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Decision America Tour 2016 with Franklin Graham

Free bus ride to the prayer rally, Tuesday May 24, 2016 in Pierre. The bus will leave from First Presbyterian Church in Groton at 7:30 am with a pick up in Aberdeen at the Lakewood Mall at 8:00. This is a time of prayer for our great nation. Please call Pastor Kenny @ 397-8344 to reserve your seat.

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

The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **Open**

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Saturday, May 21

Birthdays: Alex Brandt • Cody Hanson • Joey Harry • Alex Bretsch • Matthew Richards
10:00am: Emmanuel Lutheran pastor at Rosewood Court
4:30pm: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church Mass

Sunday, May 22

Birthdays: Logan Larsen • Jamie Osborne • Gavin Krueger • Duane Kavanaugh • Christopher Scott Larsen
9:00am: Emmanuel Lutheran Worship
9:00am: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church Mass
9:00am: St. John's Lutheran Worship with Communion
10:00am: Heaven Bound Ministries worship at Pierpont Church
11:00am: United Methodist Church Worship

Monday, May 23

Senior Menu: Spaghetti with meat sauce, broccoli or carrots, garlic toast, orange sherbet.
Birthdays: Evan Sperry • Jessica Claussen • Robert Gibbs
6:30am: Emmanuel Lutheran Bible Study
9:00am: St. John's Lutheran Vacation Bible School

Tuesday, May 24

Senior Menu: Oven fried chicken, mashed potatoes, vegetables, buttermilk biscuits, banana pudding with bananas.
Birthdays: Noah Tullis • Blake Merkel • Katie Anderson
9:00am: St. John's Lutheran Vacation Bible School
10:00am: United Methodist Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, May 25



Seven boys and seven girls qualify for state

The regional track meet was held Thursday in Groton with seven boys qualifying for the state track meet in eight events. Seven girls have qualified for the state meet in seven events.

Adam Herman qualified in both the 100m dash and the long jump; Lucas Hinman qualified in the 100m dash, Bennett Shabazz qualified in the high jump and 300m hurdles, Steven Fey qualified for both the discus and shot put, Treyton Diegel and Brandon Keith in the 800m run, and the 3200m relay team of Sean Schuring, Treyton Diegel, Brandon Keith and Bennett Shabazz qualified for the state meet. The seniors on the team are Herman and Fey.

In the girl's division, Audrey Wanner qualified for state in the long jump and the triple jump, Harleigh Stange qualified in the 100m dash, Jessica Bjerke and Carly Wheeting both qualified in the discus and shot put, the girls 800m relay team of Audrey Wanner, Payton Maine, Eliza Wanner and Harleigh Stange and the girls 400m relay team of Audrey Wanner, Katie Koehler, Eliza Wanner and Harleigh Stange. Wheeting is a senior on the girls' track team.

The state track meet will be held May 27th in Madison and May 28th in Sioux Falls.



Swanson, Kappes engaged

Kevin and Jeannine Swanson of Langford, SD, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Emily Swanson, to Andrew Kappes, son of Rodney and Patricia Kappes, Groton, SD. Emily graduated from Langford High School and received her doctorate of pharmacy from SDSU in May. Andrew graduated from Groton High School and graduated from SDSU with a degree in agronomy, and is currently employed as an agronomist for SD Wheat Growers in Langford, SD. Emily and Andrew will be married August 13.

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Diegel, Wheeting are double champions at regions

Two Groton Area athletes were double winners at the regional track meet held in Groton on Thursday. Diegel won the 800m run and was also on the winning 3200m relay team made up of Diegel, Sean Schuring, Brandon Keith and Bennett Shabazz. Carly Wheeting won both the shot put and the discus events.

Boy's Division

Team Points: Milbank Area 173, Aberdeen Roncalli 152.5, Groton Area 118.5, Webster Area 100, Sisseton 89, Britton-Hecla 71, Tiospa Zina 11.

100m Dash: Prelims: 8, Jackson Oliver, 11.67. Finals: 8, Jackson Oliver, 11.72.

110m Hurdles: Prelims: 7, Tylan Glover, 18.48. Finals: 6, Tylan Glover, 18.20.

300m Hurdles: 2, Bennett Shabazz, 43.90; 4, Tylan Glover, 45.33.

200m Dash: 6, Lucas Hinman, 24.07.

400m Dash: 4, Franklin Wuestewald, 57.37.

800m Run: 1, Treyton Diegel, 2:16.24; 2, Brandon Keith, 2:17.10.

1600m Run: 9, Mitchell Koens, 5:31.76.

3200m Run: 5, Micah Poor, 11:58.08.

400m Relay: 5, Groton Area (Jackson Oliver, James Thompson, Joy Htoo, Lucas Hinman), 47.64.

800m Relay: 6, Groton Area (Jackson Oliver, James Thompson, Tylan Glover, Joy Htoo), 1:40.33.

1600m Relay: 5, Groton Area (Franklin Wuestewald, Sean Schuring, Treyton Diegel, Joy Htoo), 4:02.45.

1600m Sprint Relay: 3, Groton Area (Bennett Shabazz, Adam Herman, Lucas Hinsman, Sean Schuring), 3:56.26.

3200m Relay: 1, Groton Area (Sean Schuring, Treyton Diegel, Brandon Keith, Bennett Shabazz), 8:58.00.

High Jump: 2, Bennett Shabazz, 5-9.

Long Jump: Franklin Wuestewald, 15-11.75.

Triple Jump: 4, Adam Herman, 39-7.75.

Pole Vault: 4, Tylan Glover, 8-0.

Discus: 2, Steven Fey, 125-4; 3, McClain Lone, 124-11; 4, Luke Thorson, 114-7

Shot Put: 2, Steven Fey, 46-8.5; 8, Carter Jondahl, 36-2.

Girl's Division

Team Points: Aberdeen Roncalli 157, Milbank Area 156, Britton-Hecla 112, Groton Area 101, Webster Area 98, Sisseton 53, Tiospa Zina 4.

100m Hurdles: 3, Josie Doeden, 16.43; 6, Cassandra Townsend, 19.17.

300m Hurdles: 4, Payton Maine, 51.95; 7, Josie Doeden, 53.70; Cassandra Townsend, 55.77.

100m Dash: Prelims: 2, Heather Lone, 13.51. Finals: 8, Heather Lone, 16.38.

200m Dash: 6, Eliza Wanner, 28.90; 7, Miranda Hanson, 29.29; Emily Blocker, 31.81.

400m Dash: Jodi Hinman, 1:11.96.

800m Run: Hannah Lewandowski, 3:00.15; Tessa Erdmann, 3:12.78.

1600m Run: Emily Thompson, 6:48.80.

400m Relay: 2, Groton Area (Audrey Wanner, Katie Koehler, Eliza Wanner, Harleigh Stange), 53.03.

800m Relay: 2, Groton Area (Audrey Wanner, Payton Maine, Eliza Wanner, Harleigh Stange), 1:54.93.

3200m Relay: 4, Groton Area, 12:13.67.

High Jump: 5, Katie Koehler, 4-5.

Long Jump: 4, Katie Koehler, 15-0; Miranda Hanson, 12-8.

Triple Jump: 4, Katie Koehler, 31-1.5; Miranda Hanson, 26-2.75.

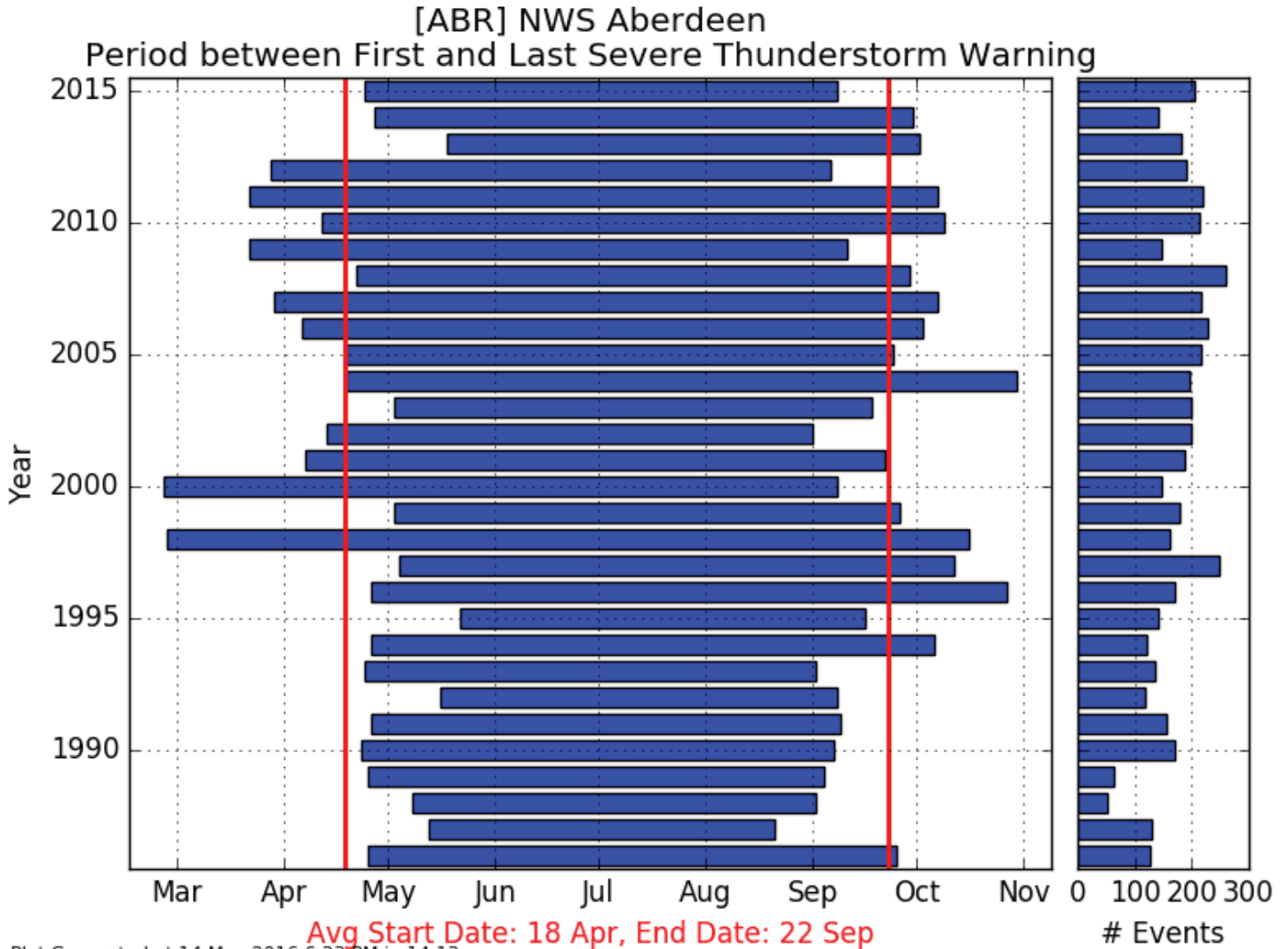
Discus: 1, Carly Wheeting, 106-5; 3, Marlee Jones, 90-5;

Shot Put: 1, Carly Wheeting, 34-5.5; 2, Jessica Bjerke, 34-2; 6, Marlee Jones, 30-5;

Pole Vault: 5, Emily Thompson, 6-0; 6, Jasmine Schaller, 6-0.

Slow Start to the Severe Weather Season

The 2016 severe weather season has gotten off to a very slow start. As of May 20th, neither a Severe Thunderstorm nor Tornado Warning has been needed/issued by the NWS in Aberdeen. In fact, a record in terms of the latest first warning of the season is fast approaching: May 22nd, which was set in 1995 (records go back to 1986). The graph below shows the first and last issued warning of each season since 1986. As is noted, the average first warning is needed by April 18th.



