

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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Saturday, June 4

Legion at Milbank Tourney
Anniversaries: Gary & Caralee Heitmann, Jarod & Kristie Flihs, Wade & Renee Marzahn
Birthdays: Jay Johnson, Cheyenne Schaller, Corbin Reich, Tony Waage, Tucker Carda
4:30pm: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church Mass
6:00pm: Emmanuel Lutheran pastor at Bergen LC for Confirmation

Sunday, June 5


Legion at Milbank Tourney
Birthdays: Stephanie Jondahl, Mark Leonhardt, Ward Gilchrist.
9:00am: Emmanuel Lutheran Worship with Communion
9:00am: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church Mass
9:00am: St. John's Lutheran Worship with Communion
10:00am: Heaven Bound Ministries worship at Pierpont Church
11:00am: United Methodist Church Worship

Monday, June 6

State Girls Golf Tourney in Hot Springs
Senior Menu: Meatballs, mashed potatoes and gravy, carrots, fruit cocktail, whole wheat bread.
Birthdays: Brandon Stolle, BJ Hanson
6:30am: Emmanuel Lutheran Bible Study
6:00pm: U12 Softball hosts Webster (DH)
6:00pm: U8 Softball hosts Webster
7:00pm: U10 Softball hosts Webster

Tuesday, June 7

State Girls Golf Tourney in Hot Springs

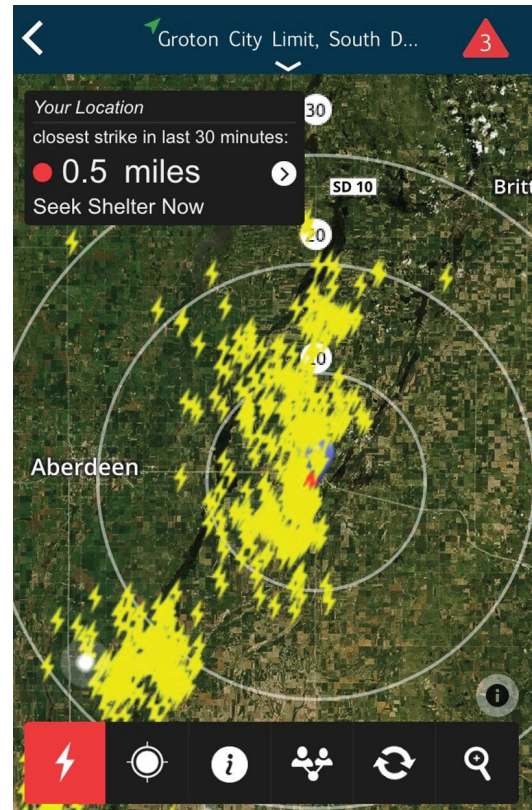


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Groton was spared hail and damaging winds from this storm that went through the area Friday afternoon. Heavy rain and lots of lightning were the major threats. Groton received around half an inch of rain from the storm system.



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Today in Weather History

1825 - A hurricane struck Long Island NY leveling trees and causing damage to ships. The early season hurricane, which originated around Cuba, caused major damage along the Atlantic coast from Charleston SC to New York City. Many were lost at sea. (David Ludlum)

1860 - Iowa's Commanche Tornado , with wind speeds estimated in excess of 300 mph, was unquestionably one of the worst experienced by early settlers, with nearly a million dollars damage. (The Weather Channel)

1982 - A four day storm began over New England which produced up to 14 inches of rain in southern Connecticut breaching twenty-three dams and breaking two others. Damage was estimated at more than 276 million dollars. (David Ludlum)

1987 - Early morning thunderstorms in south Texas produced 6.5 inches of rain at Hockheim, and five inches at Hallettsville, in just a few hours. Afternoon thunderstorms in Virginia deluged northern Halifax County with 5.5 inches of rain in two hours. Thunderstorms produced wind gusts to 76 mph at Dusty WA, and wind gusts to 88 mph at Swanquarter NC. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - A dozen cities in the eastern U.S. reported record low temperatures for the date, including Atlantic City NJ with a reading of 40 degrees. Fifteen cities in the north central U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date, including Glasgow MT and Havre MT with readings of 102 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather from the Southern Plains Region and the Lower Mississippi Valley to the Southern Atlantic Coast Region during the day and into the night. Just four tornadoes were reported, but there were 87 reports of large hail and damaging winds. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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Today	Tonight	Sunday	Sunday Night	Monday	Monday Night	Tuesday
						
Scattered Showers and Breezy	Mostly Clear	Sunny then Sunny and Breezy	Mostly Clear	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny
High: 73 °F	Low: 52 °F	High: 80 °F	Low: 52 °F	High: 72 °F	Low: 47 °F	High: 74 °F

Weekend Outlook



Today

Highs in the 70s

Mostly Sunny to Partly Cloudy

Scattered Showers over E South Dakota and W central Minnesota



Sunday

Highs 78 to 85

Sunny

National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD



weather.gov/Aberdeen



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen

Updated: 6/4/2016 4:16 AM Central

Published on: 06/04/2016 at 4:21AM

Other than scattered showers over eastern South Dakota and West Central Minnesota today, dry weather will be the rule for the next several days. Expect temperatures to top out in the 70s today, and in the upper 70s to mid 80s on Sunday.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 74.8 F at 1:47 PM

Low Outside Temp: 54.3 F at 2:44 PM

High Gust: 38.0 Mph at 1:02 AM

Precip: 0.60

Today's Info

Record High: 101° in 1933

Record Low: 34 in 1954

Average High: 74°F

Average Low: 51°F

Average Precip in June: 0.46

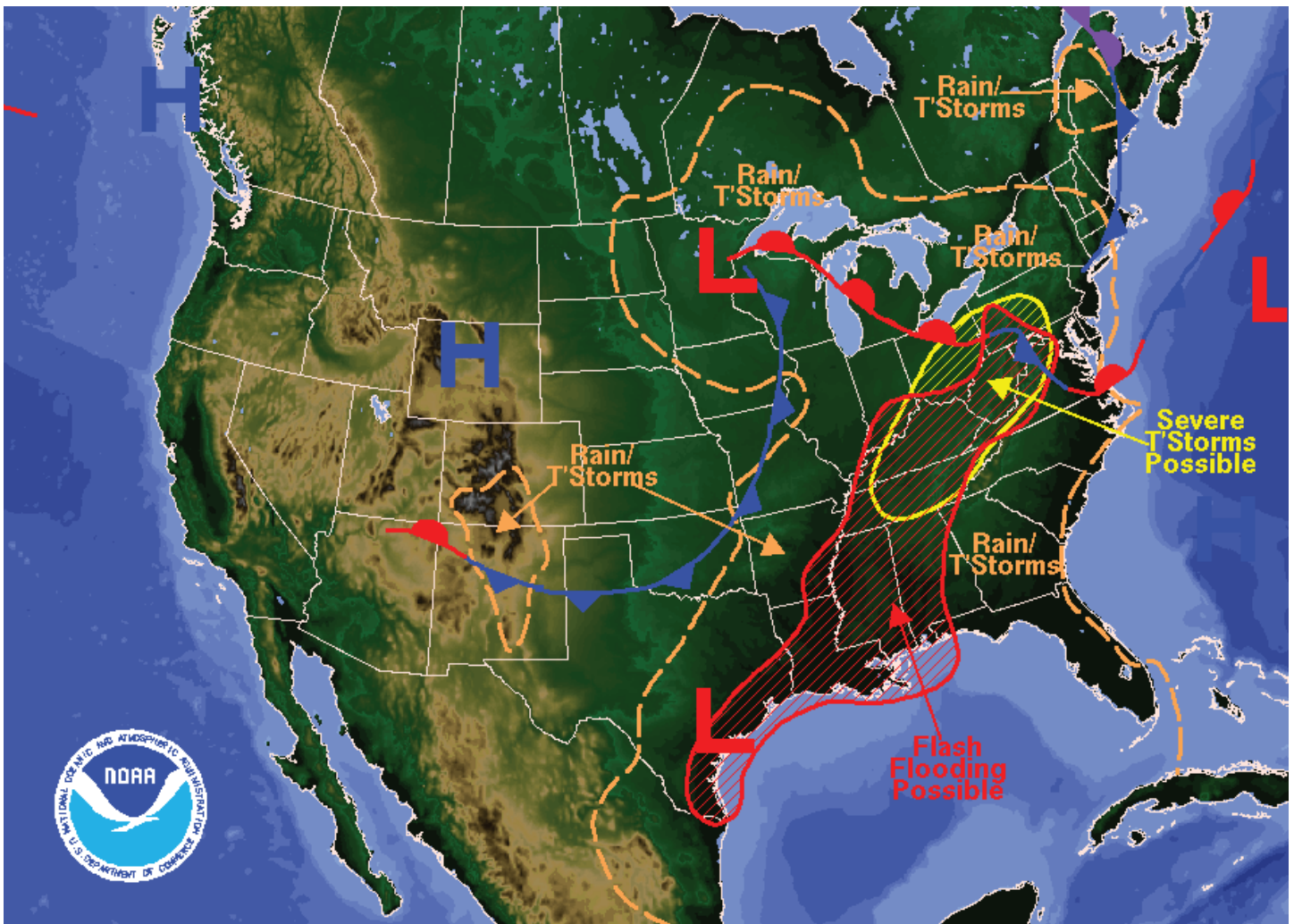
Precip to date in June: 0.72

Average Precip to date: 7.60

Precip Year to Date: 5.71

Sunset Tonight: 9:17 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:46 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Sat, Jun 04, 2016, issued 4:50 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Tate based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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ALL I WANT IS...

The James family gathered together for a quiet time and discussion. Albert climbed into his father's lap and hugged him with all his might. Teasingly, he asked, "Well, son, what do you want now?"

"Nothing now," he answered. "All I want is you!"

How unfortunate for us that we rarely go to our Heavenly Father unless we want something. It seems that when we approach Him it is for something that contributes to our well-being, our health, family problems, issues at work, our financial needs or a friend. Too often we are more interested in the gifts that the Giver has to give us than the Giver. We ask rather than adore and we prey rather than praise and we want rather than worship.

It is true that our Lord has invited us to ask if we want to receive and to come to Him for anything and everything – no matter when or what. For most of us it is a long standing habit that might be hard to break.

Perhaps it would change the nature of our relationship with God if, on occasion, we simply said to Him in a prayer of gratitude, "All I want is You!"

Prayer: Lord, we truly love You! Forgive us for hearts and minds that only focus on our wants and needs. Help us to also express our love and praise. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Matthew 6:33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

News from the Associated Press

Obama signs bill protecting children in tribal foster care

REGINA GARCIA CANO, Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — President Barack Obama on Friday signed into law a measure meant to bolster protections for Native American children placed into the tribal foster care system.

The law, which comes years after serious flaws were uncovered in the child welfare system of a Native American tribe in North Dakota, requires background checks before foster care placements are made by tribal social services agencies. The measure requires that agencies review national criminal records and child abuse or neglect registries in any state in which a would-be foster parent has lived in the preceding five years, and also forces foster care homes to undergo periodic safety recertifications.

Republican U.S. Sen. John Hoeven, of North Dakota, said the measure ensures that Native American children living on a reservation have the same protections when assigned to foster care that children living off the reservation have.

"A decade ago, we worked in North Dakota to ensure that all adults living in a foster home were background checked to protect the children in their care, and now we have extended that same safety net for children in tribal foster care in North Dakota and across the nation," Hoeven said.

Federal experts say some children living on reservations experience a form of post-traumatic stress from exposure to family turmoil. The symptoms are comparable to those of military veterans returning from war zones. And federal statistics show that Native American children have the third highest rate of victimization at 11.6 per 1,000 children of the same race or ethnicity. In 2009, more than 7,000 Native American children were victims of child abuse.

The Native American Children's Safety Act, sponsored by Hoeven, comes five years after federal and state authorities found serious deficiencies with the administration of foster care on the Spirit Lake Indian Reservation in North Dakota. The ineffectiveness of the tribe's child social services was so severe that the federal government had to intervene, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs took over control of the system.

One case exemplifying the flagrant mistakes of the child protection system involved a woman who was awarded custody of infant twin girls despite a history of child neglect. She ended up being sentenced to 30 years in prison in 2013 for the death of one of the children, who was thrown down an embankment.

The background check requirement under the law signed Friday applies to everyone living in a potential foster care house, not just the parents. A background check will also be required for any adult who moves into the home after the foster child has been placed with a family.

