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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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Tuesday, June 7

State Girls Golf Tourney in Hot Springs
Senior Menu: Hamburger cabbage roll hot dish, tomato spoon salad, pears, cornmeal muffin.
Birthdays: Chad Nierman, Lisa Wien
10:00am: United Methodist Women's Bible Study
6:00pm: NESDU12 in Groton (Milbank Red vs. Groton Red in double header)

Wednesday, June 8

Senior Menu: Baked chicken, rice pilaf, cauliflower/pea salad, pudding, whole wheat bread.
Birthdays: Lacy Voss, Kayla Johnson, Andrew Marzahn
7:00am: United Methodist Men's Bible Study
12:00pm: Kiwanis meets at the Community Center
6:00pm: NESDU8 in Groton (Sisseton 1 vs. Groton Blue and Sisseton 2 vs. Groton Red)
6:00pm: U12 Softball at Webster
7:00pm: NESDU8 in Groton (Sisseton 1 vs. Groton Red and Sisseton 2 vs. Groton Blue)
7:00pm: U12 Softball vs. Milbank at Webster

Thursday, June 9

Senior Menu: Ham loaf, sweet potatoes, peas, Acini DePepi fruit salad, whole wheat bread.
Anniversaries: Orville & Joyce Schaller, Terry & Lori Herron, Larry & Glenna Remington
Birthdays: Halle Claire Williamson, Bruce Shilhanek.
6:00pm: Legion at Northville (2)
6:00pm: NESDU10 at Britton (Groton Red vs. Britton in double header)
6:00pm: NESDU10 in Groton (Milbank Green vs. Groton Blue in double header)
6:00pm: NESDU12 in Groton (Milbank Blue vs. Groton Blue in double header)



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The last of the wells to get capped

The Railroad Wellhouse will be capped with a motion approved, 4-1, with Mary Fliehs voting no. Walt from Britton was priced at \$10,710 and that will allow the city to keep the building in place. The other bid from Pullman had the building removed before the well would be capped at \$11,985. This is the last of the city's wells. Before WEB Water, the city used to get its water from three artesian wells. The other two were capped several years ago. The Railroad Wellhouse will be capped with a motion approved, 4-1, with Mary Fliehs voting no. Walt from Britton was priced at \$10,710 and that will allow the city to keep the building in place. The other bid from Pullman had the building removed before the well would be capped at \$11,985.



The wellhouse building serves as the city's load management network to the Northwestern Substation, a place to keep the dog food for the dog kenel, and it supplies power to the rubble site gate.



Yellow stripes will be added to the Groton Tennis Courts which will outline the boundaries of the Pickleball Court.

Pickleball coming to Groton!

A paddle sport created for all ages and skill levels. The rules are simple and the game is easy for beginners to learn, but can develop into a quick, fast-paced, competitive game for experienced players.

The Basics

A fun sport that combines many elements of tennis, badminton and ping-pong.

Played both indoors or outdoors on a badminton-sized court and a slightly modified tennis net.

Played with a paddle and a plastic ball.

Pickle-ball® was invented in 1965 on Bainbridge Island, outside Seattle, WA. The goal of Pickle-ball® then and now was to create a game that is fun for every member of the family.

Three more stop signs going up

A three-way stop intersection was approved by the city council Monday night. The stop signs will be erected at N. State Street and West Third Avenue. Traffic from the north, south and east will be required to stop at this intersection.



In other city council action:

There has been a request by the Groton American Legion to have a spot north of the driveway on Main Street be painted for handicap parking. A resolution to approve the parking spot was approved.

The malt beverage licenses for Ken's Food Fair and MJ's Sinclair were approved. Also a temporary malt beverage license for the Groton Amateur Baseball for July 27-31 for the playoffs was approved contingent on proof of insurance.

Approved hiring Cody Swanson as a swimming instructor at the pool.

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Today in Weather History

1816 - A famous June snow occurred in the northeastern U.S. Danville VT reported drifts of snow and sleet twenty inches deep. The Highlands were white all day, and flurries were observed as far south as Boston MA. (David Ludlum)

1972 - Richmond VA experienced its worst flood of record as rains from Hurricane Agnes pushed the water level at the city locks to a height of 36.5 feet, easily topping the previous record of thirty feet set in 1771. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Thunderstorms in the Laramie Mountains of eastern Wyoming produced golf ball size hail, and up to five inches of rain in just one hour. Half a dozen cities in the Upper Mississippi Valley reported record high temperatures for the date, including La Crosse, WI, with a reading of 97 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)(Storm Data)

1988 - Snow whitened some of the mountains of northern California and northwestern Nevada. Twenty-six cities in the central and eastern U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date, including Rapid City SD with a reading of 104 degrees, and Miles City, MT, with a high of 106 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather from southern Oklahoma and eastern Texas to northwestern Florida through the day and night. Thunderstorms spawned 22 tornadoes, including a dozen in Louisiana, and there were 119 reports of large hail and damaging winds. A strong (F-2) tornado at Gross Tete LA killed two persons, injured thirty others, and another strong (F-2) tornado injured 60 persons at Lobdell LA. Softball size hail was reported at Hillsboro TX. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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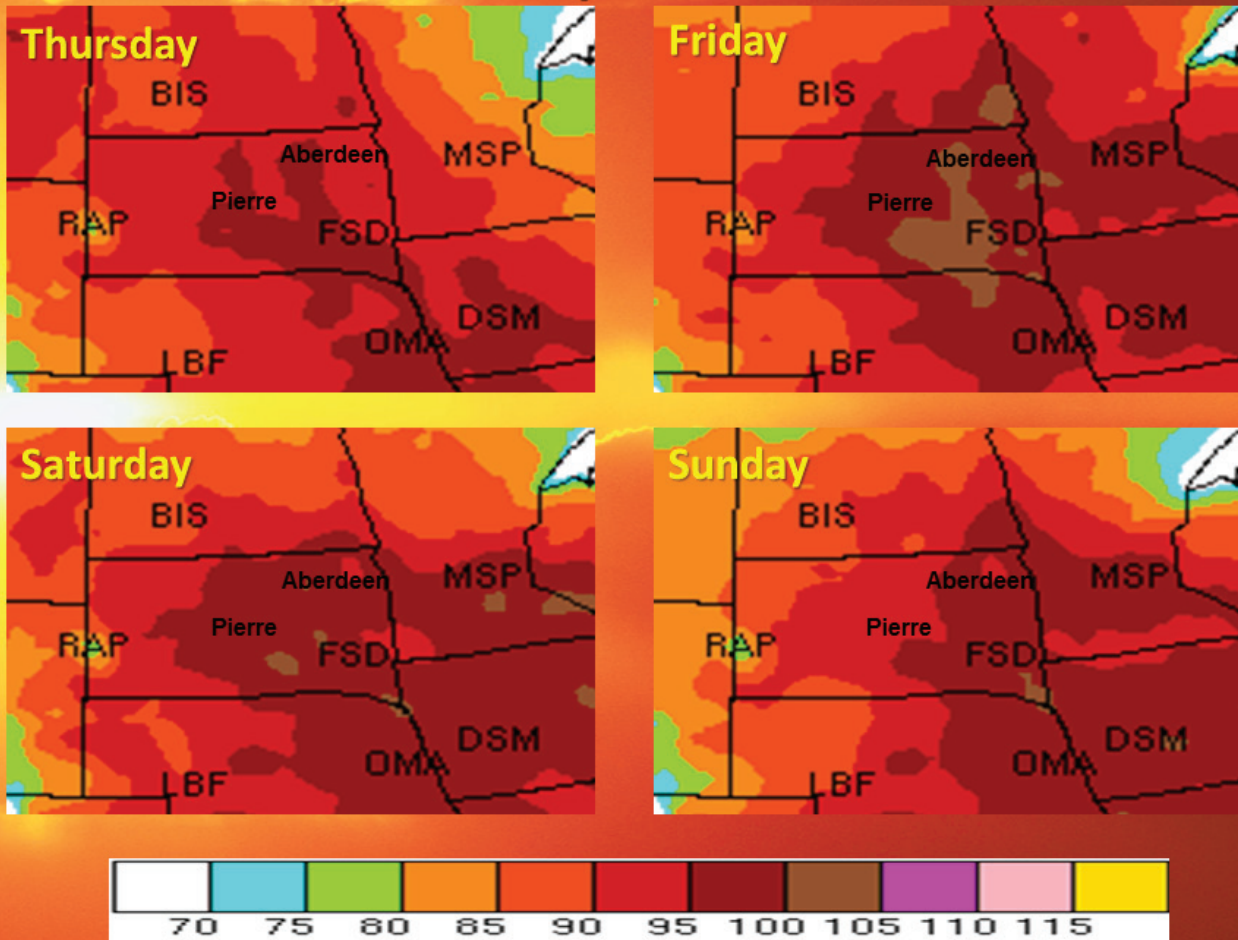
**1106 N 2nd St., Groton
605/397-2365**

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Today	Tonight	Wednesday	Wednesday Night	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday
						
Mostly Sunny	Mostly Clear	Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Hot	Mostly Clear	Hot
High: 74 °F	Low: 54 °F	High: 80 °F	Low: 64 °F	High: 90 °F	Low: 67 °F	High: 94 °F

Maximum Expected Heat Index



Published on: 06/06/2016 at 3:13PM

Even though the calendar is still only in the 2nd week of June - the heat of summer is already headed this way. Expect temperatures to steadily warm Tuesday and Wednesday, with a slow increase in humidity as well. Temperatures are expected to top out some 10 to 20 degrees above average between Thursday - Friday - and through the weekend. Thankfully model guidance is just starting to hint at a return to more average temperatures by the start of next week.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 69.6 F at 4:50 PM

Low Outside Temp: 51.2 F at 6:25 AM

High Gust: 27.0 Mph at 9:54 AM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 95° in 1952