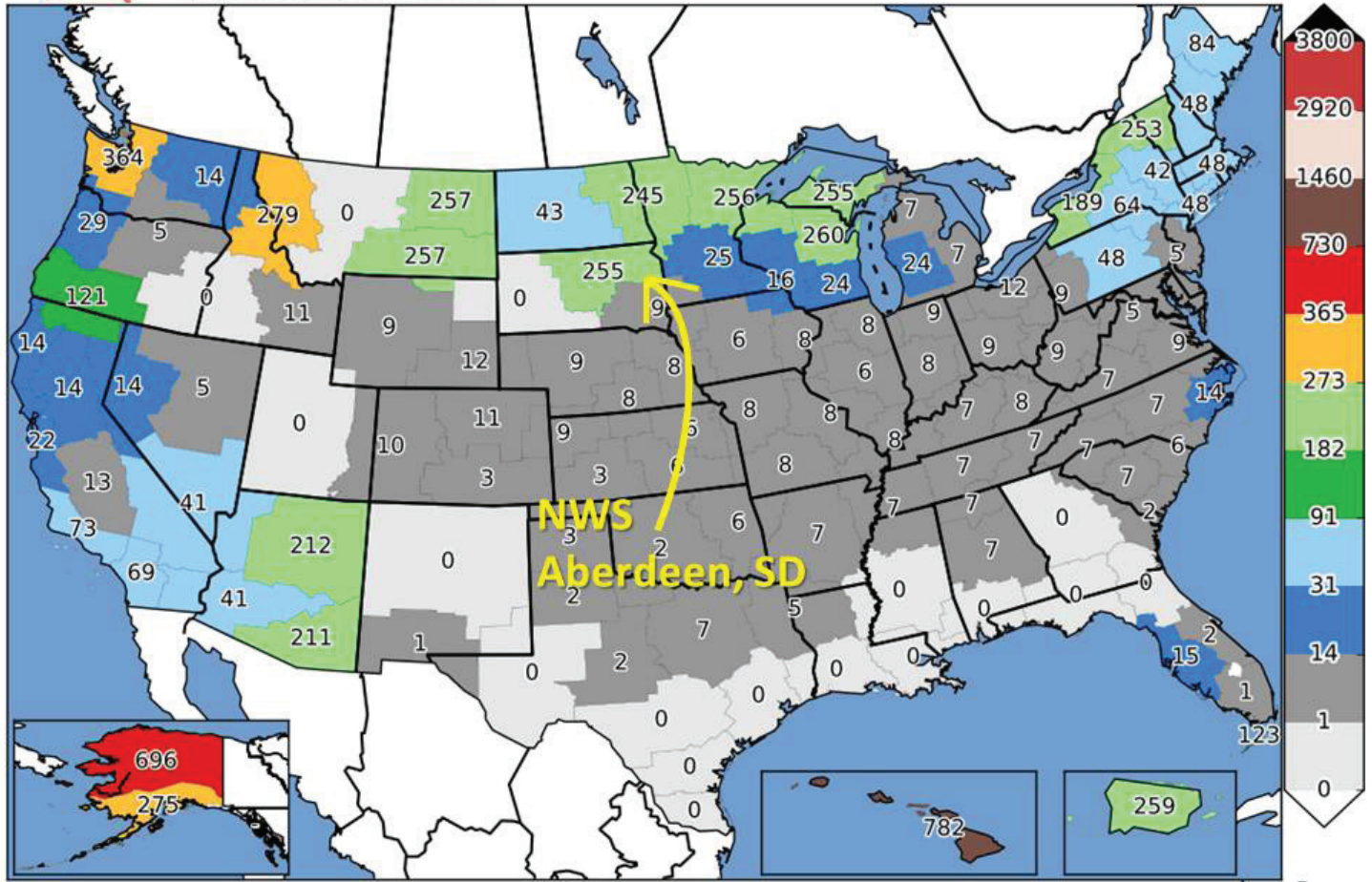
Looking at it another way, the map on the next page displays the number of days, by NWS County Warning Areas (CWAs), since a Severe Thunderstorm Warning has been issued. Notice how much of the northern tier states have yet to be impacted by severe thunderstorms (light green shading). Again, this is unusual for northeastern and central South Dakota.

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Days since Last Severe Thunderstorm Warning by NWS Office
Valid 20 May 2016 1711 UTC



map units :: Days

Plot Generated at 20 May 2016 12:15 PM in 260.27s

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Today in Weather History

1860 - A swarm of tornadoes occurred in the Ohio Valley. Tornadoes struck the cities of Louisville, KY, Cincinnati, OH, Chillicothe, OH, and Marietta, OH, causing a million dollars damage. (David Ludlum)

1895 - The temperature at Norwalk, OH, dipped to 19 degrees to set a state record for the month of May. (The Weather Channel)

1896 - The mercury soared to 124 degrees at Salton, CA, to establish a U.S. record for May. (Sandra and TI Richard Sanders - 1987)

1980 - The temperature at Williston ND reached 102 degrees to set a record for May, and the next day the mercury hit 106 degrees. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Severe thunderstorms, developing along a sharp cold front crossing the central U.S., produced 60 mph winds and golf ball size hail at Sedalia, MO, and drenched Hagerstown, IN, with six inches of rain in one hour. Temperatures soared into the 90s ahead of the cold front. Paducah, KY, hit 94 degrees for the second day in a row. Light snow blanketed Montana, with three inches reported at Butte. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Severe thunderstorms swept across southern Louisiana during the morning hours spawning six tornadoes, and producing wind gusts to 88 mph at Jennings. Thunderstorms also produced five inches of rain in two hours at Lake Charles, causing local flooding. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Thunderstorms moving southeastward across the Central Plains Region into Oklahoma and Arkansas produced severe weather through the day and night. Thunderstorms spawned just four tornadoes, but there were 243 reports of large hail and damaging winds. Baseball size hail was reported at Augusta, KS, and thunderstorm winds gusted to 98 mph at Johnson, KS. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1990 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather across the southeastern U.S. for the second day in a row. Severe thunderstorms spawned five tornadoes, including one which injured a person at Richmond KY. There were eighty-seven reports of large hail or damaging winds, with hail three inches in diameter reported at Austin TX. Thunderstorms produced up to five inches of rain in Macon County GA, and heavy rains left nearly eight feet of water over roads near Stepstone KY. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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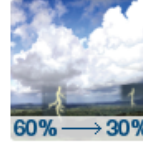


Avera 
Health Plans

for out patient therapy.

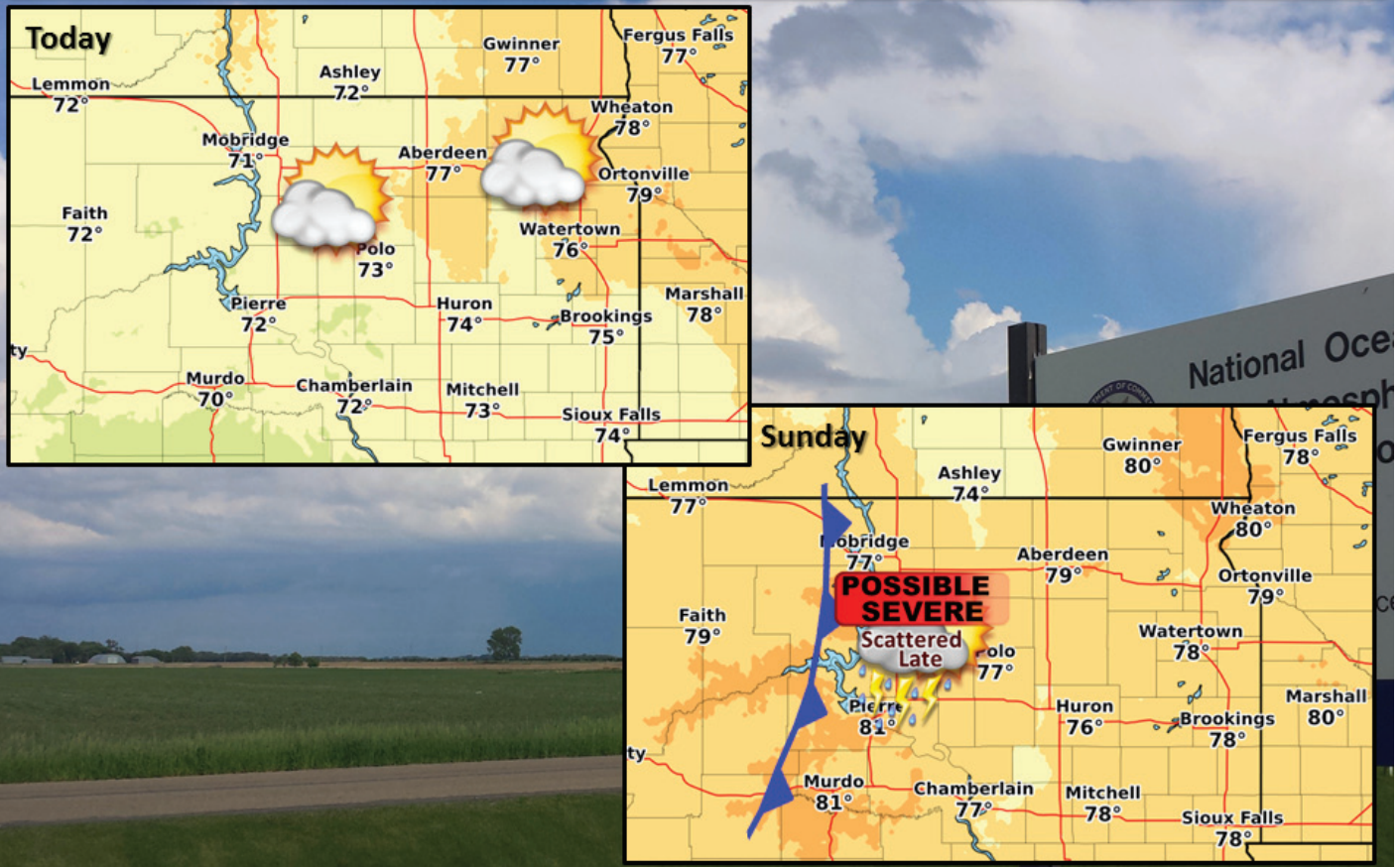
1106 N 2nd St., Groton
605/397-2365

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| Today | Tonight | Sunday | Sunday Night | Monday | Monday Night | Tuesday |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mostly Sunny then Mostly Sunny and Breezy | Mostly Clear | Partly Sunny and Breezy | T-storms Likely and Breezy | T-storms Likely then Chance T-storms | Mostly Clear | Slight Chance T-storms |
| High: 76 °F | Low: 56 °F | High: 79 °F | Low: 58 °F | High: 78 °F | Low: 52 °F | High: 80 °F |

Thunderstorms West & Central Tonight Severe Storms Possible Sunday



National Weather Service, Aberdeen SD

Published on: 05/21/2016 at 5:07AM

Humid air will bring with it the opportunity for moisture tonight - along with a severe weather threat for Sunday. Storms will continue to move east into the overnight hours with gradual clearing Monday.

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Yesterday's Weather

High: 68.8 at 4:33 PM

Low: 52.6 at 6:25 AM

High Gust: 30 at 11:36 AM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 94° in 1925

Record Low: 28 in 1963

Average High: 70°F

Average Low: 46°F

Average Precip in May: 2.15

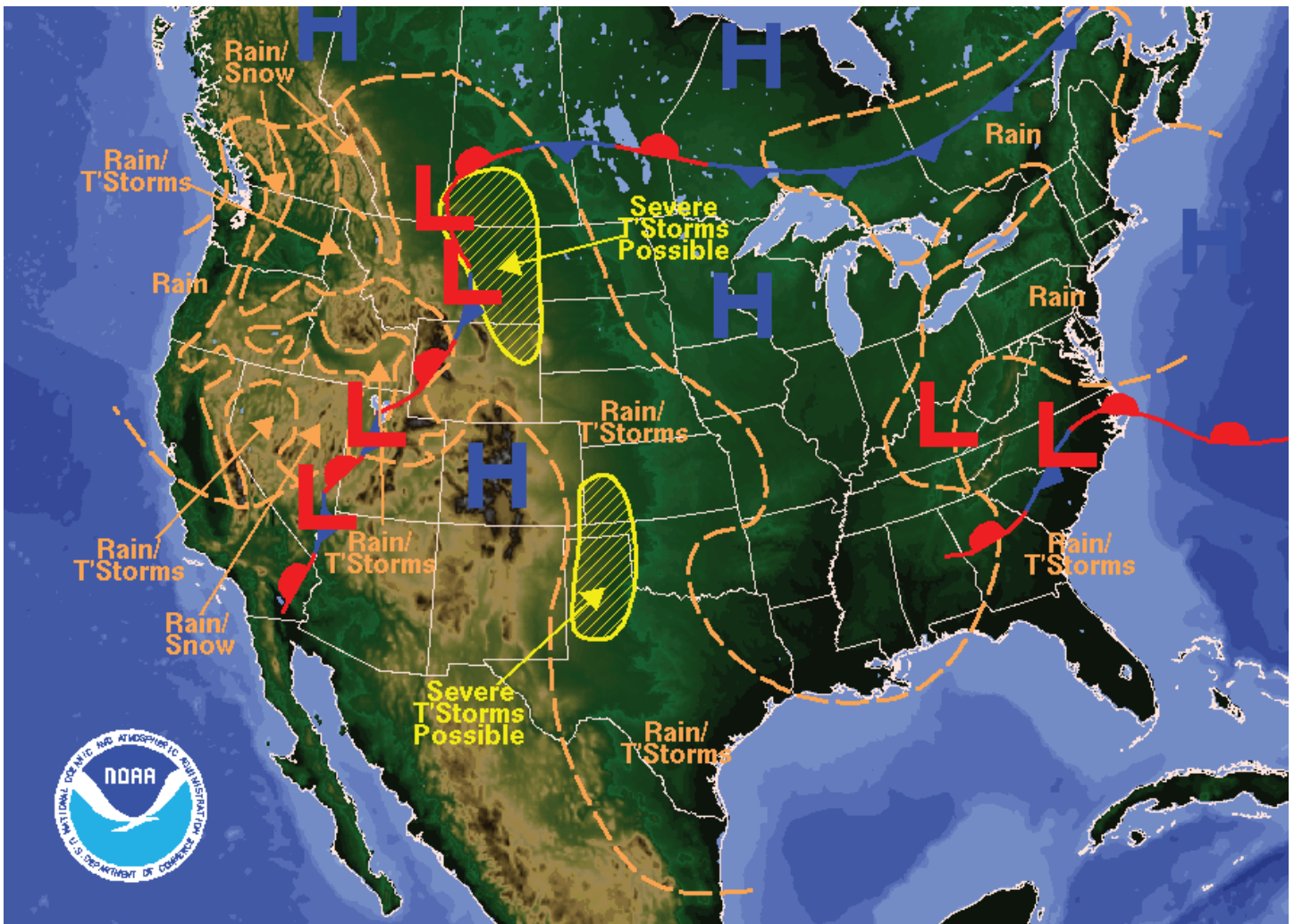
Precip to date in May: 0.11

Average Precip to date: 6.18

Precip Year to Date: 3.50

Sunset Tonight: 9:04 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:55 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Sat, May 21, 2016, issued 4:35 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Santorelli based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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HONORED BY BEING HUMBLE

Booker T. Washington was a famous African-American who was president of Tuskegee Institute. Once while walking down a street near the school, a white woman, not knowing him, asked if he would like to earn a few dollars by chopping some wood.

