

Groton Daily Independent

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Open House Bridal Shower For

Brianna Woods

Bride-to-be of Zach Geary

Saturday, April 30th

9:30-11:30

**St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic
Church – Groton**

The couple is registered at:

Target, Herbergers & Menards

Open: Recycling Trailer in Groton

The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave.

The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **Closed**

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Wednesday, April 27

Biology II Health Science Career Day in Aberdeen

School Breakfast: Egg omelet, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Tomato soup, grilled cheese, broccoli, fruit.

Senior Menu: Baked chicken, rice pilaf, cauliflower/pea salad, pudding, whole wheat bread.

Birthday: Terry Schwabe

7:00am: United Methodist Men's Bible Study

12:00pm: Kiwanis meets at the Community Center

3:45pm: St. John's Lutheran Confirmation

6:30pm: Emmanuel Lutheran League

7:00pm: Emmanuel Lutheran Confirmation

Thursday, April 28

School Breakfast: French toast, links, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Various nuggets, French fries, lettuce, fruit.

Senior Menu: Ham loaf, sweet potatoes, peas, acini dePepi fruit salad, whole wheat bread.

Birthdays: Alexis Ferrell, Justin Peterson, Kevin Pharis

10:00am: Girls golf at Redfield

3:30pm: 7th/8th grade track meet in Groton

7:00pm: FCCLA Style Show

Friday, April 29

School Breakfast: French toast, links, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Pizza, vegetable, carrots and dip, fruit.

Senior Menu: Breaded codfish, parsley buttered potatoes, creamy coleslaw, sherbet, whole wheat bread.

1:00pm: Track at Sisseton

6:30pm: FFA Banquet

Removal, Grinding, Chipping, Trimming

605-725-WOOD

Mason Dinger: 605-216-6098

Trevor Zeck: 605-216-8910



Groton wins three events at Kiwanis meet

The Groton Kiwanis Track Meet was held Tuesday. Audrey Wanner won the triple jump with a distance of 33-1.5, Jessica Bjerke won the discus with a throw of 120-11, and Stevie Fey won the shot put with a throw of 44-3. Audrey Wanner also won the Dick Donovan Tope Field Event award in the girl's division.

Ipswich won the girls team title with 105 points while Groton placed fourth with 90 points. Roncalli won the boys team title with 91 points and Groton placed fourth with 66 points.

Second place winners were the girls medley relay team with a time of 4:51.16; Audrey Wanner in the long jump with a distance of 14-11.

Third place winners were Audrey Wanner in the 100m hurdles with a time of 17.27; the girls 400m relay team with a time of 55.66; Carly Wheeting in the shot put with a distance of 33-7; the boys 1600m relay team with a time of 3:52.78.

In fourth place were Sean Schuring in the 1600m run with a time of 5:08.53; the boys 400m relay team with a time of 47.05; Adam Herman in the long jump with a distance of 19-9.25; McClain Lone in the shot put with a distance of 41-8; Harleigh Stange in the 100m dash with a time of 13.78; Audrey Wanner in the 200m dash with a time of 29.58; Carly Wheeting in the discus with a distance of 96-10.

Those taking fifth were Jessica Bjerke in the shot put with a distance of 30-5; Katie Koehler in the triple jump with a distance of 30-6.5 and in the long jump with a distance of 14-5; the girls 3200m relay team with a time of 12:08.85; Treyton Diegel in the 800m run with a time of 2:17.84; the boys 800m relay team with time of 1:41.03; the boys medley relay team with a time of 4:07.52; Adam Herman in the triple jump with a distance of 39-4; Bennett Shabazz in the high jump with a height of 5-7.

Sixth place winners were McClain Lone in the discus with a distance of 119-2; Carter Jondahl in the shot put with a distance of 37-9; Marlee Jones in the shot put with a distance of 30-5;

Those placing seventh were the girls 800m relay team with a time of 2:01.46; the boys 3200m relay team with a time of 10:11.36; Luke Thorson in the discus with a distance of 117-2.

In eighth place were Payton Main in the 300m hurdles with a time of 54.94; Marlee Jones in the discus with a throw of 90-6.

The Livestream logo features a red stylized 'L' icon to the left of the word 'livestream' in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

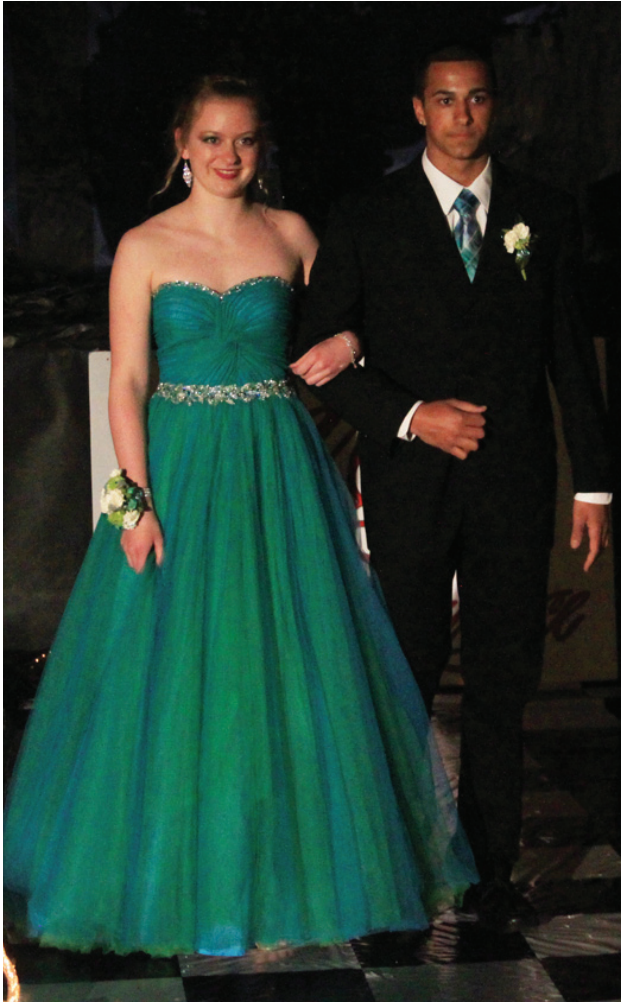
FCCLA Style Show, 7 p.m., April 28

FFA Banquet, 6:30 p.m., April 29

gdilive.com

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Melanie Schuetze
escorted by **Brandon Lout**

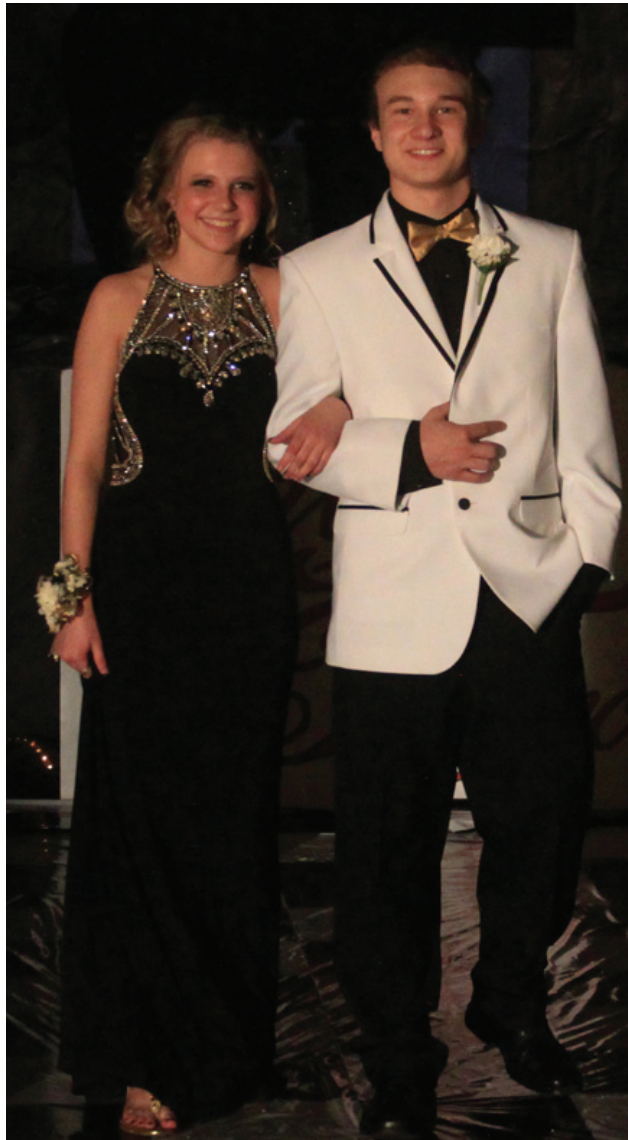


Tia Thompson
escorted by **Alex Kern**

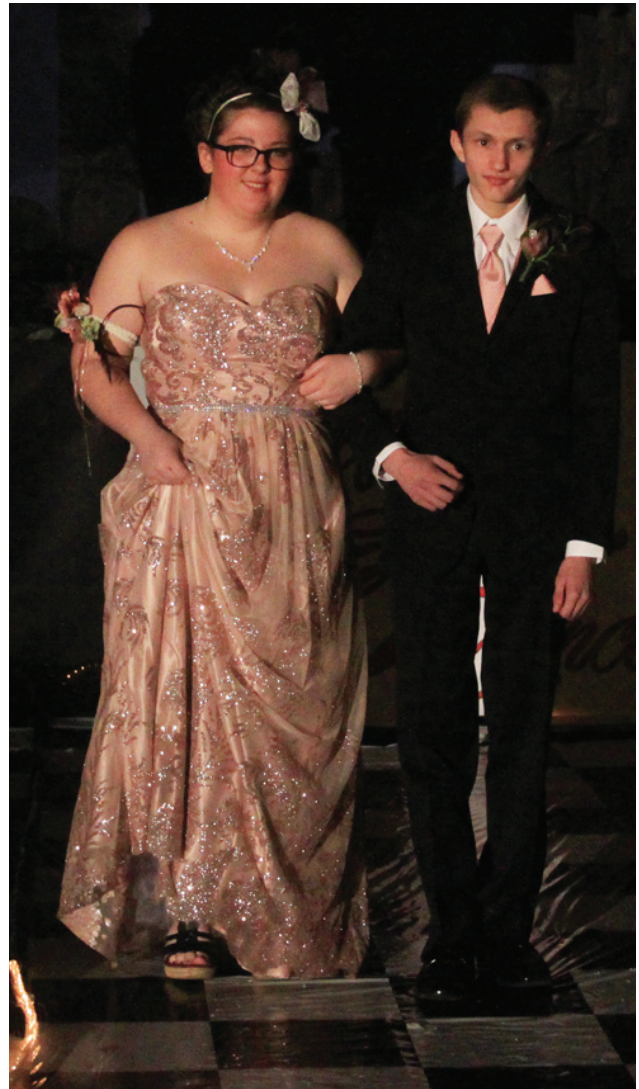
The Groton Area prom was held Saturday evening in the high school gym. The Groton Independent will be featuring couples from the prom during the next few weeks. There were 52 couples at the prom. HD DVDs of the prom are available from the Independent for \$26.50 or can be mailed out for \$30. Call 605-397-7285 or mail check to Independent, 110 N Washington St., Groton SD 57445-2252.

