

Groton Daily Independent

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Fr. Kelly celebrates 40 years

Celebrating 40 years of priesthood in honor of Fr. Mike Kelly at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, 803 North 1st Street, Groton. Please join us for an Open House on June 12th from 2-4 pm with a short program at 3pm. Hors d'oeuvres and cupcakes will be served.

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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Wednesday, June 1

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

Anniv: Matt & Tammy Locke

Birthdays: Anita Lowary • Chad Barton • Mayme Baker

7:00am: United Methodist Men's Bible Study
12:00pm: Kiwanis meets at the Community Center

1:30pm: St. John's Ladies Aid LWML

5:00pm: Emmanuel Lutheran Sarah Circle

6:00pm: Legion hosts Sisseton (2)

Thursday, June 2

Senior Menu: Swiss steak with mushroom gravy, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, rice and raisins, whole wheat bread.

Birthdays: Lindsey Gese • Heather Koens • Tim Waage • Tom Waage • Trent Anderson • Tiffany Lerew • Charlene Millim • Rick Rossow

1:30pm: St. John's Nursery Circle

2:00pm: Emmanuel Lutheran Nigeria Circle

Friday, June 3

Legion at Milbank Tourney

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

Anniv: Harvey & Sue Flihs II

Birthdays: Eric Johnson • Ryan Johnson • Doug Ehrenberg • Amber Stumpf • Vicki Rossow

11:30am: James Valley Telco Annual Meeting at GHS Arena

Saturday, June 4

Legion at Milbank Tourney

Fresh flowers, silks, home decor



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Monsons race at Oahe Speedway

Oahe Speedway opened up the track to the start of their 12th season on the weekend of May 7th. The weekend was met with a great car count, beautiful weather, and some amazing people. If you have never ventured out to the track you should. It is 13 miles north of Pierre on highway 1804. The facility is one of the nicest in the state and the only quarter mile track that is sanctioned by NHRA. They have plenty of seating, a full concession stand and the race pits are open to the public to get up close to the cars. Anyone is welcome to race and you can find more information on their website www.oahespeedway.com or on their facebook: Oahe Speedway.

Saturday Shootout Races May 7, 2016

No Box

Winner: Butch Monson Groton, SD 69 Mustang

Runner Up: Curt England Pierre, SD 95 Ford Mustang

Trophy Shootout

Winner: Cameron Biggins Winner, SD 78 Chevy Malibu

Runner up: Duane Soper Gettysburg, SD 72 Ford Pinto

Mustang/Corvette Meet in the Middle Match up

Winner: Leroy Uhrig Pierre, SD 08 Shelby GT

Runner Up: Doug Jones Ipswich, SD 16 Ford Mustang

Junior Shootout

Winner Cody Nelson Sturgis SD 10' Junior Dragster

Runner Up Evan Huse Onida SD 07' Motivational Junior Dragster



Above: Stan "Butch" Monson (father) Below: Hunter Monson (son)
Butch's car is a 69 Mustang Hunter's car is a 06 Mustang

Ardys Roseland Images



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Sunday Coca-Cola Points Race #1 Sponsored by Coca-Cola of Pierre
Super Pro

Winner: Terry Koch Sioux Falls SD 91 Ford Probe
Runner Up: Ken Standiford Midland, SD 66 Ranchero
Pro

Winner: Glenn Walz Freeman, SD 68' Nova
Runner Up: Jerry Mooney Wall, SD 69 Torino

Diesel Services Inc. Bike/Sled Class

Winner: Chris Boom Rapid City, SD 01' Artic Cat Sled
Runner Up: David Tibert Grand Forks, ND 10' Suzuki Hyabusa
Sportsman

Winner: Karen England Pierre, SD 01' Mustang
Runner Up: Mike Haraldson Pierre, SD 78' Oldsmobile
Street Trophy

Winner: Hunter Monson Groton SD 06 Mustang

Runner Up: Mike Schmidt Pierre, SD 89' Ford Festiva
Snap-on High School Class

Winner: Cameron Biggins Winner, SD 78 Chevy Malibu

Runner Up: Hunter Monson Groton SD 06 Mustang

Bankwest Junior Major Class

Winner: Zach Zebroski Pierre, SD 09 Visions Junior Dragster
Runner Up: Jonathan Huse Onida SD 2012 Huddleston Junior Dragster
Bankwest Junior Minor Class

Winner: Evan Huse Onida, SD 07' Motivational Junior Dragster

Runner Up: Tommy Stickelmyer Aberdeen, SD 2011 Motivational Junior Dragster

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Gasoline Prices May Have Peaked for the Year, AAA Reports

Summer driving season begins with gas at 11-year lows.

May 31, 2016 – AAA South Dakota reports pump prices statewide have risen about 12 cents a gallon in the past three weeks. But even though the average South Dakota price for self-serve regular today, \$2.29, is higher than it's been, AAA says it is still 34 cents below the average one year ago and 3 cents below today's national average of \$2.32. Drivers are paying the lowest gas prices for this time of year in more than a decade.

	Today	Last Week	Change	2-May	Change	Last year
Aberdeen	\$2.196	\$2.187	\$0.009	\$2.123	\$0.073	\$2.617
Brookings	\$2.392	\$2.278	\$0.114	\$2.178	\$0.214	\$2.655
Huron	\$2.235	\$2.149	\$0.086	\$2.310	-\$0.075	\$2.562
Mitchell	\$2.273	\$2.169	\$0.104	\$2.143	\$0.130	\$2.520
Pierre	\$2.385	\$2.302	\$0.083	\$2.183	\$0.202	\$2.747
Rapid City	\$2.255	\$2.256	-\$0.001	\$2.142	\$0.113	\$2.461
Sioux Falls	\$2.235	\$2.184	\$0.051	\$2.083	\$0.152	\$2.461
Vermillion	\$2.399	\$2.266	\$0.133	\$2.141	\$0.258	\$2.699
Watertown	\$2.376	\$2.269	\$0.107	\$2.188	\$0.188	\$2.692
Yankton	\$2.313	\$2.265	\$0.048	\$2.113	\$0.200	\$2.600
South Dakota	\$2.295	\$2.272	\$0.023	\$2.149	\$0.146	\$2.637

"Those about to embark on a great American road trip have reason to celebrate," said Marilyn Buskohl, spokeswoman for AAA South Dakota. "Not only are pump prices quite a bit below where they were last year at this time, it also looks like we have successfully weathered the spring refinery transition to the production of summer-grade fuels and prices may have peaked for the year."

A wildcard for gas prices in the coming months is the Atlantic Hurricane Season, which runs from June 1 to November 30. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Climate Prediction Center, this year's season will likely be near normal, which means of the 10 to 16 named storms, four to eight could become hurricanes.

Should any of these severe storms or hurricanes reach landfall, production, refining and distribution could be impacted, which likely would lead to price spikes in South Dakota. More than 45 percent of the U.S.'s total petroleum refining capacity resides in the Gulf Coast region.

The latest data from the U.S. EIA reflects a draw in gasoline stocks in the Gulf Coast region, but inventories remain well over year-ago levels, and pump prices held relatively steady on the week.

Quick Stats

- The nation's top five most expensive markets are: California (\$2.81), Hawaii (\$2.70), Alaska (\$2.61), Washington (\$2.60) and Washington, D.C. (\$2.51).
- The nation's top five least expensive markets are: Mississippi (\$2.09), Texas (\$2.09), South Carolina (\$2.10), Arkansas (\$2.11) and Louisiana (\$2.11).
- The national gas price average came in at \$2.25 per gallon in May, 44 cents per gallon less than a year ago and the cheapest average for the month since 2005.

Oil Market Dynamics

Over the past week both global crude oil benchmarks, Brent and West Texas Intermediate, exceeded the \$50 per barrel threshold due to expectations of tightening supply. The wildfires in the Canadian Oil Sands and geopolitical tensions in Nigeria and Libya helped to boost the price. Crude oil is also reportedly gaining strength on a weakening U.S. dollar which makes oil less expensive for countries holding other currencies. Attention is now focused on OPEC's next meeting, scheduled for June 2, though the cartel may continue its current course of action and refrain from cutting production to help balance the market.

At the close of Friday's formal trading session on the NYMEX, WTI closed down 15 cents to settle at \$49.33 per barrel.

The Life of Dr. Donald A. Flihs



Dr. Donald A. Flihs, Belle Glade, Fla., and formerly of rural Brown County, South Dakota, passed away at his home on May 10, 2016, at the age of 80. Funeral services were held Saturday, May 14, 2016 with the Rev. Richard Arndt and Benjamin Schroeder of St. Peter's Lutheran Church, officiating.

Don was born January 4, 1936, at the farm home of his parents, Robert and Christina Flihs, in the James-Groton area. He was the youngest of four siblings: Marvin, Irvin, Robert Jr. and sister Irene. He attended rural county grade school until the eighth grade when many of the rural schools in the area were being closed. He then attended school in Groton until the late off of his sophomore year when he accompanied his parents to a new home in

the Clewiston-Belle Glade, Fla., area. He graduated from Belle Glade High School in 1953 going on to the University of Miami earning a BBA degree. He then attended the Illinois College of Optometry where he received an O.D. of Optometry degree. He opened his optometric practice in Belle Glade in 1961 where he provided quality eye care to the Glades community for 55 years.

Don was a member of St. Peter's Lutheran Church for 65 years and served as an Elder, President of the Congregation, and President of the Board of Christian Education at St. Peter's Lutheran School in Belle Glade.

He was also Past-President of the Lions Club, Chamber of Commerce and A. R. C. Don was Chairman of the Black Gold Jubilee Committee for several years. He served on the board of Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center, Board of Trustees for Glades Day School, the American Heart Association, and the Arthritis Foundation, receiving numerous awards from each. He was Vice-President of the board for Glades General Hospital during its transition to become Lakeside Medical Center. Don was awarded Belle Glade Man of the Year in 1967 and received a commendation from the city in 2011 for 50 years of continuing quality eye care to the Glades communities that he proudly called home.

Don was pre-deceased by his parents, Robert and Christina Flihs, Robert Flihs Jr. and Irene Nehls all of Belle Glade; Irvin Flihs of Claremont and Marvin Flihs of Cogswell, N.D.; two nieces, Kathy Nehls of Belle Glade and Jeannette Flihs Wegner of Bella Vista, Ark.

While living in South Dakota and attending the Groton Schools, he very much enjoyed the winter sport of ice skating and the annual Carnival of Silver Skates. He made frequent trips back to South Dakota to visit family and friends. In 2003 he was very proud to take part in his 50th class reunion in the Jungle Day parade with former classmates.

He is survived by his wife, Janis, of 50 years, daughter Michelle Flihs (Greg) Waldon, Wellington, Fla.; son Michael (Michelle) Flihs, Belle Glade; granddaughter Lauryn Flihs and Greg Walden, Jr., and great granddaughters Mylah and Vannah Walden. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

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GROTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

June 6, 2016 - 7pm
Groton Community Center

- 1) Minutes
- 2) Financial Report
- 3) Bills
- 4) Request for Handicap Parking space directly N of Am Legion driveway on Main St
- 5) Department Reports – Herron, Zerr, Lambertz
 - a) Herron - Well Capping Quotations & Handicap Painting
 - b) Lambertz - Burned service wire – LED lites
- 6) 7:30pm – Renewal of Malt Beverage Licenses
 - a) Ken's
 - b) MJ's
- 7) 7:45pm – Temporary Malt Beverage License to Groton Amateur Baseball Mitchell Locke, Pres – Groton Baseball Complex July 27-31 -- Playoffs
- 8) Stop Sign Resolution for State St & W 3rd Ave
- 9) Meetings available:
 - a) July 12 – Madison – Heartland Power Summer Customer Meeting
 - b) July 20 – Pierre – SDML Elected Officials Workshop
- 10) Executive Session – Personnel
- 11) Hire Cody Swanson – for pool - lessons only

AND any other business that may come before the Council

45th Annual...

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IRRIGATION DAYS 2016

June 9, 10, 11 & 12, 2016 • Oakes, ND

Carnival, Car Show, Grand Parade, Street Dances, Outdoor Funky Fun Junkfest, Fun Run, Golf Tourney, Demo Derby, Tractor Pulls, Rodeo, Merchant Crazy Daze, Karaoke Contest, Picnic in Park, Food Vendors, Social and Youth Activities and so much more! For the full listing of events, go to Facebook at Oakes Irrigation Days 2016 or on the web at oakesnd.com. All neighboring communities and businesses are encouraged to join in our parade.



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Today in Weather History

1812 - Apple trees at New Haven CT did not blossom until the first of June, the latest such occurrence during the period beginning in 1794. Snow whitened the ground in Cleveland OH and Rochester NY. (David Ludlum)

1903 - A strong tornado just 50 to 75 yards in width killed many persons around the Gainesville GA Cotton Mill. The tornado strengthened and widened near the end of its four mile path, killing 40 persons at New Holland GA. A total of 104 persons were killed in the tornado. (The Weather Channel)

1980 - A man from Falmouth ME was struck by lightning restoring his eyesight. The man had been blind and partially deaf since a truck accident in 1971. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Severe thunderstorms in the Upper Mississippi Valley and the Lower Ohio Valley produced wind gusts to 81 mph at Albert Lea Airport in southern Minnesota, and baseball size hail around Otterbein IN, Sarona WI, and Danville IL. Two inches of hail totally destroyed 5000 acres of corn and soybean north of Danville. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Thunderstorms drenched north central Texas with torrential rains, with more than 14 inches reported in Commanche County. Afternoon thunderstorm in New Jersey and Pennsylvania produced wind gusts to 70 mph. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Thunderstorms developing during the afternoon over the Southern Plains Region produced severe weather through the evening and the night, spawning nine tornadoes. Thunderstorms produced wind gusts to 80 mph at Alpine TX, and baseball size hail at Balmorhea, TX, Fluvanna, TX, and in Borden County, TX. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

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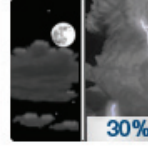

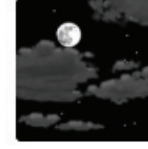

Avera 
Health Plans

for out patient therapy.