Smiling graciously, he chopped the wood as directed, carried it into her house and carefully stacked it near the fireplace. When her daughter recognized who had been chopping and stacking the wood, she went to her mother and informed her. She was shocked when she learned this and went to Mr. Washington, and apologized profusely.

"It's alright, Madam," he said politely, "it is a delight to help a friend." Not long after that incident the lady donated thousands of dollars to the school.

Peter warned, "God opposes the proud, but favors the humble." Pride is a dangerous thing. It can strip us of our willingness to help others whom God loves and cares for. It is far better to receive the favor of God than any recognition that may come from others.

We must always be available to reach out to others when we see their need. Jesus did. And remember, God is always willing, ready and able to bless us when we bless others.

Prayer: We pray, Father, that whenever anyone anywhere needs our help, we will willingly respond with Your love, kindness and grace. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: 1 Peter 5:5 Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble."

News from the Associated Press

Highway Patrol to hold seminars to recruit women to join

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Highway Patrol is again reaching out to women who may want to work as state troopers.

The Highway Patrol is holding women's recruiting seminars for the second year in Aberdeen, Pierre, Rapid City and Sioux Falls. They offer an opportunity for women to learn about how to join.

Col. Craig Price is the superintendent of the Highway Patrol. Price says the patrol wants to build on momentum from the last recruiting process, in which two women were hired.

The seminars will be held during June. The Highway Patrol is accepting applications into July for the next class of recruits.

Sioux Falls chamber hosting Armed Forces Day ceremonies

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The Sioux Falls Area Chamber of Commerce is hosting Armed Forces Day ceremonies on Saturday.

The event from the chamber's military and veterans affairs committee begins with a musical prelude at 10 a.m., followed by a 10:30 a.m. gathering on the grounds of the Sioux Falls VA Medical Center. The gathering includes a formal military program, a Sioux Falls Municipal Band concert and a keynote address by retired Lt. Col. Reid Christopherson.

The ceremonies will be moved to the South Dakota Air National Guard in the case of inclement weather.

An Avenue of Flags ceremony will feature men and women from the armed forces presenting American flags. The chamber will also present Stars and Stripes awards to Rob and Gail Dickerson and Vern Eide Motoplex for displaying American flags year-round.

Wind Cave National Park set to hold bird blitz event

WIND CAVE NATIONAL PARK, S.D. (AP) — Wind Cave National Park is holding a bird blitz for experienced and novice bird watchers.

The event on Saturday is in conjunction with the National Park Service's centennial celebration. There will be events throughout the day involving birds.

The bird blitz will feature bird walks for the beginners, bird surveys for more experienced birders and bird box construction for family groups. Visitors can also see birds up close and watch demonstrations with live hawks, owls and eagles to learn about conservation of raptors.

Staff will also discuss bird apps, field guides, binoculars, spotting scopes and birding ethics. Those who can't take part in person can still follow along via social media.

Documents detail Westerhuis' spending before murder-suicide

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A dead South Dakota couple who had financial oversight over a nonprofit aimed at helping Native American students allegedly took money from the organization to save up for their own children's educations, recently filed civil court documents reveal.

The new litigation offers more details about Scott and Nicole Westerhuis' spending before their September murder-suicide, which launched a financial investigation surrounding the GEAR UP program that unearthed theft authorities believe could top \$1 million.

Authorities say the couple used the nonprofit American Indian Institute for Innovation, where they had fiscal oversight, to embezzle money from their employer, Mid-Central Educational Cooperative. While working at the Institute, Scott Westerhuis used a secretly obtained American Express card to make monthly

purchases with the nonprofit's money for his family, according to the civil documents.

The filings say there were other "inappropriate" purchases using a debit card linked to the Institute's checking account, as well as through Paypal, Amazon and payments into an education savings plan for the Westerhuis' children.

The documents don't detail how much of the Institute's money went to the purchases, but say that Scott and Nicole Westerhuis intended to deceive the organization. The Institute is seeking damages from the estates of Scott and Nicole Westerhuis.

Three current or former Mid-Central employees have been indicted on felony charges stemming from the investigation prompted after Scott Westerhuis shot his wife and their four children before setting fire to their house near Platte and killing himself.

The Westerhuis deaths occurred just hours after the state informed Mid-Central it was losing a contract for GEAR UP — a federal program aimed at helping high-poverty middle and high school students prepare for college — because of financial problems and accounting failures.

Court documents from the criminal investigation say the couple took money from Mid-Central's bank account without authorization to fund the Institute's payroll. At the end of November 2015, the Institute owed Mid-Central as much as \$826,000 for payroll, according to a filing.

Scott and Nicole Westerhuis also wrote checks to themselves from the Institute's bank account for their own use, according a court affidavit. Attorney General Marty Jackley has said they spent at least part of the money on home improvement projects.

The two initially tried to hide the alleged illegal activity that started as early as 2010, but became more brazen near the time of the September 2015 fire, according to a court document.

If confirmed, Native American site may delay \$3.8B pipeline

DAVID PITT, Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Discovery of an archaeological site that may have cultural significance to Native Americans could further delay construction of a \$3.8 billion oil pipeline if government officials require the route to be moved.

Houston-based Dakota Access LLC wants to build the pipeline — designed to carry a half-million barrels of oil a day — from northwest North Dakota to a storage facility in south-central Illinois. Construction has begun in North Dakota, South Dakota and Illinois, but the Iowa Utilities Board has not authorized work to begin.

On Friday, Iowa State Archaeologist John Doershuk said his office had received information indicating a possible Native American site in northwest Iowa that, if confirmed, could result in relocation of the pipeline. He said details should start falling into place by next week, "as we confirm site characteristics and ownership/jurisdiction, as well as position relative to the planned pipeline construction activities."

Doershuk said in an email that those construction activities "may then be shifted, although the necessity of this course of action remains to be determined," he said.

Final approval for the Iowa section is pending because the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which must issue permits for the pipeline to cross the Missouri and Mississippi rivers, hasn't issued its permits. A Corps spokesman said permits for the Iowa leg of the project are 60 to 120 days away.

Iowa was the last state to issue a permit for the pipeline, and the permit requires that Dakota Access prove it has all required federal and state permits before starting construction in Iowa.

Dakota Access is pressuring the Iowa Utilities Board to let it begin work at sites outside the jurisdiction of the Corps, but the board has declined to act quickly, saying it is reviewing comments from all sides before making a decision. Last week, the company said it had to start laying pipe this week in order to finish before winter and avoid disturbing farmland for a second growing season.

The Corps' main goal is to avoid impact to the environment and historically significant sites, and that often means working with the applicant to reroute the pipeline to avoid a sensitive area, said agency spokesman Ron Fournier, who serves a Corp district including Iowa and Illinois.

"If this is a significant Indian historical site that certainly could delay the permitting process if we have to get involved in realignments and avoid and minimize issues," Fournier said.

Dakota Access spokeswoman Vicki Granado said the company will continue to work with regulatory agencies "as we continue to move forward in preparation for the start of construction in Iowa."

Bill Clinton campaigns for Hillary Clinton in Sioux Falls

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Former President Bill Clinton touted Democratic front-runner Hillary Clinton's experience as a U.S. senator and secretary of state in exhorting South Dakotans to vote for her in the state's June 7 primary.

Clinton rallied about 350 people in Sioux Falls on Friday, tallying his wife's credentials and noting her support for farmers and tribal sovereignty.

Clinton also said the former first lady is committed to creating jobs in manufacturing and small business, with extra investments in rural America. Bill Clinton was also set to attend a fundraiser in the city after the rally.

Hillary Clinton is competing with U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders for the Democratic nomination to run against presumptive Republican nominee Donald Trump.

Exhibit on state's environmental history closes Tuesday

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — An exhibit that examines South Dakota's environmental history will close Tuesday after two years of having been on display at the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre.

"South Dakota Environments: A Window to Past Times" features four epochs of environmental history about the land that eventually became South Dakota. Visitors can explore Paleozoic, Mesozoic, Pleistocene and Holocene epochs and witness animals found on the land.

Displays feature a Tyrannosaurus Rex, a Short-Face Bear and a massive representation of a mammoth.

The exhibit also demonstrates how the location of the land that became South Dakota has shifted along with what became the North American continent over time.

Bill Clinton: Democrats will "be together in the end."

CATHERINE LUCEY, Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, South Dakota (AP) — Despite the drawn-out primary fight, Bill Clinton says he thinks Democrats will be able to "be together in the end."

The former president campaigned in South Dakota Friday on behalf of wife Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign. Asked about her increasingly combative rival Bernie Sanders, Bill Clinton said that the party will come together, recalling the 2008 primary.

Bill Clinton said that after losing to President Barack Obama, his wife "pulled the party together and we won an election. It made a big difference to America. And that's what we hope will happen again and we think it will."

The former Secretary of State is just 90 delegates shy of clinching the Democratic nomination. But the Vermont senator is pledging to take his insurgent campaign to the Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia in July. Still, on Thursday Clinton said in a CNN interview that she would be the nominee and stressed that she wanted Sanders to help unify the Democratic party.

Bill Clinton was set to spend Friday touring South Dakota, North Dakota and Montana. All three states hold Democratic primaries or caucuses on June 7, but Hillary Clinton has focused most of her attention on California and New Jersey, which offer far more delegates.

In Sioux Falls, about 350 people crowded into a concert venue draped in American flags to hear the former president, who stressed his wife's experience and ability to work across the aisle. He also referenced her comments about putting him to work on the economy, saying he was "thrilled" that she wanted him to take on those issues.

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"I would be happy to come back here and work on that," he said, amid cheers.

While he focused largely on his wife's achievements, Clinton took a shot at presumptive Republican front-runner Donald Trump, saying it was better to "build bridges not walls."

In recent interviews, Trump has been hitting Bill Clinton for past personal indiscretions. Asked about Trump's comments, Clinton said he wasn't concerned, adding: "I have nothing to say."

Tom Raap, a 73-year-old retired railroad worker from Sioux Falls who is supporting Hillary Clinton, said he wasn't worried about Trump's hits on Bill Clinton. "I think once it passes on by, it's going to fade in the wind," he said.

3 finalists named for Northern State University presidency

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Board of Regents has named three finalists for the presidency at Northern State University.

The finalists from Florida, New York and Wisconsin are scheduled to be on campus early next week for meetings with regents and others.

The finalists are Jacksonville University College of Business Dean Don Capener, Niagara University Provost Timothy Downs and University of Wisconsin-La Crosse Chancellor Joe Gow.

Whoever gets the job will succeed James Smith, who is leaving after seven years to become president of Eastern Michigan University in July.

Kentucky sees big unemployment drop in April

MARTIN CRUTSINGER, AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Unemployment rates were significantly lower in five states in April, led by a big drop in Kentucky.

The Labor Department says Kentucky saw its unemployment rate fall to 5.3 percent in April, down from 5.6 percent in March. The state with the largest increase was Pennsylvania, which saw the unemployment rate rise to 5.3 percent from 4.9 percent in April. Pennsylvania was one of four states with significantly higher jobless rates in April.

The national jobless rate was unchanged in April at 5 percent. Employers added 160,000 jobs, well below the average gain of 243,000 over the prior six months.

Over the past year, 37 states have added an appreciable number of jobs. Two states have lost jobs, and 11 states have seen job levels essentially unchanged.

In addition to Kentucky, the other four states judged to have significantly lower unemployment rates in April were Arkansas, Delaware, Kansas and Vermont. In addition to Pennsylvania, the states with significantly higher rates were New Jersey, Wyoming and Utah. The other 41 states were seen as having stable unemployment rates from March to April.

For April, the states with the lowest jobless rates were South Dakota at 2.5 percent and New Hampshire at 2.6 percent. Alaska and Illinois had the highest rates, both at 6.6 percent.

Over the past year, the states with the biggest gains in payroll employment were California, up 450,200; Florida, up 254,500 and Texas, with a gain of 189,600 jobs.

The two states with significant job declines over the past year were North Dakota, with a drop of 17,600, and Wyoming, with a decline of 10,800. Both states have been hurt by cutbacks in the energy industry due to falling prices.

Keystone woman fed up with Mount Rushmore helicopter tours

KEYSTONE, S.D. (AP) — A Keystone woman is fed up with the noise of helicopter tours around Mount Rushmore.

Kathy Hackett says the dozens of daily flights during the tourist season are disruptive. She gathered dozens of signatures on a petition given to the town board seeking a forced moved of the heliport.

Hackett says that when she and her husband bought their house, the heliport was farther away. About four years ago it was moved to a site near their home.

Black Hills Aerial Adventures owner Michael Jacob says the heliport is approved by the Federal Aviation Administration, and he has no plans to voluntarily move it.

Town Board President Kwinn Neff says the group has little authority in the matter. Hackett plans to contact the FAA and inquire about her options.

Trying to get jump on Zika preparations with money in limbo

LAURAN NEERGAARD, AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Beg, borrow and steal: Zika preparation involves a bit of all three as federal, state and local health officials try to get a jump on the mosquito-borne virus while Congress haggles over how much money they really need.

With that financing in limbo, health officials are shifting resources and setting priorities — and not just in states where mosquitoes are starting to buzz. All but six states so far have seen travel-associated cases of Zika.

“Stealing money from myself” is how Dr. Anthony Fauci of the National Institutes of Health describes raiding his agency’s malaria, tuberculosis and influenza programs to fund a Zika vaccine.

He needs more cash by the end of June to keep the vaccine on schedule. And there’s no guarantee those other critical diseases will recoup about \$20 million.

“If we don’t get something soon, then we’re going to have a real problem,” Fauci said.

Adding to the stress: What if another health emergency comes along at the same time?

