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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

c 2016 Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, June 8

Senior Menu: Baked chicken, rice pilaf, cauli-flower/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)

Friday, June 10

Senior Menu: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, parsley buttered carrots, banana cake with icing, whole wheat bread.

Birthdays: Eddy Opp, Axel Ray Abeln. 6:00pm: U12 Softball hosts Sisseton (DH) 6:00pm: U8 Softball hosts Sisseton 7:00pm



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Foundation work being done at Trinity Midwest Masonry of Groton is repairing the foundation of the Historic Trinity Church before the large

Midwest Masonry of Groton is repairing the foundation of the Historic Trinity Church before the large stained glass altar window is removed and repaired under a recent grant awarded by the South Dakota Historical Society from the Deadwood Fund. The work needs to be done before the windows are removed to ensure that no settling happens while they are out. Shown setting the northwest cornerstone is David Heilman, brother of Greg Heilman, owner of Midwest Masonry.

Nineteen people attended the Memorial Day open house at the church. Several visitors had never been in the historic church before and were amazed that such a beautiful place exists in Groton. (Courtesy photo)

NorthWestern Energy issues another scam alert

Huron, S. D. /Butte, Mont. – June 7, 2016 – NorthWestern Energy is again warning customers about a scam involving the collection of overdue utility bills.

A number of customers around our service area have reported receiving suspicious telephone calls in recent days. Although this activity has been reported for several years, it is once again making the rounds across our region. The latest variation on the theme involves the scammers saying that customers' last payment posted to the wrong account and that a new payment has to be made with the promise of a future refund.

The scammers can be very convincing and often use "spoofing" technology that makes it appear that the call is coming from NorthWestern Energy.

NorthWestern reminds customers to be vigilant when it comes to anyone seeking payment information on utility bills, either in person or via the telephone or internet.

NorthWestern provides several past-due notices before terminating service. If you get a cancellation notification, always verify it by dialing the customer service number on your utility bill or in your local phone directory. NorthWestern never asks customers to use a prepaid debit card for payment.

Customers with questions or concerns about potential scams should contact NorthWestern Energy to report concerns or questionable calls. Montana customers can contact NorthWestern at (888) 467-2669. In Nebraska and South Dakota, customers should call (800) 245-6977.

Customers who have received a scam attempt are also asked to file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission at 1-877-382-4357 as it can help the agency build a case and perhaps implement safeguards to prevent future scams.

Wednesday, June 8, 2016 + Vol. 22 - No. 313 + 3 of 33 Pappas elected as party chairwoman

VERMILLION, S.D. – The 70th annual American Legion Auxiliary South Dakota Girls State drew 390 girls to the University of South Dakota last week, which concluded with the traditional election of officers and presentation of awards.

Under the direction of Cheryl Hovorka, ALA SD Girls State director, the participants who will enter their senior year of high school this fall were selected from across the state based on scholastic achievement, leadership skills and interest in government.

Raina Grimsley, of Mitchell, was elected ALA SD Girls State governor and Caroline Moriarty, of Sioux Falls, was elected lieutenant governor. Additional elections included Maia Gabrielson, of Sioux Falls, attorney general; Miranda Winterringer, of Yankton, secretary of state; Hailey Nold, of Sioux Falls, state auditor; Ashlynne Beninga, of Sioux Falls, state treasurer; Hailey Scoular, of Aberdeen, commissioner of school and public lands. Elected to the Public Utilities Commission were Aleesha Alverson, of Aberdeen, Joslyn Hurlbert, of Raymond, and Kadra Kayser, of Emery.

In non-political elections, Girls State delegates elected Alora Huffman, of Black Hawk, Hannah McClelland, of Vermillion, Emily Wiley, of Webster, Elise Wheeler, of Philip, Holly Gerberding, of Sturgis, and Ella Graham, of Wentworth, as six justices to serve on the Supreme Court. Sarah Lane, of Hot Springs, was elected as chief justice of the Supreme Court. Sierra Wieseler, of Gettysburg, was chosen as the speaker of the House of Representatives while Sydney Powers, of Brookings, was selected as president pro tempore. Sydney Powers, of Brookings, was selected as the Nationalist Party chairwoman and Katie Patrick, of Sioux Falls, as the Nationalist Party keynote speaker. The Federalist Party elected Laura Selman, of Colman, as keynote speaker and the **Federalist Party elected Keri Pappas, of Groton**, as party chairwoman. Nadine Moore, of Mitchell, was the recipient of the outstanding journalist award and Caroline Moriarty, of Sioux Falls, received the highest exam score. Grace Homer, of Garretson, was selected as the outstanding ALA SD Girls State citizen. Madison Hansen, of Watertown, was selected outstanding speaker of the Senate and Elie Krizan, of Hartford, was selected outstanding speaker of the House.

Awards were also presented to Tatianna Fuerniss, of Delmont, best circuit court judge; Libby Absher, of Kimball, best prosecuting attorney; Katie Swanson, of Pukwana, best defense attorney; Elise Ackerman, of Harrisburg, best appellate attorney; Rachel Friez, of Sioux Falls, best appellee attorney; Cheyenne Davis, of Belle Fourche, outstanding forensic investigator.

Ashlynne Beninga, of Sioux Falls, and Lauren Rink, of Huron, were chosen as delegates to represent South Dakota at the American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation in Washington, D.C., with Lynsey Klunder, of Elk Point, and Sydney Noordsy, of Brookings, serving as alternates. Kate Kruse, of Lesterville, was selected as the 2016 recipient of a \$1,100 Samsung American Legion scholarship. Sadie Meyerink, of Geddes, was awarded the Bonnie Slade memorial scholarship, Sadie Bingham, of Gary, was awarded the Helen Gottlesben memorial scholarship and Lauren Svatos, of Gregory, received the Travis memorial scholarship.

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Transient Vendor Season in South Dakota

PIERRE, S.D., -- Many transient vendors have begun selling products and services in South Dakota. While many of these vendors are legitimate, the South Dakota Department of Revenue and the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Office advise people to take common-sense steps to ensure vendors are reputable, before doing business with them.

"The Attorney General's Consumer Protection receives complaints each spring from consumers who have been bilked by transient contractors and their questionable sales tactics. Consumers need to protect themselves by avoiding quick decision making and taking their time to find the best contractor for the job," said Attorney General Jackley.

"The Department of Revenue wants to ensure that transient vendors pay the proper amount of tax when they are operating in South Dakota, which is only fair to our in-state businesses," Doug Schinkel, director of the Department of Revenue's business tax division said. "We want to safeguard against anyone taking advantage of our citizens. If you are considering making a purchase from a transient vendor, please take steps to verify that they are reputable. If the vendor can't or won't provide proof of a South Dakota business tax license, you should contact the Department of Revenue."

If you are considering hiring a person to provide repair or construction services, please be advised to: Ask for a price quote, in advance, in writing.

Question the contractor about a permanent address and telephone number, and do not assume that if the information they provide is local, they are a local business. Transient vendors often have business cards printed with local mailing services or motel addresses and telephone numbers.

Ask for a list of local references and check them before making a decision.

• Ask if the contractor has worker's compensation and general liability insurance. If vendors are not properly insured, homeowners may be liable for accidents that occur on their property.

Be careful about paying for work in advance; before making final payments, make sure transient vendors have paid their local suppliers or you may be held liable for unpaid materials.

Make sure you are completely satisfied with the work before paying the bill, and do not pay more for the job than originally quoted unless you have given written approval for the additional work or cost. Ask the contractor for an excise tax license.

Out-of-state vendors often travel to South Dakota to sell items like fruit, seafood, meat packages, paintings, magazine subscriptions, rugs, T-shirts, sunglasses, household cleaners, furniture, stuffed animals and asphalting and roofing services. Asking the right questions when approached by those vendors can help you avoid making a purchase you may regret:

Question the salesperson about the product, warranties, guarantees, etc.

Get something in writing with the company's name, address and phone number.

Ask to see their current South Dakota tax license. State law requires everyone selling products or services to have a current South Dakota sales or contractors' excise tax license. To verify if the license is valid, call the Department's toll-free helpline at (800) 829-9188.

