

Groton Daily Independent

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- 1- Recycling trailers
- 1- Groton Ford ad
- 2- Part 9 of Prom Photos - Final
- 3- Handyman looking for work
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Saturday, April 30

Birthdays: Heather Feser, Logan Lane
4:30pm: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church
Mass

Sunday, May 1

Birthdays: Patty Hein • Katie Leonhardt • Doug Sombke • Travis Harder
9:00am: Emmanuel Lutheran School
9:00am: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church
Mass
9:30am: Emmanuel Lutheran Fellowship
10:00am: Heaven Bound Ministries worship at
Pierpont Church
10:15am: Emmanuel Lutheran worship with com-
munion
11:00am: United Methodist Church Worship

Monday, May 2

School Breakfast: Breakfast bagel, fruit, juice,
milk.

School Lunch: Chicken tenders, baked tiny po-
tato, carrots and dip, fruit.

Senior Menu: Beef stroganoff noodles, mixed
vegetables, cake with strawberries, whole wheat
bread.

Birthdays: Tom Sundling • Terry Cutler • Hannah
Luecke • Ryan Koehler • Jessica Nelson
6:30am: Emmanuel Lutheran Bible Study
10:00am: Girls Varsity Golf at Lee Park, Aberdeen
2:00pm: 7th/8th Track Meet at Redfield
6:30pm: Kiwanis Athletic Banquet
7:00pm: City Council Meeting at Groton Com-
munity Center

Tuesday, May 3

School Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, yogurt, fruit,
juice, milk.

School Lunch: Super nachos, refried beans,

Open: Recycling Trailer in Groton
The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Rail-
road Ave.

The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **Closed**

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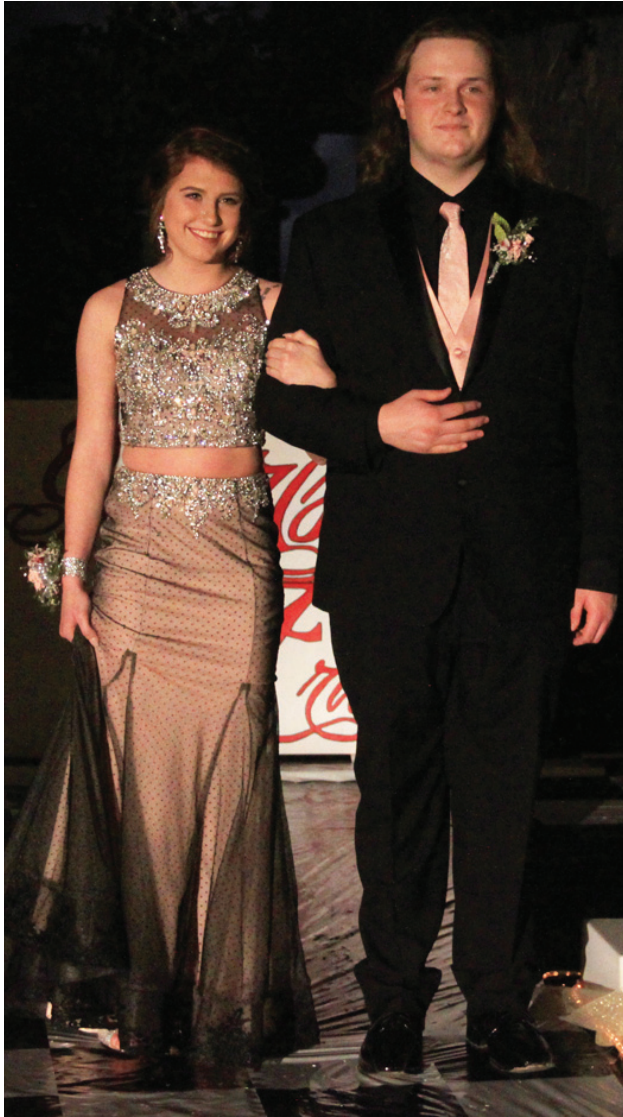


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McKenzie Menzia
escorted by Joe Groeblichhoff



Shyanne McCarlson
escorted by Franklin Wuestewald

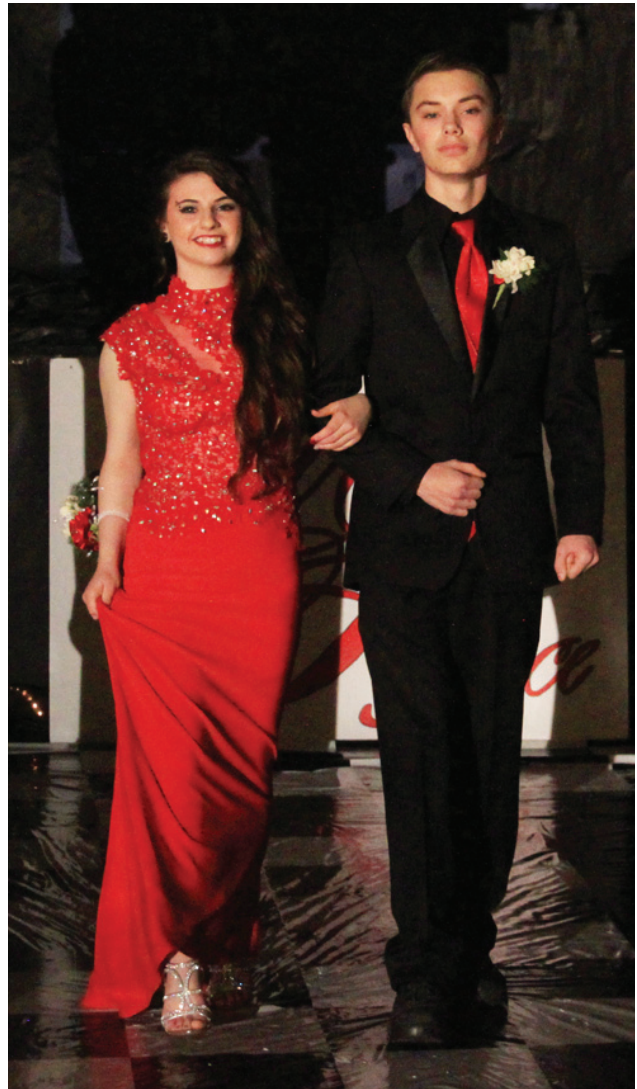
The Groton Area prom was held Saturday evening in the high school gym. The Groton Independent will be featuring couples from the prom during the next few weeks. There were 52 couples at the prom. HD DVDs of the prom are available from the Independent for \$26.50 or can be mailed out for \$30. Call 605-397-7285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

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Audrey Wanner
escorted by Jackson Oliver



Kayla Fordham
escorted by Brett Benda

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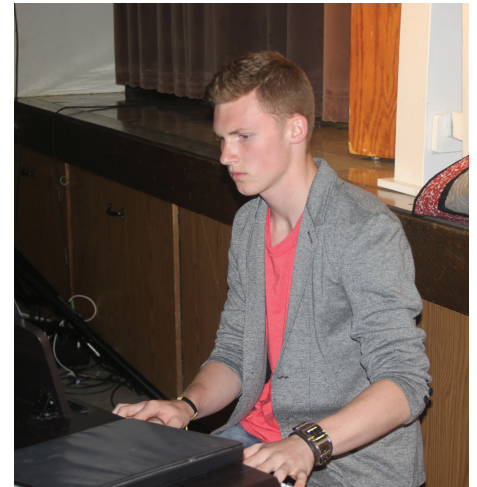
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First up is Emily Locke. She chose orange fabric for her blanket because it is her favorite color. She didn't start out in FACS first semester of this year, but joined in because she realized how much she missed being in it. She participates in soccer and basketball and likes hanging out with her friends in her spare time. **Fantastic Job Emily!** (Photo by Julianna Kosel)



Audrey Wanner sang, "When We Were Young." (Photo by Julianna Kosel)



Tylan Glover was one of the two accompanists at the FCCLA Style Show held April 28. Erin Smith was also an accompanist. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Lexie Harder and Madison Sippel introduced the first half of the stylists. (Photo by Julianna Kosel)

The FCCLA Style Show was held April 28th. HD DVDs of the Style Show 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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Our next model is FCCLA Historian, Jessica Adler. She is showing off her fuzzy warm blanket. Her blanket is different from the others in her FACS 3 class because she individually sewed each 10 inch strip on the front of her blanket together and then sewed the back of the blanket to the front. She used three different types of fabric to complete this elegant, unique look, gray mink, chevron mink, and a black plush fabric. She absolutely loves her blanket! Good Job Jessica! (Photo by Julianna Kosel)



Here comes junior, Halie Yarborough our only model of the night that can wear her sewing project! Her unique skirt that she made in FACS III. This was the first time she ever made a skirt and it was an interesting experience. Though it was a challenge for Halie, especially with the zipper, she enjoyed the experience. Halie was the only one in her FACS class to make a skirt instead of a blanket. Stellar job Halie! (Photo by Julianna Kosel)



Shelby Hjermsstad looks dazzling in her black lace prom dress that she wore to Groton's prom. The dress features a satin belt, an empire waistline, lacy wide shoulder straps, and a v-neckline. Along with the lace, the dress shimmers in the light with the subtle beading. With the help of her friends, the dress was purchased at Brides & Belles in Aberdeen. Shelby chose to add a necklace, bracelet, sandals, and a black clutch to accessorize the dress. Looking gorgeous, Shelby (Photo by Julianna Kosel)

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Left: Hold up, now! Here comes Tage Taylor rocking her rose colored prom dress. This dress has a sweetheart neckline and a beaded belt that creates a stylish empire waist. The all-over glitter detail makes the whole dress sparkle in the light, and it fashions a lattice corset back. Tage paired the marvelous dress with a pair of black wedges for shoes and a cute tulle bow headband. Tage danced the night away at prom and looked great doing it! Stay classy, Tage! (Photo by Julianna Kosel)



Next up is Tia Thompson modeling her coral pink prom dress. It features a sweetheart neck line with a beaded belt that forms and empire waist. It has an open back and it is made of a chiffon fabric. She paired this dress with silver high heels and a necklace with a black chain and silver flower rhinestones. Looking' fab, Tia. (Photo by Julianna Kosel)



Below Left: Megan is also going to help us out with another quilt. Alexia Musch was unable to be with us tonight, but we still wanted you to see her beautiful quilt. She had minimal sewing experience before this and learned a

lot through the process. She has been involved at GHS as a football manager and plans to attend Lake Area Tech next fall for a degree in early childhood education. It looks beautiful Alexia!

