1830

As al-Qaida Grows, Leaders Remain A Global Threat Rummage Sales

Step 2 car, video games, DVDs, VHS movies, animal crate, kerosene laps, bikes, microwave, housewares, meat grinders, canning jars, bedding, pillows, curtains, candles, mirrors, baskets, 33-1/3 RPM records. holiday decorations. Hawaiian theme party decorations, kids books, romance novels, TOYS: stuffed toys, games, LOTS OF MISCELLA-NEOUS. Cash only.

1840 Lost and Found

Found: Key with fob on Saturday, 8/3 near Lewis & Clark Lake spillway. (605)857-1520 to identify.

Found: Padlock on West City Limits Rd., Wednesday, 8/7, call (605)660-4386 to identify.

1870 Ag Equipment



Flair box grain wagon with hydraulic lift and custom cover. \$650/OBO. (605)665-4824.

Livestock - Poultry 1875 Holstein Steers 185 at 550lbs. 160 at 640lbs., 110 at 945lbs. Double vaccinated, wormed, sell any number, can deliver Jeff Twardowski (320)732-6259.



Free vendor marketplace space at The Landing every Wednesday. Live music. Now booking Riverboat Days vendors. (605)260-6870.



8+8+15

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON APPLICATION FOR TEMPORARY LICENSE APPLICATION FOR WINE TASTING EVENT

Notice is hereby given that the Board of County Commissioners in and for the County of Yankton, South Dakota, on the 20th day of August, 2013, at the hour of 3:45 PM, at the Yankton County Courthouse in the Commissioners Chambers will meet to consider the following application from Hy-Vee Wine & Spirits for temporary application for a 1-day Wine License: Hv-Vee Wine Tasting on August 28th, 2013, at 31299 449th Avenue, Gayville, SD. Notice is further given that any person, persons, or their attorney may appear and be heard at said scheduled public hearing who may be interested in the approval or rejection of such applications. Patty Hojem, Yankton County Auditor

Published twice at the approximate cost of \$19.37.

BY LARA JAKES AP National Security Writer

> WASHINGTON — Far from being on the brink of collapse, al-Qaida's core leadership remains a potent threat and one that experts say has encouraged the terror network's spread into more countries today than it was operating in immediately after 9/11.

President Barack Obama, who ordered the May 2011 raid that killed Osama bin Laden, has described al-Qaida's headquarters as "a shadow of its former self" and his spokesman Jay Carney has called it "severely diminished" and "decimated." The bravado, however, didn't match the Obama administration's action this week.

Nineteen U.S. diplomatic outposts stretching across the Eastern Hemisphere remain closed, and nonessential personnel have been evacuated from the U.S. Embassy in Yemen after intelligence officials said they had intercepted a recent message from al-Qaida's top leader about plans for a major terror attack.

The new communique came from bin Laden's replacement. Avman al-Zawahri, who as early as December 2001 announced plans to decentralize the network and scatter its affiliates across the globe as a way of ensuring its survival.

Now, major al-Qaida hubs are thriving along the Iraqi-Syrian border, in North Africa and, in the most serious risk to the U.S., in Yemen.

The regional hubs may not take direct orders from al-Zawahri, and terror experts say they rarely coordinate operations with each other or share funding and fighters. But they have promoted al-Qaida's mission far beyond what its reach was a dozen years ago and, in turn, created an enduring legacy for its core leaders.

"Even while the core al-Qaida group may be in decline, al-Qaida-ism, the movement's ideology, continues to resonate and attract new adherents, Bruce Hoffman, director of the Security Studies Program at Georgetown University, wrote in a research paper earlier this year.

Bin Laden's death, Hoffman wrote, 'left behind a resilient movement that, although seriously weakened, has been expanding and consolidating its control in new and far-flung locales.

On Wednesday, State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki said the U.S. has focused on al-Qaida's affiliates,

including the one based in Yemen, after targeting the terror network's top leaders in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

We're not naive about the challenges we're facing," Psaki said. "We do think a threat still remains.

"We're intensifying our effort on affiliates," she said. "That's part of what our focus is. And, yes, we've had some successes.

Al-Zawahri, an Egyptian whose location is unknown, issues messages to followers every few months that are posted and circulated on jihadi websites. His latest, posted July 30, lashed out at Obama for the continued U.S. detention of terror suspects at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and for launching deadly drone attacks in Pakistan, Afghanistan, Yemen and other Muslim countries.

'You fought us for 13 years. ... Did we soften or toughen up? Did we back out or advance? Did we withdraw or spread out?" al-Zawahri asked Obama in his July 30 message, according to a transcript of his letter that was translated from Arabic by SITE Intelligence Group, which monitors jihadist websites

He continued, "I call on every Muslim in every spot on Earth to seek with all that he can to stop the crimes of America and its allies against the Muslims — in Palestine, Iraq, Afghanistan, Yemen and Mali, and everywhere,'

Three days later, the State Department announced the temporary closing of U.S. embassies and diplomatic outposts across the Mideast, Africa and Asia — although not in Iraq, Afghanistan, Israel or Mali. Officials this week said the closures were prompted by an unspecified threat to J.S. and Western interests in a message from al-Zawahri to his top lieutenant in Yemen, where al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula is based.

