE COLLINS Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court said Tuesday that a survivor and relatives of victims of the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting can pursue their lawsuit against the maker of the rifle used to kill 26 people.

The justices rejected an appeal from Remington Arms, which argued it should be shielded by a 2005 federal law preventing most lawsuits against firearms manufacturers when their products are used in crimes.

The case is being watched by gun control advocates, gun rights supporters and gun manufacturers across the country because it has the potential to provide a roadmap for victims of other mass shootings to circumvent the federal law and sue the makers of firearms.

The court's order allows the lawsuit filed in Connecticut state court by a survivor and relatives of nine victims who died at the Newtown, Connecticut, school on Dec. 14, 2012, to go forward.

The lawsuit says the Madison, North Carolina-based company should never have sold a weapon as

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dangerous as the Bushmaster AR-15-style rifle to the general public. It also alleges Remington targeted younger, at-risk males in marketing and product placement in violent video games. Opponents of the suit contend that gunman Adam Lanza alone is responsible for killing 20 first graders and six educators. He was 20 years old.

"I support the Second Amendment and the right to own firearms and guns, but on the other hand there's reckless advertising and marketing," said Neil Heslin, whose son, Jesse Lewis, died in the shooting. "There should be accountability and responsibility for that."

The families' lawyer, Joshua Koskoff, said the next step will be the discovery phase in which Remington will be compelled to disclose certain internal company documents.

"The families are just universally happy with this result," he said. "They have wanted nothing more out of this case than to shed light on the conduct of the manufacturer of the weapon that was the source of taking the lives of their loved ones."

Messages seeking comment were left with lawyers for Remington Arms on Tuesday.

A leading gun industry group, the National Shooting Sports Foundation, which happens to be based in Newtown, said it was disappointed the Supreme Court declined to review the case but is confident Remington will win in the trial court.

"Nothing in Remington's advertising of these products connotes or encourages the illegal or negligent misuse of firearms," the group said in a statement. "We continue to feel sympathy toward the Sandy Hook victims, as NSSF is headquartered in Newtown, but Adam Lanza alone is responsible for his heinous actions."

Before the school shooting, Lanza shot his mother to death at their Newtown home. He killed himself as police arrived at the school. The rifle was legally owned by his mother.

The Connecticut Supreme Court had earlier ruled 4-3 that the lawsuit could proceed for now, citing an exemption in the federal law. The decision overturned a ruling by a trial court judge who dismissed the lawsuit based on the 2005 federal law, named the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act.

The majority of justices in the state Supreme Court ruling, however, said it may be a "Herculean task" for the families to prove their case at trial.

The federal law has been criticized by gun control advocates as being too favorable to gun-makers. It has been cited by other courts that rejected lawsuits against gun-makers and dealers in other high-profile shooting attacks, including the 2012 Colorado movie theater shooting and the Washington, D.C., sniper shootings in 2002.

The National Rifle Association, 10 mainly Republican-led states and 22 Republicans in Congress were among those urging the U.S. Supreme Court to jump into the case and end the lawsuit against Remington.

Democratic lawmakers from Connecticut, including Sens. Richard Blumenthal and Chris Murphy and Rep. Jahana Hayes, said in a statement that the 2005 federal law needs to be repealed.

"For years, gun manufacturers have been allowed to operate with near-blanket immunity — producing weapons of war and marketing them to the masses with zero accountability," they said. "This critical victory reinforces the need for Congress to pass legislation repealing the gun industry's sweetheart immunity deal and unlocking the doors to justice for all victims of gun violence."

Collins reported from Hartford, Connecticut.

## Disney Plus suffers some technical difficulties at launch

NEW YORK (AP) — Disney's brand-new streaming service Disney Plus may be a victim of its own success. The \$7-a-month service offering an array of Disney classics and new shows suffered some technical difficulties hours after launching at 3 a.m. E.T. on Tuesday.

The problems started a little before 7 a.m., according to downdetector.com, a website that tracks outages. It received more than 8,000 reports of difficulties, mostly with video streaming. Others reported problems logging in. The reports peaked around 9 a.m. and had dwindled by 1 p.m.