“It’s Zika now, but three months from now, who knows what it might be?” said Dr. Tim Jones, state epidemiologist in Tennessee, where few counties have mosquito eradication efforts.

Yet with funding pleas unanswered, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shifted \$44 million to Zika from emergency preparedness grants that help state and local health departments with crises from flu outbreaks to hurricanes.

“You have to be careful when you take cuts from core infrastructure for the disease of the day,” Tennessee’s Jones said. “That’s a risky way to do things.”

Zika can cause devastating birth defects and fetal death if pregnant women become infected. Mosquitoes aren’t yet spreading Zika in the continental U.S., but the epidemic in Latin America and the Caribbean has experts predicting small outbreaks here as mosquito season heats up. The more than 540 U.S. cases diagnosed so far involve travel to outbreak areas or sex with infected travelers. The CDC is tracking the outcomes of 157 Zika-infected pregnant women in the U.S., plus another 122 in U.S. territories.

Three months ago, President Barack Obama requested \$1.9 billion in emergency funding to fend off Zika. The House and Senate are arguing over how much to grant — and whether the money should come from cuts to other programs — with no final agreement in sight. House Republicans say the administration has padded its Zika request.

The Obama administration already shifted nearly \$600 million from funds for Ebola flare-ups in West Africa and other accounts. On Friday, the president said lifetime care for a child born with Zika-caused brain damage may cost up to \$10 million.

“Add that up. It doesn’t take a lot of cases for you to get to \$1.9 billion. Why wouldn’t we want to make that investment now?” Obama said.

Many state and local health departments aren’t waiting, but efforts vary widely:

—Florida is no stranger to mosquito-borne outbreaks — it has handled small outbreaks of dengue, carried by the same mosquito as Zika — and is squeezing money out of its usual budget to step up training and traps for areas that need extra help. Officials opened a Zika information hotline that has fielded more than 1,700 calls since February. Miami-Dade County is stepping up enforcement of standing water violations and statewide, residents are being told to screen windows and rid their property of containers that trap rainwater.

Gov. Rick Scott has said the threat of a Zika outbreak should trigger the same response as an approaching hurricane and last week lobbied in Washington for more resources. While Scott hasn't named a dollar figure, Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., has supported Obama's request. "It's a mistake for Congress to try and deal with Zika on the cheap," he said on Friday.

—New Orleans' health department has begun sending staffers into neighborhoods to educate residents about Zika and advise them on making their yards less mosquito-friendly — workers also preparing for hurricane season.

"Whether we get money or not, we're going to do what we got to do," said health director Charlotte Parent. "But it sure would help to have those extra bodies to get that work done."

—Virginia took about \$700,000 remaining from a federal Ebola grant to hire two mosquito biologists, pay for some testing of mosquitoes and travelers, and educate the public, including plans to hang information on 450,000 doors.

This marks Virginia's first mosquito surveillance program since 2007.

—Texas can perform dozens of blood tests a week for Zika, but that capacity could easily be overwhelmed if there's an outbreak, Health Commissioner John Hellerstedt said.

The state is spending \$2 million in federal emergency preparedness money on public awareness but can't estimate how much more it needs, in part because mosquito control, like in many states, is funded almost entirely at the county and local level.

—Savannah and surrounding Chatham County has Georgia's best-funded mosquito-control department at \$3.8 million and will send some mosquitoes for Zika testing at the University of Georgia.

"A lot of these counties wouldn't be able to afford to do that," said Savannah mosquito control director Jeff Heusel.

Mary Todd Lincoln funeral ledger found in Illinois capital

An itemized list believed to be from former first lady Mary Todd Lincoln's funeral has resurfaced after two of Springfield's oldest funeral homes merged

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — An itemized list believed to be from former first lady Mary Todd Lincoln's funeral has resurfaced after two of the oldest funeral homes in Springfield, Illinois, merged.

The list shows her 1882 funeral cost almost \$280, with expenses ranging from \$225 for a casket to \$1.50 for crepe and ribbon, The (Springfield) State Journal-Register (<http://bit.ly/27HeY0G>) reported.

The list was included in stacks of fragile ledgers acquired by Butler Funeral Homes of Springfield after last year's buyout of Boardman-Smith Funeral Home.

Butler Funeral Homes is creating a "Lincoln Room" where the Mary Lincoln Todd ledger entry will be displayed with other documents tied to Springfield's funeral history. Among the other items are a pair of funeral biers thought to have ties to the Lincoln family, but they haven't been verified.

Butler Funeral Homes president Chris Butler said employees of Boardman-Smith, which was founded in 1848, had taken care to store and label dozens of expense ledgers dating to the mid-1800s.

Butler said Boardman-Smith's connection to the Lincoln family is one of the attractions that prompted his company to go through with the merger.

At one time, Boardman-Smith was marketed as "The Lincoln Funeral Home" and was called upon to assist with the transfer and preparation of President Abraham Lincoln's body after his assassination in April 1865, according to company history.

Historians say Mary Todd Lincoln welcomed her own death in many ways after the death of her three sons and her husband. She outlined specific instructions for a funeral that was still eight years away in a letter to her son, Robert, which is among the collections at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield.

She died in July 1882 at age 63 at her sister's home in Springfield.

In swing state suburbs, white women are skeptical of Trump

BILL BARROW, Associated Press

JULIE PACE, Associated Press

WESTERVILLE, Ohio (AP) — For Donald Trump to win the White House in November, he'll need the votes of women like lifelong Republican Wendy Emery.

Yet the 52-year-old from the suburbs of Columbus, Ohio, can't commit to voting for her party's presumptive presidential nominee.

"I'm just disappointed, really disappointed," she said while standing in her arts and crafts shop. She and her circle of friends are "still in shock" over Trump's success and wonder who's voting for him, "because we don't know any of them."

Emery's negative impression of Trump was shared by most of the dozens of white, suburban women from politically important states who were interviewed by The Associated Press this spring. Their views are reflected in opinion polls, such as a recent AP-GfK survey that found 70 percent of women have unfavorable opinions of Trump.

Democrat Hillary Clinton's campaign sees that staggering figure as a tantalizing general election opening.

While white voters continue to abandon the Democratic Party, small gains with white women could help put likely nominee Clinton over the top if the November election is close. Democrats believe these women could open up opportunities for Clinton in North Carolina, where President Barack Obama struggled with white voters in his narrow loss in the state 2012, and even in Georgia, a Republican stronghold that Democrats hope to make competitive.

Patty Funderburg of Charlotte, North Carolina, voted for Republican Mitt Romney in 2012, but says she's already convinced that Trump won't get her vote.

"He's not who I'd want to represent our country," said Funderburg, a 54-year-old mother of three.

Trump insists he's "going to do great with women." He's accused Clinton of playing the "woman's card" in her bid to become the first female commander in chief. He's said he will link her aggressively to past indiscretions with women by her husband, former President Bill Clinton.

The businessman also has previewed an argument focused on national security, with echoes of the pitch that President George W. Bush successfully made to white suburban women during his 2004 re-election.

"Women want, above all else, they want security," Trump told The Associated Press recently. "They want to have a strong military, they want to have strong borders. They don't want crime." He said "Hillary is viewed poorly on that."

Not so in the AP-GfK poll. About 40 percent of women surveyed said Clinton would be best at protecting the country and handling the threat posed by the Islamic State group, and about 30 percent said Trump.

Throughout the primary, Clinton has talked about policies meant to appeal to women: equal pay for women, expanded child care, paid family and medical leave and more.

A super political action committee backing Clinton has released its first television advertisements featuring Trump's contentious statements about women.

"Does Donald Trump really speak for you?" the ad asks.

For many of the women interviewed, the answer appears to be no.

"He's just a jerk," said Elizabeth Andrus, a registered Republican in Delaware, Ohio, who says she voted twice for Obama. She praised Trump's political skills and argued his business career indicates an intellect and ability that could benefit the nation.

But his temperament, she said, is somewhere between "buffoonery" and "complete narcissism."

"It would be like having Putin for president," she added, referring to Russia's sometimes belligerent president, Vladimir Putin.

Erin Freedman, a 38-year-old from Reston, Virginia, said Trump "scares the crap out of me." While she's an enthusiastic backer of Clinton's primary rival, Bernie Sanders, she said she'd have no problem backing the former secretary of state against Trump in a general election.

Even some reluctant Trump supporters say they want him to dial back the braggadocio and caustic

insults, and engage people more seriously.

"He's the nominee, so I'll vote for him," said Renee Herman, a 45-year-old from Sunbury, Ohio, who preferred retired neurosurgeon Ben Carson and her home-state governor, John Kasich, in the GOP primary field. "But it's time we get past all this showmanship and hear from him what he actually wants to do and his plans for how to do it."

Trump's best opening is that Clinton, who is on the cusp of clinching her party's nomination, would enter the November race with a majority of Americans taking a dim view of her candidacy. Fifty-five percent have a negative view of Clinton, including 53 percent of women, in the AP-GfK poll.

"Anybody but Hillary," said Carolyn Owen, a 64-year-old educator from Clayton, North Carolina, near Raleigh. She said Trump wasn't her first choice, "but it's better than the alternative."

While Obama won the support of women overall in his two White House campaigns, white women have increasingly been shifting toward the Republican Party in recent elections. Obama only won 42 percent of white women in 2012. Romney won 56 percent of white women, more than Bush and the party's 2008 nominee, Sen. John McCain.

Clinton's hopes will largely hinge on replicating Obama's coalition of blacks, Hispanics and young people. In both of his elections, Obama earned near-unanimous support from black women, while drawing the votes of roughly 7 in 10 Hispanic women. But she would have more room for error with those groups if she can increase Democrats' share of white women.

Another potentially favorable scenario for Clinton involves Republican and independent women who can't stomach a vote for Trump but also don't want to vote for a Democrat. Maybe they simply stay home, keeping the GOP nominee's vote totals down.

For Angee Stephens of Indianola, Iowa, that seems to be the only option at this point. She's wary of Clinton's use of a private email server while she was secretary of state, which is the subject of an FBI investigation, and her past political decisions. But "Trump sort of scares me," Stephens said.

In Georgia, Trump supporter Sue Everhart said she talks regularly with suburban Republican women struggling with whether to vote for Trump, and said some cite his boorishness. The former state party chairwoman said she tries to bring the conversation back to Clinton and remind Republicans "who we are running against."

As for Trump's penchant for controversial statements about women, Everhart said, "I learned a long time ago that most any man over 50 in this party, they like you as long as you're making the cookies."

"I should probably be offended," she added. "But I'm not."

Investigators: smoke detected on Egypt jet just before crash

HAMZA HENDAWI

RAPHAEL SATTER

CAIRO (AP) — Smoke was detected in multiple places on EgyptAir flight 804 moments before it plummeted into the Mediterranean, but the cause of the crash that killed all 66 on board remains unclear, the French air accident investigation agency said on Saturday.

Agency spokesman Sebastien Barthe told The Associated Press in Paris that the plane's automatic detection system sent messages indicating smoke a few minutes before the plane disappeared from radar while flying over the east Mediterranean early on Thursday morning.

The messages, he explained, "generally mean the start of a fire," but he added: "We are drawing no conclusions from this. Everything else is pure conjecture."

Looking for clues to whether terrorists may have brought down the Airbus A320, investigators have been poring over the passenger list and questioned ground crew members at Charles de Gaulle Airport in Paris, from which the plane took off.

The aircraft had been cruising normally in clear skies on a nighttime flight to Cairo early Thursday when it suddenly lurched left, then right, spun all the way around and plummeted 38,000 feet (11,582.4 meters) into the sea, never issuing a distress signal.

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Search crews are scouring for further wreckage of the aircraft. Experts said answers will come only with an examination of the wreckage and the plane's cockpit voice and flight data recorders, commonly known as black boxes.

Planes and vessels from Egypt and five other countries — Greece, Britain, France, the United States and Cyprus — continued searching a wide area of the eastern Mediterranean on Saturday, a day after the Egyptian military found debris from the passenger jet in the sea 180 miles (290 kilometers) north of the Egyptian port city of Alexandria.

The waters in the area are 8,000 to 10,000 feet deep (2,440 to 3,050 meters), and the pings from the black boxes can be detected up to a depth of 20,000 feet (6 kilometers).

On Saturday, the Egyptian military released photographs of the debris from EgyptAir flight 804. The photos were posted on the Facebook page of the chief military spokesman. They appear to show the heavily-damaged remains of plane seats, life jackets — one of which was seemingly undamaged — and a scrap of cloth that looks to be part of a baby's purple and pink blanket or sleeping bag.

The spokesman's Facebook page later posted a brief video that showed more debris, including what appeared to be a piece of blue carpet, seat belts, a shoe and what looked like a woman's white handbag. The short clip opened with aerial footage of an unidentified navy ship followed by a speed boat with five service members aboard heading toward floating debris.

Egyptian authorities said they believe terrorism is a more likely explanation than equipment failure, and some aviation experts have said the erratic flight suggests a bomb blast or a struggle in the cockpit. But so far no hard evidence has emerged.

No militant group has claimed to have brought down the aircraft. That is a contrast to the downing of a Russian jet in October over Egypt's Sinai Peninsula that killed all 224 on board. In that case, the Islamic State group's branch in Sinai issued a claim of responsibility within hours. On Friday, IS issued a statement on clashes with the Egyptian military in Sinai, but said nothing about the plane crash.

Three European security officials said on Friday that the passenger manifest for Flight 804 contained no names on terrorism watch lists. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the investigation. The manifest was leaked online and has not been verified by the airline.

Further checks are being conducted on relatives of the passengers.

French aviation investigators have begun to check and question all baggage handlers, maintenance workers, gate agents and other ground crew members at Charles de Gaulle Airport who had a direct or indirect link to the plane before it took off, according to a French judicial official. The official was not authorized to discuss the investigation and spoke on condition of anonymity.