Erik Stegman, executive director of the Center for Native American Youth at the Aspen Institute, agreed with Hoeven that the new law's requirements will put Native American children on "equal footing" with other children entering the foster care system.

"It does have broad tribal support, and we do hope that it improves the situation for Native youth," Stegman said. "We definitely believe that tribal courts and other tribal welfare system officials should have that information and that by having that information they are able to make better determinations for what's in the best interest of the Native children in their communities."

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Aerodynamics gets contract to fly to Pierre, Watertown

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The U.S. Department of Transportation has awarded contracts to Aerodynamics Inc. to provide federally subsidized air service to Pierre and Watertown.

Officials in both cities had recommended the carrier. Great Lakes Airlines has been serving the two cities, but local officials have become unhappy with the service.

Great Lakes maintains that problems with delayed and canceled flights were the result of a pilot shortage caused by more stringent federal regulations.

The Essential Air Service program provides subsidies to small airlines so they can maintain flights in rural communities. Aerodynamics will fly 12 round-trip flights weekly from Watertown to Denver, stopping in Pierre, with 50-passenger jets.

The two-year federal contract runs from this August through July 2018. It's not known exactly when Aerodynamics service will start, but Pierre Mayor Laurie Gill told the Capital Journal (<http://bit.ly/1U1Vii2>) that she expects it to be by September.

"We have a huge hunting season here, and they know that," she said.

Watertown has one more hurdle to overcome. The Department of Transportation recently listed the city as one of 12 in the country fated to lose EAS eligibility because the subsidy level there has surpassed \$200 per passenger. Federal rules say any EAS community within 210 miles of a major hub airport must maintain a subsidy level below that mark.

Mayor Steve Thorson said he is confident Watertown officials can show that the city's center is actually 4 miles farther west than under the government's measurement to Minneapolis. That will put it outside the 210-mile limit, meaning the EAS subsidy trigger to worry about is \$1,000 per passenger.

Hikes across state celebrate National Trails Day

CUSTER, S.D. (AP) — Several South Dakota parks are hosting special hikes Saturday for National Trails Day.

National Trails Day celebrates America's trail systems and their supporters and volunteers.

At Custer State Park, hikes are planned for Badger Clark Trail, Little Devil's Tower Trail and Prairie Trail.

Other hikes are planned at Fort Sisseton Historical State Park, North Point Recreation Area in Pickstown, Richmond Lake Recreation Area and Mina Lake Recreation Area in Aberdeen, Big Sioux Recreation Area in Brandon, Indian Creek Recreation Area in Mobridge, Union Grove State Park in Beresford and Lewis and Clark Recreation Area in Yankton.

Pierre's outdoor pool scheduled to open for the season

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Pierre's outdoor pool is set to open for exercise and water recreation.

The pool is scheduled to open for the season on Monday.

Entry costs \$2 for children and \$4 for adults, while Thursday nights and Sundays are \$5 for family swim. There are punch cards available.

This year, exercise classes have been expanded. They begin on June 21.

FBI: Officer fires gun at Pine Ridge hospital

PINE RIDGE, S.D. (AP) — The FBI says a tribal police officer fired his gun and a person was struck Friday morning inside the emergency room of an Indian Health Service hospital on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

FBI spokesman Kyle Loven says the FBI received a call from Pine Ridge Hospital about 9:30 a.m.

about an officer-involved shooting. He says he has no information on the condition of the person shot or what led to the shooting.

An IHS spokesperson says the hospital was placed on lockdown following an incident involving an individual and a law enforcement officer. The lockdown has since been lifted and the facility reopened.

Loven says the shooting remains under investigation by the FBI, the Bureau of Indian Affairs and tribal authorities.

A BIA spokeswoman referred questions to the FBI.

GF&P closes Lake Alvin to swimming because of E.coli

HARRISBURG, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department has closed Lake Alvin to swimming after tests showed unhealthy levels of E.coli in the water.

The lake outside Harrisburg is a popular swimming spot is off-limits. The lake remains open to fishing. Officials say Lake Alvin is not safe for swimming and the beach will be posted as closed. Park managers say it's a temporary closure and testing will continue to ensure healthy levels return.

Hartford man accused of running chop shop

HARTFORD, S.D. (AP) — The Minnehaha County Sheriff's Office says they've arrested an 18-year-old Hartford man on charges of running a chop shop.

Sgt. Jason Gearman says the man is accused of receiving stolen cars and dismantling them for parts in two storage units south of Interstate 90. Law enforcement officers found two stolen vehicles and parts in one unit and more stolen property in another nearby unit.

The man faces charges of three counts of grand theft receiving of stolen property and two counts of intentional damage to property. He's scheduled to make his first court appearance on Friday afternoon.

A person posting a photo of a stolen car on Facebook led to the investigation.

Hermosa man sentenced for beating mother with trophy, boots

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A Hermosa man has been sentenced for using a trophy and his booted feet to assault his mother.

Authorities say 44-year-old Anthony Two Bulls attacked his mother last December in Red Shirt, causing a cut that required staples. He pleaded guilty in February to assault with a dangerous weapon.

U.S. Attorney Randolph Seiler says Two Bulls was recently sentenced to two years in prison, to be followed by three years of supervised release.

Piedmont businessman sent to prison for financial crimes

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A Piedmont businessman has been sentenced for failing to pay taxes and concealing assets in a bankruptcy.

Fifty-eight-year-old Bernard Haag pleaded guilty in February and was recently sentenced to 1 ½ years in prison to be followed by three years of supervised release.

U.S. Attorney Randolph Seiler says Haag also was ordered to pay nearly \$231,000 in restitution to the IRS and \$70,000 to various bankruptcy creditors.

Large-scale exercise set in Powder River Training Complex

BLAKE NICHOLSON, Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — The Air Force is set for another large-scale exercise in the massive Powder River Training Complex in the Northern Plains.

The training area covers nearly 35,000 square miles of airspace in the Dakotas, Montana and Wyoming — the largest over the continental U.S.

Officials at Ellsworth Air Force Base in South Dakota say multiple types of aircraft will take to the skies Tuesday through Thursday, and cautioned that could cause loud noises, including sonic booms.

Some ranchers have complained that the training exercises disrupt their operations, and the South Dakota Stockgrowers Association in February petitioned Air Force officials to provide more information to ranchers. But the group is pleased with steps the military has taken to better inform ranchers, such as posting notices in local newspapers, said Executive Director Silvia Christen.

More work needs to be done to improve communication between the military and ranchers who experience problems from low-level flights, she added, but “for the most part I think we’re on the right track.”

After years of consideration and public comment, the Federal Aviation Administration approved quadrupling the training airspace in March 2015. The expanded complex officially opened in September, with flying operations commencing that included B-1 bombers from Ellsworth and B-52 bombers from Minot Air Force Base in North Dakota. The first large-scale exercise was last December.

Next week’s exercise will include six different types of aircraft, from fighter jets to refueling tankers, and will involve several hundred personnel from multiple bases, according to Lt. Col. Lanny Anaya, assistant director of operations for the 28th Operations Support Squadron at Ellsworth.

“Honestly, it is a team effort,” he said.

Such training is limited to 10 days each year, once every three months, with no exercise lasting more than three days. The first large-scale exercise this year was in late March.

The Air Force cautions non-military aircraft to review the FAA notice of the exercise and avoid areas and altitudes where military planes will be practicing.

The Latest: Mandela Foundation says Ali was his boxing hero

The Associated Press

The Latest on the death of Muhammad Ali (all times EDT):

6:40 a.m.

The head of the Nelson Mandela Foundation says the Nobel Peace Prize winner and former South African president called Muhammad Ali his boxing hero.

“Madiba had great respect for his legacy and spoke with admiration of Ali’s achievements,” Sello Hatang, the foundation’s CEO, said in a statement Saturday.

A photograph of Ali and Mandela together sat next to the former president’s desk at his foundation, the statement said, and Mandela’s favorite book at the office in his later years was an autographed copy of the Ali biography “Greatest of All Time.”

The statement included a comment Mandela made at an event in Washington in 1990: “There is one regret I have had throughout my life: that I never became the boxing heavyweight champion of the world.”

6:20 a.m.

Irish President Michael D. Higgins says the people of Ireland have awoken to news of Ali’s passing “with the greatest sadness.”

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Ireland's ceremonial head of state called Ali a man of "wit, grace and beauty" who "brought his message of freedom and respect for people of all races to all the continents of the world."

Referring to Ali's long fight against Parkinson's disease, Higgins said the boxer inspired untold millions by displaying "courage in the face of great difficulties. He was intent on communicating right to the very end."

Ireland, a nation that long has punched above its weight in the ring, has harbored a love for Ali since his July 1972 fight in Dublin's Croke Park stadium against Al "Blue" Lewis. The western town of Ennis in 2009 named him its first-ever "freeman," an honor Ali accepted in person — nearly 150 years after Ali's great-great-grandfather Abe O'Grady emigrated from Ennis to America.

5:40 a.m.

British boxer Amir Khan has paid tribute to Ali in a video message from his family's native Rawalpindi in Pakistan.

"Muhammad Ali was my hero. I'm so happy that I got to meet the guy," said Khan, who admired every aspect of Ali's game: his unique skillset, his confidence and his faith.

"He was one of the only fighters who predicted what round he was going to win and then knock his opponent out in that round. That's something you hardly ever see."

"He used to beat opponents with his mouth before he ever got into the boxing ring. He would win the fight before the fight even happened."

Khan, a British-born Muslim, said Ali showed courage for converting to Islam in 1960s America. "What he believed in, he did."

4:30 a.m.

Tributes to Muhammad Ali rolled in from around the world Saturday, just hours after his death.

"The Greatest" had been hospitalized for respiratory problems Thursday, and news spread that this illness was serious. Late Friday, his family confirmed that he had died.

Reaction came in from around the world of sports, entertainment and politics. President Bill Clinton who awarded Ali the Presidential Citizens Medal, mourned the death of the three-time heavyweight champion.

"Hillary and I are saddened by the passing of Muhammad Ali," Clinton said in a statement. "From the day he claimed the Olympic gold medal in 1960, boxing fans across the world knew they were seeing a blend of beauty and grace, speed and strength that may never be matched again."

A memorial service is scheduled for 10 a.m. in Louisville, Kentucky, Ali's hometown.

Reaction to the death of 'The Greatest' Muhammad Ali
The Associated Press

Quotes from around the world about the death of three-time heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali:

"He's the most transforming figure of my time, certainly. He did more to change race relations and the views of people than even Martin Luther King. It was a privilege and an honor for me to know him and associate with him." — Bob Arum, who promoted 26 of Ali's fights.

Ali, Frazier & Foreman we were 1 guy. A part of me slipped away, "The greatest piece" — tweet by George Foreman, Ali's opponent in the "Rumble in the Jungle"

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“Muhammad Ali is a legend and one of the world’s most celebrated athletes, the fighter who ushered in the golden era of boxing and put the sport on the map. He paved the way for professional fighters, including myself, elevating boxing to become a sport watched in millions of households around the world” — Boxer Oscar De La Hoya, who won titles at six different weight classes.

“We lost a giant today. Boxing benefited from Muhammad Ali’s talents but not nearly as much as mankind benefited from his humanity. Our hearts and prayers go out to the Ali family. May God bless them.” — Boxer Manny Pacquiao, a champion in eight weight classes.

“Passing the Olympic torch to Muhammad to light the cauldron at the Atlanta Games in 1996 was the defining moment of my career, and a memory I will treasure forever, as much as any of the medals I won. As Olympians, our role is to inspire others to achieve their dreams, and no person has ever lived that role more than Muhammad Ali.” — swimmer Janet Evans.

“Without question his legacy is one that he defied the odds because he stood up for what he believed in and when he was put to the test he took personal harm rather than go against his beliefs and what he stood for.” — Don King, promoter of “Rumble in the Jungle” and “Thrilla in Manilla.”

“We are proud to call Ali not only a member of Team USA, but an Olympic champion. With unparalleled grit and determination, he left a legacy that will continue to inspire generations of Americans for years to come.” — Scott Blackmun, CEO of the U.S. Olympic Committee.