(Photo by Julianna Kosel)

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Hunter Lerew sporting his quilt that he designed himself. After weeks research and digging in hard to find a pattern he thought suitable, this young innovator created this simple 3 color design. After mashing together a few different styles that had caught his eye, making his own pattern in which he named Hunter's Hopscotch , featuring a red and black block design (with a hint of white). Laced into the design is a simple zig zag with his sharp red, white, and black colors. This King sized quilt is sure to fit on this King size mattress. After high school, Hunter plans to use his quilt to keep his customers warm in the winter time as he works at Aberdeen Chrysler Center to which he can make enough money to feed his new quilting addiction. **Amazing Job Hunter!** (Photo by Julianna Kosel)

Up next is Megan Unzen. She designed her stylish, elegant quilt using the Patio pattern. Megan chose navy, jade blue, and light green as the primary colors for her quilt. To make these colors pop, she chose a white-on-white fabric to accent her blocks. Megan had never sewn before she took on the challenge of making this quilt, but she seemed to have gotten the hang of it! Megan chose a super soft navy minky for the back of her quilt. Megan plans to snuggle up with her quilt while she attends SDSU in the fall. **Marvelous job Megan!** (Photo by

Julianna Kosel)



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)



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Boys Medley Relay Team win at Sisseton

The boys 1600m sprint medley relay team placed first at the Sisseton American Legion Relays held Friday. The team consisted of Jackson Oliver, Lucas Hinman, Bennett Shabazz and Sean Schuring.

Placing second were Harleigh Stange in the 100m dash, Carly Wheeting in both the discus and shot put, Steven Fey in the shot put and the boys 4x800m Relay team.

Girl's Division

100m Hurdles: 6, Josie Doeden, 16.69; Cassandra Townsend, 20.96.

300m Hurdles: Cassandra Townsend, 57.92; Jodi Hinman, 59.37.

100m Dash: 2, Harleigh Stange, 13.05; Emily Blocker, 15.32; Renee Hinman, 16.24.

200m Dash: Kenzie McInerney, 31.30; Emily Blocker, 34.38; Renee Hinman, 35.05.

400m Dash: Kenzie McInerney, 1:12.48; Melanie Schutze, 1:12.64; Aubray Harry, 1:13.16;

800m Run: Tessa Erdmann, 3:04.45; Emily Thompson, 3:11.06.

3200m Run: 5, Jasmine Schaller, 13:10.58.

4x100m Relay: 5, Groton (Josie Doeden, Heather Lone, Eliza Wanner, Harleigh Stange), 54.83.

4x200m Relay: 9, Groton (Josie Doeden, Miranda Hanson, Jodi Hinman, Payton Maine), 2:01.20.

4x400m Relay: 7, Groton (Josie Doeden, Harleigh Stange, Payton Maine, Eliza Wanner), 4:37.57.

1600 Sprint Medley: 6, Groton (Harleigh Stange, Kenzie McInerney, Eliza Wanner, Payton Maine), 5:04.54.

High Jump: Katie Koehler, 4-1.

Long Jump: Katie Koehler, 14-3.75; Jodi Hinman, 13-4.

Triple Jump: 7, Katie Koehler, 30-11.25.

Discus: 2, Carly Wheeting, 101-05; 8, Nicole Fey, 87-07; Marlee Jones, 86-05; Jennie Doeden, 77-07; Taylor Holm, 77-02.

Shot Put: 2, Carly Wheeting, 35-02.5; 5, Jessica Bjerke, 31-03; 7, Marlee Jones, 30-5.5; Nicole Fey, 29-11.25; Madison Sippel, 27-03.5

Boy's Division

110m Hurdles: Tylan Glover, 20.32.

300m Hurdles: 8, Tylan Glover, 47.21.

200m Dash: 8, Lucas Hinman, 24.24; Jackson Oliver, 25.39; James Thompson, 26.58; Pablo Del Campo, 27.43.

400m Dash: Franklin Wuestewald, 58.59; Brandon Keith, 59.01; Pablo Del Campo, 1:07.52.

800m Run: Treyton Diegel, 2:21.71; Mitchell Koens, 2:29.74; Micah Poor, 2:39.77.

1600m Run: Mitchell Koens, 5:39.31; Micah Poor, 5:51.78.

4x100m Relay: Groton (Bennett Shabazz, Jackson Oliver, James Thompson, Lucas Hinman), 48.21.

4x200m Relay: Groton (Jackson Oliver, James Thompson, Tylan Glover, Lucas Hinman), 1:42.02.

4x400m Relay: 8, Groton (Franklin Wuestewald, Sean Schuring, Brandon Keith, Treyton Diegel), 3:57.95.

4x800m Relay: 2, Groton (Sean Schuring, Brandon Keith, Bennett Shabazz, Treyton Diegel), 8:56.44.

1600m Sprint Medley: 1, Groton (Jackson Oliver, Lucas Hinman, Bennett Shabazz, Sean Schuring), 3:56.61.

Long Jump: Franklin Wuestewald, 16-7.5; Tylan Oliver, 16-6.5.

Discus: 3, McClain Lone, 126-9; 6, Steven Fey, 122-7; Luke Thorson, 101-3; Carter Jondahl, 95-9.

Shot Put: 2, Steven Fey, 47-1; 4, McClain Lone, 43-11.25; Carter Jondahl, 37-5; Luke Thorson, 36-11.

Groton United Methodist Women

May Luncheon

Wednesday, May 4th

Serving from 11 am - 1 pm
No Reservation Required



Men & Women \$8 - Children 6 and under free

Come and join us for lunch OR Make your own lunch to go
at the Groton United Methodist Church

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Today in Weather History

April 30, 1942: Three farms were hit by a tornado near the northeastern edge of Castlewood. One barn was blown apart, and debris was blown into the house, killing one person. Damage from the estimated F2 tornado was \$20,000.

April 30, 2011: An unyielding low-pressure system moving across North Dakota brought high winds to much of central into parts of northeast South Dakota. Northwest winds of 35 to 50 mph with gusts to over 60 mph occurred from the morning to the late evening of the 30th. The high winds did cause some property damage across the region. A semi was tipped over on Highway 50 in Buffalo County; a large sign was brought down in Highmore, with some damage to security lights and twisted traffic signals in Pierre. Some of the highest wind gusts included 59 mph at Eagle Butte, 61 mph at Oacoma, 66 mph in Corson County, and 69 mph at Hayes in Stanley County.

1852 - A tornado, following the same track as the famous "Tri-state Tornado" of 1925, struck the town of New Harmony IND. Just sixteen persons were killed by the twister, due to the sparse settlement. The "Tri-state Tornado" killed 695 persons. (David Ludlum)

1953 - A tornado 300 yards in width leveled homes on the north side of Warner-Robins GA, and barracks on the south side of the Warner-Robins Air Force Base. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Thunderstorms developing along a cold front produced severe weather in Idaho, Utah, Wyoming and Montana. Thunderstorms produced wind gusts to 100 mph in Lincoln, Mineral and Sanders counties. Twenty-three cities in the central and southeastern U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date. Memphis TN was the hot spot in the nation with a record high of 94 degrees. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - A cold front produced high winds in the southwestern U.S. Winds gusting to 90 mph in southwestern Utah downed power lines, and damaged trees and outbuildings. The high winds also downed power lines in Nevada, completely knocking out power in the town of Henderson. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather in central and eastern Texas. Hail three inches in diameter was reported at Cool, and thunderstorm winds gusted to 80 mph at Hillsboro. For the first time of record Oklahoma City went through the entire month of April without a single thunderstorm. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data) (The Weather Channel)

1990 - Late afternoon and evening thunderstorms produced severe weather in southern Virginia and the Carolinas, with tennis ball size hail reported southeast of Chesnee SC. Thunderstorms moving over the Chesapeake Bay flooded U.S. Highway 50 on Kent Island MD with several inches of water resulting in a seventeen-mile long traffic jam. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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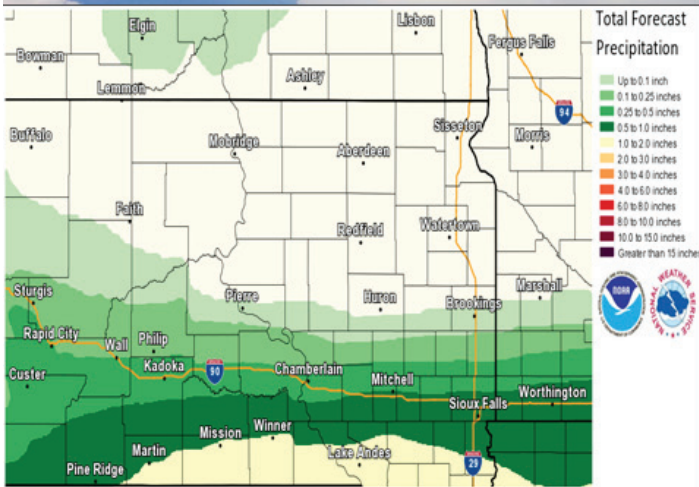
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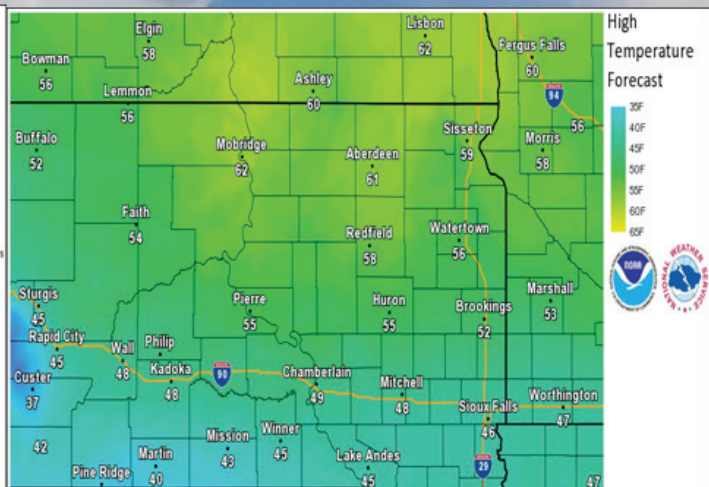
Today	Tonight	Sunday	Sunday Night	Monday	Monday Night	Tuesday
						
Partly Sunny and Breezy	Partly Cloudy and Breezy then Mostly Clear	Sunny	Clear	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny
High: 62 °F	Low: 36 °F	High: 65 °F	Low: 32 °F	High: 68 °F	Low: 42 °F	High: 73 °F



Rain Staying South Today, Pleasant Temps North, But Breezy



Valid ending at Monday May 2nd, 2016 at 7 PM CDT
Created Saturday April 30th, 2016 at 5:28 AM CDT



Valid ending Saturday April 30th, 2016 at 7 PM CDT
Created Saturday April 30th, 2016 at 5:31 AM CDT

National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD



weather.gov/Aberdeen



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen

Updated: 4/30/2016 5:37 AM Central

Published on: 04/30/2016 at 5:41AM

Low pressure moving across the Central Plains today will bring rainfall to southern South Dakota, mainly along and south of I-90. Highs today will rise into the 50s and low 60s, with the warmest temperatures across northern South Dakota and west central Minnesota. Although, breezy northeast winds will be felt today, which will bring a bit of a chill to the air.