All sellers must provide you with a contract or receipt at the time of sale showing the date, the merchant's name and address, and a statement informing you of your right to cancel the contract within three days. After proper cancellation, the seller has 10 days to refund your money.

If you have doubts about the vendor or think you may have been the victim of a scam, call your local police department or county sheriff's office immediately. You can also contact the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Office at (800) 300-1986 or by email at consumerhelp@state.sd.us. Be prepared to give as much information as you can about the vendor, including the name of the company and salesperson; company address and telephone number; and make, model and license number (if possible) of the vehicle the vendor was driving. Without tips from the public, law enforcement officials may not be able to catch illegal vendors before they move on to the next community.

For more information on transient vendors, contact the South Dakota Department of Revenue's toll-free helpline at (800) 829-9188, press "1" for the Business Tax Division.

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Today in Weather History

1953 - The worst tornado of record for the state of Michigan killed 116 persons. Flint MI was hardest hit. The tornado, half a mile in width, destroyed 200 homes on Coldwater Road killing entire families. (The Weather Channel)

1966 - A tornado ripped right through the heart of the capitol city of Topeka KS killing sixteen persons and causing 100 million dollars damage. The tornado, which struck during the evening, cut a swath of near total destruction eight miles long and four blocks wide. It was the most destructive tornado of record up until that time. (David Ludlum)

1974 - Severe thunderstorms spawned at least twenty-three tornadoes in Oklahoma during the afternoon and evening hours. One of the tornadoes struck the town Drumright killing sixteen persons and injuring 150 others. A tornado struck the National Weather Service office in Oklahoma City, and two tornadoes hit the city of Tulsa. Thunderstorms in Tulsa also produced as much as ten inches of rain. Total damage from the storms was around thirty million dollars. It was the worst natural disaster of record for Tulsa. (Storm Data)

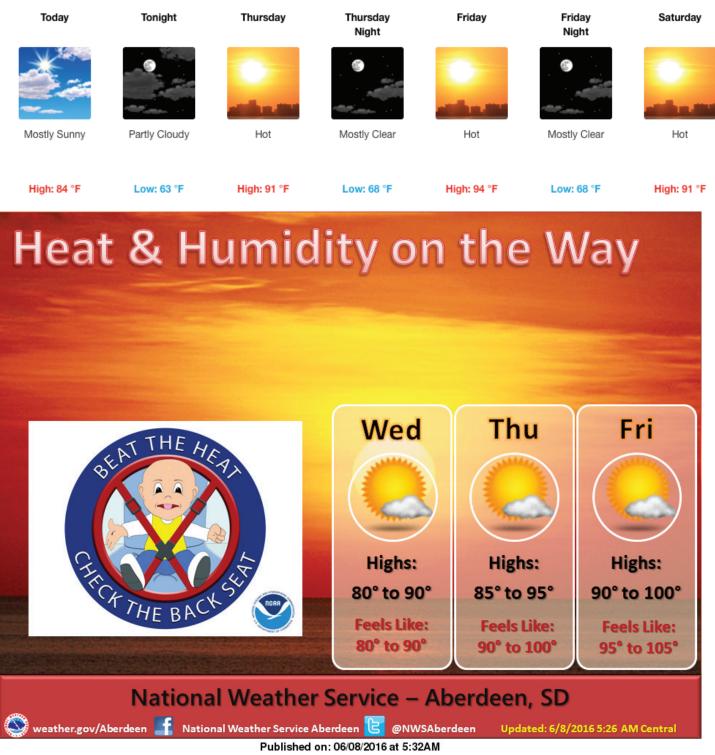
1987 - Thunderstorms in the northeastern U.S. produced large hail and damaging winds in Vermont injuring two persons. Thunderstorms in Ohio produced wind gusts to 75 mph near Akron, and deluged Pittsfield with two inches of rain in thirty minutes. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Overnight thunderstorms in Iowa produced 5.20 inches of rain at Coon Rapids. Thunderstorms in the Florida Keys drenched Tavernier with 7.16 inches of rain in 24 hours. Eleven cities in the central U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather over the Central Gulf Coast Region during the day and evening. Severe thunderstorms spawned 17 tornadoes, including one which injured ten persons and caused a million dollars damage at Orange Beach, AL. Thunderstorm winds gusting to 90 mph killed three persons and injured four others at Mobile AL. Thunderstorms also deluged Walnut Hill and Avalon Beach, FL, with eight inches of rain. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)



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Much above normal temperatures along with mostly dry conditions can be expected through the rest of the work week. Heat index values of 90 to 105 degrees will be possible across the region on Thursday and Friday.

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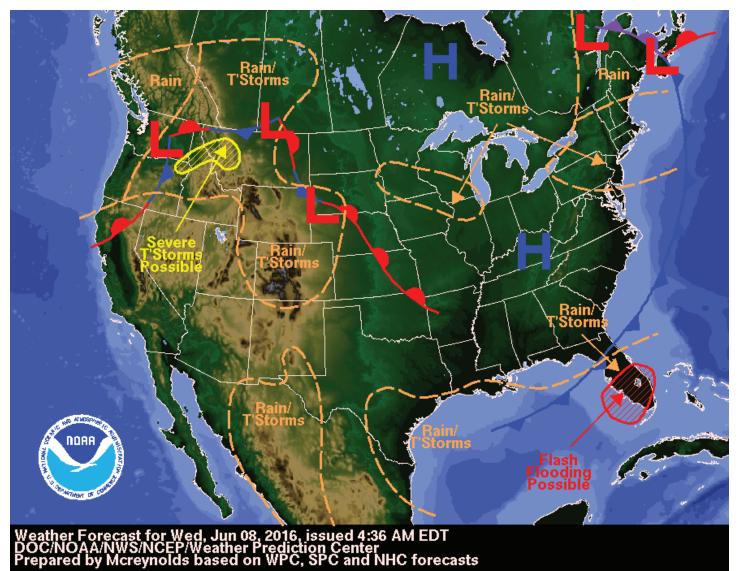
Yesterday's Weather High Outside Temp: 76.4 F at 6:36 PM

High Outside Temp: 76.4 F at 6:36 PM Low Outside Temp: 47.9 F at 5:59 AM High Gust: 12.0 Mph at 11:16 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info Record High: 98° in 2000

Record High: 98° in 2000 Record Low: 32 in 1938 Average High: 75°F Average Low: 52°F Average Precip in June: 0.93 Precip to date in June: 0.72 Average Precip to date: 8.07 Precip Year to Date: 5.71 Sunset Tonight: 9:20 p.m. Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:45 a.m.





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BUT HE FORGIVES AND FORGETS!

Young Mark was preparing to say his prayers before going to bed. His mother had been in his room going over his homework with him. As he knelt to pray he said, "Go away, Mom. I want to talk to God." "But, can't I listen?" she asked.

"Well," he said, "I don't mind telling God about the wrong things I did today because I know He will forgive me and forget what I did. But you'll go on yelling at me forever."

How different is our God! His Word proclaims, "And I will forgive their wrongdoings, and I will never again remember their sins." One of the final characteristics of the New Covenant is that the blood of Jesus not only cleanses us completely, but that He will remove them from His memory.

That's probably difficult for many of us to accept. We often harbor in our hearts and minds the wrongs that people do to us. Often we seem to roll them around and seek opportunities to get revenge – or at least get even. Not our God.

We know that His grace is sufficient to save us. But believing that He will never allow our sins to enter His memory should bring us a permanent peace.

Prayer: Help us, our Father, to take You at Your Word, and know that as we confess our sins, You not only forgive them but forget them – forever. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Hebrews 8:12 For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more."

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News from the App Associated Press

On big night, Clinton takes South Dakota JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota voters handed Hillary Clinton a primary victory Tuesday, hours after the Democratic candidate had already laid claim to the party's nomination at a rally in New York. Clinton won South Dakota as a half-dozen states voted, following earlier victories in New Jersey and New Mexico. She had already reached the delegates needed to become the presumptive nominee, according to an earlier tally by The Associated Press, but voters in South Dakota still turned out to support Clinton over Bernie Sanders.

It was the second time Clinton had won South Dakota. She beat Barack Obama in 2008 to win the state's primary in her unsuccessful campaign then.