“Hillary and I are saddened by the passing of Muhammad Ali. From the day he claimed the Olympic gold medal in 1960, boxing fans across the world knew they were seeing a blend of beauty and grace, speed and strength that may never be matched again. We watched him grow from the brash self-confidence of youth and success into a manhood full of religious and political convictions that led him to make tough choices and live with the consequences. Along the way we saw him courageous in the ring, inspiring to the young, compassionate to those in need, and strong and good-humored in bearing the burden of his own health challenges. I was honored to award him the Presidential Citizens Medal at the White House, to watch him light the Olympic flame, and to forge a friendship with a man who, through triumph and trials, became even greater than his legend. Our hearts go out to Lonnie, his children, and his entire family.” — President Bill Clinton.

“He was an athlete who touched the hearts of people across the globe, an athlete who was engaged beyond sport, an athlete who had the courage to give hope to so many suffering illness by lighting the Olympic cauldron and not hiding his own affliction. He was an athlete who fought for peace and tolerance - he was a true Olympian. Meeting him in person was an inspiration. He was a man who at the same time was so proud and yet so humble.” — IOC President Thomas Bach.

“Muhammad Ali was not just a champion in the ring - he was a champion of civil rights, and a role model for so many people.” — British Prime Minister David Cameron.

AP Was There: First heavyweight crown for 'The Greatest'

The Associated Press

Muhammad Ali, then known as Cassius Clay, won the heavyweight boxing championship for the first time on Feb. 25, 1964, defeating Sonny Liston on a technical knockout. He defeated Liston again in a rematch in Lewiston, Maine, in 1965. Here's AP's report from the Miami fight:

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Cassius Clay, a 7-1 longshot, scored one of the major upsets in boxing history Tuesday night when Sonny Liston gave up the world heavyweight title in his corner because of a strained left shoulder.

As Liston failed to come out for the seventh round it went into the record books as a controversial seventh round technical knockout.

There was a chorus of boos from the small crowd of 8,000 in the Miami Beach Convention Hall at the ending. Liston had been cut under the left eye in the third round and looked slow and lumbering against the 22-year-old former Olympic champion from Louisville.

Clay, the fourth fighter with a perfect record to win the world heavyweight crown, leaped into the air at the sudden ending and opened his mouth wide as he yelled to newsmen, "Eat your words!"

"I am the greatest, I am the greatest, I am the greatest," the new champion chanted ceaselessly after it was over.

"I'm the king of the world. I upset the world. I am the king. I am the king."

Asked why Liston couldn't get to him, Clay said, "Because I'm too fast. He was scared."

"I am the greatest that ever lived. I just beat Sonny Liston and I just turned 22, so I must be the greatest. I was going to end it in the eighth as you would have seen, but the man stopped it in seven."

The press almost unanimously had picked Liston to beat back the brash Louisville Lip, who had put on a frantic scene at the morning weigh-in.

Dr. Alexander Robbins, chief physician of the Miami Beach Boxing Commission, said, "Liston strained his left shoulder. He couldn't lift his arm." ...

Bill Faversham, one of the 11 Louisville businessmen who have directed Clay's fortunes, said, "We told them they gave us our chance and we'll give him his chance if we beat him. That was the word of a gentleman and we'll stand on it."

Clay bounced around the ring waving to his fans and yelling, "It wasn't any fix. I closed both his eyes. He didn't lay a hand on me."

When the fight ended, Referee Barney Felix had scored the fight even. Judge Bunny Lovett had Liston on top, and Judge Gus Jacobson had Clay on top. The AP card had Clay ahead 4-2 in rounds.

Long before there was any talk of an injured shoulder, it was obvious that Liston was far from the ominous destroyer who knocked out Floyd Patterson in the first round of two title matches. This was his second defense.

When the ring announcer told the people that Liston had "thrown his shoulder out" in the sixth round, the crowd booed. The more cynical observers thought immediately of the possibility of a lucrative rematch.

Although the live gate was small, the closed circuit television for this fight reportedly set a new record of over 560,000 people. It was estimated that the closed circuit television take might send the total gate close to the \$1 million mark.

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In his words: Muhammad Ali's most famous quotes

DAN GELSTON, AP Sports Writer

Muhammad Ali taunted opponents with razor-sharp rhymes, comical one-liners and the type of boxing braggadocio that both endeared him to and angered the masses.

Ali was a loudmouth threat to the establishment. He could make heavyweight rivals Joe Frazier, Sonny Liston and George Foreman feel like unwitting participants at their own roast. He was king of the world and a clown prince, who fought for both championships and his rights as a conscientious objector.

His mouth roared, never bored, with wit as sharp as a sword, who went full bore into each fight with a silver tongue and heavyweight gold.

No one could say it better than Ali.

So why try?

"Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee. Rumble, young man, rumble." — 1964, before his fight with Sonny Liston.

"I'm king of the world! I'm pretty! I'm a bad man! I shook up the world! I shook up the world! I shook up the world!" — Feb. 25, 1964, Ali after defeating Sonny Liston.

"It's hard to be humble when you're as great as I am." — Undated.

"I ain't got no quarrel with them Vietcong." — Feb. 17, 1966, Ali's famous explanation of why he refused to serve in the United States Army.

"You serious? I got to stay here and lead my people to the right man — Elijah Muhammad." — when asked why he doesn't flee the country in an interview by Robert Lipsyte of The New York Times on April 26, 1967, two days before refusing induction into military service.

"I've done my celebrating already. I said a prayer to Allah." — June 28, 1971, on being told his conviction for draft evasion was overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court.

"They did what they thought was right, and I did what I thought was right." — on government's long effort to send him to prison.

"I told you all, all of my critics, that I was the greatest of all time. ... Never make me the underdog until I'm about 50 years old." — Oct. 1, 1974, after knocking out George Foreman to become heavyweight champion for the second time, in Kinshasa, Zaire.

"I saw your wife. You're not as dumb as you look." — To President Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines a few days before he beat Joe Frazier in the Thrilla in Manila on Oct. 1, 1975.

"My gloves are going to jail! They ain't done nothin' — yet." — on being told the commission member in charge of the gloves would keep them in a prison until his fight against Joe Bugner on July 1, 1975, at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

"My name is known in Serbia, Pakistan, Morocco. These are countries that don't follow the Kentucky Derby." — New York Times interview, April 1977.

“All I can do is fight for truth and justice. I can’t save anybody. He’s a science fiction character, and I’m a real character.” at a news conference Jan. 31, to announce a comic book in which Ali beats Superman.

“People say I talk so slow today. That’s no surprise. I calculated I’ve taken 29,000 punches. But I earned \$57 million and I saved half of it. So I took a few hard knocks. Do you know how many black men are killed every year by guns and knives without a penny to their names? I may talk slow, but my mind is OK.” — Jan. 20, 1984, while in Seattle for a benefit for Sugar Ray Seales, legally blind because of detached retinas suffered while boxing.

“What I suffered physically was worth what I’ve accomplished in life. A man who is not courageous enough to take risks will never accomplish anything in life.” — at a news conference Oct. 28, 1984, at Houston.

A fight-by-fight look at Muhammad Ali’s career milestones **The Associated Press**

Muhammad Ali’s prolific 61-fight career featured bouts that are considered the greatest in history: a trilogy with Joe Frazier that produced “The Fight of the Century” and the “Thrilla in Manila,” and the “The Rumble in the Jungle” with George Foreman, among many others.

Ali’s bouts defined the golden era of heavyweight boxing. Here’s a look at just a few of them, in chronological order:

FIGHT: Ali vs. Sonny Liston

DATE: Feb. 25, 1964

WHERE: Convention Hall, Miami

STAKES: WBA/WBC Heavyweight Championship

THE HYPE: Liston was the heavyweight champion at the time of the fight. A first-round knockout of former champion Floyd Patterson in 1962, followed by the same result in a matchup 10 months later, had built Liston into the most intimidating fighter of his day.

Ali, still known as Cassius Clay, was a fast-talking 22-year-old challenger known as “The Louisville Lip.” He had won the light heavyweight gold medal at the 1960 Olympics in Rome, but had been knocked down by journeyman Sonny Banks early in his career, and again by Henry Cooper.

Many believed Clay would be no match against Liston.

THE BUILDUP: Clay seemingly went berserk at the weigh-in for his championship challenge, and some observers attributed his actions to fear and suggested the fight should be canceled.

THE FIGHT: Liston could not handle Ali’s speed, left jabs and quick rights to the head. Ali almost quit after the fourth round, contending there had been foul play. During the round, Ali got something in his eyes, probably liniment from Liston’s shoulder, which the champion later claimed he had injured.

“Cut my gloves off, I want to prove to the world there’s dirty work afoot,” trainer Angel Dundee says Ali told him in the corner. Dundee refused, and Ali stayed out of harm’s way in the fifth round and became champion when Liston quit on his stool after the sixth.

FIGHT: Ali vs. Liston

DATE: May 25, 1965

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WHERE: Central Maine Youth Center, Lewiston, Maine

STAKES: WBC Heavyweight Championship

THE HYPE: Both fighters were involved in controversies following Clay's upset in the first match. Clay joined the Black Muslims and changed his name to Muhammad Ali in a move that evoked widespread condemnation. Liston was arrested and charged with speeding, careless and reckless driving, driving without an operator's license and carrying a concealed weapon. He had a loaded .22 caliber revolver in his pocket, empty bottles of vodka and a young woman in the car.

Congress began investigating corruption and organized crime influence in boxing, and neither fighter was viewed as a role model. Some were bothered that the original fight had a contractual clause for a rematch and some argued Liston had more to gain financially from losing the first bout and fighting a rematch than he did from winning.

THE BUILDUP: The fight was originally scheduled for Nov. 16, 1964, at the Boston Garden, but three days earlier, Ali needed emergency surgery for a strangulated hernia. It delayed the bout six months, Liston was arrested again and Massachusetts officials began to have second thoughts about allowing the fight. A dispute over licenses with the promoter led the fight to be quickly moved to Lewiston, Maine, a mill town with a population of about 41,000 located 140 miles north of Boston.

THE FIGHT: The effects of a right hand landed to the side of the head while Ali backed away in the first round of the rematch will always be argued among boxing fans. Some observers contend Liston went down from a perfect punch; others call it a phantom punch.

Chaos reigned in the St. Dominic's Youth Center. Referee Jersey Joe Walcott, a former heavyweight champion, counted Liston out. But when Liston got up, Walcott got confused and was going to let the fight continue. Nat Fleischer, the founder of The Ring magazine, called to Walcott and as the referee walked toward Fleischer, Ali and Liston began fighting again. Told Liston has been counted out, Walcott stopped the fight, which ranks as one of the shortest heavyweight title bouts in history.

"I did my job," Walcott said. "He (Ali) looked like a man in a different world. I didn't know what he might do. I thought he might stomp him or pick him up and belt him again."

FIGHT: Ali vs. Cleveland Williams

DATE: Nov. 14, 1966

WHERE: Astrodome, Houston

THE HYPE: Williams, considered by many one of the hardest punchers, was in greatly diminished physical condition when he agreed to fight Ali at his peak. Williams had been inactive all of 1965 after he was shot by a police officer during a traffic stop.

THE BUILD-UP: Few gave Williams any chance, and Ali was a 5-to-1 favorite. More than 35,000 in attendance made it the largest crowd to witness an indoor boxing match at the time. Ali was allegedly concerned before the fight that Williams might be badly hurt if the bout went for any length of time. Ali was advised to go for a quick knockout to avoid causing any lasting damage.

THE FIGHT: In what arguably is his greatest performance, Ali stopped the power-punching Williams in the third round. He knocked down Williams with two left jabs and a right to the jaw while back-pedaling early in the round. Williams went down again from a 12-punch barrage, and the fight was stopped after a third knockdown achieved by a double left hook and a right to the jaw.

Ali introduced the "Ali Shuffle" in the fight. Broadcaster Howard Cosell later said, "The greatest Ali ever was as a fighter was against Williams. That night, he was the most devastating fighter who ever lived."

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FIGHT: Ali vs. Joe Frazier

DATE: March 8, 1971

WHERE: Madison Square Garden, New York

STAKES: Undisputed World Heavyweight Championship; WBC/WBA Heavyweight Championship

THE HYPE: Simply known as "The Fight," it pitted a pair of undefeated champions. Ali had been stripped of his belts for refusing to enter the armed forces in 1967, so Frazier was the reigning and recognized champion. Each fighter was guaranteed \$2.5 million.

THE BUILDUP: On the evening of the match, Madison Square Garden had a circus-like atmosphere, with scores of policemen to control the crowd, outrageously dressed fans and countless celebrities. Millions watched on closed-circuit broadcast screens around the world, and the Garden was packed with a sellout crowd of 20,455 for arguably the most famous boxing match in history. The fight also carried racial undertones with most black fans supporting Ali, much to Frazier's dismay.