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Yesterday's Weather

High: 59.0 at 1:45 PM

Low: 33.5 at 7:14 AM

High Gust: 17 at 2:13 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 98° in 1992

Record Low: 5 in 1966

Average High: 64°F

Average Low: 38°F

Average Precip in April.: 1.85

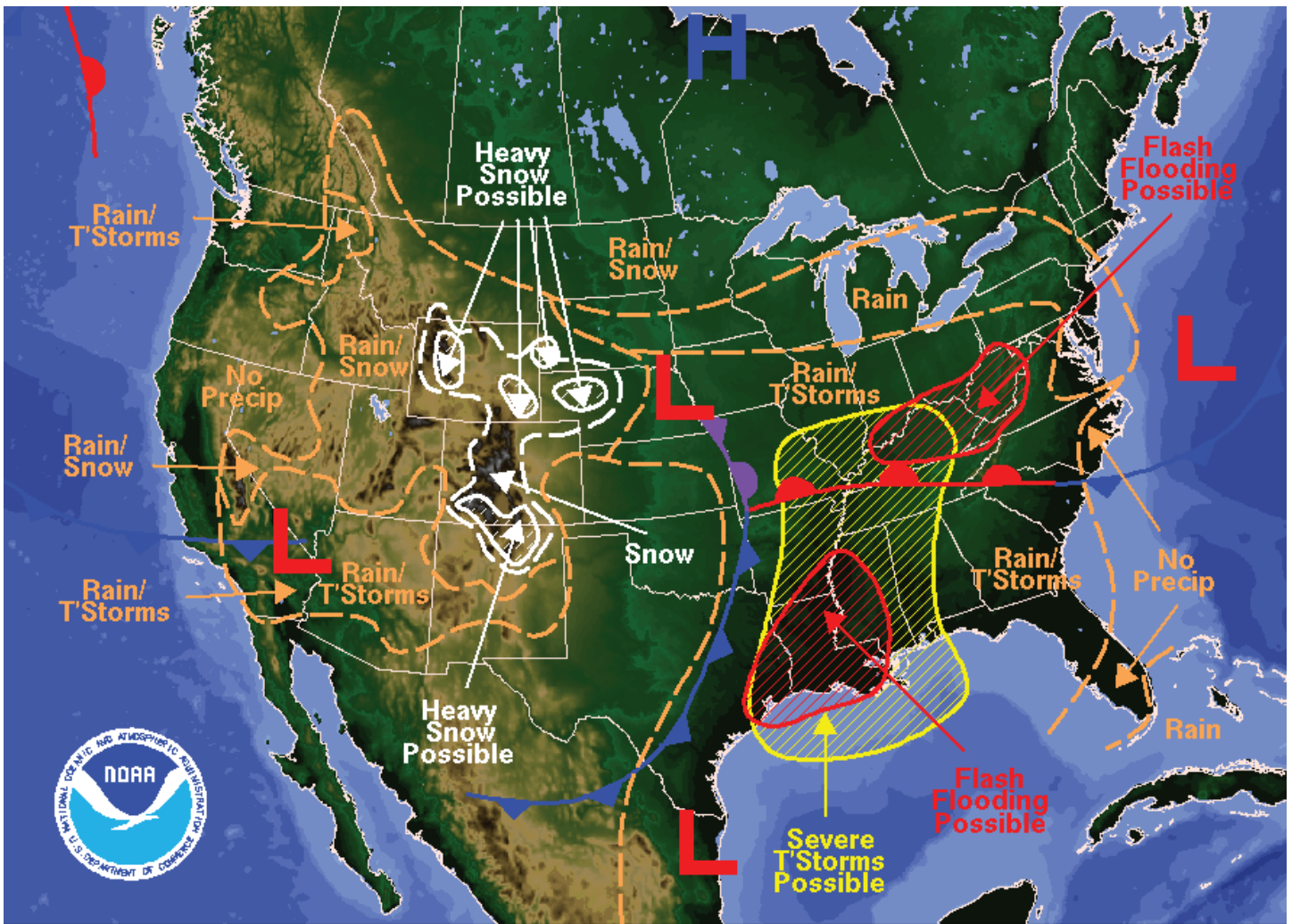
Precip to date in April.: 2.45

Average Precip to date: 4.03

Precip Year to Date: 3.39

Sunset Tonight: 8:39 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:21 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Sat, Apr 30, 2016, issued 4:48 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



THE THREAT OF TALKING TOO MUCH

Arthur Rubenstein began playing the piano at the age of three. Before he was five years old, he performed his first concert before a large audience. He went on to become one of the world's most famous and celebrated pianists.

Once, during his career, he developed a difficult and persistent case of hoarseness, almost losing his voice. The press began to release reports that he had developed cancer. As a result of all that was being said, he decided to consult with a throat specialist.

After a thirty-minute consultation, the doctor shaking his head said, "Come back tomorrow, Mr. Rubenstein." That frightened the pianist and he spent a sleepless night, tossing and turning.

The next day, after a much longer and more thorough examination, the pianist with a frightened look on his face, asked the doctor, "What's wrong with me."

"Nothing," said the doctor, "except that you talk too much."

Solomon wisely warned us saying, "Don't talk too much, for it fosters sin. Be sensible and turn off the flow."

Talking is natural and normal, but rarely neutral. We all have opinions about nearly everything and almost everyone we know. Even though most of our opinions and observations are accurate, there are times when they may be incorrect. And even though we think that we may be "speaking the truth in love," our words may be harmful and hateful, bringing damage or destruction to the lives of others. Better not to speak at all than to speak words that can never be erased and bring pain and suffering to others.

Prayer: Lord, "May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts, always be acceptable to You" and therefore helpful to others. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Proverbs 10:19 When words are many, transgression is not lacking, but he who restrains his lips is prudent.

News from the Associated Press

Man charged with assaulting 3 women pleads not guilty

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota man accused of assaulting three women on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation has pleaded not guilty to three charges.

The office of U.S. Attorney Randolph Seiler says 43-year-old Clint Marshall Sr., of Oglala, pleaded not guilty earlier this month to the charges of assault with a dangerous weapon, assault resulting in serious bodily injury and assault of an intimate partner by strangulation and suffocation.

Authorities say Marshall used a vehicle to assault the the women on Oct. 10 near Oglala. Authorities say Marshall also attempted to strangle one of the women the same day.

Authorities say Marshall has been released on bond. Marshall's attorney declined to comment on the charges Friday.

Court records show Marshall's trial has been scheduled for June 21.

Volunteer fire assistance program grants to open soon

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Department of Agriculture says it will soon be looking for grant applications for the Volunteer Fire Assistance program.

The agency said Friday that applications can start coming in on May 1. The program allows the Department of Agriculture's Wildland Fire Division to give volunteer fire departments aid through the U.S. Forest Service.

It's used to train and equip rural fire departments to suppress and prevent wildland fires. Rural departments or organizations can be reimbursed for their costs from the funds.

The department says applications should be postmarked no later than June 1.

Can South Dakota tax online sales? State presses to find out

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota wants to collect state sales tax on purchases from Overstock.com and other Internet retailers. The state is pressing for the revenues with a lawsuit against several remote retailers that ultimately seeks to overturn a U.S. Supreme Court decision.

The state lawsuit is based on a law passed during the 2016 legislative session. Two trade associations on Friday challenged the constitutionality of the law, which requires out-of-state sellers who exceed revenue and transaction thresholds to comply with state sales tax laws.

A 1992 U.S. Supreme Court decision bans states from forcing out-of-state retailers to collect taxes if they don't have a physical presence in the state. In a filing Thursday, the state acknowledged it ultimately wants the high court to overturn its previous ruling. No state has filed a similar lawsuit challenging the decision, according to the Retail Industry Leaders Association, a trade group that includes such members as Best Buy, Target and Wal-Mart.

State Sen. Deb Peters, who sponsored the legislation, said in a statement that the Supreme Court decision gives out-of-state retailers an artificial advantage over local businesses while eroding state coffers.

South Dakota is missing out on \$48 million to \$58 million annually in state and municipal tax revenues, according to a court complaint. The document says the outcome the state wants will allow it to require sales tax be collected and remitted from sellers without a physical presence in South Dakota.

It would be surprising if the circuit court ruled in favor of the state, said Steven Schwinn, a law professor at the John Marshall Law School in Chicago.

"What the state is probably thinking is that they want to tee up a case for Supreme Court review," he said. "It doesn't really matter whether they win or lose in the lower courts because those courts don't matter for what they're trying to do."

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The lawsuit was filed in South Dakota against Wayfair, Inc. of Boston; Systemax, Inc. of Port Washington, New York; Overstock.com, Inc. of Salt Lake City; and Newegg, Inc. of City of Industry, California.

Tony Venhuizen, chief of staff to South Dakota Gov. Dennis Daugaard, declined to comment. The South Dakota Retailers Association cheered the state litigation as a move to fight inequity for brick-and-mortar stores.

"Local businesses are tired of competing with one arm tied behind their back," Executive Director Shawn Lyons said in a statement.

But eCommerce trade group NetChoice and the American Catalog Mailers Association argue in a lawsuit filed Friday that the court should find the state law unconstitutional and unenforceable.

The new law could set the course for huge tax and administrative burdens on companies across the country, Steve DelBianco, executive director of NetChoice, said in a statement.

"This statute is blatantly unconstitutional and flies in the face of law that has been settled for decades. States simply don't have the authority to pick and choose the Supreme Court decisions they will follow," said Hamilton Davison, president and executive director of the American Catalog Mailers Association.

Reservation hospitals face Friday deadline to not lose funds

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The government agency that administers hospitals on the Pine Ridge and Rosebud Indian reservations faces a Friday deadline to reach crucial agreements with federal health officials to avoid losing funding.

The Indian Health Service and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services must agree on proposals that could lead to significant quality-of-care improvements at each hospital.

Without the agreements, the hospitals won't be allowed to bill the government for services provided to Medicare- and Medicaid-eligible patients after May 16.

The hospitals have faced challenges for years, but they've been under intense scrutiny after inspections uncovered serious deficiencies.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services issued the funding cutoff threat after the inspections, but also offered the hospitals the opportunity to reach last-chance remediation agreements giving time to implement "robust" changes.

Sioux Falls police: Man stabbed with liquor bottle

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Police in Sioux Falls say they're looking for an unknown suspect who stabbed a man with a liquor bottle.

Police say officers were called out to an apartment just after 11 a.m. Friday and found a 46-year-old man with injuries to his arms and abdomen. He told officers he was attacked by a man brandishing a large liquor bottle.

The victim was stabbed with the broken glass bottle a number of times before the suspect fled the neighborhood.

The investigation is continuing.

White House 2016: Clinton gears up for Trump in fall race

LISA LERER, Associated Press

JULIE PACE, Associated Press

KEN THOMAS, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Waves of campaign staffers are being dispatched to battleground states. Advisers are starting to consider locations for a splashy convention rally in Philadelphia. An army of lawyers is scrutinizing more than two dozen possible vice presidential picks.