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Lexie Harder
escorted by Wyatt Kurtz



Tage Taylor
escorted by Tyler Iverson

Now Doing Core Aeration

Mowing ~ Trimming

Edging ~ Fertilizing

Spring/Fall Cleanups

Travis Kurth, Licensed and Insured

Free Estimates ~ 605/397-7469

Cutting Edge Lawn Care

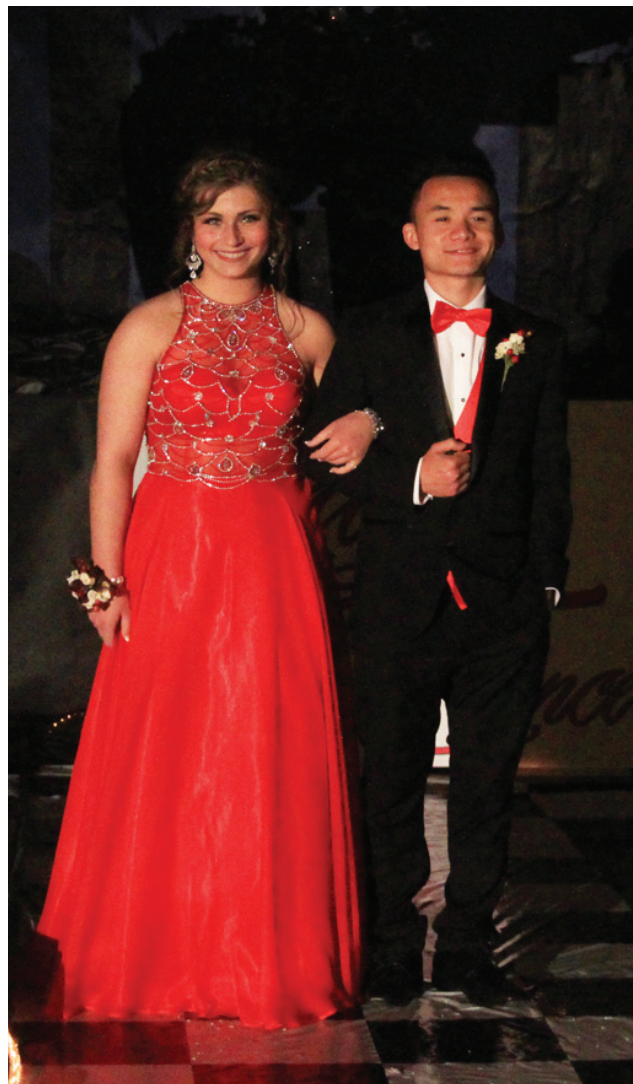
Quality Lawn Care At Affordable Prices

Handiman looking for work

I can do almost anything from building whatever you need, repairing machinery, welding, flooring, installing windows and doors. If you're looking for work to be done around the home or farm, I'm your guy. Call me at 605/228-4172.

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Lexi Gustafson
escorted by Joy Nay Htoo



Allison Weber
escorted by Dustin Fischer

The Life of Laura Jean Lowary



The funeral for Laura Jean Lowary, 91, Sioux Falls and formerly of Groton, will be 11 a.m., Saturday April 30, 2016 at the United Methodist Church, Groton. The Rev. Thomas Carlson will officiate. Private family burial will take place in Union Cemetery, Groton.

Closed casket visitation will be held at Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton, on Friday from 4-8 p.m. with a prayer service at 7 p.m. Family will be present at 5:30.

Jean fell asleep Saturday, April 23, 2016 at the Dougherty Hospice House in Sioux Falls.

Laura Jean was born on July 22, 1924 at her parent's farm home near Wetonka, SD to Margaret (Dreghorn) Knutson and James L. Hutton. She attended grade school and two years of High School at Wetonka and finished High School in Aber-

deen. Following her father's death in 1941, she moved to Aberdeen where she was employed. She united in marriage with Earl Lowary on March 5, 1946 and they made their home on a farm they established north of Groton. They resided there for over 52 years until flooding forced them to leave. They moved to Groton and later Aberdeen. For the past several years, Jean made her home in Sioux Falls.

Celebrating her life are her children, Earl Charles (Bette) Lowary of Austin, TX; Lee Edward (Clare) Lowary of Santa Fe, NM; John Wesley (Anita) Lowary of Groton; Betty Jean (Douglas) Norgaard of Brandon, six grandchildren: Tate (Debbie) Lowary, Jennifer (Aaron) Smith, Patrick (Megan) Lowary, Jody (Erin) Norgaard, Teresa (Chris) Wrich, Matt (Allison) Norgaard, and her sister, Mabel Bailey of Rapid City.

Preceding her in death were her parents, her husband of 61 years, 2 brothers, Lee Hutton and Philip Knutson and 9 sisters, Marianne Backous, Clara Hein, Helena Weismantel, Hazel Gerdes, Alice Sieber, Ruby Muldoon, Mildred Patterson, Mary Royer and Margaret Burns.

Casketbearers will be her grandchildren.

Honorary Casketbearers will be Debbie Lowary, Aaron Smith, Megan Lowary, Allison Norgaard, Erin Norgaard, Chris Wrich and all of her 17 great-grandchildren.

Mother's Day Specials

Order a \$75 or more
fresh floral bouquet or
plant (pick up or delivery)
& receive a free Royal
Apothic Perfume or Lip
Conditioner FREE! (\$18-
\$19 value) **while supplies last

Mother's Day is May 8th - Open Monday-Friday
9-5, Saturday 10-4 & Sunday, May 8th - 10-2 (no
deliveries on Sunday)



THINKING ABOUT HEALTH

Women in Small Town America Aren't Living As Long As They Used To

By Trudy Lieberman, Rural Health News Service

Those of us who grew up in small rural communities in the 1950s and 60s, expected to have longer life spans than our parents.

The trends were in our favor. White women born in 1900 could expect to live, on average, just shy of 49 years; white men 46.6 years. Those were our grandparents and our neighbors.

By 1950, life expectancy had climbed to 72 years for white women born that year and 66.5 for white men. By 2000, life expectancy was still increasing, with female babies expected to live to nearly 80 and males to almost 75. America was on the rise, jobs were plentiful, antibiotics kept us from dying of strep throat, and polio vaccine kept us out of the iron lung. We thought things would only keep getting better.

So I was dismayed to read a story in the Washington Post in April that blew holes in those childhood expectations. The Post found "white women have been dying prematurely at higher rates since the turn of this century, passing away in their 30s, 40s, and 50s in a slow-motion crisis driven by decaying health in small town-America." That "small town America" was where I grew up. I contrasted the Post's findings to the claims made by all those politicians who have told us we have the best healthcare in the world and who point to gobs of money lavished on the National Institutes of Health to find new cures and to hospitals promoting their latest imaging machines. The Post found that since 2000, the health of all white women has declined, but the trend is most pronounced in rural areas. In 2000, for every 100,000 women in their late 40s living in rural areas, 228 died. Today it's 296.

If the U.S. really has the best healthcare, why are women dying in their prime, reversing the gains we've made since I was a kid? After all, mortality rates are a key measure of the health of a nation's population.

Post reporters found, however, that those dismal stats probably have less to do with healthcare - which we like to define today as the latest and greatest technology and insurance coverage albeit with high deductibles - and more to do with what health experts call "the social determinants of health," such basics as food, housing, employment, air quality, and education.

Landmark studies examining the health of British civil servants who all had access to health insurance under Britain's National Health Service have found over the years that those at the lowest job levels had worse health outcomes. Some of those outcomes were related to things like work climate and social influences outside work like stress and job uncertainty.

In its analysis, the Post found that the benefits of health interventions that increase longevity, things like taking drugs to lower cholesterol and the risk of heart disease, are being overwhelmed by increased opioid use, heavy drinking, smoking and obesity. Some researchers have speculated that such destructive health behaviors may stem from people's struggles to find jobs in small communities and the "dashed expectations" hypothesis. White people today are more pessimistic about their opportunities to advance in life than their parents and grandparents were. They are also more pessimistic than their black and Hispanic contemporaries.

A 42-year-old Bakersfield, California, woman who was addicted to painkillers for a decade explained it this way: "This can be a very stifling place. It's culturally barren," she said. There is no place where children can go and see what it's like to be somewhere else, to be someone else. At first, the drugs are an escape from your problems, from this place, and then you're trapped," she told Post reporters.

I recently heard the U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy talk about his upcoming report on substance use. About 2.2 million people need help, he said, but only about one million are actually getting it. Murthy wants his report to have consequences as far reaching as the 1964 surgeon general's report linking tobacco use to lung cancer. In 1964, Murthy noted, 42 percent of Americans smoked; today fewer than 17 percent do.

The Post story concludes that the lethal habits responsible for the increasing mortality rates is cresting in small cities where the biggest manufacturer has moved overseas or in families broken by divorce or substance abuse or in the mind and body of someone doing poorly and just barely hanging on.

The Surgeon General has taken on an enormous task, but his efforts just might help the nation move its life expectancy trends back in the right direction.

What do you think is causing poor health in your community? Write to Trudy at trudy.lieberman@gmail.com.

Contact dermatitis from furry-rope-like vine

His rash was itchy, raised, red, blistery, and distributed in streaks along both forearms. Likely this was from poison ivy, especially since he had been camping and hunting for firewood in a woody area that weekend. Al-



By Richard P. Holm M.D.

though it was too early in the spring to see the groups-of-three glossy-pointy-leafed plants, he had been pulling on furry-rope-like woody vines, probably the winter-vine form of the poison plant. Allergists and dermatologists call the rash from poison ivy a form of contact dermatitis, which is an allergic reaction to the oil of the plant.

First exposure to the poisonous oil is the sensitizing dose and generally doesn't cause a rash. The next exposure, however, brings on the allergic eruption. 85% of adults have been sensitized to poison ivy oil, sometime in the past.

Many other agents can also cause contact dermatitis, but rarely so violent as from oil of poison ivy. About 15% of us react to nickel, which is characterized by a dry scaly rash, hives, or blisters distributed on ear lobes, around necklaces, or under wrist watches.

Other allergic contact culprits include ingredients in latex or rubber used in gloves and shoes; many perfumes blended with cosmetics, shampoos, conditioners, deodorants; the ingredients in hair dyes; some sticky adhesives used on tape, false-eyelashes, and toupees; and antibiotics found in Neosporin, Bactroban, and Triple Antibiotic ointments.

Other forms of dermatitis are not allergy driven but happen because the agent is frankly toxic, like bleach, kerosene, battery acid, and cement, or is irritating like when there is excessive wetness, washing, and detergents. Another kind of contact dermatitis follows the combination of sun exposure and an allergen like certain perfumes, insecticides and oil from the skin of a lime.

Of course, treatment depends on the specific agent that causes the problem. Cleansing the allergen away might be important. Protecting with barrier creams and ointments like zinc oxide or CeraVe might help. Sometimes oral, not topical, antihistamines help, like Zyrtec or Allegra tablets daily, but not Benadryl lotion. Normally though, topical steroids, like cortisone or triamcinolone cream, are needed to turn off the inflammation. And when the reaction is severe enough, a tablet or injectable form of steroid may be prescribed by your doctor.

The most important lesson should be avoiding the allergic, toxic, or irritating agent in the first place. My poison ivy patient was careful when he was in the woods from that day forward, especially when encountering furry-rope-like woody vines.

To hear more from Dr. Holm, visit his website, www.PrairieDoc.org. On Call with the Prairie Doc is produced by the Healing Words Foundation in association with the South Dakota State University journalism department and airs Thursdays on South Dakota Public Broadcasting Television at 7 p.m. CT, 6 p.m. MT, and streams live at www.PrairieDoc.org.

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Today in Weather History

April 27, 1968: A major snow storm raged over the northern Black Hills blocking many highways near Gillette and Moorcroft with an estimated three to four feet of snow. Winds in the Sturgis area were nearly 90 mph.

1898: The first Weather Bureau kite was launched in Topeka, Kansas to report daily, early morning, atmospheric observations. By year's end, 16 additional launch sites would be in operation.

1899 - A tornado struck Kirksville, MO, killing 34 persons and destroying 300 buildings. (David Ludlum)

1912: The April 27-28, 1912 outbreak was the climax of a wild, week-long period of severe weather that occurred in Oklahoma. Strong to violent tornadoes struck portions of central and north central Oklahoma on April 20, 1912. Also, a violent tornado hit Ponca City, OK on April 25, 1912. From the 27 through the 28th, 16 tornadoes rated F2 or greater touched down in the state with 6 of them rated F4. About 40 people were killed, and 120 people were injured by the storms.

1931: The temperature at Pahala, located on the main island of Hawaii, soared to 100 degrees to establish a state record.