Disney said it was working to resolve the issue after consumer demand exceeded its expectations, said

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spokeswoman Karen Hobson. The company did not say what caused the problem.

Disney has invested billions in its streaming service, beginning with the purchase of a stake in streaming technology company BAMTech in 2016, which it later increased to a majority stake. In 2018 Disney launched ESPN Plus using technology from BAMTech. That service now has 3.5 million subscribers.

In a call with analysts on Nov. 7, CEO Bob Iger said he was confident that the technology in place could handle an influx of users.

"We feel that the platform is robust enough and that all the elements that need to be in place to manage that kind of scale are there," he said.

## Clinton: UK voters must see Russian influence report

By DANICA KIRKA Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Hillary Clinton says she's "dumbfounded" that the U.K. government has failed to release a report on Russian influence in British politics before the country holds a national election next month.

The former U.S. presidential candidate told British media that the public needs to know what is in the report by Parliament's Intelligence and Security Committee before voters go to the polls on Dec. 12.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson's government has said it needs more time to review the security implications of the report before it is released. Critics, however, allege the report is being withheld until after the election because it is embarrassing to Johnson's Conservative Party, which is trying to win a majority and push through Johnson's Brexit plan to take Britain out of the European Union.

"I'm dumbfounded that this government won't release the report ... because every person who votes in this country deserves to see that report before your election happens," Clinton told the BBC on Tuesday. "There is no doubt ... that Russia in particular is determined to try to shape the politics of Western democracies, not to our benefit but to theirs."

Former Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into the 2016 U.S. presidential election found that Russia interfered in the vote in a "sweeping and systemic" fashion. U.S. President Donald Trump, who won that vote, has dismissed the Mueller report's conclusions, but the investigation has put Russia into the crosshairs of a debate on the integrity of elections worldwide.

Clinton also spoke about the British report with the Guardian newspaper as she promoted "The Book of Gutsy Women," written with her daughter, Chelsea. The former U.S. Secretary of State said she wished she had been more "gutsy" in exposing Russian efforts to influence the 2016 U.S. presidential election.

"I am, as a great admirer of Britain, concerned, because I can't make sense of what is happening," Clinton told the Guardian. "We have a president who admires dictators and takes their help and does all kinds of crazy stuff. So we need you to be the sane member of this partnership going forward."

The Intelligence and Security Committee began its investigation following allegations of Russian interference both in the 2016 U.S. election and the British referendum on the country's EU membership earlier that year.

The investigation began in November 2017, but the importance of the probe was highlighted in March 2018, when a former Russian spy and his daughter were poisoned with a chemical nerve agent in the cathedral city of Salisbury in southern England. Britain says Russian agents were behind the near-fatal poisonings, a charge that Russia denies.

The intelligence committee sent its report to Johnson for review on Oct. 17, saying it expected "to publish the report imminently." Committee Chairman Dominic Grieve has criticized Johnson's government for failing to release the document amid media reports it has already been cleared by British security services.

Among those who gave evidence to the committee was Bill Browder, founder of Hermitage Capital Management. Browder worked in Russia until 2005 and has campaigned for sanctions against Russian President Vladimir Putin's government since 2009, when his lawyer died in a Russian prison. He told The Associated Press that by failing to release the Russian influence report, Johnson has made it worse for himself by implying there is something to hide.

"Nobody likes a cover-up," Browder said.

Lawmakers from a range of parties, including Johnson's Conservatives, urged the government earlier

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this month to publish the report during a debate in the House of Commons.

Foreign Office minister Christopher Pincher argued it was “not unusual” for such reviews to “take some time,” but others suggested the reasons are baldly political. The Sunday Times reported that nine Russian businesspeople who have donated money to the Conservatives are named in the report.

The Russian report comes amid increasing concerns about the security of an election fought in an increasingly digital world. Britain’s election laws are woefully out of date, written more for a time when leaflets were pushed through mailboxes, not as Facebook and other social media giants publish political ads.

