

Groton Daily Independent

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Friday, May 15

- Birthdays:** Beth Hendrickson • Betty Weihrauch
• Pearl Dean • Brandee Sundstrom • Casey Dennert
• Marcy Blackmun

School Breakfast: Cook's choice.

School Lunch: Cook's choice.

Senior Menu: Ranch chicken, boiled potato, green beans, cake with strawberries, whole wheat bread.

2:00 p.m.: DARE Graduation at GHS Gym

Saturday, May 16

10:00 a.m.: Emmanuel Lutheran pastor at Roseood Court

Sunday, May 17

Birthdays: Aaron Severson • Brandon Clocksene • Portia Kettering

9:00 a.m.: St. John's Lutheran with holy communion, recognizing of graduating seniors.

9:15 a.m.: Emmanuel Lutheran fellowship

10:00 a.m.: Heaven Bound Ministries worship at Pierpont Church

10:15 a.m.: Emmanuel Lutheran worship with communion

2:00 p.m.: GHS Graduation

Cats anyone?

Anyone want a cat or two? We have two to give away. Contact Paul 397-7460.

The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **Closed**

OPEN: Recycling Trailer in Groton

The recycling trailer is back at 10 East Railroad Ave. Don't forget, there is also a dumpster at the city shop for aluminum cans with the proceeds going to the pool.





Walter to celebrate 85th birthday

Jean Walter will celebrate her 85th birthday on May 18th. Greetings may be sent to PO Box 594, Groton, SD 57445.

Flags at Half Mast for Peace Officers' Memorial Day - May 15th, 2015

Peace Officers Memorial Day is an observance that pays tribute to the local, state, and Federal peace officers. The Memorial takes place on Friday, May 15th and President Obama has ordered the flag of the United States to be flown at half-staff at the White House and upon all public buildings and grounds, at all military posts and naval stations, and on all naval vessels of the Federal Government in the District of Columbia and throughout the United States and its Territories and possessions from sunrise until sunset on 05-15-2015. You can view President Obama's proclamation [here](#).

Fly the US flag at half-staff from sunrise until sunset on May 15th, 2015. For U.S. flags displayed on a short staff or for indoor flags that cannot be lowered to half-staff, place a Black Mourning Ribbon Above the full staffed U.S. flag.

With a telescoping pole it is acceptable to put the USA flag on the second set of rings instead of the top set. In this case the top set would be left empty.

When the United States flag is flown at half-staff, state & other flags should be removed or flown at half-staff as well.

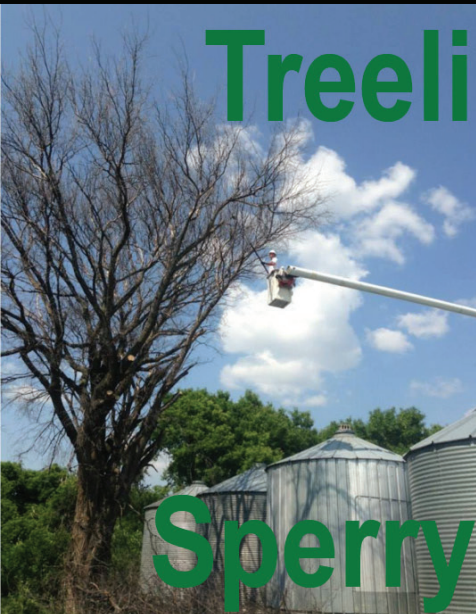
Treeline Tree Service

**Over 30 Years
of Combined
Experience!**

**TJ Sperry:
380-7915**

**Tyler Sperry:
216-8431**

Sperry Stump Removal





The slide is going up!

Two pieces of the fiberglass slide were installed yesterday as work continues on the project. (Photo by Julianna Kosel)

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Home. Cooked.
GOODNESS.

The taste of togetherness.



PERFECT FOR
FATHER'S DAY!



The Favorite Gift

- 2 (5 oz.) Filet Mignons
- 2 (5 oz.) Top Sirloins
- 4 (4 oz.) Boneless Pork Chops
- 4 (4 oz.) Omaha Steaks Burgers
- 4 Stuffed Baked Potatoes
- 4 Caramel Apple Tartlets

49377LPH
Reg. \$164.00 | Now Only **\$49⁹⁹**

Plus get
4 more burgers
FREE



ORDER
NOW &
**SAVE
69%**

1-800-795-0946 ask for 49377LPH | www.OmahaSteaks.com/dad55

Limit 2 pkgs. Your 4 free burgers will be sent to each shipping address that includes The Favorite Gift 49377. Limit of 1 free box of 4 (4 oz.) Omaha Steaks Burgers per shipment. Standard S&H will be added per address. Not valid with other offers. Expires 6/30/15. ©2015 OCG | 505B120 | Omaha Steaks, Inc.

Today in Weather History

1834 - The Northern Atlantic Coast States were in the midst of their greatest May snowstorm of record. The hills around Newbury, VT, were covered with two to three feet of snow. (David Ludlum)

1968 - A tornado touched down southwest of Anchorage, AK. It was the second of just three tornadoes reported in Alaska since 1950. (The Weather Channel)

1972 - The worst ice jam flooding of memory for long-time residents took place along the Kuskokwim River and Yukon River in Alaska. It was the first time since 1890 that the two rivers "flowed as one". The towns of Oscarville and Napaskiak were completely inundated. (15th-31st) (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Unseasonably warm weather returned to the north central U.S. Seven cities reported record high temperatures for the date, including Janestown, ND, with a reading of 96 degrees. Thunderstorms in Utah produced five inches of rain south of Bicknell. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)








1988 - Thunderstorms in Oklahoma produced wind gusts to 80 mph in Oklahoma County, and baseball size hail at Pawnee. Hail piled up to a depth of 18 inches south of Pawnee. Hail damage in Oklahoma was estimated at close to 25 million dollars. Thunderstorms in the Upper Midwest produced golf ball size hail around Cleveland, OH, and wind gusts to 83 mph at Angola, IN. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Thunderstorms developing along and north of a stationary front produced severe weather in the south central U.S. Thunderstorms spawned eleven tornadoes, and there were 145 reports of large hail and damaging winds. Softball size hail caused 2.1 million dollars damage at Sherman, TX. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1990 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather from the Central Plains Region and Oklahoma to Indiana and western Kentucky. Thunderstorms spawned fifteen tornadoes, including seven in Oklahoma, and there were 165 reports of large hail or damaging winds. A tornado killed one person, injured a dozen others, and caused four million dollars damage at Stillwater, OK. Another tornado injured eight persons at Foyil, OK. Thunderstorms in Oklahoma also produced wind gusts to 92 mph at Oologah Lake, and softball size hail at Canton and north of Oakwood. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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Today	Tonight	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday
						
80%			60%	40%	70%	70%
Showers	Mostly Cloudy	Partly Sunny	Thunderstorms Likely	Chance Thunderstorms	Thunderstorms Likely	Showers Likely
High: 62 °F	Low: 44 °F	High: 69 °F	Low: 58 °F	High: 79 °F	Low: 56 °F	High: 65 °F



