

Fiscal Talks At A Standstill

BY DAVID ESPO

AP Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON — A year-end deadline approaching, negotiations to avoid an economy-rattling “fiscal cliff” appeared at a standstill Monday. Republicans pressed President Barack Obama to name specific spending cuts he will support, while the White House insisted the GOP agree explicitly to raise tax rates on upper incomes.

At a campaign-style event in Michigan, Obama warned his listeners their taxes will rise on Jan. 1 without action by the Congress. “That’s a hit you can’t afford to take,” he declared.

He spoke one day after meeting privately at the White House with House Speaker John Boehner, whose office expressed frustration with the talks to date.

“We continue to wait for the president to identify the spending cuts he’s willing to make as part of the ‘balanced’ approach he promised the American people,” said a written statement from the Ohio Republican’s office.

The negotiations are designed to prevent across-the-board tax increases and spending cuts scheduled to begin at the turn of the year, a combination that economists say poses the threat of a new recession.

While leaders in both parties say they are eager to avoid that “cliff,” negotiations on a plan to cut deficits



ROMAIN BLANQUART/DETROIT FREE PRESS/MCT
President Barack Obama speaks at Detroit Diesel Corp. on Monday in Redford, Mich. The company, owned by Daimler, announced an investment to expand production and jobs at the facility.

by other measures have turned into a major postelection showdown between opposing sides in a divided government.

Many Republicans agree that Obama and the Democrats hold most of the political leverage, given the president’s re-election more than a month ago after a campaign in which he said the wealthy should pay more in taxes.

If anything, the president has toughened his demands in recent days, insisting not only that tax rates must rise, but also that Congress

give him and future presidents the authority to raise the government’s borrowing limit without prior approval by lawmakers.

Boehner, while claiming his own election mandate for the Republican majority in the House, said within a few days of the voting he was prepared to buck many in his party and support additional tax revenue as part of a fiscal cliff agreement.

The Ohio Republican has said repeatedly he opposes Obama’s plan to raise tax rates for anyone, adding that he prefers to raise revenue by

closing loopholes. Yet he has not yet ruled out giving the president his way, and some Republicans have said they are prepared to do so — encouraging Democrats to say they anticipate the speaker will eventually yield on the point.

White House Press Secretary Jay Carney told reporters as Obama went to Michigan that “the president believes that a deal is possible. It requires acceptance and acknowledgment in a concrete way by Republicans that the top 2 percent will see an increase in their rates.”

In his remarks at the Daimler Detroit Diesel Plant, Obama said the Democrats would “make some tough spending cuts on things that we don’t need” as part of his budget plans, although he didn’t mention any of them by name.

Republicans have increasingly expressed frustration in recent days as they accuse Obama and the Democrats of failing to talk in specifics when it comes to spending cuts that many of their constituencies are likely to balk at.

In talks that ended in failure 18 months ago, according to aides in both political parties, Obama had tentatively agreed to a proposal to raise the age of Medicare eligibility from 65 to 67 beginning in a decade, and had also said he would accept a change to slow the annual cost-of-living increases that go to recipients of Social Security and other federal benefits.

Mexican-American Music Superstar Killed

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Jenni Rivera launched her career hawking cassette recordings of her songs at flea markets, but a powerful voice, soulful singing style and frank discussion of personal troubles powered her to the heights of a male-dominated industry, transforming her into the one of the biggest stars of the genre known as grupero.

Her life was cut short at its peak on Sunday by an airplane crash in northern Mexico that also killed six friends and co-workers.

The 43-year-old mother of five and grandmother of two became a symbol of resilience for millions of fans on both sides of the U.S.-Mexican border. Her fame grew as she branched out into acting, appearing in independent film, reality TV and the televised singing competition “La Voz Mexico.”

She had recently filed for divorce from her third husband, was once detained at a Mexico City airport with tens of thousands of dollars in cash, and publicly apologized after her brother assaulted a drunken fan who verbally attacked her in 2011.

“I am the same as the public, as my fans,” she told The Associated Press in an interview last March.

Judge: Strauss-Kahn Settles Assault Lawsuit

NEW YORK (AP) — Former International Monetary Fund leader Dominique Strauss-Kahn and a hotel maid settled her lawsuit Monday over sexual assault allegations that sank his political career and spurred scrutiny of his dealings with women on two continents.