Though she has yet to clinch the Democratic nomination, Hillary Clinton and her team are taking early steps into a general election campaign. Aides are working under the assumption that Republican front-runner Donald Trump will be her opponent.

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Six months before the presidential election, they're looking beyond primary rival Bernie Sanders and preparing their candidate and party for what may be a hard-fought — and personally ugly — fall campaign.

Starting this week, Clinton campaign employees are heading to battleground states across the country, among them Ohio, Florida and Colorado. Democrats are also eyeing the possibility of making a run at traditionally Republican-leaning states such as Georgia, North Carolina and Arizona, calculating that Trump's penchant for controversy could put minority and female voters in play.

"Everybody's got their game face on," said Rep. Tim Ryan, D-Ohio, who was going to South Dakota on the weekend to campaign for Clinton.

Aides from the primary are getting general election marching orders. Simone Ward, political director of the campaign committee for Senate Democratic races, will run Clinton's Florida operation. Emmy Ruiz, who led a crucial Nevada primary win for Clinton, will handle Colorado. Mike Vlacich led New Hampshire operations in the primary and will do the same in the fall.

"The sooner you can get up and running the better," said Dan Pfeiffer, who advised President Barack Obama. "On the Republican side, Trump has not built anything resembling the sort of field operation it takes to win."

Plans are also beginning to take shape for a convention that will prominently feature Obama, Vice President Joe Biden, Michelle Obama, Bill Clinton and the vice presidential nominee. It's not clear, however, what role Sanders will have.

Taking a page from Obama's 2008 convention address at Mile High Stadium in Denver, former Pennsylvania Gov. Ed Rendell, a close Clinton ally, is urging the campaign to hold a major speech — perhaps even Clinton's acceptance address — outside Independence Hall, where the Constitution was signed.

Clinton's campaign has started the internal search for a running mate, though people familiar with the process say that effort is in an early stage.

A team of lawyers is poring through information about a lengthy list of Democrats, among them Labor Secretary Tom Perez, Ohio Sen. Sherrod Brown and Virginia Sen. Tim Kaine. Other names mentioned by party insiders include Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren, Minnesota Sen. Al Franken, New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker and Housing Secretary Julian Castro. No final decision is expected until Republicans hold their convention.

The search for a running mate is being overseen by campaign chairman John Podesta and Clinton confidante Cheryl Mills, both of whom will help cull the list down to a handful of names in the coming weeks. Clinton advisers are debating whether it's more important to select a strong liberal champion from the Rust Belt to woo Sanders backers and cut into Trump's advantage with working-class white men, or to acknowledge her support among minority voters with a more history-making pick. They note that Clinton's — and her husband's — personal chemistry with the eventual choice will be a key factor.

Clinton has begun broadening her message against Trump, calling for the party to unify around her and shying away from nearly all mention of Sanders.

Her team anticipates that Trump will use gender-based attacks against Clinton, probably resurrecting his criticism from earlier this year on her husband's sexual history. This week, her campaign spent days highlighting — and raising money from — Trump's comments that Clinton's political success was due to her playing the "woman's card."

An all-but-settled Democratic race also allows Clinton to raise money and cut primary spending on ads. She's planning a spree of lucrative fundraisers in New York, Michigan, California and Texas next month and has no ads running in coming primary contests.

Priorities USA Action, a super PAC backing Clinton's candidacy, is preparing to spend \$90 million on television ads attacking Trump in seven states starting June 8 — the day after the California primary. An additional \$35 million is being reserved for digital ads aimed at bolstering Clinton's coalition of black, Latino and younger voters. The group says they could go on the air sooner, if the dynamics of the race change.

Emily's List, an advocacy organization that backs female Democratic candidates, has hired a New York ad agency to help market to millennial voters, a group that Clinton has struggled to win over in the primaries. The effort is testing messages attacking Trump and aimed at motivating young women to come out for Clinton, as part of a \$20 million project to elect the first woman as president.

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"Millennial women are outraged by Donald Trump," said Denise Feriozzi, the group's deputy executive director. "It's our job to turn that outrage into votes."

South Dakota getting \$525K through Protonix settlement

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota is getting more than half a million dollars in a settlement involving a heartburn treatment.

Federal prosecutors say drugmaker Pfizer Inc. has agreed to pay nearly \$785 million to resolve allegations that one of its companies failed to give Medicaid the same discounts it provided to private purchasers of Protonix.

South Dakota Attorney General Marty Jackley says the state general fund will get more than \$525,000 through the settlement.

New York-based Pfizer says it's pleased to have finalized the agreement and now wants to focus on the needs of patients.

Longtime University of Sioux Falls leader retiring in 2017

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Longtime University of Sioux Falls President Mark Benedetto plans to retire after the next school year.

The 61-year-old Benedetto has led the university for two decades — the longest tenure in school history. He says he and his wife are looking forward to spending more time with their grandchildren.

Benedetto will step down in summer 2017, after working in higher education for 40 years. A 16-member committee will lead the search for his successor.

Low potential for major wildfires in western South Dakota

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — The potential for large wildfires in the Black Hills National Forest region of western South Dakota appears low this year.

Plenty of precipitation is expected in the next 6-8 weeks, according to State Fire Meteorologist Darren Clabo, an instructor at the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in Rapid City.

"That wetter-than-average condition that we'll see in May and June should really diminish our overall fire potential through the rest of the summer," he said during his annual wildfire season outlook.

There have been two big fires already this spring — the Cold Fire in the Pringle area and the Storm Hill Fire in the Hill City area. Together they burned about 2,100 acres, or more than 3 square miles. Warm, dry conditions contributed to those fires but recent rain and snow has reduced the risk of a repeat, according to Clabo.

The latest U.S. Drought Monitor map shows only a small pocket of abnormally dry conditions in the region, and no drought.

Clabo said there are small areas with the potential to burn, but that overall "I'm not expecting a bad fire season this year."

Woman, 4 grandchildren killed in East Texas flooding

PALESTINE, Texas (AP) — A 64-year-old woman and four grandchildren were killed early Saturday after a creek overflowed its banks, flooding an East Texas neighborhood as many residents slept.

Capt. James Muniz of the Palestine Police Department told The Associated Press that six to 10 homes in a Palestine cul-de-sac were severely damaged following heavy rainfall over the course of just a few minutes after midnight. All other residents of the cul-de-sac were accounted for, he said.

City crews found the five bodies — including the four children, all younger than 9 — near one of the homes before dawn after the floodwaters had receded.

"The water came down the hill," Muniz said. "The street was full of mud, so the water just came up. With the enormous amount of rain we had, we had people tell us that within minutes, the water was waist deep."

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City officials used a dump truck to rescue one man from the roof of a home, Muniz said. One neighbor told authorities that he saw the family but lost sight of them as he waded through waist-deep water.

Wee-lief! Dogs get airport bathrooms of their own

WILLIAM MATHIS, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Little Simba couldn't wait to check it out.

The toy poodle was among the first to try a special bathroom just for animals at New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport, among a growing number of "pet relief facilities" being installed at major air hubs across the nation.

"There's a fire hydrant in there!" Simba's owner, Heidi Liddell, announced as she opened the pawprint-marked door between the men's and women's rooms.

It didn't take long for the dog to sidle up to the little red hydrant atop a patch of artificial turf and do her business. A dispenser of plastic doggie bags and a hose was provided for the owners to clean the area up for the next pet.

The 70-square-foot room, at JFK's sprawling Terminal 4, allows dogs and other animals to relieve themselves without needing to exit the building to find a place to go outside — a step that requires an annoying second trip through the security line.

"We had seen an increase of passengers traveling with pets and we decided to do it sooner rather than later," said Susana Cunha, vice president of the management company that operates the terminal.

Guide and service dogs, emotional support animals and other pets traveling with passengers are all welcome to use the facilities.

A federal regulation will require that all airports that service over 10,000 passengers per year install a pet relief area in every terminal by this August. Airports that already have them include Dulles International outside Washington D.C., Chicago's O'Hare and Seattle-Tacoma International.

"With long flights and short transit time frames, passengers would not have enough time with plane changes to come back through security," said Karen Greis, a consumer services manager for the Guide Dog Foundation, a nonprofit that trains service dogs and participated in the design of the new facility. "Having relief areas inside the terminal is a stress reliever for the handlers."

That was certainly the case for Taylor Robbins, who had already missed one flight from JFK to Atlanta and was unsure if she had enough time to go back outside to find a place to walk her terrier John John.

"It's really clean, it gets the job done and he seemed to understand he could use it," she said after exiting the doggie restroom. "Without this he would have had to hold it in."

Other pet owners were encouraged by the convenience.

Mark Shadowens, from Lake Tahoe, California, peered into the new facility with a smile. He said he and his wife Helen would love to travel with their Jack Russell terrier, Bella, but fears not being able to find a place to let her go to the bathroom.

"We travel with our pet a lot, just not on airlines," Shadowens said. "We like to go see the world and I think we would bring her if there were places like this."

Trump making case to GOP insiders amid chaotic rally scene

MICHAEL R. BLOOD, Associated Press

NICHOLAS RICCARDI, Associated Press

BURLINGAME, Calif. (AP) — Donald Trump took his outsider campaign to the inner sanctum of California's Republican party, making his case directly to the GOP's state party convention even as angry demonstrators shadowed him outside in a possible harbinger of the controversy he will bring as the nominating process shifts toward the nation's most populous and diverse state.

Trump spoke for about 30 minutes Friday in a basement banquet hall in this town just outside San

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Francisco airport. It was the sort of small-scale interaction with party activists and donors that he has generally eschewed for grander rallies. Trump came to make his pitch as the nominating calendar moves toward its end-game in California, which with 172 delegates at stake on June 7 could decide the GOP presidential nomination.

The billionaire front-runner told Republicans they needed to come together after their divisive primary but but also delivered a warning. "There has to be unity in our party," Trump said. "Would I win -- can I win -- without it? I think so, to be honest with you, because they're going to be voting for me" -- and not the party, he added.

Trump supporters snapped up tickets to the luncheon and cheered heartily for their candidate from a ring of tables around the perimeter of the ballroom. But Trump's speech got an icier reception from the party veterans and donors who sat just beneath the stage, separated from the rest of the room by a rope.

"We all listened politely," said Gregory Gandrud, an activist and donor from Santa Barbara County who backs Ohio Gov. John Kasich.

Kasich spoke to the convention Friday evening, and Sen Ted Cruz and his new vice presidential pick Carly Fiorina, address it on Saturday. All three candidates are looking to galvanize supporters, sway undecided party members or poach from rival campaigns at the convention. "It's going to be a free-for-all," predicted the state party vice chairman, Harmeet Dhillon.

That label clearly applied to Trump's Orange County rally Thursday night, which filled the Pacific Amphitheatre to its capacity of about 8,000, with many hundreds more turned away.