Whatever caused the aircraft to crash, the tragedy will most likely deepen Egypt's difficult predicament as it struggles to revive a battered economy and contain an increasingly resilient insurgency by Islamic militants.

In the five years since the country was first mired in turmoil caused by a popular uprising against longtime autocrat Hosni Mubarak, the lucrative tourism sector has been decimated, the value of the local currency has progressively fallen and domestic debt has mushroomed.

While the latest tragedy may not reflect directly on security at Egypt's airports, as the Russian jet crash did in October, the country's association with another air disaster will impact negatively on tourism and the flow of foreign investment.

In Paris, French Foreign Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault said Saturday that he and other officials — including representatives of Paris Aeroport, the French prosecutor, EgyptAir, and the Egyptian ambassador to Paris — had met with about 100 family members to express "our profound compassion" over the crash.

In a statement delivered to reporters following the meeting, he said: "All the hypotheses are being examined — none are being favored."

"In the name of France, once more, I am expressing my solidarity, but also our affection ... for all those people who learned that a loved one, or even an entire family, have drowned in the sea — and who want

to know, to know to be able to grieve. It's a difficult moment, a painful moment. I wanted to say it again: We're on their side."

G7 takes aim at terrorist financing; rifts on policy remain

ELAINE KURTENBACH, AP Business Writer

AKIU, Japan (AP) — The Group of Seven major economies showed a united front on fighting terrorist financing and tax evasion in talks that ended Saturday, but shied away from coordinated action on policies to revive stalling growth.

An "action plan" issued after the talks by G7 finance ministers and central bank governors at a hot springs hotel in northern Japan called for increased exchanges of information on financial intelligence, reducing the level of cross-border transactions subject to disclosure and collaborating on targeted sanctions for terrorists' financial networks, including freezing assets.

"There's a moment for reflecting, for putting forward ideas, for comparing them, and then comes the moment for action. This is where we are today," said France's finance minister, Michel Sapin, whose country has suffered devastating attacks in the past few years.

The talks in Akiu, to be followed by a G7 summit in central Japan's Ise region next week, started out with a brainstorming session on how best to use monetary policy, government spending and longer-term reforms to help support growth.

But they ended with countries stressing the need for varying strategies for boosting growth.

Most of the governments of the G7 favor more pro-active government spending to help support flagging growth and spur demand, while Germany has remained more conservative on fiscal matters, regarding structural reforms as crucial.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew said the lack of coordinated action, in the absence of a crisis, was natural, given the varying conditions and resources in each country.

"We each have unique challenges that have to be addressed, so it's not one-size-fits-all," Lew said. "Different times require different responses. We're not in 2008 or 2009."

Lew did express concern, however, over Japan's plan to raise its sales tax, to 10 percent from the current 8 percent, in April 2017.

"Each of us needs to take policy actions that given the conditions in our country are most likely to produce more demand and more growth," Lew said, adding that while the decision is up to Japan, "We'd be quite concerned about taking steps that would put a drag on the economy."

Aso, who has said the tax hike will go ahead unless there is a major crisis or disaster, also acknowledged differences with the U.S. over such issues as exchange rates.

"I met with Secretary Lew and we didn't have a heated discussion. We had a normal conversation," Aso said. "We have to say what we think to each other because that's our jobs. It's normal to exchange views and that helps ensure things will not go awry because issues become too emotional."

Lew stressed that he hoped G7 members would honor commitments made during recent discussions in China by the wider Group of 20 major economies, where members pledged to not manipulate exchange rates to their own advantage.

A recent rise in the value of the Japanese yen against the U.S. dollar is adding to pressures on Japanese companies who had reaped record profits as the yen weakened in recent years, fattening earnings brought back to Japan in yen terms. While reiterating a pledge not to engage in "competitive devaluations," Aso has chafed at recent moves in the yen's value, hinting at the possibility of intervention if they become too "disorderly."

"Instability and disorderly movements can have ... implications for financial stability," he said.

The talks also touched on nonfinancial risks to growth, such as the refugee crisis, terrorism and a looming referendum in Britain over whether or not to leave the European Union. Such a move is viewed as likely to cause major disruptions both in Europe and in global financial markets.

The World Bank, whose president, Jim Yong Kim, is attending the talks, took the opportunity to launch

a financing mechanism for insuring risks from pandemics. Japan pledged the first \$50 million to fund the \$500 million initiative.

The talks also explored ways to improve the “integrity” of global financial flows, especially following the release of the so-called “Panama Papers,” which disclosed details of offshore companies set up for wealthy individuals and companies by the Panama-based law firm Mossack Fonseca. Companies registered in tax havens are often used for legitimate business purposes, but also can facilitate tax evasion and money laundering.

“In a positive sense, the Panama Papers have acted as a sort of tail wind” for efforts to crack down on tax avoidance, Aso said.

Sapin, the French finance minister, said the group also made progress on how to help Greece resolve its dire troubles over its debt, most of which is owed to European creditors.

“Until everything is decided, we can’t consider it done, but I think all the elements for an agreement are today on the table,” Sapin said. “The observation we can make is that Greece is keeping its obligations.”

Apart from Japan and the U.S., the G7 countries include Britain, Canada, France, Germany and Italy.

Donovan, Kerr took very different paths to NBA coaching

JANIE McCAULEY, AP Sports Writer

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Billy Donovan is trying to accomplish the improbable and lead the Oklahoma City Thunder to a championship as a first-year NBA coach, just as Steve Kerr did guiding Golden State to its first title in 40 years last June in his rookie season running the Warriors.

These two have become friends along the way during their drastically different journeys to the NBA bench. Their personalities are polar opposites, too, with Kerr cracking jokes and even stopping his press conferences to give writers time to post important Warriors news to their Twitter followers. Donovan is typically straight-faced and serious.

While working as a television analyst for TNT, Kerr enjoyed getting to know Donovan while covering his Florida squad in the NCAA Tournament and made an effort to keep in touch — even as Donovan began the daunting process of leaving the college game for the next level.

Now, their teams are knotted at 1-1 in the best-of-seven Western Conference finals, which resume Sunday night at Oklahoma City.

“Billy’s a great coach. I got to know him when I was doing NCAA Tournament games at TNT, and I did a few Florida games and had a chance to visit with him,” Kerr said. “We actually stayed in touch before he took that other job in the last couple of years, just on random coaching thoughts. If either one of us had any possible coaching positions that we were looking at, we tended to call each other.”

The Thunder hired Donovan after his successful two-decade college coaching career that included two national championships, four trips to the Final Four and 14 NCAA Tournament berths.

Kerr, on the other hand, had never been a head coach at any level when the Warriors grabbed him from his TV gig. He just won Coach of the Year in his second season despite missing the initial 43 games while on a leave of absence recovering from complications after two back surgeries. Defending champion Golden State had an NBA-record 24-0 start and finished with 73 wins to top the 1995-96 Chicago Bulls team that Kerr was on alongside Michael Jordan.

Kerr has shared his experiences with Donovan about working in the front office as general manager of the Phoenix Suns before returning to television and then entering the coaching ranks with no experience.

Both former point guards, Kerr won five championships in 15 years as a player. Donovan appeared in 44 career games total with no starts and 105 points in his one NBA season with the Knicks in 1987-88. He preaches to his players about the importance of a tough-minded approach at this high-stakes stage of the season — especially in a raucous road environment.

“Steve’s been a great friend. Someone that I’ve been able to build a relationship with for a long period of time,” Donovan said. “I’ve always liked Steve. We’ve talked about different things. Talked about the NBA, and even talked about himself maybe going into coaching and himself being in the front office. ...

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He's just a great, down-to-earth guy, and just through being in college coaching and him covering and doing games we've just kind of been able to build a relationship over the years."

These two could have long NBA careers, a positive for the league going forward with two young coaching faces.

Well, young, relatively speaking. They're both 50.

"Young? How old are they? They've got gray hairs," Oklahoma City center Steve Adams cracked. "It's always good to see anyone do well, especially if it's a coach on your team. I'm just really happy that all of us have just embraced him and he's come out and helped us out a lot. That's all you can really ask for, really. The NBA definitely appreciates it."

AP Analysis: Why junta rules Thailand, with no end in sight

GRANT PECK, Associated Press

BANGKOK (AP) — Thailand's military seized power from an elected government on May 22, 2014, with the justification that it wanted to end chaotic and violent political confrontations that had wracked the country for years. But more than an attempt to restore stability was at play.

Here's a look at the reasons for, and consequences of, the coup led two years ago Sunday by Gen. Prayuth Chan-ocha, who continues to rule as prime minister:

WHY?

The coup really was traditional ruling elite's latest and most decisive intervention in what is now a decadelong war for political power with billionaire telecommunications tycoon-turned-politician Thaksin Shinawatra.

Thaksin was a popular prime minister from 2001 until he was booted by an earlier coup in 2006. After years of political turmoil and musical chairs, his sister Yingluck Shinawatra came to power in a landslide election victory in 2011. Her government was ousted in the 2014 coup following about six months of protests and political street-fighting that paralyzed Bangkok, the capital.

Arrogant and flexible in his ethics, Thaksin alienated the educated, urban middle class and alarmed traditional ruling circles — royalists and the military — who also feared his lock on the electorate challenged the power structure. The military also worried he would interfere in the succession when the revered and ailing King Bhumibol Adulyadej — on the throne since 1946 — ended his reign.

Thaksin has lived abroad since 2008 to avoid serving prison time for a corruption conviction he says was politically motivated. The anti-Yingluck protests were sparked by an amnesty bill that could have allowed Thaksin to return to Thailand a free man.

LIFE TODAY

The junta has since restored order, but at the cost of suspending many civil liberties, most notably freedom of expression.

The military holds near-absolute power through Article 44 of the junta-imposed interim constitution. It allows Prayuth to take any measures deemed necessary to promote public order and unity.

Most of the repression so far has been applied with a touch more paternalistic than brutal. When threats fail to keep critics and dissidents in line, they are detained at military bases, usually for no more than a week, for interrogation sessions called "attitude adjustment." One major exception: Those convicted of insulting the monarchy face up to 15 years in prison.

Lately, however, junta officials frustrated by repeat offenders have suggested they be sent to "re-education camps," which implies at least longer detentions. Another ominous development is the prosecution of human rights lawyers.

Military courts are empowered to try certain types of civilian cases. In March, the military were given police-like powers to seize assets, search premises and arrest and detain criminal suspects.

Junta critics have expressed particular outrage over the recent arrest of the mother of a pro-democracy

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activist. Her alleged crime: failing to rebuke a Facebook friend who sent an alleged anti-monarchist message.

ECONOMY

The junta inherited a lagging economy, with policymakers hindered by years of political instability. Macroeconomic indicators showed Thailand underperforming much of the region, though this year's estimated first-quarter growth of 3.2 percent was stronger than expected.

Thailand's export-led economy was especially vulnerable to China's downturn. Two of the strongest export sectors face other problems as well. Agriculture has been weakened by severe drought, while scandals in the fishing and seafood industry — involving labor abuses and illegal fishing practices — risked sanctions in the markets of the EU and the United States. Tourism, however, has remained strong, even after a bomb blast last year in central Bangkok killed 20 people.

Boosting investment has been difficult, with some ambitious infrastructure projects stalled in part due to political uncertainties. Instead, the government has focused mainly on increasing consumption to stimulate the economy, particularly in rural areas. These measures, such as farming subsidies, were similar to Thaksin government policies that his critics derided as populist giveaways to buy voters' loyalty.

What concerns economists is that the junta's generally narrow focus on political stability constrains it from tackling the country's acknowledged structural problems — competitiveness, industrial production capacity, productivity, education and training, state-owned-enterprise reform — that the pre-coup turmoil allowed to fester.

FOREIGN RELATIONS

Traditionally close relations between the United States and Thailand, its oldest ally in Asia, have seemingly been shaken. Moves by Bangkok to cozy up to Beijing have been widely interpreted as a response to Washington's scolding of the military for uprooting democracy and violating human rights.

The U.S. suspended \$4.7 million in security assistance funds and stopped top-level diplomatic exchanges. Washington has made clear that those restrictions will remain until civilian rule is restored. Prayuth, however, has been able to visit the U.S. for multilateral events. The U.S. has also continued to stage in Thailand its largest multilateral military exercise in the Asia-Pacific, albeit it on a smaller scale than before the coup.

Thaksin's most virulent critics regard U.S. cheerleading for liberal democracy as tantamount to backing for the former prime minister. Junta officials have expressed their annoyance at Washington, but how deep their anger actually runs is hard to gauge — anti-American statements play well with their supporters, but military-to-military relations run deep.

Bangkok's flirtations with Beijing involve relatively modest investments, closer military relations, and an increasing willingness to extradite Beijing's political opponents, despite international criticism. At the same time, however, Thailand has stood fast against unfavorable financing terms offered by the Chinese for a much-desired major rail project, and has expressed interest in joining the U.S.-led Trans-Pacific Partnership trade agreement.

THE FUTURE

Thailand's ruling generals have made clear they are not planning to yield control anytime soon. Initial plans to hold an election in 2015 were deferred until 2016, and are now deferred again until 2017.

Their proposed draft constitution is fashioned to keep power in the hands of their allies in the traditional elite — using the courts and bureaucracy as their tools — at the expense of the voters' political representatives. One provision could allow for an unelected prime minister — a concept many Thais believed dead and buried a generation ago along with military dictatorship. Another would see the junta remain in existence for five years after the polls for what is described as a "transitional period."

