

Democrats Hoping Weiner Will Quit

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Democrats are counting on growing pressure from Rep. Anthony Weiner's colleagues, a suggestion from the president and the return of Weiner's pregnant wife from an overseas trip to persuade him to resign over a sexting scandal in which he sent lewd photos of himself and messages to several women.

The House's top Republican, Speaker John Boehner, joined the chorus of Democrats calling for the New York Democrat to quit. House Democrats went behind closed doors for their regular party meeting, but they decided against taking action against Weiner in hopes that he'll resign soon.

A fellow member of Weiner's New York Democratic delegation, Rep. Carolyn McCarthy, said before the meeting, "Hopefully, we are hearing he might resign in a couple of days."

When she emerged later, she added: "He's waiting for his wife to come home. That's what we're hearing from his friends."

Senate Avoids Repealing Ethanol Tax Credits

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate refused to kill a \$5 billion annual subsidy for ethanol on Tuesday, backing continued government aid for a Farm Belt-based industry over deficit reduction in an era of record red ink.

The 40-59 vote, far short of the 60 needed to advance the measure, reflected regional as well as partisan differences, a split among Republicans — and anything but the final word on the issue.

"We continue to spend money that we don't have on things that we don't need," said Sen. Tom Coburn, R-Okla., a prominent deficit hawk who led the effort to eliminate the subsidy immediately.

Supporters of continued federal spending for ethanol argued it is a leading source of alternative fuel and is needed to reduce U.S. dependence on foreign oil.

Army Returns To Baseball-Style Caps

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — After 10 years of complaints, the Army is all but ditching the black wool beret and allowing soldiers to go back to the old brimmed patrol cap for their everyday duties.

"It's the military equivalent of being able to wear a baseball cap to work," said Col. Pete Brooks of the South Carolina Army National Guard. "Wearing the beret in 100-degree South Carolina heat was like wearing a wet piece of black wool on your head."

Army Secretary John McHugh ordered the change to take effect Tuesday, the service's 236th birthday.

Elite units in the 1.1-million-member Army will continue to wear their colored berets as a mark of honor — green for Special Forces, tan for Rangers, maroon for airborne troops. But from now on, other soldiers will have to pull out the black beret only for special events, such as change-of-command ceremonies. Soldiers, of course, will still wear their helmets in combat.

"This just makes things a little bit easier for us," said Staff Sgt. Mylinda DuRousseau, who works with the 3rd Army at nearby Shaw Air Force Base. She said working as a cook meant she had to keep her shoulder-length hair tied back in a bun, which couldn't fit under the tight beret.

Larson

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"One couple got here the day before the flooding started. When they saw what was happening, they turned around and went back to Florida."

Two residents moved their recreational vehicles elsewhere, while one couple moved into a Yankton apartment. Others are staying with relatives. The utilities have been cut to empty homes in the development.

Larson and his wife, Linda, are among the evacuees. For now, they are living in a camper on site but looking for other ac-

commodations. They moved furniture to garages in town and boxed up possessions for storage units.

"There will be so much mold in our house that I don't want to go back in it," he said. "I have flood insurance, but a lot of these people don't."

The Larsons spent Tuesday checking out their quiet development on golf carts.

"Now, it's just me and 42-1/2 million mosquitoes and gnats," Doug said jokingly, swatting the unwelcome visitors attracted by the standing water.

The Larsons keep out intruders, and evacuated residents come back on weekends to check their property, Doug said. "The (Yankton County) sheriff has been good about coming out and

Biden: 'Well Beyond' \$1T In Deficit Cuts

BY ANDREW TAYLOR
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Even as Vice President Joe Biden gave his most optimistic assessment yet of budget talks he's leading, President Barack Obama's Democratic allies in the Senate signaled Tuesday a harder line on Medicare. That stance is complicating any effort to produce a deal to cut the deficit by \$2 trillion or more over the coming decade or so.

Biden said that he's confident that the talks will produce an agreement on cutting the deficit "well beyond" \$1 trillion over 10 to 12 years. The talks are aimed at finding spending cuts to accompany must-do legislation allowing the government to continue to borrow to finance its operations and avoid defaulting on U.S. bonds.

Senate Democrats promised that any Medicare cuts in the measure would come from health care providers rather than cutting back benefits.