Following an 18-month investigation into online privacy and the use of social media to spread disinformation, an parliamentary committee in February urged the British government to urgently approve new laws addressing internet campaign techniques, insisting that democracy itself was under threat.

While the government agreed with many of the recommendations made by the Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Committee, it has done little other than circulate its own report for public comment. Former committee chairman Damian Collins said the government had planned to modernize Britain’s electoral laws at the latest by 2022, the original date for the next general election.

But Johnson called an early election in response to the political turmoil caused by Britain’s pending departure from the EU, which is scheduled for Jan. 31. So now Britain’s 46 million eligible voters will be choosing 650 lawmakers in the House of Commons in the Dec. 12 vote.

The election campaign is already being fought online.

The Labour Party announced Tuesday that it had experienced a “sophisticated and large-scale cyberattack” on its digital platforms. The main opposition party says the attack did not succeed because of “robust security systems” and it had referred the matter to the National Cyber Security Centre.

A source at the Centre told Britain’s Press Association that the denial-of-service attack was relatively low-level with no evidence of “state-sponsored” activity. Such an attack aims to slow down access and cause websites to crash by flooding them with traffic.

Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn, who was campaigning in Blackpool, still expressed dismay.

“If this is a sign of things to come in this election, I feel very nervous about it all. Because a cyberattack against a political party in an election is suspicious, something one is very worried about,” he said.

Earlier in the campaign, the Conservatives posted an altered video on Twitter and Facebook of a television interview with Keir Starmer, a senior Labour figure, that misleadingly showed him failing to answer a Brexit question when in reality, he did. The chairman of the Conservative Party called the doctored video a lighthearted satire, but it highlights the gray ethical area being exploited by the campaigns.

Social media companies have faced global scrutiny worldwide following allegations that political consultant Cambridge Analytica used data from tens of millions of Facebook accounts to profile voters and help Trump’s 2016 election campaign.

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

## Then and now: How Trump impeachment hearing is different

By ERIC TUCKER Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The public impeachment inquiry hearings this week usher in a rare and momentous occasion in American history as Congress debates whether to remove a president from office.

There are consistencies in the process — televised hearings, partisan rancor and memorable speeches — but each impeachment process also stands alone as a reflection of the president, the Congress and the times.

Even if the two most recent impeachment proceedings — against Presidents Richard Nixon and Bill Clinton — offer instructive clues about the path ahead, there are notable differences in the case surrounding Donald Trump.

A look at then and now:

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THEN: During the Clinton impeachment, the House held no serious hearings because the independent counsel, Kenneth Starr, had delivered dozens of boxes of evidence with recommendations for charges. Even during the Nixon proceedings decades earlier, lawmakers were considering evidence gathered through months of investigations by specially appointed prosecutors — first Archibald Cox and later Leon Jaworski. In both cases, the impeachment proceedings followed extensive law enforcement investigations.

NOW: The House Intelligence Committee has taken on the primary role of assembling a case against Trump, with no supplemental Justice Department investigation. These impeachment proceedings are unfolding simultaneous to the investigation itself.

“The House actually having to investigate on its own with the benefit of nobody else’s resources, that’s new,” said Frank Bowman, a University of Missouri law professor and legal historian and author of “High Crimes and Misdemeanors: A History of Impeachment for the Age of Trump.”

THEN: During Watergate, the Senate held televised hearings that served to turn public opinion against Nixon, and he eventually resigned before a formal vote by the full House. The most sensational moments — including the testimony of White House counsel John Dean and Sen. Howard Baker’s famous question, “What did the president know and when did he know it?” — occurred not during House impeachment hearings but during special Watergate hearings in the Senate.

NOW: The House hearings represent the public’s first time hearing witnesses involved in the controversy. The three witnesses up first have appeared behind closed doors, and transcripts of their private depositions suggest the potential for dramatic and quotable testimony. One State Department official, George Kent, accused Trump’s personal attorney Rudy Giuliani of leading a “campaign of slander” against the U.S. ambassador to Ukraine. Another, William Taylor, has said he had a “clear understanding” of a desired quid pro quo: military aid in exchange for investigations of a political rival.