1942 - A destructive tornado swept across Rogers County and Mayes County in Oklahoma. The tornado struck the town of Pryor killing 52 persons and causing two million dollars damage. (David Ludlum)

1987 - Forty-two cities in the western and south central U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date. The afternoon high of 87 degrees at Olympia WA was an April record, and highs of 92 degrees at Boise ID, 95 degrees at Monroe LA, and 96 degrees at Sacramento CA tied April records. (The National Weather Summary) More than 300 daily temperature records fell by the wayside during a two week long heat wave across thirty-four states in the southern and western U.S. Thirteen cities established records for the month of April. (Sandra and TI Richard Sanders - 1987)

1988 - Mount Washington NH reported seven feet of snow in ten days, pushing their snowfall total for the month past the previous record of 89.3 inches set in 1975. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather from the Lower and Middle Mississippi Valley to Virginia and the Carolinas. Hail up to four and a half inches in diameter caused five million dollars damage around Omaha NE. Thunderstorms spawned eleven tornadoes, and there were 160 other reports of large hail and damaging winds. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1990 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather in eastern Texas and the Lower Mississippi Valley. Severe thunderstorms spawned thirteen tornadoes in Texas and twelve in Louisiana. A tornado southwest of Coolidge TX injured eight persons and caused more than five million dollars damage. There

were also eighty-five reports of large hail and damaging winds, with baseball size hail reported at Mexia TX and Shreveport LA. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data) Forty-three cities in the eastern U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date. Records highs included 94 degrees at Charleston WV, 95 degrees at Baltimore MD and 96 degrees at Richmond VA. (The National Weather Summary)

2003: For only the 11th time since records began in 1871, hail was observed in Key West Florida. A severe thunderstorm produced hail to 1.75 inches in diameter which easily broke the previous record of a half an inch in diameter which was set on May 10, 1961.

golden
living

We now accept


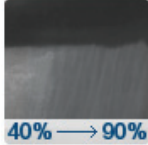







for out patient therapy.

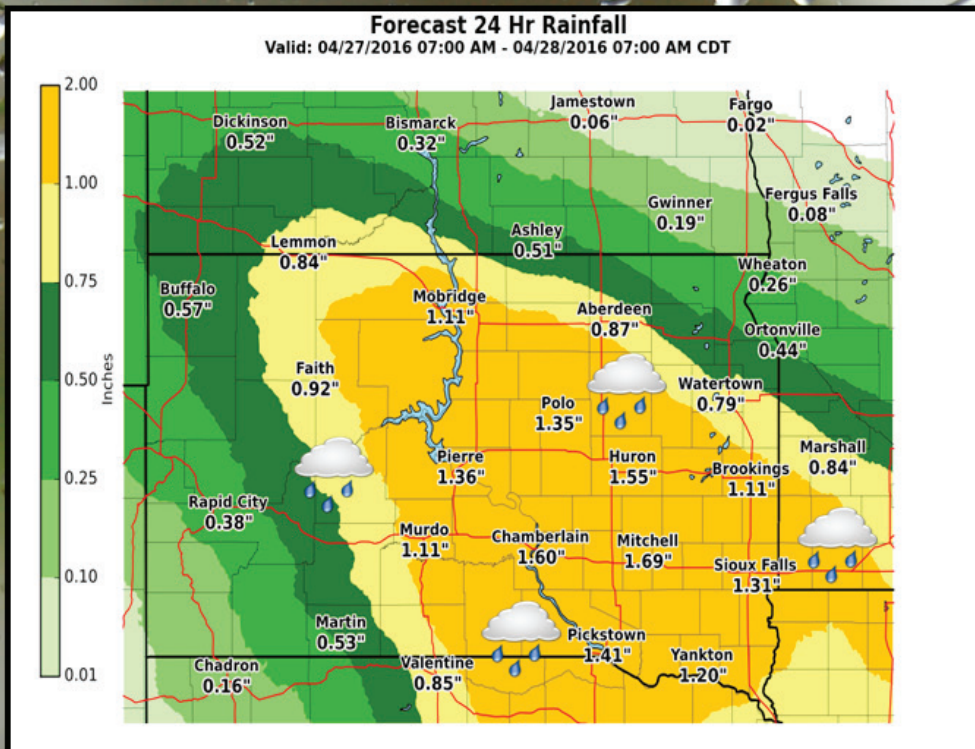
1106 N 2nd St., Groton
605/397-2365

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Today	Tonight	Wednesday	Wednesday Night	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday
						
10%	40% → 90%	90%	70%	40%	20%	
Patchy Drizzle then Cloudy	Chance Showers then Showers	Rain and Breezy	Rain Likely	Chance Rain	Slight Chance Rain	Mostly Cloudy
High: 52 °F	Low: 40 °F	High: 45 °F	Low: 37 °F	High: 48 °F	Low: 35 °F	High: 56 °F

Cool and Wet Today!



* Light Rain for the Northeast

* Moderate to Heavy Rain SE/Central SD

Highs Mostly in the 40s!



National Weather Service, Aberdeen SD

Published on: 04/27/2016 at 4:57AM

A storm will continue to spread rainfall northwest into the region through today. The heaviest amounts in the next 24 hours should fall over portions of southeast and south central South Dakota, with lighter amounts in the far northeast part of the state.

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Yesterday's Weather

High: 48.2 at 12:58 PM

Low: 41.2 at 8:13 AM

High Gust: 22 at 1:24 PM

Precip: 0.03

Today's Info

Record High: 91° in 1897

Record Low: 17 in 2005

Average High: 63°F

Average Low: 37°F

Average Precip in April.: 1.59

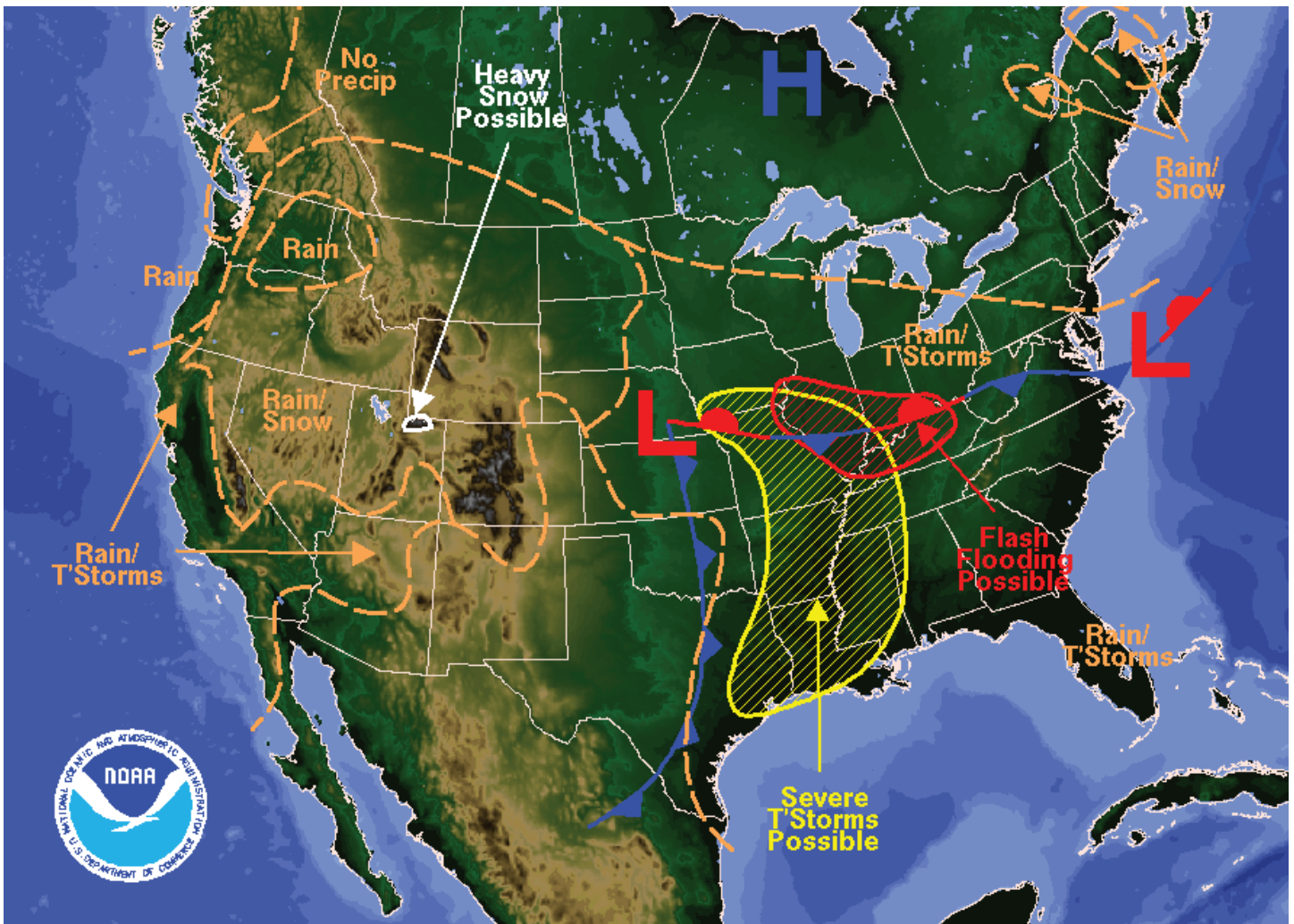
Precip to date in April.: 1.96

Average Precip to date: 3.77

Precip Year to Date: 2.91

Sunset Tonight: 8:35 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:25 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Wed, Apr 27, 2016, issued 4:51 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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THE CALL TO COURAGE

When Pat Summerall was born his right foot was twisted backwards. No one believed that the problem could be corrected. Expert orthopedic surgeons and other specialists said the problem was beyond repair. But one doctor believed differently. He broke the bones, turned the foot around and then reset all of the bones. However, no one believed that he would ever be able to do much with that foot.

Soon after he was able to walk, he decided to try to run. He struggled in pain, but never gave up and with courage and determination he became an outstanding athlete in high school and college. He went on to play professional football and during his career kicked 101 field goals and 258 extra points.

One of the greatest Jewish leaders in all of history was Moses. He was well educated, a prophet and lawgiver, recorded the Ten Commandments and was the author of the Pentateuch. In Moses we see an outstanding leader who was shaped and molded by God. God took the strengths of Moses and sharpened them until he was suited to fulfill God's purpose for his life. God worked with him until he was able to do what God wanted him to do.

In his final address to the people of Israel he spoke from his personal experience. "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid of them! The LORD your God will go ahead of you. He will neither fail you nor forsake you!"

These most encouraging words of Moses did not end when the children of Israel entered the Promised Land. Their echo can be heard across the ages and will ring in our ears this very day if we are open to the voice of God. These words from Moses state a promise from God that is as valid today as it was then.

Prayer: Give us the faith, Lord, to take You at Your word and realize that no matter the handicaps or hardship that come to us in life, with Your strength we can be "over-comers." In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Deuteronomy 31:6 Be strong and of good courage, do not fear or be in dread of them: for it is the Lord your God who goes with you; he will not fail you or forsake you."

Big changes for chemical dependency services in Yankton

YANKTON, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Department of Social Services is shutting down its youth chemical dependency program in Yankton, citing a decline in referrals.

Officials say the adolescent inpatient program at the Human Services Center will close June 8. The program's 15 employees were issued layoff notices Tuesday.

The department also announced an expansion of adult treatment services. Lewis and Clark Behavioral Health in Yankton will partner with Avera Sacred Heart Hospital to provide inpatient chemical dependency and detox services.

The in-patient unit will be in the Benedictine Center on the hospital campus in Yankton. The program will serve people from across the state.

Authorities: Meade County man arrested in double homicide

FAITH, S.D. (AP) — Authorities say a 32-year-old Faith man has been arrested and charged with two counts of first-degree murder.

Attorney General Marty Jackley and Meade County Sheriff Ron Merwin say in a release that Berton Cole Toavs is charged in the killing of two people about 7 a.m. at a residence in Faith. Attorney information for Toavs was not immediately available.

Authorities did not name the victims or provide additional details.

Jackley says that if convicted, Toavs could face death or a mandatory life sentence.