Record Low: 28 in 1901

Average High: 75°F

Average Low: 51°F

Average Precip in June: 0.81

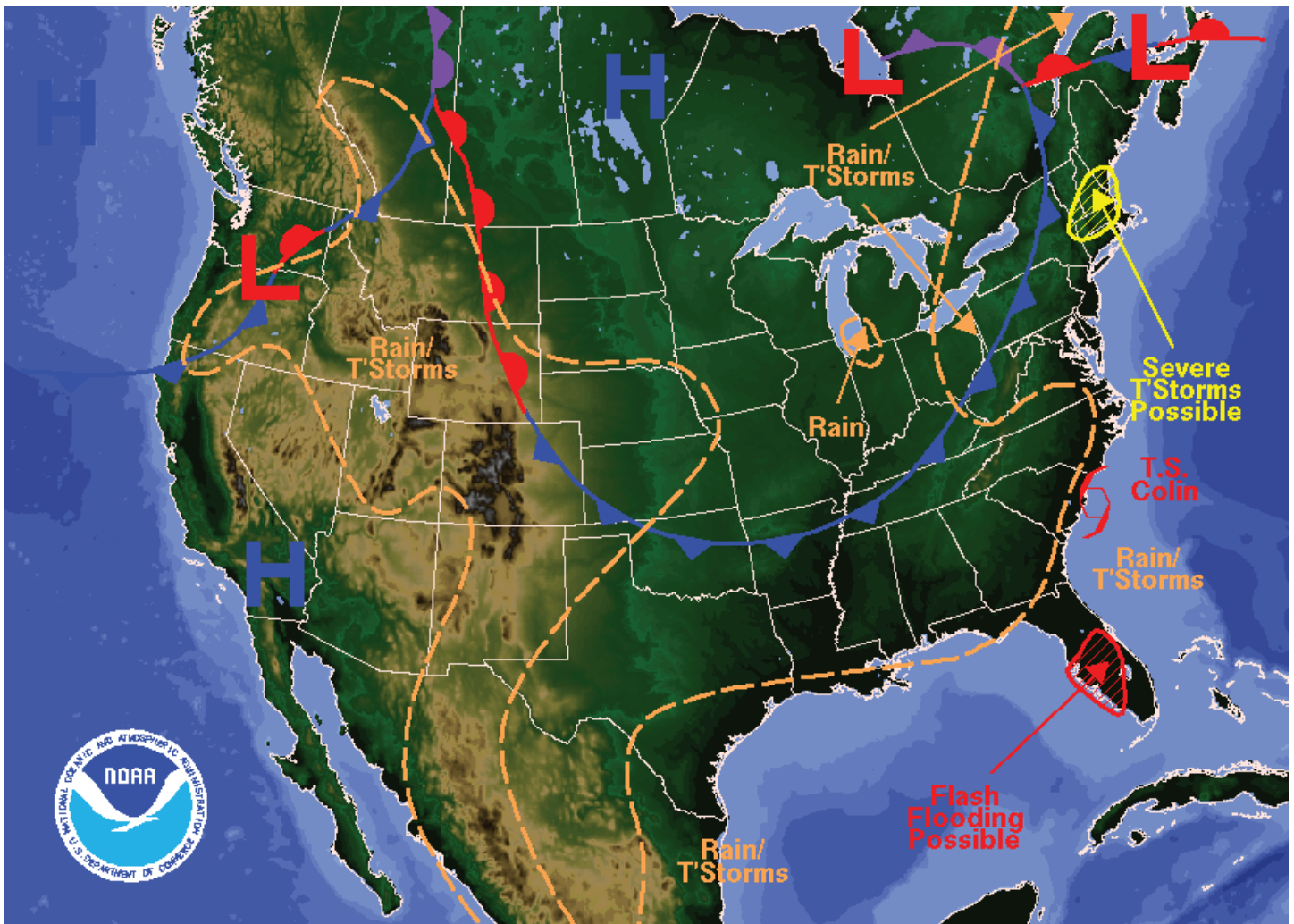
Precip to date in June: 0.72

Average Precip to date: 7.95

Precip Year to Date: 5.71

Sunset Tonight: 9:19 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:45 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Tue, Jun 07, 2016, issued 4:31 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

A lady backed out of her parking place in a large mall during a blizzard and was having a difficult time seeing. A few feet from her car were the blinking lights of a snow plow. She decided to follow it, thinking it would take her safely to the exit.

After a few twists and turns the operator of the snow plow stopped, got out of his warm cab and went to the window of her car and asked, "Where are you going?"

"To the exit," she answered.

"Well then," he said, "don't follow me. I'm not going anyplace. I'm only here to plow the parking lot."

Everyone needs a leader. As Christians, we are blessed to have a Leader who can guide us safely through life – One who knows what is best for us and believes in us and is a faithful encourager. The Christian's Leader is one who knows our strengths and weaknesses and will never call us to do what He knows is beyond our skills, abilities and potential.

Jeremiah said, "For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope." The Prophet is assuring us that God has an individual plan for each of our lives and that it is a good plan. Because He has a plan for each of us, we can have faith in Him and be filled with hope for our future. God has planned our future and knows what we need to do, what He calls us to do.

This does not mean that we will not have difficult days or trying times, be spared hardships or heartaches. But it does mean that God will see us through pain and sorrow and lead us to victory. We have His word that He will lead us through the valleys and shadows into His glorious presence.

Prayer: How thankful we are, Lord, that You have a plan that has been designed especially for each of us. May we be faithful to trust and follow You all the days of our lives. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.

News from the Associated Press

The Latest: South Dakota voters head to the polls Tuesday

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The Latest on South Dakota's primary election (all times local):
6:30 a.m.

South Dakota voters head to the polls Tuesday to weigh in on the presidential race.

Polling locations will be open from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. local time.

A half-dozen states vote Tuesday, a day after The Associated Press determined Hillary Clinton has reached the number of delegates needed to become the presumptive Democratic nominee.

But Bernie Sanders' campaign said it was a "rush to judgment" to declare Clinton the presumptive nominee given superdelegates can switch their support before the Democratic convention in late July.

Sanders has held rallies in Sioux Falls, Rapid City and the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. Meanwhile, Clinton last month sent her husband, former President Bill Clinton, to campaign on her behalf in Sioux Falls.

At the legislative level, South Dakota voters will decide 22 Republican and four Democratic primary races.

2:13 a.m.

South Dakota voters are getting their turn to weigh in on the presidential race.

A half-dozen states vote Tuesday, a day after The Associated Press determined Hillary Clinton has reached the number of delegates needed to become the presumptive Democratic nominee.

But Bernie Sanders' campaign said it was a "rush to judgment" to declare Clinton the presumptive nominee given superdelegates can switch their support before the Democratic convention in late July.

It was unclear who will take South Dakota in the highest-profile race on the ballot.

Clinton won South Dakota's primary in 2008 over Barack Obama, and this cycle she's gotten key endorsements from top state Democrats.

Meanwhile, Sanders has held rallies in Sioux Falls, Rapid City and Pine Ridge.

17 women to compete in Miss South Dakota pageant next week

HOT SPRINGS, S.D. (AP) — Young women from around South Dakota will gather in Hot Springs next week for the 70th annual Miss South Dakota Pageant.

Seventeen contestants will participate in preliminary competitions on June 16 and 17 and finals on June 18.

More than 40 previous Miss South Dakota winners will attend the competition to be part of its 70th anniversary celebration.

The pageant will feature Autumn Simunek, of Hot Springs, who was Miss South Dakota 2015. She represented the state in the Miss America Pageant in September in Atlantic City, New Jersey, and has spent the year advocating for military families and veterans.

News Guide: Six states casting presidential primary ballots

LAURIE KELLMAN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hillary Clinton is ready to savor this moment, sailing into the last big round of primaries as the presumptive Democratic nominee for president.

Bernie Sanders isn't quite ready to go there, still hoping for a late, improbable course correction in the

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political passageways of 2016.

Donald Trump is eager to take another victory lap after a bumpy turn as the presumptive GOP nominee.

With the two parties' presumptive nominees set, voters in six states belatedly get to add their voices to the presidential race on Tuesday. King among them: California and its massive haul of 175 Republican and 475 Democratic delegates.

Clinton crossed the magic delegate threshold on the eve of Tuesday's coast-to-coast vote, pointing her toward a place in history as the first woman to become the presumptive nominee of a major presidential party.

THE BASICS

Political mathletes get to stand down after Tuesday's contests and the final Democratic primary on June 14 in the District of Columbia.

Clinton and Sanders are poised to split the 694 Democratic delegates up for grabs in New Jersey, California, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota and South Dakota. The District of Columbia, which offers 20 delegates, is the last to vote on June 14.

Both tried to preserve a veneer of suspense headed into the latest round of voting: Clinton said she was on the brink of a "historic, unprecedented moment" but there was still work to do in six states voting Tuesday.

Sanders made no mention of Clinton's victory as his spokesman vowed that the campaign would work to convince superdelegates backing Clinton to change their minds and support the Vermont senator.

On the Republican side? That's all, folks.

The ferocious 17-way battle for the GOP nomination ends quietly Tuesday with the contest's final votes. Republicans vote in five states (there's no GOP contest in North Dakota).

Technically, it's still not over on either side. Neither Clinton nor Trump will be their parties' official nominees until the formalities of the delegate votes at the parties' national conventions.

WHY IT MATTERS FOR CLINTON

The one-two punch of clinching the nomination and wrapping up the last big round of primaries gives Clinton an opportunity to stand before the nation as a woman in full — ready to embrace the historic nature of her candidacy and to demonstrate her determination to stand fast against the turbulent forces that have propelled Trump's candidacy through the primaries.

The math: Clinton enters Tuesday's voting right at the magic number of 2,383 delegates. That includes 1,812 pledged delegates won in primaries and caucuses, and the support of 571 superdelegates.

Adding a nice bit of political theater to the day, Tuesday is the anniversary of Clinton's 2008 speech in which she conceded the primary to then-Sen. Barack Obama — and declared that her campaign had put "18 million cracks" in "that highest, hardest glass ceiling."

Becoming the presumptive nominee opens the gates to overt help from Obama: The White House said Monday that he's expected to endorse his former secretary of state in coming days and to join her soon at a joint appearance.

WHY IT MATTERS FOR TRUMP

The contests Tuesday give the billionaire mogul a high-profile way to override several difficult days in which members of his own party have nearly unanimously ordered him to cease his criticism of an American judge based on the jurist's ethnicity.

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Many had offered lukewarm endorsements heavily conditioned on the idea that Trump pivots from his divisive rhetoric of the primaries and starts unifying the party he now leads. But Trump instead continued commenting about the races and ethnic backgrounds of people attending his rallies and the heritage of a judge overseeing a federal lawsuit against Trump University.

The result was the rare spectacle of senior Republicans publicly scolding their own likely presidential nominee, and warning him to drop the subject of U.S. District Court Judge Gonzalo Curiel's ethnic background.

South Dakota Sen. John Thune, a member of the Senate GOP leadership, said: "Yeah, he's going to have to adapt. This is not working for him. They were inappropriate comments."

The contests give Trump an opening to manage the unpleasantness on a big scale — and again point out that he's the one who has received millions of votes and earned the 1,237 delegates required to win GOP presidential nomination. He is expected to speak from his golf club in Westchester County, New York.

WHAT ABOUT BERNIE?

Sanders kept quiet after Clinton hit her delegate count late Monday.

He left it to spokesman Michael Briggs to warn against a "rush to judgment" and point out that Clinton's status as presumptive nominee is dependent on superdelegates who could still change their minds.

Briggs said the campaign's job is to convince superdelegates that Sanders is "by far the strongest candidate against Donald Trump."

The Vermont senator also was mum on Obama's call to him a day earlier. Sanders planned to travel to Vermont on Wednesday, and beyond that declined to describe his plans.

THE MONEY CHASE

With their primary contests behind them, the candidates can more fully turn their attention to the business of financing their general election operations.

Clinton has a significant head start, having spent months building supporter lists during the primary and partnering with Democratic leaders since November to build up general election cash resources. Trump is significantly behind.

Because Trump largely funded his primary bid by loaning millions of dollars to his campaign, he is just now getting a fundraising operation off the ground. Through a deal with the Republican National Committee, Trump will spend much of June raising money for himself and other Republicans. He has three fundraisers scheduled June 16-18 in Texas and will attend a fundraising dinner June 21 in his native New York City, followed by a breakfast the next day.

IN OTHER ELECTION NEWS....

Congressional elections also are rumbling through primaries, and Tuesday could mean an unpleasant first on the Republican side.

Not one House Republican incumbent has been ousted this year in primaries. But that record won't survive Tuesday's votes. Redrawn district lines pit GOP Reps. Renee Ellmers and George Holding against each other for the nomination in one North Carolina district — and only one will win.

Across the country, California is poised — barring a surprise — to send two Democratic women running for Senate to the November ballot: Attorney General Kamala Harris and Rep. Loretta Sanchez of Orange County.

If the trends hold, it would be the first time since the start of direct Senate elections a century ago that a Republican has not appeared on a California general election ballot for U.S. Senate, says Claremont McKenna College political scientist Jack Pitney. Republicans in the state account for only 27 percent of registered voters.

Delegate math: Clinton wins, and how AP counts delegates

HOPE YEN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Lifted by a big win in Puerto Rico and a burst of late support from Democratic superdelegates, Hillary Clinton has commitments from the number of delegates needed to become the Democratic Party's presumptive nominee for president.

She reached the required 2,383 delegates on Monday, according to an Associated Press count.

Here's a look at the count and how the AP determined Clinton has enough delegates to become the presumptive nominee, besting her primary rival, Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders.

WHAT'S THE COUNT

In the primary elections and caucuses, Clinton has won 1,812 pledged delegates. Sanders has won 1,521. That gives her a lead of 291.

That is far more than the 131-delegate lead that then-Sen. Barack Obama held over Clinton when he clinched the Democratic nomination on June 4, 2008.

Among superdelegates, Clinton has the support of 571. Sanders has the backing of 48. That gives Clinton a lead of 523 superdelegates.

Overall, Clinton has 2,383 delegates, Sanders 1,569.

WHAT COMES NEXT?