Threat For Severe Thunderstorms Today and Saturday

Follow us on *Social Media*

Issued: May 15, 2015

weather.gov/Aberdeen



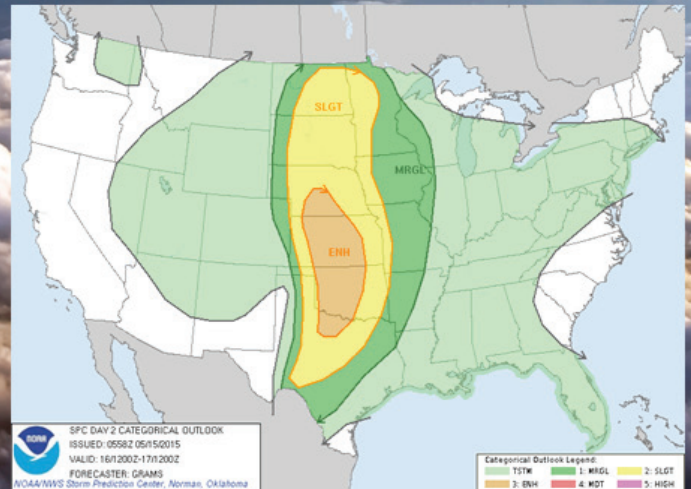
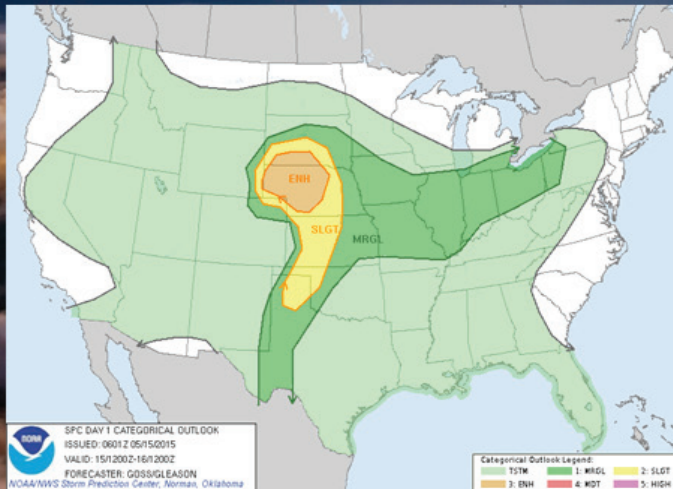
National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen

Today

Saturday



Published on: 05/15/2015 at 5:40AM

Unsettled weather is expected across the region through the weekend, with several chances for showers and thunderstorms, some of which could be severe. For today and tonight, the target area for severe storms is across southwest and south central South Dakota. Large hail and strong winds are possible, along with an isolated tornado threat. The severe threat shifts east on Saturday to include eastern South Dakota and west central Minnesota. Heavy rainfall is also possible through the weekend, with another 1 to 2 inches possible wherever heavier thunderstorms manage to move over.

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Yesterday's Weather

High: 64.3 at Midnight

Low: 53.4 at 10:30 AM

High Gust: 34 at 12:21 AM

Snow: 0.00

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 103° in 1931

Record Low: 23° in 2014

Average High: 69°F

Average Low: 44°F

Average Precip in May: 1.53

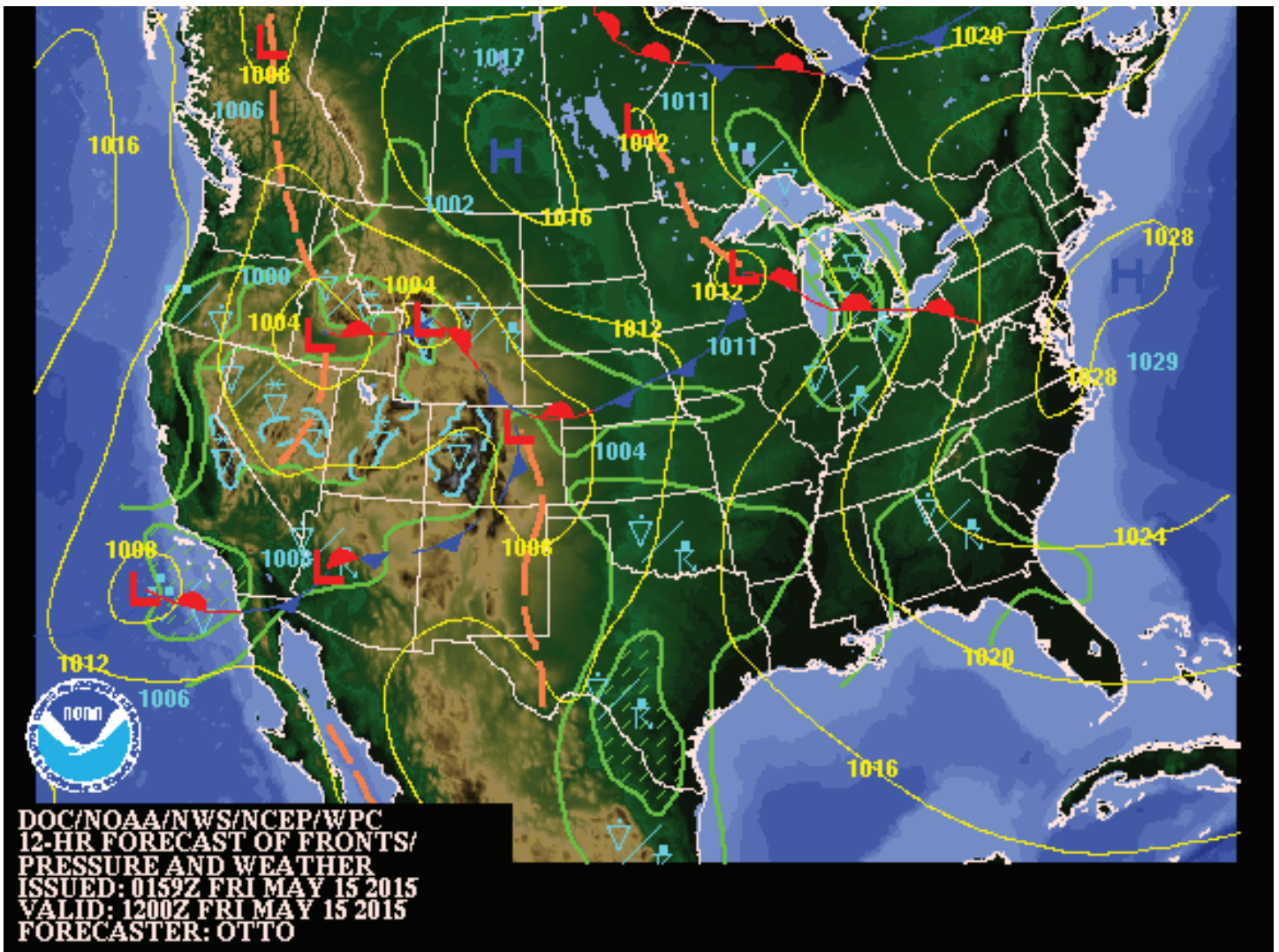
Precip to date in May: 2.61

Average Precip to date: 5.56

Precip Year to Date: 4.25

Sunset Tonight: 8:57 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:02 a.m.





KNOCK IT OFF!

An artist began working on a large block of marble. A friend watched him as he chipped away, knocking off one piece after another.

Finally the friend asked, "What are you making?"