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Today	Tonight	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday
						
Mostly Cloudy and Breezy	Mostly Clear	Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy then Chance T-storms	Chance T-storms	Partly Cloudy	Slight Chance T-storms and Breezy
High: 65 °F	Low: 40 °F	High: 78 °F	Low: 56 °F	High: 79 °F	Low: 57 °F	High: 74 °F



Dry and Relatively Cool start to Meteorological Summer (June 1st)!



- Highs in the low 60s to low 70s
- Northwest winds 10 to 20 mph
- Warmer/wetter to end the week

Weather Forecast Office
Aberdeen, SD

www.weather.gov/abr @NWSAberdeen
US National Weather Service Aberdeen

GRAPHIC CREATED:
6/1/2016 5:16 AM

Published on: 06/01/2016 at 5:17AM

Welcome to Meteorological Summer (June 1st)! Low pressure over far northwestern Minnesota will exit across Ontario this afternoon, as a ridge of dry high pressure builds into our area late this afternoon through tonight. The result will be diminishing clouds from west to east. Northwest winds will remain gusty through mid afternoon. Temperatures today will top out in the low 60s to low 70s, warmest over central South Dakota. Warmer conditions will slide in for Thursday, with highs in the upper 70s to mid 80s. The next good chance of showers and thunderstorms will arrive Thursday night into Friday.

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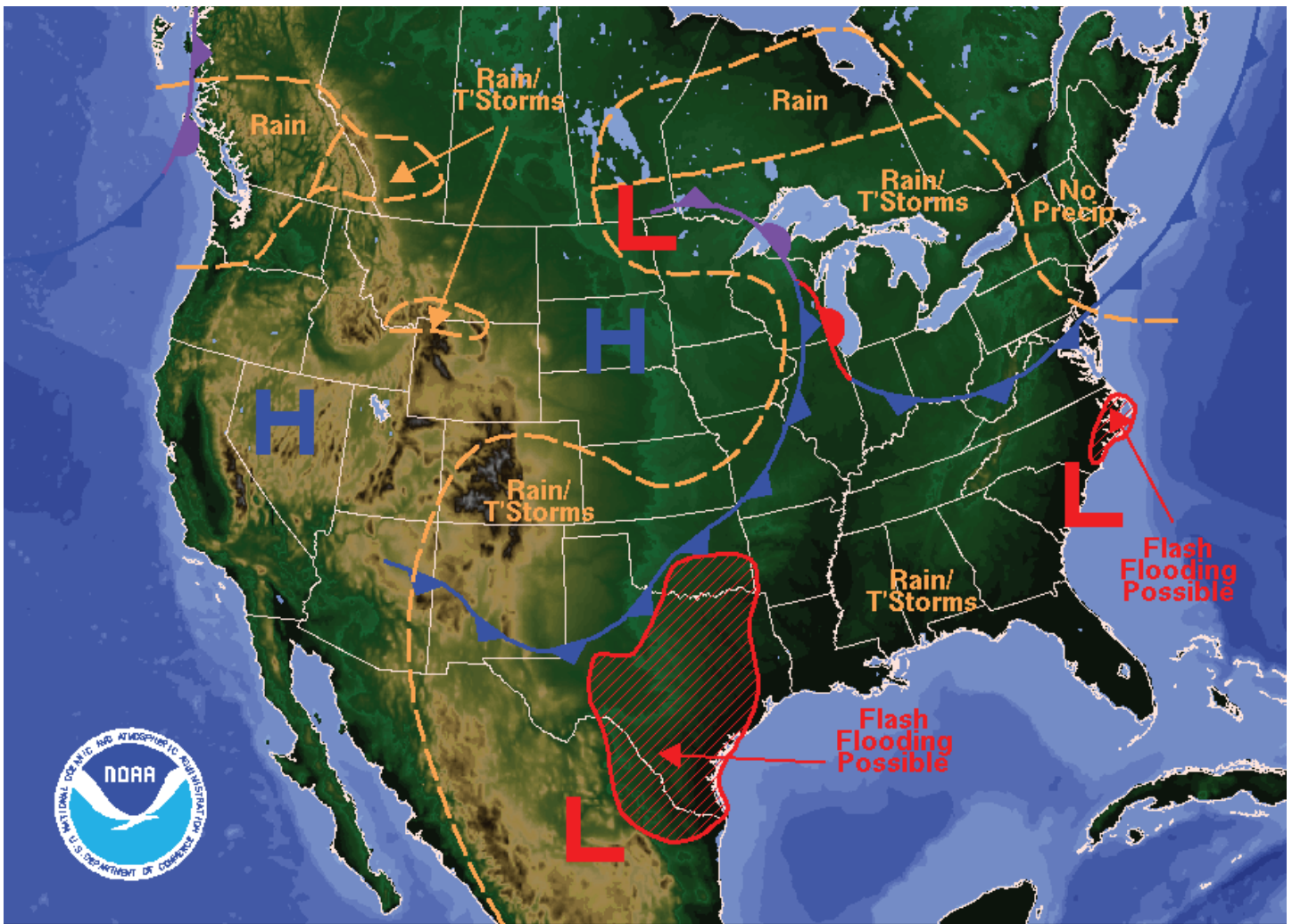
Yesterday's Weather

High: 68.2
Low: 54.9
High Gust: 45

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 99° in 1933
Record Low: 34 in 1946
Average High: 73°F
Average Low: 50°F
Average Precip in June: 0.11
Precip to date in June: 0.00
Average Precip to date: 7.25
Precip Year to Date: 4.99
Sunset Tonight: 9:15 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:47 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Wed, Jun 01, 2016, issued 4:23 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



MAKING OUR MEMORIES

It was the first day of the new school year and Albert was boarding the bus. As he was walking to his seat, he brushed up against a book bag and cut his cheek. When he got to school, the nurse cleaned it carefully and placed a bandage on it.

Later, during recess, he collided with a classmate and loosened two of his front teeth. Then, at noon, as he was walking to the cafeteria, he tripped and fell and broke his wrist.

His father came to the school and finally "rescued" him and took him to the hospital. While waiting for the doctor, his dad noticed that his little fist was clenched as tightly as possible, holding a crumpled up dollar bill. His dad asked him where he got it and he replied, "I found it when I fell and broke my wrist. This is my lucky day!"

"Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise," said Paul. What we put into our minds determines what comes out in words and deeds. If we have problems with thoughts that are harmful and impure, unwholesome and unkind, we need to take an inventory of what we are reading, watching on television and viewing on the internet.

Minds are like bank accounts: What goes in comes out but nothing more.

Prayer: Help us, Father, to take Paul's advice and fill our minds with thoughts that come from reading Your Word and meditating on it constantly. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Philippians 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.

Man considered armed and dangerous arrested in Sioux Falls

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A man wanted by the Aberdeen Police Department has been arrested in Sioux Falls.

Nineteen-year-old Tanner Dvorak was taken into custody on Tuesday night. Officers acting on tips from the public arrested him at an apartment complex without incident.

Authorities had said earlier that Dvorak had been considered armed and dangerous. Aberdeen police had offered a \$1,000 reward for information leading to his capture.

Dvorak is wanted in Brown County for petty theft and also for questioning about the theft of guns and a vehicle. He had been seen Monday in Sioux Falls and Minnehaha County but had evaded authorities at that time.

Midwest economic survey index rose in May, report says

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Figures from a survey of supply managers in nine Midwest and Plains states have risen, suggesting economic growth ahead.

A report issued Wednesday says the Mid-American Business Conditions index hit 52.1 in May, compared with 50.1 in April and 50.6 in March.

Creighton University economist Ernie Goss oversees the survey, and he says the region's manufacturing sector is expanding.

The survey results are compiled into a collection of indexes ranging from zero to 100. Survey organizers say any score above 50 suggests economic growth. A score below that suggests decline. The survey covers Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma and South Dakota.

Federal authorities probe death on Pine Ridge Reservation

WANBLEE, S.D. (AP) — Federal authorities are investigating a death on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation over the weekend.

FBI spokesman Kyle Loven says one person died and another was injured in Wanblee. He declined to release further details.

The FBI is working with the federal Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Oglala Sioux Tribal Department of Public Safety on the investigation.

The tribe has not commented on the incident.

SDSU wins charity fundraiser against USD; effort raises \$66K

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota State University has edged out the University of South Dakota in an annual charity fundraiser that benefits Feeding South Dakota.

This is the third time the Jackrabbits have won the South Dakota Showdown Series presented by South Dakota Corn. The series tracks athletic and academic performance among student-athletes of both universities.

The series raised \$66,000 during the 2015-16 athletic season for Feeding South Dakota, which provides temporary food assistance to 21,000 families and individuals each week.

The series is structured against a point system in which each school can earn 24 points per year based

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on head-to-head competition and conference championships between SDSU and USD, in 17 men's and women's sports. Points are also awarded for athletes' GPAs and philanthropic efforts.

Flags to fly at half-staff in honor of former representative

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota Gov. Dennis Daugaard has ordered flags flown at half-staff at the state Capitol on Wednesday to honor former state Rep. Lowdon Heller.

Heller, of Ideal, died on Saturday at age 92.

Heller served as a member of the state House of Representatives from 1957 to 1961.

His funeral is Wednesday.

South Dakota sales tax increasing to fund teacher pay raises

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Shoppers are set to spend a little more at the store when South Dakota's historic half-cent sales tax hike for teacher pay takes effect.

The state sales tax rate increases from 4 percent to 4.5 percent on Wednesday in the first permanent jump in nearly 50 years. Cities can also impose sales taxes on top of the state rate.

Here's a look at the tax hike:

TEACHER PAY

State lawmakers passed the tax increase this year as a way to put more than \$60 million in new funding toward boosting South Dakota's lowest-in-the-nation teacher pay to a target average of \$48,500 per year. Gov. Dennis Daugaard signed a package of education measures, including the tax hike, which also puts millions of dollars toward property tax relief and salaries at technical schools.

A state task force found that South Dakota teachers earn less than their counterparts in every other state and Washington, D.C. The state's average teacher salary of \$40,023 in 2013-14 was \$8,643 less than that of North Dakota, its next-lowest neighbor.

The new money will help improve education in South Dakota and ensure that students have high-quality teachers, said Mary McCorkle, president of the South Dakota Education Association.

HISTORIC INCREASE

This marks the first permanent increase in the state's sales tax rate since 1969. The rate was temporarily increased to 5 percent twice in the 1980s to purchase rail assets and for a state economic development loan fund, said Jonathan Harms, a spokesman for the state Department of Revenue. South Dakota introduced its sales tax in 1935, when it was 2 percent.

Daugaard isn't enthusiastic about tax increases, but he said there was no way within current state receipts to make an "appreciable impact" on teacher pay without raising revenue.

The increase is expected to raise about \$107 million in its first year.

In addition to teacher pay, about \$36.5 million of the increase will go toward property tax relief and about \$3.2 million will go toward salaries at technical schools.

SMOOTH SAILING

The Revenue Department's goal is to make the transition as easy as possible for taxpayers, Harms said. South Dakota Retailers Association Executive Director Shawn Lyons said businesses are making the necessary changes without offering much pushback.

"By and large, it should not be that difficult of an adjustment," he said.

Motorcycle driver dies in crash with pickup truck

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — The driver of a motorcycle is dead following a crash with a pickup truck near Rapid City.

The South Dakota Highway Patrol says the 35-year-old man died Tuesday at a Rapid City hospital where he was transported after the crash.

Authorities say the incident happened around 9:15 a.m., when the motorcycle was at the intersection of Wilderness Canyon Road and U.S. Highway 16. Authorities say that as the motorcycle proceeded into the intersection, it collided with a pickup truck that was attempting to pass a slower-moving dump truck.

The Highway Patrol says the man was wearing a helmet.

The driver of the pickup truck, a 69-year-old man, was also transported to a hospital with serious, but non-life threatening injuries. He was wearing a seatbelt.

The crash remains under investigation.

Daugaard: Medicaid expansion math works; let's talk politics

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Gov. Dennis Daugaard said Tuesday that he's convinced South Dakota can expand Medicaid without adding to state spending, but now he must weigh its chances of passing through the Republican-held Legislature.

The GOP governor said if the plan appears politically viable, he would like to call a special legislative session in June or July. Daugaard has proposed expanding eligibility to roughly 50,000 more residents, as long as the state's share of the cost is covered by savings.

His stance marks a departure from many other Republican governors who have resisted expanding Medicaid as part of the federal health care overhaul.

Officials have been studying for months whether a federal move to take on more Medicaid costs for Native American enrollees would allow South Dakota to cut spending enough to offset paying for expansion.

The governor said he believes the arithmetic works, giving a major boost to the chances the health coverage program for low-income and disabled people would be expanded.

But the plan — which would require majority support in both legislative chambers — could face a lukewarm reception from Republican lawmakers.