Two days of election contests remain. On Tuesday, voters in six states — California, Montana, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Dakota and South Dakota — head to the polls, with 694 delegates up for grabs. The Washington, D.C., primary is a week later.

Even if Clinton were to lose all the remaining contests, she would continue to comfortably pad her delegate lead above the 2,383 threshold. That's because Democrats award pledged delegates in proportion to the vote, so even the loser gets some.

Sanders, meanwhile, would need to win 814 delegates to reach 2,383. That's no longer possible — only 813 pledged delegates and uncommitted superdelegates remain.

HOW AP COUNTS SUPERDELEGATES

Of the 4,765 total delegates to the Democratic National Convention, 714 are superdelegates. They are all party officials, governors and members of Congress who may vote for the candidate of their choice, regardless of the outcome in their state's primary or caucus.

The AP surveys the superdelegates throughout the primary season to track whom they plan to support at the July convention.

If a superdelegate tells the AP he or she plans to unequivocally support a candidate at the convention, that's added to the candidate's tally.

Those who decline to answer, say they have yet to make a decision or express any reservations are listed as uncommitted.

The AP continually updates its tally, which can be found at: <http://elections.ap.org/content/delegate-tracker>

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WHY COUNT SUPERDELEGATE VOTES?

Sanders argues superdelegates should not be counted, since they don't formally cast their votes until the national convention. He intends to win over those who back Clinton by making the case before the party meets in Philadelphia that he would be a stronger general election candidate against presumptive GOP nominee Donald Trump.

But in the AP's survey, which began in late 2015, no superdelegate has flipped support from Clinton to Sanders. None has suggested that could happen.

Since their creation in 1982, superdelegates have rarely strayed from their original endorsements — unless there is a change in the pledged delegate tally. In 2008, some superdelegates flipped from Clinton to Obama after he overcame her early lead in pledged delegates.

The majority of superdelegates have always sided with the winner of the most pledged delegates, which in this election is Clinton.

The Sanders campaign acknowledges it is unlikely he can switch enough superdelegates from Clinton to overtake her lead among the party insiders unless he is able to win a majority of the pledged delegates.

Clinton remains far ahead on that front. She is on track to safely end the primary season with a majority of pledged delegates even if she loses all six states on Tuesday and in Washington, D.C., the following week.

IS THAT ALL?

When it comes to winning the nomination, only delegates matter. But by two other measures, Clinton also comes out on top.

She has won 29 states and U.S. territories, to 21 for Sanders. She has also won more than 13.6 million votes, compared with nearly 10.6 million for Sanders.

Clinton's big victories across the South and in the biggest states — such as New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Texas — provided her with that wide edge in raw vote and pledged delegates.

The Vermont senator tended to fare better in smaller states and those with caucuses, which limited his overall gains due to their smaller pool of delegates and voters.

FBI director to visit Minnesota, meet community leaders

BROOKLYN CENTER, Minn. (AP) — The director of the FBI plans to meet with business and community leaders during a visit to Minnesota.

Director James Comey also plans to tour the FBI's Minneapolis division on Tuesday. It's part of a two-day visit to the region.

On Monday, Comey visited Williston, North Dakota, where he presided over the opening of a new FBI office.

The visit comes just days after guilty verdicts in the case against three Minnesota men who were accused of plotting to join the Islamic State group.

Twenty-one-year-old Guled Ali Omar, 22-year-old Abdirahman Yasin Daud, and 22-year-old Mohamed Abdihamid Farah were convicted of conspiracy to commit murder outside the U.S. and conspiracy to provide support to a terrorist group.

The FBI's Minneapolis field office covers Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota.

Want to try camping? Bring a tent to the state Capitol lawn

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The chance is approaching for families to bring tents to the South Dakota state

Capitol lawn for a campout.

The free event is set to start Friday. It's meant to encourage families to learn outdoor skills and camping on the lawn of the Capitol in Pierre.

Gov. Dennis Daugaard has said state residents are lucky to live in a state with a significant number of outdoor opportunities available. Activities at the Capitol event include nature programs, kayaking, fishing and rock climbing.

There are some tents and sleeping bags available to borrow if families don't have equipment. Several meals are also going to be provided.

More in GOP scold Trump: Stop talking about judge

LAURIE KELLMAN, Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans roundly scolded their own presidential candidate Monday, demanding Donald Trump apologize for — and just stop — talking about the ethnic background and impartiality of the American judge overseeing a lawsuit against Trump University.

Leading the roll call were two former rivals for the Republican presidential nomination.

Ohio Gov. John Kasich tweeted that Trump's offensive against the impartiality of U.S. District Judge Gonzalo Curiel "is flat-out wrong."

Trump, Kasich wrote, should "apologize to Judge Curiel & try to unite this country."

Chimed in Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, "It's wrong and I hope he stops."

Other prominent Republicans piled on, drawing a solid line between themselves and the billionaire candidate with whom they've developed a fragile peace. But that detente comes with caveats — chief of which is the understanding that Trump, nomination nearly in hand, will now focus on uniting the fractured GOP.

Trump, too, showed some deference for the truce, declining to immediately hit back at the Republican lawmakers who have demanded he change focus.

Rep. Chris Collins, R-N.Y., stuck up for Trump somewhat on CNN, insisting "Donald Trump is not a racist" but acknowledging "It's time to just let go of this ... and move on."

No mea culpa seemed forthcoming from the billionaire candidate. Trump insisted earlier Monday that his criticism of Curiel came in defense against relentless questions from reporters and others about lawsuits against Trump University. Trump said Curiel can't be impartial in the suits because the jurist's parents were born in Mexico and Trump wants to build a wall along the border. Last week, he denied on CNN that his remarks are racist.

"Public Service Announcement: Saying someone can't do a specific job because of his or her race is the literal definition of 'racism,'" tweeted Sen. Ben Sasse, R-Neb., a longtime Trump critic.

Curiel is a former federal prosecutor who was born in Indiana to parents who came from Mexico in the 1940s. He has not responded to Trump's attack, and Trump's legal team has not sought his removal from the case. Judges generally are thought to have conflicts of interest only in more specific situations, such as a financial interest in the outcome of the case.

Trump University is the target of two lawsuits — in San Diego and New York — which accuse the business of fleecing students with unfulfilled promises to teach them secrets of success in real estate. Trump has maintained that customers were overwhelmingly satisfied. Curiel is presiding over the suits in California.

"All I'm trying to do is figure out why I'm being treated so unfairly by a judge," Trump said Monday on Fox News Channel.

The Republican establishment responded in rare unison: Just stop.

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"He needs to stop saying it. That man is an American — born in the United States," Rubio, son of Cuban immigrants, told Orlando television station WFTV. "I don't think it reflects well on the Republican Party. I don't think it reflects well on us as a nation."

Added Republican Sen. Susan Collins of Maine: "Donald Trump's comments on the ethnic heritage and religion of judges are absolutely unacceptable. His statement that Judge Curiel could not rule fairly because of his Mexican heritage does not represent our American values."

South Dakota Sen. John Thune, a member of the Senate GOP leadership, said: "Yeah, he's going to have to adapt. This is not working for him. They were inappropriate comments."

Ohio Sen. Rob Portman, who is in a competitive re-election race, emphasized that he's running "a very independent campaign" from Trump's.

"To suggest somebody is not capable of doing a job because of their ancestry is wrong and unacceptable," said Portman.

Said Texas Sen. John Cornyn, the Senate's No. 2 Republican, "I'm not going to be sucked into talking about Trump 24/7."

The cascade of condemnation began on the Sunday talk shows, when a trio of prominent Republicans firmly rejected Trump's focus on Curiel and urged him to make good on his promise to unite the fractured Republican Party. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said he "couldn't disagree more" with Trump's statements about Curiel's impartiality, adding that "we're all behind him now" — an implicit warning that such unity might not be the case for long. Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Bob Corker said he doesn't condone Trump's statements about Curiel, then complained that his interview was supposed to be about foreign policy.

And former House speaker Newt Gingrich pointedly suggested that Trump start acting like "a potential leader of the United States."

Trump already has rejected calls for him to adjust his approach.

"I'm not changing," he said Tuesday at a fiery news conference at Trump Tower.

On Sunday, Trump doubled down on the idea. Asked on CBS whether a Muslim judge would be unfair given Trump's plan to ban Muslims from entering the U.S., Trump responded: "Yeah. That would be possible, absolutely."

That puts Trump in significant conflict with the Republicans he hopes to lead — including many of the ones who have opted to support him.

Wildland Fire deputy division director retiring

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — The deputy division director for the South Dakota Department of Agriculture's Wildland Fire Division is retiring on Wednesday.

Steve Hasenohrl is leaving the fire service after a 42-year career.

South Dakota Wildland Fire division director Jay Esperance says Hasenohrl has been a great leader and committed the last 10 years of his career to developing a strong and efficient wildland fire agency for the state and region.

A potluck picnic retirement party honoring Hasenohrl will be held Friday from noon to 3 p.m. at the Old Storybook Island Park Shelter in Rapid City.

2 suspects in homicide of 49-year-old man arrested

HURON, S.D. (AP) — Two men who authorities suspect are involved in the death of a 49-year-old man in Beadle County have been arrested.

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Beadle County State's Attorney Mike Moore says 50 year-old Kevin Krueger, of Beadle County, and 32 year-old Jose Antonio Vega, of Montevideo, Minnesota, are in custody on a first-degree murder charge.

Moore says 49-year-old Keith Houck was killed Tuesday at Krueger's home. That's where authorities found Houck's body Friday. Moore says Houck appears to have died of blunt force trauma to the head.

Krueger was arrested Friday. He requested release on a personal recognizance bond on Monday, telling Judge Jon Erickson he didn't actually strike Houck. Erickson set bond at \$500,000 cash.

Vega was taken into custody Saturday in Minnesota, where he is waiting to be extradited to South Dakota.

Iowa board votes to allow pipeline work to begin in state

DAVID PITT, Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — A Texas company may begin construction on an oil pipeline in areas for which the company has approval but are not under federal jurisdiction, the Iowa Utilities Board said Monday despite opposition from environmental and citizen action organizations and landowners who are suing to stop the project.

The three-member board voted 2-1 to approve an order allowing Dakota Access LLC, a subsidiary of Dallas-based Energy Transfer Partners, to begin laying pipe in areas that aren't among 60 parcels of land for which the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers must issue. Those parcels include river crossings and a recently discovered Native American burial site in northwest Iowa.

Board members Elizabeth Jacobs and Nick Wagner voted in favor of allowing the project to begin. Board chairwoman Geri Huser, who expressed concern last week that the board no longer has legal jurisdiction over the project since several lawsuits have been filed, said she would file a document later Monday explaining her opposition.

Iowa law says once a utilities board decision is appealed to district court, the board can take no further action. To that end, environmental group Sierra Club Iowa Chapter filed a document with the board Monday agreeing with that assessment that alleges the board's action is illegal. The group's attorney, Wallace Taylor, said he may file a legal challenge.

Construction on the 1,150-mile, \$3.8-billion pipeline has already begun in Illinois, North Dakota and South Dakota. It will carry oil from northwest North Dakota to a tank storage facility in south-central Illinois.

At least three lawsuits have been filed challenging the board's authority to allow Dakota Access to use eminent domain for the project, including one by the Sierra Club and two separate landowner groups. About 160 landowners have refused to allow the pipeline to cross their land, and Dakota Access has begun condemnation proceedings which prompted several individual landowner lawsuits.

Another complication surfaced Monday involving the Native American burial site. State Archaeologist John Doershuk said in letter filed with the board that the land, which is owned by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, must remain undisturbed, because the site is covered by an Iowa law that maintains burial sites for ancient human remains.

Dakota Sioux tribal representatives met with state and federal authorities Friday to assess the cultural importance of the site, which Doershuk wrote is the traditional homeland for the tribe and of "significant cultural and historical importance to the Upper Sioux Community, Standing Rock Sioux tribe, and other Sioux."

Standing Rock Sioux Tribal leaders told officials late last month of the culturally significant burial site, which may mean rerouting the pipeline. But the board did not discuss Doershuk's letter or the burial site before voting Monday.