She didn't visit South Dakota this cycle. But Clinton claimed a slew of heavyweight endorsements from state Democrats including former U.S. Sens. Tom Daschle and Tim Johnson and sent her husband, former President Bill Clinton, to motivate supporters ahead of the primary.

Bob Burhenn, a retired Sioux Falls businessman, said he voted for Clinton because it's time to put a woman in the nation's highest office.

"Men have been in charge long enough," said Burhenn, 82. "And they're smarter than us, anyway."

Clinton supporter Gary Snow of Pierre said she mirrors his values, calling her "the best hope for right now." Snow said the country can't afford many of the programs Sanders is suggesting.

Snow downplayed Sanders' chances in a matchup against presumptive Republican nominee Donald Trump, who easily claimed victory Tuesday in South Dakota.

"The moment Mr. Trump calls him a socialist, people will confuse that with a communist and then vote for a fascist," Snow said, adding that he has fears about the presumptive GOP nominee.

"I'm truly afraid of what Donald Trump could do as president," he said.

Sanders held campaign rallies in May in Sioux Falls, Rapid City and Pine Ridge, looking to coax support from South Dakotans. The senator from Vermont was hoping for a boost from independent and unaffiliated voters who were free to vote in South Dakota's Democratic primary.

Sean Pollman, who runs a small business and described himself as an independent, was voting for Sanders in Sioux Falls.

"It's not Clinton. That's the main thing," Pollman said. "Her stance on everything is always so wishywashy. It's very obvious that corporate media is behind her. And if you look past the corporate media, she's always changing her mind."

At stake were 20 delegates. The state has five superdelegates who will go to the national convention unbound by the election results.

Tuesday's primary included 26 legislative races — 22 Republican and four Democratic. Most eyes were on the GOP races, which included two high-profile west river primaries where conservative Republicans triumphed over their moderate opponents who had the support of Gov. Dennis Daugaard.

Term-limited Rep. Lance Russell ousted incumbent Sen. Bruce Rampelberg, while moderate Rep. Jacqueline Sly failed at unseating conservative Sen. Phil Jensen.

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Clinton beats Sanders in South Dakota Democratic primary JAMES NORD, Associated Press

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Amid Clinton victory, voters cast ballots for Legislature JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Hillary Clinton won South Dakota's Democratic presidential primary Tuesday as voters decided more than two dozen legislative contests down the ballot.

There were 22 Republican and four Democratic legislative primary races across South Dakota. GOP

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Gov. Dennis Daugaard contributed to at least nine Republican state Senate candidates who could influence the chamber's friendliness toward his future legislative agenda.

Five claimed victory Tuesday, but they didn't include two moderate Republicans in high-profile west river Senate primaries who were beaten by conservatives.

Here's a look at a few of the most interesting results:

JENSEN HOLDS ON

Conservative Republican Sen. Phil Jensen triumphed in a Senate primary challenge from term-limited GOP Rep. Jacqueline Sly, who last legislative session backed a historic half-cent sales tax hike for teacher pay. Jensen opposed the tax increase, criticizing Sly's "liberal voting record" in the race. Daugaard supported Sly financially in the campaign. Jensen triumphed after making racially sensitive comments in the newspaper.

Speaking to the Rapid City Journal about potentially blocking refugees from settling in South Dakota, Jensen mentioned a constituent saying he saw South Americans running away from a bus in Rapid City.

"He knew they were South Americans," Jensen told the newspaper in February, "because they had different skull structures and skin tones from Mexicans."

RUSSELL-ING UP VOTES

GOP Rep. Lance Russell, who is limited from running again in the House, bested incumbent Republican Sen. Bruce Rampelberg in the primary. Russell, a conservative, argued that Rampelberg has supported tax increases that have been part of Daugaard's agenda, which he said is moving South Dakota in the wrong direction.

FULL NELSON

Former state lawmaker Stace Nelson edged recent South Dakota State University graduate Caleb Finck in the southeast South Dakota Republican Senate primary. Finck received financial support from Daugaard in the race, while Nelson criticized the governor and the "establishment" for raising taxes and spending.

Nelson said he would head to Pierre opposing Daugaard's "liberal policies."

PETERS PREVAILS

Incumbent state Sen. Deb Peters fended off a Republican primary challenge from former state Rep. Lora Hubbel, who ran as the more conservative candidate in the race and has been critical of Daugaard. In 2014, Hubbel challenged Daugaard in the gubernatorial primary.

`Call of Duty' fan convention is returning DERRIK J. LANG, AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Activision is re-enlisting "Call of Duty XP."

The video game publisher is organizing a second edition of the fan-focused convention to celebrate the popular military shooter franchise. "Call of Duty XP" will be held Sept. 2-4 at the Forum in Ingle-wood, California.

The three-day event will feature this year's "Call of Duty" championship and the unveiling of the multiplayer modes from the upcoming "Call of Duty: Infinite Warfare."

Activision will also bring "Call of Duty" to life with such real-world activities as a paintball battle modeled after the Nuketown map from "Black Ops III."

The inaugural "Call of Duty XP" event was held in 2011 and featured the debut of the "Modern Warfare 3" multiplayer mode and a performance by Kanye West.

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Official: Truck slams into bicyclists in Michigan, killing 5

COOPER TOWNSHIP, Mich. (AP) — Other road users had complained that a pickup truck was being driven erratically just minutes before the vehicle slammed into a group of bicyclists in western Michigan, killing five, authorities said.

Four other bicyclists suffered serious injuries in the crash early Tuesday evening in Cooper Township and were being treated at area hospitals, Kalamazoo County Prosecutor Jeffrey Getting said during a news conference Tuesday night.

The truck driver is in custody but has not been charged.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of the victims," Getting said. "I can't even begin to imagine what they're going through."

The driver of the pickup, described as a 50-year-old western Michigan man, fled from the wrecked vehicle, but police caught him a short time later.

Authorities began receiving calls about the blue pickup truck about 30 minutes before the crash, with people complaining "about the manner in which that vehicle was being driven," Getting said. He did not provide details of the erratic driving.

Several agencies were searching for the pickup when the first report of the crash came in just after 6:30 p.m., he said. No officers were actively pursuing the truck at the time it crashed.

The bicyclists had been riding as a group. Their names and ages were not immediately released because family members were still being notified. The group included men and women, but no children.

Markus Eberhard was leaving a nearby park after fishing and said he nearly was hit by the pickup. He was unable to warn the bicyclists.

"I saw a bunch of bikes hit the front of his truck and a couple of them flew," Eberhard told WOOD-TV. Paramedics and fire crews rushed to the scene, Getting said.

He declined to answer questions about the suspect and said the man's name would not be released until his office has determined which charges he will face.

Cooper Township is south of Grand Rapids and just miles from Kalamazoo. The area still is dealing with the random fatal shootings of six people and wounding of two others in February. Jason Dalton, 45, had been picking up riders for Uber at the time of the shootings. He is charged with murder and attempted murder. His attorney told a judge Monday that Dalton is expected to plead insanity in his defense.

Eritrean migrant smuggling suspect extradited to Italy

MILAN (AP) — Italian police say Sudan has extradited a man suspected of being one of the masterminds of a migrant-smuggling network bringing people from sub-Saharan Africa via Libya to Europe.

The extradition is the first time that a suspected trafficking boss has been detained in Italy.

Police said Wednesday that Medhane Yehdego Mered arrived in Italy overnight, culminating an international investigation that identified him last year as a principal suspect.

Italian police said the 35-year-old Eritrean was believed to be "one of the principal migrant trafficking bosses."

Mered is suspected of organizing the trafficking of thousands of migrants to Italy dating from 2012. Police said tapped telephone conversations indicated that he paid Libyan officials on several occasions to prevent migrants in his network from being arrested.

Clinton seizes historic primary win

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KATHLEEN HENNESSEY, Associated Press LISA LERER, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Powered by a solid triumph in California, Hillary Clinton declared victory in her yearlong battle for the heart of the Democratic party, seizing her place in history and setting out on the difficult task of fusing a fractured party to confront Donald Trump.

Clinton cruised to easy victories in four of the six state contests on Tuesday. With each win she further solidified Sen. Bernie Sanders' defeat and dashed his already slim chances of using the last night of state contests to refuel his flagging bid.