THE FIGHT: The fight lived up to the hype as Ali fought for the third time since he ended an enforced layoff of three years, seven months because of his refusal to be drafted into the Army.

He used every trick at his command to buy time and impress the judges, but Frazier was relentless. He got Ali into desperate trouble in the 11th round, but Ali refused to go down. He finally did from a long left hook to the jaw 25 seconds into the 15th round. Despite getting up quickly, his right cheek ballooned to grapefruit size as Ali finished the fight. Frazier was the unanimous victor.

Referee Arthur Mercante relayed the following conversation that took place in the ring:

"You know, you're in here with the God tonight" Ali told Frazier.

"If you are God," Frazier replied, "you're in the wrong place tonight."

FIGHT: Ali vs. Ken Norton

DATE: Sept. 10, 1973

WHERE: The Forum, Inglewood, California

THE HYPE: Norton had broken Ali's jaw and won a 12-round split decision on March 31, 1973, in San Diego. Norton was a forward-pressing fighter-boxer who was notable for his unusual guard and stance, popularly characterized as the "cross-armed defense." Ali's trainer, Angelo Dundee, wrote that Norton's best punch was the left hook, but many others lauded his infamous overhand right.

THE BUILD-UP: Norton weighed in at 205 pound, a full 5 pounds lighter than his first match with Ali. Critics wondered if Norton had overtrained for the rematch. Ali felt a loss would ruin his claim of ever being "The Greatest," and broadcaster Howard Cosell repeatedly told viewers during the ABC telecast that Ali was dominating the bout.

THE FIGHT: With one round to go in the rematch, Ali was again facing defeat. He was trailing by two points on one card and was even on the other two. Ali dominated the first minute of the final round, held his own in the final two minutes and won in a split decision. A loss would have changed boxing history forever as Ali likely would never have gone on to some of the huge bouts that are known to this day.

"I'm in good condition, but I'm tired than usual," Ali said afterward, "because of my age. If I wasn't in this shape, wasn't no way I could've won."

FIGHT: Ali vs. George Foreman

DATE: Oct. 30, 1974

WHERE: 20th of May Stadium, Kinshasa, Zaire

STAKES: Undisputed World Heavyweight Championship; WBC/WBA Heavyweight Championship

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THE HYPE: "The Rumble in the Jungle" was another moment in which Ali was given little chance of joining Floyd Patterson as the only two-time undisputed heavyweight champions. Foreman had looked awesome in winning the title from Joe Frazier and in defending it against Joe "King" Roman and Ken Norton with none of the fights lasting two full rounds.

THE BUILDUP: Foreman and Ali spent much of the middle of 1974 training in Zaire, getting acclimated to its tropical climate. The fight was originally set to happen Sept. 25, but Foreman was cut near his right eye during training. The date was pushed back to Oct. 30. A three-night-long music festival to hype the fight, Zaire 74, took place as scheduled from Sept. 22-24 and included performances by James Brown, B.B. King and The Spinners.

THE FIGHT: The fight was scheduled for 4 a.m. local time in order to appear on live closed-circuit television in the eastern United States at 10 p.m.

Ali had trouble keeping the powerful Foreman at bay in the first two rounds. He decided to go to the ropes and let the champion tire himself out by punching at Ali's defensive shell — what he would later call the "rope-a-dope." Occasionally, Ali flurried off the ropes, and did so late in the fifth round when he landed eight solid punches to Foreman's head to take command of the fight.

Ali knocked out an exhausted Foreman in the eighth round.

Foreman later said: "He is the greatest man I've ever known. Not greatest boxer, that's too small for him. He had a gift. He's not pretty, he's beautiful. Everything America should be, Muhammad Ali is."

FIGHT: Ali vs. Frazier

DATE: Oct. 1, 1975

WHERE: Araneta Coliseum, Quezon City, Philippines

STAKES: WBC/WBA Heavyweight Championship; Undisputed World Heavyweight Championship

THE HYPE: Ali had defeated Frazier in a largely forgettable rematch in 1974, so "The Thrilla in Manila" became the rubber match. The bout is ranked as one of the best in boxing history and Ali chronicled the battle in his memoir, "The Greatest: My Own Story."

THE BUILDUP: Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos wanted to host the fight to divert attention from the social turmoil in his country. Ali verbally abused Frazier in the build-up, and nicknamed him "The Gorilla" — which he used to rhyme, "It will be a killa and a thrilla and a chilla when I get the Gorilla in Manila." Ali chanted that mantra while punching an action-figure-sized gorilla doll. Ali's preparations were upset before the fight when he introduced his mistress as his wife to Ferdinand and Imelda Marcos, and his wife, Belinda Ali, saw the introduction on television. She flew to Manila and engaged Ali in a prolonged shouting match in his hotel.

Frazier's side decided the hordes of people and tension in the steaming city were a poor training environment, and Frazier relocated to a quiet setting in the mountainous outskirts of the city. Frazier led a Spartan existence, often sitting for hours in a contemplative state in preparation for the bout.

THE FIGHT: The fight lived up to its billing, Ali and Frazier once again bringing out the best in each other. At one point, Ali told Frazier, "They told me Joe Frazier was through."

"They lied," said Frazier, who then hit Ali with a crunching left hook.

Ali retained the title when Frazier, who could not see, was kept by trainer Eddie Futch from answering the bell for the 15th round. Ali was well ahead on the scorecards at the time.

When it was over, a physically and emotionally drained Ali said, "It was the closest thing to death."

FIGHT: Ali vs Norton

DATE: Sept. 28, 1976

WHERE: Yankee Stadium, New York

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STAKES: WBC/WBA Heavyweight Championship; Undisputed World Heavyweight Championship

THE HYPE: The final fight in their trilogy was memorable for what happened outside the ring as much as inside it. Longtime promoter Bob Arum took the fight to Yankee Stadium, but a police strike left fans without any protection. Unruly mobs kept thousands of fans from attending the fight.

THE BUILDUP: The breakdown in the purses was a sign of just how much drawing power Ali still had. He was guaranteed \$6 million and half of any revenue over \$9 million, while Norton was guaranteed a mere \$1 million and 5 percent of all revenue.

THE FIGHT: Ali had vowed to "knock the sucker out inside five rounds," but they wound up waging a fight for the ages. They went the full 15 rounds with the two ringside judges scoring it 8-7 for Ali and referee Arthur Mercante scoring it 8-6 with one round even. Norton said he won "at least nine or 10 rounds" and complained of being robbed, and the fight is still considered one of the most disputed decisions in history. Even Ali once said that he thought Norton had won the fight.

FIGHT: Ali vs. Leon Spinks

DATE: Sept. 15, 1978

WHERE: Superdome, New Orleans

STAKES: WBA Heavyweight Championship

THE HYPE: Ali had not lost in five years, beating Foreman, Frazier and others during his winning streak, before an upset loss to untested and largely unknown Leon Spinks on Feb. 2, 1978. The two met in a rematch seven months later at the Superdome, where 70,000 fans made it the largest indoor attendance ever for a prizefight.

THE BUILDUP: Spinks was still a relative unknown, even after beating Ali — he had fought just eight times as a professional. Meanwhile, rumors had already begun to circulate that Ali would retire after the fight, and Ali himself had said: "This will be my last fight. I will go down as the first man to win the title three times."

THE FIGHT: No longer fleet of foot and fist, Ali relied on veteran guile to beat Spinks in a one-sided decision. Ali artfully used his jab to keep the younger Spinks at length, and then shoot his left hand every time Spinks tried to get inside. The few times Spinks succeeded, Ali tied him up and forced referee Lucien Joubert to separate him. At one point, Joubert took a round away from Ali for holding.

Not that it mattered. Ali was well ahead on the scorecards by the time they reached the championship rounds, and he spent the final few rounds dancing his way to victory. Afterward, Spinks said, "He is still my idol."

FIGHT: Ali vs. Larry Holmes

DATE: Oct. 2, 1980

LOCATION: Caesar's Palace, Las Vegas

STAKES: WBC Heavyweight Championship

THE HYPE: Ali had retired in June 1979 but within months began plotting his comeback. He was supposed to fight new WBA champ John Tate in June 1980, but he lost to Mike Weaver in March. So in April, Ali agreed to fight Holmes, the fearsome young champion. Promoters wanted the fight to take place at Maracana Stadium in Rio de Janeiro, but local officials were concerned that it would damage the soccer field.

THE BUILDUP: The fight was actually called off after the fiasco in Rio, and Holmes knocked out Scott LeDoux in July. But the two sides got together again and hammered out an agreement to fight in Las Vegas, where Caesar's Palace would build a temporary 24,790-seat outdoor arena.

There were concerns over Ali's health prior to the fight, and he was required to undergo a neurologi-

cal exam at the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota. Doctors noticed him having trouble touching his finger to his nose and with some muscle coordination, but ultimately determined that he was fit to fight.

THE FIGHT: Ali had begun taking a drug called Thyrolar for a thyroid imbalance, and he would blame it for feeling slow and weak during the fight. Outside observers said he simply looked old. In any case, Ali was toyed with the same way he used to toy with others. Holmes delivered a savage beating, and Dundee finally refused to let Ali answer the bell for the 11th round.

Ali fought once more, losing a 10-round decision to Trevor Berbick Dec. 11, 1981, at Nassau, Bahamas.

Security tight in Beijing on Tiananmen crackdown anniversary

BEIJING (AP) — China tightened security around Beijing's Tiananmen Square on Saturday on the 27th anniversary of the bloody military crackdown on student-led pro-democracy protests, pointing to the enduring sensitivity over the events among the Communist Party leadership.

Police checked IDs and searched the bags of anyone seeking to enter the environs of the vast public space in the center of the capital where thousands of students, workers and ordinary citizens gathered in 1989 to demand political reforms. Journalists from The Associated Press were stopped, filmed and ultimately forced to leave the area, ostensibly for lacking proper permission.

Hundreds, possibly thousands, of people were killed as tanks and troops converged on Beijing on the night of June 3-4, 1989. The topic remains taboo in China and any form of commemoration, whether public or private, is banned.

Memorials were planned in the semi-autonomous Chinese territory of Hong Kong and on the self-governing island democracy of Taiwan, where some former student leaders have found refuge.

The Taiwanese Cabinet office responsible for ties with China issued a statement urging Beijing to "face up and heal the historical scars of June 4."

"We look forward to the Chinese mainland reevaluating the history of June 4, valuing the will of the people and creating a fair, just and harmonious society through the building of institutions," the Mainland Affairs Council said in a news release.

Ahead of the anniversary, family members of those killed in the crackdown were placed under additional restrictions, either confined to their homes or forced to leave the capital. China's government has rejected their calls for an independent accounting of the events and those killed and maimed by soldiers.

At least half a dozen people have reportedly been detained in recent days for attempting to commemorate the events, although a small group wearing T-shirts condemning the crackdown converged on the square last Sunday. Among them was former house painter Qi Zhiyong, whose leg was amputated after he was shot by troops.

In Washington, the U.S. State Department called for a "full public accounting of those killed, detained, or missing and for an end to censorship of discussions about the events of June 4, 1989, as well as an end to harassment and detention of those who wish to peacefully commemorate the anniversary."

In a statement, it also urged the Chinese government to respect the rights and freedoms of all its citizens.

Asked Friday about the anniversary, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying said China had "long ago reached a clear conclusion about the political turmoil at the end of 1980s and other related issues."

China's explosive economic growth in the years that followed "proves that the path of socialism with Chinese characters we chose to follow ... is in line with the fundamental interests of the Chinese people, and it represents a wish shared by them all," Hua told reporters at a daily news briefing.

Seine water levels decrease again after Paris flooding peaks

PARIS (AP) — French authorities say the water level of the Seine river in Paris is starting to decrease after reaching its peak overnight, the highest in nearly 35 years.

But authorities warned it could take up to ten days for the river to come back to its normal levels after the flooding that swelled the river to about 4.5 meters (15 feet) above average levels in Paris.

Floods due to heavy rains have inundated parts of France, Germany and Belgium this week.

Over 17,000 homes were still without electricity Saturday in the Paris region and center of France.

Authorities have also shut the Louvre museum, the national library, the Orsay museum and the Grand Palais, Paris' striking glass-and-steel topped exhibition center.

