

America

Kemp, others censured

Republicans talk 'unity' in Georgia

ALPHARETTA, Georgia, April 18, (AP): Kelly Loeffler had a warning. The former U.S. senator from Georgia, defeated in a January runoff amid Republican fighting, told her hometown GOP committee Saturday that only a unified party can avoid a repeat in the 2022 midterms.

"What I saw in my campaign is that we need to do better. We just need to get to work doing it," Loeffler told Fulton County Republicans at their annual convention.



Loeffler

Yet Republicans can't seem to get past 2020.

In the hours after Loeffler's plea, at least 10 local party committees voted to condemn Gov. Brian Kemp, Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger or both for not helping overturn President Donald Trump's November defeat. Two counties already had done so. Additionally, Georgia GOP Chairman David Shafer eagerly noted in his rounds to local conventions that he's sued "a Republican secretary of state."

And in Fulton County, the state's most populous, a flood of new delegates ousted several incumbent officers despite their pledged fealty to Trump.

The tension reflects the former president's ever-tightening grip on the Republican Party and suggests that even unabashed conservatives like Kemp are at the mercy of continued finger-pointing and competition to be the loudest echoes of Trump's false assertion of a rigged 2020 election.

Targets

Kemp and Raffensperger were both the targets of Trump's ire after they certified Democrat Joe Biden's narrow win in Georgia. Some counties added demands that Raffensperger resign.

A Kemp aide focused on how few counties out of 159 have formally condemned the governor, saying he's "grateful" for grassroots support and looks forward to a primary campaign where he can tout his "successful record." A Raffensperger aide did not respond to a request for comment.

Indeed, the pair staved off some condemnations. Gwinnett County, part of the metro Atlanta core, voted down the measures. A handful of other counties, including Fulton, censured Raffensperger but had no floor vote at all on Kemp. Other counties avoided votes altogether when they adjourned because too few delegates remained to con-

duct business after long days.

The trend nonetheless shows Kemp has work to do to shore up his right flank ahead of 2022.

"I'm disappointed in Kemp, and I'd absolutely consider someone else," said Ruth Anne Tatum, a retired Alpharetta schoolteacher who was among the scores of first-time delegates to attend the Fulton County convention.

Tatum said she traveled to Washington for the Jan. 6 rally in which Trump addressed supporters before some of them stormed the U.S. Capitol as Congress tallied Biden's Electoral College victory. She said she was not among the insurrectionists but argued that the event has been unfairly pinned on Trump.

"I'm so tired of all the lies and the corruption and the cheating," Tatum said, pointing at Democrats and Republicans alike. "All of them," she said.

Votes

Debbie Dooley, an activist who helped organize the resolutions, said the votes are enough to show Kemp faces a "divided grassroots" that should make establishment Republicans nervous.

Indeed, Kemp's 2022 prospects aren't just about whether he can win nomination for a second term. He remains a solid favorite. His only opponent thus far, Vernon Jones, is a former Democrat best known as an outspoken Black supporter of Trump. And Kemp boosted his standing by signing the recent Georgia election law overhaul and defending it against criticism from liberals and corporate leaders.

Yet Trump's loss - followed by Loeffler's and Sen. David Perdue's losses in January - show how perilous a Trump-branded party is in Georgia. Distancing yourself from Trump costs votes within the GOP core, while hugging Trump too tightly juices the left and costs votes in the middle, especially among moderates in metro Atlanta.

"I don't know what it's going to take to get past it," said Trey Kelly after he lost his bid for another term as Fulton GOP chair. Earlier, he'd stood behind a sign dubbing Georgia "Trump country" and declared loudly to 330 delegates - a local record for an open convention, according to party officials - that "the 2020 election was stolen."

He even called Fulton, long a Democratic bastion, "the U.S. capital of voter fraud."

His opponent, Susan Opraseuth, likewise panned "an unconstitutional election," but she threw in her outsider, anti-establishment status that Kelly couldn't counter. "Our current trajectory demands change," she said, following the roadmap Trump used in 2016 and that Kemp followed in 2018.

Queen says goodbye to Philip

'Royal funeral'

Harry, William seen chatting together

LONDON, April 18, (AP): A year after they last saw one another, Prince William and his brother Prince Harry put their fraught relationship aside as they said farewell to their grandfather at his funeral on Saturday.

The brothers were somber and silent as they walked together in a procession behind Prince Philip's coffin before his funeral at Windsor Castle along with their father, Prince Charles, and other close relatives. They were seen chatting and walking together after the service concluded.