The much-needed winning streak allowed Clinton to celebrate her long-sought "milestone" — the first woman poised to lead a major political party's presidential ticket. Standing before a flag-waving crowd in Brooklyn, the former secretary of state soaked up the cheers and beamed.

"Barriers can come down. Justice and equality can win," she said. "This campaign is about making sure there are no ceilings, no limits on any of us. This is our moment to come together."

Clinton had already secured the delegates needed for the nomination before Tuesday's contests, according to an Associated Press tally. Still, Sanders had hoped to use a victory in California to persuade party insiders to switch their allegiances. Sanders picked up wins in Montana and North Dakota, but Clinton won substantially in California.

Sanders nonetheless vowed to continue to his campaign to the very last contest in the District of Columbia on next Tuesday.

"The struggle continues," he said.

Sanders is under intense pressure from top Democrats hoping to coax him gently out of the race, win over his voters and turn to the task of challenging Trump.

Despite the pledge to solider on, there were signs Sanders was listening. In his typically passionate remarks, the socialist firebrand repeatedly noted "we are in this together" and argued that a base tenet of his campaign was that "we will not allow right-wing Republicans to control our government."

Sanders said he called Clinton to congratulate her on the victories.

The senator is scheduled to return home to Burlington on Wednesday, before coming to Washington Thursday for meetings and a campaign rally.

President Barack Obama called both Sanders and Clinton late Tuesday, congratulating both on their campaigns. The White House said Sanders and Obama would meet Thursday, at Sanders' request, to discuss "how to build on the extraordinary work he has done to engage millions of Democratic voters, and to build on that enthusiasm."

Clinton and Sanders are also expected to connect in the coming days, Clinton's spokesman said late Tuesday. The candidates' campaign managers spoke earlier in the day, signaling that conversations were underway about the road ahead.

As the Democratic race was wrapping up, Republicans were unraveling anew. Despite handily winning GOP contests in California, New Jersey, New Mexico, South Dakota and Montana, presumptive nominee Trump was in damage control mode over his race-based attacks on a Hispanic judge that had party leaders in fits. After one senator rescinded his endorsement and House Speaker Paul Ryan called the comments "racist," Trump sought to calm worries with a rare, scripted victory speech.

"I understand the responsibility of carrying the mantle and I will never, ever let you down - too much work, too many people, blood, sweat and tears," Trump said, reading from a teleprompter at a rally at one of his golf courses in suburban New York City. "I will make you proud of your party and our movement, and that's what it is, is a movement."

Trump went on to preview what Clinton has ahead of her: He blasted the former secretary of state and first lady as the defender of a "rigged" political system. He promised to deliver a longer speech on

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the Clintons "probably Monday."

"The Clintons have turned the politics of personal enrichment into an art form for themselves. They've made hundreds of millions of dollars selling access, selling favors, selling government contracts, and I mean hundreds of millions of dollars," he said.

In her remarks, Clinton was similarly hard-edged, saying Trump was "temperamentally unfit to be commander in chief."

"When he says let's make America great again, that's code for let's take America backward," she said. Clinton's moment came a day after she secured the necessary 2,383 delegates, according to the AP tally. Her victories on Tuesday added to the count, which includes pledged delegates won in primaries and caucuses, as well as superdelegates — the party officials and officeholders who can back a candidate of their choosing.

Sanders and some in his army of die-hard supporters expressed frustration about the survey. As he addressed supporters in Los Angeles, the crowd chanted "Media is corrupt."

Both Clinton and Trump made overtures toward an energized and passionate pool of voters. Trump noted he and Sanders both oppose the president's Pacific Rim trade deal, and he sympathized with frustration for having "been left out in the cold by a rigged system of super delegates."

Clinton thanked the senator for driving the debate over economic mobility and income inequality and tried to show she absorbed some of his message. Mostly, she expressed empathy of a candidate who knows the bitter taste of defeat.

"It never feels good to put our heart into a cause or a candidate you believe in and come up short," she said. "I know that feeling well. But as we look ahead to the battle that awaits, let's remember all that unites us."

But for Clinton, the night was largely about marking the moment.

Her campaign produced a video to introduce her speech, chronicling women's rise in politics from the suffragettes through Clinton's concession to speech to then-Sen. Barack Obama, eight years ago Tuesday when she thanked supporters for helping her put "18 million cracks" in the "highest, hardest glass ceiling."

EgyptAir plane resumes flight to China after bomb threat HAMZA HENDAWI, Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — An EgyptAir aircraft that made an emergency landing on Wednesday in Uzbekistan following a bomb threat has resumed its flight to Beijing, Egyptian officials said, the latest in a series of deadly or damaging air travel incidents involving Egypt.

The officials said no bomb was found after the Airbus A-330-220 and its passengers were searched by explosives experts and the plane took off for the Chinese capital four hours after it landed in the town of Urgench, about 840 kilometers (600 miles) west of the Uzbek capital, Tashkent.

According to the officials, an anonymous caller telephoned security agents at the Cairo airport to say a bomb was on board EgyptAir Flight 955 which had 135 passengers and crew on board. The agents immediately contacted the aircraft and ordered it to land at the nearest airport, they said. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media.

In Russia, the news agency RIA Novosti quoted an unnamed official with Uzbekistan Airways as saying the airport in Urgench has been closed following the EgyptAir plane's emergency landing. Later, Russia's Interfax news agency quoted Uzbekistan Airways as saying the plane was searched, no explosive devices were found and the aircraft was cleared to go.

The incident came nearly three weeks after an EgyptAir flight crashed in the Mediterranean Sea as it

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was approaching the Egyptian coast while en route to Cairo from Paris. All 66 people on board were killed and the search for the plane's flight and data recorders — the so called black boxes — is still underway.

Egyptian officials say the Paris-Cairo plane was most likely downed by an act of terror.

Last October, a Russian airliner crashed in Egypt's Sinai Peninsula shortly after taking off from the Egyptian resort city of Sharm el-Sheikh, killing all 224 people on board. A local affiliate of the extremist Islamic State group claimed responsibility for downing the aircraft just hours after the crash. In November, Russia said an explosive device brought down the aircraft.

The Russian airliner's crash has decimated Egypt's already battered tourism industry. While the cause of the May 19 EgyptAir crash in the Mediterranean remains unknown, it has associated Egypt with another air disaster that further dented the once lucrative industry.

The two disasters have unsettled authorities at the Cairo airport, where false alarms or bomb threats have caused lengthy delays to flights and at least one cancellation this week.

Security has also been considerably tightened at Egypt's 20-plus airports since the Russian disaster, with passengers now subjected to roughly the same security measures in force at major international airports.

Syrian activists say airstrikes in Aleppo kill at least 10

BEIRUT (AP) — Syrian opposition activists say airstrikes in rebel-held districts of the city of Aleppo have killed at least 10 people and left many others wounded.

They say one of the strikes on Wednesday hit near the Bayan hospital in the Shaar neighborhood of the contested city.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a Britain-based opposition monitoring group, said at least 10 were killed, including children. The Local Coordination Committees, which also closely follows the conflict in Syria, also reported the strikes, saying they resulted in multiple casualties.

The northern city of Aleppo has seen an uptick in violence in the last 48 hours. Government forces are pounding rebel-held eastern parts of the city with strikes from the air while rebel are shelling western, government-held parts of the city.

Refer Eritrea's human rights crimes to ICC, UN group says

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — A United Nations commission of inquiry says Eritrea's bleak human rights situation should be referred to the International Criminal Court for crimes against humanity that include enslavement and torture.

The commission on Wednesday said the tiny Horn of Africa country has made no progress on the most critical human rights violations that the group documented in its first report a year ago. Eritrea's foreign ministry called the findings of that report "indecent hyperbole."

Rights groups say Eritrean President Isaias Afwerki, who has been in power in the former Italian colony since 1991, has become increasingly repressive, cracking down on political dissidents, closing independent media and limiting civil liberties.

Eritrean refugees are now one of the largest groups trying to cross the Mediterranean Sea to seek a better life in Europe.