"If there's no possibility, then I'm not going to call a session and waste everyone's time," Daugaard said.

The majority of current House GOP lawmakers don't support expansion because they oppose Obamacare and because Medicaid is a large welfare program without much accountability that the country can't afford, House Republican leader Brian Gosch said.

No roadway fatalities tallied during Memorial Day weekend

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Public safety officials in South Dakota say no roadway fatalities were reported in the state during the Memorial Day weekend.

Lee Axdahl is director of the state's Office of Highway Safety. He tells South Dakota Public Broadcasting (<http://bit.ly/1Usj0Te>) that public safety officials in the state always head into the long weekend with their "fingers crossed, and this year that worked."

The South Dakota Highway Patrol registered four motor vehicle fatalities during the Memorial Day weekend last year. In 2014, six fatalities were tallied during the same weekend.

Public safety officials say more vehicles than usual can be found on South Dakota roads during the Memorial Day weekend because of the holiday and the fact that some consider it the official start of the summer.

Animal control: Do not leave dog in parked car this summer

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Animal control in Sioux Falls is reminding dog owners to not leave their pet in a parked vehicle this summer.

Sioux Falls animal control supervisor Julie DeJong says leaving a dog in a parked car even for just 30 minutes while temperatures soar can create a dangerous situation for the animal.

DeJong says animal control has received at least 20 calls over the past two weeks about dogs left in parked vehicles and officers had to remove at least one from a car.

The Humane Society says high temperatures can cause a dog's organs to fail and even the animal's death.

DeJong says that if the dog must remain in the car, the owner should park in a shaded area, leave the air conditioner running and have water in a bowl that won't tilt over.

\$1,000 reward offered in search for man considered dangerous

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — The Aberdeen Police Department is offering a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of a wanted man who is considered armed and dangerous.

Nineteen-year-old Tanner Dvorak is wanted in Brown County for petty theft and also for questioning about the theft of guns and a vehicle.

Authorities say Dvorak might be driving a newer dark brown Nissan with black rims and window tint. The Argus Leader reports he was seen Monday in Sioux Falls and Minnehaha County but evaded authorities.

People with information are asked to call 605-626-7911.

Trump fosters rivalries as in 'Celebrity Apprentice'

JULIE PACE, Associated Press

JEFF HORWITZ, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — When Donald Trump acquired a pair of Atlantic City casinos in the mid-1980s, he pitted his managers against each other in a ferocious competition over everything from booking entertainers to attracting high-rolling gamblers.

That one of those managers was his wife, Ivana Trump, didn't earn her any slack.

"His tactic there, as our success surpassed the Castle's in 1987, was to shove the Plaza's performance in Ivana's face, like a mirror, holding it up for her to see the reflection of a less than successful manager," John O'Donnell, Ivana Trump's rival in the casino wars, wrote in a 1991 book.

Trump's penchant for encouraging rivalries is now roiling his presidential campaign just as he's captured the GOP nomination, creating deep uncertainty among Republicans about his preparedness for a complex and costly general election campaign. The tensions boiled over last week with the abrupt ouster of political director Rick Wiley, who left the campaign after just six weeks.

Wiley found himself caught between Trump campaign manager Corey Lewandowski, one of the businessman's original campaign staffers, and Paul Manafort, a veteran Republican hand who was brought in to bolster the operation in March. While Wiley was originally hired by Lewandowski, he aligned himself with Manafort's vision of a more robust and expensive campaign operation — a vision Trump does

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not appear to have fully bought into. He also was seen as being unwilling to fill top jobs in battleground states with people close to Lewandowski, according to people familiar with the decision.

Wiley did not respond to requests to discuss his tenure with the Trump campaign. Trump aides would not make the candidate available for an interview, but they did not dispute the notion that the real estate mogul encourages internal competition.

"Of course there's competition because you want the best," Lewandowski said. "That's the type of mindset you have to have in the federal government."

Sam Nunberg, a former Trump aide who was fired last year, put the dynamic more bluntly: "He loves playing people against each other." Still, Nunberg said he appreciated the competitive environment, crediting it with keeping staffers creative and committed to the organization.

But for other Trump aides, the businessman's cutthroat style led to mistrust and paranoia

"You can't trust the other guy's people," said Stuart Jolly, who resigned as Trump's campaign field director after Manafort and Wiley were given more power. Jolly confirmed Friday that he is joining the pro-Trump group Great America PAC as its political director.

Some current and former Trump advisers blamed the businessman for withholding information about staff changes from his team, sometimes leaving them to learn about internal developments in the media. Some have taken to shopping negative stories about their rivals to the press in a bid to undercut each other in the eyes of the boss — even if the stories reflect poorly on Trump.

Even more concerning for Trump as he eyes a likely faceoff with Democrat Hillary Clinton is the uncertainty the internal friction has created about the direction of the campaign. People close to the campaign say there are major questions about battleground state hiring, voter-targeting efforts and super PAC fundraising.

Those close to the campaign insisted on anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the campaign publicly.

Trump turned his fondness for competition into ratings gold with his television show "The Apprentice," where rival teams battled against each other to impress the boss. Those who failed were unceremoniously fired — a made-for-television version of events that sometimes played out in Trump's real businesses.

In 1985 and 1986, Trump acquired full control of two Atlantic City casinos in quick succession. Ivana Trump was put in charge of one, named Trump Castle, while the other — Trump Plaza — was overseen by casino managers hired away from gambling titan Steve Wynn.

Castle and Plaza managers were expected to compete over everything from casino entertainers to which property bought more copies of Trump's autobiography, "The Art of the Deal."

The most heated competition of all: which casino could draw the high-rolling gamblers who would wager thousands of dollars per hand. By 1987, the larger and more luxurious Plaza was successfully wooing this small but elite set, aided by top-tier prize fights in the Atlantic City Convention Center next door.

Instead of allowing the Plaza to establish itself as the unrivaled venue for high-rollers in Atlantic City, however, Trump underwrote Ivana's campaign to compete for them.

"If we presented a \$100,000 player with a gold Rolex watch, the Castle gave him two," O'Donnell wrote in his book "Trumped! The Inside Story of the Real Donald Trump — His Cunning Rise and Spectacular Fall." In a 1997 interview, Trump said "the stuff O'Donnell wrote about me is probably true," using an expletive to describe his former executive as a loser.

When Plaza managers pleaded to Trump that the competition between his two casinos was ill-advised, Trump mocked them.

"What are you worried about Ivana for," he told one executive, according to O'Donnell's book. "She's just a woman. She can't take the business."

The competition described by O'Donnell led to an ill-advised, \$70 million addition to Trump Castle, dubbed "The Crystal Tower," and continued even after Trump sent Ivana back to New York and three of the Plaza's top executives died in a helicopter crash.

Within weeks of the accident, Trump's Castle team launched a surprise raid on Trump's other casino: It's top executive leased office space directly above the Plaza's marketing department, offering the Plaza team raises of up to 30 percent to defect.

Egypt says signals picked up from doomed plane's black boxes

MAGGIE MICHAEL, Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt said Wednesday that a French ship has picked up signals from deep under the Mediterranean Sea, presumed to be from black boxes of the EgyptAir plane that crashed last month, killing all 66 passengers and crew on board.

The Civil Aviation Ministry cited a statement from the committee investigating the crash as saying the vessel Laplace was the one that received the signals. It did not say when the signals were detected but the French Navy confirmed the Laplace arrived on Tuesday in the search area.

Laplace's equipment picked up the "signals from the seabed of the wreckage search area, assumed to be from one of the data recorders," the statement read. It added that a second ship, John Lethbridge affiliated with the Deep Ocean Search firm, will join the search team later this week.

Locator pings emitted by flight data and cockpit voice recorders, known as the black boxes, can be picked up from deep underwater.

The Airbus A320 had been cruising normally in clear skies on a nighttime flight to from Paris to Cairo early on May 19 when it suddenly lurched left, then right, spinning all the way around and plummeting 38,000 feet (11,582.4 meters) into the sea. A distress signal was never issued, EgyptAir has said.

Since the crash, small pieces of the wreckage and human remains have been recovered while the bulk of the plane and the bodies of the passengers are believed to be deep under the sea. A Cairo forensic team has received the human remains and is carrying DNA tests to identify the victims. The search has narrowed down to a 5-kilometer (3-mile) area in the Mediterranean.

David Learmount, a consulting editor at the aviation news website Flightglobal, said the black boxes' batteries can transmit signals up to 30 days after the crash. But even if the batteries expire, locating the boxes remains a possibility.

"It's terribly important to find the black boxes, because if they don't find them, they will know nothing about the aircraft," he said, citing a 2009 incident when black boxes were found two years after a crash in the Atlantic Ocean.

Nearly two weeks after the crash off Egypt's northern coast, the cause of the tragedy still has not been determined.

Egypt's civil aviation minister Sherif Fathi has said he believes terrorism is a more likely explanation than equipment failure or some other catastrophic event.

But no hard evidence has emerged on the cause, and no militant group has claimed to have downed the jet. Earlier, leaked flight data indicated a sensor had detected smoke in a lavatory and a fault in two of the plane's cockpit windows in the final moments of the flight.

In France, the country's air accident investigation agency or the BEA could not immediately comment on the developments since they have not yet received any "official communication" from Egyptian authorities.

Cincinnati's pioneering gorilla exhibit now common in zoos

DAN SEWELL, Associated Press

JOHN SEEWER, Associated Press

CINCINNATI (AP) — The Cincinnati Zoo, where a gorilla was shot and killed over the weekend after a 3-year-old boy climbed over a fence and fell into its enclosure, has an open viewing area that was among the first of its kind and is now common in many zoos around the country.

The exhibit was at the forefront of zoos moving away from cages in favor of more realistic living environments and adopting a range of exhibits, from natural habitats behind glass walls to jungle-like settings separated from the public by hedges and bamboo fences.

While police in Cincinnati are investigating the child's parents and federal inspectors plan their own review, the zoo says it will look at whether it needs to reinforce the barriers even though it considers the enclosure more secure than what's required.

"The exhibit is safe, the barrier is safe," said zoo director Thane Maynard, who noted the exhibit is routinely checked by federal inspectors and the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, which also plans to investigate what happened.

The breach, the zoo director said, was the first time a visitor had entered the zoo's Gorilla World, which opened in 1978 and was billed as the first "bar-less" outdoor gorilla habitat in the nation.

A federal inspection less than two months ago found no problems with the gorilla exhibit, but earlier inspections reported issues including the potential danger to the public from a March incident involving wandering polar bears inside a behind-the-scenes service hallway.

Some critics have blamed the boy's parents for not keeping a close eye on the child, who is doing fine after being treated at a hospital, according to his family.

Police said the investigation will look at the parents' actions — not the operation of the zoo, which is overseen by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Police then would discuss with prosecutors whether charges should be filed.

At least two animal rights groups were holding the zoo responsible for the death of the 17-year-old western lowland gorilla on Saturday, charging that the barrier made up of a fence, bushes and a moat wasn't adequate.

Most gorilla exhibits around the country now have open-viewing areas — often protected by a combination of glass walls, mesh netting and moats.

— Zoo Atlanta, which boasts the nation's largest gorilla collection, has several outdoor viewing spots that are designed to give visitors the feeling of being very close, but they are still separated by a series of safety barriers.

— Gorillas at the Columbus Zoo are in two enclosed areas behind glass and mesh. The approach is an exception to the type of open enclosure in Cincinnati, which is the industry standard, said spokeswoman Patty Peters.

— The Smithsonian's National Zoo in Washington has an indoor area with glass walls and an outdoor habitat surrounded by barriers made from a combination of glass panes, metal and metal frames filled in with mesh. Metal railings and large planters also stand between the viewing area.

Child safety expert Kimberlee Mitchell, who runs a childproofing business in southern California called Boo Boo Busters, said attractions need to be made as safe as possible because many people drop their guard at an amusement park or zoo.

But even an attentive parent can be distracted, she said.

"It's unthinkable that a zoo exhibit would be created in such a way that a little 3-year-old boy could climb in," she said. "He shouldn't be able to get in there even with his mom's head turned."

Bodies of 40 tiger cubs found in Thai temple freezer

TASSANEE VEJPONGSA, Associated Press

BANGKOK (AP) — Forty dead tiger cubs were found Wednesday in a freezer at a Buddhist temple that operated as an admission-charging zoo, a national parks official said.

The discovery happened while authorities were removing mostly full-grown live tigers from the temple in western Kanchanaburi province following accusations that monks were involved in illegal breeding and trafficking of the animals.

The cubs were found in a freezer where the temple staff kept food, said Anusorn Noochdumrong, an official from the Department of National Parks who has been overseeing the transfer of the temple's 137 tigers to shelters. Since Monday, 60 have been tranquilized and removed.

"We don't know why the temple decided to keep these cubs in the freezer," Anusorn said. "We will collect these carcasses for DNA analysis."

The cubs appeared to be up to a week old, he said. Authorities plan to file charges against the temple for illegally possessing endangered species, he said.

The temple's Facebook page said in March that the temple's former vet had decided in 2010 to stop cremating cubs that died soon after birth. Calls to the temple's office were not answered.

The temple, a popular tourist attraction, has been criticized by animal rights activists because of allegations it is not properly set up to care for the animals and flouted regulations restricting the trade of tigers.

The monks resisted previous efforts to take away the tigers, but relented this week after police obtained a court order.

The temple recently made arrangements to operate as a zoo, but the plan fell through when the government determined that the operators failed to secure sufficient resources.