"A horse," came the reply.

"How do you do that?" he wanted to know.

"By knocking off everything that doesn't look like a horse," said the sculptor.

It is normal to question what God may be doing in our lives from time to time. We often look for meaning or purpose when we enter into a period of suffering or pain. There are days when the problems pile up, the difficulties grow, the confusion is never ending or the light seems about to go out.

Paul said we are "pressed on every side by troubles" – as though we are being squeezed in a vice. But he quickly adds, "we are not crushed or broken" assuring us of the Great Physician's concern and care. Then he goes on to write that we may be "perplexed" – as if we were in a state of confusion, so he encourages us not to "give up and quit" – knowing that God can make sense out of nonsense. If we "get knocked down" – we will never get knocked out. God will be there to lift us up, dust us off, and send us on our way. The message: We may be at the end of our rope, but not at the end of our hope.

Prayer: Our Father, may we realize the promise of Your power and presence no matter the problem or pain. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: 2 Corinthians 4:1-10 We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair;

News from the Associated Press

Volunteers can start helping out in Delmont starting Friday

DELMONT, S.D. (AP) — Volunteers who want to help clean up debris from the tornado that hit Delmont on Sunday are able to pitch in beginning this week.

The South Dakota Department of Public Safety says volunteers can help the town's residents pick up starting Friday.

A volunteer area in the southwest portion of Delmont is opening at 8 a.m. on Friday. The department says it will be open each day from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Volunteers will mostly help people pick up yard debris. The department warns people to wear appropriate clothing including proper footwear.

A driver's license or state-issued identification is required to register to get into the town.

Veterans in Hot Springs protesting closing of VA campus

HOT SPRINGS, S.D. (AP) — Veterans and residents of Hot Springs are marching through the town to protest what they see as the inevitable closure of the historic Veterans Affairs medical campus.

The Save the VA group is organizing the march that begins at 8 a.m. Friday. They're dubbing the event the "Keep the Promise; Stop the Lies" rally.

The group argues that the VA has planned to close the 108-year-old campus for some time and will eventually do so.

The VA denies it has made any decisions and has hired an independent contractor to conduct an environmental assessment before taking any action.

The protesters plan to start at Centennial Park in Hot Springs and march to the main entrance of the VA to picket and demonstrate. They plan to continue picketing through next week.

Jackley wanted Justice Department review of its EB-5 probe

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota Attorney General Marty Jackley released letters Thursday showing that twice during the past year he urged the U.S. attorney general to review the Department of Justice's conduct in its investigation of the state's investment-for-visa program.

Jackley, a Republican, sent letters to former U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder in October 2014 and February 2015 relaying "deep" and "serious" concerns about a DOJ section's conduct and the appearance of political motivations in the "handling and timing" of the investigation ahead of the 2014 election.

"I'll let people in South Dakota make that judgment call," Jackley told The Associated Press on Thursday. "There were ads about the federal investigation running in the U.S. Senate race."

Jackley said he still hasn't heard back from the department and stressed that his concerns rely with conduct from "main Justice" in Washington, not local federal law enforcement officials.

A DOJ spokesman declined to comment. An FBI spokesman said an investigation into the program is still pending.

Jackley released the letters on Thursday after the South Dakota Supreme Court ruled that he had used appropriate discretion and followed state law when he declined to release to a journalist the death records of a former state official who was involved the EB-5 scandal. He said he wanted to read the

Supreme Court decision before disclosing the letters he wrote about the DOJ Public Integrity Section's conduct during the investigation into the EB-5 program.

The program recruits wealthy immigrant investors for projects in exchange for green cards. South Dakota was one of the pioneers in EB-5 financing under former Republican Gov. Mike Rounds, who easily won a South Dakota seat in the U.S. Senate in 2014 despite harsh criticism from his opponents of his oversight of the program during his two terms as governor from 2003 to 2010.

A staff member for Rounds didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

Jackley said in his first letter in October 2014 that federal authorities received notification of violations regarding the visa program from South Dakota attorney Steven Sandven in 2010. Sandven didn't return a request for comment.

Jackley in the letter also criticized a Department of Justice lawyer's "aggressive tactics" in serving subpoenas, among other things. The attorney didn't respond to a request for comment.

"It remains my continued hope and desire to work with the new attorney general ... to look into these matters and address any concerns that exist," Jackley said.

Chamberlain man gets 8 months for stealing ceremonial pipe

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A Chamberlain man has been sentenced to eight months in prison for stealing a ceremonial pipe from the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe.

Nineteen-year-old James Short Bear was indicted by a federal grand jury in February and pleaded guilty to larceny in March. He was sentenced earlier this week.

KCCR-AM reports (<http://bit.ly/1JLMYF9>) Short Bear went into the tribe's administration building in February of 2014 and stole a ceremonial pipe. The tribe had bought the pipe almost a decade ago for \$5,500.

Authorities say Short Bear was caught on video and later sold the pipe for \$500, claiming he made it himself.

Short Bear was turned over to the U.S. Marshals Service this week.

Bird flu found on South Dakota egg-laying chicken farm

BY KEVIN BURBACH, Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — An eastern South Dakota farm with 1.3 million egg-laying chickens is the first in the chicken-production business in the state to be infected with a deadly flu virus despite efforts to prevent it, state and farm officials said Thursday.

Flandreau-based Dakota Layers, which accounts for nearly half of the state's almost 2.7 million egg-laying chickens, reached out to the state veterinarian Wednesday after it noticed an unusual number of dead birds in one of its nine barns.

A South Dakota State University lab confirmed the presence of the highly pathogenic H5 avian influenza virus. Officials hadn't confirmed yet Thursday whether it was the H5N2 strain. If so, then the virus will have led to the deaths of more than 33 million chickens and turkeys in the Midwest, primarily at farms in neighboring Minnesota and Iowa.

South Dakota State Veterinarian Dustin Oedekoven said crews would begin euthanizing the chickens after they determined how best to handle the largest outbreak the state has seen thus far.

Dakota Layers' Chief Executive Officer Scott Ramsdell said in a statement Thursday that Dakota Layers had taken "extensive biosecurity measures" over the last two months to prevent an outbreak in their barns.

"Unfortunately, as many poultry farms are discovering, even our extraordinary measures proved ineffective in preventing the spread of avian influenza into one of our barns," Ramsdell said.

Dakota Layers produces more than 90,000 dozens of eggs daily and ships about 70 percent of its eggs to California. Agriculture officials have stressed there is no danger to the supply and very low risk to humans.

Oedekoven said it was disappointing to see a large-scale operation lose its birds after taking all the appropriate precautions.

"It's a big loss, it's a big hit," he said.

Officials from the U.S. Department of Agriculture were on site Thursday to evaluate the operation and work with the state in figuring out how to proceed. Bird flu has already been found at eight turkey farms in South Dakota — affecting almost 500,000 birds — but none of this magnitude.

The hens would likely be humanely euthanized with carbon dioxide gas, Oedekoven said, but the state hasn't yet decided how to dispose of the carcasses. Officials have primarily been burying turkey carcasses in addition to composting them.

"It's not pleasant work, but we've had great cooperation with our industry and we hope they can make it through this," Oedekoven said. "We'll proceed as best we can and continue to hope for the end of this plague."