The draft charter will be voted on in an Aug. 7 referendum that amounts to the first measurement of public sentiment toward the military government. The exercise will be far from free and fair — campaigning for or against the draft is subject to nebulous rules that could land activists up to 10 years in prison. Even the sale of a "Vote No" T-shirt is considered against the law.

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Prayuth has said the junta will press ahead with its plans regardless of the outcome, suggesting that if the draft charter is rejected, a replacement will be enacted without a popular vote. In any case, a rejection would deeply undercut the legitimacy the junta has claimed for itself.

FINAL WORD

The streets of Bangkok may be calm, and the country's resorts thronging with tourists. But the problem the junta faces is that it has not moved the country one inch away from the polarized politics it claimed to be seeking an end to, since it has been a party to the conflict all along.

Unloved bull market: It's been a year since latest record

STAN CHOE, AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Saturday is the one-year anniversary of the stock market's record high. And no, you didn't miss the party, because no one seems to be in the mood to celebrate.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index reached its latest high of 2,130.82 exactly one year ago. Since then, it's come close to beating it, only to veer lower, sometimes sharply. Last month it came within about 1 percent of the record, but then more jitters about the economy and fears that the Federal Reserve could raise interest rates in June set in.

After a horrendous start to the year, the worst on record for the market, stocks have shown remarkable resilience and have clawed back the ground they lost since 2016 began. As of Friday, the S&P 500 was barely positive for 2016. It would need to gain another 4 percent to match the high it reached a year ago.

More gains may be on the way, strategists along Wall Street say, though the forecasts are largely for only modest gains, and rocky ones at that. But even with the good news for 401(k) accounts, the excitement that pulsed during past peaks is lacking now from the market.

"There is no euphoria," says John Manley, chief equity strategist at Wells Fargo Funds Management. "There isn't even contentment."

A big reason is how fresh the memory still remains of the stock market's crash during the 2008 financial crisis. The S&P 500 lost 55 percent from top to bottom from Oct. 9, 2007 through March 9, 2009, even after including dividends. That steep drop has led to a lasting skepticism about stocks, and the scars are affecting not only individual investors but also financial advisers whose job it is to counsel them, says Linda Duessel, senior equity strategist at Federated Investors.

"This is the most hated rally since it began," she says. "If you're an adviser, you're afraid that if you get too bullish on stocks that you'll lose your client if you get another downdraft."

Such hesitancy is actually an encouraging sign to contrarians, particularly when few economists are predicting an imminent recession. But investors see many reasons to stay on the sidelines, and they're showing it in several ways. Among the signs of and causes for concern that still envelop the market:

— Defensive stocks are leading the way. The best-performing areas of the market over the last year aren't hot, high-growth stocks. They're the old-line companies that traditionally do best when the market is struggling.

Utilities, telecoms and companies that make everyday items for consumers have had the strongest returns. These companies tend to have the most stable profits, and thus the most stable stock prices.

Part of it is likely a result of demographics. Baby Boomers are nearing or in retirement, and they're looking for more stable investments that also produce income. That's a good description for defensive stocks: Utilities in the S&P 500 have a dividend yield of 3.7 percent, for example, well above the 1.85 percent yield for a 10-year Treasury.

The strong run means dividend-paying defensive stocks are more expensive, relative to their earnings. But they should continue to attract buyers because they still look better than many alternatives, such as low-yielding Treasuries, says Federated's Duessel.

— Investors are more fearful than greedy. Nearly \$18 billion left U.S. stock mutual funds and exchange-traded funds during the first quarter, according to Morningstar. Much of that was because of the scary 5

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percent loss for the S&P 500 in January, and it fits with the longstanding hesitancy investors have had about the U.S. stock market.

Over the 12 months through March, investors pulled a net \$69 billion from U.S. stock funds. And it's not like investors have been fleeing all types of investments. They put \$163 billion into foreign stock funds and \$7.5 billion into taxable bond funds over that same time.

— The global economy is scuffling. Even though central banks around the world have piled on unprecedented amounts of stimulus, growth around the world remains weak.

The U.S. economy appears to be in the best shape, relatively speaking, as job growth continues. But it expanded at just a 0.5 percent annualized rate last quarter, its weakest pace in two years.

Other economies around the world look to be in worse shape, highlighted by Europe and Japan. The International Monetary Fund recently cut its forecast for global growth this year and warned that global financial stability risks have increased.

— Corporate earnings are sinking. Stock prices generally follow corporate profits over the long term, and the recent trend has been downward.

Most companies have given their report cards for how they fared from January through March, and S&P 500 earnings per share look to be 5.8 percent lower than a year ago, according to S&P Global Market Intelligence. That would be the worst performance since the spring of 2009, when the economy was in the last throes of recession.

It would also be the third straight quarter where earnings have dropped. Much of the weakness has come from the energy sector, where falling oil prices have decimated profits, but other sectors are also seeing weakness. S&P 500 earnings fell 1.1 percent last quarter, even after excluding energy companies.

Forecasts are for this reporting season to mark the bottom. Analysts expect to see more modest declines and even slight growth as the year progresses.

"On the whole, I think it will get better," Wells Fargo's Manley says about his expectations for both corporate earnings and the stock market. But "I'm looking over my shoulder like everyone else until earnings get better."

Saving devils, in a single disease-free corner of Tasmania

ROD McGUIRK, Associated Press

TASMAN PENINSULA, Australia (AP) — Drive over one narrow isthmus in Tasmania, and then another, and you'll reach the last place on Earth where wild Tasmanian devils live apart from a contagious cancer that threatens the fearsome marsupials' existence. Conservationists are doing everything they can to keep it that way.

Devil-proof barriers, flashing roadside alarms and infrared cameras are protecting the species from their two greatest threats: cancer and cars. There are even plans for a sort of trap door that would keep diseased devils from crossing a bridge to reach the Tasman Peninsula, on the east coast of the Australian island-state.

"Saving the wild devils on the Tasman Peninsula is the Holy Grail of the whole thing — can we save a natural, wild population of devils and isolate them?" said John Hamilton, a major partner in the Peninsula Devil Conservation Project. "And pretty much we have so far."

The muscle-bound, lumbering, bear-like predator-scavenger with a ferocious growl — the inspiration for the Warner Bros. cartoon character Taz — is endangered because of a mysterious disease that has slashed its numbers in Tasmania's wilderness by as much as 90 percent since it was discovered two decades ago.

The cancer cells are transferred by the devil's powerful bite. And the aggressive marsupials do a lot of biting, whether squabbling over a wallaby carcass or even mating. Their facial wounds develop grotesque tumors that eventually prevent the infected devils from eating.

While disease-free devils bred in captivity live on nearby Maria Island and in zoos, the wild population is threatened across Tasmania, the species' only home. The disease started in the northeast and is spreading west and south; the Tasman Peninsula offers the only feasible geographic bulwark. The size of the

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population there is unknown: "We've got dozens, but maybe not hundreds," Hamilton said.

Isolation has been the key to the Tasman population's survival.

The peninsula is attached by a narrow stretch of sand called Eaglehawk Neck to Forestier Peninsula. A lack of animal tracks on Eaglehawk Neck Beach suggests it forms a natural — although not impenetrable — barrier for the shy devils, who avoid open spaces.

Forestier Peninsula is attached to the Tasmanian mainland by another narrow tract of land near the town of Dunalley called East Bay Neck, which forms another buffer for disease-free devils.

The cancer reached Forestier Peninsula in 2012. Conservationists responded by capturing and removing every devil on Forestier. After a two-year quarantine, the first 39 devils bred in captivity were reintroduced in November last year.

A dozen quickly became roadkill. Hamilton said the captive-born devils were "a bit naive," and zoologists agree that captive breeding is a setback for young devils' development of hunting and survival skills.

An efficient hunter that prefers the easier option of scavenging, the devils feed on wallabies, pademelons and possums killed by cars, and don't think to move the carcasses off the road. Devils devour entire carcasses, including fur, bones and teeth.

The road connecting the mainland with Forestier and Tasman is busy because of one of Tasmania's biggest tourist attractions: the sandstone ruins of a 19th-century British prison at Port Arthur, a small Tasman town.

The isolation that has protected the devils from disease also made the peninsula an ideal place to contain convicts. During the convict era, Eaglehawk Neck was better known as the Dog Line, where nine savage dogs tethered at regular intervals were enough to ensure that few convicts escaped.

Efforts to keep devils on the right side of the isthmus, and away from cars, are decidedly more humane and high-tech.

East Bay Neck is largely isolated by a devil-proof fence, and cameras monitor any potentially diseased devils that might pass.

In some areas, roadside electronic posts sound an alarm and flash blue and yellow strobe lights when they detect headlights, frightening wildlife away. The virtual fences, known locally as Night Owls, were initially developed by Austrian company iPTE Traffic Solutions to keep deer out of traffic, but also protect Australian native fauna.

The government and charity-funded Save the Tasmanian Devil Program, which oversees the Tasman project, is devising a devil-proof barrier on the road bridge over a canal at East Bay Neck.

Hamilton said a team is testing a road grid set on rollers designed for the bridge. If a devil steps on the unstable grid, it would be tipped into a pit and could only exit through a tunnel to the side of the bridge it came from.

"It hasn't yet been perfected. Quite a lot of models have been tried," Hamilton said. "But there will be some tricky method to prevent devils passing."

Conservationists' success in the Tasman region is a rare piece of good news in the grim story of the cancer known as Devil Facial Tumor Disease.

Devils actually suffer from two forms of contagious cancer. The second was discovered last year and also is absent among the Tasman population. Only two other forms of contagious cancer have been found in any species; one affects dogs, the other soft-shell clams.

Initially scientists hoped that the spread of the disease would slow as devil numbers thinned because there would be fewer animals squabbling over carcasses.

But zoologist Menna Jones, whose University of Tasmania team was among the first scientists to identify the cancer, now believes that most of the transmission happens during ferocious mating. The male uses his powerful jaws to clamp his mate by the scruff of her neck as they copulate. Then the fighting really starts: She tries to find another mate quickly, while he tries to keep hold of her, snapping at any male rivals to give his own genes the best chance to propagate.

A major hope for the wild devil is the quest for a vaccine. Scientists released 19 immunized devils into a northern Tasmanian national park where the disease exists in September, and 18 of those had produced

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immune responses to the disease. However, even if the vaccine works, that protection will not pass to offspring.

Jones welcomed the Tasman Peninsula initiative as part of a multipronged approach to managing the threat to the species, but noted that it could mean two very different types of wild devils emerge in the future.

"What we're finding in the wild is that devils are not going extinct and we are getting indications of rapid evolution," Jones said, referring to evidence of natural resistance to the disease and of changing biting behavior.

"At some point in the future if devils in the wild population start to recover, they're going to be different from the ones that are in the insurance population, which would still be highly vulnerable and highly susceptible to the disease," she added.

That would mean the Tasman devils would still need to be separated from the rest of Tasmania. And if populations elsewhere falter, saving them from traffic will be all the more important.

Hamilton said no devil has been killed by a car in Tasman since the first 2 kilometers (1.2 miles) of Night Owls were installed in areas most prone to roadkill. He has raised 20,000 Australian dollars (\$14,500) through his Tasman wildlife park, Tasmanian Devil Unzoo, for another 3 kilometers (2 miles), and eventually wants the virtual fencing to extend the entire 38 kilometers (24 miles) from Dunalley to Port Arthur.

"Every single devil down here is incredibly precious," Hamilton said. "These are the last isolated, healthy, safe, wild devils on the planet."

Privacy fears: Panel has advice for drone operators

DAVID KOENIG, AP Business Writer

DALLAS (AP) — A panel of privacy experts and technology companies organized by the Obama administration has issued guidelines for using drones without being overly intrusive.

The suggestions are voluntary, but some business interests involved in the debate hope the guidelines head off tougher regulations that they fear could smother the drone industry in its infancy.

News organizations are exempt from the guidelines on free-press grounds.

Supporters say drones could provide huge benefits, from inspecting power lines to delivering medicine to remote areas. Google Inc. and Amazon.com Inc. want to use them for deliveries. Falling prices have made drones popular among hobbyists, too.

However, their small size and ability to go just about anywhere — while carrying cameras and sensors — have raised privacy concerns.

The Commerce Department's National Telecommunications and Information Administration on Thursday released the "best practices," which were supported by drone makers, Amazon and other technology companies and retailers, and privacy advocates. The suggestions are aimed at both commercial and private drone users.

Among the many recommendations:

—Operators shouldn't fly their drones over private property without the owner's consent.

—They should alert people in the area ahead of time when it is practical and explain the purpose of the drone flight.

—Unless there is "a compelling need," operators shouldn't fly a drone where someone has a reasonable expectation of privacy and a drone should not be used to follow someone continuously.

—Don't use information gathered by drones for decisions about employment, credit or eligibility for health care.

—Don't use personal information for marketing purposes without the individual's consent.

—Information from drones shouldn't be held longer than "reasonably necessary," although exceptions can be made for legal disputes, safety reasons or with permission of the person being watched.

There are about 5,600 drones registered for commercial purposes and about 450,000 hobbyists have

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registered at least one drone, according to figures from the Federal Aviation Administration. Their popularity has soared over the past year or so, putting pressure on the industry and privacy advocates to agree on guidelines governing their use.

The Consumer Technology Association, a corporate group whose members include Google, Apple and Microsoft, said this week's guidelines balance innovation and privacy. The group's director of regulatory affairs, Alex Reynolds, said that more "prescriptive rules" would threaten the benefits offered by drones, from delivering disaster relief to helping agriculture and infrastructure maintenance.

The Center for Democracy and Technology, a civil liberties group, said it hoped big companies and hobbyists alike would follow the guidelines.