Protests that stayed mostly peaceful during the event grew in size and anger afterward. Police in riot gear and on horseback pushed the crowd back and away from the arena; one Trump supporter had his face bloodied in a scuffle as he tried to drive away. One man jumped on a police car, leaving its front and rear windows smashed and the top dented, and other protesters sprayed graffiti on a police car and the venue's marquee.

About 20 people were arrested, said the Orange County Sheriff's Department.

On Friday, hundreds of demonstrators pushed to the front doors of the Hyatt Regency in Burlingame before being moved back by police in riot gear. Some protesters infiltrated the hotel building and hung a giant banner reading, "Stop Hate." The Secret Service led Trump in through a rear entrance to the hotel. Trump joked that as he crawled under a fence to get in he "felt like I was crossing the border."

Hours later, Kasich framed the chaos as a warning sign to his party. "Did you see what happened today?" he said during a news conference. "People chaining themselves to a fence. Do you see what's happening?"

Trump's remaining rivals can't beat him in what's left of the primary season. Their only hope is to deny him a majority of delegates heading into the July convention and wrestle for the prize in multiple ballots there.

But questions persist in the party — nationally and in California — about Trump's electability in the fall and his conservative credentials. The demonstrations showed how polarizing Trump can be, especially in a state where Republicans have become marginalized because they failed to attract growing immigrant populations. Trump's viewed warily by two camps here -- those that want to grow the party and those who view some of Trump's positions betrayals of the conservative movement.

The convention crowd defies expectation in a state known as a Democratic fortress. There have been pushes toward moderation, but the group tends toward conservative leanings and favors calls for free markets, tax cuts and shrinking the size of government. It's also socially conservative: The state party's platform defines marriage as between a man and a woman, and wants the Supreme Court's affirmation of abortion rights reversed.

Trump has spoken favorably about Planned Parenthood, which provides abortion services. He has warned against cutting Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security, often targets for conservatives who want to slow government spending. While he will likely spend much of the next month in the state, he's unlikely to be back during the general election, when California would return to its reliably Democratic status.

Still, Trump was a popular draw at a brief VIP reception where he posed for pictures with party stalwarts. He later joked about having mud and dirt smeared all over him from his unorthodox entrance during the

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photo session, and many in the banquet hall laughed heartily.

Henri Houdre was thrilled to see Trump live. "We see him as that alpha kid in high school with the leather jacket and slicked-back hair who everybody wants to be," said Houdre, an 18-year-old college student from San Francisco.

Trump's call to unity resonated with some. "That's the thing every Republican needs to keep in mind, that we're the same team," said Kevin Krick, the Bay Area regional vice chairman for the party.

Kersti Buchanan, 70, a retired translator and party activist from Mendocino County who backs Kasich, was shocked at all of Trump's supporters -- and by the candidate's speech itself.

"He's probably the most narcissistic person I've ever listened to," Buchanan said. "It was fairly shocking to see this many people who are eating it all up."

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Saturday, April 30, the 121st day of 2016. There are 245 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 30, 1789, George Washington took the oath of office in New York as the first president of the United States.

On this date:

In 1803, the United States purchased the Louisiana Territory from France for 60 million francs, the equivalent of about \$15 million.

In 1812, Louisiana became the 18th state of the Union.

In 1900, engineer John Luther "Casey" Jones of the Illinois Central Railroad died in a train wreck near Vaughan, Mississippi, after staying at the controls in a successful effort to save the passengers.

In 1939, the New York World's Fair officially opened with a ceremony that included an address by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

In 1945, as Soviet troops approached his Berlin bunker, Adolf Hitler committed suicide along with his wife of one day, Eva Braun.

In 1956, former Vice President Alben W. Barkley, 78, collapsed and died while delivering a speech at Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia.

In 1958, the American Association of Retired Persons (later simply AARP) was founded in Washington, D.C., by Dr. Ethel Percy Andrus.

In 1968, New York City police forcibly removed student demonstrators occupying five buildings at Columbia University.

In 1973, President Richard Nixon announced the resignations of top aides H.R. Haldeman and John Ehrlichman, Attorney General Richard G. Kleindienst and White House counsel John Dean, who was actually fired.

In 1975, the Vietnam War ended as the South Vietnamese capital of Saigon fell to Communist forces.

In 1988, Gen. Manuel Noriega, waving a machete, vowed at a rally to keep fighting U.S. efforts to oust him as Panama's military ruler.

In 1990, hostage Frank Reed was released by his captives in Lebanon; he was the second American to be released in eight days.

Ten years ago: Thousands of people joined celebrities and lawmakers at a rally on the National Mall in Washington, urging the Bush administration and Congress to help end genocide in Sudan's Darfur region.

Five years ago: A Libyan official said Moammar Gadhafi had escaped a NATO missile strike in Tripoli that killed one of his sons and three young grandchildren. In Moscow, Japan's Miki Ando defeated Olympic champion Kim Yu-na of South Korea at the world figure skating championships originally scheduled for Japan, which had been devastated by an earthquake and tsunami.

One year ago: Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont formally entered the race for the Democratic presidential nomination with a news conference on Capitol Hill. Vietnam marked the 40th anniversary of the day com-

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munist forces seized control of the country with a parade through the capital of Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon). Rhythm-and-blues singer Ben E. King, 76, died in Hackensack, New Jersey.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Cloris Leachman is 90. Singer Willie Nelson is 83. Actor Burt Young is 76. Singer Bobby Vee is 73. Movie director Allan Arkush is 68. Actor Perry King is 68. Singer-musician Wayne Kramer is 68. Singer Merrill Osmond is 63. Movie director Jane Campion is 62. Movie director Lars von Trier is 60. Former Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper is 57. Actor Paul Gross is 57. Basketball Hall of Famer Isiah Thomas is 55. Country musician Robert Reynolds is 54. Actor Adrian Pasdar is 51. Rock singer J.R. Richards (Dishwalla) is 49. Rapper Turbo B (Snap) is 49. Rock musician Clark Vogeler is 47. Rhythm-and-blues singer Chris "Choc" Dalrymple (Soul For Real) is 45. Rock musician Chris Henderson (3 Doors Down) is 45. Country singer Carolyn Dawn Johnson is 45. Actress Lisa Dean Ryan is 44. Rhythm-and-blues singer Akon is 43. Rhythm-and-blues singer Jeff Timmons (98 Degrees) is 43. Actor Johnny Galecki is 41. Singer-musician Cole Deggs (Cole Deggs and the Lonesome) is 40. Actor Sam Heughan (TV: "Outlander") is 36. Actor Kunal Nayyar is 35. Rapper Lloyd Banks is 34. Actress Kirsten Dunst is 34. Country singer Tyler Wilkinson (The Wilkinsons) is 32. Actress Dianna Agron is 30.

Thought for Today: "There's a difference between a philosophy and a bumper sticker." — Charles M. Schulz, American cartoonist (1922-2000).

Indigenous dancers compete at North America's largest powwow

SUSAN MONTOYA BRYAN, Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — Nearly 3,000 indigenous dancers representing hundreds of tribes from across the United States, Canada and other parts of the world kicked off one of North America's most prominent powwows on Friday.

With beating drums and jingling bells, the dancers twisted their way from the top steps down into the well of University of New Mexico Arena, spiraling clockwise until the arena floor was packed.

Spectators caught glimpses of feathered bustles, buckskin dresses, elaborate outfits with hand-stitched designs and hair pieces covered with intricate beadwork.

It's no doubt a showcase of indigenous cultures and a means to preserving tradition, but it's also about competition.

"A lot of these dancers — most of these dancers in fact — train year-round for this first event of the year, of the powwow season," said Larry Yazzie, a champion dancer himself and founder of Native Pride Arts. "They're like athletes. They run, they bike, weightlifting, eat right, whatever they can to get that edge out there on the dance arena."

Most dancers at the Gathering of Nations compete for prize money during the weekend powwow.

Organizers say the annual event draws more than 100,000 people to Albuquerque.

Friday marked a special day for the powwow. Dancers took to the floor early to honor Spike Draper, an award-winning fancy dancer from Farmington, New Mexico, who died last year in a horse accident.

Draper was named posthumously the head man dancer this year, one of the highest recognitions within the powwow world. Draper's father danced in his place during Friday's grand entry.

Head dancers are chosen each year based on their experience and notoriety on the powwow circuit.

Representing young women this year is Jayda Gadwa, a fancy shawl dancer from the Kehewin Cree Nation in Alberta, Canada. Gadwa has been dancing since she was old enough to walk.

So what's it like to be in the heart of the arena, where the beating drums and pounding feet make for an almost deafening rhythmic rumble?

"Good vibes all around," Gadwa said of the feeling.

But there's also a seriousness that the competitors talk about, one rooted in years of practice and lessons about what the dances mean. Then there's the pressure to absorb it all for the sake of passing it on to the next generation.

"It's important. I believe us native, aboriginal people wouldn't be anyone without our culture," Gadwa said.

11 Cubans on 1984 list deported, but no US policy change

MIAMI (AP) — The U.S. has deported 11 Cubans under an agreement Washington made with Havana after a massive 1980 boatlift.

In a statement to El Nuevo Herald (<http://hrlid.us/1VEYNNn>), U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement spokesman Nestor Yglesias said the deportations took place under the terms of a 1984 agreement listing specific Cubans to be returned to the communist island.

More than 2,700 Cubans who arrived around the time of the Mariel boatlift were included on the list. It's unclear how many still await deportation. ICE officials told the newspaper that by January 2015, about 2,000 already had been deported.

The Miami Herald has previously reported that nearly 30,000 Cuban nationals convicted of crimes in the U.S. eventually may face deportation. They were released under supervision by immigration authorities when the U.S. had no diplomatic relations with Cuba.

Defense asks judge to move hot SUV death trial

MARIETTA, Ga. (AP) — Defense attorneys for a Georgia man accused of intentionally leaving his toddler son in a hot SUV to die have asked the judge to move his trial.

Justin Ross has been held in jail on charges including murder since the day 22-month-old Cooper died in June 2014.

Harris' attorneys filed a motion for a change of venue Friday afternoon, about three weeks into jury selection, multiple news media outlets reported.

The attorneys said they don't believe an impartial jury can be found in the county where the alleged crime happened. They said the questioning of potential jurors has shown that pretrial publicity has led many to believe that Harris is guilty.

Cobb County Superior Court Judge Mary Staley said she will hear arguments on the motion Monday.

Cobb County prosecutors have said that Harris, 35, was unhappily married and was looking for an escape.

Defense attorneys said their client was a loving father and that the death was a tragic mistake.

Cruz gets Indiana governor's endorsement

SCOTT BAUER, Associated Press

STEVE PEOPLES, Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — In a setback for Donald Trump, Indiana's governor endorsed the front-runner's chief rival, Ted Cruz, on Friday, injecting new drama into the state's critical Republican primary contest just days before voters head to the polls.