The Faith Police Department, the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department, the South Dakota Highway Patrol and the Division of Criminal Investigation assisted in the investigation.

Health Department: Remember tick-borne illness this spring

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A state Department of Health official says South Dakota residents should remember tick-borne illness this spring.

State epidemiologist Lon Kightlinger (KYT'-ling-ur) says there are cases of tick-borne diseases in South Dakota every year.

Kightlinger says the best way for people to protect themselves when they're outdoors is to check frequently for ticks and remove them quickly. Spraying clothes and exposed skin with repellent and tucking pants into socks can also help.

In 2015, the department investigated two cases each of Lyme disease and Rocky Mountain spotted fever. That's on top of 25 cases of tularemia — the highest number in more than 30 years.

USGS scientists helping to restore depleted Armenian aquifer

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Some South Dakota scientists from the U.S. Geological Survey are helping to restore a depleted aquifer in Armenia.

The USGS says the growth of aquaculture to raise trout, sturgeon and other cold-water fish has increased withdrawals of critical groundwater in the Ararat Basin over the last 10 to 15 years.

The USGS is working with the U.S. Agency for International Development Armenia and others to develop scientific tools for water-resource managers to understand and predict consequences of such management decisions.

Mark Anderson is director of the USGS South Dakota Water Science Center. Anderson says the goal is to assist Armenia in the restoration of the aquifer and the move toward more sustainable water uses. The scientists traveled to Yerevan, Armenia, during a recent two-week trip.

Public viewing planned for outdoors artist Redlin

WATERTOWN, S.D. (AP) — The family of outdoors artist Terry Redlin says a public viewing will be held Friday at the Watertown art center that bears his name.

Redlin died at the age of 78 on Sunday after a lengthy battle with Alzheimer's disease.

The viewing will be held at the Redlin Art Center from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. A private funeral and burial will be held at a later date.

Redlin is known for his paintings of wildlife and outdoors scenes. In the 1990s he was named America's most popular artist in annual gallery surveys conducted by U.S. Art magazine.

The family asks that friends and well-wishers consider donations in Redlin's memory to the Salvation Army Food Bank in lieu of flowers.

Woman suspected of being accessory in shooting arrested

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls police say a 26-year-old woman has been arrested in Le Mars, Iowa, in connection to a man wanted on a warrant issued in a Sioux Falls homicide.

Police spokesman Sam Clemens says the woman was arrested early Tuesday morning on two counts of accessory to murder.

Authorities have issued an arrest warrant for 21-year-old Jared Stone in the killing of 28-year-old Baptiste White Eyes, who was shot in the head outside a Sioux Falls casino Friday evening and died at a hospital.

Stone remained at large on Tuesday. Clemens says Stone is likely in Iowa.

Police haven't commented on the relationship between Stone and White Eyes other than that they knew one another. Authorities do not believe the shooting was a random act.

Former director of Casey Tibbs Rodeo Center back on the job

FORT PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The woman who resigned as executive director of the Casey Tibbs Rodeo Center in Fort Pierre has returned to the job.

Cindy Bahe stepped down earlier this month after leading the nonprofit center since 2011. She left for a job with the South Dakota Bar Association and tells the Capital Journal that "it just wasn't the right fit."

Bahe returned to the rodeo center job last week, working with a new manager.

The Rodeo Center features highlights and artifacts of rodeo clowns, rodeo queens, announcers, entertainment acts, stock contractors and cowboys including the late rodeo legend Casey Tibbs.

Sioux tribe to meet with fed official over pipeline concerns

MOBRIDGE, S.D. (AP) — Members of the Standing Rock Sioux plan to meet with a federal official later this week to express their concerns over a planned oil pipeline.

The \$3.8 billion Dakota Access pipeline planned by Dallas-based Energy Transfer Partners would carry crude from North Dakota's Bakken oil fields to Illinois.

Tribal officials oppose it because they fear an oil spill could contaminate drinking water on the reserva-

tion that straddles the North Dakota-South Dakota border.

The proposed 1,130-mile pipeline would pass through the Dakotas and Iowa on its way to Illinois. Regulators in all states have approved the project, though it still needs approval from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Tribal officials have scheduled a meeting with a corps official on Friday in Mobridge, South Dakota.

Pierre once again to recommend Aerodynamics for air service

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Pierre's City Commission has decided to once again recommend Aerodynamics Inc. to provide federally subsidized air service to South Dakota's capital city.

Pierre officials have been unsatisfied with the current service provided by Great Lakes Airlines and have been looking for a new carrier since 2014. At one point commissioners chose Aerodynamics but they later soured on the carrier due to concerns over finances and management.

Officials say those concerns have eased under ADI's new leadership. They'll recommend the carrier to the federal Transportation Department on Wednesday.

ADI's bid for the Pierre service under the Essential Air Service subsidy program depends on Watertown also choosing that carrier. Watertown's City Council will decide on its recommendation Wednesday. Mayor Steve Thorson tells the Capital Journal he expects ADI to be the choice.

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. FRONT-RUNNERS PRESS CLOSER TO SHOWDOWN

Donald Trump emerges from the Northeast in a strong position to claim the GOP nomination if he keeps winning, while Hillary Clinton's four victories put her 90 percent of the way to getting the Democratic nod.

2. TRUMP'S SPEECH A TEST OF FOREIGN POLICY, STYLE

His first major policy speech will test whether the Republican presidential front-runner known for his raucous rallies and eyebrow-raising statements can present a more presidential persona.

3. PARIS ATTACKS SUSPECT SENT TO FRANCE

Salah Abdeslam, arrested in Belgium last month after four months on the run, is wanted by the French for his suspected role in the Nov. 13 attacks in the French capital that killed 130 victims.

4. FORMER HOUSE SPEAKER TO LEARN FATE

Dennis Hastert steps before a federal judge to hear his sentence in a hush-money case centered on accusations that he sexually abused at least four students decades ago when he coached wrestling at an Illinois high school.

5. FED EXPECTED TO KEEP RATES UNCHANGED

What's unclear is whether the central bank will hint about the likelihood of a rate hike at its next policy meeting in June.

6. WHAT CRITICS ARE FEARING IN IRAN

Tehran deploys thousands of officers for a new plainclothes morality division, raising concerns that their focus will be enforcing Islamic dress code for women.

7. PAKISTANI SIKHS OPEN TEMPLE AFTER 73 YEARS

The 300-year-old gurdwara reopens in conservative northwest Pakistan despite resistance from Muslim neighbors and the constant threat of militant attacks.

8. COLLEGE FREE SPEECH UNDER SCRUTINY

Hecklers who shout down speakers on North Carolina's college campuses could be punished under a proposal that would make the state the latest battleground over First Amendment rights at the country's public universities.

9. PURPLE EXPECTED TO 'REIGN' AGAIN

Prince's old band, the Revolution, is reuniting for some live shows following his death.

10. PERENNIAL CHAMP BACK ON HIS FEET

UConn women's basketball coach Geno Auriemma tells the AP he's feeling a lot better after spending a few days in the hospital with the flu and a bronchial infection.

For Trump, speech a test of foreign policy and style

JILL COLVIN, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Donald Trump's highly anticipated foreign policy speech Wednesday will test whether the Republican presidential front-runner known for his raucous rallies and eyebrow-raising statements can present a more presidential persona as he works to coalesce a still-weary Republican establishment around his candidacy.

Trump's speech will focus on "several critical foreign policy issues" such as trade, the global economy and national security, according to his campaign. But as much as the content will be scrutinized, so, too, will Trump's ability to deliver his message in a way that comes off as both presidential and authentic to himself.

"This is all part of the normalization effort, or the mainstreaming of Donald Trump," said Lanhee Chen, who served as 2012 GOP nominee Mitt Romney's chief policy adviser and advised Marco Rubio's campaign before the Florida senator dropped out of the race.

Trump has a lot to prove when it comes to calming foreign leaders and policy professionals. They've been stunned by his often brash policy proclamations, like his vow to bar foreign Muslims from entering the country, and an apparent disregard for long-standing alliances. Those concerns were amplified when Trump introduced a foreign policy team last month that left many scratching their heads.

Adding to the challenge, said Chen, is that Trump has already articulated foreign policy viewpoints in numerous interviews.

"I think he's made his views clear," he said. "The challenge is that there isn't a lot more he can say that will give people comfort about the way he will conduct foreign policy as president."

Trump's speech is expected to be dressed with the trappings of gravitas. It will be held at Washington's stately Mayflower Hotel (after a last-minute location change blamed on "overwhelming interest") and will be presided over by Zalmay Khalilzad, a former U.S. ambassador to Afghanistan and Iraq, according to the campaign. Trump is expected to use a teleprompter, despite the fact that he has mercilessly mocked his rivals for doing the same, declaring at one point: "If you're running for president you shouldn't be allowed to use a teleprompter."

The speech comes as Trump has been working to professionalize his campaign with the addition of several new and experienced aides who have stressed the need to expand Trump's policy shop and offer more specifics on his plans.

"Tomorrow's going to be, I think, interesting," Trump told reporters Tuesday night. "It's going to be some of my views on foreign policy and defense and lots of other things, and part of it is economics."

He added, however, that he would not be laying out a "Trump doctrine," saying that "in life you have flexibility, you have to change."

Senior aide Paul Manafort said last week that he'd met people at a number of think tanks and members of Congress to talk about bulking up the team's policy component, which is smaller than that of

leading campaigns in the past.

"We're finding there's a lot of interest in working with him, coming on board," he told reporters.

Manafort spent about an hour at the Heritage Foundation headquarters in Washington last week meeting policy experts at the conservative think tank. Heritage officials cast the meeting as part of an ongoing series of briefings for candidates and their advisers.

While Trump's speech marks a departure from his usual rally routine of speaking off the cuff, consulting only hand-scrawled notes, his remarks in front of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee last month provided a test run of sorts, with Trump speaking from prepared remarks using a teleprompter.

While Trump largely stuck to his speech as he declared his support for Israel and railed against the Iran nuclear deal, he veered off-script after referring to President Barack Obama's last year in office.

"Yay," Trump said, drawing cheers. "He may be the worst thing to ever happen to Israel, believe me."

The asides prompted an unprecedented apology from the group's president the next day, saying the committee took "great offense" to criticism of the president from its stage.

Tornado outbreak, 5 years later: Piecing lives back together

PHILLIP LUCAS, Associated Press

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — On April 27, 2011, a series of tornadoes killed hundreds of people, injured thousands and reduced countless buildings to rubble across a swath of the U.S.

More than 120 tornadoes were reported that day — one of the deadliest outbreaks in the nation's history. Five years later, some survivors who are still rebuilding say their lives and towns will never be the same.

Casualties were reported in Mississippi, Georgia, Tennessee, Virginia and Alabama — which was the hardest hit, with a death toll of more than 250 in that state alone.

Survivors there say no tornado warning or emergency plan could have prepared them. Alabamians who lived in the tornadoes' path are trying to move on, but they face constant reminders of what their towns used to be. New construction is juxtaposed with grassy, wind-swept expanses. Jagged tree trunks have replaced thick woods. Cracked driveways cut through the grass and lead to bare foundations or empty lots where homes used to be.

Here are some of those survivors' stories.

A tornado left physical scars in the town of Hackleburg, and it's still taking a psychological and social toll today.

"The sky even gets dark, and my niece goes to pieces," Deborah Purser said. "I mean, she starts shaking."

Hackleburg wouldn't have rebounded without the volunteers who poured in from across the country, said Purser's 19-year-old son, Clay Scott. The school and grocery store reopened, but the town of roughly 1,500 no longer feels like home, he said.

"It feels like we live somewhere else, like we've moved towns or something," Purser said.

Vince Hughes is still haunted by that same tornado.

Nightmares are less frequent now, but Hughes said he can't rid himself of the memory of a crying woman who lost her daughter and was left to care for her young granddaughter. The woman is a long-time customer of Hughes, a 53-year-old pharmacist.

"That image sticks out in my mind above most all of them," he said. "And you saw it repeated over and over and over."