"We're concerned about the widespread use of drones for surveillance without any rules," said Chris Calabrese, the group's vice president of policy. He said the group got all the important protections it wanted in the guidelines, including protection against persistent surveillance even in public places and use of drone-gathered data in employment and marketing.

News outlets including The Associated Press were represented in the discussions leading up to the guidelines and won an exemption. The standards say news organizations should be able to use drones the same way they use comparable technology — such as planes and helicopters — to record data in public spaces as long as they follow their own ethics policies and federal and state laws.

Joel Roberson, an attorney who represented the news groups, said the outcome "will ensure that news-reporting organizations have a First Amendment right to gather the news through drones in the national airspace."

There were some holdouts to the final report.

Four companies including GoPro, whose cameras are mounted on many drones, and drone maker DJI refused to sign the guidelines. Kara Calvert, a spokeswoman for the companies, said there are no such guidelines for security cameras or camera-toting people on ladders or rooftops. Drone users shouldn't face tougher rules, she said.

The American Civil Liberties Union objected to qualifiers that suggest drone operators can sometimes ignore the guidelines if they have a "compelling need" or "implied" consent of individuals.

"What does that mean?" said Jay Stanley, a privacy analyst with ACLU. "That kind of weasel language runs throughout the document."

The Federal Aviation Administration is close to issuing final rules regarding drones, but those regulations are expected to stick to safety issues, not privacy. Airline pilots have reported seeing drones flying dangerously close to their planes.

In February 2015, President Barack Obama ordered the Commerce Department's National Telecommunications and Information Administration to help develop best practices for privacy and other issues surrounding drone use.

Sanders campaign down to less than \$6 million in cash

JULIE BYKOWICZ, Associated Press

CHAD DAY, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Bernie Sanders' campaign had less than \$6 million at the start of May, a critical cash shortage as he makes an admittedly tough final play to wrest the Democratic presidential nomination from Hillary Clinton.

Sanders' rival had five times as much money, according to new Federal Election Commission filings, beginning the month with \$30 million in the bank.

The two were on roughly equal fundraising footing last month, with Clinton and Sanders each raising more than \$25 million. But the Vermont senator spent almost \$39 million to Clinton's \$24 million, the reports showed.

This year, Sanders has averaged more than \$40 million in spending per month, underlining how quickly he could blow through the cash he had on hand at the beginning of May.

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Since he started his presidential bid, Sanders has spent nearly \$207 million, about \$25 million more than Clinton's \$182 million in expenditures. For her part, Clinton has averaged \$26 million in spending per month since January.

Sanders' heavy campaign spending wasn't a problem when his online supporters were minting him money. But now that his fundraising has dropped, his high burn rate could hurt his chance to continue competing.

Even as he racked up primary victories last month and sharpened his attacks against the former secretary of state, online donors started holding back. Sanders raised considerably less in April than his record-setting \$46 million in March or \$43.5 million in February.

The Sanders campaign began taking steps late last month to downsize its operation. He reduced his payroll from about 1,000 to fewer than 400 employees. Sanders has pledged to continue in the race until the final primary, June 14 in Washington, D.C.

The latest reports showed that Sanders spent about \$21 million on media buys and digital consulting. The campaign paid \$17.3 million to Old Towne Media Inc., based in Alexandria, Virginia, and more than \$3.6 million to Revolution Messaging, a Washington advertising firm that concentrates on digital outreach.

Sanders plans to spend a little more than \$525,000 on television and radio advertising in California ahead of its June 7 primary, according to advertising tracker Kantar Media's CMAG. Clinton has not reserved any airtime there.

Clinton has tended to spend less on ads than Sanders. In April, her campaign spent about \$9.3 million on media buys and \$2.7 million more on online advertising, her report showed.

Sanders reported raising \$26.9 million in April through his campaign. Unlike Sanders, Clinton has been fundraising for months in partnership with the Democratic National Committee and state parties. Through that joint fundraising account and her campaign, she raised \$26.4 million in April for her primary battle with Sanders, though fundraising expenses sliced off about \$1.4 million.

Meanwhile, the DNC and state parties that have benefited from Clinton's fundraising help have begun investing in likely general election battleground states such as Ohio and Florida.

George P. Bush: A Bush can survive in Trump political world

WILL WEISSERT, Associated Press

DALLAS (AP) — George P. Bush was talking about his future political plans — and how Donald Trump wouldn't reshape them — when two women approached, giddy with excitement.

They wanted pictures with a man whose photogenic smile once landed him on People magazine's most-eligible bachelors list. Up close, though, they saw something unexpected.

"You look like your dad," Ruth Ann Pratt, a retired college math teacher from Lake Jackson, near Houston, finally exclaimed. "You turn slightly to the side, and you ARE your dad."

Bush only smiled. These days, being associated with his father, former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, may not be such a great thing.

Eighteen months after he was elected Texas land commissioner and a few weeks past his 40th birthday, Bush is quietly continuing his family's legacy. The grandson of one former president and nephew of another, he remains a rising star in America's largest conservative state and is keeping alive the possibility that a political dynasty declared dead by many when his dad flamed out of the presidential race could yet again return to national prominence.

What remains to be seen, though, is if a third George Bush can survive in a political world turned upside down by Trump — where Republican primary voters overwhelmingly have embraced the ultimate outsider who promises to smash the political establishment the Bushes embodied for decades.

"Regardless of what comes at me, I'll be prepared," Bush said of the possibility his last name has shifted from GOP royalty to a liability.

In an interview during the recent Texas Republican Convention in Dallas, Bush said that, like his father, grandfather and uncle, he isn't endorsing Trump or attending the Republican National Convention in Cleveland.

Bush said he was part of a national conservative movement concerned about Trump's candidacy.

"He has the ability to win us over if he clarifies many of his remarks and he demonstrates that he has humility and that he doesn't besmirch peoples' character as the motivating factor for why he's running for office," Bush said.

Pointing to his own sons, ages 1 and 3, he added: "I want them to be able to look at the Oval Office and see the presidential seal and say, 'That is somebody who I look up to.'"

Trump says being shunned by the Bushes proves he's not beholden to Washington powerbrokers. And Bush's hesitation to embrace Trump hasn't appeared to cost him much in Texas and beyond — at least not yet.

Joe Brettell, a former GOP congressional staffer now based in Houston said "George P. has one of the brightest political futures in the country."

"He is absolutely on any smart Republican's radar," Brettell said. "When the party begins to rebuild after Trump, Marco Rubio and George P. Bush will be two people that they look at as a blueprint for potential good times ahead."

Bush said he's not worried since "I believe that Texas is unique and its politics are separate from what's happening nationally."

"This isn't a smaller state where potentially there's more consolidation behind another candidate," he said.

Texas' GOP establishment has long seen Bush, whose mother was born in Mexico and who speaks fluent Spanish, as a potential powerhouse — especially for Hispanics, who will become the state's majority population by around 2030.

The land commissioner's office has sometimes led to better-known posts. It's hard to imagine Bush challenging Texas' popular and ideologically similar Gov. Greg Abbott, in a 2018 Republican primary. But Bush, an attorney, could be a favorite in the state's race for attorney general. Texas's current attorney general, Republican Ken Paxton, is facing felony securities fraud indictments that may complicate the re-election bid he's vowing to mount in two years.

Bush, however, says he has "every intention of running again for the General Land Office, but my priorities right now require my focus to be on the here and the now."

His agency oversees the state's publicly held land, roughly 13 million acres, and administers mineral rights leases to oil and gas companies, which has generated nearly \$17 billion for public schools.

Still, in speeches, Bush is quick to mention national issues. Addressing Texas' Republican Convention, he offered a message directly to President Barack Obama and Democratic presidential front runner Hillary Clinton.

"You want to regulate our jobs? You want to take our land? You want to control our guns and our rights? You want to run our schools? You want to take over our state?" Bush asked. "No! Way!"

Emmy McDaniel, a Texas GOP delegate from Pflugerville, just north of Austin, said of Bush: "We're going to hear a lot more from him in the future."

"He's going to be sidelined a little with what happened with his dad," she said. "But, in the long term and for many years, I think he'll be running for bigger offices."

Secret Service shoots man with gun outside White House

BEN NUCKOLS, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A U.S. Secret Service officer shot a man with a gun who approached a checkpoint outside the White House and refused to drop his weapon, the Secret Service said.

The White House was briefly placed on a security alert after the Friday afternoon shooting, which happened within view of sightseers as sidewalks were crowded with families, school groups and government workers.

The armed man approached the checkpoint on E Street shortly after 3 p.m., and ignored repeated orders from the officer to drop his gun, according to a statement from David Iacovetti, a Secret Service deputy assistant director.

The officer fired one shot at the man and the gun was recovered at the scene, Iacovetti said. The man

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was transported in critical condition to a nearby hospital, an emergency medical services spokesman said.

President Barack Obama was away playing golf, but Vice President Joe Biden was in the White House complex and was secured during the lockdown, his office said. The security alert was lifted about an hour later.

The gunman never made it inside the White House complex, and no one else was injured, the Secret Service said.

A U.S. law enforcement official said Friday evening that authorities had identified the gunman as Jesse Oliveri of Ashland, Pennsylvania. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the official was not authorized to release the information.

Federal agents found ammunition inside a Toyota sedan, parked nearby on Constitution Avenue, that the gunman was believed to have driven, the official said.

Sightseer Jenna Noelle of Austin, Texas, said she had just taken a photo of the White House when she noticed a man harassing an agent.

Then, "as we were walking away we heard a shot fired, then some people started running away and agents had guns and were evacuating people."

"I had a panic attack," she added. "I'm doing OK now, but it was pretty freaky to be right there a second before it happened. Not really the experience we wanted," she added.

Community activist Akil Patterson said he heard a single gunshot while waiting in a security line. Within seconds, a security guard shouted to drop to the ground, and then he was evacuated to the street.

Patterson said he was at the White House to get a presidential award for his work with Baltimore teens. He says his community work aims to "get rid of the notion that gun violence is the answer."

Oklahoma governor vetoes bill criminalizing abortion

SEAN MURPHY, Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Oklahoma Gov. Mary Fallin vetoed legislation that would have effectively outlawed abortion in the state by making it a felony for doctors to perform the procedure, saying the measure vague and would not withstand a legal challenge.

Fallin, a Republican who opposes abortion, vetoed the measure Friday, just a day after the Legislature passed it. The bill, which abortion-rights group Center for Reproductive Rights said was the first of its kind in the U.S., also would restrict any physician who performs an abortion from obtaining or renewing a license to practice medicine in Oklahoma.

"The bill is so ambiguous and so vague that doctors cannot be certain what medical circumstances would be considered 'necessary to preserve the life of the mother,'" Fallin wrote in her veto message. "While I consistently have and continue to support a re-examination of the United States Supreme Court's decision in Roe v. Wade, this legislation cannot accomplish that re-examination."

The bill's sponsor, Republican Sen. Nathan Dahm, said the measure was aimed at ultimately overturning the U.S. Supreme Court's 1973 decision that legalized abortion nationwide. Dahm said Friday that he was considering whether to try to override the governor's veto, which would require a two-thirds majority in each chamber, a threshold that was not met in the House when the bill passed.

"Of course I'll consider it," Dahm said. "I'm weighing my options."

The bill would have made it a felony punishable by up to three years in prison for anyone who performs an abortion, including doctors. State law already makes it a felony for anyone who's not a doctor to perform an abortion, and Dahm's bill would have removed the exemption for physicians.

The Senate approved the bill 33-12 vote with no debate on Thursday; the 101-member House approved it April 21 on a 59-9 vote.

Dahm had said Thursday after the bill's passage that he hoped it could lead to overturning Roe v. Wade.

"Since I believe life begins at conception, it should be protected, and I believe it's a core function of state government to defend that life from the beginning of conception," said Dahm, from Broken Arrow.

But abortion-rights supporters — and the state's medical association — said the bill was unconstitutional.

Sen. Ervin Yen, an Oklahoma City Republican and the only physician in the Senate, described the measure as “insane” and voted against it.

Trump’s campaign investment tops \$43 million

CHAD DAY, Associated Press

JULIE BYKOWICZ, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Donald Trump poured more than \$7.5 million of his own money into his presidential campaign in April, bringing his total personal investment to more than \$43 million since he declared his candidacy, new campaign finance reports filed late Friday show.

The billionaire businessman, who swatted away 16 Republican rivals and relied heavily on wall-to-wall media coverage of his outsized personality and often inflammatory remarks, reported spending about \$56 million during the primary, which lasted until his final two rivals, Texas Sen. Ted Cruz and Ohio Gov. John Kasich, dropped out of the race at the beginning of May.

In April alone, Trump spent nearly \$9.4 million, according to his monthly filing with the Federal Election Commission. Trump’s largest expense in April, about \$2.6 million, was for advertisements. The campaign also spent more than \$930,000 on direct mail. Other big-ticket items included roughly \$585,000 in airfare paid to Trump’s TAG Air Inc.

While much of Trump’s money has come from his own pocket, he reported about \$1.7 million in donations last month. Those contributions have come largely from people buying Trump’s campaign merchandise, including the red “Make America Great Again” ball caps, and giving online through his campaign website. Trump didn’t begin developing a team of fundraisers until recently, after he became the presumptive GOP nominee.

Almost all of Trump’s personal investment has come in the form of loans. That leaves open the possibility that he can repay himself now that he’s aggressively seeking donations. A new fundraising agreement he struck with the Republican National Committee and 11 state parties explicitly seeks contributions for his primary campaign.

Yet Trump said in a statement this week that he has “absolutely no intention” of paying himself back.

Instead, he will be able to use any primary money he raises, in increments of up to \$2,700 per donor, on expenses such as salaries, advertising and voter outreach over the next nine weeks. After the GOP convention in late July, Trump will officially become the nominee and be restricted to spending money that’s earmarked for the general election.