It was the first time the brothers had been together in public since Harry stood down from royal duties and moved to the US with his wife Meghan, the Duchess of Sussex, and their son Archie in early 2020.

Tensions between Harry, 36, and William, 38, came to the fore after Harry and Meghan gave a revealing interview to US talk show host Oprah Winfrey last month. The couple portrayed the royal family as indifferent to Meghan's mental health struggles, and Harry described his relationship

with William as "space at the moment."

On Saturday, William and Harry walked in silence on either side of their cousin, Peter Phillips, as they joined other senior royals in Philip's funeral procession. At one point Phillips fell behind slightly to allow the brothers to walk side by side - a visual echo of the moment the pair, as boys in 1997, walked behind the coffin of their mother Princess Diana in another royal funeral televised around the world.

The brothers sat opposite each other in St George's Chapel for the funeral, which was attended by only 30 people because of coronavirus restrictions. While William sat next to his wife Kate, Harry was on his own because Meghan is pregnant with their second child and was advised by her doctor not to make the long trip.

Afterwards, Harry, William and Kate strolled together outside the chapel. Moments later, the brothers walked together alone while Kate spoke to Zara Tindall, another of Queen Elizabeth II's eight grandchil-

dren who is William and Harry's cousin.

Rumors of a rift between the brothers - William, the heir, and Harry, the "spare" - have rumbled at least since 2019. That's when Harry and Meghan separated from the Royal Foundation, originally set up as the brothers' joint charitable venture, to set up their own platform. That year, Harry said he loved his brother dearly but they were "on different paths" and have "good days" and "bad days."

Many believe that William was angered and hurt by Harry's decision to speak so publicly about the royal family's issues during the Winfrey interview. In one explosive allegation, they said a family member - not the queen or Philip - had expressed "concerns" about Archie's possible skin color before he was born. Meghan has a Black mother and a white father.

Days after the interview aired, William insisted "we are very much not a racist family," and said he had not spoken to Harry since the broadcast.

two brothers had grown apart.

The procession traversed the grounds of Windsor Castle, passing military detachments arrayed under bright blue skies.

Inside the medieval Gothic chapel, the setting for centuries of royal weddings and funerals, this service was quiet and without excessive pageantry. Philip was deeply involved in planning the ceremony. At his request, there was no sermon. There were also no eulogies or readings, in keeping with royal tradition.

Former Bishop of London Richard Chartres, who knew Philip well, said the 50-minute service reflected the preferences of the prince, who was a man of faith but liked things to be succinct.

"He was at home with broad church, high church and low church, but what he really liked was short church," Chartres told the BBC.

Philip's coffin was draped with Philip's personal standard, topped with his Admiral of the Fleet Naval Cap and sword. The sword was given to him by his father-in-law, King George VI, on the occasion of his marriage to the queen in 1947.

The monarch offered her own touches to the day. Ahead of the funeral, Buckingham Palace released a

photo of the queen and Philip, smiling and relaxing on blankets in the grass in the Scottish Highlands in 2003. The palace said the casual, unposed photo was a favorite of the queen.

Composing a wreath atop the coffin were flowers chosen by the queen, including white lilies, small white roses, white freesia, white wax flower, white sweet peas and jasmine. A note from the monarch was attached, but its contents were not disclosed.

The funeral reflected Philip's military ties, both as the ceremonial commander of many units and as a veteran of the Royal Navy who served with distinction during World War II. More than 700 military personnel took part in the commemorative events, including army bands, Royal Marine buglers and an honor guard drawn from across the armed forces.

Lt. Gen. Roland Walker, regimental lieutenant colonel of the Grenadier Guards, said his unit was honored to take part because of its close relationship with the prince. Philip served as regimental colonel of the guards, its honorary leader, for 42 years.

"This is a privilege," he told the BBC. "Because my understanding is he planned this, so we're here because he wanted us to be here, and that, I

think, down to the junior guardsmen, is a known fact."

William and Harry were part of the nine-member royal contingent, although their cousin, Peter Phillips, walked between them. There was no obvious tension between the brothers, whose relationship has been strained since Harry's decision to quit royal duties and move to California. After the service, they walked back to the castle together, seeming to chat amiably.

Their appearance at the service stirred memories of the 1997 funeral of Princess Diana, when William and Harry, then 15 and 12, walked behind their mother's coffin accompanied by Philip.