Officials say 24-year-old Sioux Falls man died in Tea crash

TEA, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Highway Patrol has identified a young motorcyclist who was killed in Tea after he collided with a pickup truck on Wednesday.

Authorities say 24-year-old Dylan Moberg was riding his motorcycle to work in the Tea industrial district when he lost control on a curve and hit an approaching truck.

The Sioux Falls resident was wearing a helmet, but died at the scene of the crash. The driver of the truck was not injured.

The Highway Patrol is continuing to investigate the accident.

KSFY-TV reports a memorial for Moberg is scheduled for Thursday at 6:00 p.m. at Moto Pros in Tea. A GoFundMe page has been set up to assist his family with expenses.

Dakota Cash ticket sold in Spearfish more than \$97,000

SPEARFISH, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota lottery officials say a single ticket sold in Spearfish that won the Dakota Cash jackpot is worth more than \$97,000.

The ticket matched all five numbers in Wednesday's drawing. The odds of winning the top prize in Dakota Cash are about one in 324,632.

Officials say the lucky winner should sign the back of the ticket immediately, store it in a safe place and contact the Sioux Falls Lottery office by phone at 605-367-5840.

The ticket holder has 180 days to claim the winnings.

Dakota Cash is played and won only in South Dakota. The jackpot starts again at \$20,000 for Saturday's drawing.

2 more Minnesota flocks may have bird flu

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — Bird flu keeps spreading to Minnesota farms.

The Minnesota Board of Animal Health reported Thursday that two more flocks have a presumptive positive test for the virus.

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One flock is made up of commercial egg-laying chickens and is located in Renville County, the second detection in that county. Meeker County reports its ninth detection, this time in a commercial turkey flock.

If those cases are confirmed, Minnesota's total number of farms hit by bird flu would grow to 87.

Not counting the two newest cases, Minnesota producers have lost more than 5.7 million turkeys and chickens to the disease.

Officials say water in tornado-ravaged Delmont safe to drink

DELMONT, S.D. (AP) — State officials have determined that the water in the tornado-ravaged town of Delmont is safe to drink.

The South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources issued a boil water order after a tornado struck the tiny town on Sunday, disrupting its water supply.

The Department of Public Safety said Thursday that order has been lifted.

Water samples from the town were tested and deemed safe. Officials say the safe samples mean response efforts to bring the town's water distribution system back on line were effective.

Eighty-four buildings were damaged or destroyed by the tornado.

Many organizations have been in Delmont this week to try and return a sense of normalcy to the town.

State high court sides with Jackley in records disclosure

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Attorney General Marty Jackley used appropriate discretion and followed state law when he declined to release to a journalist the death records of a former state official who was involved in South Dakota's investment-for-visa scandal, the state Supreme Court said in an opinion released Thursday.

The high court also affirmed an administrative law judge's conclusion that the records are exempt from disclosure under state public records law. Reporter Bob Mercer argued before the court in March that the death records of former state economic development official Richard Benda should be released with some sensitive information redacted.

Mercer, who writes for several daily newspapers, had appealed a circuit judge's ruling from September, which said Jackley was justified in not releasing investigation records into Benda's October 2013 suicide out of privacy concerns for his immediate family members. The Supreme Court said Jackley has discretion over the release of the records as their custodian.

"I am pleased that the (Supreme) Court has applied the rule of law, and recognized the balancing of open transparency with the privacy interests of the family members faced with a tragic situation," Jackley said in a statement after the ruling.

Mercer's appeal to the Supreme Court requested it establish a review methodology for future requests of death-investigation records that are of significant public interest. But the court said in its decision that the judicial officials aren't required to establish "an alternative manner of release" because the law enforcement files are exempt from disclosure.

"I wouldn't have asked if I didn't think there was a chance that the court would find in favor of release of the record, or at least partial release of the record, and the questions about Richard Benda's death now remain unresolved for the most part in the public mind," Mercer told The Associated Press. "He was at the center of one of the largest scandals in state government in recent decades, and there are many things we still don't know about that entire episode."

At the time of Benda's death, Jackley was preparing to file felony theft charges against Benda amid allegations of financial misconduct at the Governor's Office of Economic Development surrounding the EB-5 visa program. The program recruits wealthy immigrant investors for projects in exchange for green cards.

Jackley had agreed to release more information about Benda's death to Mercer but only under certain conditions, chiefly that Benda's family had to consent. After Benda's family declined to authorize the release and Jackley wouldn't provide access to the records, Mercer sought the intervention of an administrative law judge and later the circuit judge.

The Supreme Court said Mercer's case should be made before the Legislature to change South Dakota law.

South Dakota could see extra revenue in this budget year

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — The state of South Dakota's coffers may end up with slightly more revenue for the current budget year than lawmakers anticipated during the legislative session if recent tax collection levels continue.

The Governor's Council of Economic Advisors met Wednesday to discuss the state and national economy. Jim Terwilliger, the state economist, said sales tax collections jumped in April and year-to-date sales tax growth is slightly above the "pretty lousy" 1.6 percent increase lawmakers anticipated during the session when they revised the state budget for the full fiscal year ending in June.

Lawmakers adopted a conservative revenue estimate for sales tax growth during the budget year, and sales taxes account for roughly 60 percent of general state revenue. The cautious overall estimate from lawmakers, who anticipated about \$7 million less revenue for the current budget year than projected in December, largely came from a slowdown in the state's agricultural economy.

Sales tax collected on farm equipment alone is estimated to have dropped roughly \$10 million between 2013 and 2014, and farm income has sunk from record levels.

"Much of the prosperity we saw in the last two or three years, a lot of it was anchored to (agriculture) and the spinoff of all the other industries," Bureau of Finance and Management Commissioner Jason Dilges said. "Right now I think some of the softening that we're seeing from the state side is probably linked to that."

Sales tax collections surged in April, and the 2.1 percent year-to-date sales tax growth is slightly above the 1.6 percent growth lawmakers anticipated for the full budget year, according to a report to the Council of Economic Advisors. Terwilliger said it would likely mean more money for the state if most state taxes continue performing like they have over the last two months.

But lackluster growth before the end of the fiscal year could drag those gains back down.

Judge sides with Sioux Falls in ambulance contract dispute

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A federal judge has ruled in favor of Sioux Falls officials in a lawsuit challenging the city's process to award a contract for a local ambulance service.

U.S. District Judge Roberto Lange has dismissed the antitrust suit filed by provider Med-Star Paramedic Ambulance. The company unsuccessfully bid to become the city's new ambulance service provider.

Sioux Falls council members in November granted a contract for the service to Texas-based provider Paramedics Plus. Med-Star's federal lawsuit claimed unfair competition.

Lange dismissed the antitrust lawsuit with prejudice, meaning the same case can't be brought before

the court again.

Lange's ruling follows a circuit judge's decision to dismiss another lawsuit filed by Med-Star against the city.

Med-Star representatives couldn't immediately be reached.

Red Cross opening resource center to help Delmont residents

DELMONT, S.D. (AP) — The Red Cross is partnering with local disaster relief organizations to open a resource center in Delmont to help those affected by the recent tornado.

The humanitarian organization says it will open the Multi-Agency Resource Center at noon on Thursday at the American Legion in Delmont.