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Abandoned boy reflects Japan's attitude on discipline, abuse MARI YAMAGUCHI, Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — A 7-year-old Japanese boy who survived almost a week in a forest after his parents left him at the side of a road was released from a hospital this week, smiling and waving to a crowd cheering the happy ending. Public criticism of the father, who made Yamato Tanooka get out of the car to punish him for misbehavior, has faded, and police reportedly won't pursue charges. Some possible explanations why:

Q: Is leaving a child behind considered abuse in Japan?

A: Abandoning a child, or anyone who needs care, is a crime punishable by up to five years imprisonment. However, it's generally enforced when someone abandons a person with no intention of retrieving him or her despite awareness of a life-threatening risk. In this case, the father returned for his son a few minutes later, but the boy had disappeared.

Q: Are attitudes toward what constitutes abuse different in Japan?

A: Apparently so. The Japanese Embassy in the United States urges Japanese nationals to be cautious with their children in America. It warns that corporal punishment, a father bathing with his little daughter, or leaving a child outside a supermarket in a shopping cart — all generally accepted in Japan — could be taken as child abuse subject to criminal charges. "Remember, you're not in Japan," the embassy says on its website.

Q: Why are attitudes different?

A: In Japan, the concept of children's rights and protection is a relatively new one. It's more common for children to be considered the property of their parents, rather than individuals with their own rights. In a country of conformity, good parents are expected to control their kids. Borderline cases of child abuse are more often viewed as a family matter rather than a crime.

Q: Are attitudes changing?

A: Japan signed the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1994, obligating it to enact the Child Abuse Prevention Act of 2000. The act defines four types of child abuse — physical, emotional, sexual and neglect — largely modeled on the U.S. definition, but does not include penalties. Instead, guidance centers, governments and schools officials are instructed to intervene in possible abuse cases. The case of the 7-year-old boy split public opinion. While many criticized the father for going too far, others sympathized with him over the challenges of parenting and said they faced similar punishment as children.

Q: What is the current trend in Japan regarding child abuse?

A: Japanese are increasingly coming forward to report child abuse cases, with the government attributing this largely to a growing awareness of the issue. Since Japan started collecting data in 1990, the number of cases, including suspected ones, reported to child guidance centers has increased more than sevenfold, with nearly 89,000 in 2014, according to the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare. Emotional abuse was the most common type of case, at 40 percent, followed by physical abuse, neglect and sexual abuse. The most vulnerable were elementary schoolchildren, and mothers were most often the perpetrators.

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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. 'THANKS TO YOU WE'VE REACHED A MILESTONE'

Hillary Clinton claims victory in the race for the Democratic presidential nomination and will be the first woman to lead a major U.S. political party, but Bernie Sanders vows to keep fighting.

2. OFFICIALS: EGYPTAIR FLIGHT MAKES EMERGENCY LANDING

A bomb threat forces the commercial airliner en route to Beijing from Cairo with 135 passengers and crew on board to land in Uzbekistan, but the plane has now resumed its flight to China.

3. WATERSHED MOMENT FOR INDIAN PREMIER

Narendra Modi addresses a joint meeting of Congress after years of being shunned in Washington over religious violence in his home state.

4. THE LESSER KNOWN WOE IN FLINT

The Michigan city's lead-contaminated water crisis has affected all of the city's nearly 100,000 residents, but some grapple with an extra challenge: a language barrier.

5. SIGNS OF WAR EVERYWHERE IN KABUL

With each massive attack or big bombing, new blast walls mushroom across the Afghan capital, turning it into a maze of concrete.

6. 'THE GREATEST' NOT A BIG ADVERTISING DRAW

Muhammad Ali didn't cash in during his prime the way you'd expect today as product endorsements deals for the boxer in his era were scarce.

7. OFFICIAL: TRUCK SLAMS INTO BICYCLISTS IN MICHIGAN

Authorities were seeking a pickup truck that reportedly was driving erratically minutes before the vehicle struck a group of bicyclists on a street near Kalamazoo, killing five and injuring four.

8. WHAT SOME VENEZUELANS ARE DOING TO SURVIVE

Once middle class residents of Caracas made desperate by the country's economic collapse have taken to sifting through the trash to resell or feed themselves.

9. 'NEWTOWN' DOCUMENTARY TO BE SCREENED

Two men who lost children in the Sandy Hook Elementary School massacre share intimate details of their families' struggles.

10. WHO NEEDS TO STEP UP FOR CAVS

Point guard Kyrie Irving is being relied upon to raise his game if Cleveland intends to get back into the NBA Finals against Golden State.

Israel indicts French immigrants in 9.1 million euro scam DANIEL ESTRIN, Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel's state prosecutor indicted four new immigrants from France on Wednesday for allegedly running a major international scam costing five European companies about 9.1 million euros, or over \$10 million.

The companies that lost money are MediaMarkt, Eldi, Cora, ICI Paris XL and Intergamma, according to the indictment. Other companies entangled in the case include Electrolux, Bosch, Chanel, Kia Motors, and Toyota, though some companies did not fall for the trick, according to the indictment.

Israeli prosecution says the immigrants collected information on European companies, including names of company employees and details on money the companies owed to vendors.

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Then, according to prosecutors, they used fake email accounts to send forged documents to a company's employee in charge of finances, presenting themselves as CEOs or representatives of a vendor owed money, and requesting the funds be sent to a different bank account — one under their control.

The case suggests that the so-called fake CEO scam is still thriving in Israel, where the man widely credited with pioneering the technique, Gilbert Chikli, continues to live openly in Israel, evading French attempts to arrest him.

Chikli is not suspected in the current case. The French-born defendants were identified as Henri Omessi, Daniel Allon, Jeremy Lalloum and Mordechai Lellouche. They were appearing at a court hearing on Wednesday, and it was not immediately known how they would plead.

In one scam, according to Wednesday's indictment, defendants impersonated executives of Belgium electronics company Eldi and German electronics giant Bosch, tricking an Eldi employee to transfer 794,175.70 euros owed to Bosch to the defendants' bank account.

In another scam, according to prosecutors, defendants impersonated an employee of Swedish home appliance company Electrolux, and tricked German electronics retailer MediaMarkt to send them 1,059,123.61 euros.

Altogether, the money they stole ended up in bank accounts under their control in Slovakia and Poland.

In March, two Italian-born immigrants were recruited to expand the con to entrap companies in Italy. The prosecutor also indicted them in a separate case for attempting — but failing — to steal money from Diners Club Italia.

According to the indictment, on May 2, three of the defendants were made aware of an article published in French media about scams carried out in Israel targeting French companies. Three minutes later, the three defendants began taking apart hard drives and destroying the computers used in the scam.

That same day, police raided the defendant's office in Netanya, a seaside Israeli city home to a large French immigrant population, following a nearly six month undercover investigation, including video surveillance inside the defendants' office.

A look at chronic absenteeism across America JENNIFER C. KERR, Associated Press MEGHAN HOYER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government is out with discouraging new figures on how many students are habitually missing school — and an AP analysis finds the problem is particularly acute in Washington, D.C., where nearly a third of students in the nation's capital were absent 15 days or more in a single school year.

Washington state and Alaska weren't that far behind, with absentee rates hovering around a quarter of students with that level of absences.

Florida had the lowest rate of absences: 4.5 percent of students in the state were chronically missing school in the 2013-2014 school year.

The national average in the 2013-2014 school year was 13 percent, more than 6.5 million students, a number that Bob Balfanz, a research professor at Johns Hopkins University and director of the Everyone Graduates Center, called disturbing.

"If you're not there, you don't learn, and then you fall behind, you don't pass your classes, you don't get the credits in high school and that's what leads to dropping out," Balfanz said in an interview.

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Tuesday's report marked the first release of chronic absentee figures from the department. According to AP's analysis, girls were just as likely as boys to habitually miss school. Nearly 22 percent of all American Indian students were reported as regularly absent, followed by Native Hawaiians at 21 percent and black students at 17 percent. Hispanic and white students were close to the national average of 13 percent.

Of the 100 largest school districts by enrollment, the Detroit City School District had the highest rate of chronic absenteeism. Nearly 58 percent of students were chronically absent in the 2013-2014 school year.

Students are regularly missing school for lots of reasons, Balfanz says. Many are poor and could be staying home to care for a sibling or helping with elder care. Others are avoiding school because they're being bullied or they worry it's not safe. And then, there are some students who simply skip school.