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Hughes and his colleagues set up a temporary pharmacy in a bank lobby, using salvaged medication. "People needed somewhere to go, and they needed faces to see that they knew," he said. "Most of my patients aren't just people that fill prescriptions — they're friends."

The tornado had a peak wind speed of 210 mph and left a 25-mile long trail of damage. A separate twister hit Tuscaloosa, where Hughes' daughter was a student at the University of Alabama. She wasn't injured.

John Nero, 58, said he lost his home of 20 years when the tornado hit his Tuscaloosa neighborhood. His wife, Pam, suffered a heart attack days later.

The couple's new home overlooks their former neighborhood. Nero sees the area whenever he opens his front door.

"It used to be an apartment complex right there," he said, nodding toward a vast overgrown area. "It was flattened, but I could hear people hollering."

A brick from the nearby College Hill Baptist Church slammed into his upper leg as debris crashed through his home. He still has the brick, as a reminder — God kept him here "to get some things straight," he said. "That brick didn't just hit me for no reason."

Michael and Flora Thomas of Tuscaloosa credit the power of prayer for keeping their home intact.

It was spared from severe damage while nearly every other house on the block in the Alberta City neighborhood was destroyed.

Michael Thomas said he saw the roof of a church hurtling toward him when he looked out the window, and he hid in the bathroom. The windows were blown out and the porch destroyed, but the church's roof narrowly missed landing on the couple's home.

"Everything was just torn apart, demolished. They found body parts everywhere," he said. "You look around and see things and know things will never be the same."

Sonya Moore and her family were settling into their new Tuscaloosa home and hadn't even finished unpacking when the tornado came barreling toward them. She and her children hid in a closet.

"We almost lost one of them. The door flung open, and he was so tiny and frail that the wind kind of sucked him up and we had to actually pull him back down," Moore, 42, said.

Moore's family emerged uninjured but realized nearly everything around them had been destroyed. Sleepless nights followed. They lived in a temporary shelter, a hotel, a FEMA trailer, and with a relative before finally moving into a Habitat for Humanity home in January 2013.

"We slept on the floor with pillows, blankets whatever we could gather," she said. "It was just that exciting to be able to turn the key and go into your own home and know that now we're finally piecing our lives back together."

Dennis Hastert awaits sentence in hush-money case

MICHAEL TARM, Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Dennis Hastert will step before a federal judge Wednesday to learn his sentence in a hush-money case centered on accusations that the former U.S. House speaker sexually abused at least four students decades ago when he coached wrestling at an Illinois high school.

Hastert pleaded guilty last year to breaking banking law as he sought to pay \$3.5 million to someone identified in court papers only as Individual A to conceal a dark secret from the Republican's past. His plea deal suggested anything from probation to a maximum of six months behind bars.

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But after prosecutors lifted a veil of secrecy from the case, the judge made comments suggesting he might impose a longer sentence, potentially putting Hastert behind bars for years, because of the abuse allegations.

Word that one of the accusers will speak at the sentencing hearing is sure to turn up the pressure on Judge Thomas M. Durkin to reject defense calls for probation and send the Illinois Republican to prison.

If that happens, Hastert, who was second in the line of succession to the presidency after the vice president and the nation's longest-serving GOP speaker, would become one of the highest-ranking politicians in American history ever to be incarcerated.

POSSIBLE SENTENCE

Defense attorneys are asking for probation on the grounds that Hastert has already paid a high price in disgrace. They also cite his health, saying a blood infection nearly killed him in November and that a stroke has limited his mobility.

Prosecutors did not recommend a specific sentence, but their reference to sexual abuse on nearly every page of their 26-page sentencing memo suggests they want notable prison time.

Hastert's plea deal set the sentencing range from zero to six months in prison. But guidelines in federal court are just that: guides. If he chooses, the judge could give Hastert the maximum sentence available — five years in prison.

Until this month, it was hard to gauge what Durkin might be thinking. But at a recent hearing, he let his dismay show for the first time.

He singled out how Hastert in a 2015 interview with federal agents sought to deflect blame by falsely accusing Individual A of extorting him with a bogus sex-abuse claim. That lie would factor into the sentencing calculations, Durkin added: "That's a big one."

SEX ABUSE ALLEGATIONS

Prosecutors went into graphic detail about the sex-abuse allegations for the first time this month, even describing how Hastert would sit in a recliner chair in the locker room with a direct view of the showers.

Individual D, the one who plans to testify Wednesday, said he was 17 when Hastert abused him after offering the teen a massage, according to court documents filed by the government.

The victims, prosecutors said, were boys between 14 and 17. Hastert was in his 20s and 30s. The abuse occurred in a motel and the locker room at Yorkville High School outside Chicago.

HASTERT STATEMENT

It isn't clear whether Hastert will make a statement at the sentencing and, if so, if it would include an apology.

Hastert has not personally apologized— though his attorneys have described him as apologetic, saying their client "is deeply sorry ... his misconduct that occurred decades ago." Conspicuously absent was any mention of sexual abuse.

His lawyers may have risked raising the judge's ire when they questioned whether what Hastert did to Individual A — including touching his genitals during a massage — legally constituted sexual abuse.

Prosecutors hit back in their sentencing memo: "There is no ambiguity; defendant sexually abused Individual A."

Storms bring hail, strong winds, small tornadoes to Plains

DANIEL C. HOUSTON, Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Thunderstorms bearing hail as big as grapefruit and winds approaching hurricane strength lashed portions of the Great Plains on Tuesday, but arrived without the destructive tornadoes that many had worried about for days.

A rope tornado brushed fields south of Wichita, Kansas, and another small twister touched down in southwestern Indiana. As the sun went down on the western prairie, the Storm Prediction Center had received reports of bad weather from Texas to Nebraska to West Virginia, but none of them deadly.

"It's never straightforward when you're sitting here talking about (predicting) large tornadoes," meteorologist Matt Mosier said as the forecast was taking shape.

But it's not like the weather wasn't bad or scary. It was both.

Hail 4 inches in diameter fell in northern Kansas, northwest of Marysville, and winds hit 70 mph in Missouri and Texas while storms went through. Residents of Topeka, Kansas, eyed the sky nervously during rush hour after forecasters warned that a supercell thunderstorm could produce a tornado at any moment.

As night fell, small twisters accompanied a line of thunderstorms as it rolled into Oklahoma City. Tell-tale power flashes from failing transformers pierced the twilight as another neighborhood lost power.

Later, in North Texas' Grayson County, there were widespread reports of tree and roof damage. Several buildings in the small city of Whitesboro had "minor to extensive" damage but there were no reports of injuries, Whitesboro Police Lt. Jimmy Leverett said. Oncor, the main electricity provider for the region, counted about 36,000 customers without power in North Texas.

In Oklahoma, authorities were responding to reports of trees blown onto houses in the Tulsa area. No injuries were immediately reported.

A tornado watch that had covered a large stretch of both states was allowed to expire after midnight.

In the days ahead of the storm, forecasters said a severe weather outbreak was possible Tuesday, perhaps including tornadoes that could stay on the ground for miles.

"This is a particularly dangerous situation," the Storm Prediction Center alerted in red type in an afternoon advisory. It uses such language on only about 7 percent of its tornado watches. Forecasters had predicted a 90 percent chance of tornadoes and said 80 percent could have winds above 111 mph in much of Oklahoma and northern Texas.

Bad weather is expected again Wednesday in Arkansas and Missouri, then later in the week in Oklahoma, Texas and Louisiana.

Ahead of Tuesday's storms, businesses set out to protect their goods ahead of storms while school districts sent children home early, hoping to keep them safe.

George Eischen, 51, spent Tuesday morning moving vehicles off the lot at his Chevrolet dealership in the small town of Fairview, about 100 miles northwest of Oklahoma City. Eischen said he was lining the new vehicles "bumper to bumper" in the shop and even the floor of the lobby to protect them from the hail.

"We've never been hit by a tornado here in town, amazingly," Eischen said. "But yeah, we've had hail. And that's the real enemy of the car dealer."

Workers scrambled to protect planes at the Spirit of St. Louis Airport in Chesterfield, Missouri, when the winds picked up and the sky turned green.

"And I mean green green," aviation director John Bales said. "It was pretty violent but luckily we didn't have any substantial damage. We saw it coming and we were able to get most of the airplanes into hangars, so we didn't have too much hail damage."

Bill Schwindamann, the emergency management chief for Marshall County, Kansas, said large hail damaged roofs and broke car windows near the town of Bremen, near Marysville. The hail started small about 5 p.m. but grew to as much as 4 inches in diameter, or about the size of a grapefruit.

Mid-Del Public Schools, in the Oklahoma City suburb of Midwest City, said in a statement that the safety of students and staff is a priority, noting that it reworked its tornado safety plan three years ago after a twister killed seven schoolchildren in the neighboring suburb of Moore.

Trump routs rivals in Northeast; Clinton carries 4 states

JULIE PACE, Associated Press

CATHERINE LUCEY, Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — In a front-runner's rout, Republican Donald Trump roared to victory Tuesday in five contests across the Northeast and confidently declared himself the GOP's "presumptive nominee." Hillary Clinton was dominant in four Democratic races and now is 90 percent of the way to the number she needs to claim her own nomination.

Trump's and Clinton's wins propelled them ever closer to a general election showdown. Still, Sanders and Republicans Ted Cruz and John Kasich, vowed to keep running, even as opportunities to topple the leaders dwindle.

Trump still must negotiate a narrow path to keep from falling short of the delegates needed to seal the nomination before the Republican National Convention in July. Cruz and Kasich are working toward that result, which would leave Trump open to a floor fight in which delegates could turn to someone else.

Trump was having none of that. "It's over. As far as I'm concerned it's over," he declared at his victory rally in the lobby of Trump Tower in New York. He now has 77 percent of the delegates he needs.

With Clinton's four victories — she ceded only Rhode Island to Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders — she now has 90 percent of the delegates she needs to become the first woman nominated by a major party. Clinton kept her focus firmly on the general election as she spoke to supporters Tuesday night, urging Sanders' loyal supporters to help her unify the Democratic Party and reaching out to GOP voters who may be unhappy with their party's options.

"If you are a Democrat, an independent or a thoughtful Republican, you know that their approach is not going to build an America where we increase opportunity or decrease inequality," Clinton said of the GOP candidates. She spoke in Philadelphia, where Democrats will gather in July for their nominating convention.

Sanders, in an interview with The Associated Press, conceded that he has a "very narrow path and we're going to have to win some big victories."

Trump's victories in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Delaware and Rhode Island were overwhelming, winning his closest race by just about 30 points. The businessman is the only candidate left in the three-person race who could possibly clinch the nomination through the regular voting process. Yet with 950 delegates now, he could still fall short of the 1,237 he needs.

Cruz and Kasich are desperately trying to keep Trump from that magic number and push the race to a convention fight. The Texas senator and Ohio governor even took the rare step of announcing plans to coordinate in upcoming contests to try to minimize Trump's delegate totals.

That effort did little to stop Trump from a big showing in the Northeast, where he picked up at least 105 of the 118 delegates up for grabs. Despite his solid win in Pennsylvania, the state's primary system means 54 of the delegates elected by voters will be free agents at the GOP convention, able to vote for

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the candidate of their choice.

Cruz spent Tuesday in Indiana, which votes next week. Indiana is one of Cruz's last best chances to slow Trump, and Kasich's campaign is pulling out of the state to give him a better opportunity to do so.

"Tonight this campaign moves back to more favorable terrain," Cruz said during an evening rally in Knightstown, Indiana. His event was held at the "Hoosier gym," where some scenes were filmed for the 1986 movie, "Hoosiers," about a small-town Indiana basketball team that wins the state championship.

Trump has railed against his rivals' coordination, panning it as a "faulty deal" and has also cast efforts to push the nomination fight to the convention as evidence of a rigged process that favors political insiders.

Yet there's no doubt the GOP is deeply divided by his candidacy. In Pennsylvania, exit polls showed nearly 4 in 10 GOP voters said they would be excited by Trump becoming president, but the prospect of the real estate mogul in the White House scared a quarter of those who cast ballots in the state's Republican primary.

