

WORLD IN BRIEF

Associated Press

Defiant Trump renews criticism of 'both sides' in protest

NEW YORK — President Donald Trump defiantly blamed "both sides" for the weekend violence between white supremacists and counter-demonstrators in Virginia, seeking to rebuff the widespread criticism of his handling of the emotionally-charged protests while showing sympathy for the fringe group's efforts to preserve Confederate monuments.

In doing so, Trump used the bullhorn of the presidency to give voice to the grievances of white nationalists, and aired some of his own. His remarks Tuesday amounted to a rejection of the Republicans, business leaders and White House advisers who earlier this week had pushed the president to more forcefully and specifically condemn the KKK members, neo-Nazis and white supremacists who took to the streets of Charlottesville.

The angry exchange with reporters at his skyscraper hotel in New York City laid bare a reality of the Trump presidency: Trump cannot be managed by others or steered away from damaging political land mines. His top aides were stunned by his comments, with some — including new chief of staff John Kelly — standing by helplessly as the president escalated his rhetoric.

Standing in the lobby of Trump Tower, Trump acknowledged that there were "some very bad people" among those who gathered to protest Saturday. But he added: "You also had people that were very fine people, on both sides."

The rally was organized by white supremacists and other groups under a "Unite the Right" banner. Organizers said they were initially activated by their objections to the removal of a statue of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee, but the larger aim was to protest what they saw as an "anti-white" climate in America.

China urges US, North Korea to 'hit the brakes' on threats

BEIJING — China has urged the United States and North Korea to "hit the brakes" on threatening words and work toward a peaceful resolution of their tense standoff created by Pyongyang's recent missile tests and threats to fire them toward Guam.

The dispute has also raised fears in South Korea, where a conservative political party on Wednesday called for the United States to bring back tactical nuclear weapons to the Korean Peninsula.

In a sign of growing concern on the part of Pyongyang's only major ally, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said in a phone conversation with his Russian counterpart, Sergey Lavrov, that the two countries should work together to contain tensions and permit no one to "stir up an incident on their doorstep," according to a statement posted on the Chinese foreign ministry's website.

"The most important task at hand is for the U.S. and North Korea to 'hit the brakes' on their mutual needling of each other with words and actions, to lower the temperature of the tense situation and prevent the emergence of an 'August crisis,'" Wang was quoted as saying in the Tuesday conversation.

Food bank: It's estimated 25 percent of county residents qualify for emergency food assistance

Continued from Page 1A



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian The South Clatsop County Food Bank has seen the amount of donations from the North Coast Family Fellowship church increase dramatically.

Tyler Evans, a volunteer with the church, said the office started greeting people at the door with blue bags inscribed with the words "With Love."

"It's easier to donate when you have a reminder," Evans said.

Neagle said he made expanding the relationship with the food bank, which the church has had since 2012, a priority because it is an easy yet impactful way to connect with the community.

"When people offer, sometimes it's just a few items, and other times they bring two bags packed to the gills that takes two hands to carry," Neagle said. "Sharing helps the person you are sharing with, but it's also helpful for those who are giving the food. We're not just trying to give you a can of food; we're trying to share God's love through that can of food."

Children's ministries director Annie Utterback said help-

ing to feed the community is an important way as Christians to be a helping hand for all.

"This is a way for us to reach out without people having to walk through our door," she said.

The fellowship plans to keep expanding its contribution to the food bank, as well as local shelters and other social services, Neagle said.

"It's about blessing people where they are at, and showing them love through food," worship arts and student ministries director Sam Hughes said.

Meeting a need

An estimated 25 percent of county residents qualify for emergency food assistance, Clatsop County Regional Food Bank Director Marlin Martin said, a figure that has remained steady for the past five years. More than 6,850 people used emergency food resources last year.

"We have continued for the past 11 years to see increases in the number of emergency food boxes being distributed and the number of people visiting food banks, even though the population hasn't grown significantly," Martin said. "Those people living in poverty have fallen into deeper crevasses of poverty. We count each household as individual visits, and we see the same households coming more often."

Clatsop County isn't alone. The Oregon Center for Public Policy reported last year that 1 in 6 families statewide lack consistent access to adequate food. Oregon has also seen the

largest increase in food insecurity, spiking 18.4 percent since the Great Recession. "We don't have enough living wage jobs for people to meet their food needs," Martin said.