Romanian teachers in protest as they seek higher wages

BUCHAREST, Romania (AP) — Thousands of Romanian teachers have demonstrated outside the Romanian government's main offices in Bucharest before marching through the capital to demand higher salaries.

Dressed in yellow tee-shirts and red caps, teachers whistled and booed Wednesday, and carried banners saying "Leave education to the teachers!" and "If you can read this, thank your teacher."

The government this week offered teachers a 5 percent pay rise. Trade union leader Simion Hancescu said teachers were seeking a 10 percent raise.

Currently, teachers earn a base monthly salary of between 1,100 lei (\$275) and 5,000 lei (\$1,250).

Teachers later marched toward the presidential Cotroceni Palace in west Bucharest. President Klaus Iohannis is himself a former physics professor.

Labor Minister Dragos Pislaru suggested the protest was politically motivated ahead of June 5 local elections.

Warriors-Cavaliers are the 14th NBA Finals rematch

TIM REYNOLDS, AP Basketball Writer

MIAMI (AP) — It'll either be repeat or redemption.

A rematch will decide.

Cleveland and Golden State are about to reunite in the NBA Finals, starting Thursday night in Oakland, California. It's the 14th Finals rematch.

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A good sign for Cleveland, which lost to Golden State last season: Six of the last seven teams that lost the Finals one year won the rematch encounter.

A good sign for Golden State: The only exception to that trend came in 1997 and 1998, when Utah Jazz lost back-to-back to the Chicago Bulls — a team that featured current Warriors coach Steve Kerr.

Of the previous 13 rematches, defending champions have retained their title six times.

A look at the past rematches:

MINNEAPOLIS LAKERS vs. NEW YORK KNICKS

1952: Lakers 4, Knicks 3.

George Mikan averaged 21.7 points and 17.4 rebounds, and the Lakers beat the Knicks in seven games. The teams alternated wins and losses in each game.

1953: Lakers 4, Knicks 1.

Mikan was dominant again, averaging 20.8 points. The Knicks took Game 1 on the road, but the Lakers won the next four — keyed by two two-point triumphs.

ST. LOUIS HAWKS vs. BOSTON CELTICS

1957: Celtics 4, Hawks 3.

A tremendous series, with four of the seven games decided by two points — including Game 7, the Celtics winning 125-123 in double overtime.

1958: Hawks 4, Celtics 2.

Denied a title the previous year, Hawks star Bob Pettit averaged 29.3 points and 17 rebounds — with 50 points in the Game 6 clincher.

1960: Celtics 4, Hawks 3.

Tom Heinsohn averaged 22.4 points, Bill Russell averaged 24.9 rebounds and the Celtics got four double-digit wins, including a 122-103 victory in Game 7.

1961: Celtics 4, Hawks 1.

More of the same. Heinsohn led the Celtics in scoring again at 22 points, Russell grabbed an astounding 28.8 rebounds and Boston easily defended its title.

LOS ANGELES LAKERS vs. BOSTON CELTICS

1962: Celtics 4, Lakers 3.

Lakers stars Elgin Baylor (who had a 61-point game, a Finals record) and Jerry West were brilliant, averaging 72 points per game. But the Celtics rallied from 3-2 down. Bill Russell averaged 22.9 points and 27 rebounds for Boston.

1963: Celtics 4, Lakers 2.

Baylor and West averaged 63 points per game. The Celtics, with Sam Jones, Tom Heinsohn and Russell leading the way, had too much depth and balance.

1965: Celtics 4, Lakers 1.

Boston left little doubt, winning Game 1 by 32 points and Game 5 by 33 points. Jerry West averaged 33.8 points in vain for the Lakers; Sam Jones averaged 27.8 points for Boston.

1966: Celtics 4, Lakers 3.

Up 3-1 at one point, the Celtics were forced to a Game 7 in Red Auerbach's final season. Boston escaped with a two-point win for its eighth straight title.

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1968: Celtics 4, Lakers 2.

Boston blew a big lead in Game 5 at home but won in overtime, then closed it out on the road in Game 6 behind 40 points from John Havlicek.

1969: Celtics 4, Lakers 3.

The Celtics' dominance over the NBA continued, Boston winning its 11th title in a 13-year span. Jerry West won the MVP award, in a losing effort.

1984: Celtics 4, Lakers 3.

Cedric Maxwell's 24 points in Game 7 and an MVP performance from Larry Bird lifted the Celtics to their 15th world title.

1985: Lakers 4, Celtics 2.

Game 1 was the "Memorial Day Massacre," a 148-114 Boston win. But the Lakers won four of the next five games, and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar won the MVP.

LOS ANGELES LAKERS vs. NEW YORK KNICKS

1972: Lakers 4, Knicks 1.

The Knicks rolled in Game 1, and after that it was all Lakers. Wilt Chamberlain (19.4 ppg, 23.2 rpg) wins MVP honors, leading the Lakers to the win.

1973: Knicks 4, Lakers 1.

Turnabout was fair play; the Lakers grabbed a 1-0 lead and then the Knicks won out. It was Chamberlain's last game, and the Knicks' most-recent title.

SEATTLE SUPERSONICS vs. WASHINGTON BULLETS

1978: Bullets 4, Sonics 3.

Seattle led 1-0, 2-1 and 3-2 — but the Bullets took Games 6 and 7. Wes Unseld was Finals MVP, averaging 9 points and nearly 12 rebounds per game.

1979: Sonics 4, Bullets 1.

Gus Williams averaged 28.6 points, Finals MVP Dennis Johnson added 22.6 points and Seattle won the last four games of the series.

LOS ANGELES LAKERS vs. PHILADELPHIA 76ERS

1982: Lakers 4, 76ers 2.

Magic Johnson caps an MVP performance with 13 points, 13 rebounds and 13 assists in Game 6, and the Lakers win in Pat Riley's rookie coaching season.

1983: 76ers 4, Lakers 0.

Moses Malone averaged 25.8 points and 18 rebounds, and the 76ers capped a dominant playoff run with a one-sided romp in the Finals.

LOS ANGELES LAKERS vs. DETROIT PISTONS

1988: The Lakers win their second straight title, taking Games 6 and 7 by a combined four points. James Worthy scored 36 points in Game 7 for the Lakers.

1989: Detroit's so-called "Bad Boys" proved best, sweeping to the title behind Joe Dumars' 27.3 points per game.

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UTAH JAZZ vs. CHICAGO BULLS

1997: Bulls 4, Jazz 2.

Michael Jordan wins MVP honors, he and Scottie Pippen average 52 points and the Bulls hold off Karl Malone, John Stockton and the Jazz.

1998: Bulls 4, Jazz 2.

Jordan's sixth and final championship was capped by a 45-point effort, punctuated by the go-ahead jumper in the final seconds of Game 6.

SAN ANTONIO SPURS vs. MIAMI HEAT

2013: Heat 4, Spurs 3.

Ray Allen's 3-pointer with 5.2 seconds left in Game 6 saves Miami, then LeBron James takes over late in Game 7 as the Heat go back-to-back.

2014: Spurs 4, Heat 1.

The Spurs split the first two games at home, then got two big wins in Miami and finished it off at San Antonio in Game 5 for their fifth title.

10 Things to Know for Today The Associated Press

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

1. STARK WARNING ISSUED ON FALLUJAH FIGHTING

The U.N. children's fund cautions Iraqi troops and militants battling in the Islamic State stronghold to spare the children, the most vulnerable of the tens of thousands of civilians trapped by war.

2. TRUMP'S WAR: THE MEDIA

The presumptive GOP presidential nominee's heated exchange with the media reaches new heights as he turns the feat of raising \$5.6 million for veterans' charities into a sparring match with reporters.

3. WHY SYRIAN REFUGEES CAN'T GO HOME

Hundreds or more Syrian refugees who want to go home are finding themselves stuck in Europe, in part because Germany will not send refugees back to a war zone.

4. WHERE A GIANT RETAILER IS THRIVING

As Wal-Mart tries to build an international juggernaut, it has had no greater success than in Chile, where even its failures show a commitment to adapting quickly to local shopping habits.

5. POLL: GERIATRIC CARE NOT PLANNED FOR

Demand for long-term care is expected to increase, but the majority of Americans 40 and older lack confidence in their ability to pay for it, an AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research survey finds.

6. OBAMA TO TAKE VICTORY LAP IN HOOSIER COUNTRY

The president returns to Indiana where seven years ago he predicted economic recovery, this time seeking credit for policies that Democrats are rallying behind as they work to elect his replacement.

7. WHAT UK CAN LEARN FROM NORWAY

Ahead of a June 23 referendum on whether to quit the European Union, Britons are looking to oil-rich Norway for clues on what life could be like outside the bloc.

8. PIONEERING GORILLA EXHIBIT NOW COMMON

The Cincinnati Zoo has an open viewing area that was among the first of its kind and is now a mainstay in many zoos around the country.

9. 'THE SHIELD' ACTOR GUILTY OF KILLING WIFE

A jury convicted Michael Jace of second-degree murder in the shooting death of his wife that was partially witnessed by their two young sons.

10. CAVS-WARRIORS MARKS 14TH REMATCH IN NBA FINALS

And that's good news for Cleveland as six of the last seven teams coming off a Finals loss won the sequel.

UN warns 20,000 children are trapped in Iraq's Fallujah

SINAN SALAHEDDIN, Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP) — The U.N. children's fund on Wednesday issued a stark warning to Iraqi troops and Islamic State militants in the battle for Fallujah to spare the children, the most vulnerable among the tens of thousands of civilians who remain trapped by the fighting for control of this city west of Baghdad.

Backed by aerial support from the U.S.-led coalition and paramilitary forces mainly made up of Shiite militias, Iraqi government troops more than a week ago launched a military operation to recapture Fallujah which has been under control of the extremist group for more than two years.

As the battle unfolded — with Iraqi forces this week pushing into the city's southern sections after securing surrounding towns and villages — more than 50,000 people are believed to be trapped inside the Sunni majority city, about 65 kilometers (40 miles) west of Baghdad.

The UNICEF estimated the number of the children trapped with their families inside the city at about 20,000, warning that they face a dire humanitarian situation, in addition to the risk of forced recruitment into the fighting by the IS militants.

"Children who are forcibly recruited into the fighting see their lives and futures jeopardized as they are forced to carry and use arms, fighting an adults' war," the organization said in a statement. It called on "all parties to protect children inside Fallujah" and "provide safe passage to those wishing to leave the city."

Fallujah was the first large city in Iraq to fall to IS and it is the last major urban area controlled by the extremist group in western Iraq. The Sunni-led militants still control the country's second-largest city, Mosul, in the north, as well as smaller towns and patches of territory in the country's west and north.

The fight for Fallujah is expected to be protracted because the Islamic State group has had more than two years to dig in. Hidden bombs are believed to be strewn throughout the city, and the presence of trapped civilians will limit the use of supporting airstrikes.

North Korea's media praise Trump talk about US troops

ERIC TALMADGE, Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — Donald Trump appears to be finding some friends in North Korea.

The presumptive U.S. Republican presidential nominee has been getting good press this week in the North's carefully controlled media, first in an opinion piece that praised him as "wise" and full of foresight and then Wednesday in the official mouthpiece of the ruling Worker's Party itself.

Both articles noted how his suggestions he would be willing to meet leader Kim Jong Un and wants to rethink and possibly withdraw U.S. troops from South Korea have created a "Trump Shock" in Seoul.

The state-run DPRK Today in Pyongyang started off the Trump praise on Tuesday by juxtaposing the "wise" Trump with what it called "dull Hillary" — describing leading Democratic Party candidate Hillary Clinton by only her first name.

"The presidential candidate who U.S. citizens should vote for is not dull Hillary, who says she would

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pursue an 'Iran-type model' to solve the Korean Peninsula's nuclear problems, but Trump, who said he would solve problems by directly talking with North Korea," said the column attributed to a "China-based scholar."

In the lengthy column, Trump is described as a "wise politician and presidential candidate with foresight" for his comments about the U.S. potentially withdrawing its troops from South Korea if Seoul doesn't bear the costs. It also noted his public willingness to directly talk with the North Korean leadership if he becomes president.

Trump told The New York Times in March that South Korea and Japan should pay much more for the U.S. troops based in their countries — about 28,000 in South Korea and around 50,000 in Japan. In a more recent interview with the Reuters news agency, Trump said he was willing to meet with Kim.

"I would speak to him, I would have no problem speaking to him," he said.

The removal of U.S. troops from the Korean Peninsula and direct talks with a U.S. president dovetail nicely with objectives Pyongyang has held for years — though undoubtedly for different reasons than the American real estate magnate.

The North wants the U.S. troops to leave because it sees them as a direct threat to the regime's security and has long wanted talks with Washington, ostensibly toward a peace treaty to end the 1950-53 Korean War, that would boost its international status and acknowledge that North Korea is a nuclear state.

"There are many 'positive aspects' to take away from Trump's 'inflammatory campaign promises,'" the writer says in the DPRK Today column, pointing out Trump's indications that Seoul should pay "100 percent" of the cost for the American troops stationed in the South and, if not, Washington should pull them out.

"Yes, go away, now!" it says. "Who knew that the 'Yankee Go Home' slogan we shouted so enthusiastically could come true so easily like this? The day that the 'Yankee Go Home' slogan becomes reality would be the day of unification."

The Korean War that solidified the division of North and South Korea ended in an armistice, not a full peace treaty.

The DPRK Today website is considered to be a propaganda outlet aimed at readers outside the North, though its position within the government is not clear.