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"How many other archaeological sites, sensitive natural areas, or rare species will be impacted by the pipeline? We don't know because proper surveys have not been undertaken," Taylor said.

Dakota Access spokeswoman Vicki Granado has said the company would make any adjustments needed to continue the project. She said construction will begin immediately on land for which the company has permission as soon as the order is signed Tuesday; it is not effective until signed.

Pipeline opponents, including Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement and Bold Iowa, rallied in protest Monday afternoon at the Iowa Capitol.

"We're here to demonstrate that this is not a done deal," said Peter Clay, a Des Moines volunteer for the Bakken Pipeline Resistance Coalition. "We absolutely will stop construction of this pipeline wherever we can. We'll make sure no oil ever flows through this pipeline."

Centerville man convicted on rape, incest charges

PARKER, S.D. (AP) — A Turner County jury has convicted a Centerville man of third degree rape and other charges.

Attorney General Marty Jackley says that 35-year-old Benjamin Thomas is being held at the Turner County Jail. Thomas was also convicted on one count each of aggravated incest, sexual contact with a child under 16 and sexual exploitation of a minor.

The rape and incest charges are each punishable by up to 15 years in the state penitentiary. A sentencing date has not yet been set.

The convictions stem from incidents that occurred at Thomas' home in November 2012.

This case was investigated by the Turner County Sheriff's Office and the state Division of Criminal Investigation.

Clinton or Sanders? South Dakotans to cast primary ballots

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota voters are getting their turn to be heard in the presidential race, just as the Democratic primary is nearing the finish line.

With a half-dozen states voting Tuesday, Hillary Clinton is hoping to clinch the nomination over Bernie Sanders.

Meanwhile, Republican voters will have to look down the ballot since Donald Trump became the presumptive nominee weeks ago. They'll find a raft of legislative primaries to choose from.

Here's a look at the election:

PRIME TIME

The Clinton-Sanders race is clearly the top draw. Clinton is favored to be the party's candidate, but there's little indication of how South Dakota will go.

Clinton won the state's primary in 2008 over Barack Obama, and she has key endorsements this time around from South Dakota Democratic heavyweights including former U.S. Sens. Tom Daschle and Tim Johnson.

But independents and unaffiliated voters can vote in South Dakota's Democratic primary. That's a possible boost for Sanders, said Jon Schaff, a political science professor at Northern State University.

South Dakota delegates up for grabs are proportionally allocated. A candidate has to get 15 percent of the primary vote to collect delegates.

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GROUND GAME

Clinton didn't campaign personally in South Dakota, instead sending former President Bill Clinton and others on her behalf. Sanders did, holding rallies in Sioux Falls, Rapid City and Pine Ridge.

Clinton's state organization included field offices in Rapid City and Sioux Falls, five paid staff members and dozens of volunteers in South Dakota, State Director Adam Weiland said in an email. Final get-out-the-vote efforts include phone banks, surrogate media interviews and events across the state, Weiland said.

Sanders has an office in Sioux Falls and a Rapid City staging location where people gather before they canvass, said spokeswoman Diane May, who declined to provide staff or volunteer numbers for South Dakota.

TURNOUT

Although Trump, John Kasich and Ted Cruz will appear on the Republican primary ballot, the end of the competitive GOP campaign suggests turnout will be low on the GOP side.

Democrats should have higher interest thanks to the Clinton-Sanders race.

South Dakota has roughly 244,000 Republicans, compared to 168,000 Democrats and about 110,000 independents and unaffiliated people among its 524,500 registered voters, according to the secretary of state's office.

Secretary of State Shantel Krebs is projecting turnout of 20 to 25 percent, and she is encouraging people to participate in important local elections.

LEGISLATURE

Legislative candidates could face the most competitive primaries in South Dakota.

There are 22 Republican and four Democratic legislative primary races. Among the GOP races, Gov. Dennis Daugaard gave \$1,000 each to at least nine Republican state Senate candidates who could influence the chamber's partisan tilt.

The highest-profile races include two term-limited west river Republican House members who are trying to move up by challenging their GOP counterparts in the Senate. The lack of polling makes outcomes difficult to gauge.

TRY AN APP

Voters can use the Secretary of State's Vote605 app to view a sample ballot and find their polling location from their phone. The app also gives citizens the ability to figure out where they are registered to vote. Polls are open Tuesday from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m.

Online: <https://sdsos.gov/elections-voting/voting/VOTE605.aspx>

2 North Dakota reservations given Promise Zone status

BELCOURT, N.D. (AP) — An area of North Dakota that encompasses the Turtle Mountain and Spirit Lake Indian reservations has been designated one of the nation's nine newest Promise Zones, easing access to federal aid and cut red tape for areas beset by joblessness, hunger, crime and poor housing.

The effort led by the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians also designates tribal-trust and tribal-owned land and North Dakota's Rolette County.

South Dakota's Pine Ridge Indian Reservation received the designation last year.

The determination is made by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It comes with no guaranteed new federal money but gives communities an advantage in applying for grants, as well as special access to federal employees who act as liaisons through federal bureaucracy.

27-year-old man killed in crash near Renner

RENNER, S.D. (AP) — A 27-year-old man is dead following a one-vehicle crash near Renner.

The South Dakota Highway Patrol says Ian Yenter, of Dickinson, North Dakota, was about one mile west of Renner on 258th Avenue when he lost control of his sport utility vehicle around 9:30 p.m. Saturday. The SUV hit a guard rail and cable, went across the roadway, entered the ditch and rolled several times.

Authorities say Yenter was not wearing a seatbelt and was ejected from the vehicle. He transported to a Sioux Falls hospital where he died of his injuries.

The Highway Patrol says the crash remains under investigation.

History in hand, Clinton faces voters as presumptive nominee

JULIE PACE, Associated Press

KEN THOMAS, Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — History already in hand, Hillary Clinton will celebrate becoming the first woman to lead a major American political party Tuesday following votes in California, New Jersey and four other states — contests Clinton hopes send her into the general election in strong standing.

Clinton reached the 2,383 delegates needed to become the presumptive Democratic presidential nominee on the eve of Tuesday's voting, according to an Associated Press tally. Her total is comprised of pledged delegates won in primaries and caucuses, as well as superdelegates — the party officials and officeholders who can back a candidate of their choosing.

Clinton greeted news of her achievement with a measured response, wary of depressing turnout and eager to save the revelry for a big victory party Tuesday night in Brooklyn. During a campaign stop in California, Clinton told a cheering crowd she was on the brink of a "historic, unprecedented moment," but said there was still work to do in her unexpectedly heated primary battle with Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders.

"We're going to fight hard for every single vote," Clinton declared.

Heading into Tuesday's voting, Clinton has 1,812 pledged delegates and the support of 571 of the 714 superdelegates, according to the AP count.

The AP surveyed the superdelegates repeatedly in the past seven months. While they can change their minds, those counted in Clinton's tally have unequivocally told the AP they will support her at the party's summer convention.

During a rally Monday evening in San Francisco, Sanders said a victory in California would give him "enormous momentum" in his bid to push the Democratic primary to a convention fight. Sanders is urging superdelegates to drop their support for Clinton before the gathering in Philadelphia, arguing he is a stronger candidate to take on presumptive Republican nominee Donald Trump.

But Sanders has so far been unable to sway the superdelegates, and there were signs Monday that he was taking stock of his standing in the race. Speaking to reporters, Sanders said he planned to return to Vermont on Wednesday and "assess where we are" following the California results.

The senator's comments came on the heels of a weekend phone call with President Barack Obama,

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who has stayed out of the Democratic primary to date but is poised to endorse Clinton as early as this week.

"The president intends certainly through the fall, if not earlier, to engage in this campaign," White House spokesman Josh Earnest said. "That's an opportunity the president relishes."

Obama and Clinton battled ferociously for the Democratic nomination in 2008. Tuesday marks eight years to the day Clinton conceded to Obama in an emotional speech where she noted she was unable to "shatter that highest, hardest glass ceiling."

The former secretary of state reflected on breaking that barrier as she made her final swing through California on Monday, and she's expected to do so again on Tuesday night in New York.

"It's really emotional," Clinton said. "I'm someone who has been very touched and really encouraged by this extraordinary conviction that people have."

Glenda McCarthy, a 64-year-old from San Pedro, California, is among the loyal Clinton supporters who have longed for this milestone moment.

"I've been waiting for this for so long," McCarthy said. "Not just a woman, but a woman who is so strong."

Clinton's victory is broadly decisive. She leads Sanders by more than 3 million cast votes, by 291 pledged delegates and by 523 superdelegates. She won 29 caucuses and primaries in states and U.S. territories to his 21 victories.

Clinton has been eager to move past the protracted primary and fully turn her attention to her general election battle with Trump. She energized Democrats with a blistering speech last week challenging Trump's qualifications for the presidency, reassuring supporters that she's prepared for a bruising campaign against the unpredictable businessman.

Trump vanquished his remaining Republican rivals about a month ago, a stunning achievement for the untested political candidate. Despite his controversial statements about minorities and his vague policy proposals, many Republicans quickly consolidated around his nomination.

But Trump has continued to irritate GOP officials, including with his recent criticism of a U.S. district court judge. Trump has said Judge Gonzalo Curiel can't be impartial in a legal case involving the businessman because his parents were born in Mexico and Trump wants to build a wall along the border.

Several leading Republicans, as well as legal scholars, have flatly rejected the logic of that argument.

Trump also continues to struggle to build out a robust general election campaign staff in battleground states or a national fundraising network, though the real estate mogul insists he can win without the trappings of a traditional campaign.

Trump was also spending Tuesday in New York, with a primetime event scheduled at his golf resort in Westchester.

New Jersey and California are the biggest prizes up for grabs Tuesday, with Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota and South Dakota also holding contests. The final Democratic primary will be held next week in the District of Columbia.

Car bomb attack targeting police kills 11 people in Istanbul

MEHMET GUZEL, Associated Press

ISTANBUL (AP) — A rush-hour car bomb attack targeting a bus carrying riot police killed 11 people and wounded 36 others Tuesday, Istanbul's governor said.

Speaking at the scene of the blast in the district of Beyazit, Istanbul Governor Vasip Sahin said the dead included seven police officers and four civilians. At least three of the wounded were in serious condition.

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The explosion was caused by a bomb placed inside a car and was detonated as the police vehicle was passing by, Sahin said.

The police bus was overturned from the force of the blast which also damaged nearby buildings, including a closed hotel whose entrance appeared gutted and windows were blown out. The blast also shattered windows at a famous 16th-century Ottoman mosque, Sehzadebasi, wrecked several cars and forced cancellation of exams at nearby building of Istanbul University.

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan visited some of the wounded at Istanbul's Haseki hospital, where two people were undergoing surgery.

"These (attacks) are being carried out against people whose duty it is to ensure the security of our people. These cannot be pardoned or forgiven. We shall continue our fight against terrorists tirelessly until the end," he told reporters outside the hospital.

Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu condemned the attack, which occurred on the second day of the holy Muslim month of Ramadan.

"They are cold-heartedly exploding bombs on a Ramadan day," Cavusoglu said in a television interview.

There was no immediate responsibility claim and Sahin would not comment on who may be behind the attack. Authorities imposed a news blackout preventing media from reporting details of the investigation.

U.S. Ambassador to Turkey John Bass issued a statement condemning the "heinous attack" and saying his country continues to "stand shoulder-to-shoulder with Turkey in the fight against terrorism."

Tuesday's attack was the fourth major bombing in Istanbul this year. Two of them targeting tourists and two hitting security forces. The spike in violence has led to a sharp dip in tourism, a mainstay of the economy.

Rebels of the Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK, have targeted police and military personnel since July, when a fragile peace process between the rebels and the government collapsed.

The Islamic State group has also been blamed for a series of deadly bombings in Turkey, which is part of the U.S.-led coalition against IS.

An estimated 500 Turkish security personnel have been killed in attacks or in conflict with the Kurdish rebels, according to the military, which claims to have killed 4,900 PKK militants in Turkey and northern Iraq. Turkish warplanes regularly raid PKK bases in northern Iraq.