Schools should be creating welcoming environments to make students feel wanted each day, Balfanz says. They also need to build relationships with the kids who are regularly absent to figure out what's keeping them away, he said.

The Obama administration began a program last fall called Every Student, Every Day. It partners with states and local groups in 30 communities to identify mentors to help habitually absent kids get back on track.

Chronic absenteeism is one of several topics covered in the department's Civil Rights Data Collection, a biannual survey of all public schools in the country, covering over 95,000 schools and 50 million students. It also looked at school discipline and high-rigor course offerings.

Other figures:

—Black preschool children are 3.6 times as likely to get one or more out-of-school suspensions as their white counterparts.

—Black children represent 19 percent of preschoolers, yet they account for 47 percent of preschool kids getting suspended.

—White students make up 41 percent of preschoolers, and 28 percent of preschool kids with suspensions.

—Overall, across the country, 2.8 million K-12 students received one or more out-of-school suspensions — a nearly 20 percent drop from the number reported two years ago.

-Nationwide, almost half of high schools offered classes in calculus, and more than three-quarters offered Algebra II.

—Thirty-three percent of high schools with substantial black and Latino enrollment offered calculus. That compares to 56 percent of high schools with low numbers of black and Latino children that offered calculus. Similar gaps were seen for physics, chemistry and Algebra II.

Homeless shelters struggle with loss of federal funding CATHY BUSSEWITZ, Associated Press

HONOLULU (AP) — David Willett lived in a tent and struggled with drug addiction before coming to Gregory House, a Honolulu shelter that has provided temporary housing for people with HIV and AIDS for more than a decade.

But the shelter is among many that face steep federal funding cuts this year, and Willett and other residents worry about its future.

"I would be dead if it wasn't for Gregory House," said Willett, 49. "We just desperately need this program."

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Shelter managers in Hawaii are scrambling to figure out how to keep a roof over the heads of hundreds of homeless people, and similar cuts are being made across the nation this month as the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development shifts its grant money to programs that focus on permanent housing.

After hearing the news, Gregory House residents held hands in the kitchen — its walls decorated with the words "live," 'believe" and "laugh" — and shared stories about how living in the shelter helped them battle drug addictions and disease.

The transitional shelters and programs — many operating for more than a decade — applied for grants and were scored on factors including the community's success at reducing homelessness. Local communities across the nation decreased homelessness by 11 percent since 2010, according to HUD. But Hawaii — with the highest rate of homelessness in the nation — bucked the trend, with more people falling into homelessness every year since 2011.

Each local area ranked their programs in order of priority when submitting the applications to HUD, and programs at the bottom of the list faced stiff competition nationwide.

Programs also were graded for the first time in the annual competition on whether local groups serving the homeless are working to decriminalize homelessness.

"We have been looking at policies that criminalize homelessness for many years now, and they don't help," said Norm Suchar, director of office of special needs assistance programs at HUD.

When communities criminalize homelessness, people end up going to jail for sleeping or urinating in public places, Suchar said. They remain homeless, because it's harder to get a job with a criminal record, and the community spends more money on jails and emergency room visits, he added. While HUD hasn't released how it graded the individual programs, several cities with policies that criminalize homelessness experienced cuts.

Honolulu County, which banned sitting and lying down in Waikiki and other places in 2014, saw overall funding from HUD slashed by more than \$525,000 this year, impacting programs that house about 465 people.

Miami-Dade County got \$2.5 million less from HUD than it did last year. While some programs in the Miami area saw increased funding, cuts to existing programs totaled about \$6 million, said Ron Book, chairman of the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust. That impacted 23 programs providing more than 750 shelter beds, including transitional shelters serving victims of domestic violence, Book said.

"If you don't have the money to fill the gap, you're going to put those women and those children directly into harm's way," Book said.

Programs in Baltimore, Maryland saw their overall funding dwindle by \$1.6 million. When prioritizing its grant applications, the city put transitional housing programs at the bottom of the list, said Bill McCarthy, executive director of Catholic Charities of Baltimore. A new permanent housing project got about \$2 million, but transitional housing programs lost \$3.8 million for 18 programs with hundreds of beds, he said. That included My Sister's Place Lodge, which houses 27 women with disabilities such as mental illness, and Christopher's Place, a shelter that helps men transition back into the workforce after serving time in prison.

"You're talking about hundreds of beds that are lost without the support of HUD," McCarthy said. "The city had no plan in place with what they would do with the individuals that were living in these programs."

Nationwide, many of the programs that lost money were transitional housing. While HUD believes there's a place for transitional housing, data shows that programs offering permanent housing have better long-term outcomes, Suchar said.

"We have a very difficult homelessness problem and not all the resources that you would want to

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have, so we prioritize," Suchar said.

Not all programs lost money; funding from HUD was up overall. HUD awarded nearly \$2 billion in grants for homeless programs, up from \$1.8 billion last year.

Houston had a large increase in funding, getting an additional \$9 million for a total of \$32 million. New York City also saw a big increase, with an additional \$17 million boosting its total to \$122 million.

HUD's federal office is working with local groups to ensure that if a de-funded shelter shuts down, the residents have an alternative place to go, officials said. But with no specific plan in place, local shelter managers are worried.

"I can't in good conscience just allow this group of people to become homeless because of some ill-arrived decisions from a federal agency," said Jon Berliner, executive director of Gregory House Programs. "The impact of this is just going to be unbelievably awful."

Clinton claims historic victory in Democratic primary JULIE PACE, Associated Press LISA LERER, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Claiming her place in history, Hillary Clinton declared victory Tuesday night in her bruising battle for the Democratic presidential nomination, becoming the first woman to lead a major American political party and casting herself as the beneficiary of generations who fought for equality.

"This campaign is about making sure there are no ceilings, no limits on any of us," Clinton said during an emotional rally in Brooklyn, eight years to the day after she ended her first failed White House run. As she took the stage to raucous cheers, she paused to relish the moment, flinging her arms wide and beaming broadly.

Clinton had already secured the delegates needed for the nomination, according to an Associated Press tally. She added to her totals with victories in New Jersey, New Mexico and South Dakota, three of the six states voting Tuesday.

Clinton faces a two-front challenge in the coming days. She must appeal to the enthusiastic supporters of her rival Bernie Sanders — who vowed to stay in the race despite having no realistic path to the nomination — and sharpen her contrasts with presumptive Republican nominee Donald Trump.

She sought to make progress on both, using her own loss in 2008 to connect with Sanders' backers. "It never feels good to put our heart into a cause or a candidate you believe in and come up short," she said. "I know that feeling well. But as we look ahead to the battle that awaits, let's remember all that unites us."

Sanders, speaking at a rally in Santa Monica, California, said he'd spoken to Clinton late Tuesday. He notably stripped his speech of all criticism of her, but still pledged to compete in next week's final primary in the District of Columbia and take his fight for "social, economic, racial and environmental justice" to the Democratic convention.

"Our fight is to transform this country and to understand that we are in this together, to understand that all of what we believe is what the majority of the American people believe and to understand that the struggle continues," he declared.

Clinton had an edge over Sanders in California, but votes were still being counted early Wednesday. Sanders has hoped a win in California would give him ammunition to convince superdelegates to abandon Clinton before the Democratic convention in July.

Clinton is eager to avoid a convention fight and to set her sights fully on Trump. She was biting and sarcastic as she took on the billionaire businessman, accusing him of wanting to win "by stoking fear and rubbing salt in wounds — and reminding us daily just how great he is."

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Even as the Democratic race was ending, new turmoil broke out among the Republicans. GOP leaders recoiled at Trump's comments about a Hispanic judge, with one senator even pulling his endorsement.

Trump capped his difficult day with victories in California, New Jersey, New Mexico, South Dakota and Montana. But he was muted his victory rally, saying he understands "the responsibility" of leading the Republican Party. He also made a direct appeal to dejected Sanders supporters and other Democrats.

"This election isn't about Republican or Democrat, it's about who runs this country: the special interests or the people," he said. Trump promised a major speech next week on Clinton and her husband, former President Bill Clinton.