US Pentagon chief proposes Asia-Pacific 'security network'

ROBERT BURNS, AP National Security Writer

SINGAPORE (AP) — U.S. Defense Secretary Ash Carter is proposing to accelerate and deepen defense cooperation in the Asia-Pacific by expanding a "security network" of countries whose militaries would train together and eventually operate together.

Speaking to an international security conference in Singapore on Saturday, Carter said China would be welcomed in this network. But he also cited frequent American complaints about China unnerving its neighbors with expansive moves to build up reefs, islets and other land features in the disputed South China Sea.

Carter said this security network would represent "the next wave" in Asia-Pacific security.

"It is inclusive, since any nation and any military - no matter its capability, budget, or experience - can contribute. Everyone gets a voice, no one is excluded, and hopefully, no one excludes themselves," he said, alluding to China.

A Chinese official reacted skeptically. Rear Adm. Guan Youfei, director of the foreign affairs office of China's National Defense Ministry, said Beijing welcomes the U.S. establishing close relations with Asian countries. But he urged Washington to scale back its military exercises in the region and to reduce "provocations" such as operating military aircraft and ships in close proximity to other countries.

"I believe this will help the U.S. play a better role in the region," he said, speaking through an interpreter.

Carter emphasized possibilities for cooperating with China while stating that the U.S. will remain the pre-eminent power.

"America wants to expand military-to-military agreements with China to focus not only on risk reduction, but also on practical cooperation. Our two militaries can also work together," he said, bilaterally or as part of a broader security network to combat global threats like terrorism and piracy.

Tom Mahnken, president of the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments, a Washington think tank, praised Carter's emphasis on developing partnerships.

"Secretary Carter was right to emphasize multilateral approaches in the Asia-Pacific region. Indeed, America's alliances and partnerships in the region give us an enduring competitive advantage," Mahnken said by email from Washington. "By contrast, China's actions have increasingly isolated it."

At a news conference later, Adm. Harry Harris, head of U.S. Pacific Command, said that while his forces are ready to confront China if necessary, there have been few significant issues with China lately in the South China Sea.

"We've seen positive behavior in the last several months by China," Harris said, adding, "I'm encouraged by the activities" between the U.S. and Chinese militaries. He noted that China plans to attend

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the Rim of the Pacific exercise this year, with U.S. and Chinese warships operating together from Guam to Hawaii.

Adm. John Richardson, the Navy's top admiral, said "more and more" interactions at sea with the Chinese navy are safe and professional.

In proposing a "principled security network" across Asia, Carter said it would include "nations building connections for a common cause, planning and training together, and eventually operating in a coordinated way." He said that in September he will co-host, with his Laotian counterpart, a meeting of defense ministers from across the Asia-Pacific, to find new ways to broaden and deepen a regional security network.

In raising the prospect of conflict in the South China Sea, Carter said China is isolating itself by building up man-made islands there. The Chinese in some cases are erecting airfields that will extend Beijing's military reach. He said for the second time in a week that China's actions could erect a "great wall of self-isolation."

"There is growing anxiety in this region, and in this room, about China's activities on the seas, in cyberspace, and in the region's airspace," he said. "Indeed, in the South China Sea, China has taken some expansive and unprecedented actions, that have generated concerns about China's strategic intentions."

He also noted a coming ruling by a U.N. arbitration tribunal on the Philippines' challenge to China's claims in the South China Sea. He called this ruling, which is expected this summer, "an opportunity for China and the rest of the region to recommit to a principled future, to renewed diplomacy, and to lowering tensions, rather than raising them."

During a question-and-answer session with his audience, Carter was asked why the U.S. attaches such importance to exercising its right to fly and sail military aircraft and ships near other countries' coasts, including China's.

"What we stand for is the principle of rule of law and abiding by international law in the commons," Carter said. "It's not a focus on China. It's a focus on principle."

In his speech, Carter mostly emphasized the positive.

"The United States welcomes the emergence of a peaceful, stable and prosperous China that plays a responsible role in the region's principled security network," he said. "We know China's inclusion makes for a stronger network and a more stable, secure and prosperous region."

He also made clear, however, that the U.S. intends to maintain, even expand, its military presence in the Asia-Pacific.

"The Defense Department maintains its world-leading capabilities because the United States has made incomparable investments in it over decades. As a result, it will take decades or more for anyone to build the kind of military capability the United States possesses," he said.

China did not send its defense minister to Singapore, and Carter held no meetings with members of Beijing's delegation. But at a conference-opening dinner Friday evening Carter shook hands and spoke briefly with the senior Chinese representative, Adm. Sun Jianguo, according to a U.S. official who was present.

Ex-Texas official: Trump U probe dropped due to politics

MICHAEL BIESECKER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republican Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton has moved to muzzle a former state regulator who says he was ordered in 2010 to drop a fraud investigation into Trump University for political reasons.

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Paxton's office issued a cease and desist letter to former Deputy Chief of Consumer Protection John Owens on Friday after Owens made public copies of a 14-page internal summary of the state's case against Donald Trump for scamming millions from students of his now-defunct real estate seminar.

Owens, now retired, said his team had built a solid case against the now-presumptive Republican presidential nominee, but was told to drop it after Trump's company agreed to cease operations in Texas.

The former state regulator told The Associated Press on Friday that decision was highly unusual and left the bilked students on their own to attempt to recover their tuition money from the celebrity businessman.

According to the documents provided by Owens, his team sought to sue Trump, his company and several business associates to help recover more than \$2.6 million students spent on seminars and materials, plus another \$2.8 million in penalties and fees.

Owens said he was so surprised at the order to stand down he made a copy of the case file and took it home.

"It had to be political in my mind because Donald Trump was treated differently than any other similarly situated scam artist in the 16 years I was at the consumer protection office," said Owens, who lives in Houston.

Owens' boss at the time was Greg Abbott, then the attorney general and now the state's GOP governor.

The AP first reported Thursday that Trump gave donations totaling \$35,000 to Abbott's gubernatorial campaign three years after his office closed the Trump U case. Several Texas media outlets then reported Owens' accusation that the probe was dropped for political reasons.

Abbott spokesman Matt Hirsch said Friday that the governor had played no role in ending the case against Trump, a decision he said was made further down the chain of command.

"The Texas Attorney General's office investigated Trump U, and its demands were met — Trump U was forced out of Texas and consumers were protected," Hirsch said. "It's absurd to suggest any connection between a case that has been closed and a donation to Gov. Abbott three years later."

Paxton issued a media release about the cease and desist later Friday, saying Owens had divulged "confidential and privileged information."

Owens first learned about the state's action against him on Friday afternoon when contacted by the AP for response.

"I have done nothing illegal or unethical," said Owens, a lawyer. "I think the information I provided to the press was important and needed to be shared with the public."

Paxton faces his own legal trouble. He was indicted last year on three felony fraud charges alleging that he persuaded people to invest in a North Texas tech startup while failing to disclose that he hadn't invested himself but was being paid by the company in stock. Paxton has remained in office while appealing the charges.

Texas was not the only GOP-led state to shy away from suing Trump.

Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi briefly considered joining a multistate suit against Trump U. Three days after Bondi's spokeswoman was quoted in local media reports as saying her office was investigating, Trump's family foundation made a \$25,000 contribution to a political fundraising committee supporting Bondi's re-election campaign.

Bondi, a Republican, soon dropped her investigation, citing insufficient grounds to proceed.

In New York, meanwhile, Democratic Attorney General Eric Schneiderman sued Trump over what he

called a "straight-up fraud." That case, along with several class-action lawsuits filed by former Trump students, is ongoing.

Trump, for his part, is standing by his namesake real estate seminars, saying he plans to resurrect Trump University if elected president.

Sanders' campaign adventure takes him from Hamilton to Rome

CATHERINE LUCEY, Associated Press

LISA LERER, Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — He's lagging in delegates and votes, but Bernie Sanders is still on one excellent campaign adventure.

In the past few months the Vermont senator and his wife, Jane, have traveled to Rome to attend a conference and met Pope Francis, toured Mount Rushmore and rallied supporters in sunny Puerto Rico. He's scored seats for the Broadway musical sensation "Hamilton" and hobnobbed with celebrities at the White House Correspondents' Dinner.

Earlier this week, he dropped in on the final game of the NBA's Western Conference finals.

Sanders has never wavered in his message of political revolution and these outings are in the name of his insurgent campaign. But after years as a relatively obscure senator from a small state, he is embracing his newfound fame. And why not, said Republican operative Rick Tyler, who said these opportunities come with the territory.

"He should skydive. He should run a marathon. He should take the hot wings challenge at some local restaurant. ... There's lots of cool stuff you could do," said Tyler. "He might climb Mt. McKinley. Why not? Enter a polka dancing contest."

Sanders' freewheeling political adventure could soon end as former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton passes the magic number needed to clinch the Democratic nomination and calls intensify for Sanders to exit the race. Sanders and Clinton are both campaigning aggressively in California, among several states voting Tuesday.

Of course, Sanders is far from the first candidate to enjoy the perks of the trail. But while Bill Clinton famously played his saxophone alongside late-night host Arsenio Hall and Barack Obama would play basketball on primary days, few candidates have taken as many side excursions as Sanders. In part that's because they fear looking like they're focused on activities other than winning voters.

And like other trailing candidates before him, Sanders has used novelty events to get attention. In the final weeks of his failed 2012 primary bid, animal lover Newt Gingrich spent a lot of time visiting zoos — trips that resulted in many photos of the candidate with animals. His campaign even launched a website, "Pets with Newt," that featured a list of his favorite zoos.

Puerto Rico is a voting territory, Pope Francis is a world leader and events and shows provide access to supporters and new opportunities to push his message. After enthusiastically taking in a Golden State Warriors victory, Sanders called the team's comeback win "a very good omen for our campaign," according to CNN.

"It gets him press and he might as well enjoy the spotlight he's in," said Leonard Steinhorn, a professor of communication at American University specializing in American politics and history. "If he can be seen at a Warriors game when millions of people are watching at the same time, why not do it?"

Sanders' ambitious campaign schedule has not been affected. Spokesman Michael Briggs said Sanders has done 30 rallies in California since mid-May. He added that Sanders spent time in Puerto Rico touring some of the city's poorest neighborhoods and meeting "with people confronting the financial

crisis.”

Briggs also noted that Clinton and Obama have taken in “Hamilton.” He said Sanders paid for the “Hamilton” tickets while the Warriors tickets were paid for privately; the travel to Rome was a campaign expense.

Some of the activities do not seem like standard fare for a Vermont senator known for his workaholic ways. In his decades in Congress, Sanders has rarely attended the White House Correspondents’ Dinner, a star-studded annual Washington affair. This year, he was seated at a front-row table with his wife, where he mingled with Morgan Freeman and Aretha Franklin.

Sanders didn’t quite join in on all the fun: He skipped the tux in favor of a sober blue suit. Briggs said he had attended the dinner once before in his early days in the Senate.

To date, former Secretary of State Clinton has spent considerably less time on this kind of entertainment or travel. She has not made a foreign trip since starting her campaign. Presumptive Republican front-runner Donald Trump has not done as many side activities, though he has used his campaign to promote his products, including a Trump hotel under construction in Washington and a newly renovated golf course in Scotland, which he will visit later this month.

Of course, Clinton and Trump are longtime celebrities who have enjoyed the perks of stardom for years. For them, there’s far more value in playing it straight on the campaign trail to avoid reminding voters of their privileged status.

All three candidates have appeared on “Saturday Night Live,” a standard stop for candidates. Clinton has held concerts with singers Katy Perry and Demi Lovato, and was introduced by Jon Bon Jovi in New Jersey this week. Sanders is campaigning with a rotating cast of stars, including Susan Sarandon and Danny Glover.

Clinton backers say they don’t begrudge Sanders his fun. “Great, he wants to have his YOLO moments, go ahead,” said Democratic strategist Mary Ann Marsh, using the acronym for the expression “you only live once.”

Clinton, Marsh added, “actually is trying to be president of the United States.”

Indian PM, once a pariah to US, set to address Congress

MATTHEW PENNINGTON, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — After years of being denied entry to the U.S., Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has become a welcome guest in Washington, forging a surprising bond with President Barack Obama and deepening ties with America.

A new defense agreement and a possible announcement on U.S. investment in nuclear power in India could be in the cards on his latest visit. He will meet with Obama on Tuesday and have the honor of addressing a joint meeting of Congress on Wednesday.

Modi has shaken off allegations that he was complicit in anti-Muslim violence when he served as a top state official before becoming prime minister two years ago, but he could face pointed questions from lawmakers about India’s human rights record.