The center will have trained Red Cross caseworkers available to help people create personal recovery plans, navigate paperwork and find assistance.

Representatives from 10 non-profits, religious groups and government agencies will also be on hand to assist people impacted by Sunday's tornado that injured nine people and damaged at least 84 structures in and around Delmont.

A donations management center has also been opened in Delmont for anyone wanting to donate to affected residents.

2 flown to burn unit after fiery crash in Sioux Falls

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Two people were flown to a burn unit in Minneapolis after a fiery crash in Sioux Falls.

Authorities say the 21-year-old woman and a man whose identity was not immediately confirmed were in a car that crashed late Tuesday while traveling at a high rate of speed.

The car was engulfed in flames after it struck a traffic signal pole and rolled. The woman was thrown from the vehicle. The man was pulled through a window by a passer-by.

Delmont tornado victims urged to be wary as rebuild begins

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Attorney General Marty Jackley and South Dakota's Department of Public Safety are urging tornado victims in Delmont to be wary of shady contractors as they begin the recovery process.

Officials say people who need repair work done quickly following a disaster often are targets of unscrupulous business practices.

Jackley says most contractors are legitimate, but there are some who will seek to take advantage of a tragic situation. He says Delmont residents should take necessary steps to evaluate a bidder before contracting for a job, and avoid transient contractors.

The Sunday tornado damaged at least 84 structures in and around Delmont.

Winter wheat production down in the Dakotas from 2014

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — This year's winter wheat crop in the Dakotas is expected to be quite a bit smaller than last year's.

The Agriculture Department estimates South Dakota's crop at 48.4 million bushels, down 19 percent from 2014. North Dakota's crop is pegged at 11.2 million bushels, down 59 percent.

Winter wheat is not a main crop in North Dakota, making it subject to larger swings in production. Acres for harvest in North Dakota are estimated to be down 60 percent from last year.

In South Dakota, they're estimated to be up 2 percent over the year. The production drop is due to a 20 percent drop in average yield.

Nationally, winter wheat production is forecast at 1.5 billion bushels, up 7 percent from 2014.

Latest self-driving Google car heading to public streets

DEE-ANN DURBIN, AP Auto Writer

MOUNTAIN VIEW, Calif. (AP) — The latest version of Google's self-driving car — a pod-like two-seater that needs no gas pedal or steering wheel — will make its debut on public roads this summer, a significant step in the technology giant's mission to have driverless cars available to consumers in the next five years.

This prototype is the first vehicle built from scratch for the purpose of self-driving, Google says. It looks like a Smart car with a shiny black bowler hat to hide its sensors, and it can drive, brake and recognize road hazards without human intervention. It has more capabilities than the prototype Google introduced last May, which was so rudimentary it had fake headlights.

The new pod isn't designed for a long trip, or a joyride. It lacks air bags and other federally required safety features, so it can't go more than 25 miles per hour. It's electric, and has to be recharged after 80 miles. And the pod can only drive in areas that have been thoroughly mapped by Google.

At first, it will likely even have a steering wheel and gas pedal — current California regulations require them. Those regulations also require a driver to be able to take back control of the car at any time. But Google is lobbying for more flexible regulations.

Google will initially build and test 25 pods, mostly in neighborhoods surrounding its Mountain View headquarters. It will eventually build between 50 and 100, and will broaden testing to sites that are hillier and rainier.

The ultimate goal, says Google co-founder Sergey Brin, is computer-controlled cars that can eliminate human error, which is a factor in an estimated 90 percent of the 1.2 million road deaths that occur worldwide each year. Self-driving cars could also improve traffic congestion and transport the elderly and disabled.

Google shocked the auto industry in 2010 with its announcement that it was working on a driverless car. Brin insists Google doesn't aspire to be a car company, but wants its technology to be adopted by automakers.

"We want to partner to bring self-driving to all the vehicles in the world," Brin told a group of journalists and community members gathered earlier this week to take rides in the prototype.

For now the traditional automakers are pursuing their own self-driving technology, but with less ambitious timeline of 10 to 15 years for a truly driverless car.

Chris Urmson, who directs Google's self-driving car project, says the slow-moving, friendly looking prototype — his young son thinks it looks like a koala because of the nose-like black laser on the front — is a good bridge between the company's current test fleet of 20 specially outfitted Lexus SUVs and the more advanced, higher-speed driverless cars of its future, which might not even look like anything on the road today.

"This vehicle is really all about us learning. This vehicle could go on a freeway, but when we think about introducing the technology, we want to do that very thoughtfully and very safely," Urmson says.

Convincing drivers that driverless technology is safe is one of the hurdles the company must overcome. Earlier this week, in response to questions from The Associated Press, Google acknowledged 11 minor accidents in the six years it has been testing autonomous cars. Urmson says the company is

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proud of that record, and notes that Google's vehicles have completed more than 1.7 million miles of testing. He says all but one of the accidents were caused by drivers in other cars; in the only incident caused by a Google car, a staffer was driving in manual mode.

Consumers question whether they can trust self-driving cars to work all the time, who will be liable if there's an accident and how self-driving cars will interact with regular cars, says the consulting firm J.D. Power and Associates. In a 2013 survey of U.S. drivers, J.D. Power found only one in five was interested in a fully autonomous car.

Urmson says Google needs to do a better job of educating people about self-driving technology and updating them on Google's progress. It's building a Web site to teach people about the technology, and the site will feature a monthly report that will include details of any accidents involving Google cars. The site will also have a section where people can send feedback when they interact with the cars.

The prototype cars — assembled in suburban Detroit by Roush Industries — have the same array of radars, lasers and cameras as Google's fleet of Lexus SUVs, which allows them to share data. If one car's camera spots orange cones and construction signs, for example, it will alert all the others to slow down in that area or reroute around a lane closure.

Dmitri Dolgov, the head of software for the self-driving car project, says Google's software has gotten much better over the last year at classifying objects, like trees and mailboxes, and predicting behavior of pedestrians and other cars. For example, Google's cars will slow down if they sense that a car in the next lane is speeding up to cut in front of them. And in one recent test, a Google car paused when a cyclist ran a red light. Another car, driven by a human, went ahead and nearly hit the cyclist.

The system isn't perfect. On a test drive, one of Google's Lexus SUVs seemed momentarily confused when a mail truck partially blocked its path. Later, during a demonstration drive in Google's parking lot, the prototype — without a wheel or pedal — braked when it spotted a row of folding chairs. It had to figure out that the chairs wouldn't move before it proceeded.

Dolgov says it's impossible to predict everything its test cars might see, so they're programmed to act in the most conservative way when they confront something unusual, like the time a Google SUV stopped and waited while a woman in a wheelchair chased a duck with a broom.

Google isn't alone in developing self-driving cars. Mercedes-Benz, Infiniti and other brands already have advanced driver assistance systems, like lane keeping and adaptive cruise control, that can pilot the car on the highway with minimal input from the driver. Unlike Google, automakers think self-driving cars will arrive feature-by-feature instead of all at once, giving people plenty of time to adapt to autonomous driving.

But Urmson says that approach is "fundamentally wrong."

"We believe that's like saying, 'If I work really hard at jumping, one day I'll just be able to fly,'" he said.