While not as colorful or overtly supportive as the DPRK Today column, the ruling party's official Rodong Sinmun editorial said the emergence of Trump is causing anxiety in South Korea because of his comments about the potential U.S. troop withdrawal.

It said the South Korean government should stop living as a servant of foreign forces and come back to the side of the Korean nation, but didn't comment directly on Trump as a candidate.

Israel frees Jewish extremist from 10-month detention

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel on Wednesday freed a Jewish extremist detained 10 months ago amid a security crackdown on extremists following an arson attack in which a Palestinian toddler was burned to death.

Meir Ettinger was arrested last year, shortly after the deadly arson of a West Bank home that killed three people, including the toddler. He was detained without trial or charge, under a measure called administrative detention, which Israel typically uses on Palestinians suspected of militant activity.

A number of extremists were arrested in the sweep, with one man and a minor eventually charged for the West Bank arson.

The Shin Bet, Israel's internal security agency, declined to say why Ettinger was being released. In an

email, it said he was banned from entering the West Bank for a year and barred from contacting certain radical activists for six months, among other conditions for his release.

The 24-year-old Ettinger is the grandson of U.S.-born Rabbi Meir Kahane, Israel's most notorious Jewish extremist, whose ultranationalist party was banned from Israel's parliament for its racist views in 1988. He was killed by an Arab gunman in New York in 1990.

Ettinger has been accused of heading an extremist movement seeking to bring about religious "redemption" through attacks on Christian sites and Palestinian property. Sima Cohav, a lawyer for Ettinger, denied the allegations, saying Ettinger was "not involved in anything."

Jamal Dajani, a spokesman for the Palestinian government said Ettinger "will be now allowed to roam free and put Palestinian lives in danger."

Testy Trump takes his war with the press to a new level

MICHAEL BIESECKER, Associated Press

JILL COLVIN, Associated Press

STEVE PEOPLES, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Donald Trump's heated war with the media reached new heights as he turned the brag-worthy feat of raising \$5.6 million for veterans' charities into a sparring match with reporters pressing him on the issue.

"The press should be ashamed of themselves," a defensive Trump railed during a Tuesday news conference at Trump Tower, called to announce a list of 41 charities that received a cut of the money he raised during a highly publicized January fundraiser.

The presumptive Republican presidential nominee had previously declined to disclose which charities had received the \$6 million he'd claimed to have raised, and his campaign had gone back and forth about how much pledged money had come through. The Washington Post had pressed for an accounting of the donations, and several charities said they received checks just last week.

Throughout Tuesday's 40-minute question-and-answer session, Trump accused the media of being "unbelievably dishonest" in their treatment of him.

"I sent people checks of a lot of money. ... And instead of being like, 'Thank you very much, Mr. Trump,' or 'Trump did a good job,' everyone's saying: 'Who got (the money)? Who got it? Who got it?' And you make me look very bad," he complained. "I have never received such bad publicity for doing such a good job."

While Trump has frequently made the media a punching bag, calling out reporters during his signature rallies, the taunts Tuesday were intense, even for him. The billionaire mogul interrupted his recitation of the list of groups receiving portions of the money to complain about the way reporters had called up charities to try to verify his contributions. He called the political press "disgusting" and dismissed one ABC News reporter as "a sleaze."

While Trump's fundraiser, held opposite a Fox News debate he chose to boycott, should have been a positive story for Trump, his campaign's refusal to disclose details about the money raised became a sticking point. Trump insisted Tuesday that "most of the money went out quite a while ago," but that didn't seem to be the case.

The Associated Press spoke or left messages with each of the organizations Trump named. Of the 26 groups that responded by Tuesday, half said they had received checks from Trump just last week.

Several said the checks were dated on or about March 24 and shipped out by overnight express — the same date as a Trump interview with The Washington Post, which for weeks had been pressing his campaign to disclose the recipients of the millions raised during the splashy telethon-style fundraiser

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in Iowa.

Indeed, more than a dozen big checks were rushed out of New York early last week, bound for veterans charities around the country. The largest, a \$1 million check dated May 24 and drawn from Trump's personal account, was addressed to the Marine Corps-Law Enforcement Foundation, a small Tuckahoe, New York, group that provides scholarships to the children of fallen Marines. The foundation had presented Trump with an award at its 2015 gala held at a ritzy New York hotel.

Trump's campaign manager, Corey Lewandowski, had originally told the Post that the Iowa event had raised about \$4.5 million — less than the \$6 million originally announced by Trump — because some who'd pledged contributions had backed out.

Appearing Tuesday on CNN, Democratic presidential front runner Hillary Clinton said she was glad Trump had finally given out the promised money.

"The problem here is the difference between what Donald Trump says and what Donald Trump does," Clinton said. "He's bragged for months about raising \$6 million for vets and donating \$1 million himself, but it took a reporter to shame him into actually making the contribution."

Trump repeatedly insisted during the news conference that he didn't want "credit" for the contributions. However, he hadn't appeared shy about giving away poster-size checks at campaign events in the weeks after the fundraiser.

On Jan. 30, just before the Iowa caucuses, he gave a \$100,000 check to the Puppy Jake Foundation, which provides service dogs to wounded veterans. Representatives from the foundation, accompanied by several service dogs, accepted the check at the Adler Theater in Davenport, Iowa, where Trump was being interviewed on stage.

The next day, in Council Bluffs, Trump presented another check, also for \$100,000, to Partners for Patriots, which also provides service dogs to disabled veterans.

The public check presentations trickled off within days, though some of the groups contacted by the AP did report receiving checks in February, March and April.

Trump spokeswoman Hope Hicks denied Tuesday that timing had anything to do with questions from the media.

"Mr. Trump's team worked very hard to complete this lengthy process prior to Memorial Day Weekend," she said. The campaign also said it had taken months to carefully vet each of the groups receiving money.

Trump, who has refused calls to moderate his tone and temperament, also said he has no plans to change his tone with the press if he's elected to the White House.

"Yeah, it is going to be like this," he said of potential future news conferences led by a President Trump.

Poll: People unsure about ability to pay for long-term care

ALEJANDRA CANCINO, For The Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Demand for long-term care is expected to increase as the nation ages, but the majority of Americans 40 and older lack confidence in their ability to pay for it.

The annual cost of long-term care expenses range from \$17,680 for adult day care to more than \$92,000 for a private room in a nursing home, according to Genworth Financial.

Yet an Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research survey finds that a third of Americans 40 and older have done no planning for their own long term care needs, such as setting aside money to pay for a home aide or to help with daily activities or a room in a nursing home.

Why?

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The poll says about 4 in 10 don't think they will ever need long-term care.

"I'm very healthy at 68 and I really don't have any impending and current problems. I'm self-sufficient," said Brad Woolsey, of a small community near San Francisco, California.

That mindset runs counter to figures from the U.S. Administration on Aging, which says nearly 70 percent of people turning 65 will need help with daily activities in their golden years.

Medicaid, the health insurance for the poor and people with disabilities, is the primary payer of long-term care, spending \$146 billion in 2013. Nearly \$89 billion was just for seniors.

But the survey found that nearly 4 in 10 respondents mistakenly expect to turn to Medicare, which doesn't pay for long-term care. Respondents with incomes below \$50,000 were more likely to expect to rely on government programs.

Jeanie Powell, 58, of Albuquerque, New Mexico, said she was confident she could afford long-term care until about a year ago when she learned that her insurance policy would cover only \$1,000 per month in an institution.

"It won't even put a dent in the cost," Powell said.

Powell said she bought her policy in the 1990s, before she was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. Now she is worried and unsure about what she'll do. She stopped working in 2002 and her health continues to deteriorate.

"I have good days and bad days and days I can't tolerate the pain," Powell said.

At the other end of the spectrum, thirty-six percent of older Americans expressed confidence in their ability to pay for long-term care, up from 27 percent in 2013, the first year of the survey. Those figures are consistent with other measures of consumer confidence following the Great Recession of a few years ago, according to a report by the Conference Board cited by the survey.

In the latest survey, another 36 percent said they feel just somewhat confident and 24 percent said they are not too confident or not confident at all.

Men were more likely than women to be confident, and so were older Americans with higher incomes, better health and more education.

Robert Nadel, of San Diego, California, said he has always feared not being able to care for himself later in life.

"In our family, we didn't send someone to the nursing home," Nadel said, adding that he grew up with his grandparents. "Nowadays, it isn't that way."

Nadel, 44, doesn't have children, and though he has nieces and nephews, he knows he will be on his own. This awareness has made planning for the future a priority, even in difficult times, he said. When he lost his job during the Great Recession, he borrowed money to continue making the monthly payments on his long-term care insurance policy.

"Even if I get sick," he said, "I'll be OK."

The more in control people feel about the world and their life, the greater the sense of confidence in their ability to plan for the future, said Kit Yarrow, a professor emerita at Golden Gate University in San Francisco who specializes in consumer psychology.

The AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research survey was conducted Feb. 18 through April 9, with funding from the SCAN Foundation. The nationally representative poll involved landline and cellphone interviews with 1,698 Americans age 40 or older. It has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3.4 percentage points.

Animated by 2016 race, Obama to take victory lap in Indiana

JOSH LEDERMAN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Seven years ago, newly elected President Barack Obama came to a blighted stretch of northern Indiana and predicted a tough but certain recovery — if the country embraced his approach to re-juicing the economy. He returns Wednesday seeking credit for having lifted the U.S. out of the doldrums with policies Democrats are now rallying behind as they work to elect his replacement.

In Elkhart, a town of about 50,000 not far from South Bend, Obama will encounter a community whose experience during his presidency has mirrored the country's broader economic revival: uneven and bumpy, with both winners and losers.

Though the job market has picked up and Elkhart's housing crisis has ebbed, the area has fallen short in its aspirations to diversify beyond its reliance on the niche recreational vehicle industry. On the campaign trail, Donald Trump has hammered Obama over free trade policies that Trump blames for air conditioning manufacturer Carrier Corp.'s decision to ship 1,400 jobs from Indianapolis to Mexico.

To Obama, who has often held up Elkhart as a microcosm of the U.S., those lingering challenges aren't enough to forestall a planned victory lap on the economy. Arguing that his controversial \$840 billion stimulus package was ultimately vindicated, Obama will call on the next president to be willing to spend big to enable further economic growth despite the objections of small-government conservatives.

"Elkhart is, in fact, a symbol of America's recovery," said White House spokesman Josh Earnest. "The president does believe, while he is not particularly concerned in accepting credit for himself, he does believe it's important for the American people to understand what sort of policies have made our recovery possible."

Obama and his aides have long signaled frustration that as the economy has improved, the public's perception of his decision-making hasn't tracked the same trajectory. The White House sees his opponents' begrudging refusal to give credit where due as a symptom of their decision early on to reflexively oppose all of his ideas.

Elkhart County Commissioner Mike Yoder, a Republican, paused for 15 seconds and laughed when asked whether Obama deserved any credit for the recovery. He said government plays a role, but that politicians must be cautious not to overinflate their contribution.

"At the bottom of the day, I think most elected officials — and I'm guessing the president would say this himself — that it is the local communities and the local businesses and workers that really are the major reason that a community will turn around," Yoder said.

In Elkhart, where unemployment hit 19.6 percent at its peak during the recession, joblessness has dropped precipitously to about 4 percent — lower than the national average. The foreclosure rate, too, has diminished, and manufacturing has picked up.

Still, it is places like Elkhart that illustrate just how stubborn opposition to the president can be — especially in conservative stretches of the Midwest. Though Obama won Indiana in 2008 in a shocking victory, he lost the traditionally Republican state decisively in 2012.

In late April, ahead of Indiana's primaries, just 42 percent of Indiana adults in an NBC News/Wall Street Journal/Marist poll said they approved of the job Obama's doing. That's lower than his approval in the country as a whole. A few weeks later, 51 percent in an NBC News/Wall Street Journal poll said they approve, in line with other recent surveys.

For Democrats, Obama's renewed popularity nationally is enough that the party is firmly embracing his policies in the presidential election, especially on the economy. Hillary Clinton has proposed steps that build directly on Obama's actions while Bernie Sanders has praised his accomplishments. The no-

table exception is free trade, where both Clinton and Sanders say they disagree with Obama.

The White House didn't shy away from the notion that Obama's appearance — his eighth in Indiana since being elected — would be viewed as an early foray into the 2016 campaign. Earnest said Obama would be "mindful of the political backdrop for his speech" but would focus on his early policies — namely, the stimulus. He said it was possible Democrats could win Indiana again.

Civil rights inquiry due in Minneapolis police shooting

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Federal officials in Minneapolis will announce Wednesday whether they believe the civil rights of a 24-year-old black man were violated last November in a confrontation with two police officers that led to his death.

An officer shot Jamar Clark Nov. 15, and he died a day later. His death sparked weeks of protests and an 18-day occupation outside a north side police precinct.

A key issue was whether Clark was handcuffed at the time of the shooting. Several witnesses said he was; police said he was not.

The confrontation that led to Clark's death began when police were called by paramedics who said he was interfering with their efforts to treat an assault victim. Officers Mark Ringgenberg and Dustin Schwarze responded.

According to an investigation by the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, Clark refused orders to take his hands out of his pockets. The officers tried to handcuff him but failed. Ringgenberg wrestled Clark to the ground but wound up on his back atop Clark and felt Clark's hand on his weapon, according to the investigation.

Schwarze then shot Clark in an encounter that lasted barely more than a minute from the time officers first arrived.