THEN: Nixon’s exit was sealed when members of his own party came out against him, with some breaking ranks and voting to adopt articles of impeachment. Three top Republican leaders in Congress, including Sen. Barry Goldwater of Arizona, visited Nixon at the White House in August 1974 to warn him he faced near-certain impeachment. Even Democrats who voted against convicting Clinton made clear their disapproval, with then-Sen. Joe Lieberman of Connecticut famously taking to the Senate floor to call the president’s conduct immoral.

“When we look back on ’74, it wasn’t that all Republicans turned on Nixon — far from it. But enough did that it became apparent that he wasn’t going to be able to hold the ground,” said William Howell, a political science professor at the University of Chicago.

NOW: There have been sporadic grumblings of discontent from Republicans in Congress, most notably from Sen. Mitt Romney of Utah, but the Trump impeachment proceedings are unfolding in a considerably more partisan and polarizing time than the Clinton and Nixon eras, and there’s no reason to think there’s going to be any significant abandonment in support of Trump from his own party.

THEN: There was no internet during the Nixon administration and it wasn’t yet in widespread use even during the Clinton era. Twitter, Facebook and other social media platforms were years away. When Americans tuned in to Senate Watergate hearings, they participated in a communal experience, watching the same live programming.

NOW: It’s safe to expect that the president, known to consume television news shows in the morning and tweet in response to what he sees, will be keeping careful track of the impeachment proceedings. He’ll likely counterpunch in real time. That instantaneous response could rapidly shape the public narrative, while TV networks that have surfaced since the Watergate era to appeal to partisan interests — Fox News Channel on the right and MSNBC on the left — could strengthen or reaffirm preexisting views.

THEN: Sure, Nixon railed against his critics, including the media. And, yes, Clinton and his supporters attacked Starr. But both — one a career politician, the other a Yale-educated lawyer — accepted their fates

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and respected the institutions that decided them.

Clinton delivered a Rose Garden statement as the House moved toward impeachment, and though he didn't mention the "I-word," he conveyed contrition. The president accepted "responsibility for what I did wrong in my personal life" and pledged to push the country forward. Nixon accepted a Supreme Court opinion that forced him to turn over incriminating personal recordings and resigned before he could be impeached.

NOW: It remains to be seen how willingly Trump will accept whatever courts and the Congress decide. Trump famously equivocated in 2016 on the question of whether he would accept the election results if he were to lose to Democratic rival Hillary Clinton. He's similarly called the impeachment inquiry a hoax, just as he did special counsel Robert Mueller's Russia investigation.

The White House has sought to stonewall the impeachment inquiry by directing executive branch employees to skip their appearances, but many officials defied the directive and showed up anyway. That recalcitrance raises questions about how prepared the president is to comply with directives from the court — should they come — or to accept whatever outcome awaits him in Congress.

"The president has never had the gall to essentially just tell Congress to go screw itself in an impeachment investigation," Bowman said.

## **Powell to testify before Congress as Fed pauses rate cuts**

**By CHRISTOPHER RUGABER AP Economics Writer**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell is due to testify Wednesday in Congress about the outlook for the U.S. economy, giving his perspective two weeks after the Fed cut interest rates for a third time this year.

The Fed signaled after its Oct. 29-30 meeting that it would probably hold off on any further cuts as long as the economy stays healthy and inflation moves closer to the central bank's target of 2%.

The three cuts, which lowered the interest rate the Fed controls to a range of 1.5% to 1.75%, were intended to offset drags from slower global growth and the U.S.-China trade war.

Powell is scheduled to appear Wednesday before Congress' Joint Economic Committee. He and other Fed officials have said they believe the cuts are working, as lower borrowing costs have encouraged more Americans to buy homes and splurge on appliances and electronics.

Broader measures of the economy suggest that growth remains solid if not spectacular. The unemployment rate is near a 50-year low of 3.6% and hiring is strong enough to potentially push the rate even lower. Inflation, according to the Fed's preferred gauge, is just 1.3%, though most Fed officials expect it to move higher in the coming months.

Many Fed officials in public comments this month have voiced support for Fed policy and have expressed confidence in the economy.