Limited access to conflict areas in the southeast has made it difficult to verify casualty figures.

The PKK, considered a terrorist organization by Turkey and its allies, is fighting for autonomy for Turkey's Kurds in the southeast of the country. The decades-long conflict has claimed 40,000 lives.

Last month, eight people were wounded in Istanbul when a car bomb targeted a military vehicle.

Is the Obama-Modi friendship real? In India, many doubt it

TIM SULLIVAN, Associated Press

NEW DELHI (AP) — It's a friendship between two powerful men that transcends politics, transcends diplomacy.

It certainly looked like genuine affection when Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi pulled President Barack Obama into a bear hug as he stepped off Air Force One last year. An intimacy seemed to envelope the two as they sat in the garden of an old royal palace, smiling and chatting.

There are the gushing comments: Modi "transcends the ancient and the modern," Obama wrote in Time magazine. "Barack and I have formed a bond, a friendship," Modi said.

It's a friendship that will almost certainly be on display when Modi arrives Tuesday at the White House

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for his seventh meeting with the U.S. president.

Except, well, maybe they aren't actually friends.

"It's politics. It's pure politics," said Mihir Sharma, a writer and editor with the Business Standard newspaper and a longtime follower of Modi's career.

It's a refrain heard repeatedly among India's political analysts, who see calculation instead of genuine affection, with an Indian leader carefully shaping the country's political narrative by putting himself at the center of any diplomatic achievement.

Foreign leaders have willingly played along, appearing with the prime minister in choreographed private moments, whether it's Modi taking a selfie in Shanghai with Chinese Premier Le Keqiang or pouring tea for Obama in New Delhi.

"The Americans have realized that one of the ways that you can get something out of Mr. Modi is to emphasize his personal charm," said Sharma. "It's in the interests of pretty much every country he visits to stress the warmth of the personal relationship between their leader and the Indian prime minister."

There is always theater in politics, of course, and all politicians understand the need to sometimes say one thing while believing something else. But Modi has carefully woven his personality into India's international standing, creating what former Indian national security adviser M.K. Narayanan has called a "personalized diplomacy."

In many ways it's about respect.

India has long felt slighted by the global powers, seeing itself as a powerful, highly educated country that is all-too-often dismissed for its poverty, dirty streets and the lingering power of its caste system.

Friendships with world leaders, particularly one as powerful as Obama, prove to India — and its voters — that Modi can change that.

"He comes back from his visits (abroad) to say: 'I've been able to secure so much respect for India,'" said Nilanjan Mukhopadhyay, a Modi biographer. When Modi publicly refers to Obama by his first name "he's claiming the position that he's equal to the president of the United States."

"It's kind of a reverse colonialism that India suffers from," said Mukhopadhyay. "We don't feel we're important until we've gotten some kind of endorsement, especially from Western countries."

The respect is particularly sweet in Washington, where Modi wasn't even welcome until becoming prime minister in a landslide election victory in 2014.

Modi, who rose to prominence as a leader of the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party, was denied a visa to visit the U.S. in 2005, three years after religious riots killed more than 1,000 Muslims in the western state of Gujarat, where he was then the top official.

American officials largely avoided contact with him until the 2014 elections over suspicions that he was involved in the rioting or did not do enough to stop them.

Modi arrived in Washington on Monday during a five-nation tour that also takes him to Switzerland, Afghanistan, Mexico and Qatar. He meets with Obama on Tuesday, and addresses a joint meeting of Congress on Wednesday. He'll also meet Congressional leaders and top business officials.

Obama has much to gain from good relations with Modi, from increased U.S.-India trade to closer ties to another country worried about the rise of China.

In many ways, the Washington-New Delhi relationship has not lived up to its potential since a landmark 2008 nuclear energy agreement, signed during the administration of President George W. Bush. That agreement had seemed to signal the end of three decades of Cold War suspicions, when the U.S. was more focused on ties with India's archrival, Pakistan, and many in Washington believed India was far too friendly with the Soviet Union.

But things haven't always gone as planned: There was the 2013 arrest in New York of an Indian diplomat, which infuriated India, and displeasure in Washington over a 2010 Indian liability law on accidents

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at nuclear power plants. U.S. lawmakers say it's still too hard for Americans to invest in India, even with some easing of restrictions under Modi.

Still, U.S.-India trade has grown dramatically since the 2008 accord, expanding from \$60 billion in 2009 to \$107 billion in 2015. The U.S. has also become a major supplier of military hardware to India. A defense logistics agreement is likely to be finalized during Modi's Washington visit. A solution is also expected to be reached on the nuclear liability law.

But the question remains: Are they really friends?

There's no way to know. Both men regularly talk about their friendship, and officials from both countries highlight the relationship.

Obama's quotes, though, seem carefully gauged to avoid anything too personal: "We have developed a friendship and close working relationship," he told Press Trust of India in an interview earlier this year.

Modi, though, can be downright effusive, referring to their "personal chemistry" and hinting at a real intimacy.

Asked last year what he and Obama had discussed during a private meeting, Modi responded coyly, quoting from a famous Bollywood musical: "Let that remain behind the veil."

10 Things to Know for Today

The Associated Press

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

1. CLINTON SEEKING MOMENTUM INTO GENERAL ELECTION

Hillary Clinton will celebrate becoming the first woman to lead a major American political party following voting in California, New Jersey and four other states.

2. A FLEEING SYRIAN FAMILY SUFFERS SUMMER OF HOPE, THEN LOSS

It is the time of calmer waters, and tens of thousands embark on the desperate journey across the Mediterranean to Europe, but flimsy boats and overcrowding are a deadly combination.

3. WOMAN BREAKS SILENCE 5 YEARS AFTER NUCLEAR DISASTER

More than 170 children and teens have been diagnosed with thyroid cancer in Fukushima and one stricken woman breaks from Japan's conformist tradition to speak to AP about her plight.

4. WHAT HOUSE SPEAKER IS LAYING OUT

Paul Ryan is proposing an overhaul of the nation's poverty programs, the first of several policy plans aimed at uniting fractured Republicans.

5. CINCINNATI ZOO REOPENING EXHIBIT

Gorilla World now features a higher, reinforced barrier to prevent people from entering like a young boy did last month and was dragged by a 400-pound ape.

6. FEDS OFFER MIXED SNAPSHOT FOR NATION'S SCHOOLCHILDREN

School suspensions for K-12 students are down sharply, nearly 20 percent from the last reporting period. But big numbers of students were chronically absent.

7. SOUTHEAST GETS MORE RAIN AS COLIN HEADS EAST

The tropical storm is expected to continue dropping heavy rains over the Southeast after moving across northern Florida, knocking out power and flooding roads.

8. MALAWI SEES SURGE IN ATTACKS ON ALBINOS

They are targeted for their body parts, which are sold to be used in potions made by witch doctors who claim they bring wealth and good luck.

9. MMA PIONEER KIMBO SLICE DEAD

The bearded street fighter who parlayed his internet popularity into a mixed martial arts career and

worldwide fame was 42.

10. WHO'S NEXT AFTER CURRY DROPS OUT OF RIO GAMES

With the NBA MVP out of the running for the Olympics, attention now shifts to the other superstar in the NBA Finals, LeBron James.

Southeast gets more rain as Tropical Storm Colin heads east

TAMARA LUSH, Associated Press

JASON DEAREN, Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Tropical Storm Colin was expected to continue dropping heavy rains over the Southeast on Tuesday after moving across northern Florida, knocking out power and flooding roads.

Florida Gov. Rick Scott declared a state of emergency as the storm churned its way across the state into southeast Georgia, and The National Hurricane Center said Colin marked the earliest that a third named storm has ever formed in the Atlantic basin.

By 5 a.m. EDT Tuesday, the storm was moving into the Atlantic, away from the Georgia coast.

Scott said in an interview that there were no reports of major damage, but the state will be tracking flooding from the sudden deluge of rain, much of which fell during high tides Monday. He said Florida has seen severe flooding in unlikely places after previous storms.

"We'll just see how well it runs off," Scott said. "I always remember back to (Tropical Storm) Isaac in 2012, it went west but we had unbelievable flooding in Palm Beach County."

Colin's maximum sustained winds Tuesday morning were near 50 mph (85 kph) with some strengthening forecast after the storm moved into the Atlantic. But National Hurricane Center said Colin was expected to lose its tropical cyclone status by Tuesday night.

The storm disrupted schools and summer programs. Many were dismissed early Monday, and two high school graduations in the Tampa Bay area were postponed due to the storms, with both ceremonies being moved to Wednesday night and Thursday. Winds from Colin also closed the Sunshine Skyway Bridge in Tampa.

At Cedar Keys National Wildlife Refuge roads were flooded and businesses sent people home early.

The high winds and rain also knocked out power to about 10,000 Floridians heading into Monday evening from the Tampa Bay area to Jacksonville.

Colin produced rainfall amounts of 3 to 6 inches, and forecasters said up to 8 inches were possible across north Florida, southeastern Georgia and coastal areas of the Carolinas through Tuesday. Tornadoes were also a possibility across parts of the coastal Carolinas on Tuesday, the National Hurricane Center said.

Not everyone in Florida was hunkering down. About 50 people were in the water with surfboards off Treasure Island to take advantage of the rare 2-3-foot swells breaking in the Gulf's warm waters.

"It's like man against nature," said Derek Wiltison of Atlantic Beach. "Surfers tend to drop what they're doing — work, relationships, whatever — to go out and catch a wave."

Viewer's Guide: Hillary Clinton's ready for her big moment

NANCY BENAC, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — It's finally here: the last big primary night of the 2016 presidential race. (Sorry, D.C., we know you're still to come.)

Now the presumptive nominee, Hillary Clinton is offering a big hint for how her dogged rival, Bernie Sanders, might want to grapple with that reality and Tuesday's six-state round of results.

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She's helpfully pointing out that on this date eight years ago, she dropped out of the Democratic presidential race and endorsed then-Sen. Barack Obama. Don't expect Sanders to take her up on that invitation right away. It may take him some time to process the situation.

A guide to what to watch on Tuesday night:

THE TIMELINE

Grab some coffee and prepare for a long night, as Democrats dole out 694 delegates and Republicans 303. Polls close at 8 p.m. EDT in New Jersey; 9 p.m. in New Mexico, North Dakota and South Dakota; 10 p.m. in Montana; and 11 p.m. for the big prize of California.

Without the benefit of exit polls, it will take longer to call races than otherwise would be the case. In 2012, here's how the vote count looked an hour after each state's polls closed: New Jersey, about 10 percent; New Mexico, 26 percent; South Dakota, 65 percent; Montana, 20 percent; California, 40 percent. North Dakota is holding only a Democratic caucus. The AP vote count there will be the presidential preferences of the 394 people elected to attend the state delegate selection meeting.

CALIFORNIA CLUES

Looking for early tea leaves to read in California? Watch turnout: Sanders says heavy traffic would bode well for him, especially among young voters. And watch how the two candidates fare in areas that are predominantly Hispanic and African American, two groups that have given Clinton a lot of love in past primaries. A sign of potential trouble for #feelthebern: There's been no sign of a surge in young voters in early vote-by-mail returns, despite a jump in registration of young people.

CLINTON'S MOMENT

Clinton reached the magic number of 2,383 delegates on the strength of superdelegate endorsements that piled up on the eve of Tuesday's vote, but she opted to hold off on any big pronouncements before the voting ends. She'll appear Tuesday night at a Brooklyn Navy Yard rally that is sure to be a giant celebration, regardless of the primary results.

How much will she play up the historic nature of at last becoming the first woman to become the presumptive presidential nominee of a major party?

"I do think it will make a very big difference for a father or a mother to be able to look at their daughter, just like they can look at their son, and say, 'You can be anything you want to be in this country, including president of the United States,'" she said Monday.

And how much does she look past her long-sought achievement to get busy taking the fight to Donald Trump?