AQAP, as the terror network's regional hub is known, is led by Nasser al-Wahishi, who for years was close to al-Zawahri and bin Laden, and is one of al-Qaida's few remaining core leaders, said SITE director Rita Katz.

Intelligence officials say AQAP has for years announced its intent to attack the U.S., and is widely considered the biggest threat to the West of the al-Qaida affiliates. The group is linked to the botched Christmas Day 2009 bombing of an airliner bound for Detroit and explosives-laden parcels intercepted aboard cargo flights a year

Katz said AQAP may serve as the future al-Qaida headquarters, given that al-Zawahri and other core leaders pay attention to al-Wahishi. But she warned, "There will be a new leader in the future, and I doubt it will stay the same.

For the most part, al-Qaida's regional power centers have formed in places undergoing political upheaval, where security forces are too distracted by internal war or strife to clamp down on extremists.

The civil war in Syria, now in its third year, has given al-Qaida a huge boost and an opportunity to seize land that the Sunni-based network has long yearned to control. Having a leadership role in Syria would be a victory for al-Qaida given the country's prominence in Muslim scripture, its proximity to other Arab states and the network's hatred toward Alawites, an offshoot of Shiite Islam, who include Syrian President Bashar Assad.

More than 100,000 people have died in the Syrian war, which largely pits Sunni opposition forces and rebels against Assad's Alawite regime, and has drawn fighters linked to al-Qaida. Many have come from neighboring Iraq, which itself is reeling from political instability.

Violence has risen steadily since the American military left Iraq in December 2011, fueled in part by Syrian cross-border militant traffic but also because of Baghdad's inability to curb attacks.

July was the deadliest month in Iraq in years, with attacks killing more than 1,000 people and wounding at least 2,300, according to U.N. data. And coordinated jailbreaks at two high-security Iraqi prisons last month set free hundreds of inmates, including al-Qaida extremists. Iraq's branch of al-Qaida, known as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, claimed responsibility for the raids that it said were planned for months.

Kenneth Pollack, who oversaw Persian Gulf issues while on the White House National Security Council during the Clinton administration, said al-Qaida is poised to gain from instability across the Mideast — in part by using Iraq as a regional hub.

'Al-Qaida in Iraq is back. They were dead in 2010, dead as doornails, and now they are huge in Iraq," Pollack said. "They have operations in Syria and they are a real movement in Syria. But the al-Qaida fighters in Iraq and

Svria have shown little interest in attacking Americans beyond the region, Pollack said, and neither have most of those in northern Africa. There, in a region that spans across the Sahel and stretches from the Mediterranean Sea to Somalia, a spread of militants are calling themselves al-Qaida in Islamic Maghreb.

AQIM is rooted in Algeria and affiliated with al-Zawahri, who in April warned French troops fighting extremists in Mali that they would face "the same fate America met in Iraq and Afghanistan" as long as they stayed. But there's no evidence the North African groups receive direct orders from al-Zawahri, and most are as motivated by asserting local authority through criminal activity as by anti-Western ideology.

It's believed that AQIM was linked to some of the militants behind last vear's attack on a diplomatic post in Benghazi, Libya, that killed Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans. And AQIM is suspected of driving overloaded trucks of rifles, mortars and other weapons from Libya to Mali and Niger to arm allies there.

Al-Zawahri also urged Muslims to join Somali militants in a message last November. The Somali-based militant group al-Shabab is loosely linked to al-Qaida, but some of its members have plotted attacks against the United States, where large pockets of Somalis have moved to escape famine and war over the last 20 years.

An inevitable part of al-Qaida's growth is its new regional leadership - few of whom fought with bin Laden or have ever worked with al-Zawahri, Katz said. They may not all be driven by the same anti-American or anti-Western fervors that motivated bin Laden, but that makes them no less a global threat as the disparate groups mature.

"In the past, people wanted to go to Afghanistan; it was the dream of every possible jihadi on the front to go to Afghanistan to fight in al-Qaida training camps," Katz said. "You don't see that anymore. No one cares about what's happening in Afghanistan.

"If anyone wants to go anywhere today it is, of course, Syria," she said. "Going to Yemen is always a good thing for them; going to Somalia is less than it used to be, but it's still another possibility. Things change all the time.

gument that lawmakers sup-

residency, so the prognosis for the fix is uncertain.

During the drawn-out debate over "Obamacare," Democrats kept insisting that their goal was merely to provide uninsured Americans with the same kinds of coverage and choices that members of Congress have. Grassley, in effect, dared his Democratic counterparts to swallow their rhetoric. A "no" vote on his provision would have undercut the arporting the law only wanted regular Americans to enjoy what they themselves had. Under the amendment,

lawmakers themselves and staffers in their personal, or "official," offices would have to exit the federal employee plan and get coverage through new health insurance marketplaces coming under the law. Also known as "exchanges," the marketplaces will offer subsidized private insurance to people who don't have access to a plan on the job.