Indiana Gov. Mike Pence described Cruz as "a principled conservative" as he made his support official during an afternoon radio interview.

"The man has shown the courage of his convictions," Pence said, citing Cruz's fight against government spending, the federal health care law and his "strong and unwavering stand for the sanctity of life."

Pence, who faces his own re-election test this fall, also praised Trump, who had personally lobbied the governor to embrace his candidacy — or at least to make no endorsement ahead of Tuesday's primary.

"I'm grateful for his voice in the national debate," Pence said of Trump, adding, "I'm not against anybody, but I will be voting for Ted Cruz in the upcoming Republican primary."

The Indiana governor's backing could give Cruz a desperately needed boost in his fight to block Trump from claiming the delegate majority before the GOP's national convention in July. A Trump win in Indiana on Tuesday would all but ensure he becomes the presumptive nominee.

But Cruz pledged to keep the campaign alive, even with an Indiana loss.

"As long as we have a viable path to victory, we are campaigning until the end," he told reporters in Jeffersonville, Indiana.

Trump swept all five Northeastern primary elections earlier in the week and enjoys a massive delegate

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advantage over his Republican rivals. Cruz has been mathematically eliminated from earning the 1,237 delegate majority, but insists he can block Trump from the majority as well, as the 2016 contest shifts to "friendlier terrain" in the West and Midwest. The Texas senator declared he is "all in" on Indiana. Even rival John Kasich has agreed to focus on other states to give Cruz a clear path in Indiana.

After his latest round of losses, Cruz bid to regain some footing by making an early announcement of his running mate, tapping Carly Fiorina, the former Hewlett-Packard executive who dropped out of the GOP race earlier this year.

His campaign says it raised \$2 million around that announcement. Campaign manager Jeff Roe confirmed the fundraising total to The Associated Press.

Cruz also continued his attacks Friday on Trump, blasting him for praising former world heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson, who announced his support for the Republican front-runner.

"All the tough guys endorse me," Trump said, earlier in the week. "I like that."

Cruz reminded the crowd of Tyson's 1992 conviction for raping a beauty pageant contestant in Indiana. "In Donald Trump's world, this convicted rapist is a tough guy," Cruz said. "I have news for Donald Trump. Rapists are not tough guys."

Anti-Trump group Our Principles PAC also launched a new television ad to run through Tuesday's election, increasing their total spending in Indiana to \$2 million.

Scoring the Pence endorsement was a win for Cruz.

Pence had been under enormous pressure from pro- and anti-Trump factions. Although he is more closely aligned with Cruz, he risks voter backlash in the fall if Tuesday's primary contest shows Indiana is filled with Trump voters.

Trump said this week that he had met the governor and asked for his backing. He said he didn't know if he would get it but did not expect Pence to come out in support of Cruz.

Yet Cruz and conservatives who support him pressed Pence from the other direction.

"Every day he sits on the sidelines is another day in which he could have made a difference," Republican columnist Erick Erickson wrote Thursday on the website The Resurgent. "He has not used his influence in the conservative movement to rally against Trump."

Meanwhile, Trump picked up two more delegates in Rhode Island, giving him 81 percent of the delegates needed to clinch the nomination and avoid a contested convention. The billionaire businessman needs to win 48 percent of the remaining delegates to clinch the nomination by the end of the primaries.

He won the Rhode Island primary on Tuesday in a landslide. The state GOP says Trump got 12 delegates, Ohio Gov. John Kasich got five and Cruz got two.

Overall, Trump has 996 delegates, compared to 565 for Cruz and 153 for Kasich, according to the AP delegate count.

Charge reduced for mall Easter bunny in brawl with kid's dad

JERSEY CITY, N.J. (AP) — A New Jersey mall Easter bunny who got into a scuffle with a father last month has had a criminal charge against him downgraded.

NJ.com reports (<http://bit.ly/21jO9eB>) a Hudson County judge Wednesday downgraded the aggravated assault charge against Kassim Charles to the disorderly persons offense of simple assault. The case also was sent to the Jersey City Municipal Court.

Charles is from Jersey City. He had been playing the role of the Easter bunny. Authorities say Juan Jimenez-Guerrero attacked Charles when his toddler daughter slipped from a chair while getting her photo taken.

A video posted online shows them exchanging punches at the Newport Centre.

Charles' defense attorney says they look forward to vindicating "the bunny."

An update on an aggravated assault charge against Jimenez-Guerrero is unavailable. Jimenez-Guerrero's wife says he was trying to protect their child.

TV pundit who claimed CIA ties pleads guilty to fraud

MATTHEW BARAKAT, Associated Press

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (AP) — Former cable news pundit Wayne Simmons admits he's a fraud. And he admits he's a felon. But despite all evidence to the contrary, he remains adamant that he was a CIA man.

Simmons, 62, of Annapolis, Maryland, struck an unusual plea agreement Friday in U.S. District Court in Alexandria. He admitted defrauding the government out of \$78,000 by lying about his credentials to obtain jobs as a government contractor. He also admitted cheating a private citizen out of nearly \$100,000 by claiming he could invest her money in real estate.

But when it comes to his claims about the CIA, the wording in his plea agreement walks a fine line. He admits that "there are no records or any other evidence that the defendant had ever been employed by or worked with the CIA." And in his plea agreement, he acknowledges that continuing to claim a CIA career could result in an increased sentence because he would not get credit for acceptance of responsibility.

Still, Simmons made clear during and after Friday's hearing that he's sticking to his story about a life in the CIA, where he claimed a 27-year career as an "Outside Paramilitary Special Operations" officer, according to court records.

Asked after the hearing why the CIA would then be leaving him out to dry, his attorney, Bill Cummings, interjected and said, "That's what they do."

Cummings said there have been similar cases where the CIA has refused to acknowledge an officer's work because it didn't want that work to be exposed.

Simmons said after Friday's hearing that he has been left to fend for himself on the allegation because "my wingman disappeared."

Cummings cut off more detailed questions about why, if Simmons' work was so sensitive, he touted his CIA career on cable news.

Meanwhile, the CIA's director of public affairs, Dean Boyd, was unequivocal about Simmons: "Mr. Simmons never worked at CIA and we're glad to see justice served in this case," he said.

The case against Cummings has nothing to do with his work as a pundit, but it proved an embarrassment for Fox News, where he appeared frequently. In a 2009 Fox News clip, he calls House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi "a pathological liar" in a segment about CIA interrogation techniques.

Fox has said Simmons was never a paid contributor.

The federal charges included allegations that Simmons defrauded the government when he obtained employment with two contractors, BAE Systems and Drop Test International, by lying about his resume. Among other things, he failed to disclose a felony record and a bankruptcy filing. The government says he also lied about the CIA career and his security clearances.

In the BAE job, he trained for a period in 2008 and 2009 at Fort Leavenworth to be a team leader on a unit that was being sent to Afghanistan, but prosecutors said he performed poorly and was asked to resign before ever going overseas. With Drop Test, prosecutors said he did make it to Afghanistan as a senior intelligence adviser but was forced to leave after only two weeks when his clearance was revoked.

In court Friday, Simmons told the judge that "I believed then and I believe now that my skill sets could be used to fight the Global War on Terror in Afghanistan. In an effort to get to Afghanistan, I made false statements. ... For that, I sincerely apologize."

Simmons will be sentenced July 15. He theoretically faces up to 40 years in prison, though he would likely serve far less than that. If the judge fails to grant him credit for acceptance of responsibility because of his continuing claims of work with the CIA, it would likely add several months to his sentence under federal sentencing guidelines.

Human remains found where ex-pastor said he buried woman

OCEAN CITY, Fla. (AP) — Authorities have found human remains where a former Florida pastor said he buried a woman's body nearly five years ago.

Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office Capt. Mike Card told The Northwest Florida Daily News (<http://bit.ly/1SUKNhX>) the remains were found Friday in James Ty Flanders' former backyard in Ocean City.

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The newspaper reports the 47-year-old Flanders pleaded guilty Thursday to manslaughter in the October 2011 death of 37-year-old Marie Jane Carlson.

According to the report, Flanders provided the location of Carlson's body in exchange for pleading guilty to manslaughter instead of second-degree murder.

The newspaper reports that Flanders told investigators he and his wife shared a relationship with Carlson. Prosecutors said Flanders described grabbing Carlson and holding her in a "tight bear hug" until she stopped moving.

Flanders faces up to 15 years in prison.

How the Dow Jones industrial average fared on Friday

The Associated Press

U.S. stocks fell Friday as health care and technology companies continued to report weak first-quarter results, but thanks to some late buying, they managed to avoid major losses.

On Friday:

The Dow Jones industrial average sank 57.12 points, or 0.3 percent, to 17,773.64.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index gave up 10.51 points, or 0.5 percent, to 2,065.30.

The Nasdaq composite index shed 29.93 points, or 0.6 percent, to 4,775.36, its seventh straight daily loss.

For the week:

The Dow fell 230.11 points, or 1.3 percent.

The S&P 500 lost 26.28 points, or 1.3 percent.

The Nasdaq dropped 130.87 points, or 2.7 percent.

For the year:

The Dow is up 348.61 points, or 2 percent.

The S&P 500 is up 21.36 points, or 1.1 percent.

The Nasdaq is down 232.05 points, or 4.6 percent.

US stocks hit by health care woes but avoid bigger losses

MARLEY JAY, AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. stocks fell Friday as health care and technology companies continued to report weak first-quarter results, but thanks to some late buying, they managed to avoid major losses.

Stocks opened lower and fell further throughout the morning, extending a downturn from the day before. That followed a rout in European indexes. Late in the day bond prices rose again, sending yields lower and pushing investors to buy utility and phone company stocks.

Dan Suzuki, senior U.S. equities strategist at Bank of America, said investors don't like what they're seeing in the results from technology companies.

"A lot of investors have been disappointed by results from tech this earnings season," he said. So they are turning to bond-like stocks such as phone and utility companies, as well as small- and mid-cap stocks, which struggled in 2015.

"Everything that was working through last year has been an underperformer this year, and vice versa," he said.

The Dow Jones industrial average gave up 57.12 points, or 0.3 percent, to 17,773.64. It was down as much as 178 points earlier in the day. The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 10.51 points, or 0.5 percent, to 2,065.30. The Nasdaq composite index lost 29.93 points, or 0.6 percent, to 4,775.36. That was its seventh decline in a row.

Health care companies took the biggest losses after a bout of weak earnings reports. Biotech drugmaker Gilead Sciences said its results were hurt by big discounts and rebates on its costly hepatitis C medicines, and its stock lost \$8.79, or 9.1 percent, to \$88.21. Rival biotech giant Amgen reported relatively solid results, but fell \$2.26, or 1.4 percent, to \$158.30.