His likely rival, Democrat Hillary Clinton, has a head start on building a war chest for the November election. She partnered with Democratic parties months ago and has been raising millions of dollars for them. In April alone, she collected almost \$800,000 in campaign money for the general election.

By contrast, Trump will hold his first campaign fundraiser next week, an event in Los Angeles where the minimum price of admission is \$25,000, according to the invitation. Those donations are to be split among Trump’s campaign and his Republican Party allies.

In addition to the Trump campaign’s financial health, the filings also show that when Cruz dropped out, money wasn’t the issue: He had \$9.4 million in his campaign coffers at the end of April, just days before his defeat May 3 in the Indiana primary prompted him to end his bid. At the time, Cruz said he left the race because he saw no path forward.

New San Francisco police chief inherits city divided by race

PAUL ELIAS, Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — First, police fatally shot two minority suspects carrying knives. Then transcripts surfaced showing officers using racial slurs in text messages. Finally, a young black woman was shot dead as police tried to pull her from a stolen car.

The woman’s shooting death Thursday was the tipping point for San Francisco Mayor Ed Lee, who forced

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Police Chief Greg Suhr to step down after months of mounting pressure.

The new chief inherits the daunting task of turning around a troubled department in a city deeply divided by race — and doing it fast.

“Reforms, reforms, reforms,” acting Police Chief Toney Chaplin said Friday when asked about his priorities.

Chaplin, who is black, is a 26-year veteran of the department. Until Thursday, he was a deputy chief in charge of implementing Suhr’s reforms. Previously, Chaplin was a lieutenant in charge of homicide investigations.

The 47-year-old Oklahoma native said he intends to carry on with plans to equip officers with body cameras.

“It’s not going to solve everything, but it will give us another look at what’s happening, hopefully from the officer’s perspective,” Chaplin said.

He said he will also continue to push for several reforms aimed at cutting down on the number of officer shootings, such as giving suspects armed with knives “time and distance” to surrender rather than having officers pull their guns and shoot.

Police Commission President Suzy Loftus said Chaplin “is not going to skip a step” in implementing changes because of his position before he was appointed chief.

Chaplin’s appointment is on an interim basis. The commission is in charge of forwarding a short list of three candidates to the mayor.

Chaplin said he isn’t thinking yet about the permanent position.

“There’s too much work to do,” he said.

The mayor appointed him Thursday, the same day the previous chief stepped down. He already has the support of the NAACP and the police officer’s union.

Chaplin “has the charisma, chemistry and courage to lead this department,” said Rev. Amos Brown, president of the San Francisco chapter of the NAACP.

The mayor said the department is still expected to plow ahead with announced changes.

“I will hold the acting chief and the department to a high standard of urgency,” Lee said.

The mayor accepted Suhr’s resignation hours after a young black woman driving a stolen car was fatally shot by a sergeant. The unidentified sergeant and another officer were struggling to pull the woman from the moving car, which had seconds before slammed into a parked utility truck.

She was identified Friday by the medical examiner as Jessica Williams, 29.

It was the third fatal shooting of an unarmed minority suspect since five officers shot to death a young black man carrying a knife in December. That shooting was captured on video and circulated widely online. It appeared to contradict Suhr’s initial assertion that the suspect menaced officers with the knife before they opened fire.

The video and Suhr’s initial statement prompted protests and calls for his resignation. Those calls intensified in April, when police shot and killed a homeless Latino man who was also carrying a knife.

Several days later, transcripts that showed three officers exchanging racist and homophobic text messages were released. It was the second such texting scandal to rock the department since late 2014, when the public learned that eight officers had also exchanged inappropriate messages ridiculing minority suspects and using slurs.

Though those texts were exchanged before Suhr was appointed chief in 2011, he was criticized for failing to discipline the officers quickly enough. A judge overturned Suhr’s attempts to fire the men, ruling that he failed to act within a year of discovering the messages. The officers remain on duty, but the city is appealing the judge’s decision.

Chuck Wexler, head of the Police Executive Research Foundation, a Washington D.C. think tank, said that the previous chief had put the department on the right track in changing its use-of-force policy. Wexler’s organization was helping Suhr develop new policies, and he believes Chaplin will keep seeking improvements.

“There has to be a sense of urgency,” Wexler said, “and a recognition that times of changed.”

One policy change Wexler advocates is barring police from shooting into moving vehicles. New York,

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Cleveland and several other major cities have adopted that policy. Wexler said police shootings have dropped dramatically because of it.

Currently, San Francisco police can shoot at a moving vehicle if an officer believes the auto is going to kill someone.

Until Thursday, the mayor remained firmly behind the politically connected Suhr, repeatedly saying he was confident that the chief was making needed reforms. Union head Martin Halloran said Suhr was popular with the rank and file, calling him a "cop's cop."

Halloran said he and the union were disappointed that the mayor had forced Suhr to quit, but that the Police Officers Association supports the new chief.

Chaplin "is an experienced veteran of the SFPD and is more than capable of leading this fine department during this transition," Halloran said.

San Francisco has one of the sharpest disparities in the country between blacks and whites and the level of violence they experience.

In the 10 years that ended in 2014, a black male in San Francisco was 52 times more likely to die in an intentional shooting than a white, non-Hispanic male in the same city, according to mortality data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

That's much worse than the disparity nationally during the same period, when black men were 13.5 times more likely to be killed by a firearm assault.

Derby winner Nyquist ready for Preakness, even a rainy one

RICHARD ROSENBLATT, AP Racing Writer

BALTIMORE (AP) — Let it rain again on the Preakness. Team Nyquist doesn't seem concerned.

A driving rainstorm didn't faze American Pharoah as he splashed his way to victory in the second leg of the Triple Crown last year, and it sure appears like Kentucky Derby winner Nyquist will have to do the same thing in a bid to set up another Triple try in the Belmont Stakes.

The National Weather Service forecast Friday night called for a 100 percent chance of rain beginning early Saturday in the Baltimore area and continuing throughout the day, with as much as one inch possible in some areas. Temperatures are expected to be in the mid- to upper 50s with wind gusts up to 20 mph. Post time for the Preakness at is 6:45 p.m.

"With a horse like Nyquist, I'm not overly concerned about the weather," trainer Doug O'Neill said on a bright, sunny Friday morning. "As far as rain or shine, we're not going to change anything shoeing-wise. He's going to wear the same shoes he's got on. We'd just love to have a beautiful day."

Rain could be a good thing for several of his top rivals, though, especially Derby runner-up Exaggerator, or long shot Cherry Wine. Both have run well in the mud, with Exaggerator taking the Santa Anita Derby on a sloppy track and Cherry Wine breaking his maiden by 9 1/2 lengths under similar conditions.

"I'll be one of the few people doing a rain dance," Cherry Wine's trainer Dale Romans said.

Nyquist, with an 8-0 record, won the Florida Derby over a surface listed as good even though the track had been drenched by a rainstorm before the race.

The fleet son of Uncle Mo is a win away from a shot at the Triple Crown, which would give racing back-to-back Triples for the second time. American Pharoah became the first to sweep the Derby, Preakness and Belmont since Affirmed in 1978, a year after Seattle Slew won it.

But first, Nyquist has to defeat 10 rivals at 1 3-16ths miles over Pimlico Race Course, a track he's become familiar with over the past two weeks. The 3-5 favorite leaves from the No. 3 post with Mario Gutierrez aboard.

O'Neill has been through this before, along with owner J. Paul Reddam and Gutierrez. In 2012, they won the Derby and Preakness with I'll Have Another, who was retired the day before the Belmont with an injury.

Asked what would be an ideal trip for Nyquist, O'Neill didn't hesitate: "We break great, have the lead and go really easy around there. Mario knows Nyquist so well. He has so much speed away from the gate, ideally, he gets good position wherever that is and he runs a big race."

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Exaggerator, the 3-1 second choice, may be the most accomplished mudder in the field. In addition to his Santa Anita Derby win, he won once and finished second over muddy tracks.

"He's run on every track that's been put before him and that may prove to be an advantage," Exaggerator's trainer Keith Desormeaux said. "But I am not sure wishing for one track over another. I'd prefer to have my picture taken in the sun."

Lani, the first Japan-based horse in the Preakness, is the only other Derby starter in the field. The flighty gray colt arrived at Pimlico on Thursday. He's run three times on "off-tracks" in Japan, with a win, a second- and a fifth-place.

"It would not be great, but everybody has to run on it," Lani's trainer Mikio Matsunaga said of a possible sloppy track.

Among the eight new shooters, Abiding Star, Awesome Speed, Cherry Wine, Fellowship and Uncle Lino have shown they can handle an off-track.

Horses usually are fitted with shoes made of lightweight aluminum. When a track surface becomes muddy or sloppy, trainers could opt for mud caulks — small cleats inserted on the back end of the shoe for better traction. Shoe changes are determined the day of the race.

Unlike the Derby, the Preakness is full of front-runners, horses who like to run on the lead. Nyquist is one of them, along with Abiding Star, Awesome Speed, Collected, Laoban and Uncle Lino. If the pace is too fast, it gives closers a chance to make a winning run at the end.

Which is what Romans is hoping for when Cherry Wine breaks from the inside No. 1 post.

"We'll fall back and chase the speed and come running at the end," he said, adding jokingly (but sort of seriously), "I challenge Doug to be on the lead by the 5/8ths pole. Don't listen to what anyone else says. Just go for it. Make them go fast."

It might not matter.

"The thing about our horse is we don't know for real how good he is," Reddam said. "Other than his maiden race, which doesn't really count at five furlongs, he has not been in an all-out drive. So we think there's a lot more in the tank."

Today in History The Associated Press

Today is Saturday, May 21, the 142nd day of 2016. There are 224 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 21, 1927, Charles A. Lindbergh landed his Spirit of St. Louis monoplane near Paris, completing the first solo airplane flight across the Atlantic Ocean in 33 1/2 hours.

On this date:

In 1471, King Henry VI of England died in the Tower of London at age 49.

In 1542, Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto died while searching for gold along the Mississippi River.

In 1881, Clara Barton founded the American Red Cross.

In 1892, the opera "Pagliacci," by Ruggero Leoncavallo, premiered in Milan, Italy.

In 1924, in a case that drew much notoriety, 14-year-old Bobby Franks was murdered in a "thrill killing" carried out by University of Chicago students Nathan Leopold Jr. and Richard Loeb (Bobby's cousin).

In 1932, Amelia Earhart became the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean as she landed in Northern Ireland, about 15 hours after leaving Newfoundland.

In 1941, a German U-boat sank the American merchant steamship SS Robin Moor in the South Atlantic after the ship's passengers and crew were allowed to board lifeboats.

In 1945, actors Humphrey Bogart, 45, and Lauren Bacall, 20, were married at Malabar Farm in Lucas, Ohio (it was his fourth marriage, her first, and would last until Bogart's death in 1957).

In 1959, the musical "Gypsy," inspired by the life of stripper Gypsy Rose Lee, opened on Broadway with Ethel Merman starring as Mama Rose.

In 1972, Michelangelo's Pieta, on display at the Vatican, was damaged by a hammer-wielding man who

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shouted he was Jesus Christ.

In 1982, during the Falklands War, British amphibious forces landed on the beach at San Carlos Bay.

In 1991, former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated during national elections by a suicide bomber.

Ten years ago: Iraq's new prime minister, Nouri al-Maliki (NOO'-ree ahl-MAHL'-ih-kee), promised to use "maximum force" if necessary to end the brutal insurgent and sectarian violence racking his country. Anthony Bell of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, was charged with shooting to death his wife and four of her relatives. (Bell was later convicted of murder and sentenced to death.) Katherine Dunham, a pioneering dancer, author and civil rights activist, died in New York City at age 96. Grand Ole Opry legend Billy Walker died in a traffic accident along an Alabama interstate highway; he was 77.

Five years ago: The apocalypse did not arrive, despite the prophecy of 89-year-old Christian broadcast group operator Harold Camping, who had been predicting the rolling global destruction of Judgment Day for years. Shackleford won the Preakness, holding off a late charge from Kentucky Derby-winner Animal Kingdom to win as a 12-1 underdog.

One year ago: Four Malaysian navy ships began searching for stranded boat people in the first official rescue operation since desperate migrants started washing up on Southeast Asia's shores. The Family Research Council said it had accepted the resignation of Josh Duggar in the wake of the reality TV star's apology for unspecified bad behavior as a young teen. (Duggar later admitted molesting five underage girls as a teenager, including two of his sisters, cheating on his wife and being addicted to pornography; those revelations led to the cancellation of the TLC show "19 Kids and Counting.")

Today's Birthdays: Rhythm-and-blues singer Ron Isley (The Isley Brothers) is 75. Rock musician Hilton Valentine (The Animals) is 73. Actor Richard Hatch is 71. Musician Bill Champlin is 69. Singer Leo Sayer is 68. Actress Carol Potter is 68. Sen. Al Franken, D-Minn., is 65. Actor Mr. T is 64. Music producer Stan Lynch is 61. Actor Judge Reinhold is 59. Actor-director Nick Cassavetes is 57. Actor Brent Briscoe is 55. Actress Lisa Edelstein is 50. Actress Fairuza Balk is 42. Rock singer-musician Mikel Jollett (Airborne Toxic Event) is 42. Rapper Havoc (Mobb Deep) is 42. Actor Sunkrish Bala (TV: "Castle") is 32. Actor David Ajala is 30. Actress Ashlie Brillault is 29. Actor Scott Leavenworth is 26. Actress Sarah Ramos is 25.

Thought for Today: "Being frustrated is disagreeable, but the real disasters of life begin when you get what you want." — Irving Kristol, American writer (1920-2009).