State Supreme Court Justice Douglas McKeon announced that after lengthy negotiations in the suit brought by Nafissatou Diallo, the parties “came together and put terms of a settlement on the record.” The amount of the settlement was kept confidential.

Strauss-Kahn did not attend the hearing on Monday at a Bronx courthouse. Diallo, her hair covered by a leopard-print scarf, looked composed and resolute as the deal was announced.

“I thank everybody all over the world and everybody at the court, and God bless you all,” Diallo said afterward.

Her attorney, Kenneth Thompson, called her “a strong and courageous woman who never lost faith in the justice system. With this resolution, she can move on with her life.”

Egypt’s Military Assumes Temporary Powers

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt’s military assumed responsibility Monday for protecting state institutions and maintaining security ahead of a Dec. 15 constitutional referendum, as the country braced for another round of mass demonstrations by the supporters of the country’s Islamist president and the liberal opposition over the disputed charter.

The referendum on a contentious new constitution lies at the heart of a bitter political battle that has deeply polarized Egypt and triggered some of the worst street violence between backers and opponents of President Mohammed Morsi since he took power in June as the country’s first democratically elected leader.

So far, Morsi has stood firm on the referendum, refusing to yield to opposition demands that he scrap the vote scheduled for Saturday. The opposition, meanwhile, was still trying to decide late Monday whether to boycott the referendum or rally Egyptians to vote “no” to the draft constitution, and hoping that a massive turnout for a rally Tuesday would force the president to cancel the balloting.

“We still have a chance, with popular rejection, to stop the referendum,” said Basil Adel, a former lawmaker and liberal activist.

Egypt’s political crisis began on Nov. 22 when Morsi issued a decree granting himself — and the Islamist-dominated panel writing the constitution — immunity from judicial oversight or challenge. Those decrees sparked mass demonstrations, with opponents saying they were issued initially to protect the draft charter from the judiciary.

Marijuana Officially Legalized In Colorado

DENVER (AP) — Marijuana for recreational use became legal in Colorado Monday, when the governor took the procedural step of declaring the voter-approved change part of the state constitution.

Colorado became the second state after Washington to allow pot use without a doctor’s recommendation. Both states prohibit public use of the drug, and commercial sales in Colorado and Washington won’t be permitted until after regulations are written next year.

Hickenlooper, a Democrat, opposed the measure but had no veto power over the voter-approved amendment to the state constitution. He tweeted his declaration Monday and sent an executive order to reporters by email after the fact. That prevented a countdown to legalization as seen in Washington, where the law’s supporters gathered to smoke in public.

“Voters were loud and clear on Election Day,” Hickenlooper said in his statement. The law allowed him until Jan. 5 to declare marijuana legal.

Adults over 21 in Colorado may now possess up to an ounce of marijuana, or six plants. Public use and sale of the drug remain illegal.



The Press & Dakotan will be discounting private party classified ads in exchange for a non-perishable food donation for the Yankton County Contact Center.

Bring a donation into our office from Dec. 1-31 and receive \$3 off your private party classified ad.

YANKTON DAILY PRESS&DAKOTAN

319 Walnut St • Yankton
 (605)665-7811 • www.yankton.net

Offer only valid on private party ads. Ads must begin running between Dec. 1-31, 2012.

OBITUARIES

Helen Ripple

Helen, Ripple, age 92 of Yankton passed away Friday, December 7, 2012 at Avera Sister James Care Center, Yankton, SD.

Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, December 12, 2012 at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, Lesterville with Rev. Joe Forcelle officiating. Burial will be in the Polish Cemetery, rural Lesterville.

Visitations will begin at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, December 11, 2012 at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton, with a rosary at 7:30 p.m. followed by a Scripture service at 8:00 PM. Visitations will re-



Ripple

Helen was born on August 27, 1920 in Yankton County to William and Mary (Nedved) Pishek. She attended Country School near Tabor and graduated from Tabor High School in 1939. After high school, she cleaned and did housework for many people in the surrounding area then in

sume one hour prior to the service at the church.