Clinton's new wins came a day after she secured the 2,383 delegates she needed to become the presumptive Democratic nominee, according to an Associated Press tally. Her total includes pledged delegates won in primaries and caucuses, as well as superdelegates — the party officials and officeholders who can back a candidate of their choosing.

President Barack Obama called both Clinton and Sanders late Tuesday. The White House said Obama congratulated Clinton for "securing the delegates necessary to clinch the Democratic nomination for president" and praised her "historic campaign," though he did not formally endorse her.

The White House said Obama and Sanders will meet at the White House on Thursday, at the Vermont senator's request

Sanders picked up wins in North Dakota and Montana, where a small number of delegates were up for grabs.

Republicans had appeared unified after Trump vanquished his last opponents about a month ago. But the real estate mogul has continued to make controversial statements, frustrating party leaders.

The latest cause for GOP concern was his insistence that a judge handling a legal case involving the businessman was being unfair in his rulings. Trump has said U.S. District Judge Gonzalo Curiel can't be impartial because the jurist's parents were born in Mexico and Trump wants to build a wall along the border.

Illinois Sen. Mark Kirk, who is locked in a close re-election fight, became the first lawmaker to pull his endorsement of Trump. House Speaker Paul Ryan said the businessman's assertion was the "textbook definition of a racist comment" but he would continue to support Trump.

Trump released a statement saying he does "not feel one's heritage makes them incapable of being impartial." But he still questioned whether he was receiving fair treatment in the case involving the now-defunct Trump University.

Sanders' achievements have been remarkable for a candidate who was unknown to most Americans before the campaign. He has drawn massive crowds to rallies around the country and built a fundraising juggernaut based largely on small donations online. The Vermont senator has been particularly popular with young voters, an important piece of the Democratic coalition.

Still, Clinton's victory has been broadly decisive. She leads Sanders by more than 3 million cast votes. She has 2,469 delegates to Sanders' 1,637. That count includes both pledged delegates and superdelegates.

Pressure point: Irving, Cavs face crucial Game 3 in finals TOM WITHERS, AP Sports Writer

CLEVELAND (AP) — One day before his first NBA Finals game at home, Cavaliers guard Kyrie Irving spent time after practice trying out some one-on-one moves against assistant coach James Posey. That's not what Cleveland needed him to work on.

With the Cavs already in a 2-0 hole they can't allow to get deeper, Irving must play like an All-Star, if not a superstar, for Cleveland to win Game 3 on Wednesday night over the Golden State Warriors, at-

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tempting to cap an historic season with a second straight title.

Irving has waited a year, actually a lifetime, for this moment. After breaking his kneecap in Game 1 of last year's finals and enduring months of grueling rehab, the 24-year-old, often criticized for being too selfish on the court, has a chance at personal redemption and to help the Cavs, who could be missing concussed forward Kevin Love in Game 3.

The pressure's on.

Irving, though, isn't feeling any.

"Just be myself," he said when asked how he needs to improve in Game 3. "Go out there and be aggressive."

Irving was in attack mode in the opener, scoring 26 points and making 11 free throws as he was able to get to the rim almost at will. It wasn't nearly as easy in Game 2 — for Irving or the Cavs — as he was held to 10 points on 5-of-14 shooting and the Warriors rolled to a 110-77 win.

But in addition to clanking shots, Irving also fell back into a bad habit of hanging onto the ball too long, dribbling and failing to get his teammates involved. He had just one assist in 33 minutes and there were several possessions when Irving seemed to forget there were four other guys in Cleveland jerseys on the floor.

Coach Tyronn Lue, who is feeling some heat for the first time since taking over for David Blatt in January, said he has spoken to Irving about attacking the basket earlier and not letting the 24-second shot tick down to single digits, sending the Cavs into a panic to avoid a violation.

The Cavs are at their best when Irving — and the ball — are moving.

"He's one of the players that we have on our team that can go one-on-one, because they're switching one through five," Lue said, referring to the Warriors' defensive plan when guarding pick-and-rolls. "But he has to make sharp, quick moves. He understands that, but we need Kyrie to be aggressive. He's a scorer. He's a special player. He has the best handle in the NBA, so he's able to play iso (isolation) basketball. But he's got to make quick decisions, and he understands that."

Irving made major strides in his second season while playing with LeBron James, but there are still moments when the two stars are in different galaxies. The Cavs must get Irving and James back in sync quickly or the Warriors will be spraying champagne in Cleveland once again.

As for Lue, a torrid run through the postseason has slowed to a crawl.

Cleveland opened the playoffs with 10 straight wins before needing six games to oust Toronto and win its second consecutive Eastern Conference title. That was expected, though, and Cavs owner Dan Gilbert and general manager David Griffin are demanding more, which is why Blatt was fired in January despite a 30-11 record and trip to the finals as a first-year coach in 2015.

Lue's under the gun to deliver a championship or there could be more changes. The 38-year-old Lue didn't sign a contract when he agreed to take over for Blatt, a decision that either shows his confidence, respect for Blatt or a desire to look elsewhere once the season ends.

Whatever the case, Lue, like his starting point guard, needs to get going or he could be embarrassed in the finals again.

On June 6, 2001, Lue was playing for the Los Angeles Lakers when he was on the wrong end of a nasty move by Philadelphia guard Allen Iverson in Game 1 of the finals. Despite solid defense by Lue, Iverson shook him with his patented, ankle-breaking crossover dribble, drained a jumper and then stepped over him as Lue sat on the floor.

Lue recovered as did the Lakers, who went on to win the title.

He and the Cavs need to get back on their feet in Game 3.

"I have to do a better job," he said. "Our players have to do a better job. We have to play better, and they understand that and we will."

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Muhammad Ali wasn't always 'The Greatest' at sponsorships MAE ANDERSON, AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Muhammad Ali was one of the greatest athletes of all time, but he didn't cash in during his prime the way you'd expect today. Product endorsements deals for the boxer were scarce, and in fact his most notable commercial during his earlier years was for a roach trap.

In the turbulent 1960s and 1970s, his political activism and racial pride made many advertisers wary. But it was also a different era in which athletes weren't generally rich role models and advertising itself focused largely on bland mass-market products.

"There was so much less money in things like sports and sponsorships at the time," said Mike Lewis, Emory University marketing professor. "If he had that level of stature now, he could be a multibillion dollar marketing entity."

Ali was a genius at self-promotion, and his brand — the "Greatest of All Time," as he labeled himself — remains unparalleled in sports. In 2016, decades after he stopped boxing, Muhammad Ali was tied with Michael Jordan and Tom Brady — for No. 1 in 'familiarity' on Marketing Evaluations' annual sports Q ratings, which measures various aspects of athlete and celebrity marketability. He was more familiar to 18- to 34-year olds than some the most popular current athletes including LeBron James, Serena Williams and Peyton Manning.

So why didn't that translate into Jordan-level of endorsements? The former Chicago Bulls star, the most successful sports-star pitchman of all time, is estimated to be worth hundreds of millions due to his lucrative Nike Jordan brand and other deals. But Ali was in a different league from the beginning. A DIFFERENT WORLD

"Ali's active career didn't take place in a time when there was tremendous athlete endorsement," said Ray Katz, a sports business professor at Columbia University. Katz notes that neither basketball player Wilt Chamberlain nor golfer Arnold Palmer, both big sports stars of the same era, signed big endorsement deals. (Like Ali, Palmer scored bigger deals later on, after he retired.)

Ali was known globally, but global endorsements didn't really exist yet. Up until the early 1980s, athlete sponsorship deals tended to much smaller in scope. Baseball legend Joe DiMaggio promoted Mr. Coffee; star quarterback Joe Namath even did an ad for Hanes pantyhose.

Muhammad Ali's politics might have stymied some deals, too. The boxer was stripped of his title and boxing license for refusing to enter the army during the Vietnam War and didn't enter a boxing ring for three years at the height of his career.

"There's a lot of conservatism in corporate America," Katz said. Ali's diagnosis of Parkinson's disease in 1984 likely slowed him down as well.

RESURGENCE

Still, in the past decade and a half, the marketing world finally seemed to catch on to the power of being linked to Muhammad Ali. He was featured on a Wheaties box in 1999, long after he retired, but was still the first boxer to appear there. In 2004, he and his daughter Laila were part of Adidas' global brand campaign "Impossible is Nothing ."