Neel Kashkari, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, said in an interview on CNBC last week that "if the economy continues to perform as we expect" than the Fed is likely done cutting rates, "but we need to see." Kashkari is one of the most dovish officials on the Fed's 17-member policymaking committee, though he doesn't have a vote this year.

John Williams, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, and several other Fed officials last week said that the three cuts have left the benchmark interest rate low enough to support growth.

Most analysts forecast that the Fed will hold rates steady when it meets next month. But some economists expect growth will slow in the coming months and the Fed will likely have to cut again next year.

## **Asian stocks sink after Trump threatens more China tariffs**

**By JOE McDONALD AP Business Writer**

BEIJING (AP) — Asian stocks sank Wednesday after U.S. President Donald Trump threatened more tariff hikes on Chinese imports if talks aimed at ending a trade war fail to produce an interim agreement.

Market benchmarks in Shanghai, Tokyo, Hong Kong and Southeast Asia all declined.

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Trump said Tuesday that agreement on the "Phase 1" deal announced last month "could happen soon." But he warned he was ready to raise tariffs on Chinese imports "very substantially" if that fails.

Talks appear to be hung up on Chinese pressure for Washington to roll back some of its punitive tariffs imposed in the fight over Beijing's trade surplus and technology ambitions. The Chinese government said last week negotiators had agreed, but Trump denied that.

Trump's comments "served as a reminder of the challenge that the two sides face," said Jingyi Pan of IG in a report. However, she said, investors saw them as "positioning statements," reducing their impact.

The comments did little to jolt Wall Street, which closed with modest gains.

The Shanghai Composite Index lost 0.2% to 2,908.63 and Tokyo's Nikkei 225 sank 0.9% to 23,303.13. Hong Kong's Hang Seng tumbled 1.9% to 26,549.

Seoul's Kospi retreated 0.8% to 2,124.68 and Sydney's S&P-ASX 200 was 0.6% lower at 6,715.70. Taiwan, New Zealand and Singapore also declined.

Hong Kong shares have been jolted by an escalation in violence in five-month-old anti-government protests. A protester was shot Monday and others blocked streets and commuter rail tracks and set off gasoline bombs at the University of Hong Kong.

The protests began in June over a proposed extradition law and have grown to include demands for greater democracy and other grievances. Already under pressure from weak global demand and the U.S.-China tariff war, Hong Kong has tumbled into its first recession in a decade.

On Wall Street, the benchmark S&P 500 index rose past the 3,100 level for the first time but the gains didn't hold. The index ended up 0.2% at 3,091.84.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed unchanged at 27,691.49. The Nasdaq gained 0.3% to a record 8,486.09.

Momentum for the market has been mostly upward for more than five weeks as worries about the U.S.-China trade war have eased, among other factors.

Health care, technology and communication services stocks led gains Tuesday, outweighing losses in energy companies and elsewhere.

This week, the U.S. Labor Department is due to give updates on consumer and wholesale inflation. Economists expect a government report to show retail sales returned to growth in October.

Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell is due to give testimony to Congress on Wednesday about the U.S. economy. Most investors expect the Fed to keep interest rates on hold for now after cutting them three times since the summer.

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude lost 6 cents to \$56.74 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract fell 6 cents on Tuesday to close at \$56.80. Brent crude, used to price international oils, shed 10 cents to \$61.96 per barrel in London. It retreated 12 cents to \$62.06 the previous session.

CURRENCY: The dollar gained to 109.06 yen from Tuesday's 109.01 yen. The euro advanced to \$1.1013 from \$1.1010.

## Today in History

By The Associated Press undefined

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, Nov. 13, the 317th day of 2019. There are 48 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 13, 1956, the Supreme Court struck down laws calling for racial segregation on public buses.

On this date:

In 1312, England's King Edward III was born at Windsor Castle.

In 1789, Benjamin Franklin wrote in a letter to a friend, Jean-Baptiste Leroy: "In this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes."

In 1911, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that an unauthorized motion picture adaptation of the novel "Ben-

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Hur" by General Lew Wallace infringed on the book's copyright.