In March, Hennepin County Attorney Mike Freeman declined to file criminal charges against the officers. He cited forensic evidence in the BCA investigation that found no bruising of Clark's wrists that handcuffs would likely have caused and found Clark's DNA on Ringgenberg's gun. Freeman also cited conflicting accounts by witnesses about whether Clark was cuffed.

Mayor Betsy Hodges requested the civil rights investigation, conducted by the U.S. Attorney's Office in Minnesota and the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division. They will determine whether the officers intentionally violated Clark's civil rights through excessive force. That's a high legal standard because an accident, bad judgment or simple negligence is not enough to bring federal charges.

The DOJ is also reviewing how the city responded to the protests that followed Clark's death, which included some skirmishes between officers and protesters.

An internal police investigation is also expected once the results of the federal investigation are released.

What UK can learn from Norway as it weighs life outside EU

MARK LEWIS, Associated Press

STAVANGER, Norway (AP) — Ahead of a June 23 referendum on whether to quit the European Union, Britons are looking across the North Sea to Norway for clues on what life could be like outside the bloc.

The oil-rich Norwegians clearly have done OK. A free-trade deal ensures they enjoy almost the same access to the union's giant market as had they been EU members. But to keep those trade ties smooth, Norway has had to adopt most EU directives, without having a say when they were decided in Brussels.

Here's a look at the advantages and disadvantages Norway has faced from staying outside the union.

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TRADE

Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein belong to a small club of non-members that enjoy access to the EU's huge single market, because they have signed up to the European Economic Area agreement. The relationship is economically fruitful: Some 84 percent of Norwegian exports go to the EU, and 62 percent of its imports are from the bloc.

For Britain to join this club, however, it would have to accept four EU-style freedoms: free movement of goods, services, people and capital. Also, Norway implements more than three-quarters of all EU laws without having a formal way of influencing how they're drafted.

That is the opposite of what the supports a British exit from the EU, or Brexit, want.

"It is not just that we don't influence the rules, we don't understand why we have them. Rather than being involved in drafting new rules, we have to spend time asking what the last one was all about," says Paal Frisvold, a Norwegian who is managing director of Geelmuyden Kiese Brussels, a lobbying firm for Scandinavian companies.

IMMIGRATION

After the 2004 EU expansion into Eastern Europe, Polish plumbers came to symbolize the arrival of cheap labor into British towns. Supporters say Britain has benefited from their arrival, citing studies showing EU migrants contribute more to British coffers in tax than they take out through benefits. Critics argue their arrival puts a strain on housing and services and keeps a lid on wages, penalizing poorer Britons.

Whatever the merits, following Norway's example on this issue wouldn't satisfy the concerns of the supporters of a British EU exit, as Norway has more EU migrants than Britain relative to population size. That's because Norway has signed on to the EEA, and unlike Britain, it's a member of Europe's passport-free Schengen zone, which makes it easier to enter Norway than Britain.

FARMING

Norway is not part of the EU's Common Agricultural Policy, which subsidizes farmers and guarantees tariff-free trade across borders. The share of the EU budget earmarked for agriculture has fallen from 73 percent in 1980 to around 40 percent today but the policy remains a bugbear for many Brits who bristle at propping up the rural lifestyle of French and Polish farmers.

Oslo does not subsidize foreign agriculture. But tariffs for EU produce are high, which feeds through to pricey supermarket bills. And what Norway saves in EU subsidies is more than offset by lavish support to its own farmers. According to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, subsidies account for more than 60 percent of their income. British farmers fear their government would not be so generous. Supporters of a so-called Brexit argue it should be up to Britain to decide.

FISHERIES

Norway doesn't have to share its lucrative fishing waters with EU nations. The Common Fisheries Policy, which divvies up European waters and sets limits on how many fish can be caught, was a big reason why the seafaring country voted "no" to EU membership in 1972 and 1994.

Plentiful stocks of cod and other white fish suggest it can happily manage its own waters.

Fishermen in northern Norway say the industry supports many small coastal communities that would have struggled if they had to compete with foreign trawlers in their own waters.

"Maybe nothing would be left for these small societies," said Paul Jensen, a fisherman from the village

of Ersfjordbotn. "Only snow and ice and skiing."

But being outside the EU also means Norway has to pay tariffs to sell its fish to European consumers. The tariffs ratchet up for smoked or other treated products. So Norwegian fish farmers often choose to export untreated salmon to EU member Poland and smoke it there instead.

FOREIGN POLICY

Norway felt the sting of being alone when China punished it for the Norwegian Nobel Committee's decision to award the Nobel Peace Prize to Chinese dissident Liu Xiaobo in 2010.

Even though the government has no say over the independent panel's choices, work on a trade deal was suspended, visiting diplomats were humiliated, and Norwegian salmon faced sudden restrictions at Chinese docks.

Had Norway been part of the EU, Beijing could have faced retaliatory measures from the entire bloc. Being on its own meant it had to suck it up.

As a bigger country and permanent member of the U.N. Security Council, Britain has more clout on the world stage. But leaving the EU would mean losing its seat at the table when important issues are discussed in Brussels.

This has happened to Norway during the standoff between Russia and Ukraine or the free trade deal that the EU is negotiating with the U.S.

COST

Norway doesn't pay the EU's annual membership fee. But it does pay into a social fund which aims to raise the economic and social standards of poorer EU nations. It also coughs up for the EU-wide programs it uses, such as Horizon 2020 and Erasmus, which cover research and higher education.

Norway funds these programs based on the size of its economy. They will cost an average of 447 million euros per year until 2020, making Norway the EU's 10th largest contributor, according to The Confederation of British Industry.

"The negotiators have done a reasonable job of securing a deal for Norway. I would say we have not always been good enough at taking advantage," says Kristin Skogen Lund, head of the Confederation of Norwegian Enterprise.

From a young activist, a show of anger at Egypt's courts

HAMZA HENDAWI, Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Egyptian activist Sanaa Seif decided she had had enough of Egypt's justice system.

When the 22-year-old was summoned for questioning on accusations of inciting protests, she refused to answer the investigating judge's questions. She told him she would not participate in the "charade" and said the courts and prosecutors all follow the will of the government.

Stunned and offended, the investigator didn't charge her with incitement; he charged her instead with insulting a government employee while performing his duties. Within days, Seif was tried, convicted and sentenced to six months in prison. She refused to attend the trial and then refused to appeal the verdict.

On May 14, she gave herself up to authorities and is now serving her sentence in a prison outside Cairo.

"It's not an act of bravado. Being jailed is not easy and I know it," Seif wrote on her Facebook page before turning herself in.

Her unusual protest reflects the deep frustration among Egypt's pro-democracy activists who led the

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2011 uprising that ousted longtime autocrat Hosni Mubarak. Five years later, they say, the system has become entirely stacked against them under the government of President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi.

In the media, memories of the 2011 "revolution" have been silenced, replaced by what authorities call the 2013 "revolution," in which the military — led by el-Sissi — removed the first freely elected president, Islamist Mohammed Morsi, after massive protests against him and his Muslim Brotherhood. El-Sissi was elected president almost a year later, claiming a mandate to do whatever was needed to bring stability after years of turmoil.

A law issued in late 2013 virtually banned street protests and largely succeeded in suppressing demonstrations. Along with thousands of Islamists, many of the top secular activists have been jailed. Pro-government media have fanned public bitterness against the 2011 activists and critics of el-Sissi, depicting them, at best, as naive youth who cause chaos — or, at worst, as traitors intentionally trying to wreck the country.

El-Sissi insists the judiciary is independent and that its verdicts must not be criticized outside the courts. But whether following government pressure or its own devices, the judicial system has largely followed the lead of the security forces in the fierce crackdown on dissent.

Courts have issued heavy prison sentences against Islamists, secular activists and protesters, often with little evidence or due process, rights groups say. Prosecutors have vigorously applied vague charges like endangering security or stability, while turning a blind eye to police abuses ranging from torture and forced disappearances to long detentions without charge.

Seif's confrontation with her investigators "was the most honest thing anyone can ever say about Egypt's justice system," Wael Iskandar, a prominent political blogger and a Seif acquaintance, told The Associated Press.

Many activists are convinced the judiciary is beholden to el-Sissi's government. But rights lawyer Negad Borai noted that judges and prosecutors have their own interest in ensuring that Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood, now outlawed and branded a terrorist group, does not return to power and they believe the activists threaten stability.

"The judiciary, just like the middle class that supports el-Sissi, is filled with fear. Fear of the Brotherhood, fear of lack of security and fear of a repeat here of what's happened in Iraq and Syria," he said. "It feels that el-Sissi saved them from the Brotherhood," which judges feared intended to purge the judiciary and stack it with its supporters while in power.

Seif, a film editor who worked on "The Square," a 2013 Oscar-nominated documentary on the 2011 uprising, hails from Egypt's best known family of activists. Her father, Ahmed Seif al-Islam, who died in 2014, was a renowned human rights lawyer. Her mother, Leila Soueif, a mathematician, is a prominent advocate of academic independence.

Seif's older brother, Alaa Abdel-Fattah, is an iconic figure in Egypt's pro-democracy movement. He is serving a five-year prison sentence for taking part in a 2013 demonstration. Mona, her sister, is an outspoken critic of el-Sissi's government. Her aunt, Ahdaf Soueif, is a novelist and rights advocate.

Seif had her first direct run-in with authorities in December 2011, when she took part in a sit-in protest against the appointment of a leading Mubarak-era politician as prime minister. She was detained for a day and beaten in the military's custody, said Soueif, her mother.

Seif raised a case against the army officer who beat her, backed by a medical report on her injuries. "But like always in these cases, it came to nothing," Soueif said.

In 2014, Seif was sentenced to three years in prison for joining a demonstration against the protest law. After serving 15 months, she was among a number of activists freed in a pardon by el-Sissi last September.

Months later, on Jan. 25, when police had fanned out in the streets to prevent any demonstrations marking the anniversary of the 2011 uprising, Seif made a bold, solo protest, risking arrest: She walked alone to Tahrir Square retracing the steps of one of the biggest anti-Mubarak marches with a sign on her back reading, "It's still the January Revolution."

Seif described her confrontation with the investigator on her Facebook page.

"In the past, I took the 'justice system' seriously," she wrote, but she said she became disillusioned. She said one prosecutor in her 2014 case told her he didn't want to jail her but was under pressure to do so. A judge, she wrote, ignored her when she told him she was being held in so-called "protective custody," used by police to detain suspects without charge for lengthy periods.

Taher Abu el-Nasr, a lawyer who was present during Seif's questioning, confirmed her account to the AP. "She knew what she was saying and that she will pay the price," he said. "Her delivery was not violent, but not weak either. She was confident."

Rights lawyers say the justice system has been overwhelmed by the huge numbers of arrests since 2013 — as many as 40,000 by some accounts.

"The justice system has suffered a partial meltdown in the past 18 months," said Nasser Amin, a prominent rights lawyer and a member of the state's National Council for Human Rights, or NCHR.

"The Egyptian judicial system is carrying an unbearable load. It has become a partner in safeguarding security, not justice," he added.

Last month, 152 protesters, some of them randomly arrested, were convicted and sentenced to up to five years in prison for participating in demonstrations denouncing the government's decision to hand over control of two Red Sea islands to Saudi Arabia. Last week, the sentences for 47 of them were overturned on appeal but they still face fines of about \$10,000 each.

Ghada Shahbender, a human rights advocate and friend of Seif's, said some call her form of protest unorthodox and abnormal.

"But the truth is," she said, "Sanaa is unorthodox only because hypocrisy is the new orthodox in Egypt and abnormal because adulation of the general is now the only acceptable norm."

Swollen river feeds flooding near Houston as residents flee

JOHN L. MONE, Associated Press

RICHMOND, Texas (AP) — Residents of some rural southeastern Texas counties were bracing for more flooding along a river that reached a record high Tuesday as more rain was expected in the coming days.

Large swaths of suburban communities southwest of Houston were underwater and hundreds of people were evacuated from their homes before the Brazos River reached 54.37 feet in Fort Bend County, just two years after it had run dry in places because of drought.

National Weather Service meteorologist Charles Roeseler said the 54.37 feet at Richmond early Wednesday was not yet the crest and the river was expected to slowly rise even more overnight.

An additional 1 to 3 inches of rain expected later this week could keep the Brazos in major flood stage into the weekend.

"I'm scared," said Abigail Salazar, standing in knee-deep water outside her home in Richmond, where she was retrieving personal belongings after the city issued a voluntary evacuation advisory. "My kids ask me in the morning, 'Ma, what happened? The water is here.'"

During four days of torrential rain last week, at least six people died in floods in Texas.

Scott Overpeck, a National Weather Service meteorologist, said that the Brazos will recede in the com-

ing days but that its levels will remain high for up to three weeks, in part because water will need to be released from swollen reservoirs upriver.

"There's so much water on the Brazos that it's going to take a long time to drain through the whole river and drain out into the Gulf of Mexico," Overpeck said.

Four of the six people killed in flooding were recovered in Washington County, which is between Austin and Houston, County Judge John Brieden said Monday. Lake Somerville, one of the Brazos reservoirs, was "gushing uncontrollably" over the spillway and threatening people downriver, he said.

About 40 people were rescued Sunday and Monday from low-lying homes in a flooded neighborhood of Simonton, a Fort Bend County community of about 800 residents. The county had set up a pumping system to divert the water from the neighborhood, but it was overpowered by the flooding, county spokeswoman Beth Wolf said.

Wolf said any additional rain in the region would be a problem.