In another potential general election warning sign for Republicans, 6 in 10 GOP voters in Pennsylvania said the Republican campaign has divided the party — a sharp contrast to the 7 in 10 Democratic voters in the state who said the race between Clinton and Sanders has energized their party.

The exit polls were conducted by Edison Research for The Associated Press and television networks.

Democrats award delegates proportionally, which allowed Clinton to maintain her lead over Sanders even as he rattled off a string of wins in recent contests. According to the AP count, Clinton now has 2,141 delegates while Sanders has 1,321.

That count includes delegates won in primaries and caucuses, as well as superdelegates — party insiders who can back the candidate of their choice, regardless of how their state votes.

Sanders has vowed to stay in the race until voting wraps up in June. He continues to raise millions of dollars and attract big crowds, including Tuesday night in West Virginia, where he urged his supporters to recognize that they are "powerful people if you choose to exercise that power."

Clinton's advisers are eager for the Vermont senator to tone down his attacks on the former secretary of state. She's been reminding voters of the 2008 Democratic primary, when she endorsed Barack Obama after a tough campaign and urged her supporters to rally around her former rival.

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, April 27, the 118th day of 2016. There are 248 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 27, 1986, a video pirate calling himself "Captain Midnight" interrupted a movie on HBO with a printed onscreen message protesting home satellite de-scrambling fees. (Captain Midnight turned out to be John R. MacDougall of Florida, who was fined and placed on probation.)

On this date:

In 1521, Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan was killed by natives in the Philippines.

In 1791, the inventor of the telegraph, Samuel Morse, was born in Charlestown, Massachusetts.

In 1822, the 18th president of the United States, Ulysses S. Grant, was born in Point Pleasant, Ohio.

In 1865, the steamer Sultana, carrying freed Union prisoners of war, exploded on the Mississippi River near Memphis, Tennessee; death toll estimates vary from 1,500 to 2,000.

In 1891, Russian composer Sergei Prokofiev was born in present-day Ukraine.

In 1925, the song "Yes, Sir! That's My Baby" by Walter Donaldson and Gus Kahn was published by

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Irving Berlin, Inc. of New York.

In 1938, King Zog I of the Albanians married Countess Geraldine Apponyi de Nagy-Apponyi.

In 1941, German forces occupied Athens during World War II.

In 1967, Expo '67 was officially opened in Montreal by Canadian Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson.

In 1973, Acting FBI Director L. Patrick Gray resigned after it was revealed that he'd destroyed files removed from the safe of Watergate conspirator E. Howard Hunt.

In 1982, the trial of John W. Hinckley Jr., who had shot four people, including President Ronald Reagan, began in Washington. (The trial ended with Hinckley's acquittal by reason of insanity.)

In 1992, the new Federal Republic of Yugoslavia was proclaimed in Belgrade by the republic of Serbia and its lone ally, Montenegro. Russia and 12 other former Soviet republics won entry into the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. Betty Boothroyd became the first female Speaker of Britain's House of Commons.

Ten years ago: Construction began on the 1,776-foot Freedom Tower at the site of the World Trade Center in New York City. The publisher of the teen novel "How Opal Mehta Got Kissed, Got Wild and Got a Life" pulled the book off the market after its author, a Harvard student, said she had unintentionally lifted numerous passages from another writer.

Five years ago: Powerful tornadoes raked the South and Midwest; according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, more than 120 twisters resulted in 316 deaths. An Afghan officer, Col. Ahmed Gul, killed eight U.S. airmen and one U.S. civilian during a routine meeting at an Afghan air force headquarters compound in Kabul; Gul died in an exchange of fire that followed his attack. Responding to critics' relentless claims, President Barack Obama produced a detailed Hawaii birth certificate in an extraordinary attempt to bury the issue of where he'd been born and confirm his legitimacy to hold office. Tony Award-winning "Promises, Promises" actress Marian Mercer, 75, died in Thousand Oaks, California.

One year ago: Rioters plunged part of Baltimore into chaos, torching a pharmacy, setting police cars ablaze and throwing bricks at officers hours after thousands attended a funeral for Freddie Gray, who died from a severe spinal injury he'd suffered in police custody; the Baltimore Orioles' home game against the Chicago White Sox was postponed because of safety concerns. Opening statements took place in Centennial, Colorado, at the trial of movie theater shooter James Holmes. Loretta Lynch was sworn in as the 83rd U.S. attorney general, the first African-American woman to serve as the nation's top law enforcement official.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Anouk Aimee is 84. Rock musician Jim Keltner is 74. Rhythm-and-blues singer Cuba Gooding is 72. Singer Ann Peebles is 69. Rock singer Kate Pierson (The B-52's) is 68. Rhythm-and-blues singer Herbie Murrell (The Stylistics) is 67. Actor Douglas Sheehan is 67. Rock musician Ace Frehley is 65. Pop singer Sheena Easton is 57. Actor James Le Gros (groh) is 54. Rock musician Rob Squires (Big Head Todd and the Monsters) is 51. Singer Mica (MEE'-shah) Paris is 47. Actor David Lascher is 44. Actress Maura West is 44. Actress Sally Hawkins is 40. Rock singer Jim James (My Morning Jacket) is 38. Rock musician Patrick Hallahan (My Morning Jacket) is 38. Rock singer-musician Travis Meeks (Days of the New) is 37. Neo-soul musician Joseph Pope III (Nathaniel Rateliff & the Night Sweats) is 37. Country musician John Osborne (Brothers Osborne) is 34. Actress Ari Graynor is 33. Rock singer-musician Patrick Stump (Fall Out Boy) is 32. Pop singer Nick Noonan (Karmin) is 30. Actor William Moseley is 29. Actress Emily Rios is 27. Singer Allison Iraheta is 24.

Thought for Today: "Fear not those who argue but those who dodge." — Dale Carnegie, American writer-lecturer (1888-1955).

Federal ruling on N Carolina voting laws bolsters voter ID

GARY D. ROBERTSON, Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Civil rights and elections attorneys said Tuesday they will appeal a federal court ruling upholding North Carolina's 2013 major rewrite of its voting laws, a decision that marks at least a temporary victory for another state that requires photo identification to vote.

This week's ruling came after two trials since July and 20,000 pages of court-filed documents. It rejected arguments by the state NAACP, the U.S. Justice Department, churches and individuals that the election changes approved by the GOP-led General Assembly disproportionately harmed minority voters.

Critics had sued, alleging that North Carolina's revised voting law was passed to discriminate against poor and minority voters in violation of the Constitution and U.S. Voting Rights Act. While North Carolina has "significant, shameful past discrimination" that extended to voting, the plaintiffs didn't show the law made it harder for minority voters to cast ballots compared to other groups, the judge ruled.

"North Carolina has provided legitimate state interests for its voter ID requirement and electoral system," U.S. District Judge Thomas Schroeder wrote in Monday's decision, siding with the state's Republican-led legislature.

It marked a legal win for one of the 30 states that currently have some kind of voter ID rule now in force. Nineteen have a photo ID mandate, according to the ruling.

"We've advocated all along that the commonsense voter ID and election integrity reforms that we passed in the General Assembly were constitutional," said Rep. David Lewis, R-Harnett. He helped guide the 2013 law through the legislature and said it bolsters the integrity of the voting system.

Lawyers for the state NAACP, the League of Women Voters of North Carolina and others filed notices Tuesday of plans to appeal the 485-page ruling to the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Some of the attorneys said Schroeder wrongly determined the provisions didn't worsen the state's historical bias against black voters.

"We believe the judge's decision is wrong," said the Rev. William Barber, state NAACP president. He called the ruling "almost 500 pages of rationalization for the intentional race-based voter suppression law that everybody knows was written to suppress African American votes."

Voter ID laws in states such as Indiana, Wisconsin and Georgia have been upheld in court. But pending litigation in North Carolina and Texas could decide whether similar requirements could be struck down based on claims they violate the U.S. Voting Rights Act, a voting law expert said.

The 2011 Texas photo ID requirement is expected to be heard by the full 5th Circuit next month.

"This is really the second generation of voter ID challenges," said Rick Hasen, a professor at the University of California-Irvine School of Law. "If North Carolina ultimately succeeds ... I expect to see other Republican-leaning jurisdictions to pass similar laws."

Starting with this year's March 15 primary, North Carolina required those voting in person to show one of six qualifying IDs such as a driver's license, a passport or military identification.

North Carolina's Division of Motor Vehicles provides free identification cards for those who need them to vote, although past trial testimony described obstacles in obtaining that ID. Legislators subsequently passed changes last summer so that those with a "reasonable impediment" to obtaining an ID — like disabilities, transportation problems or work schedules — could still vote if they signed a form and provide other identifying information.

Schroeder, a judicial nominee of President George W. Bush, wrote the state's voter ID requirement now serves "legitimate state interests ... without imposing a material burden on any group of voters."

Schroeder also upheld parts of the 2013 law that reduced the number of early-voting days from 17 to 10, eliminated same-day registration during the early-voting period and barred the counting of Elec-

tion Day ballots cast in the wrong precinct. He focused on numbers showing black voters had higher registration and turnout rates in 2014, when many of the changes were being implemented, compared to the last midterm election in 2010.

"The 2014 data merely confirm what the remaining data suggest: that minorities enjoy equal and constitutionally-compliant opportunity to participate in the electoral process," he wrote.

The plaintiffs' attorneys said focusing on the 2014 election to determine the effect of the law doesn't take into account other factors. They said an expensive U.S. Senate campaign and voter mobilization efforts by opponents of the 2013 law helped boost minority turnout.

Federal courts previously allowed same-day registration and out-of-precinct voting for the 2014 general election while the trial court heard the case. Schroeder allowed such options to continue only through the June 7 congressional primary.

Coroner: Most Ohio victims shot many times, some bruised

DAN SEWELL, Associated Press

CINCINNATI (AP) — A coroner's report released Tuesday showed new details of vicious violence in the shooting deaths of eight members of a rural southern Ohio family, finding most victims were shot three to nine times each and some of them were bruised. Meanwhile, the hunt for whoever is responsible continued to expand, with more than 200 law enforcement officials involved.

A 911 caller on Friday said the bodies of two people found in one home looked to be beaten up. Attorney General Mike DeWine has called the slayings a carefully planned and "sophisticated operation" carried out against eight members of the Rhoden family by one or more killers.

The Hamilton County coroner said the victims — three women, four men and a 16-year-old boy — had wounds to their heads, torso and other parts of the body. Dr. Lakshmi Sammarco said one victim had a single wound, one had two wounds, and the rest had three or more. The report didn't specify which victim had which number of wounds.

Some victims showed "signs of soft tissue bruising," her report stated. Sammarco's office declined to discuss its findings, citing the ongoing investigation. Funeral arrangements for the victims hadn't yet been announced.

Authorities haven't suggested a motive or suspects. DeWine has said there were marijuana-growing operations found at three of the four places where bodies were found in Pike County, a rural Appalachian Mountain region roughly 80 miles east of Cincinnati and Hamilton County.

DeWine said Tuesday that investigators have received more than 300 tips and are still serving search warrants. He said 79 pieces of evidence have been sent to a state crime lab for testing and analysis, including for DNA and fingerprints.

Ohio and Pike County authorities are leading the investigation, with help from some two dozen other agencies including other county sheriffs. The FBI and Drug Enforcement Administration are also offering assistance.

A woman who called 911 on Friday morning to report finding two of the bodies said that she saw "blood all over the house" and that the two looked like they had been badly beaten.

The victims are 40-year-old Christopher Rhoden Sr.; his ex-wife, 37-year-old Dana Rhoden; their three children, 16-year-old Christopher Rhoden Jr., 19-year-old Hanna Rhoden and 20-year-old Clarence "Frankie" Rhoden; Christopher Rhoden Sr.'s brother, 44-year-old Kenneth Rhoden; their cousin, 38-year-old Gary Rhoden, and 20-year-old Hannah Gilley, whose 6-month old son with Frankie was unharmed.

Two other children, Hanna Rhoden's 4-day-old daughter and Frankie Rhoden's 3-year-old son, also were unharmed.