As Philip's coffin was lowered into the Royal Vault, Royal Marine buglers sounded "Action Stations," an alarm that alerts sailors to prepare for battle - included in the service at Philip's request. He will rest there, at least until the queen's death, alongside the remains of 24 other royals, including King George III, whose reign included the years of the American Revolution. The queen and Philip are expected to be buried together in the Royal Burial Ground on the Frogmore Estate close to Windsor Castle.

Three shot dead

KENOSHA, Wis., April 18, (AP): A shooting at a tavern in Wisconsin killed three people and seriously injured two others early Sunday, a sheriff's department official said.

The shooting happened at Somers House Tavern in the Village of Somers, Kenosha County Sgt. David Wright said.

The suspected shooter was not immediately captured. Wright said the shooting appeared to be a "targeted and isolated incident," and authorities didn't believe the general public was in danger.

In collaboration with Ministry of Social Affairs and Community Development

Zain presents 'Ramadan Machla' to Social Care Centers



Zain, the leading digital service provider in Kuwait, presented 'Ramadan Machla' (supplies) to the Ministry of Social Affairs and Community Development's Social Care Centers. Zain's initiative, which commenced before the arrival of the Holy Month of Ramadan, continues with the aim of serving the needs of the elderly, orphans, and people with special needs who reside within the ministry's care centers.

Zain's 'Ramadan Machla' initiative has kicked-off before the arrival of the Holy Month in collaboration with a number of its strategic partners. The company's officials visited the Social Care Department to deliver the supplies with the presence of the Assistant Undersecretary for Social Care Musalam Al Subaie, Zain Kuwait's Chief Corporate Communications and Relations Officer Waleed Al Khashti, and executive teams from the ministry and company.

The initiative is one of the main pillars of Zain's annual Ramadan campaign, which came in line with the company's Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainability strategy to serve the needs of underprivileged individuals in Kuwait. Zain offered the 'Machla' to the Social Care Department via vouchers in collaboration with Oncost, one of Kuwait's biggest grocery markets, to give the department the opportunity to choose specific supplies as per every resident's personal needs.

Zain commenced its Ramadan campaign by delivering food supplies in collaboration with a number of its strategic partners, including the Kuwait Food Bank. Zain delivered the supplies to the bank's storage facility at Sulaibiya, where over 10,000 individuals have benefited from the supplies provided. The 'Machla' was distributed via special drive-thru routes that were built for this purpose in an effort to abide by health measures and protect everyone from the danger of infection.

Zain also offered vouchers in collaboration with Oncost to give each family the opportunity to choose specific supplies as per their personal needs. The company delivered the vouchers to a number of non-profit organizations, including the Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS), the Ministry of Social Affairs and Community Development's Social Care Centers, the Kuwait Food Bank, and the Patients Support Fund Society.

Zain's distribution plan included the delivery of the vouchers to the biggest certified organizations across Kuwait to ensure their delivery to those in need before the arrival of the Holy Month and during the continuing pandemic situation in order to guarantee that families have enough quantities of the most basic supplies. The company hopes this initiative has a deep positive impact on the community's various segments, especially the most vulnerable ones, during such circumstances.

Zain's Corporate Sustainability and Social Responsibility campaign during the Holy Month of Ramadan aims at helping less fortunate people to enjoy Ramadan happily, as well as celebrating the true spirit of the Holy month brings by supporting humanitarian and charitable campaigns.

Covid 19 Vaccine: Lulu Hypermarket Employees - Vaccinated



In line with the ongoing vaccination program by Kuwait's Ministry of Health, Lulu Hypermarket Employees were vaccinated against COVID-19 virus. The vaccination was conducted by Kuwait's Ministry of Health through the mobile Clinic facilities which was designated at Lulu Hypermarket at Al Rai.

Lulu Hypermarket Management expressed their sincere thanks to Sheikh Dr. Basel Al-Sabah, Minister of Health, and the frontline workers at the Ministry of Health for their efforts in speeding up the vaccination process, specifically amongst the retailers like Lulu where employees are in direct contact with their customers. They further appreciate all healthcare workers for their efforts and sacrifices to fight the COVID-19 pandemic.

As a responsible retailer, Lulu is committed to make

sure the safety of their customers and assure their shopping environment is extremely safe, healthy and hygienic. Lulu Hypermarket is committed to following all health and safety precautionary measures and to ensure that their loyal shoppers get complete value for their money with the best shopping experience.