Health insurer Molina Healthcare slashed its full-year guidance because of higher medical care costs in

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Ohio and Texas, expenses related to recent acquisitions, and pharmacy costs, especially in Puerto Rico. It plunged \$12.46, or 19.4 percent, to \$51.76.

Molecular diagnostics company Cepheid shed \$6.86, or 19.4 percent, to \$28.54 as analysts were disappointed with its revenue projections for the second quarter.

Tech stocks continued to slide. After its profit fell short of estimates, electronic storage company Seagate Technology lost \$5.13, or 19.1 percent, to \$21.77. Hard drive maker Western Digital dropped \$5.19, or 11.3 percent, to \$40.87. Apple, which is in a deep two-week slide, fell another \$1.09, or 1.1 percent, to \$93.75. Like the Nasdaq, Apple has fallen for seven days in a row.

Bond prices rose slightly, and yields continue to slip. The yield on the 10-year U.S. Treasury note fell to 1.82 percent from 1.83 percent. Utility companies made the biggest gains, as NextEra Energy added \$1.11, or 1 percent, to \$117.58.

While earnings hurt tech and health care companies, better results at consumer companies sent those stocks higher. E-commerce giant Amazon said its revenue jumped 28 percent in the first quarter, and the company turned a far bigger profit than analysts expected. Cloud-based Amazon Web Services performed well. Amazon rose \$57.59, or 9.6 percent, to \$656.59.

Consumer products maker Newell Brands gave a strong outlook for the year after its reported solid results in the first quarter, and its stock rose \$2.12, or 4.9 percent, to \$45.54. Online travel company Expedia reported a bigger adjusted profit and greater sales than expected, and its stock added \$8.86, or 8.3 percent, to \$115.77.

Digital TV listing company Rovi said it will buy digital video recording company TiVo for about \$1.1 billion in cash and stock. TiVo gained 56 cents, or 5.9 percent, to \$9.98 and Rovi rose 27 cents, or 1.6 percent, to \$17.62.

Stocks in Europe took big losses. Official data showed the eurozone economy rose by a surprising 0.6 percent in the first quarter, but investors were concerned that inflation slipped in April. France's CAC 40 fell 2.8 percent and Germany's DAX lost 2.7 percent. Britain's FTSE 100 shed 1.3 percent.

The yen continued to gain strength, as it has done over the last few months. It jumped Thursday after the Bank of Japan held off on implementing any new economic stimulus measures. On Friday the dollar fell to 106.73 yen from 108.09 yen. Japanese markets were closed for a holiday Friday. In Hong Kong, the Hang Seng index fell 1.5 percent and Seoul's Kospi gave up 0.3 percent.

Metals prices continued to rise. Gold advanced \$24.10, or 1.9 percent, to \$1,290.50 an ounce and silver rose 23 cents, or 1.3 percent, to \$17.82 an ounce. Gold is trading at 15-month highs. Copper picked up 5 cents, or 2.3 percent, to \$2.28 a pound.

Benchmark U.S. crude lost 11 cents to \$45.92 a barrel in New York. Brent crude, used to price international oils, fell 1 cent to \$48.13 a barrel in London.

In other energy trading, wholesale gasoline lost 1 cent to \$1.58 a gallon. Heating oil fell 3 cents, or 1.9 percent, to \$1.38 a gallon. Natural gas rose 10 cents, or 4.8 percent, to \$2.18 per 1,000 cubic feet.

The euro rose to \$1.1454 from \$1.1351.

Are you ready to replace your moisturizer with a pill?

KELLI KENNEDY, Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — The makeup industry is trying to convince women that looking good on the outside starts from within — but it's unclear whether the products they're trying to hawk are safe and effective.

Big-name beauty companies and retailers including Sephora and Urban Outfitters are rolling out pills and drinkable liquids loaded with exotic herbs, vitamins, seeds, berries and substances such as collagen. The products promise to do things such as firm up skin and improve its natural glow.

The trend is picking up steam. Although a small portion of the \$16 billion beauty products market, sales of beauty supplements targeting the face have grown from less than \$1 million in 2013 to over \$4 million in 2015, according to market research firm the NPD Group.

But unlike the instant glam provided by a swipe of blush or lipstick, pills and other so-called "nutraceu-

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ticals" add a layer of questions about safety and effectiveness as some consumers may see ingesting something in the name of looking lovely a lot differently than simply rubbing something into the skin. And similar efforts have tanked in the past: Industry titans such as Oil of Olay peddled vitamins promising glowing skin and hair more than a decade ago to no avail.

Today, companies are being buoyed by celebrities who swear by these ingestible beauty products. In January, actress Gwyneth Paltrow shared the recipe of a daily shake on her online magazine's website goop — an almond milk-based concoction that includes a product from Moon Juice's line, with ingredients that are said to create a glowing complexion and healthy hair. Actress Jennifer Aniston also has said she puts collagen peptides in her morning shake.

And there's a movement by everyday people to incorporate natural products into their lives for everything from the foods they eat to dish soap and mascara they use. An entire generation of consumers has evolved from merely reading food labels to scrutinizing chemicals in everything.

"The theme across all consumer categories is more natural ingredients for all the products they're purchasing," said Sarah Jindal, a senior beauty analyst for Mintel. "That's going to continue to become more and more important to the consumer."

ARE THEY SAFE?

The larger question for some consumers is whether the products work. So-called ingestibles have been popular in Asia where collagen yogurts and marshmallows are common, but they're relatively new in the U.S.

Here, these products largely fall under the massive \$30 billion to \$40 billion dietary supplement industry regulated by the Food and Drug Administration. The agency also oversees supplements sold in grocery stores and pharmacies. But many don't come to their attention as the agency's team of less than two dozen people is charged with overseeing roughly 85,000 products.

The FDA's power only kicks in after the products are on the market, meaning the manufacturer does not have to demonstrate safety or effectiveness beforehand. The Federal Trade Commission, which regulates marketing claims, is not allowed to discuss ongoing investigations but officials said they weren't aware of any sanctions against these types of products.

"Many consumers assume the products are safe and are not harmful because they can be purchased at reputable retailers or they think the fact that is available for sale means that FDA said it was OK. Unfortunately, this is not always the case," said FDA spokeswoman Lyndsay Meyer.

The law might actually make it easier for marketers to peddle these products to consumers because dietary supplements by law can make some beauty promises that makeups and creams cannot. For example, a dietary supplement can legally claim its product can grow longer hair or improve production of collagen, which is said to improve skin's elasticity.

It also means the burden is on companies to tell the truth about efficacy claims and the quality of the ingredients. "The fact is that what a company claims is in its products and what is actually in them is not always the same," FDA's Meyer said. "And often we're not aware of these discrepancies until we're able to inspect a company to make sure."

DO THEY WORK?

Proponents say many of the products are safer than skin creams and makeups full of harmful sulfates and parabens. But are they effective?

"I think there's a perception of safer options, but I think it's exactly that. I think it's the peace of mind, too," said Dan Fabricant, CEO of the Natural Products Association. "It's 'Hey, these are things that I'm used to in my diet. I'm going to prefer to do that than put on something that's from a chemical factory.'"

Doctors say the skin is a detox organ and everything from poor diets to medical ailments can manifest there.

"If we are healthy inside, will our skin look better? Yes," said Dr. Matthew Avram, who specializes in cosmetic dermatology at Massachusetts General Hospital.

But he counters that "it doesn't necessarily mean that because you take a certain supplement of one

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kind or another that your skin is necessarily going to look better.”

While it’s reasonable to think that taking probiotics to improve gut function or eating more collagen would improve the skin, he said there haven’t been enough large scale studies to prove it: “That doesn’t mean it doesn’t work, but it means that scientifically, it hasn’t been shown to work.”

DRAWING INTEREST

Despite questionable science, beauty companies are rolling out their versions of ingestibles.

Urban Outfitters started selling several beauty powders from the Moon Juice line, which includes popular products such as Beauty Dust, a \$65 powder that includes goji and pearl and is said to create a glowing complexion and healthy hair. Sephora, with roughly 300 locations, also is capitalizing on the trend, saying customers are being more savvy in understanding that improved wellness can also benefit their appearance.

At the chic New York boutique CAP, the best-seller among skin care products and makeup is Glow Inner Beauty Powder (\$70) by The Beauty Chef. It’s made of about two dozen ingredients including probiotics, mung beans, maqui berries, quinoa, chia, tumeric and alfalfa seeds that are mixed with water.

Though it might be a harder sell at first, often once a consumer makes the shift to natural products they end up eventually replacing everything in their arsenal, said CAP store owners Kerrilynn Pamer and Cindy DiPrima Morisse.

They say 40 percent of the store’s top 10 products by revenue are ingestible items made of exotic ingredients.

“If you’re going for your most radiant beauty and you’re not addressing what you’re eating, you’re never going to get 100 percent there,” Morisse said.

Companies say one of the biggest hurdles for them is helping consumers get over the expectation of getting the same immediate results may come from a moisturizer. This makes it harder for companies to capture a loyal following because average consumers are less likely to stick with it.

“It’s a slower return. ... Most consumers tend to really want a quick fix and immediate results and these things don’t happen immediately,” said Karen Grant, a beauty industry analyst with NPD Group.

Jenelle Manzi, a 27-year-old dancer with the New York City Ballet, started experimenting with ingestibles about five years ago when she noticed her perfect skin was breaking and looking dull. At the same time, she started having stomach problems.

She began taking herbs and powders, including some by Moon Juice and a \$60 powder from The Beauty Chef meant to improve gut health with digestive enzymes, spirulina barley grass, dandelion and bio-fermented fruits, vegetables, seeds, roots, algae and grasses.

“I notice that it just kind of helps your body feel clean,” she said. “A week later, you notice that your skin is so clear.”

Professor puts CV of his failures online to give perspective

PRINCETON, N.J. (AP) — A Princeton University professor has published a CV of his career failures as a way to give perspective to students who are feeling discouraged.

Johannes Haushofer (YO’-hawn HOWS’-haw-fer) writes atop the CV that most of what he tries fails, but those failures are often invisible. The assistant professor of psychology says it gives the wrong impression that most things work out for him, so people “are more likely to attribute their own failures to themselves.”

The CV is divided into sections with titles like “Degree programs I did not get into” and “Academic positions and fellowships I did not get.”

He says he got the idea from an article in the journal Nature.

The list ends with a “Meta-Failure” that the CV has received “way more attention” than his entire body of academic work.

60,000-pound whale carcass removed from California beach

SAN CLÉMENTE, Calif. (AP) — It literally was a whale of a job.

Crews on Friday finished removing the 60,000-ton carcass of a rotting whale from a Southern California beach.

A contractor working for the state parks department spent two days using an excavator to cut up the 40-foot whale, which was hauled off to a San Diego County landfill.

The end of the two-day, \$30,000 project included skimming the top layer of sand off the Lower Trestles, a surfing beach near San Clemente where the whale washed ashore on Sunday.

That was to eliminate any sand contaminated by the whale's body fluids.