Egil Juliussen, the principal analyst of infotainment and advanced driver assist systems for the consulting firm IHS Automotive, says Google's "moon shot" strategy is difficult and riskier than just adding features to existing cars. But he thinks it could ultimately be successful. Google could make self-driving urban pods for universities or urban centers, for example, or sell its technology to automakers.

Brin says the company is still refining its plans for self-driving cars, but he's excited about their potential.

"Our goal is to create something safer than human drivers," he said.

Amtrak CEO: Railroad takes 'full responsibility' for crash

GEOFF MULVIHILL, Associated Press

MICHAEL KUNZELMAN, Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — As federal investigators try to find out why an Amtrak train that crashed in Philadelphia sped up in the last minute before it derailed, Amtrak's top official said the railroad takes full responsibility for the deadly wreck.

Joseph Boardman, Amtrak president and CEO, said in a letter on Amtrak's official blog Thursday that it is cooperating fully in an investigation into the accident that killed eight people and injured more than 200 this week.

"With truly heavy hearts, we mourn those who died. Their loss leaves holes in the lives of their families and communities," Boardman wrote. "Amtrak takes full responsibility and deeply apologizes for our role in this tragic event."

He said the railroad's goal is "to fully understand what happened and how we can prevent a similar tragedy from occurring in the future."

Meanwhile, the National Transportation Safety Board said Thursday that in the last minute or so before the derailment, the Washington-to-New York train sped up from 70 mph until it reached more than 100 mph at a sharp bend where the maximum speed is supposed to be 50 mph.

Board member Robert Sumwalt said it's unclear whether the speed was increased manually by engineer Brandon Bostian.

So far, investigators have found no problems with the track, the signals or the locomotive, and the train was running on time, Sumwalt said.

Bostian refused to talk to police on Wednesday, authorities said. But on Thursday, Sumwalt said that Bostian had agreed to be interviewed by the NTSB in the next few days.

Separately, the Philadelphia district attorney's office said it is investigating and will decide whether to bring charges.

Bostian's lawyer, Robert Goggin, told ABC News that his client suffered a concussion in the wreck, needed 15 staples in his head and has "absolutely no recollection whatsoever" of the crash. Goggin also said Bostian had not been using his cellphone, drinking or using drugs.

"He remembers coming into the curve. He remembers attempting to reduce speed and thereafter he was knocked out," said Goggin. He said Bostian's cellphone was off and stored in his bag before the accident, as required. Goggin said his client "cooperated fully" with police and told them "everything that he knew," immediately consenting to a blood test and surrendering his cellphone.

As the death toll climbed on Thursday with the discovery of what was believed to be the last body in one of the mangled railcars, Mayor Michael Nutter again appeared to cast blame on Bostian, questioning why the train was going so fast.

"I don't think that any commonsense, rational person would think that it was OK to travel at that level of speed knowing that there was a pretty significant restriction on how fast you could go through that turn," Nutter said.

Bostian graduated from the University of Missouri-Columbia with a bachelor's in business administration and management in 2006, the university said. He became an Amtrak engineer in 2010, four years after landing a job as a conductor, according to his LinkedIn profile. He lives in New York City.

"I have nothing but good things to say about Brandon," said Will Gust, who belonged to the Acacia fraternity with Bostian in college. "He is a very conscientious person, one of the most upstanding individuals that I know, just a really good quality person."

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Stefanie McGee, a friend of Bostian's, is now city clerk in his hometown of Bartlett, Tennessee, a suburb of Memphis. She said he always wanted to be an engineer or a conductor.

"He would go on vacation and bring back subway maps," she recalled Thursday. "He would go places with his family and he would talk about the trains instead of the places."

Officials believe they have now accounted for all 243 passengers and crew members who were thought to have been aboard, Nutter said. Forty-three remained hospitalized Thursday, according to the mayor. Temple University Hospital said it had six patients in critical condition, all of whom were expected to pull through.

The first funeral of the eight people killed in the crash was to be held on Friday morning. Services for U.S. Naval Academy Midshipman Justin Zemser, 20, who was traveling home to New York City, will take place on Long Island.

Amtrak, meanwhile, said limited train service between Philadelphia and New York should resume on Monday, with full service by Tuesday. Amtrak carries 11.6 million passengers a year along the Northeast Corridor, which runs between Washington and Boston.

10 Things to Know for Today The Associated Press

Your daily look at late-breaking news, upcoming events and the stories that will be talked about today:

1. WHY DID AMTRAK TRAIN SPEED UP BEFORE CRASH

That's a question investigators are exploring in the wake of the deadly derailment in Philadelphia.

2. GRIM DISCOVERY NEAR CHOPPER CRASH IN NEPAL

Rescuers find three bodies right by the wreckage of a U.S. Marine helicopter that disappeared while on a relief mission in the earthquake-hit country; six Marines and two Nepalese soldiers were on board.

3. A KING AMONG BLUESMEN

B.B. King, whose scorching guitar licks and heartfelt vocals made him the idol of generations of musicians and fans, dies at 89.

4. ROHINGYA BOAT PEOPLE TRYING TO SCALE WALL OF RESISTANCE

More than 800 migrants land on the shores of Indonesia and Thailand after being adrift at sea for weeks, despite Southeast Asian countries who say boat people are not welcome.

5. ATTEMPTED COUP IN BURUNDI APPEARS TO HAVE FAILED

The office of President Pierre Nkurunziza announces he's back in the country, a day after fighting between loyalist troops and a general seeking to overthrow him.

6. OBAMA VOWS TO KEEP ARAB ALLIES SECURE AMID IRAN DEAL

But the president's claim of winning support from Gulf nations for his nuclear diplomacy with Tehran appears far from certain.

7. DOGGIE DRAMA COMES TO A HEAD

Johnny Depp's Yorkshire terriers are preparing to flee Australia for the U.S. after an official threatened to euthanize them because they were allegedly sneaked into the country.

8. SELF-DRIVING CARS COMING CLOSER TO REALITY

Google's pod-like two-seater needs no gas pedal or steering wheel and will make its debut on public roads this summer.

9. PHONE MONITORING APPS FLOURISH IN SOUTH KOREA

Under a new law, no one 18 or younger can buy an Android smartphone without installing applica-

tions that block users from visiting porn sites, or downloading content deemed harmful.

10. BRADY APPEAL, DEFLATION SPAT NOW IN GOODELL'S HANDS

The NFL commissioner will hear the New England quarterback's appeal of his four-game suspension over "deflategate," despite union objection.

AP News in Brief

Amtrak CEO says railroad takes 'full responsibility' for role in deadly Philadelphia crash

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — As federal investigators try to find out why an Amtrak train that crashed in Philadelphia sped up in the last minute before it derailed, Amtrak's top official said the railroad takes full responsibility for the deadly wreck.

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Meanwhile, the National Transportation Safety Board said Thursday that in the last minute or so before the derailment, the Washington-to-New York train sped up from 70 mph until it reached more than 100 mph at a sharp bend where the maximum speed is supposed to be 50 mph.

Nepal rescuers find 3 bodies near crashed US Marine helicopter; survivors unlikely

KATHMANDU, Nepal (AP) — Nepalese rescuers on Friday found three bodies near the wreckage of a U.S. Marine helicopter that disappeared earlier this week while on a relief mission in the earthquake-hit Himalayan nation, and officials said it was unlikely there were any survivors from the crash.