Leonard Manley, father of Dana Rhoden, told The Cincinnati Enquirer that he first learned about the marijuana operations from news reports. Manley, 64, said he's sure his daughter couldn't have been involved in anything illegal.

"They are trying to drag my daughter through the mud, and I don't appreciate that," said Manley, whose three grandchildren — Dana's children — were also among the dead.

Manley also found it suspicious that any assailants were able to get by his daughter's two dogs.

"Whoever done it knows the family," Manley said. "There were two dogs there that would eat you up."

DeWine said Monday there was also possible evidence of cockfighting at one of the properties, but he didn't know if it was relevant to the investigation.

Apple reports iPhone sales down, 1st revenue drop since 2003

BRANDON BAILEY, AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Apple sold more than 51 million iPhones in the first three months of this year — and that's the problem.

That's 10 million fewer iPhones than the tech giant sold during the same quarter a year ago. As a result, Apple on Tuesday reported its first drop in quarterly revenue in 13 years — and the first-ever year-over-year decline in iPhone sales.

The slide is putting more pressure on Apple and CEO Tim Cook to come up with its next big product.

Cook, of course, has problems many corporate bosses would kill to have. Despite the decline in sales, Apple managed to rack up \$10.5 billion in profit for the quarter.

"The future of Apple is very bright," Cook told analysts on a conference call Tuesday.

But Apple is battling perceptions that its latest iPhones aren't that different from previous models, at a time when overall smartphone sales are slowing around the world. Apple also sells iPads, Mac computers and other gadgets, but nearly two-thirds of its \$50.6 billion in quarterly revenue came from iPhones.

"They need to come out with that next great product," said Angelo Zino, a financial analyst with S&P Global Market Intelligence. Zino said that while he is optimistic about the company's future, "Apple absolutely needs to start diversifying their revenue base."

Overall, the company's revenue in the January-March quarter was down 13 percent from a year earlier. And the company surprised analysts by forecasting another revenue drop of 13 percent or more in the current quarter.

The forecast, which was announced after Apple had closed for the day at \$104.35 a share, drove its stock price down 8 percent in extended trading.

Apple hasn't reported a year-over-year sales decline since 2003, when the iPod was still relatively new and the iPhone didn't exist. Since then, the iPhone and other products have propelled the company's stock value from \$5 billion to \$579 billion, making it the most valuable public company in the world.

Despite the quarterly decline, Chief Financial Officer Luca Maestri defended the iPhone business in an interview with The Associated Press.

"We think we can continue to bring a lot of innovation to the market," he said of future models, while adding that Apple is working to expand other lines of business.

Apple's revenue for the quarter included \$6 billion from online services, apps and other software, he noted. That's up 20 percent from a year earlier. Analysts agree the figure could rise further, given that

there are more than 500 million iPhones in use.

Many were hoping the Apple Watch would be the company's next big hit when it went on sale a year ago. Apple hasn't revealed sales figures for the watch, but most analysts estimate the company has sold 12 million or more, producing well over \$5 billion in revenue. That's more than twice the number of iPhones sold in the first year after the product's introduction in 2007.

While some owners say they're delighted with the Apple Watch, others have voiced disappointment that it doesn't do more. And critics say it hasn't ignited consumer passions in the way the iPhone became a must-have product.

Apple said iPad and Mac sales both fell in the quarter. Meanwhile, the company is also widely believed to be working on other new products, such as virtual reality headsets and even electric cars.

But Apple hasn't officially confirmed any plans, and Cook recently signaled that a car isn't coming soon.

"Do you remember when you were a kid and Christmas Eve, it was so exciting — you weren't sure what was going to be downstairs? Well, it's going to be Christmas Eve for a while," he cautioned when asked about an Apple car in February.

Analysts are expecting Apple's performance to improve in the fall, when it's expected to release the next generation of iPhones with as-yet undisclosed new features.

For now, Apple is finding it difficult to match the blockbuster sales it racked up last year, when shoppers flocked to buy the first iPhones with larger screens — similar to the 5- and 6-inch models that Samsung and other competitors were already selling.

"I think what we're seeing here is those tough comparisons" to last year's sales figures, Zino said. "We're also seeing a lot of consumers holding onto their old phones, until the iPhone 7 launch this fall."

Colin Gillis, an investment analyst with BGC Financial, said smartphone sales are likely to level off rather than grow. As with PCs and tablets in recent years, he said, it's becoming more difficult for manufacturers to come up with dramatic improvements that get shoppers excited.

12-year-old girl runs NY half-marathon by mistake

ROCHESTER, N.Y. (AP) — A 12-year-old western New York girl has wound up running 10 extra miles after she got into the wrong road race.

LeeAdianez Rodriguez had registered for the 5K race that was part of last Sunday's Rochester Regional Health Flower City Challenge. She thought she was arriving late at the starting line when the race started, so she began running with the rest of the runners.

It turned out she was running with the half-marathoners on the 13.1-mile course and not in the 5K, or 3.1 miles. Rodriguez says she realized about halfway through that she was in the wrong race but decided to finish.

She completed the half-marathon in 2:43:31.

Her mother became worried when she wasn't among the finishers of the 5K, but they were reunited when she finished the half-marathon.

San Francisco police text scandal at odds with diverse image

JANIE HAR, Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Details of a second batch of racist text messages sent by a San Francisco police officer seem at odds with the image of a rainbow-flagged city that prides itself on diversity.

But people who have long complained of mistreatment by police are unsurprised, saying that the dozens of texts released by the city's public defender on Tuesday reflect a city where minorities feel

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increasingly harassed, whether by police or by developers eying traditionally ethnic neighborhoods for gleaming new condos.

"In many respects we have a history and tradition of progressive politics that has ironically worked against reform, because I think it took a long time for people to recognize that even in San Francisco, we can have the same problems as Ferguson," said San Francisco Supervisor David Campos, referring to the Missouri city where a black teenager was shot and killed by a white police officer in 2014, sparking a national movement for greater police oversight.

"We think we're above it all," Campos said, "and we're not."

San Francisco is in the midst of a technology-based jobs boom that has added thousands of wealthier newcomers to an already crowded city where the median price of a house is now over \$1 million. Growing tension between the people who have well-paying jobs and those who do not — many who are minorities— simmers beneath the city's veneer as a mecca to tech and tourism.

The offensive texts released Tuesday refer to a Latino man as a using a derogatory term and compare black people to "a pack of wild animals on the loose." The texts, which also disparage Indians, the homeless, gay people and President Barack Obama, are the second batch to rock the city since it was disclosed in late 2014 that another group of police officers had exchanged in racist and homophobic text messages in an unrelated corruption case.

A judge ruled last year that those officers could keep their jobs and avoid discipline because San Francisco Police Chief Greg Suhr had waited too long to address the allegations.

The latest text messages emerged during a rape investigation of Jason Lai, a former officer who resigned from the department earlier this month. He had been accused of rape. Prosecutors declined to file rape charges but released the messages to the public defender, whose office is representing a defendant in a case involving Lai.

The messages were on Lai's personal cell phone. Don Nobles, Lai's attorney, could not be reached immediately for comment.

Public Defender Jeff Adachi released the texts Tuesday saying that messages exchanged among Lai and two other San Francisco police officers in 2014 and 2015 may affect at least 200 criminal cases, including three murder cases.

"It is a window into the biases they harbored. It likely influenced who they stopped, who they searched, who they arrested, and how they testified in criminal trials," Adachi said.

It's not just about text messages. Relations between African American and Latino communities and the police have also deteriorated over the shooting deaths of two civilians.

This month, police officers killed a homeless 45-year-old Latino man they say was advancing on them with a knife. In December, officers killed a 26-year-old African American man, saying that he refused to drop a knife.

"There is a certain mean-spiritedness, an attitude in the department," said the Rev. Amos C. Brown, president of the local chapter of the NAACP. "We are not runaway slaves who should be captured. We're citizens of the United States of America. Some are good, others are bad. Go after the bad ones and stop profiling the good ones."

Activists have called for Suhr to resign or be fired, but the chief says he is working to overhaul the department's "use-of-force" policies. Mayor Ed Lee said he supports the chief's reform efforts.

Suhr said Tuesday that the three officers have quit or retired after they were caught sending the texts to each other. He is seeking to fire a fourth officer. Suhr said he has no plans to resign.

Samuel Walker, a retired criminal justice professor from the University of Nebraska at Omaha, said Tuesday he's stunned the officers felt they could get away with trading such messages and blames that attitude on a lack of leadership.

"If you have a poorly managed department without standards of accountability, everybody sinks to the bottom," he said.

Several people interviewed Tuesday near San Francisco's City Hall shrugged at the texts. But Geo Vala, a 23-year-old after-school mentor for elementary school students, said the texts were scary and could affect the way the officer acts on the job.

"If you're talking that way," he said, "that really shows your true colors."

Prince's sister says musician had no known will

RYAN NAKASHIMA, Associated Press

STEVE KARNOWSKI, Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Prince's sister believes the superstar musician didn't have a will and asked a Minnesota court on Tuesday to appoint a trust company to temporarily oversee his multimillion-dollar estate.

Tyka Nelson, Prince's only full sibling, said in the court filing that immediate action was necessary to manage Prince's business interests following his death last week at Paisley Park, his famous home and recording studio complex in suburban Minneapolis.

The documents don't estimate how much his estate may be worth, but Prince made hundreds of millions of dollars for record companies, concert venues and others.

And estimates of how much licensing his personal brand will generate after his death reach to the purple clouds. In just three days, the outpouring of grief and nostalgia after his death prompted fans to buy 2.3 million of his songs.

Nelson asked that Bremer Trust, a corporate trust company, be named administrator of the estate. The court documents say Bremer Bank provided financial services to Prince for many years. The court didn't immediately rule.

Prince owned a dozen properties in Minnesota, most of it undeveloped land and some houses for relatives, worth about \$27 million, according to public records. He also sold more than 100 million albums, according to Warner Music Group. And Pollstar, a concert industry magazine, said that in the years that his tours topped the charts — 10 years over four decades performing — the tours raked in \$225 million in ticket sales.

But what remained in Prince's hands is less than the sum of ticket and album sales, given payments to record labels, staff and to cover other expenses.

If he left no will or trust, divvying up his fortune could get complicated, said Susan Link, a top Minnesota probate lawyer. Link said attorneys will need to get Prince's siblings to agree on asset distribution, and that it could get extremely complicated if they don't.

"They will try to set the family down," said Link, who isn't involved in the case. "They're not going to try to light the match and get a big fire going and get everybody fighting about this."

However, someone could still come forward with a will or trust document. When Michael Jackson died in June 2009, longtime lawyer John Branca filed a will six days later, upending moves by Jackson's mother to become his estate's executor based on her assuming there was no will. Just last month, the estate sold off Jackson's stake in publishing company Sony/ATV to Sony Corp. for \$750 million.

Public records show Prince set up more than a dozen companies, though most are now inactive. He also shuffled through lawyers and business managers regularly, meaning he could have created a will at some point without others knowing about it.

"I really can't believe in the short time since he died that they made a thorough search," University of

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Minnesota law professor Judith Younger said.

Irwin Feinberg, a Los Angeles trust and probate lawyer, noted that wealthy people usually create trusts to avoid the public spectacle of probate court, and that it would be unusual for Prince not to have done so.

"If a shoe is going to drop, one would think it would drop fairly soon," he said.

Prince's post-mortem earnings could match top-earning dead celebrities like Elvis Presley, estimates Mark Roesler, chief executive of CMG Worldwide, which handles licensing for the estates of Marilyn Monroe, James Dean and other late stars. Presley's estate made \$55 million just in 2015, according to Forbes magazine.

Prince "was as big as they get," Roesler told The Associated Press late last week. "Will there be a business built up around Prince 60 years from now like James Dean? The answer is unequivocally, 'yes.'"

Nelson's court filing Tuesday said she had "no reason to believe" that Prince executed a will or any other documents saying what should happen to his estate upon his death. Nelson said she doesn't know her brother's assets or debts, but said he had "substantial assets" that require protection.