"As they started to dismember the carcass, they said it was messy but it wasn't as messy as it could have been," Rich Haydon, area state parks superintendent, told the Orange County Register (<http://bit.ly/1XYwAPb>).

"It's to be expected there will be a little bit of a smell down there for a while," he said, "but I think we dodged a bullet."

The whale was a tourist attraction for a few days. Despite an overpowering stench, some people skipped work or school to snap photos with the towering carcass.

However, few people were on hand Friday for the finish.

Nick Lind of Newport Beach and Matthew Howell of San Clemente were surfing as the last remnants of the whale were being removed.

"It did have an interesting stench to it, sort of like a rotten baked potato," Lind said. "It was overpowering when we were near shore."

Lind said he wasn't worried about sharks that might have been attracted by the whale's remains.

Prince death investigation focuses on flight, drugs, doctor

ERIC TUCKER, Associated Press

AMY FORLITI, Associated Press

MICHAEL TARM, Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Authorities are investigating whether Prince died from an overdose and whether a doctor was prescribing drugs for the musician in the weeks before he was found dead at his suburban Minneapolis home. A guide to the latest developments:

INQUIRY INTO EMERGENCY LANDING

Questions about Prince's health surfaced April 15, when his private plane made an emergency stop in Moline, Illinois. He was found unconscious aboard the aircraft, according to a law enforcement official who was briefed on the investigation and spoke to The Associated Press. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media.

While the plane was on the tarmac, the person said, first-responders gave Prince a shot of Narcan, an antidote that is used to reverse suspected opioid overdoses.

At the time, Prince was returning to Minneapolis following a performance in Atlanta. The official said investigators are looking at whether he overdosed on the flight and whether an overdose killed him. One possibility is the powerful painkiller Percocet or something similar, the official said.

Investigators also want to know whether a doctor was on the plane and whether any drugs were aboard the aircraft or at Prince's Minnesota house.

While the investigation is far from complete, the mention of a doctor calls to mind other celebrity deaths, including Michael Jackson's. Jackson's physician, Conrad Murray, was convicted of involuntary manslaughter for his role in prescribing a powerful anesthetic that contributed to the pop star's death in 2009.

A SEARCH OF STAR'S HOME

A second law enforcement official told AP that prescription drugs were discovered at Prince's home when the musician was found dead on April 21.

That official also spoke on condition of anonymity because the person was not authorized to speak about the ongoing investigation. The official did not elaborate.

Prince's Paisley Park home and studio were searched on the same day he died. The warrant and accompanying documents were filed Thursday under seal at the request of investigators who said it would hamper their investigation if the contents were public.

An affidavit in support of sealing the warrant warned that disclosing details in the warrant could cause "the search or related searches to be unsuccessful" and risk injury to innocent people.

The person who signed that affidavit, Carver County Chief Deputy Jason Kamerud, declined to comment Thursday on the reports of drugs found at Paisley Park, and told AP that he disputed reports by several media outlets that investigators had asked the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration for help.

"We have not asked them for help or asked them to be a part of the investigation," Kamerud said. "We might contact them to help us, but that hasn't happened."

He said authorities did not have the medical examiner's report yet and did not know "to what extent pharmaceuticals could be a part of this."

An autopsy has been performed, but results are not expected for three to four weeks.

OTHER HEALTH COMPLAINTS, CANCELED CONCERTS

Prince's death came two weeks after he canceled concerts in Atlanta, saying he wasn't feeling well. He played a pair of makeup shows April 14 in that city. Prince was scheduled to perform two shows in St. Louis but canceled them shortly before his death due to health concerns.

Longtime friend and collaborator Sheila E. has told the AP that Prince had physical problems from his performances, citing hip and knee trouble that she said came from years of jumping off risers and stage speakers in heels.

Georgia students seek solace after crash claims 4 students

JEFF MARTIN, Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — One of two survivors of a car crash that killed four University of Georgia students earlier this week remained in critical condition Friday, a hospital spokesman said.

Students prayed, wept and consoled one another on the Athens campus. The hashtag #GeorgiaStrong trended on social media. And flags across Georgia flew at half-staff Friday, two days after the deadly crash.

The students' white Toyota Camry crossed the centerline and was struck by an oncoming blue Chevy Cobalt on Wednesday night on Georgia State Route 15, the Georgia State Patrol said.

The Camry's driver, 21-year-old University of Georgia senior Agnes Kim of Snellville, Georgia, remained in critical condition Friday, said Mike Pilcher, a spokesman at Athens Regional Medical Center.

Kim was in a coma late Thursday, her pastor, Lee Mason of Classic City Church in Athens, was quoted by The Atlanta Journal-Constitution as saying. Pilcher said he couldn't comment further on Kim's medical condition due to federal privacy laws.

Kim is scheduled to graduate next month with a business degree, the university said.

The students killed, all from the Atlanta suburbs, were Kayla Canedo, 19, of Alpharetta; Brittany Feldman, 20, of Alpharetta; Christina Semeria, 19, of Milton; and Halle Scott, 19, of Dunwoody, the State Patrol said.

The driver of the Cobalt, 27-year-old Abby Short of Demorest, Georgia, was also treated at the hospital after the crash, but has since been released, Pilcher said.

The investigation will involve revisiting the scene of the crash to re-create what happened using a computer program, Georgia State Patrol Capt. Mark Perry said Friday. The agency's Specialized Collision Reconstruction Team will return to the site to create a scale representation of the scene, he said.

If there are any charges as a result of the crash, they would not come until the accident reconstruction team completes its work at the scene and surviving motorists can be interviewed, Perry said.

A candlelight service is planned for Tuesday evening on the campus to remember the four students and

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22 other members of the university community who have died in the past year.

The service is an annual event to honor university and employees who passed away. It holds special significance this year, coming shortly after the car crash.

Names of the 26 students, faculty and staff members who have died will be read aloud on the steps of the chapel, following by the toll of the chapel bell and the lighting of a candle as each name is read.

On Friday, Mason and his wife, Lisa, returned to the hospital to pray over Kim, whose condition was mostly unchanged from the day before, Lisa Mason told the Atlanta newspaper.

"You're happy that she's alive but it's a very weird relief," Lee Mason said, noting that four lives were lost. "You have four sets of parents whose worst nightmare came true."

After 2012 stunner, ex-con makes another White House run

JOHN RABY, Associated Press

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) — When Hillary Clinton tries to vanquish Bernie Sanders in West Virginia's Democratic presidential primary next month, she'll also have to watch out for Keith Judd.

That should be no sweat, right? After all, Judd is a political nobody and a felon, who barely scraped together the \$2,500 needed to get his name on the May 10 ballot by using his wages from a job at a Texas hotel.

Tell that to President Barack Obama, who couldn't stop Judd from winning 41 percent of the state's primary vote four years ago.

Judd was still behind bars then, and many West Virginia voters had no idea who he was, but they were determined to rebuke Obama, whose clean air regulations remain deeply unpopular in the coal-producing state.

Kentucky Confederate monument to be removed after 120 years

DYLAN LOVAN, Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — A Confederate monument capped with a statue of Jefferson Davis will be removed from a spot near the University of Louisville campus where it has stood since 1895.

The stone monument honoring Kentuckians who died for the Confederacy in the Civil War will be moved to another location, University President James Ramsey and Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer said during a surprise announcement Friday.

"It's time for us to move this monument to a more appropriate place," Ramsey said while standing in front of the stone memorial, which sits next to the university's gleaming Speed Art museum that just completed a \$60 million renovation.

Governments and universities across the country have re-evaluated displays of Confederate symbols following the racially motivated slayings last summer of nine black parishioners at the Emanuel AME church in Charleston, South Carolina.

The tall, obelisk-style monument will be disassembled and cleaned while it is in storage awaiting a new location, which has not been determined. It was given to the city by the Kentucky Woman's Monument Association.

Ricky Jones, a professor of Pan-African studies at the university, said he has been pushing for removal of the statue since he arrived at the university in the late 1990s.

"I can't tell you how happy I am," Jones said after the announcement Friday. "I think this statue being on the campus is somewhat akin to flying the Confederate flag over the (university's) administration building."

Jones wrote in a newspaper opinion piece last week that the statue is a "towering granite and bronze eyesore glorifying the nadir of America's past."

Jones and Mayor Fischer noted that the university was much smaller when the statue was put up at the turn of the century, and the campus has developed around it.

University and city officials have been working on the removal for several weeks and there was even

construction equipment parked alongside the base of the monument on Friday during the announcement.

Kentucky is the birthplace of both Abraham Lincoln and Jefferson Davis, the only president of the Confederacy. Both are honored in the state's Capitol rotunda with large statues. Following the Charleston church shootings, leaders from both political parties called for the removal of the Davis statue. But a state commission voted 7-2 not to remove it.

American Airlines apologizes to musician for barring violin

The Associated Press

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — A concert musician who was not allowed to board a flight with her violin says she hopes the incident will raise awareness of regulations that permit violins and other small instruments as carry-on luggage.

Rachel Barton Pine was told by a flight attendant and captain of an American Eagle flight that she could not bring her 18th century violin on board the plane Thursday from Chicago to Albuquerque, New Mexico. They offered to valet-check the instrument, but Pine declined. The airline, which is based in Texas, later apologized.

"Violins are too delicate to be checked," Pine said in a phone interview Friday. "It's not a question of if it might break. It will break."

She said the fact that her violin, a 1742 Guarneri, is a rare and valuable instrument, is irrelevant: "It could be a \$50 student violin and the same problem exists."

Pine said federal regulations and American Airline's own policies specifically say "a musician may carry a small instrument such as a violin onto the plane" to be stowed overhead or under a seat.

"A law is only helpful if people know what it is," said Pine. "I hope that bringing this to light will help other musicians know their rights and obligations."

In an email, American spokeswoman Leslie Scott said the captain of the American Eagle flight "determined that Ms. Barton's instrument could not be safely secured in an overhead bin or under a seat. Scott confirmed that the airline offered to valet-check the violin, but Barton declined. She was then rebooked for travel Friday morning on a bigger plane, which Scott said could better handle the instrument as a carry-on item.

"American has reached out to Ms. Barton directly to apologize for the inconvenience," Scott said.

Pine says she flies 100,000 miles a year with American in every type of aircraft — including the type of small regional jet she tried to board Thursday — "and I can guarantee that my violin easily fits on the airplane." There's even a photo of her instrument in an overhead bin on her Instagram account. She says while it's slightly longer than a standard rollerbag, it's narrower and thinner.

Pine also said that she offered to show the attendant that her violin would fit but she was not permitted to demonstrate, and that she cited the regulations allowing instruments on board to no avail. "There's not enough awareness about the existence of this law," she said, adding that American remains her favorite airline and that "this could have happened with any airline."

Pine said she was heading to Albuquerque to play for "inner city kids" and she made it to her Friday appearance on "two hours sleep." She was scheduled to solo Saturday with the New Mexico Philharmonic.