The hard line came even as Republicans showed at least some willingness to kill special interest tax breaks this year with a vote

on ending the annual \$5 billion ethanol tax subsidy.

Leaving the Capitol after the group's seventh negotiating session, Biden said he's convinced that the group can come up with an agreement that increases the so-called debt limit and makes significant headway on Obama's promise to cut the deficit by \$4 trillion over the next decade or so.

Republicans insist that increasing the nation's \$14.3 trillion debt limit be matched with a commensurate level of spending cuts. But they also want the legislation to provide enough borrowing room so that there would only need to be one vote on the politically toxic topic before next year's elections.

However, it would take cuts in the \$2.5 trillion range to meet both the GOP requirements and even Biden's rosy update seems to leave the group short of the goal.

The task wasn't made any easier with Tuesday's vow by top Senate Democrats that any deal this summer to cut the deficit won't cut benefits for people enrolled in Medicare.

"We will not allow cuts to seniors' benefits," said Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y.

Republicans are pressing for savings from

the rapidly growing Medicare program, but Democrats stand adamantly against proposals to raise the eligibility age for the program, require wealthier seniors to pay more for Medicare or boosting copayments for visits to doctors and hospitals.

While Democrats are holding firm on Medicare cuts, Republicans maintain that tax increases are also "off the table." Unless either side shows flexibility, that makes it difficult, to say the least, to come up with deficit savings in the \$2 trillion-plus range.

Ironically, the firmer Medicare stance came as Senate GOP conservatives rallied behind a move to cut off the \$5 billion-a-year subsidy for ethanol blenders. The 45-cent-per-gallon subsidy comes in the form of a tax break, even though it's considered by budget gurus as a direct subsidy.

Tuesday's ethanol vote came on a failed attempt by Sen. Tom Coburn, R-Okla., to kill the subsidy for blenders of the fuel, which is mixed with gasoline. Coburn wants to use the money for deficit reduction, a view not shared by Republicans who say any savings from the ethanol cuts should be used to offset lowered tax rates.

Obama Visits Puerto Rico With Eye On U.S. Voters

BY JIM KUHNHEIN
Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — Wooing Hispanic voters back home, President Barack Obama kept his campaign pledge to become the first president since John F. Kennedy to make an official visit to this recession-battered U.S. territory. "The aspirations and the struggles on this island mirror those across America," Obama declared Tuesday.

On a sweltering day, thousands crowded the main roads and waved flags as Obama's mo-

torcade roared by. A huge banner filled eight stories of a building, featuring the images of Kennedy and Obama. "We are proud to be part of history," it said.

Puerto Ricans are an important component of the larger, fast-growing Hispanic population in the U.S. — now totaling 50 million — that Obama wants to mobilize for his re-election.

Even though he spent mere hours in Puerto Rico, at one point savoring a local sandwich specialty, the visit was designed to lift the president's visibility and create goodwill far beyond this island, its grand colonial fortresses

and its azure waters.

"Every day, Boricuas help write the American story," Obama said, using the term Puerto Ricans use to describe themselves.

Residents of Puerto Rico are U.S. citizens but cannot vote in presidential general elections, only in primaries, one of many factors that give rise to a sense of second-class citizenship among some here. But they can vote in the mainland, and Florida, a key presidential battleground, has the second-largest Puerto Rican population in the U.S., behind New York. Pennsylvania, another competitive state, ranks fourth in

Puerto Rican population.

Hispanics accounted for more than half the U.S. population increase over the past decade. National exit polls showed that 67 percent of Latinos voted for Obama in 2008, compared with 31 percent for the Republican nominee, Sen. John McCain, but some Hispanics have become disillusioned with Obama because of his failure to deliver on promises to overhaul immigration policy.

Obama, who visited as a candidate in May 2008, sought to assure his Puerto Rican listeners they were not forgotten by his administration.

OBITUARIES

Muriel Aaen

PIERRE — Muriel Aaen, age 88, of Pierre, SD and formerly of Yankton, SD passed away Saturday, June 11, 2011 at St. Mary's Hospital, Pierre, SD.

Funeral services will be 10:00 a.m. Friday, June 17, 2011 at Trinity Lutheran Church, Yankton, with Bishop David Zellmer officiating. Burial will be in the Zion Cemetery, rural Volin, SD.