WHITHER SANDERS

The Vermont senator faces a big decision as Clinton cements her place as the presumptive nominee: Does he vow to fight on to the Democratic convention in July, or begin to pull back, particularly if he loses California? Over the weekend, a defiant Sanders insisted he would take his campaign all the way to the Philadelphia convention, and rejected the idea that Clinton could presume to have the nomination sewed up through a combination of pledged delegates and superdelegates.

By Monday, his tone had softened somewhat, but he was still insisting he's the stronger candidate to defeat Trump. His voice hoarse from the strains of campaigning, his path to the nomination foreclosed, it will be a tough primary-night rally for Sanders in Santa Monica.

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ABOUT THOSE SUPERDELEGATES

Heading into Tuesday's vote, Clinton had 1,812 pledged delegates won in primaries and caucuses and Sanders had 1,521. And when superdelegates are included, she led 2,383 to 1,569, according to an AP survey. Check out Clinton's pledged delegate lead at the end of the night. She won't be able to reach 2,383 without superdelegates, but the magnitude of her pledged delegates lead could help determine how forcefully Sanders makes the case that superdelegates should change their minds and swing his way.

TRUMP'S TONE

Don't forget: The Republicans also are voting on Tuesday, although their nominee already is settled. Donald Trump will speak Tuesday night at his Westchester County golf club in New York. If he takes questions from the press, watch to see if it's a repeat performance of his last press conference, which was marked by hostile exchanges with reporters.

Another key question: Will Trump play nice with fellow Republicans and work on unifying a party that still is having heartburn over what to do with its unconventional nominee.

WHO'S WITH REAGAN

It won't matter in the long run, but just for fun check out whether Ronald Reagan, who died in 2004, turns up on write-in ballots in California. The San Diego Union-Tribune last week urged Republicans to write in the former president's name to send a message to Trump.

DON'T TUNE OUT JUST YET

The District of Columbia will bring up the rear. It allocates 20 Democratic delegates on June 14.

Migrant rescue at sea unites 1 family, breaks up another

SARAH EL DEEB, Associated Press

SICULIANA, Sicily (AP) — The metal fishing boat was packed full with more than 700 migrants on their way from Libya to Italy. Samia Leila sat on one side, sandwiched between mostly young men. Rashid Jaqali, his wife and his daughter squeezed into the bow, and his two sons were split up on either flank, just visible over hundreds of heads.

When help finally came, relief soon turned into chaos. People scrambled wildly to get off, knocking the boat off its precarious balance. Leila, fighting the crowd, was one of the first out; Jaqali, his wife, his daughter and one son came next. Their older son, Mohammed, waved to his mother from across the boat, motioning: I will follow you.

The boat lurched violently from side to side. Then it capsized. Those rescued watched helplessly from afar as their loved ones left behind fell, one by one, like crawling ants, into the water.

For migrants, summer is the season of hope — and of death. It is the time of calmer waters, and tens of thousands embark on the desperate journey across the Mediterranean to Europe.

Many don't make it, for reasons that include flimsy boats and overcrowding. In the last week of May alone, more than 1,000 migrants are believed to have drowned on the route. Death estimates from the boat carrying Leila and the Jaqalis on May 25 are up to 250; this account is pieced together from

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interviews with survivors and aid groups.

Rashid Jaqali, a 45-year-old Kurd from northern Syria, had moved his family to Libya so that the Kurdish militia couldn't recruit his sons. He and his younger son, Yehia, went in 2013, and the rest of the family joined them a year later.

Their refuge in the northwestern city of Zawiya didn't last long. None of the children went to school. The girl, Suzanne, was taken out after a couple of months because they didn't have official documents. And the boys worked; Mohammed handled aluminum for interior decoration, his father marble.

As lawlessness spread in Libya, so did the rumors of kidnappings. The son of a family friend from Syria was mugged and thrown out of his car. Other friends told them about a man held hostage until his wife gave her jewelry to the criminals. The road to Tripoli was cut because of militia infighting.

Rashid's boss stopped paying him, but he was too afraid to quit. There was no going out of the house after dark. Life in Libya had become even worse than in Syria.

"We got out of one whirlpool into a larger one," Rashid said.

The family decided to move to Germany, where his wife's relatives lived. They waited seven months for the waves to calm down. Rashid paid off his debts, tied up loose ends and forked out about \$1,200 to a smuggler, a special discount for families.

Mohammed, 17, prepared his own backpack; he liked to dress well. He took a selfie with his new haircut, and promised his sister a camera when they got to Germany. He had no friends in Libya to say goodbye to.

His mother, Fatma, stuffed another backpack, keeping her jewelry well protected. When the time came, the smuggler sent a car to get them.

"The enemy is behind you, and the sea is in front of you. Where is the escape?" asked Rashid. "The sea is the escape."

Leila was another Syrian who fled to Libya, only to find herself trapped there.

She joined her husband, a chef, in Tripoli in 2013, but then the country's capital descended into open war. Leila's husband and his two children left for Germany. Her husband's daughter, Mirna, is almost 16, and it was no longer safe for her in Libya.

Leila was afraid of the sea, so she planned to eventually join them through a reunification program. But her husband's residency papers in Germany were delayed and her Syrian passport expired.

With no other options, Leila called the same Libyan smuggler her husband had used. She paid \$450, a hefty sum for a single traveler from Tripoli. She sold her car, quit her job in a medical supplies company and sat at home for a few weeks waiting. To prepare, she took anti-sea sickness pills.

On May 2, she shipped her clothes to her husband in Mannheim, in Germany. "For \$100, imagine!"

On May 24, the smuggler told Leila her journey would begin that evening. She fasted to ask for God's blessing. Just after sundown, the smuggler picked her up from his girlfriend's house.

It was her chance to escape once again.

"I was dying," said Leila, a determined 29-year-old with a lively giggle. "Not physically. I was dying bit by bit inside....We died a hundred deaths every day, like the saying goes."

Just after midnight, hundreds of migrants crammed into a warehouse with metal gates, where each smuggler had brought his clients for the scheduled journey. Leila was shocked by the number of single, mostly African men. The Jaqalis had also thought — wrongly — that the group would be small and mostly of Syrians.

Leila asked for a life jacket, thinking it could give her an hour more to live if they sank. The smuggler promised one but never delivered it.

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After making sure the coast was clear of any security, the smugglers took the migrants to the beach. There they shoved 60 or 70 people at a time into a small inflatable boat meant for 20, and headed toward a larger fishing boat moored a few kilometers offshore.

"I prayed to God before I got on board," Leila said. "I said, God, make it easy, or if I die, make it fast."

People were lifted up into the fishing boat. The Africans were housed in the bottom, near the engine, with no windows and access to above only through a well-guarded ladder. Young men and women went in the upper deck, some under an umbrella-like tarp, and in the middle deck, with metal bars surrounding it. The few families on board sat in front.

Despite protests from the passengers, the smugglers continued to fill the boat until it was overloaded. When one woman complained, a smuggler told her, "May you all die."

The Jaqalis couldn't sit together. Mohammed sat on one side near Leila, and 15-year-old Yehia on the other. Rashid could see the children and gestured occasionally, but no movement was allowed. On the uppermost level, designated organizers smacked anyone who stood, out of fear of tipping the boat.

It was calm in front. But where Leila squatted, the swings were so extreme that at times her back almost touched the water. She read the Quran in silence in the middle of a North African crowd — she had vowed to read a short verse 1,000 times. She ended up reading it nearly 2,000 times.

She could hardly breathe from the hash smoked by the young men around her, and their curses disturbed her. Every five minutes, she looked at her watch.

"You are in the middle of the sea, you don't know anything, you don't know if you will make it or not," she said. "You feel like time is not moving."

Six hours later, at 10 a.m., the engine finally stopped. The boat driver announced that help from the Italians would arrive in 40 minutes.

Leila saw a small inflatable boat appear in the horizon, ahead of a larger military rescue vessel.

"We were alive," she said. "Everyone was alive. We got through the hard part."

But the worst was still to come. The Italian rescuers threw life vests in the water, and the young men on board swarmed to the same spot to grab them and get off. The commotion started the boat rocking.

"We would say, calm down, kids. You will all get one," Rashid Jaqali said. "No one waited....Instead of rescue, there was death with those vests."

The rescue workers first saved the women, the children and the families. They spotted Leila among the young men, possibly because of her green headscarf, and carried her into the inflatable.

At that moment, with all the tension lifted, she couldn't speak. It was as if her memory had stopped.

"No language was registering," she said. "There was no English. No Arabic, no language whatsoever. Nothing. Not a word."

She finally pulled herself together and helped the rescue workers with translation, working side by side with the doctors in a sterilized white suit.

In the meantime, Rashid Jaqali was fighting to get his wife and daughter clear of the young men. Yehia slid along the metal bars in the middle of the boat to reach his parents, terrified. Rashid squeezed him between two women and pushed them up front for the rescuers.

Yehia pointed out Mohammed on the other side of the bow, squatting on the floor and holding the metal window next to him. When Rashid looked over, there were 20 people ahead of him.

Now migrants were climbing up from the engine level, making the boat rock even more. Rashid recited the Fatiha, the Quranic verse Muslims say when in trouble, as he stepped off the boat into the inflatable.

Fatma was one of the last women off the boat. As she left, she spotted Mohammed.

"He waved at me and said go, and they will come and get me. He said that with his hands," she said

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in tears. "He wanted to save me. But my heart was burning, not saved."

The boat was rocking wildly. When Rashid took one more look back, it had tilted over.

"What the hell? I didn't see anyone any more, it was that upside down," he said. "An Italian pushed me into the ship. I said to him, 'My son! My son!'"

Five days later, the Jaqalis were still waiting to hear word about Mohammed.

"I am going nuts," said Rashid, pulling on a cigarette, with black circles around his eyes and stubble on his face.

His wife held out pictures of her son.

"I dreamt of him," she said. "He was smiling at me. Only his leg was injured. I saw him three times. He was alive."

But Leila knew the young man seated near her on the boat must have died.

"We all know, and we are pretending," she said.

On the sixth day, the news finally reached the Jaqalis: Mohammed was dead. Suzanne put flowers in the window sill to mark the loss of her brother. Fatma said her son hit his head and died on the spot.

"Didn't I tell you I dreamt of him wounded? He was smiling at me from afar," she said, sitting on her bed with glazed eyes. Minutes later, she asked if it was possible to erase her Libyan number from her phone. "I don't want anything to do with Libya. I don't want to remember it."

A day later, Fatma was hospitalized. She passed out and had the shivers.

A week and a half later, the Jaqalis have yet to bury their son. Their plans are all but shattered. Fatma wants to stay close to her son's body where his burial is likely to be, while Rashid is unsure what is best for the other children. Fatma watches video of the capsizing, trying to locate her son and imagine how he might have fallen. She mutters that he didn't want to go to Germany, as if he knew he would not make it.

Leila is thankful that she was traveling alone, and not waiting for male relatives who might have ended up like Mohammed.

She is on her way to Germany to meet her husband. She leaves Siculiana fully made up, with new clothes and her marriage certificate in hand. She does not wear a veil, and her blonde hair flutters in the wind.

"I was saved through a miracle," she said. "I feel like I am born again, right now....It would be impossible to witness something harder than this."

Woman breaks silence among Fukushima thyroid cancer patients

YURI KAGEYAMA, Associated Press

KORIYAMA, Japan (AP) — She's 21, has thyroid cancer, and wants people in her prefecture in north-eastern Japan to get screened for it. That statement might not seem provocative, but her prefecture is Fukushima, and of the 173 young people with confirmed or suspected cases since the 2011 nuclear meltdowns there, she is the first to speak out.

That near-silence highlights the fear Fukushima thyroid-cancer patients have about being the "nail that sticks out," and thus gets hammered.

The thyroid-cancer rate in the northern Japanese prefecture is many times higher than what is generally found, particularly among children, but the Japanese government says more cases are popping up because of rigorous screening, not the radiation that spewed from Fukushima Dai-ichi power plant.

To be seen as challenging that view carries consequences in this rigidly harmony-oriented society.

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Even just having cancer that might be related to radiation carries a stigma in the only country to be hit with atomic bombs.