But the amendment left many key details unclear including whether the gov-

ernment would keep paying its share of premiums, which works out to around 75 percent.

The Office of Personnel Management, which runs the federal employee health plan, said lawmakers themselves are best equipped to decide which staffers are part of their "official" office. The term was not defined in Grassley's amendment, and the OPM said it turns out that congressional staffers in personal offices often also do part of their work for committees or as leadership aides. Those two categories - committee and leadership staffers — are exempt from

Grassley's provision.

A senior congressional staffer familiar with the proposed regulations said several significant issues remain unclear or unresolved. One whole set of questions has to do with residency requirements. Some staffers, for example, may claim residency in their home state while living in Washington, D.C. What if health insurance plans in their home state don't have Washington-area providers in their networks? Other issues could impact coverage for retirees and those nearing retirement.

A spokesman for the federal personnel office refused

an interview request, instead supplying prepared questions and answers that detailed aspects of the proposal.

The new insurance markets will start signing up people on Oct. 1 for coverage that's effective Jan. 1. OPM said lawmakers will have to decide the status of their employees before the end of the year.

That could mean the difference between a routine reenrollment or venturing into uncharted territory. Staffers waiting to find out might want to be extra nice to the boss in the meantime.

Introducing

Newest Ear,

Throat Doctor

Yankton's

Nose and

Health From Page 1

later.

8+8+15 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER OF LIQUOR LI CENSE FOR 2013-2014

Notice is hereby given that the Board of County Commissioners in and for the County of Yankton, South Dakota, on the 20th of August, 2013, at the hour of 3:45 PM, at the Yankton County Government Center in the Commissioners Chambers will meet to consider the following application for Liquor License transfer. which has been presented to the Board of County Commissioners and filed in the County Auditor's Office:

Transfer from Lorna Phillips dba The Rock House to Jolene Foss dba Quarry Steakhouse located in Section 17, Township 93N, Range 56W. Notice is further

given that any person, persons, or their attorney may appear and

be heard at said scheduled public hearing who are interested in the approval or rejection

of such transfer.

Patty Hojem, Yankton County Auditor

Published twice at the approximate cost of \$21.46.

Parade

From Page 1

owners and drivers be informed of their responsibilities and required to submit certificates of insurance.

"Everyone has to understand what's going on," he said.

Following the discussion, Johnke presented a list of modifications to this year's parade that the school plans on implementing, including the following:

• No students would ride on vehicles in the parade, with the exception of homecoming royalty in a school vehicle driven by a school employee;

• Other YHS student groups could follow behind as long as they walk and are nowhere near the royalty vehicle:

• There would be no more student float-building during homeroom, but students

could create signs and walk with them during the parade;

• YHS Hall of Fame inductees, starting with the class of 2014, would be included in the parade if they choose:

• YHS Alumni and Yankton community members could enter floats in the parade as long as students do not ride on them, with the exception of students riding with their parents. Certificates of insurance would be required for any entries;

• All students would be dismissed before the parade started, with bus routes running at that time. Parents and students would be responsible for students getting to the parade should they choose to participate. The YHS 2013 Pioneer

Days will be celebrated the week of Sept. 23-27, with the homecoming parade held Fri-day, Sept. 27.

You can follow Derek Bartos on Twitter at twitter.com/d_bartos



Micah M. Likness, M.D. Otolaryngologist

Dr. Likness completed his bachelors degree at University of South Dakota and his medical degree from the Sanford School of Medicine of the University of South Dakota. He completed his residency with State University of New York.

Crops

From Page 1

percent of corn in South Dakota was silking through July 28. Through Aug. 4, that number jumped to 87 per-cent, with 74 percent in good to excellent condition.

The report also stated that 89 percent of soybeans in the state have bloomed as of Aug. 4, compared to 74 percent through July 28. Sixty-nine percent of the soybeans were rated in good to excellent condition.

Johnson added that not only has the recent rain helped with crop conditions now, but it also should help in the weeks to come.

'August is when we have the greatest demand for water for both corn and

beans," he said. "Whatever we can do to get that profile as full as we can right now will help make sure we can keep that crop going and not hurting for moisture."

In addition to positive crop conditions, Johnson said there are also few concerns about weeds or insects.

"In the case of corn, we might have to look at some control measures after brown silk. With beans, we might look at some pre-harvest treatment. Otherwise, we're not seeing any big problems," he said. "We still want to keep looking for the soybean aphids, because we know that those can increase rapidly. But at this point, we haven't had any big outbreaks that require much spraying.'

In order to continue the progress that is being made with crops throughout southeast South Dakota, Johnson said the area needs to see temperatures that are warm enough to help the plants mature.

"The best thing we can have is to have the heat turned back up a bit," he said. "We like to see daytime temperatures at about 85 degrees and nighttime in those upper 60s. That's ideal for helping the crops progress as much as they can."

According to the National Weather Service, the weather forecast through the middle of next week includes highs mostly in the upper 70s to lower 80s, with lows mostly in the lower 60s.

"Overall, I think we're in pretty good shape with good potential," Johnson said.

You can follow Derek Bartos on Twitter at twitter.com/d_bartos