It will be his fourth visit to the U.S. since his Hindu nationalist party swept elections in May 2014. Between 2005 and late 2013, during his tenure as chief minister of Gujarat, the U.S. government avoided official contact with Modi over suspicions about his possible role in communal rioting that killed hundreds.

“He’s gone from someone who was basically a pariah to someone who is going to be celebrated by official Washington,” said Milan Vaishnav, an expert on South Asia at the Carnegie Endowment for In-

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ternational Peace.

Modi will become the fifth Indian prime minister to address both houses of Congress. He'll also have lunch with congressional leaders and attend a reception hosted by the House and Senate foreign relations committees, where there's strong support for closer ties, but also some disappointment over what's been achieved on Modi's watch.

On the plus side of the ledger, defense ties have gotten closer. The U.S. and India share concern about the rise of China, and while New Delhi steers clear of a formal alliance with Washington — in fact, with any country — the two militaries conduct more drills together than with any other nation.

The U.S. has become a key supplier of defense equipment to India — with about \$14 billion in sales contracted in the past five years — and the two nations are looking at joint development of technologies for jet engines and aircraft carriers. A defense logistics agreement is likely to be finalized when Modi visits.

Progress has been more elusive on opening the way for the U.S. nuclear industry to invest in India, eight years after the George W. Bush administration reached a landmark civil nuclear agreement with India, rolling back export restrictions in place since India's first nuclear test explosion in 1974.

The prime obstacle has been a 2010 Indian law on liability in case of accidents at nuclear power plants, but a workaround solution involving an Indian-supported insurance scheme means Westinghouse Electric Co. is closing in on a contract to build reactors in Andhra Pradesh state — a deal potentially worth tens of billions of dollars.

Arun Singh, India's ambassador in Washington, told reporters Wednesday that negotiations between Westinghouse and the Indian nuclear operator were at a "very detailed and advanced" stage. He said the main issues to be resolved concern cost and financing, not insurance. He did not say if a contract announcement was imminent.

Westinghouse declined to comment Friday. Another U.S. player, GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy, said it is still concerned about the Indian law, which could make nuclear suppliers, not just operators of nuclear plants, liable for accidents.

While U.S. lawmakers praise the progress in defense ties, they grumble about continuing restrictions on American investment in India, notwithstanding some liberalization on Modi's watch. Bilateral trade in goods and services has expanded from \$60 billion in 2009 to \$107 billion in 2015.

"In the case of U.S.-India relations, the hopeful rhetoric has far exceeded actual tangible achievements," Republican Sen. Bob Corker, chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, told a hearing last month.

Lawmakers of both parties also criticized India's failure to curb growing religious intolerance and human trafficking, and are likely to raise those issues with Modi. An Australia-based activist group estimates that India has around 18 million modern slaves, or 40 percent of the global total.

The world's two largest democracies have a surprisingly acrimonious relationship when it comes to human rights, and what India views as overbearing U.S. scrutiny. India has refused visits by a U.S. commission on religious freedom and by an envoy on LGBT rights.

It also objects to a House commission holding a hearing on human rights in India on the same day Modi meets Obama.

"Normally in India we would not want to embarrass somebody when they are our guest. But I guess each society is different," Singh, the ambassador, said.

Trump has testy relationship with accountability

LAURIE KELLMAN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Donald Trump, meet public accountability.

The real estate magnate turned presidential candidate is fussing over probes into his promises — whether they match his deeds and whether his deeds were legal. But scrutiny is a fact of life for any aspiring public official, even more so for those who win office. Multiply that, should Trump win the presidency.

Probes into Trump University and Trump's promise to raise money for veterans' groups and calls for him to release his tax records are mere whiffs of the prodding he'd receive as president making decisions that involve taxpayer money. And presidents face no shortage of second-guessers, many empowered by open government laws — and the Constitution. The courts and Congress, for example. Watchdog groups. And yes, journalists.

A look at Trump's testy relationship with scrutiny:

“NOBODY’S BUSINESS”

Trump says he has no objection to scrutiny. He gives interviews almost daily, as well as long, rambling news conferences, opening himself to questions in ways Democratic front-runner Hillary Clinton does not. But on some matters — which other public figures know come with the territory — “nobody's business” is his approach toward disclosure. He's deployed that concept against efforts to find out if he really raised the \$6 million he'd claimed in January for veterans groups. (He raised nearly that amount, but distributed much of the money only after reporters pressed — and said reporters should be “ashamed” for asking). He also declared his tax returns were no one's business, in response to calls from public interest groups to release them as others running for high office do. (He says won't release them until an audit is finished.)

CASH FOR MILITARY VETERANS

Trump's veterans' fundraiser grew from his feud with Fox News, which led to him boycotting one of the network's debates and throwing a splashy rally to benefit veterans before the leadoff Iowa caucuses. Under pressure from The Washington Post and other outlets to disclose recipients of the money, Trump's campaign refused for months to say which charities had received the money, leading to questions about whether the money raised was less than he had said. In the last week of May, Trump sent more than a dozen big checks to veterans' charities. On Tuesday, he announced he had made good on his pledge and raised \$5.6 million for veterans groups — including \$1 million of his own. But he spent much of the time griping about “sleazy” and “dishonest” reporters — while yielding to the pressure and telling the public the names of all 41 groups that received money.

TRUMP UNIVERSITY

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. Trump insists that customers were overwhelmingly satisfied with the offerings, and he's not happy about the judicial scrutiny.

From the campaign stage, Trump has gone after U.S. District Judge Gonzalo Curiel, who last week ordered documents from the case unsealed. Curiel, according to Trump, is “a Donald Trump hater” and

“hostile” to the mogul. He also raised questions about Curiel’s 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.

THE PRESS

Trump’s 40-minute harangue against reporters probably cost him nothing in terms of support from his fans — they boo journalists at his rallies. What was significant was Trump’s apparent point: The veterans groups that received money from his effort have millions more dollars than they did without his help, but that became clear only when he finally told Americans where the money actually went and when.

Trump made clear that he sees little value in the press’ oversight role — but lots of value in the public praise he felt was due.

“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.”

Prince autopsy report hints at puzzling painkiller mystery

CARLA K. JOHNSON, AP Medical Writer

The report from the medical examiner who conducted Prince’s autopsy is tantalizing for what it doesn’t say.

The single-page document lists a fentanyl overdose as the cause of death, but it offers few clues to indicate whether the musician was a chronic pain patient desperately seeking relief, a longtime opioid user whose habit became an addiction or a combination of both.

Blanks for contributing causes are marked “na” for “not applicable.” A space for “other significant conditions” is also marked “na.”

Authorities probably know much more than they are willing to discuss publicly as they seek the source of the fentanyl and consider criminal charges. For now, details in the report, combined with what’s known about Prince’s final days, hint at a fuller picture.

Among those details is a note that Prince’s body had scars on the left hip and right lower leg. The report doesn’t say, but it’s possible the scars were evidence of past surgeries for joint pain. At least one friend has said Prince suffered years of hip and knee pain from his athletic stage performances.

In many ways, the 57-year-old superstar fit the description of a chronic pain patient who got hooked on opioids, said Andrew Kolodny, director of Physicians for Responsible Opioid Prescribing. Opioids lead to tolerance, and some patients seek out stronger drugs after initial dosages stop working.

“We see far more overdose deaths in middle-aged people receiving legitimate prescriptions,” Kolodny said, citing a 2013 study of 250 deaths. In the study, most overdose victims were middle-aged adults who had been prescribed opioids for chronic pain.

Relatives told researchers their loved ones, in the year before they died, had been misusing their medicine, taking more than prescribed or using painkillers to get high.

Less than a week before Prince died, his plane made an emergency stop in Illinois on a flight back to Minnesota following a concert in Atlanta. The Associated Press and other media organizations, citing anonymous sources, reported that first responders gave him an antidote commonly used to reverse

suspected opioid overdoses.

Fentanyl is a powerful opioid prescribed by doctors to patients who develop a tolerance to other narcotics. It's also a street drug with ties to labs in China that produce fentanyl equivalents for global distribution.

Heroin-spiked fentanyl is marketed with brand names such as "China White" or "Fire."

"Users know this and request it by name," said Drug Enforcement Administration spokesman Lawrence Payne.

Nothing in the report explains whether Prince used a pharmaceutical product or a street drug. The report is silent on whether it was prescribed by a doctor or obtained illegally.

"Was it a lozenge? Was it a skin patch?" said Dr. Yashpal Agrawal of the College of American Pathologists. What's more, there are numerous ways to misuse and overdose on fentanyl, by applying multiple skin patches or eating one, Agrawal said.

The report says nothing about other drugs Prince may have been taking. Some prescription drugs can affect the way fentanyl is processed by the body, increasing its toxicity, Agrawal said.

Some opioid users — whether they start as legitimate pain patients or recreational users — become addicted and lose control over how much they take. They use much more than is prescribed or seek out drugs on the black market.

Some also try to get drugs by "doctor shopping," visiting various health professionals until they find one who will prescribe opioids.

Minnesota, like most states, runs a monitoring program to track prescriptions of opioids and other high-risk drugs. The database includes the names of the patients prescribed the drugs, although those names are only available to law enforcement for 12 months from when pharmacies or doctors record it. Minnesota shares information with 21 states.

Law enforcement authorities can access information about a person's prescription history in the system if they get a search warrant.

Nothing in the report indicates whether Prince's name appears in the database.

Oregon train derailment spills oil, sparks fire

GILLIAN FLACCUS, Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — A train towing a highly volatile type of oil derailed Friday in Oregon's scenic Columbia River Gorge, igniting a fire that sent a plume of black smoke into the sky and spurring evacuations and road closures.

Eleven cars derailed Friday in the 96-car Union Pacific train and the railroad said several caught fire. The crash released oil alongside tracks that parallel the Columbia River.

All the cars on the train traveling to Tacoma, Washington, from Eastpoint, Idaho, were carrying Bakken oil, which is more flammable than other varieties because it has a higher gas content and vapor pressure and lower flash point.

The accident immediately drew reaction from environmentalists who said oil should not be transported by rail, particularly along a river that is a hub of recreation and commerce.

"Moving oil by rail constantly puts our communities and environment at risk," said Jared Margolis, an attorney at the Center for Biological Diversity in Eugene, Oregon.

It wasn't immediately clear if oil had seeped into the river or what had caused the derailment. No injuries were reported.

Aaron Hunt, a spokesman for the railroad, did not know how fast the train was traveling at the time,

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but witnesses said it was going slowly as it passed the town of Mosier, Oregon, about 70 miles east of Portland.

Response teams were using a drone to assess the damage, said Katherine Santini, a spokeswoman with the U.S. Forest Service. Crews were working to suppress the fire, which they expected to continue doing into the night.

Officials in Mosier closed about 23 miles of Interstate 84 and evacuated a half-mile radius around the spill, including 200 school children who were later picked up by their parents and 50 homes in a mobile home park.

Silas Bleakley was working at his restaurant in Mosier when the train derailed.

"You could feel it through the ground. It was more of a feeling than a noise," he told The Associated Press as smoke billowed from the tankers.

Bleakley said he went outside, saw the smoke and got in his truck and drove about 2,000 feet to a bridge that crosses the railroad tracks.

There, he said he saw tanker cars "accordioned" across the tracks.

Another witness, Brian Shurton, was watching the train as it passed by the town when he heard a tremendous noise.

"All of a sudden, I heard 'Bang! Bang! Bang!' like dominoes," he told The Associated Press.

He also drove to the overpass and saw the cars flipped over before a fire started and he called 911.

"The train wasn't going very fast. It would have been worse if it had been faster," said Shurton, who runs a wind surfing business in nearby Hood River.

Matt Lehner, a spokesman from the Federal Railroad Administration, said a team of investigators had arrived at the scene from Vancouver, Washington.

Union Pacific said 11 cars had derailed, but a spokesman from the Oregon Department of Forestry, which helped extinguish the blaze, said 12 cars had been involved. The discrepancy could not immediately be resolved.

Including Friday's accident, at least 26 oil trains have been involved in major fires or derailments during the past decade in the U.S. and Canada, according to Associated Press analysis of accident records from the two countries.

The worst was a 2013 derailment that killed 47 people in Lac-Megantic, Quebec. Damage from that accident has been estimated at \$1.2 billion or higher.

At least 12 of the oil trains that derailed were carrying crude from the Northern Plains' Bakken region — fuel that is known for being highly volatile. Of those, eight resulted in fires.