"The wreckage of the helicopter was found in pieces and there are no chances of any survivors," Nepal's Defense Secretary Iswori Poudyal said. He gave no details about the nationalities of the three victims, only saying their remains were charred.

The helicopter was carrying six Marines and two Nepalese army soldiers.

A separate team sent by the U.S. Marines also said they identified the wreckage as the missing helicopter, the UH-1 "Huey."

"The assessment of the site is ongoing and a thorough investigation will be conducted," a statement from the Marine-led joint task force said.

'Blues can never die': B.B. King reigned but the blues to live on in the musicians he inspired

LAS VEGAS (AP) — B.B. King believed anyone could play the blues, and that "as long as people have problems, the blues can never die."

But no one could play the blues like B.B. King, who died Thursday night at age 89 in Las Vegas, where

he had been in hospice care.

Although he kept performing well into his 80s, the 15-time Grammy winner suffered from diabetes and other problems. He collapsed during a concert in Chicago last October, later blaming dehydration and exhaustion.

For generations of blues musicians and rock 'n' rollers, King's plaintive vocals and soaring guitar playing style set the standard for an art form born in the American South and honored and performed worldwide. After the deaths of Howlin' Wolf and Muddy Waters decades ago, King was the greatest upholder of a tradition that inspired everyone from Jimi Hendrix and Robert Cray to the Rolling Stones and Eric Clapton.

King played a Gibson guitar he affectionately called Lucille, with a style that included beautifully crafted single-string runs punctuated by loud chords, subtle vibratos and bent notes, building on the standard 12-bar blues and improvising like a jazz master.

More than 1,000 migrants land in Indonesia and Thailand in growing regional crisis

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — More than 1,000 migrants came ashore in different parts of Indonesia and Thailand on Friday, becoming the latest refugees to slip into Southeast Asian countries that have made it clear the boat people are not welcome.

Weak, hungry and dehydrated, most of the migrants were crammed onto three boats that Indonesian fisherman towed ashore in Aceh province and North Sumatra, while another 106 people were found on a Thai island Thursday and brought to the mainland Friday, authorities said.

Earlier this week, about 1,600 migrants were rescued by the Malaysian and Indonesian navies, but both countries then said they could not accept any more and sent other boats away in what has become a regional humanitarian crisis — that no one in the region is rushing to solve. It wasn't clear whether those who came ashore Friday had been turned away earlier.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said he was "alarmed by reports that some countries may be refusing entry to boats carrying refugees and migrants," according to a statement from his office Thursday. Ban urged governments in the region to "facilitate timely disembarkation and keep their borders and ports open in order to help the vulnerable people who are in need."

Southeast Asia for years tried to quietly ignore the plight of Myanmar's 1.3 million Rohingya but is now being confronted with a dilemma that in many ways it helped create. In the last three years, more than 120,000 members of the Muslim minority, who are intensely persecuted in Buddhist-majority Myanmar, have boarded ships to flee to other countries, paying huge sums to human traffickers.

Obama vows to uphold Arab allies' security while seeking elusive support for Iran nuke deal

WASHINGTON (AP) — Charging toward an Iran nuclear agreement, President Barack Obama is assuring Arab allies that they are safe from the threat of an empowered Tehran as he seeks to shore up some of America's most critical security partnerships. However, Obama's claim of winning Arab support for his nuclear diplomacy appears far from certain.

After a rare Camp David summit, the president on Thursday pledged Washington's "ironclad commitment" to the Sunni governments of the Persian Gulf and even spoke of authorizing U.S. military force if their security is endangered by Shiite Iran or anyone else. The United States, he vowed, will "use all

elements of power to secure our core interests in the Gulf region, and to deter and confront external aggression against our allies and partners.”

Obama invoked the start of a “new era of cooperation” that would last for decades to come, even as Saudi Arabia and others in the region are deeply unnerved by the prospect of an accord with Iran that would impose a decade-long freeze on its nuclear program and potentially provide it tens of billions of dollars’ worth of relief from international sanctions. The Sunni governments came to Washington looking for assurances that Obama would pair his diplomatic effort with a broader strategy to push back against Iran’s expanding influence in the Middle East.

The U.S. and other world powers hope to clinch a final nuclear deal with Iran by the end of June. This week’s talks with top officials from the kingdoms of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates were announced by Obama on April 2, when a framework with the Iranians was sealed.

Washington has long provided military support to its Gulf partners, most famously by invading Iraq in 1991 after its takeover of Kuwait. But like another U.S. ally, Israel, the Arabs fear a negotiated end to the Iran nuclear standoff would serve to enrich and empower a government already keeping Syrian President Bashar Assad in power, fueling Yemen’s rebellion, intimidating opponents in Iraq and Lebanon and meddling in the affairs of others through the region.

Chris Christie charming New Hampshire voters, who wonder if he’ll ever get past ‘Bridgagate’

DOVER, N.H. (AP) — In the middle of a crowd at a brick-walled bar in Dover, Chris Christie is at ease, charming several hundred beer-drinking New Hampshire voters, when he decides to take a final question.

In an instant, the mood changes as Eileen Sahagian, born and raised in New Jersey, tells the governor of her native state she was “beyond horrified” by the role his aides are accused of playing in creating traffic jams near a busy bridge to punish a mayor who declined to endorse his re-election.

“I’m worried about having a president who has people around him who think that that’s OK,” she said.

While Christie isn’t yet officially running for president, it’s clear he and his team are staking his likely bid for the GOP nomination on success in New Hampshire and its first-in-the-nation primary. Moments like the one last week with Sahagian at the bar in Dover illustrate the challenge before him.

In such town halls and one-on-one settings, Republicans and independents in New Hampshire appear drawn to Christie’s brash personality and early forays into policy. But while most of the nearly three dozen voters, activists and political operatives interviewed by The Associated Press in recent weeks are dismissive of what they call the “bridge thing,” many are skeptical he can ever get past it.

Prying parental eyes: Phone monitoring apps flourish in S. Korea, new rule orders installation

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Lee Chang-june can be miles from his 12-year-old son but still know when he plays a smartphone game. With the press of an app he can see his son’s phone activity, disable apps or totally shut down the smartphone.

The app, “Smart Sheriff,” was funded by the South Korean government primarily to block access to pornography and other offensive content online. But its features go well beyond that.

Smart Sheriff and at least 14 other apps allow parents to monitor how long their kids use their smart-

phones, how many times they use apps and which websites they visit. Some send a child's location data to parents and issue an alert when a child searches keywords such as "suicide," "pregnancy" and "bully" or receives messages with those words.

In South Korea, the apps have been downloaded at least 480,000 times.

The number will likely go up. Last month, South Korea's Korea Communications Commission, which has sweeping powers covering the telecommunications industry, required telecoms companies and parents to ensure Smart Sheriff or one of the other monitoring apps is installed when anyone aged 18 years or under gets a new smartphone. The measure doesn't apply to old smartphones but most schools sent out letters to parents encouraging them to install the software anyway.

Google's pod-like two-seater is next step to driverless car; to hit public roads this summer

MOUNTAIN VIEW, Calif. (AP) — The latest version of Google's self-driving car — a pod-like two-seater that needs no gas pedal or steering wheel — will make its debut on public roads this summer, a significant step in the technology giant's mission to have driverless cars available to consumers in the next five years.