"There aren't many people like me who will openly speak out," said the young woman, who requested anonymity because of fears about harassment. "That's why I'm speaking out so others can feel the same. I can speak out because I'm the kind of person who believes things will be OK."

She has a quick disarming smile and silky black hair. She wears flip-flops. She speaks passionately about her new job as a nursery school teacher. But she also has deep fears: Will she be able to get married? Will her children be healthy?

She suffers from the only disease that the medical community, including the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, has acknowledged is clearly related to the radioactive iodine that spewed into the surrounding areas after the only nuclear disaster worse than Fukushima's, the 1986 explosion and fire at Chernobyl, Ukraine.

Though international reviews of Fukushima have predicted that cancer rates will not rise as a result of the meltdowns there, some researchers believe the prefecture's high thyroid-cancer rate is related to the accident.

The government has ordered medical testing of the 380,000 people who were 18 years or under and in Fukushima prefecture at the time of the March 2011 tsunami and quake that sank three reactors into meltdowns. About 38 percent have yet to be screened, and the number is a whopping 75 percent for those who are now between the ages of 18 and 21.

The young woman said she came forward because she wants to help other patients, especially children, who may be afraid and confused. She doesn't know whether her sickness was caused by the nuclear accident, but plans to get checked for other possible sicknesses, such as uterine cancer, just to be safe.

"I want everyone, all the children, to go to the hospital and get screened. They think it's too much trouble, and there are no risks, and they don't go," the woman said in a recent interview in Fukushima. "My cancer was detected early, and I learned that was important."

Thyroid cancer is among the most curable cancers, though some patients need medication for the rest of their lives, and all need regular checkups.

The young woman had one cancerous thyroid removed, and does not need medication except for painkillers. But she has become prone to hormonal imbalance and gets tired more easily. She used to be a star athlete, and snowboarding remains a hobby.

A barely discernible tiny scar is on her neck, like a pale kiss mark or scratch. She was hospitalized for nearly two weeks, but she was itching to get out. It really hurt then, but there is no pain now, she said with a smile.

"My ability to bounce right back is my trademark," she said. "I'm always able to keep going."

She was mainly worried about her parents, especially her mother, who cried when she found out her daughter had cancer. Her two older siblings also were screened but were fine.

Many Japanese have deep fears about genetic abnormalities caused by radiation. Many, especially older people, assume all cancers are fatal, and even the young woman did herself until her doctors explained her sickness to her.

The young woman said her former boyfriend's family had expressed reservations about their relationship because of her sickness. She has a new boyfriend now, a member of Japan's military, and he understands about her sickness, she said happily.

A support group for thyroid cancer patients was set up earlier this year. The group, which includes lawyers and medical doctors, has refused all media requests for interviews with the handful of families

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that have joined, saying that kind of attention may be dangerous.

When the group held a news conference in Tokyo in March, it connected by live video feed with two fathers with children with thyroid cancer, but their faces were not shown, to disguise their identities. They criticized the treatment their children received and said they're not certain the government is right in saying the cancer and the nuclear meltdowns are unrelated.

Hiroyuki Kawai, a lawyer who also advises the group, believes patients should file Japan's equivalent of a class-action lawsuit, demanding compensation, but he acknowledged more time will be needed for any legal action.

"The patients are divided. They need to unite, and they need to talk with each other," he told AP in a recent interview.

The committee of doctors and other experts carrying out the screening of youngsters in Fukushima for thyroid cancer periodically update the numbers of cases found, and they have been steadily climbing.

In a news conference this week, they stuck to the view the cases weren't related to radiation. Most disturbing was a cancer found in a child who was just 5 years old in 2011, the youngest case found so far. But the experts brushed it off, saying one wasn't a significant number.

"It is hard to think there is any relationship," with radiation, said Hokuto Hoshi, a medical doctor who heads the committee.

Shinsyuu Hida, a photographer from Fukushima and an adviser to the patients' group, said fears are great not only about speaking out but also about cancer and radiation.

He said that when a little girl who lives in Fukushima once asked him if she would ever be able to get married, because of the stigma attached to radiation, he was lost for an answer and wept afterward.

"They feel alone. They can't even tell their relatives," Hida said of the patients. "They feel they can't tell anyone. They felt they were not allowed to ask questions."

The woman who spoke to AP also expressed her views on video for a film in the works by independent American filmmaker Ian Thomas Ash.

She counts herself lucky. About 18,000 people were killed in the tsunami, and many more lost their homes to the natural disaster and the subsequent nuclear accident, but her family's home was unscathed.

When asked how she feels about nuclear power, she replied quietly that Japan doesn't need nuclear plants. Without them, she added, maybe she would not have gotten sick.

10 Things to Know for Today

The Associated Press

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

1. CLINTON SEEKING MOMENTUM INTO GENERAL ELECTION

Hillary Clinton will celebrate becoming the first woman to lead a major American political party following voting in California, New Jersey and four other states.

2. A FLEEING SYRIAN FAMILY SUFFERS SUMMER OF HOPE, THEN LOSS

It is the time of calmer waters, and tens of thousands embark on the desperate journey across the Mediterranean to Europe, but flimsy boats and overcrowding are a deadly combination.

3. WOMAN BREAKS SILENCE 5 YEARS AFTER NUCLEAR DISASTER

More than 170 children and teens have been diagnosed with thyroid cancer in Fukushima and one stricken woman breaks from Japan's conformist tradition to speak to AP about her plight.

4. WHAT HOUSE SPEAKER IS LAYING OUT

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Paul Ryan is proposing an overhaul of the nation's poverty programs, the first of several policy plans aimed at uniting fractured Republicans.

5. CINCINNATI ZOO REOPENING EXHIBIT

Gorilla World now features a higher, reinforced barrier to prevent people from entering like a young boy did last month and was dragged by a 400-pound ape.

6. FEDS OFFER MIXED SNAPSHOT FOR NATION'S SCHOOLCHILDREN

School suspensions for K-12 students are down sharply, nearly 20 percent from the last reporting period. But big numbers of students were chronically absent.

7. SOUTHEAST GETS MORE RAIN AS COLIN HEADS EAST

The tropical storm is expected to continue dropping heavy rains over the Southeast after moving across northern Florida, knocking out power and flooding roads.

8. MALAWI SEES SURGE IN ATTACKS ON ALBINOS

They are targeted for their body parts, which are sold to be used in potions made by witch doctors who claim they bring wealth and good luck.

9. MMA PIONEER KIMBO SLICE DEAD

The bearded street fighter who parlayed his internet popularity into a mixed martial arts career and worldwide fame was 42.

10. WHO'S NEXT AFTER CURRY DROPS OUT OF RIO GAMES

With the NBA MVP out of the running for the Olympics, attention now shifts to the other superstar in the NBA Finals, LeBron James.

Street fighter and MMA pioneer Kimbo Slice dead at 42

GREG BEACHAM, AP Sports Writer

Kimbo Slice, the bearded street fighter who parlayed his internet popularity into a mixed martial arts career and worldwide fame, has died. He was 42.

Slice, whose real name was Kevin Ferguson, was taken to a hospital in Margate, Florida, near his home Monday, Coral Springs Police Sgt. Carla Kmiotek said.

Slice's death was confirmed by Mike Imber, his longtime manager.

"We lost our brother today," Imber said in a text message to The Associated Press.

The cause of death was still unclear. Kmiotek said there is no active police investigation, and no foul play is suspected.

Born in the Bahamas and raised in the Miami area, Slice was a strip club bouncer and bodyguard who began competing in unsanctioned street fights in 2003. Videos of his violent knockout victories in those bouts became wildly popular online, both for Slice's raw punching power and his distinctive, intimidating appearance.

After gaining viral internet fame at a time when the phenomenon was still relatively new, Slice studied MMA and eventually competed for several promotions, including the UFC and Bellator, which staged his two most recent fights. While he went only 5-2 and never won a championship belt, the personable Slice became one of MMA's best-known figures, attracting large television audiences and crowds to his growing sport.

Slice's death also was confirmed by Scott Coker, the CEO of Bellator, which promoted his return to MMA last year after a five-year absence. Slice beat Dhafir "Dada 5000" Harris with a third-round knockout in February at Bellator 149 in Houston, but the result was overturned after Slice tested positive for steroid use.

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"We are all shocked and saddened by the devastating and untimely loss of Kimbo Slice," Coker said. "One of the most popular MMA fighters ever, Kimbo was a charismatic, larger-than-life personality that transcended the sport. Outside of the cage he was a friendly, gentle giant and a devoted family man. His loss leaves us all with extremely heavy hearts."

Slice was scheduled to headline the Bellator 158 show in London next month in a bout against James Thompson.

He was the star of the first MMA show broadcast on network television, beating Thompson by third-round knockout in May 2008 on CBS with the defunct EliteXC promotion. With Slice and pioneering featherweight Gina Carano as the top attractions, EliteXC's two CBS shows drew big television ratings and introduced millions of viewers to MMA.

Although Slice never reached the sport's competitive heights, his aura never waned among MMA fans: His bout with Harris four months ago drew the largest television ratings in Bellator's history.

The UFC issued a statement praising Slice, who appeared on a highly-rated season of their long-running reality competition show, "The Ultimate Fighter," in 2009. Slice also fought at UFC 113 in Montreal, losing to Matt Mitrione before taking his five-year break from MMA.

"He carried himself as a true professional during his time in our organization," the UFC's statement read. "While he will never be forgotten for his fighting style and transcendent image, Slice will also be remembered for his warm personality and commitment to his family and friends."

American Top Team, the prominent South Florida gym where Slice trained for many years, mourned his passing.

"The ATT Family and South Florida community lost a legend today," the team said in a post on its Twitter account.

Slice also had a pro boxing career between stints in the cage, going 7-0 with six knockouts from 2011-13.

For all of his glowering in-cage swagger and outsized fame, Slice was extraordinarily honest about his fighting abilities. He acknowledged being an MMA newcomer with much to learn, never claiming to be anything but a big puncher providing for his family while constantly working to learn the sport's other disciplines.

"The guys who are holding the titles, heavyweight and light heavyweight, these guys are awesome," Slice told the AP in a 2010 interview before his second UFC fight. "I'm really just having happy days in the midst — being among them, fighting on the undercards, just contributing to the UFC and the sport. That's really what I want to do. I'm not looking ahead to winning a title or anything like that. I'm just enjoying each fight as it comes."

Slice is survived by six children, and he credited his MMA career for allowing him to send them to college. One of his three sons, Kevin Ferguson Jr., made his MMA debut in March.

With Curry out, US Olympic basketball team waits on LeBron **BRIAN MAHONEY, AP Basketball Writer**

With Stephen Curry out of the running for the Olympics, attention shifts to the other superstar in the NBA Finals.

The basketball world again waits on a LeBron James decision, and this one could determine just how powerful the U.S. team is heading to Rio.

The roster is nearing completion, nearly three weeks before the deadline.

But it's also on hold until James makes up his mind.

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"That's an important decision," USA Basketball chairman Jerry Colangelo said Monday.

Colangelo added that he's realistically down to 14 or 15 players under consideration for the 12 spots, with somebody either getting bumped up or bumped off based on what James decides.

"So LeBron is a swing," Colangelo said in a phone interview. "If he doesn't play, then we have to tweak it."

Colangelo will give James time, and he's indicated the answer won't come until after the Finals. If Cleveland can make it a long series, the Americans won't have long to react if James passes on a fourth Olympics.

Game 7 would be June 19, and the Americans are planning to announce their team on June 27. So Colangelo said Monday that he's working on two rosters, one with James and one without.

The original list of 31 features plenty of enticing choices at forward: Kevin Durant, Kawhi Leonard, Carmelo Anthony, Paul George, Draymond Green and Kevin Love are among the options to help the U.S. cope if it didn't have James.

"I don't worry. I don't," Colangelo said, pointing to the Americans' depth. "I just feel very confident."

But no player can match the Olympic resume of James, the Americans' career leader in points and assists who could join Anthony as their only four-time Olympic basketball players.

Curry withdrew from consideration Monday for what would have been his first Olympics, citing "several factors — including recent ankle and knee injuries."