In 1940, the Walt Disney film "Fantasia," featuring animated segments set to classical music, had its world premiere in New York.

In 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed a measure lowering the minimum draft age from 21 to 18.

In 1969, speaking in Des Moines, Iowa, Vice President Spiro T. Agnew accused network television news departments of bias and distortion, and urged viewers to lodge complaints.

In 1974, Karen Silkwood, a 28-year-old technician and union activist at the Kerr-McGee Cimarron plutonium plant near Crescent, Oklahoma, died in a car crash while on her way to meet a reporter.

In 1982, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial was dedicated on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

In 1985, some 23,000 residents of Armero, Colombia, died when a volcanic mudslide buried the city.

In 2000, lawyers for George W. Bush failed to win a court order barring manual recounts of ballots in Florida. Florida Secretary of State Katherine Harris announced she would end the recounting at 5 p.m. Eastern time the next day -- prompting an immediate appeal by lawyers for Al Gore.

In 2001, President George W. Bush approved the use of a special military tribunal that could put accused terrorists on trial faster and in greater secrecy than an ordinary criminal court. President Bush and Russian President Vladimir Putin met at the White House, where they pledged to slash Cold War-era nuclear arsenals by two-thirds.

In 2015, Islamic State militants carried out a set of coordinated attacks in Paris on the national stadium, restaurants and streets, and a crowded concert hall, killing 130 people in the worst attack on French soil since World War II.

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama, in Tokyo at the start of a weeklong trip to Asia, said his decision about how many troops to send to Afghanistan would come soon and that he was bent on "getting this right." U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder announced a decision to bring professed 9/11 mastermind Khalid Sheikh Mohammed and four others detained at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to trial in lower Manhattan (this plan was later dropped). Scientists said analysis of data from two NASA spacecraft that were intentionally crashed into the moon showed ample water near the lunar south pole.

Five years ago: The European Space Agency published the first images taken from the surface of a comet; the photos sent back to Earth showed a rocky surface, with one of the lander's three feet in the corner of the frame. Clayton Kershaw became the first pitcher to win the National League MVP award since Bob Gibson in 1968; Los Angeles Angels' outfielder Mike Trout was a unanimous pick for the AL MVP.

One year ago: CNN went to court, demanding the reinstatement of the White House press credentials of correspondent Jim Acosta. (A federal judge later ordered the administration to immediately return Acosta's press credentials; the White House then dropped its effort to bar Acosta but warned he could have his credentials pulled again.) Amazon announced that it had chosen a neighborhood in the New York City borough of Queens and Arlington, Virginia, as the two locations for its new East Coast headquarters. (Amazon later abandoned its New York plans amid pushback from politicians and activists.)

Today's Birthdays: Journalist-author Peter Arnett is 85. Actor Jimmy Hawkins is 78. Blues singer John Hammond is 77. Country singer-songwriter Ray Wylie Hubbard is 73. Actor Joe Mantegna is 72. Actress Sheila Frazier is 71. Musician Andrew Ranken (The Pogues) is 66. Actress Tracy Scoggins is 66. Actor Chris Noth (noth) is 65. Actress-comedian Whoopi Goldberg is 64. Actor Rex Linn is 63. Actress Caroline Goodall is 60. Actor Neil Flynn is 59. Former NFL quarterback and College Football Hall of Famer Vinny Testaverde (tehs-teh-VUR'-dee) is 56. Rock musician Walter Kibby (Fishbone) is 55. Comedian and talk show host Jimmy Kimmel is 52. Actor Steve Zahn is 52. Actor Gerard Butler is 50. Writer-activist Ayaan Hirsi Ali is 50. Actor Jordan Bridges is 46. Actress Aisha Hinds is 44. Rock musician Nikolai Fraiture is 41. Former NBA All-Star Metta World Peace (formerly Ron Artest) is 40. Actress Monique Coleman is 39. Actor Rahul Kohli is 34. Actor Devon Bostick is 28.

Thought for Today: "I have always imagined that Paradise will be a kind of library." — Jorge Luis Borges, Argentine author (1899-1986).

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