Since last spring, North Dakota regulators have required companies to treat oil before it's shipped by rail to make it less combustible.

A May 2015 derailment near Heimdal, North Dakota, involved cars carrying oil that had been treated to reduce the volatility, but the crude still ignited. At least one train wreck involving treated Bakken oil did not result in a fire, when 22 cars derailed and 35,000 gallons of oil spilled near Culbertson, Montana, last July.

Reducing the explosiveness of the crude moved by rail was not supposed to be a cure-all to prevent accidents. Department of Transportation rules imposed last year require companies to use stronger tank cars that are better able to withstand derailments.

But tens of thousands of outdated tank cars that are prone to split open during accidents remain in use.

It's expected to take years for them to be retrofitted or replaced.

Hunt, the Union Pacific spokesman, did not respond to questions about whether the Bakken oil in

Friday's derailment had been treated to reduce volatility. It also wasn't clear if the tank cars in the accident had been retrofitted under the new rules.

To get to refineries on the East and West coasts and the Gulf of Mexico, oil trains move through more than 400 counties, including major metropolitan areas such as Philadelphia; Seattle; Chicago; Newark, New Jersey; and dozens of other cities, according to railroad disclosures filed with regulators.

Fort Hood officials were closing roads as truck washed away

JIM VERTUNO, Associated Press

MICHAEL GRACZYK, Associated Press

FORT HOOD, Texas (AP) — Fort Hood commanders were in the process of closing roads on the sprawling Army post in Central Texas when a truck carrying 12 soldiers overturned in a fast-flowing flooded creek during a training exercise, killing nine and injuring three, officials said Friday.

The portion of road on the northern fringe of the post where the 2½-ton Light Medium Tactical Vehicle overturned Thursday hadn't been overrun by water during past floods, Fort Hood spokesman Chris Haug said. The vehicle resembles a flatbed truck with a walled bed and is used to carry troops.

He said the soldiers were being trained on how to operate the truck when it overturned along Owl Creek, about 70 miles north of Austin.

"It was a situation where the rain had come, the water was rising quickly and we were in the process, at the moment of the event, of closing the roads," Haug said.

Soldiers on training exercises regularly contend with high-water situations following heavy rains, he said.

"This was a tactical vehicle and at the time they were in a proper place for what they were training," Haug said. "It's just an unfortunate accident that occurred quickly."

Three soldiers were found dead shortly after the vehicle overturned. The bodies of two others were found late Thursday night. Four others were discovered dead Friday.

The three injured were released from Fort Hood's hospital on Friday, said Maj. Gen. John Uberti, Fort Hood deputy commander. He said the identities of the dead weren't being released pending notification of their families.

"This tragedy extends well beyond Fort Hood and the outpouring of support from the country is sincerely appreciated," Uberti said.

With four soldiers still missing after the accident, crews used helicopters, boats and heavy trucks to search the 20-mile creek. At Owl Creek Park, where the creek feeds into Lake Belton at the northeast edge of Fort Hood, the creek is normally 30 to 40 feet wide but was swollen Friday to some 500 feet wide.

The 340-square-mile post, one of the nation's largest, has seen fatal training accidents before. In November 2015, four soldiers were killed when a Black Hawk helicopter crashed during a training exercise. And in June 2007, a soldier who went missing for four days after a solo navigation exercise died from hyperthermia and dehydration while training in 90-degree heat.

After taking an aerial tour of flooded Southeast Texas counties Friday, Gov. Greg Abbott said the Fort Hood deaths show why drivers should stay out of high water and not go around barricades on flooded roads.

"I've heard stories of far too many people who think they are able to drive through water only to be washed away," Abbott said. "If that can happen to trained soldiers, it can also happen to untrained civilians. It demonstrates the need of everyone to understand the power of rising water and the danger

it can pose to life.”

He also urged residents to comply if they're ordered to leave their homes.

This week's storms are the latest in a string of torrential rains since May 2015 that have put swaths of the state under water. Nearly the entire eastern half of Texas, including Fort Hood, was under flash flood warnings or watches Friday.

Storms moving in from the Gulf of Mexico threatened to worsen flooding in places like Brazoria and Fort Bend counties, southwest of Houston, where residents near the Brazos River were forced from their homes.

The river at Richmond in Fort Bend County, where flood stage is 48 feet, was at 54.19 feet at mid-afternoon Friday, down more than a half-foot from the same time Thursday. Farther south in Rosharon in Brazoria County, the last flood gauge before the river empties into the Gulf of Mexico crept to 52.5 feet at mid-afternoon, a half-foot higher than 24 hours earlier. Flood stage there is 43 feet.

“Total terror, total terror,” Alica Matura said after she and another person were rescued Friday morning from a pickup truck swept off a Brazoria County road by swift water.

“Water was rushing in and I was freaking out, I was shaking,” Tony Conte, who was in the truck with her, told Houston television station KTRK. “It's scary and it happens fast.”

Also Friday, a third Texas prison near the Brazos River was being evacuated because of flooding. About 1,700 inmates were being moved from the Ramsey Unit in Rosharon. Some 2,600 inmates at two nearby prisons in Brazoria County were moved out Sunday.

Trump praises 'my African-American' supporter at rally

REDDING, Calif. (AP) — Donald Trump singled out a black supporter at a rally in California on Friday as he sought to demonstrate his support among African-Americans, saying, “Look at my African-American over here!”

At the Friday rally, the presumptive Republican presidential nominee was in the middle of describing a past campaign event, at which he said a black supporter “slugged” protesters who were dressed in a “Ku Klux Klan outfit.”

“I want to find out what's going on with him,” Trump said of the supporter at the previous rally. He then appeared to spot a black person in the audience of Friday's event in northern California.

“Oh, look at my African-American over here,” an excited Trump said, while pointing into the crowd. “Look at him. Are you the greatest? You know what I'm talking about? OK!”

Polls have consistently shown that when it comes to support among African-American voters, Trump trails his likely general election opponent, Democrat Hillary Clinton.

After pointing out the audience member, Trump then went on with his story, which appeared to match the events of a March rally that took place in Arizona.

“We had an African-American guy at one of the rallies a month ago, and he was sitting there behaving,” Trump said. “And we had protesters inside the arena. And they were dressed in a Ku Klux Klan outfit, OK?”

“This African-American gets up and, man, he slugged these guys. He slugged them.”

Trump said many people thought the black supporter at the earlier rally was an opponent of his campaign.

“He was like this great guy, military guy, we have tremendous African-American support,” he said. “The reason is I'm going to bring jobs back to our country.”

Trump spent much of the Redding rally bashing Clinton. He also pledged to “play heavy in California” in an effort to capture the Electoral College's biggest prize in November.

3 guilty of conspiracy to commit murder abroad in IS case

ROBIN McDOWELL, Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Three Minnesota men accused of plotting to go to Syria to join the Islamic State group were convicted Friday of conspiracy to commit murder overseas — a charge that carries a possible sentence of life in prison.

The defendants — Guled Ali Omar, 21; Abdirahman Yasin Daud, 22; and Mohamed Abdihamid Farah, 22 — showed little emotion as the three-week trial came to a close. Several people sitting in seats reserved for family broke down in tears; others left the courtroom in disbelief.

U.S. District Judge Michael Davis didn't immediately set a sentencing date, saying he wanted to review the case and hear directly from the Somali-American men before making a decision.

In addition to the most serious murder-conspiracy charge, the three faced multiple other counts, including plotting to provide material support to a foreign terrorist organization.

"Can I write to you?" Omar quietly asked the judge.

"Yes sir, you can write to me anytime," Davis responded. Looking at Farah, he said: "And this time, I don't want you to hold anything back."

Young men from Minnesota's Somali community, the nation's largest, have been a target for terror recruiters in recent years.

Prosecutors have said Omar, Daud and Farah were part of a group of friends who inspired and recruited each other to join the Islamic State organization. Six others earlier pleaded guilty to one count each of conspiring to support a foreign terrorist organization. A seventh, 22-year-old Abdi Nur, is at large, believed to be in Syria.

Others who were part of the group but have not been charged were successful in going overseas.

"These were not wayward kids who just got caught up in a fantasy," said U.S. Attorney Andrew Luger, adding that he was satisfied with the federal jury's ruling. "They made a deeply personal and deliberate decision back in 2014. They wanted to fight for a brutal terrorist organization, kill innocent people and destroy their own families in the process."

He called the trial "one of the most important" seen in Minnesota in years, because it put a spotlight on ongoing terror recruitment.

The three defendants, all from Minneapolis and arrested a year ago, pleaded not guilty during the trial.

"I really thought there was a tenuous connection between what my client allegedly did and the conspiracy to commit murder charge," said Farah's attorney, Murah Mohammed.

Prosecutors built their case largely on recordings made by Abdirahman Bashir, a friend of the men who went on to become a paid informant.

It was revealed during the trial that he made \$119,000, prompting family and friends to protest what they called entrapment. A small gathering was held on the plaza outside the courthouse after the verdicts. The Star Tribune reported some of the defendants' supporters carried signs that said "Stop FBI Entrapment" and "Stop Targeting Somalis."

Bashir testified that members of the group eagerly watched propaganda videos that included beheadings and mass executions. He also secretly recorded conversations with the defendants discussing the best way to get to Syria and scheming to get false passports.

Omar, the only defendant to take the stand, testified that he and friends held study groups to discuss the Quran, and discussed the political situation Syria, but he knew of no legitimate plans for anyone to travel there.

He also said he thought a proposal to get fake passports was not good.

The case was the third Islamic State-related case to go to trial nationwide, and is unique because of the sheer number of people who were connected to each other on a personal level. In other cases, most recruitment has been done online.

The FBI has said roughly a dozen young men and women left Minnesota to join militants in Syria in recent years. And since 2007, more than 22 men have joined al-S Aerodynamics gets contract to fly to Pierre, Watertown

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The U.S. Department of Transportation has awarded contracts to Aerodynamics Inc. to provide federally subsidized air service to Pierre and Watertown.

Officials in both cities had recommended the carrier. Great Lakes Airlines has been serving the two cities, but local officials have become unhappy with the service.

Great Lakes maintains that problems with delayed and canceled flights were the result of a pilot shortage caused by more stringent federal regulations.

The Essential Air Service program provides subsidies to small airlines so they can maintain flights in rural communities. Aerodynamics will fly 12 round-trip flights weekly from Watertown to Denver, stopping in Pierre, with 50-passenger jets.

The two-year federal contract runs from this August through July 2018. It's not known exactly when Aerodynamics service will start, but Pierre Mayor Laurie Gill told the Capital Journal (<http://bit.ly/1U1Vii2>) that she expects it to be by September.

"We have a huge hunting season here, and they know that," she said.

Watertown has one more hurdle to overcome. The Department of Transportation recently listed the city as one of 12 in the country fated to lose EAS eligibility because the subsidy level there has surpassed \$200 per passenger. Federal rules say any EAS community within 210 miles of a major hub airport must maintain a subsidy level below that mark.

Mayor Steve Thorson said he is confident Watertown officials can show that the city's center is actually 4 miles farther west than under the government's measurement to Minneapolis. That will put it outside the 210-mile limit, meaning the EAS subsidy trigger to worry about is \$1,000 per passenger.

Obama signs bill protecting children in tribal foster care

REGINA GARCIA CANO, Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — President Barack Obama on Friday signed into law a measure meant to bolster protections for Native American children placed into the tribal foster care system.

The law, which comes years after serious flaws were uncovered in the child welfare system of a Native American tribe in North Dakota, requires background checks before foster care placements are made by tribal social services agencies. The measure requires that agencies review national criminal records and child abuse or neglect registries in any state in which a would-be foster parent has lived in the preceding five years, and also forces foster care homes to undergo periodic safety recertifications.

Republican U.S. Sen. John Hoeven, of North Dakota, said the measure ensures that Native American children living on a reservation have the same protections when assigned to foster care that children living off the reservation have.

"A decade ago, we worked in North Dakota to ensure that all adults living in a foster home were background checked to protect the children in their care, and now we have extended that same safety net for children in tribal foster care in North Dakota and across the nation," Hoeven said.

Federal experts say some children living on reservations experience a form of post-traumatic stress from exposure to family turmoil. The symptoms are comparable to those of military veterans returning

from war zones. And federal statistics show that Native American children have the third highest rate of victimization at 11.6 per 1,000 children of the same race or ethnicity. In 2009, more than 7,000 Native American children were victims of child abuse.