Visitations will be 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton, with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the church.

Pallbearers are Mark Freng, Ron Freng, Bruce Brown, Roy Garcia, Dale Hoxeng, David Hoxeng, Terry Hoxeng, Dan Freng and Jon Zavadil.

Muriel was born November 15, 1922, in rural Turner County to Hans and Anna (Andersen) Sorensen. She was baptized and confirmed at Zion Lutheran Church close to Volin. She graduated from Volin High School in 1941. After graduation, she, like many other women at that time, did her part to support the war effort by working in a factory, which was in Rockford Illinois.

She returned to Volin where she met and later married Oliver Aaen on January 23, 1947. They farmed northwest of Volin until they retired and moved to Yankton, SD in 1982. Before retirement, Muriel also enjoyed many years of service for three Yankton County Sheriffs. She later moved to Pierre where she was able to follow her grandchildren in their activities.

Muriel's life experiences engendered many qualities. She was a strong, self-reliant woman who



Aaen

never took no for an answer. Yet she had a wonderful sense of humor. She always had a twinkle in her eye and was quick to tell the latest joke or funny story. But her brother, Richard and Jane Kotowski of Racine; brother, Douglas (Laura) Kotowski of Minneapolis, Minn.; sister, Sarah Kotowski (Heather) of San Francisco, Calif.; partner, Jaime Kubel of Madison; grandmother, Marion Kotowski; numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, friends and loved ones.

Matt grew up in Racine, and attended J.I. Case High School. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, with a degree in pharmacology and toxicology and went on to work as a carpenter with Findorff beginning in 1998.

Matt enjoyed brewing beer and playing sheephead. He was an avid outdoorsman and especially loved to fish.

Matt was a loyal friend and

Matthew Kotowski

MADISON, Wis. — Matthew T. Kotowski, age 37 (January 31, 1974-May 22, 2011), of Madison, Wisc., passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, May 21, 2011.

He is survived by his parents, Richard and Jane Kotowski of Racine; brother, Douglas (Laura) Kotowski of Minneapolis, Minn.; sister, Sarah Kotowski (Heather) of San Francisco, Calif.; partner, Jaime Kubel of Madison; grandmother, Marion Kotowski; numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, friends and loved ones.



Kotowski

brother, wonderful son and loving partner. His enthusiasm, generosity, and love for life touched everyone he knew.

Visitation was held at Gundersen East Funeral Home, Madison, Wisc., on Friday, May 27, 2011. Memorials may be made to The Nature Conservancy of Wisconsin in Matt's name.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
June 15, 2011

Hazel Green

VERMILLION — Hazel Marine Spencer Green, 99, of Vermillion died Saturday, June 11, 2011, at Sanford Vermillion Care Center.

Hazel was cremated, and graveside rites will be held with family at a later date.

Ilene Holmes

ST. GEORGE, Utah — Ilene Gregoire Holmes, born in Dalesburg, South Dakota June 21, 1928, passed away of cancer on June 5, 2011 in St. George, Utah.

She married Robert Holmes on April 4, 1948.

Ilene woke each morning thanking God for the day. She put others first & always had a listening ear. In recent years she en-

joyed their cabin on Cedar Mountain, riding their 4-wheelers, rooting for the Utah Jazz, and winning at pinochle.

She is survived by her husband, Robert; her children Rob (Amy) Holmes, Sandra (Wayne) Gouliden; her grandson, Ben; sister Gloria Gregoire Maisch of Grand Island, Neb.; her brothers Lowell of Clearwater, Kansas, and Ernie (Lois) of Marion, Iowa; sisters-in-law Marilyn Gregoire, Shirley Girard, Fritz Lefler, Pat Holmes; brother-in-law Roger Holmes; also left to cherish her memory are several nieces and nephews.

Ilene was preceded in death by her parents, Ida and Ernest Gregoire; her brother Ellsworth

and infant brother Buddy.

Funeral services will be held in Vermillion, South Dakota on June 18. Fellowship at 1 p.m. at Kober Funeral Home, graveside services at 2 p.m. in Bluff View Cemetery.

Memorials are suggested to go to Bluff View Cemetery or one of your choice.

Condolences may be sent to www.spilsburymortuary.com

Yankton Press & Dakotan
June 15, 2011

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