This prototype is the first vehicle built from scratch for the purpose of self-driving, Google says. It looks like a Smart car with a shiny black bowler hat to hide its sensors, and it can drive, brake and recognize road hazards without human intervention. It has more capabilities than the prototype Google introduced last May, which was so rudimentary it had fake headlights.

The new pod isn't designed for a long trip, or a joyride. It lacks air bags and other federally required safety features, so it can't go more than 25 miles per hour. It's electric, and has to be recharged after 80 miles. And the pod can only drive in areas that have been thoroughly mapped by Google.

At first, it will likely even have a steering wheel and gas pedal — current California regulations require them. Those regulations also require a driver to be able to take back control of the car at any time. But Google is lobbying for more flexible regulations.

Google will initially build and test 25 pods, mostly in neighborhoods surrounding its Mountain View headquarters. It will eventually build between 50 and 100, and will broaden testing to sites that are hillier and rainier.

Johnny Depp's dogs prepare to flee Australia after officials threaten to euthanize them

SYDNEY (AP) — Facing the threat of imminent death, Johnny Depp's dogs Pistol and Boo were preparing on Friday to flee Australia after the agriculture minister angrily accused the Hollywood actor of sneaking the pups into the country.

Agriculture Minister Barnaby Joyce said he was told the Yorkshire terriers were expected to return to the U.S. aboard a private jet, after the government ordered the actor to get his dogs out of Australia by Saturday or they would be euthanized.

Joyce told the Australian Broadcasting Corp. that the dogs' imminent departure was "the best news that I've got."

The canine chaos erupted after Joyce accused Depp of smuggling in the dogs when he returned to Australia on April 21 to resume filming the fifth installment in the "Pirates of the Caribbean" movie series at Gold Coast studios.

Australia has strict quarantine regulations to prevent diseases such as rabies spreading to its shores.

Bringing pets into the country involves applying for a permit and a quarantine on arrival of at least 10 days.

Brady appeal, bitter deflations spat now before NFL commissioner despite union objection

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP) — The sides have bitterly argued in the court of public opinion. Now Roger Goodell plans to try to personally settle whether Super Bowl MVP Tom Brady deserves a four-game suspension for using deflated footballs.

The NFL commissioner decided Thursday night to take up an appeal for the New England Patriots quarterback, a move allowed under the collective bargaining agreement despite the wishes of union officials who wanted Goodell to appoint a neutral arbitrator for the case.

Goodell will review the punishment handed down by NFL executive vice president of football operations Troy Vincent. He'll decide whether to keep the four-game suspension, reduce it or eliminate it.

Goodell's denial of the union's wishes was just the last power play on a day filled with outward campaigning on an issue that started months ago as a backchannel complaint.

Hours earlier, the club went on the offensive with a 20,000-word online rebuttal by its lawyers to the 243-page report that led to the suspension. It came two days after a conference call by attorney Ted Wells, who headed the NFL investigation, in which, in a sometimes rising voice, he challenged criticism from Brady's agent, Donald Yee.

Today in History The Associated Press

Today is Friday, May 15, the 135th day of 2015. There are 230 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 15, 1975, U.S. forces invaded the Cambodian island of Koh Tang and captured the American merchant ship Mayaguez, which had been seized by the Khmer Rouge. (All 39 crew members had already been released safely by Cambodia; some 40 U.S. servicemen were killed in connection with the operation.)

On this date:

In 1776, Virginia endorsed American independence from Britain.

In 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed an act establishing the Department of Agriculture.

In 1911, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that Standard Oil Co. was a monopoly in violation of the Sherman Antitrust Act, and ordered its breakup.

In 1930, registered nurse Ellen Church, the first airline stewardess, went on duty aboard an Oakland-to-Chicago flight operated by Boeing Air Transport (a forerunner of United Airlines).

In 1940, DuPont began selling its nylon stockings nationally. The original McDonald's restaurant was opened in San Bernardino, California, by Richard and Maurice McDonald.

In 1955, the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain and France signed the Austrian State Treaty, which re-established Austria's independence.

In 1963, astronaut L. Gordon Cooper blasted off aboard Faith 7 on the final mission of the Project Mercury space program.

In 1970, just after midnight, Phillip Lafayette Gibbs and James Earl Green, two black students at Jackson State College in Mississippi, were killed as police opened fire during student protests.

In 1972, Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace was shot and left paralyzed by Arthur H. Bremer while cam-

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painging for president in Laurel, Maryland. (Bremer served 35 years for attempted murder.)

In 1988, the Soviet Union began the process of withdrawing its troops from Afghanistan, more than eight years after Soviet forces had entered the country.

In 1991, Edith Cresson was appointed by French President Francois Mitterrand (frahn-SWAH' mee-teh-RAHN') to be France's first female prime minister.

In 2000, by a 5-4 vote, the U.S. Supreme Court threw out a key provision of the 1994 Violence Against Women Act, saying that rape victims could not sue their attackers in federal court.

Ten years ago: U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice paid a surprise visit to Iraq to express support for its new government. The Czech Republic denied Canada its third straight title and won the world ice hockey championship 3-0 in Vienna, Austria. The movie "Star Wars Episode III: Revenge of the Sith" had its world premiere at the Cannes Film Festival.

Five years ago: Jessica Watson, a 16-year-old Australian who'd spent seven months at sea in her pink yacht, became the youngest person to sail around the world solo, nonstop and unassisted as she arrived in Sydney. Lookin at Lucky, ridden by new jockey Martin Garcia, won the Preakness.

One year ago: President Barack Obama dedicated the National Sept. 11 Memorial Museum deep beneath ground zero, calling it a symbol that says of America: "Nothing can ever break us."

Today's Birthdays: Playwright Sir Peter Shaffer is 89. Actress-singer Anna Maria Alberghetti is 79. Counterculture icon Wavy Gravy is 79. Former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright is 78. Singer Trini Lopez is 78. Singer Lenny Welch is 77. Actress-singer Lainie Kazan is 73. Actress Gunilla Hutton is 73. Country singer K.T. Oslin is 73. Former Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius is 67. Singer-songwriter Brian Eno is 67. Actor Nicholas Hammond (Film: "The Sound of Music") is 65. Actor Chazz Palminteri is 63. Baseball Hall-of-Famer George Brett is 62. Musician-composer Mike Oldfield is 62. Actor Lee Horsley is 60. TV personality Giselle Fernandez is 54. Actress Brenda Bakke is 52. Football Hall-of-Famer Emmitt Smith is 46. Singer-rapper Prince Be (PM Dawn) is 45. Actor Brad Rowe is 45. Actor David Charvet (shahr-VAY') is 43. Actor Russell Hornsby is 41. Rock musician Ahmet Zappa is 41. Olympic gold-medal gymnast Amy Chow is 37. Actor David Krumholtz is 37. Actress Jamie-Lynn Sigler is 34. Actress Alexandra Breckenridge (TV: "The Walking Dead") is 33. Rock musician Brad Shultz (Cage the Elephant) is 33. Rock musician Nick Perri is 31. Tennis player Andy Murray is 28.

Thought for Today: "Behavior is what a man does, not what he thinks, feels, or believes." - Emily Dickinson, American poet (born 1830, died this date in 1886).