Pallbearers are: David Walloch, Kenny Saylor, Joe Walloch, Steve Fryda, Jared Stark and Aaron Pietz.

1949, she went to work at the Pioneer Bakery in Yankton. On February 16, 1949, she was united in marriage to Edwin Ripple at the Congregational Church in Yankton. Helen and Edwin farmed for many years in Yankton County until they both retired. She was a member of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Lesterville, SD. Helen loved traveling, gardening, tending to her flower gardens, but especially enjoyed playing the accordion. Helen and Edwin did not have children but enjoyed always meeting friendly people and smiling faces.

Helen is survived by two nieces, Gladys McCoy of Cler-

mont, FL and Ruth (Paul) Ehmcke of Woodbury, MN; a nephew, Richard Hubacek of Sandy, OR; six great nieces, nephews, and extended family.

She was preceded in death by her parents, one sister, Clara Johnson, and five brothers: Louis, Edward, Ernest, Henry and William Pishek.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
 December 11, 2012

OPSAHL-KOSTEL
 FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY INC.
 Online condolences at:
 www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com

Vlasta ‘Lassie’ Miller

Funeral services for Vlasta “Lassie” Miller, 89, of Tyndall will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, December 14 at the United Methodist Church in Tyndall with Rev. Duane Coates officiating. Interment will follow in the Czech National Cemetery, Tyndall.

Visitation will be held on Thursday from 3:00 p.m. until a 7:00 p.m. prayer service at the Goglin Funeral Home in Tyndall. Lassie passed away on Saturday, December 8, 2012 at the

Good Samaritan Society of Tyndall.

Online condolences may be sent at www.goglinfh.com.

Goglin Funeral Home
 Tyndall - Scotland - Tripp



www.goglinfh.com

Frank Vesely

Funeral services for Frank A. Vesely, 95, of Scotland will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, December 13 at the First Presbyterian Church in Scotland with Rev. Mark Werner officiating. Interment will follow in Rosehill Cemetery, Scotland.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday from 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m., with family present to greet visitors from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at the Goglin Funeral Home in Scotland.

Frank passed away on Sunday, December 9, 2012 at the

Good Samaritan Society of Scotland.

Online condolences may be sent at www.goglinfh.com.

Goglin Funeral Home
 Tyndall - Scotland - Tripp



www.goglinfh.com

Howard ‘Tag’ Wheeler

Howard “Tag” Wheeler, 83, of Yankton died early Monday, Dec. 10, 2012 at his residence.

Mass of Christian Burial is at 10:30 a.m. Friday, Dec. 14, at St. Benedict Catholic Church, Yankton, with the Rev. Ken Lulf officiating. Burial will be in the Bloomfield Cemetery, Bloomfield, Neb., at approximately 1:30 p.m. Friday afternoon.

Visitations begin at 5 p.m.

Thursday at Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton, with a Scripture service at 7:30 p.m. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

Blast From The Past
Breakfast Special \$3.95
 Monday-Friday 6am-11am
Yesterday's Cafe
 2216 Broadway

View Our Video Tributes on-line at...
www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com

WINTZ & RAY
 FUNERAL HOME
 and Cremation Service, Inc.
 605-665-3644

WINTZ
 FUNERAL HOME INC.
 Hartington, Coleridge, Crofton
 402-254-6547

YANKTON MONUMENT CO.
Family Memorials by Gibson

AMBER LARSON

325 Douglas Ave., Yankton, SD 57078
 Office (605) 664-0980 • 1-800-658-2294
 Cell (605) 610-6992 • www.gibsonmonuments.com

Calvary Kids Preschool

Registrations Now Being Accepted

3 year old Class... Tuesday/Thursday, 8:45-11:15 AM
4 year old Class... Monday/Wednesday/Friday, 8:45-11:15 AM
Jr. Kindergarten... Monday-Friday, 12:30-3:00 PM

For more information, call 665-5594
www.calvarykidspreschool.com

GIVE A GIFT CERTIFICATE

Give them the gift they really need!

Happy Holidays from the staff at...

ROGER'S FAMILY PHARMACY
 “A tradition of trust”

218 West 4th Street • Yankton, SD 57078 • (605) 665-8042