"The ditches are full, the river's high, there's nowhere else for that water to go," she said.

In the Fort Bend County city of Rosenberg, which is next to Richmond, about 150 households were evacuated and city officials were coordinating with the county's office of emergency management to have rescue boats in place, city spokeswoman Jenny Pavlovich said.

Heavy rains moved across the Dallas-Fort Worth area on Tuesday. In Hood County, southwest of Fort Worth, several roads were washed out and authorities performed about 15 water rescues, including from homes and vehicles, said Sheriff Roger Deeds. He says they were still trying to determine how many homes flooded.

Elsewhere, authorities were searching for the body of an 11-year-old boy who fell into a creek in Wichita, Kansas, and is presumed dead. Relatives have identified the boy as Devon Dean Cooley, who disappeared Friday night.

Oregon students get bottled water; lead found at 2 schools

KRISTENA HANSEN, Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — A third-party, independent investigation will be conducted after high amounts of lead were found in water sources at two schools, which led the district to close all water fountains, Portland Public Schools Superintendent Carole Smith said Tuesday.

Smith spoke to about 60 parents at a special school board meeting held to address their announcement last week that tests done in March found elevated levels of lead in 14 of 92 water sources at Creston K-8 School and the Rose City Park School.

"I was made aware of this late last week and subsequently informed the board," Smith said while reiterating an apology she gave Friday in a statement. "This is not our protocol, this is not acceptable, and we're taking a number of immediate actions."

She said two district employees could be placed on administrative leave as a result of the investigation. Some of the other actions include creating a new website to communicate about the testing and fixes and creating a 'healthy water task force' to come up with a new water testing strategy for the future.

Later Tuesday, Smith, as well as officials from Oregon Health Authority and Multnomah County took some harsh criticism from parents at a community meeting for what some said was a lack of communication and failure to follow through on previous signs that there were problems.

"The fact that we have an aging stock of buildings and these buildings have shown in the past to have

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toxic levels of lead, and the current administration did not address this, is evidence enough that we are operating in a dysfunctional system," said parent Mike Southern, who also called for Smith's resignation. "I am tired of the broken promises, the mismanagement and the endless dog and pony show of meeting after meeting that pretends to address the public need."

The district said it will provide bottled drinking water for all district students and staff through the end of the school year, until schools can be tested this summer, which happens every 15 years. The district placed bags over water fountains at all schools on Friday, Smith said.

She said she can't predict the cost of testing the system, saying the district may have to use reserve funds if it tops the \$450,000 budget for the project.

The lack of lead testing in Oregon schools' water systems — concerns for which were largely brought to the forefront by the Flint, Michigan, water crisis — prompted Gov. Kate Brown in April to call for a statewide review of existing school processes. She directed the Oregon Health Authority, which carries out Environmental Protection Agency water regulations at the state level, and the Oregon Department of Education to also make recommendations for improvement.

"Schools are not included when water systems test for lead as required by EPA, meaning that a water system may be deemed to have safe lead levels overall, while water quality at schools remains unknown," Brown said in an April statement.

Earlier this year, a Flint-inspired nationwide review by the USA Today Network found that more than 2,000 water systems fell short of EPA rules for lead, ranking Oregon at No. 18.

It also found EPA has handed out 180 citations to officials nationwide for failing to immediately tell the public — as was the case at the two Portland schools — when high lead levels are discovered.

Key facts about Wal-Mart

The Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Some facts about Wal-Mart:

Number of stores: Wal-Mart operates over 11,500 stores under more than 70 banners in 28 countries including the U.S. In the U.S., the company operates more than 5,200 stores including more than 600 Sam's Club stores.

Number of employees worldwide: 2.3 million workers including 1.5 million in the U.S.

Annual sales: Wal-Mart's total revenue fell slightly in the fiscal year ended in January to \$478.6 billion, excluding revenue from membership fees and other income. That marked the first annual drop since the company went public 45 years ago. The drop was partly due to a stronger U.S. dollar and ongoing store closures.

Breakdown by division: Wal-Mart's U.S. namesake business accounts for 62 percent of its business, while Wal-Mart's international business accounts for 26 percent. Sam's Club accounts for the remaining 12 percent.

Documents show aggressive sales tactics at Trump University

ELLIOT SPAGAT, Associated Press

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Trump University gave employees detailed instructions on how to entice people to enroll in its real estate seminars, from targeting people making at least \$90,000 a year and choosing words of flattery that are most persuasive to picking music for the gatherings — The O'Jays' "For the Love of Money."

The "playbooks" for the now-defunct business owned by Donald Trump, the presumptive Republican

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nominee for president, were unsealed Tuesday in a class-action lawsuit by customers who say they were defrauded. Last Friday, a judge who has earned Trump's scorn sided with attorneys for The Washington Post who argued that the public had a right to know what was previously confidential.

The documents outline how employees should guide customers through "the roller coaster of emotions" once they have expressed interest.

"The motivation that they experienced can die quickly as the realities of their daily lives take over. It is our job to rekindle that motivation ... to make them once again see the potential of achieving their dream," according to a "sales playbook."

A 2009 playbook quotes a Yale University study that found the most persuasive words in the English language are: you, new, money, easy, discovery, free, results, health, save, proven, guarantee and love.

"They share three characteristics: they are simple, familiar and dramatic."

"The words 'I noticed' have a powerful subconscious effect on people because they send a subliminal message to them that they stood out in the crowd, that they are attractive or charismatic or that they impressed you," the playbook continues. "People love recognition and attention."

Trump University offered a three-day seminar for \$1,495, using it as a springboard to sell more expensive "Trump Elite" packages for up to \$34,995 a year.

"You don't sell products, benefits or solutions — you sell feelings," according to the sales playbook.

Trump University's core customers are identified in the documents as male heads of households between 40 and 54 years old with annual household incomes of at least \$90,000, a college education and a net worth of more than \$200,000.

One way to identify buyers is to ask what they do for a living. "Let them know that you've found an answer and a way for them to change their lifestyles."

During one-on-one conversations, "you may begin with some small-talk to establish rapport but do not let them take control of the conversation," a playbook reads. "You must be very aggressive during these conversations to in order to push them out of their comfort zones."

"If they complain about the price, remind them that Trump is the BEST!! This is the last real estate investment they will ever need to make."

For those who have hit credit limits, employees are told to suggest they dip into savings or identify other "seed capital."

"Money is never a reason for not enrolling in Trump University; if they really believe in you and your product, they will find the money," a playbook reads.

Trump University is the target of two lawsuits in San Diego and one in New York that accuse the business of fleecing students with unfulfilled promises to teach secrets of success in real estate. Plaintiffs contend that Trump University gave seminars and classes across the country that were like infomercials, constantly pressuring customers to buy more and, in the end, failing to deliver.

Trump has maintained that customers were overwhelmingly satisfied with the offerings — a point that his attorneys repeated after the documents were unsealed. The documents included testimony from several satisfied customers.

"Much of the unsealed evidence, including declarations and surveys from former Trump University students, demonstrates the high level of satisfaction from students and that Trump University taught valuable real estate information," said Jill Martin, vice president and assistant general counsel for The Trump Organization. "Trump University looks forward to using this evidence, along with much more, to win when the case is brought before a jury."

The documents show meticulous attention to details such as seating at seminars. Room temperature

should be set no higher than 68 degrees, and music should be The O'Jays' "For the Love of Money" — which Trump also used on his reality TV show "The Apprentice."

Employees are told to avoid speaking with the news media.

"Reporters are rarely on your side and they are not sympathetic," a 2010 playbook reads.

The 6-year-old case in San Diego is scheduled to go to trial shortly after the November presidential election.

Trump has railed against U.S. District Judge Gonzalo Curiel, who ordered the documents unsealed. At a rally in San Diego on Friday, he accused the judge of being "hostile" and a "hater of Donald Trump," and raised questions about his ethnicity.

"The judge, who happens to be, we believe, Mexican, which is great, I think that's fine," Trump said of Curiel, who was born in the U.S.

It was the second time Trump has brought up the judge's ethnicity as he complained about his treatment.

Testimony: House speaker hired to open doors with others

KIM CHANDLER, Associated Press

OPELIKA, Ala. (AP) — The president of an education curriculum company testified Tuesday that he hired Alabama House Speaker Mike Hubbard, in a \$7,500 a month consulting contract, to open doors with legislative leaders in other states as the company tried to sell digital courses to school systems.

Edgenuity President Michael Humphrey said he believed Hubbard — with his legislative and sports background — could get him meetings with legislative leaders that Humphrey said it would take him a year to get on his own.

"My idea was to use Mike to get me a meeting with this guy, let me go meet him," Humphrey said. Humphrey said Hubbard's contract specified that he only worked on matters outside Alabama for the company.

In other testimony Tuesday, the retired director of the Alabama Ethics Commission said he often gave "the drill" to House Speaker Mike Hubbard, cautioning him about actions that would violate the state's ethics law.

Prosecutors called Jim Sumner to give jurors a tutorial on the law and to try to show that Hubbard willfully ignored his advice.

Humphrey said Hubbard's work for the company included calling the then-speaker of the South Carolina House of Representatives and emailing Auburn University Athletics Director Jay Jacobs asking for help arranging a meeting for the company with an NCAA executive as it tried to get cleared by the NCAA to sell its products for college athletes.

Hubbard faces 23 felony ethics charges accusing him of using his political positions to make money and solicit work, investments and clients from people with business before the Alabama Legislature. Prosecutors say Hubbard improperly used the "mantle of his office" to benefit his businesses and clients.

Hubbard has maintained that the transactions were legal and permitted under the exceptions that the state ethics law provides for normal business dealings and longstanding friendships.

Sumner said Hubbard often sought informal ethics advice from him or general counsel Hugh Evans and they repeatedly cautioned him about the restrictions of the law. They gave him an informal letter about his work for a municipal-owned gas utility saying the work would be legal as long as he didn't use the "mantle of his office" to benefit his clients and businesses.

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"We always got to the point: I would say, or Hugh would say, 'You remember the drill. You can't use your position to benefit yourself, your business or your family,'" Sumner said.

Sumner served as an expert witness, providing testimony on both the informal advice given to Hubbard and providing general interpretations about what the law allows and doesn't allow.

Sumner said he once called Hubbard with concerns after hearing rumors that a change to the 2013 budget bill could be a major boon for one of Hubbard's clients. Hubbard first asked if those rumors were coming from "enemies" and then added that the matter would be taken care of in conference committee.

What exactly constitutes using the "mantle" of a public office could be a pivotal point in some of the charges in the public corruption trial. Sumner, under questioning from prosecutors, said it was an intangible that included using the aura of a public office to benefit private business clients.

Prosecutors introduced an email from Hubbard in which he described that as boilerplate ethics language and that he was free to introduce himself as speaker of the Alabama House of Representatives.

Under cross-examination by defense lawyer Bill Baxley, Sumner acknowledged Hubbard sought more advice about his business dealings than any other legislator.

"He said, 'I want to know where the line is?'" Baxley asked.

"Correct," Sumner replied.

"To your knowledge, Alabama has a part-time citizen legislature and almost every member has to make a living," Baxley added.

Hubbard's defense has made a point of saying that he sought ethical guidance and followed the law. But informal opinions don't provide the legal protection Hubbard might have received had he sought formal opinions from the five-member Ethics Commission.

The charges against Hubbard were brought by a grand jury convened by the Alabama attorney general's office. Baxley tried to point out that the Alabama Ethics Commission, a panel that reviews allegations of ethics violations, never brought any findings against Hubbard.

However, Sumner said that he did not know about several of the speaker's contracts until after Hubbard was indicted by the grand jury.

"More than half of the things that are before this court were never known to the Ethics Commission," Sumner said.

The trial continues Wednesday with a number of high-profile witnesses. Alabama Gov. Robert Bentley is expected to testify Wednesday morning.

Big Trump checks to vets groups sent on day of media report

MICHAEL BIESECKER, Associated Press

JILL COLVIN, Associated Press

STEVE PEOPLES, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — More than a dozen big checks flowed out of New York last week, bound for veterans' charities from Donald Trump. On Tuesday, he announced he had made good on his promise of last January to give the groups millions of dollars from a highly publicized fundraiser.

The announcement by the presumptive Republican presidential candidate came in the midst of a 40-minute rant against "dishonest" and "sleazy" reporters who have been pressing the issue.

The largest donation, a \$1 million check dated May 24 and drawn from Donald J. Trump's personal account, was addressed to a small Tuckahoe, New York, group that provides scholarships to the children of fallen Marines.

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Trump had been interviewed that same day by The Washington Post, which for weeks had been raising questions about where the promised money was, urging him to disclose recipients of the millions raised during a splashy telethon-style fundraiser he held in Iowa in January in place of a Fox debate he was boycotting.

At a news conference Tuesday, Trump released a list of 41 groups he said had received \$5.6 million. "Most of the money went out quite a while ago," Trump said. "Some of it went out more recently. But all of this has gone out."

Throughout Tuesday's confrontational event, Trump repeatedly slammed the media as "unbelievably dishonest" for its treatment of the issue and dismissed an ABC reporter as "a sleaze." He said many times that he didn't want credit for the fundraising but seemed peeved that he wasn't thanked for it.

"Instead of being like, 'Thank you very much, Mr. Trump,' or 'Trump did a good job,' everyone's saying: 'Who got it? Who got it? Who got it?' And you make me look very bad," Trump complained, taking on reporters in the room. "I have never received such bad publicity for doing such a good job."