He didn't say what the other factors were. Several athletes have expressed concerns about the water situation in Rio de Janeiro and the Zika virus, though Colangelo said no players have pulled out because of those.

"All injuries," he said.

Curry is the highest-profile absence for the two-time defending gold medalists, who will already be without NBA All-Stars Chris Paul and Anthony Davis. Forwards Blake Griffin and LaMarcus Aldridge are also unavailable, leaving DeMarcus Cousins, Andre Drummond, Dwight Howard and DeAndre Jordan as big men options.

Paul, who won two golds with the U.S., had already opted not to play this time, and fellow point guards John Wall of Washington and Mike Conley of Memphis are coming off injuries. The Americans still have Oklahoma City's Russell Westbrook, Cleveland's Kyrie Irving and Portland's Damian Lillard as possibilities at the position.

Curry likely would have started either ahead of them or alongside one in the U.S. backcourt, as he did as the shooting guard next to Irving at the 2014 Basketball World Cup. He made 43.8 percent of his attempts then from the shorter international 3-point arc, and the Americans will miss his shooting against the zone defenses they face.

Curry has won a pair of world titles and had spoken of wanting the chance to win Olympic gold, but he missed six games in the postseason with a right knee injury.

"My previous experiences with USA Basketball have been incredibly rewarding, educational and enjoyable, which made this an extremely difficult decision for me and my family," Curry said.

"However, due to several factors — including recent ankle and knee injuries — I believe this is the best decision for me at this stage of my career."

Curry, the first player to be voted a unanimous MVP and the NBA's leading scorer, could have been the team's biggest star in Rio, with Kobe Bryant retired and James still uncommitted. Perhaps it could be Durant, who starred for the Americans in the 2012 Olympics and 2010 world basketball championship before dropping out in 2014 after George's broken right leg.

Colangelo said USA Basketball is continually checking in with players to gauge their interest, believing everyone who hasn't pulled out yet is interested if selected. And he can't worry about the ones already

gone.

"You know what, you've got to be a big boy about it," Colangelo said. "These are the cards that are dealt."

Amid GOP discord, Ryan focuses on policy

MARY CLARE JALONICK, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Speaker Paul Ryan is proposing an overhaul of the nation's poverty programs, the first of several policy plans aimed at uniting Republicans fractured by a contentious election and Donald Trump's personality-driven politics.

Ryan's proposal would make changes to welfare, food and housing aid programs, among others, to increase work requirements, make the programs more efficient and allow states to make more decisions about how the aid is distributed. Ryan won't immediately translate most of these ideas into legislation, since his major points wouldn't be enacted under President Barack Obama. But the idea is to set the stage for the future if a Republican should become president.

Ryan says Republicans need to better define what they are for, not just what they are against. In a video posted Friday, he made an appeal to frustrated Republican voters who are supporting Trump, the party's presumptive nominee. Trump himself has said little about what he would do with poverty programs, nor has he highlighted the issue as one of his major policy concerns.

"We can get angry and we can stay angry or we could channel that anger into action," Ryan said in the video.

But despite Ryan's efforts, this year's political climate has thrived on distinctly nonsubstantive issues. As Ryan planned to announce his poverty plan in Anacostia, one of Washington's poorest neighborhoods, on Tuesday, he and other Republicans were forced to disavow Trump's latest comments about the ethnic background of an American federal judge. Trump said U.S. District Court Judge Gonzalo Curiel can't be impartial in lawsuits against Trump University because his parents were born in Mexico and Trump wants to build a wall along the border. Curiel was born in Indiana.

The attention on Trump's rhetoric has frustrated lawmakers in both the House and Senate who would rather voters be focused on the Republican policy agenda.

"I'm not going to be sucked into talking about Trump 24-7," said No. 2 Senate GOP leader John Cornyn of Texas on Monday evening as reporters asked for his latest reaction. "We're going to talk about our work and what we're doing here."

Ryan endorsed Trump last week after a lengthy delay, making clear that support is largely due to the fact that a Republican president could help him enact his longtime policy goals. Overhauling the nation's welfare and nutrition programs has long been a priority for Ryan, who also plans to release a national security plan on Thursday. Policy plans on regulations, the Constitution, health care and taxes will roll out in the coming weeks.

Ryan calls his proposals "a better way." He says major change is needed because current programs haven't changed the poverty rate over the last five decades and Washington is measuring success by how much it spends, not how much it helps. The idea is to create incentives for states to improve programs, for more beneficiaries to work and for employers to provide more work. Among the policy suggestions is to consolidate some federal food aid and housing aid programs, though the plan does not lay out exactly how that would be done or which programs would be consolidated.

Some of the proposals, such as scaling back the Obama administration's stricter nutrition rules for school meals, are already in motion. The House Energy and Commerce Committee approved legislation

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along party lines last month that would allow more flexibility to schools in serving meals and reduce the number of free and reduced price meals served in some schools.

Ryan's plan is certain to meet immediate opposition from Democrats, who have long criticized his attempts at overhauling the nation's poverty programs. They have said his proposals would result in massive cuts to current programs and leave needy people without aid.

"While Speaker Ryan rolls out a swanky new policy agenda in an attempt to offer an alternative vision to that of Donald Trump, Americans across the country are struggling," said Rep. Rosa DeLauro, D-Conn., ahead of the release. "The only 'better way' that Speaker Ryan's recommendations will offer is a better way to fall into poverty."

Asian stocks higher after Fed chief's remarks

YOUKYUNG LEE, AP Business Writer

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Asian stock markets mostly rallied on Tuesday as investors took heart from reassuring comments by Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen on the strength of the U.S. economy.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's Nikkei 225 rose 0.7 percent to 16,688.36 while South Korea's Kospi gained 1.0 percent to 2,006.07. Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index added 0.8 percent to 21,198.09. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 rose 0.5 percent to 5,388.10. Stocks in Taiwan, Singapore and Indonesia also rose but the Shanghai Composite Index in mainland China fell 0.2 percent to 2,929.79.

YELLEN: In a speech Monday, Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen stressed that the U.S. economy appears fundamentally solid despite a jobs report for May released Friday that showed the weakest monthly gain in more than five years. She noted that other gauges of the job market have been more positive and also shied away from sketching any timetable for when the Fed might raise interest rates again because of so many uncertainties.

ANALYST'S TAKE: "Federal Reserve chair Yellen was cautious in her remarks on the shocking payrolls reading, which reinforced that June is not the month to make a move. The slightly dovish remarks sat well with financial markets, prompting a rally in equities," said Bernard Aw, a market strategist at IG in Singapore. "While the message Yellen wants to give across is that she still wants to move rates higher, the timing of subsequent rate hikes is murky."

WALL STREET: U.S. stocks jumped on Monday. The Dow Jones industrial average gained 0.6 percent to 17,920.33. The S&P 500 rose 0.5 percent to 2,109.41. The Nasdaq composite index gained 0.5 percent to 4,968.71.

OIL: Benchmark U.S. crude oil fell 14 cents to \$49.55 per barrel in electronic trading on New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract rose \$1.07, or 2.2 percent, to \$49.69 a barrel on Monday, its highest closing price this year. Brent crude, which is used to price international oils, lost 18 cents to \$50.37 a barrel in London.

CURRENCIES: The dollar rose to 107.78 yen from 107.52 yen while the euro rose to \$1.1359 from \$1.1357.

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, June 7, the 159th day of 2016. There are 207 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 7, 1776, Richard Henry Lee of Virginia offered a resolution to the Continental Congress stat-

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ing "That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States."

On this date:

In 1654, King Louis XIV, age 15, was crowned in Rheims, 11 years after the start of his reign.

In 1769, frontiersman Daniel Boone first began to explore present-day Kentucky.

In 1892, Homer Plessy, a "Creole of color," was fined for refusing to leave a whites-only car of the East Louisiana Railroad. (Ruling on his case, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld "separate but equal" racial segregation, a concept it renounced in 1954.)

In 1929, the sovereign state of Vatican City came into existence as copies of the Lateran Treaty were exchanged in Rome.

In 1939, King George VI and his wife, Queen Elizabeth, arrived at Niagara Falls, New York, from Canada on the first visit to the United States by a reigning British monarch.

In 1942, the World War II Battle of Midway ended in a decisive victory for American forces over the Imperial Japanese.

In 1954, British mathematician, computer pioneer and code breaker Alan Turing died at age 41, an apparent suicide. (Turing, convicted in 1952 of "gross indecency" for a homosexual relationship, was pardoned in 2013.)

In 1958, singer-songwriter Prince was born Prince Rogers Nelson in Minneapolis.

In 1965, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *Griswold v. Connecticut*, recognized a constitutional right to privacy as it struck down, 7-2, a Connecticut law used to prosecute a Planned Parenthood clinic in New Haven for providing contraceptives to married couples.

In 1972, the musical "Grease" opened on Broadway, having already been performed in lower Manhattan.

In 1981, Israeli military planes destroyed a nuclear power plant in Iraq, a facility the Israelis charged could have been used to make nuclear weapons.

In 1998, in a crime that shocked the nation, James Byrd Jr., a 49-year-old black man, was hooked by a chain to a pickup truck and dragged to his death in Jasper, Texas. (Two white men were later sentenced to death; one of them, Lawrence Russell Brewer, was executed in 2011. A third defendant received life with the possibility of parole.)

Ten years ago: Abu Musab al-Zarqawi (AH'-boo MOO'-sahb ahl-zahr-KOW'-ee), the founder of al-Qaida in Iraq, was killed by a U.S. airstrike on his safe house. The U.S. Senate rejected a constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage.

Five years ago: Moammar Gadhafi stood defiant in the face of the heaviest and most punishing NATO airstrikes to date, declaring in an audio address carried on Libyan state television, "We will not kneel!" Fazul Abdullah Mohammed, the al-Qaida mastermind behind the 1998 bombings of U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, was killed at a security checkpoint in Mogadishu by Somali forces. NBC retained its hold on U.S. Olympic television rights in a four-games deal through 2020 worth nearly \$4.4 billion, defeating rival bids from ESPN and Fox.

One year ago: President Barack Obama opened a visit to Germany for a G-7 summit, where he praised the leadership of Chancellor Angela Merkel. Turkish voters rebuked President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's ambitions to expand his powers, stripping his party of its simple majority in parliament. Stan Wawrinka beat Novak Djokovic 4-6, 6-4, 6-3, 6-4 to win the men's French Open title. "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time" won best play at the Tony Awards; "Fun Home" won best musical. Actor Christopher Lee, 93, died in London.

Today's Birthdays: Movie director James Ivory is 88. Former Canadian Prime Minister John Turner is 87. Actress Virginia McKenna is 85. Singer Tom Jones is 76. Poet Nikki Giovanni is 73. Actor Ken Osmond

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(TV: "Leave It to Beaver") is 73. Former talk show host Jenny Jones is 70. Americana singer-songwriter Willie Nile is 68. Actress Anne Twomey is 65. Actor Liam Neeson is 64. Actress Colleen Camp is 63. Singer-songwriter Johnny Clegg is 63. Author Louise Erdrich (UR'-drihk) is 62. Actor William Forsythe is 61. Record producer L.A. Reid is 60. Latin pop singer Juan Luis Guerra is 59. Rock singer-musician Gordon Gano (The Violent Femmes) is 53. Rapper Ecstasy (Whodini) is 52. Rock musician Eric Kretz (Stone Temple Pilots) is 50. Rock musician Dave Navarro is 49. Actress Helen Baxendale is 46. Actor Karl Urban is 44. TV personality Bear Grylls is 42. Rock musician Eric Johnson (The Shins) is 40. Actress Adrienne Frantz is 38. Actor-comedian Bill Hader is 38. Actress Anna Torv is 37. Actress Larisa Oleynik (oh-LAY'-nihk) is 35. Tennis player Anna Kournikova is 35. Actor Michael Cera is 28. Actress Shelley Buckner is 27. Rapper Iggy Azalea is 26. Rapper Fetty Wap is 25.

Thought for Today: "Two men look out through the same bars: One sees the mud and one the stars."
— Frederick Langbridge, English clergyman and author (1849-1922).