To meet this steadily increasing need, Martin said the regional food bank is working on securing more funds to implement a mobile soup kitchen later this fall — much like the mobile produce bank that has provided fresh vegetables and fruits for the past three years.

It's not a problem Gann sees going away anytime soon. But if she can keep handing out five days worth of food instead of three, she sees it as one more way to help people just make it through.

"I have a passion for food, and a passion for people," she said. "We want to provide as much variety and choice as we can for people who visit us, and donations like this keeps us from falling into just rice and beans."

Warming center: Meeting set for Aug. 30

Continued from Page 1A

It is not a time, he said, for people to review the permit application pending with the Planning Commission or discuss their broader views on homelessness.

This is an unusual meeting for the Community Development Department, Cronin said, and outside the typical land use process. It was something City Manager Brett Estes suggested as a way to get a good-neighbor agreement in place that could inform the Planning Commission's decision without giving the right to veto the warming center's application to any one stakeholder.

The Community Development Department has not defined what it means by neighbor. Cronin says it applies to anyone who lives in the nearby area who feels impacted, either positively or negatively, by the warming center.

Nearly everyone who has testified about the application agrees the warming center's services are needed. Some say the First United Methodist Church is the ideal location, given its proximity to downtown. Others, however, including some neighbors, say the warming center and the people it attracts makes the neighborhood feel unsafe and reduces the quality of life.

Odom, as mediator, will be a neutral party at the meeting.

"With conflict, in general, if people are willing to sit down and talk about it, usually something constructive comes from it. There's no guarantee what," she said. "If folks are willing to listen to each other, at least they come out of it with a better understanding of where the other side is coming from and what their concerns are."

Advocates for the warming center and members of the downtown association have said they are in favor of going through this process.

Warming center board members added that many of the concerns voiced at recent

public meetings reflect issues with how the center operated in past years. In the application, they outlined several changes they plan make this year that would address many of these concerns.

The warming center is a low-barrier center that operates during the winter months, allowing the homeless to sleep there during cold nights and feeding them an evening meal. It operates out of the church's basement.

The meeting will take place at 7 p.m. on Aug. 30 at City Hall. The Planning Commission meets Sept. 6 to make a decision on the permit application.

Academy: 'People have really come out of the woodwork for this'

Continued from Page 1A

"It is thanks to Coaster Construction and all the volunteers that we were successful," Moore said.

Almost every weekend over the past month, Moore said volunteers came out to help clear brush, paint the

interior and exterior of the school and clean a building that sat vacant for more than a year.

Moore has also received a number of in-kind donations, such as school supplies, organizational items and a defibrillator from Cannon Beach Fire and Rescue.

"People have really come out of the woodwork for this," Moore said.

More to go

There are still a few hurdles left for the academy before officially crossing the finish line. The charter school was awarded temporary

occupancy with an agreement that a full fire safety system would be installed by November. This is one of the largest renovations needed and will take more time to complete, Moore said. The building was not equipped with any fire safety system when it was operating as a

children's center.

While the charter school has enough students enrolled to operate, the academy is still recruiting to fill more seats before fall, Moore said. Earlier this year, the academy had as many as 40 students. Moore said she has no concerns about meeting the

goal, however, and attributes fluctuating numbers to the fact the status of the school has been up in the air because of the late location change.

"I think there are a lot of families who were waiting for this day to happen," Moore said.

THE DAILY ASTORIAN

TV LISTINGS

Evening listings WEDNESDAY

Table with columns for time slots (6 PM, 6:30, 7 PM, 7:30, 8 PM, 8:30, 9 PM, 9:30, 10 PM, 10:30, 11 PM, 11:30) and rows for various TV channels (KATU, KOMO, KOIN, KIRO, KGW, KRCW, KOPB, KPTV, KPDX, KCPQ, TBS, KZJO, ESPN, ESPN2, NICK, DISN, FAM, FMC, LIFE, ROOT, F51, SPIKE, COM, HIST, A&E, TLC, DISC, NGEO, TMC, USA, FOOD, HGTV, FX, CNN, FNC, CNBC, BRAV, TCM, SYFY, RFD) and their respective programming.

GET TO THE POINT. Expert Service. Guaranteed.



(503) 325-2861 35359 Business 101 Astoria, OR 97103 MON - FRI 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM SAT 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM tirefactory.com/astoria

Same local owners, friendly service and guarantees on warranties.