The Associated Press spoke or left messages with each of the organizations Trump named. Of the 30 groups that responded by Tuesday, about half said they had received checks from Trump just last week.

Several said the checks were dated on or about May 24 — the date as Trump's interview with the Post — and shipped out overnight.

Among them was the big check from Trump himself, written to the Marine Corps-Law Enforcement Foundation. Trump's campaign had previously told the newspaper that his promised \$1 million personal donation had already been distributed.

Though the foundation had received a \$100,000 check from Trump's charity in March, last week's \$1 million donation came as something of a surprise.

"It is obviously a wonderful donation," said Sue Boulhosa, the group's executive director and sole employee. She said the group had "an inkling" that more might come but the amount was a happy surprise.

Trump has a longstanding relationship with the group, which Boulhosa said typically raises a total of between \$2 million and \$3 million a year. The foundation had presented Trump with an award at its 2015 gala held at a New York hotel.

Appearing on CNN Tuesday, Democratic presidential front-runner Hillary Clinton said she was glad Trump had given out the promised money.

"The problem here is the difference between what Donald Trump says and what Donald Trump does," Clinton said. "He's bragged for months about raising \$6 million for vets and donating \$1 million himself, but it took a reporter to shame him into actually making the contribution."

Trump's campaign manager Corey Lewandowski had originally told the Post that the event had raised about \$4.5 million — less than the \$6 million originally announced by Trump — because some who'd pledged had backed out. Lewandowski also said all the money had been given out.

Trump had claimed during the fundraiser that he'd raised \$6 million through a combination of pledges from wealthy friends, the public and \$1 million from himself.

But the campaign refused for months to disclose which charities had received the money, leading to questions about whether the money raised was less than he had said.

"It was very unfair that the press treated us so badly," Trump complained Tuesday.

He suggested he had hoped to keep the donations private. However, Trump hadn't appeared shy about giving away poster-sized checks at campaign events in the weeks after the fundraiser.

On Jan. 30, just before the campaign's leadoff caucuses in Iowa, he gave a \$100,000 check to the Puppy Jake Foundation, which provides service dogs to wounded veterans. Representatives from the

foundation, accompanied by several service dogs, accepted the check at the Adler Theater in Davenport, Iowa, where Trump was being interviewed on stage by Jerry Falwell Jr.

The next day, in Council Bluffs, Trump presented another check, also for \$100,000, to Partners for Patriots, which also provides service dogs to disabled veterans.

The public presentations trickled off within days, though some of the groups contacted by the AP did report receiving checks in February, March and April.

But the biggest batch appeared to have gone out around May 24, with several of the groups saying they had no contact with the Trump organization before that.

Trump spokeswoman Hope Hicks denied Tuesday that timing had anything to do with questions from the media.

"Mr. Trump's team worked very hard to complete this lengthy process prior to Memorial Day Weekend," she said. The campaign also said it had taken months to carefully vet each of the groups receiving money.

Clinton scores prized endorsement from Gov. Jerry Brown

MICHAEL R. BLOOD, Associated Press

LISA LERER, Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Hillary Clinton landed a coveted endorsement from California Gov. Jerry Brown Tuesday, patching up a strained relationship between the two Democrats as she seeks to deliver a final blow to Bernie Sanders' campaign.

Clinton heads into California and the other end-of-the-line primaries June 7 with the Democratic nomination virtually locked up — she needs just 71 delegates to reach the required threshold at the party's summer convention in Philadelphia. But Sanders is staging boisterous rallies across the state and running TV ads in hopes of delivering an upset that he says would strengthen his claim to the nomination, despite the numbers.

While Clinton's campaign has been looking to California as the triumphant conclusion to her primary run, her lead appears to have vanished in recent days. Polling last week showed a race that's nearly tied.

Clinton is still expected to lock up the nomination before the polls close in the Golden State, but a loss in California would amount to a deeply symbolic wound in a state she carried in the 2008 presidential primary against then-Sen. Barack Obama. It would also encourage Sanders to make good on his promise to remain in the race until the party convention in July, hampering Clinton's ability to unify her party and sending her limping into the general election.

While the state has a pronounced Democratic tilt, a Clinton defeat could also embolden Republicans who would love to see her have to defend ground in a state that hasn't sided with a Republican presidential candidate since 1988.

At this point, Clinton is eager to devote her time and money to the campaign against presumptive Republican nominee Donald Trump. But the unexpectedly tough race in California, and her determination to win it, is highlighted in her upcoming schedule — starting Thursday, she's planning events for five consecutive days. She's also running a series of ads targeting black, Latino and Asian-Americans in the state, spending cash she'd hoped to conserve for spots going after Trump.

"I'm feeling very positive about my campaign in California," Clinton said in an interview with MSNBC on Tuesday. "We are working really hard. I want to cover as much of the state as I possibly can."

With Brown's blessing, Clinton has the support of virtually every major Democrat in California.

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In a written statement, the governor stopped just short of saying Sanders should step aside. Instead, he called Clinton's lead "insurmountable," pointed out she had amassed about 3 million more votes than Sanders and argued it was urgent for Democrats to begin focusing solely on Trump.

He said Clinton "has convincingly made the case that she knows how to get things done and has the tenacity and skill to advance the Democratic agenda.

"This is no time for Democrats to keep fighting each other," Brown wrote. "The general election has already begun."

Brown and Clinton's husband, former President Bill Clinton, were bitter rivals in the 1992 presidential contest. During the campaign, Brown at one point said Bill Clinton was becoming "the prince of sleaze."

In one Democratic debate, Brown accused Bill Clinton, then Arkansas' governor, of funneling state business and money to his wife's law firm. The Clintons strongly denounced the accusations.

And at the party's national convention that year, Brown supporters chanting "Let Jerry speak" twice interrupted remarks by Hillary Clinton at a California delegation meeting.

The governor's campaign had similarities to Sanders' outsider bid — a point made by Brown in his endorsement of Clinton. As a candidate in 1992 he railed against America's "corrupted" politics, a line that echoes in Sanders' daily assaults on the intersection of big money and government. Brown called his outsider bid "a cause ... a movement," another line often heard from Sanders in reference to his campaign.

Brown's late-coming endorsement has a practical side. Trump's attacks on the validity of climate change would undercut one of the pillars of Brown's agenda — global warming.

Recent polling finds Clinton is in a virtual tie with Sanders in California; a year ago, by comparison, the Vermont senator registered in single digits in the state. In stop after stop, Sanders has argued that a big win in California would open a pathway to the nomination.

Sanders held rallies in the Democrat-rich areas of Northern California Tuesday — Santa Cruz and Monterey.

Asian stock markets uneven on soft China manufacturing data

YOUKYUNG LEE, AP Business Writer

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Asian stock markets were uneven on Wednesday after mixed reports on China's manufacturing activity indicated lingering weaknesses in the world's second-largest economy and U.S. consumer confidence dropped for a second month.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's Nikkei 225 fell 0.8 percent to 17,101.81 while South Korea's Kospi inched up less than 0.1 percent to 1,985.27. Hong Kong's Hang Seng index was down less than 0.1 percent to 20,810.29 while China's Shanghai Composite Index was up 0.1 percent to 2,918.78. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 slumped 0.9 percent to 5,332.30. Stock markets in Taiwan, Singapore, Indonesia and the Philippines were higher but stocks were lower in New Zealand.

ANALYST'S TAKE: "Equity markets seem unimpressed by the recent data releases as both U.S. and European markets all close in the red," said Angus Nicholson, a market analyst at IG in Melbourne, Australia. "Asian markets do not look like they are heading for a better session."

CHINA DATA: Earlier on Wednesday, two surveys showed that China's factory activity was feeble last month, indicating Beijing's recovery efforts are struggling. An official index by the Chinese Federation of Logistics & Purchasing based on a survey of factory purchasing managers came in at 50.1 in May. Numbers above 50 indicate expansion of factory activity while those below 50 indicate contraction. The private Caixin/Markit survey was more pessimistic with activity falling to 49.2 last month from 49.4 in

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April.

US CONSUMERS: Reports released on Tuesday showed that U.S. consumer confidence fell in May for a second month and is now at the lowest level since November. The Conference Board said that its index of consumer confidence slipped to 92.6 from 94.7 in April as consumers remain cautious about the outlook for business and job market conditions. The Commerce Department said consumer spending rose 1 percent in April as purchases of cars and other long-lasting goods increased, while wages and salaries, the most important component of incomes, gained 0.5 percent.

WALL STREET: U.S. stock markets closed lower. The Dow Jones industrial average lost 86.02 points, or 0.5 percent, to 17,787.20. The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 2.11 points, or 0.1 percent, to 2,096.95. The Nasdaq composite index gained 14.55 points, or 0.3 percent, to 4,948.05.

OIL: Benchmark U.S. crude oil fell 42 cents to \$48.68 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract lost 23 cents to \$49.10 a barrel on Tuesday. Brent crude, used to price international oils, gave up 39 cents to \$49.50 a barrel in London.

CURRENCIES: The dollar weakened to 110.65 yen from 110.71 yen. The euro fell to \$1.1122 from \$1.1131.

Today in History The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, June 1, the 153rd day of 2016. There are 213 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 1, 1916, Louis Brandeis took his seat as an associate justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, the first Jewish American to serve on the nation's highest bench.

On this date:

In 1792, Kentucky became the 15th state of the union.

In 1796, Tennessee became the 16th state.

In 1813, the mortally wounded commander of the USS Chesapeake, Capt. James Lawrence, gave the order, "Don't give up the ship" during a losing battle with the British frigate HMS Shannon in the War of 1812.

In 1868, James Buchanan, the 15th president of the United States, died near Lancaster, Pennsylvania, at age 77.

In 1915, the T.S. Eliot poem "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock" was first published in "Poetry: A Magazine of Verse" in Chicago.

In 1926, actress Marilyn Monroe was born Norma Jeane Mortenson in Los Angeles.

In 1943, a civilian flight from Portugal to England was shot down by Germany during World War II, killing all 17 people aboard, including actor Leslie Howard.

In 1955, the romantic comedy "The Seven Year Itch," starring Marilyn Monroe and Tom Ewell, had its world premiere in New York.

In 1968, author-lecturer Helen Keller, who'd earned a college degree despite being blind and deaf almost all of her life, died in Westport, Connecticut, at age 87.

In 1977, the Soviet Union formally charged Jewish human rights activist Anatoly Shcharansky with treason. (Shcharansky was imprisoned, then released in 1986; he's now known by the name Natan Sharansky.)

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In 1990, President George H.W. Bush and Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev signed the foundation of a landmark treaty for the first-ever cuts in strategic nuclear missiles and a pact to slash chemical weapons stockpiles.

In 2009, Air France Flight 447, an Airbus A330 carrying 228 people from Rio de Janeiro to Paris, crashed into the Atlantic Ocean with the loss of everyone on board.

Ten years ago: Six world powers, including the U.S., agreed on a package of incentives to persuade Iran to halt its uranium enrichment program. A contrite U.S. Army Corps of Engineers took responsibility for the flooding of New Orleans by Hurricane Katrina. Seven family members were shot to death in an Indianapolis house. (Two suspects were later convicted of murder; Desmond Turner was sentenced to life in prison without parole while co-defendant James Stewart received 425 years in prison.)

Five years ago: In a face-to-face meeting, GOP leaders complained to President Barack Obama that he had not produced a detailed plan of spending cuts and accused him of playing politics over Medicare; the White House said Obama had in fact led on the issue, and accused Republicans of trying to destroy the popular health care program for seniors. Space shuttle Endeavour and its six astronauts returned to Earth, closing out the next-to-last mission in NASA's 30-year program.

One year ago: South Carolina Sen. Lindsey Graham opened his campaign for the Republican presidential nomination. The Supreme Court threw out the conviction of a Pennsylvania man prosecuted for making threats on Facebook, but the justices stopped short of laying out broad constitutional protections for such comments. A cruise ship capsized in China's Yangtze River, killing 442 people. Vanity Fair released its cover photo featuring the former Bruce Jenner with the headline, "Call Me Caitlyn" as the Olympic gold medalist publicly completed his gender transition.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Richard Erdman is 91. Singer Pat Boone is 82. Actor-writer-director Peter Masterson is 82. Actor Morgan Freeman is 79. Actor Rene Auberjonois (oh-behr-juh-NWAH') is 76. Opera singer Frederica von Stade is 71. Actor Brian Cox is 70. Rock musician Ronnie Wood is 69. Actor Jonathan Pryce is 69. Actor Powers Boothe is 68. Actress Gemma Craven is 66. Blues-rock musician Tom Principato is 64. Country singer Ronnie Dunn is 63. Actress Lisa Hartman Black is 60. Actor Tom Irwin is 60. Singer-musician Alan Wilder is 57. Rock musician Simon Gallup (The Cure) is 56. Country musician Richard Comeaux (River Road) is 55. Actor-comedian Mark Curry is 55. Actor-singer Jason Donovan is 48. Actress Teri Polo is 47. Basketball player-turned-coach Tony Bennett is 47. Actor Rick Gomez is 44. Model-actress Heidi Klum is 43. Singer Alanis Morissette is 42. Actress Sarah Wayne Callies is 39. TV personality Damien Fahey is 36. Pop singer-songwriter Brandi Carlile is 35. Actor Johnny Pemberton is 35. Tennis player Justine Henin is 34. Actor Taylor Handley is 32. Actress Willow Shields is 16.

Thought for Today: "When a thing ceases to be a subject of controversy, it ceases to be a subject of interest." — William Hazlitt, British essayist (1778-1830).