The Native American Children's Safety Act, sponsored by Hoeven, comes five years after federal and state authorities found serious deficiencies with the administration of foster care on the Spirit Lake Indian Reservation in North Dakota. The ineffectiveness of the tribe's child social services was so severe that the federal government had to intervene, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs took over control of the system.

One case exemplifying the flagrant mistakes of the child protection system involved a woman who was awarded custody of infant twin girls despite a history of child neglect. She ended up being sentenced to 30 years in prison in 2013 for the death of one of the children, who was thrown down an embankment.

The background check requirement under the law signed Friday applies to everyone living in a potential foster care house, not just the parents. A background check will also be required for any adult who moves into the home after the foster child has been placed with a family.

Erik Stegman, executive director of the Center for Native American Youth at the Aspen Institute, agreed with Hoeven that the new law's requirements will put Native American children on "equal footing" with other children entering the foster care system.

"It does have broad tribal support, and we do hope that it improves the situation for Native youth," Stegman said. "We definitely believe that tribal courts and other tribal welfare system officials should have that information and that by having that information they are able to make better determinations for what's in the best interest of the Native children in their communities." habab in Somalia.

Military: Precision flying teams are worth the risk, cost

DAN ELLIOTT, Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — Both of the U.S. military's high-drama, high-dollar flying teams suffered crashes on the same day this week, but supporters say the Air Force Thunderbirds and the Navy Blue Angels are worth the money and the risk because they're vital to recruitment and help citizens feel good about their military.

"It's our No. 1 recruiting tool," said retired Air Force Col. Pete McCaffrey, who flew with the Thunderbirds from 1992 to 1995.

Most people don't get to see the military up close, but when they see the elite air squadrons perform, "it gives them a sense of pride in their military and their country, and I think now we need that more than ever," McCaffrey said Friday.

A Blue Angels F/A-18 crashed Thursday near Nashville, Tennessee, while taking off for a practice session ahead of a weekend air show. The pilot, Marine Capt. Jeff Kuss, was killed.

Also Thursday, a Thunderbirds F-16 crashed outside Colorado Springs, Colorado, but that pilot, Maj. Alex Turner, ejected safely. The Thunderbirds had just performed over the open-air graduation ceremony at the nearby Air Force Academy, where President Barack Obama spoke.

The military hasn't publicly discussed the cause of either crash. Both are under investigation.

The Blue Angels and Thunderbirds have had dozens of crashes in their long histories, and a total of at least nine pilots been killed during performances or practices since 1985.

The teams are pricey, too. The Thunderbirds have an annual operating budget of \$35 million, said Air Force Staff Sgt. Katie Maricle, a spokeswoman for the Air Combat Command. A Navy spokesman couldn't immediately provide the Blue Angels' budget.

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But the military insists the teams are important to the services and the nation.

"The Thunderbirds are a huge part of U.S. Air Force history and they are such a vital element of connecting our nation to our Air Force," Maricle said.

Kuss himself once said the Blue Angels were his inspiration to become a pilot.

Two months ago, when the squadron arrived at the Smoky Mountain Air Show in Alcoa, Tennessee, Kuss told a reporter from WATE-TV that he remembered looking up at the Blue Angels as a little boy. He said his goal was to inspire all the kids now looking up at him.

"We're just pumped to be able to interact with the community and tell them a little bit about what we do," he said. "But we really just try to invoke that fire in their belly to go out and do what they want to do that makes them happy and successful in life."

Tom Meyvis, a professor of marketing at New York University's Stern School of Business, said the recruitment argument has merit, especially when potential servicemen and women see the teams at air shows.

"People who are interested in the Air Force are more likely to attend these events and witness these teams and be excited by them," he said. "The idea of investing in the future brand of the Air Force or the military, that is a positive investment."

But Meyvis cautioned he's not a military expert and said he couldn't evaluate whether the military's investment pays off.

"Is it worth the money? I don't know," he said.

He also questioned the value of the flying teams in building goodwill with the public.

"I don't know that the U.S. military necessarily needs to sell itself to the general population," he said.

Bottled water selling quickly after Alabama water warning

PHILLIP LUCAS, Associated Press

COURTLAND, Ala. (AP) — Lisa Davis, a cashier at a Foodvalu grocery store in rural north Alabama, spent Friday ringing up bottled water sales after a local utility declared its tap water unfit to drink because of chemical contamination.

Some customers got a six-pack; others bought jugs or a whole case. The scene was the same across the street at a Dollar General store, where a big metal cart once full of bottled water stood empty.

The run on water began Thursday afternoon, when officials with the West Morgan-East Limestone Water and Sewer Authority held a news conference to warn the utility's 10,000 residential and business customers in parts of two counties to not drink or cook with tap water because of chemical contamination.

Davis, 41, said she and her two children will be fine during a dry spell that officials said could last until fall. But she's worried about the less fortunate and elderly who may not have extra money to spend on bottled water.

"These older people who are on a fixed income can't just go out and buy water," she said. "They are paying water bills."

The scare comes as other states are dealing with serious water-contamination issues: In Flint, Michigan, where tests found lead in tap water earlier this year, officials are still distributing bottled water to residents. In West Virginia, lawsuits and an investigation are ongoing over the release of toxic chemicals into the Elk River in 2014.

The West Morgan-East Limestone utility has long been aware of the presence of perfluorooctanoic acid and perfluorooctane sulfonate in its water system, but the levels of the chemicals were within acceptable levels defined by former Environmental Protection Agency guidelines. Last month, however,

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the EPA lowered its recommended levels for the chemicals. It said water systems with combined levels of 70 parts per trillion of the chemicals in drinking water should advise customers of the potential health risks and take steps to reduce the chemicals.

The chemicals, commonly called PFOA and PFOS, have been used to make fabrics, packaging and coatings for cookware, according to an EPA fact sheet. Studies indicate that exposure to PFOA and PFOS above certain levels may result in problems including low birth weight, accelerated puberty, cancer, liver damage and immune-system effects, according to the EPA.

Under its new guidelines, the EPA says pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers should not drink the water and that it should not be used in baby formula.

West Morgan-East Lawrence's general manager, Don Sims, went further after recent tests of the local water found levels almost 60 percent higher than the new EPA limit.

"I would rather be overcautious than under-cautious," Sims said during a news conference. "I'm not a doctor; I'm not a chemist. But when they tell one class of people the water is not safe, I don't want to be the one to say, 'You drink it and you don't.' So I said, 'Nobody drink it.'"

A temporary filtration system to purify the water won't be ready before September, officials said, and a permanent solution could be three years away.

Dr. Jim McVay, a spokesman with the Alabama Department of Public Health, said the authority made the announcement without consulting health or environmental officials. The Health Department is sticking with EPA guidance that warns only some to avoid the water, he said.

"That's the best science we have," McVay said.

Gov. Robert Bentley said in a statement that the local decision "effectively turned an advisory into a regulation."

"Based on my current understanding, I am confident that there is no health-related crisis based on the water quality of the West Morgan East Lawrence Water Authority," Bentley said.

The utility's latest warning comes amid an ongoing lawsuit that it filed against 3M and other manufacturing companies along the Tennessee River last year, blaming them for polluting the river with industrial chemicals.

A Texas law firm representing 3M in the lawsuit released statements defending the company's actions and saying the EPA was being overly conservative with its advisories about the chemicals.

"3M's activities in connection with these materials were not only fully permitted but entirely appropriate," said company attorney William A. Brewer III. "In any event, we believe the claims against 3M — and recent actions taken by the water authority — are based upon the mistaken belief that the mere presence of these chemicals equals harm."

That may be true, but Davis said she isn't taking chances. The cashier doubles as a secretary at the volunteer fire department, and she said she plans to spend the weekend notifying older residents not to drink their tap water.

Today in History The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Saturday, June 4, the 156th day of 2016. There are 210 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 4, 1986, Jonathan Jay Pollard, a former U.S. Navy intelligence analyst, pleaded guilty in Washington to conspiring to deliver information related to the national defense to Israel. (Pollard, sen-

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tenced to life in prison, was released on parole on Nov. 20, 2015.)

On this date:

In 1783, the Montgolfier brothers first publicly demonstrated their hot-air balloon, which did not carry any passengers, over Annonay, France.

In 1784, opera singer Elisabeth Thible became the first woman to make a non-tethered flight aboard a Montgolfier hot-air balloon, over Lyon, France.

In 1892, the Sierra Club was incorporated in San Francisco.

In 1919, Congress approved the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, guaranteeing citizens the right to vote regardless of their gender, and sent it to the states for ratification.

In 1939, the German ocean liner MS St. Louis, carrying more than 900 Jewish refugees from Germany, was turned away from the Florida coast by U.S. officials.

In 1940, during World War II, the Allied military evacuation of some 338,000 troops from Dunkirk, France, ended. British Prime Minister Winston Churchill declared: "We shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; we shall never surrender."

In 1942, the World War II Battle of Midway began, resulting in a decisive American victory against Japan and marking the turning point of the war in the Pacific.

In 1944, U-505, a German submarine, was captured by a U.S. Navy task group in the south Atlantic; it was the first such capture of an enemy vessel at sea by the U.S. Navy since the War of 1812. The U.S. Fifth Army began liberating Rome.

In 1954, French Premier Joseph Laniel and Vietnamese Premier Buu Loc signed treaties in Paris according "complete independence" to Vietnam.

In 1972, a jury in San Jose, California, acquitted radical activist Angela Davis of murder and kidnapping for her alleged connection to a deadly courthouse shootout in Marin County in 1970.

In 1990, Dr. Jack Kevorkian carried out his first publicly assisted suicide, helping Janet Adkins, a 54-year-old Alzheimer's patient from Portland, Oregon, end her life in Oakland County, Michigan.

In 1998, a federal judge sentenced Terry Nichols to life in prison for his role in the 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City.

Ten years ago: Peru's former president, Alan Garcia, won the country's presidential runoff election. A Palestinian standoff intensified after Hamas rejected an ultimatum from President Mahmoud Abbas (mahk-MOOD' ah-BAHS') to endorse a plan implicitly recognizing Israel.

Five years ago: China's Li Na captured her first Grand Slam singles title, becoming the first tennis player from China, man or woman, to achieve such a feat; Na beat Francesca Schiavone 6-4, 7-6 (0) in the French Open final. Former Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger, 80, died in Charlottesville, Virginia.

One year ago: The Department of Homeland Security announced that hackers had broken into the U.S. government personnel office and stolen identifying information of at least 4 million federal workers. (The breach was later said to have totaled 21.5 million current and former federal employees and job applicants; Chinese hackers were suspected of being behind the cyberattack.) Former Texas Gov. Rick Perry opened his second bid for the Republican presidential nomination. A huge explosion at a gas station in Ghana's capital of Accra left at least 160 people dead.

Today's Birthdays: Sex therapist and media personality Dr. Ruth Westheimer is 88. Actor Bruce Dern is 80. Musician Roger Ball is 72. Actress-singer Michelle Phillips is 72. Jazz musician Anthony Braxton is 71. Rock musician Danny Brown (The Fixx) is 65. Actor Parker Stevenson is 64. Actor Keith David is 60. Blues singer-musician Tinsley Ellis is 59. Actress Julie Gholson is 58. Actor Eddie Velez is 58. Singer-

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musician El DeBarge is 55. Actress Julie White is 55. Actress Lindsay Frost is 54. Actor Sean Pertwee is 52. Tennis player Andrea Jaeger is 51. Opera singer Cecilia Bartoli is 50. Rhythm-and-blues singer Al B. Sure! is 48. Actor Scott Wolf is 48. Actor-comedian Rob Huebel is 47. Comedian Horatio Sanz is 47. Actor Noah Wyle is 45. Rock musician Stefan Lessard (The Dave Matthews Band) is 42. Actor-comedian Russell Brand is 41. Actress Angelina Jolie is 41. Actor Theo Rossi is 41. Alt-country singer Kasey Chambers is 40. Rock musician JoJo Garza (Los Lonely Boys) is 36. Country musician Dean Berner (Edens Edge) is 35. Model Bar Refaeli (ruh-FEHL'-lee) is 31. Olympic gold medal figure skater Evan Lysacek is 31. Americana singer Shakey Graves is 29. Rock musician Zac Farro is 26.

Thought for Today: "If America forgets where she came from, if the people lose sight of what brought them along, if she listens to the deniers and mockers, then will begin the rot and dissolution." — Carl Sandburg, American writer (1878-1967).