Her attorneys released a statement saying they're not at liberty to discuss the case "in order to uphold the privacy that Prince and the Nelson family have always maintained."

Under Minnesota law, if a person dies without a will — and with no surviving parents, children, or grandchildren — the next people in line to share in the estate are the surviving siblings, including half-siblings.

Prince wasn't married and had no known living children. Nelson is his only full sibling, though he has five half-siblings (two other half-siblings have died).

Court fights in recent years suggest money wasn't free flowing. In April 2013, Prince lost a lawsuit filed in New York State's Supreme Court brought by perfume maker Revelations Perfume and Cosmetics Inc. for failing to promote the "3121" perfume line named after his 2006 album. He touted the product once, during a massive concert in July 2007 in downtown Minneapolis that ended at 5 a.m. at the First Avenue club, a famous venue from "Purple Rain."

He was ordered to pay \$4.4 million, but never did. Instead, plaintiff lawyers went searching for assets, found about \$3 million in various Minnesota bank accounts and used court orders to freeze them, according to Brian Slipakoff, a lawyer who represented the perfume maker. Prince later settled for a lower amount.

"It doesn't suggest there was oodles of cash lying around," Slipakoff said last week.

Prince encountered tax difficulties several times, including owing back taxes to France in 2012, which he paid up, and overdue property taxes around \$450,000 in 2010. In 2013, the IRS filed a federal tax lien against him in Carver County Court in Minnesota for \$1.6 million. What happened with that case is unclear.

Records on file with Carver County, where Paisley Park is located, show that he was up to date on his property taxes when he died.

Lawyers ask for halt to execution; say convict was young

KATE BRUMBACK, Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Lawyers for a Georgia death row inmate scheduled to die this week are asking a court to halt his execution, arguing the death penalty was inappropriate because of his youth and lack of maturity at the time of his crime.

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Daniel Anthony Lucas is set to be put to death Wednesday at the state prison by injection of the barbiturate pentobarbital. He was 19 in April 1998 when he and another teen broke into a central Georgia home looking for cash or valuables to sell to buy drugs and killed a trucking company owner and his two children.

Lucas' lawyers argued in a court filing Tuesday that his death sentence is "constitutionally flawed."

The jury deciding his fate did not hear meaningful evidence about his youth and lack of maturity before sentencing him to die, his lawyers argued. Additionally, advances in science since his 1999 trial demonstrate the extent to which his brain was not adequately developed, rendering the death penalty inappropriate, they wrote.

In addition to the court filing, Lucas' lawyers also asked the Georgia State Board of Pardons and Paroles to spare his life, arguing that his childhood was plagued by drugs and violence but that he's been reformed in prison. The board, which is the only entity that can commute a death sentence, denied clemency Tuesday after holding a hearing.

Lucas, now 37, received the death sentence for the killings of Steven Moss, 37, his 11-year-old son Bryan and 15-year-old daughter Kristin, at their home near Macon.

Lucas and Brandon Rhode were ransacking the Moss home when Bryan Moss came home and saw them through a front window. The boy entered through a back door armed with a baseball bat, prosecutors have said. They say the two then wrestled Bryan to a chair and Lucas shot him in the shoulder.

Lucas then led the boy to a bedroom and shot him multiple times, prosecutors have said.

Rhode met Kristin as she got home from school and forced her to sit on a chair and shot her twice with a pistol, according to court records. Rhode then ambushed Steven Moss when he arrived home, shooting him four times with the same pistol. Lucas later shot all three victims again to make sure they were dead.

Moss' wife, Gerri Ann, discovered the bodies when she returned home from work.

Rhode, who was also convicted in the killings, was executed in September 2010.

Young adults, ages 18 to 20, are less mature and less responsible than those who are older, Lucas' lawyers argued. The prosecution's portrayal of Lucas at trial as a grown man was misleading, and his trial attorney failed to ask the jury to consider his youth or drug- and alcohol-induced impairment at the time of the crime, Lucas' lawyers wrote.

Society recognizes the limitations of the young adult brain when it denies certain privileges — the right to consume alcohol or buy a handgun, for example — to people under 21, they argue.

"These youth are not granted by law the same rights and entitlements of adults; and for purposes of punishment, they should not be treated the same as adults," the court filing says.

Lucas' lawyers also argue that the practice of imposing a death sentence on someone who was under 21 at the time of his crime is sharply declining. They quote Joshua Moore, an attorney with the Georgia Capital Defender, who said evidence that the brains of these offenders aren't fully developed has helped lawyers in his office negotiate plea deals for sentences less than death and has also resulted in prosecutors not seeking the death penalty for young adults.

Lucas would be the fifth inmate executed in Georgia this year.

North Carolina Dems pan 'keep our state straight' comment

JONATHAN DREW, Associated Press

GARY D. ROBERTSON, Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Rhetorical skirmishes continued Tuesday in North Carolina over a law limiting protections for LGBT people, as Democrats criticized a Republican's plea to "keep our state straight."

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The criticism came a day after dueling demonstrations drew thousands of protesters for and against the law, ending with the arrests of 54 people voicing their opposition to the law in the Legislative Building.

At a demonstration supporting the law earlier Monday, the state's Republican nominee for attorney general, state Sen. Buck Newton, urged the crowd to "tell your friends and family who had to work today what this is all about and how hard we must fight to keep our state straight."

The North Carolina Democratic Party issued a statement Tuesday calling the comments hateful and discriminatory toward lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people. They called for Newton, who shepherded the legislation through his chamber, to apologize.

Newton told reporters on Tuesday that the phrase "keep our state straight" had nothing to do with sexual orientation. "It means keep men out of the ladies' room," he said.

"I think the silly season is upon us and I think this whole effort by the Democratic Party is to be expected," Newton said, adding, "I never mentioned gays or anyone. So I'm not quite sure how they made that leap. Maybe they're being a little sensitive."

North Carolina's top elected Republican leaders have said they don't plan to repeal the law, a stance likely to stoke further protests.

The also law blocks local and state protections for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people at their jobs and in public accommodations. It takes away people's ability to use state law to sue over workplace discrimination.

The leader of a national advocacy group said Tuesday that transgender people used restrooms aligned with their gender identity on Monday during protests in the Legislative Building and weren't arrested for it, despite the law's provisions. The law directs transgender people to use restrooms in public buildings corresponding to the sex on their birth certificate, though it doesn't spell out an enforcement mechanism.

Mara Keisling, director of the National Center for Transgender Equality, said the stance of state Republican leaders toward transgender restroom access is "nonsense" considering that transgender people have often been able to go about their day without unwanted attention in recent years.

"Lots of times we aren't noticed, and other times we are noticed," she said by phone.

But now they face a greater risk of being confronted in restrooms because of the law — and not just in North Carolina, she said.

On Monday night, Keisling was among demonstrators arrested for refusing to leave a legislative leader's office, but the arrests weren't related to restroom access. Eighteen entered a legislative leader's office and began chanting. The rest were arrested a couple of hours later in a corridor when officers sought to close the building.

Acting General Assembly Police Chief Martin Brock said all were charged with second-degree trespassing and cited for violating building rules or the fire code. One was also charged with resisting arrest.

Detention records show the protesters were released later that night or early Tuesday morning, and they have June court dates.

Keisling said she and 17 others in the first wave of arrests were seated in a holding area of the county jail and separated by gender. She sat with the women, while a transgender man sat with the men.

"Every officer I dealt with all day was businesslike and doing their job in exactly the way you'd expect them to do it," she said.

Several transgender people who came to wait for Keisling to be released used restrooms at the jail in line with their gender identity without any problem, she said.

North Carolina House Democrats filed legislation Monday to repeal the law, though a lack of Republi-

can sponsors made its chances appear slim.

Senate leader Phil Berger said Monday night that he wasn't swayed by the protesters: "I don't know that it'll change anybody's mind."

Trump, Clinton press closer to general election showdown

JULIE PACE, AP White House Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — Bolstering his grip on the Republican primaries, Donald Trump prepared Wednesday for a general election showdown with Hillary Clinton, accusing the Democratic front-runner of "playing the woman card" in her presidential campaign.

Trump swept five states in Tuesday's Northeast primaries, bringing him tantalizingly close to securing the Republican nomination against Texas Sen. Ted Cruz and Ohio Gov. John Kasich. Clinton, meanwhile, is now 90 percent of the way to her party's nomination after four solid victories of her own.

Trump, the Republican businessman, pushed forward with his charge that Clinton is "playing the woman card," telling CNN's "New Day" in a telephone interview Wednesday that "she does have the woman card" but said that "a lot of women don't like Hillary, despite the card."

Clinton said during her Tuesday night rally in Philadelphia that Trump had accused her of playing the "woman card," telling supporters, "if fighting for women's health care and paid family leave and equal pay is playing the 'woman card,' then deal me in."

Trump, in an interview with MSNBC's "Morning Joe," said Wednesday he hadn't "quite recovered — it's early in the morning — from her shouting that message. I know a lot of people would say, 'you can't say that about a woman because of course a woman doesn't shout.' But the way she shouted that message was not ... I guess I'll have to get used to it for the next four or five months."

The Republican race now turns to Indiana, where next week's primary marks one of Cruz's last chances to slow Trump and push the race toward a contested convention. While Trump does need to keep winning in order to stay on his narrow path to the GOP nomination, he declared himself the party's "presumptive nominee" after Tuesday's results rolled in.

"It's over. As far as I'm concerned it's over," he declared. The real estate mogul now has 77 percent of the delegates he needs.

Trump planned to deliver a foreign policy speech in Washington and then campaign in Indiana. The address at a downtown hotel is the first in a series of speeches the Republican front-runner is expected to give in the coming weeks, all with the goal of easing Americans' concerns about his readiness for the presidency.

Likewise, Clinton was eager to turn her attention to Trump. While Clinton advisers say they won't underestimate Trump, as many of his vanquished Republican rivals did, her campaign sees opportunities to not only energize Democrats in an effort to keep him out of the White House but also appeal to Republicans turned off by the brash billionaire.

"If you are a Democrat, an independent or a thoughtful Republican, you know that their approach is not going to build an America where we increase opportunity or decrease inequality," Clinton said of the GOP candidates.

Trump's victories came in Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island. Clinton ceded only Rhode Island to Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders.

Sanders, in an interview with The Associated Press, conceded he has a "very narrow path and we're going to have to win some big victories."

In the Republican race, Cruz and Kasich are desperately trying to force a convention fight. The chal-

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lengers have even taken the rare step of announcing plans to coordinate in upcoming contests to try to minimize Trump's delegate totals.

But that effort did little to stop Trump from a big showing in the Northeast, where he picked up at least 105 of the 118 delegates up for grabs. He now has 950 of the 1,237 delegates he needs to secure the nomination.

Cruz spent Tuesday in Indiana, where Kasich's campaign has withdrawn in an attempt to give the Texas senator a clear path.

"Tonight this campaign moves back to more favorable terrain," Cruz said during an evening rally in Knightstown, Indiana.

Yet there's no doubt the GOP is deeply divided by Trump's candidacy. In Pennsylvania, exit polls showed nearly 4 in 10 GOP voters said they would be excited by Trump becoming president, but the prospect of the real estate mogul in the White House scared a quarter of those who cast ballots in the state's Republican primary.

In another potential general election warning sign for Republicans, 6 in 10 GOP voters in Pennsylvania said the Republican campaign has divided the party — a sharp contrast to the 7 in 10 Democratic voters in the state who said the race between Clinton and Sanders has energized their party.

The exit polls were conducted by Edison Research for The Associated Press and television networks.

Democrats award delegates proportionally, which allowed Clinton to maintain her lead over Sanders even as he rattled off a string of wins in recent contests. According to the AP count, Clinton now has 2,141 delegates while Sanders has 1,321.

That count includes delegates won in primaries and caucuses, as well as superdelegates — party insiders who can back the candidate of their choice, regardless of how their state votes.

Sanders has vowed to stay in the race until voting wraps up in June. He continues to raise millions of dollars and attract big crowds, including Tuesday night in West Virginia, where he urged his supporters to recognize that they are "powerful people if you choose to exercise that power."