He has appeared in ads for Pizza Hut, Apple and Porsche and was featured in Toyota's 2015 Super Bowl commercial, "How Great I Am ."

In 2006, Ali sold 80 percent of the marketing rights to his name and likeness to entertainment and licensing firm CKX for a reported \$50 million dollars. The brand changed hands several times and is now managed by Authentic Brands Group, which has inked several licensing deals including partnering with Under Armour on a clothing line featuring his likeness. The clothes, shoes, and accessories debuted last fall and were promoted with a campaign that relied heavily on famous photos and video of Ali.

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Under Armour and Authentic Brands Group did not return a request for comment on the future of the line. But demand for Ali's iconic image in the marketing world is not likely to fade soon. Iconic stars like Marilyn Monroe, Elvis and Frank Sinatra have been featured in ads long after their deaths.

"He'll always be known as quote unquote 'The Greatest,' so if you're a brand it's a great association to have," Columbia's Katz said.

Language barriers, fear heighten woes in Flint water crisis JEFF KAROUB, Associated Press

FLINT, Mich. (AP) — Margarita Solis regularly drives to Flint distribution centers to load up on bottled water, as thousands of residents have done in the city coping with a lead-contaminated water crisis.

One stop is a little farther afield but feels like home: She goes to Our Lady of Guadalupe Church north of the city, where the conversation with volunteers may be in Spanish. It's nice for the 21-year-old Solis — a church member and lifelong Flint resident who speaks English and Spanish — but necessary for her parents and others with Hispanic or Latino roots who speak little or no English.

"They always depend on me or my siblings, who do know how to speak English well," Solis said of her parents, who moved to Flint shortly before she was born and now are U.S. citizens. "So, sometimes, like for my mom, she kind of has to wait around until we have free time, because we go to school and work and everything."

The city of nearly 100,000 has been dealing with the lead contamination since switching from the Detroit system, which draws from Lake Huron, to the Flint River in April 2014 as a short-term measure to save money while another pipeline to the lake was under construction. Last September, state officials acknowledged a failure to add chemicals to limit corrosion had enabled the river water to scrape lead from aging pipes, exposing people in some homes and schools to the potent neurotoxin.

The struggles have been acute for members of some Spanish-speaking households, who say it took several months to learn about the water problems and the need for filters. State officials said there are no Spanish language print media or radio outlets in Flint devoted to news. What's more, some people in the country illegally have been afraid to provide information to anyone in exchange for water or other basic help lest they be deported or questioned by law enforcement officials.

Officials with Our Lady of Guadalupe recognized the language and cultural barriers in January, when they started distributing supplies as well as information in English and Spanish developed with the help of government officials. After concerns were raised, government officials also stopped checking identification at official distribution sites.

Advocates note improvements, with more documents and phone assistance being made available in Spanish and other languages. Still, it's difficult to reach everyone after concerns spread in the community.

"I think it's hard to convince people that there are safe places for them to come to — even at this point," said Victoria Arteaga, a local immigration attorney who attends and works at Our Lady of Guadalupe, where her husband, Omar Odette, is the administrator. "We still see people who are hesitant to go to these sites and ask for help. ... There's always that fear that if I got in my car and get pulled over, something will happen."

She said it's also likely some children aren't having their blood tested for lead because of those fears. And some might not see the right doctors to deal with lead contamination because people must be U.S. citizens or non-citizens meeting certain criteria to get Medicaid. Those without documents have to rely on limited emergency services, she said.

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Arteaga says there are an estimated 1,000 people living illegally in the Flint area. Flint's Latino community represents at least 5 percent of the overall population, according to the federal Census, though she says it's likely higher.

The language barrier came up in April during a Michigan Civil Rights Commission hearing exploring whether residents have faced racial and ethnic discrimination. Commissioners heard from Yaquelin Vargas, 21, who moved to Flint from San Antonio, Texas, six years ago with her father.

Vargas said buying their home was a "dream come true," but now they struggle. Her father is too ill to work and she must care for him and her 7-month-old daughter, Lydia, who tested positive for lead. She's also concerned about people in her east-side neighborhood, many of whom, like her father, speak little English.

Arteaga said Vargas "is a perfect example of the people that are lost right now — they're not sure what the future holds for them."

President Barack Obama, who declared a state of emergency in the city in mid-January and ordered federal aid to supplement the state and local response, visited Flint in May.

Among those who met with Obama was Rick Vasquez, a retired General Motors worker who coordinates Our Lady of Guadalupe's distribution efforts. He's glad to be helping other residents, particularly those dealing with language barriers.

Vasquez said it's hard for him to fathom how a U.S. public water system can be fouled in this way, and shared those concerns with Obama.

"I've lived here all my life. I never thought that I would be living in a Third World country, and this is exactly what it feels like," said Vasquez, during a break from lugging water and filters to residents' cars. "We're surrounded by Great Lakes. This should have never happened."

Grim sign of war, blast walls turn Afghan capital into maze KARIM SHARIFI, Associated Press LYNNE O'DONNELL, Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Blast walls mushroom in the Afghan capital after each massive attack or a big bombing, turning Kabul into a maze of concrete in a sad testimony that war still remains very much part of life here.

For some, the walls feel like a prison — a far cry from the gardens and peaceful hues that dotted Kabul in the 1960s, before the Taliban. For others, the walls thwart potential suicide bombers and keep their children safe.

Each time the city is targeted, more public space disappears.

The wealthy and the connected erect the walls on the streets outside their homes, sparing no costs to cordon off their quarters and seemingly unconcerned for residents who suffer in choking traffic jams that result.

Afghanistan has been in conflict for almost 40 years and at war with the Taliban for 15 years, since the U.S.-led invasion of 2001. But even a "ring of steel" around Kabul, with tens of thousands of policemen, soldiers and private security guards deployed on a daily basis, has not kept attackers away.

By the time a massive truck suicide bombing in April killed 64 people and wounded hundreds in the heart of Kabul, spreading panic among the city's population of 4.5 million, the U.S. Embassy had already erected one of the city's tallest barriers at its western entrance — a 4-meter (13-feet) wall, painted bright yellow, that now looms over one of Kabul's main roundabouts.

As security demands increased over the years, Hesco bags — huge sacks of steel welded mesh filled

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with sand and rocks — that once dominated Kabul's landscape have been replaced by concrete blast T-walls, so called because individual blocks resemble the inverted letter T.

The walls, more known as visual landmarks of Baghdad and other Iraqi cities, are now ubiquitous across Kabul and making them is a booming business, according to Bahir Sediqi, marketing manager for Omid Khwajazada, a company on the outskirts of Kabul that manufactures the 13-ton walls.

Prices are coming down due to higher demand, coupled with lower labor costs amid an unemployment crisis. Blast walls now costs \$100 a square meter, he said, compared to \$250 before 2014. The walls are transported into the city overnight and winched into place with cranes, he said.

Sediqi says his customers lately tend to prefer the 7-meter (23-feet) model to those 3 meters high. Though he isn't "happy because the walls turn the city into a prison," he says working is better than not having a job.

"It's not only the Afghan government and some foreign embassies and companies that are buying them, but rich people, too," he said.

For others, they are depressive.

The walls "make you feel as if there is only fighting, violence and terror here," said Nazir Ahmad, a Kabul resident, as he strolled past the stretch of grey concrete outside the Telecommunications Ministry.

The ministry's spokesman, Yasin Samim, defended the walls, saying the employees started receiving warnings from the police and the Afghan intelligence agency back in 2012 that their building could be targeted.

"It was felt to be a necessary precaution," he said. "We're the center of all the nation's information."

As the walls multiplied, they became a canvas for a group of artists calling themselves Artlords — a word play on warlords, who still play a major role in the Afghan society. The Artlords descended on the concrete, painting scenes depicting ordinary Afghans, from street sweepers to policewomen and footballers.

Much of Artlors' work is about eyes — huge painted eyes, male and female, that look down from the walls on the passing traffic and pedestrians. Some also have a warning, painted alongside: "God and the people are watching."

For Omaid Sharifi, the Artlords founder, the murals are a way of beautifying the gray that dominates the cityscape.

"We wanted to 'bring down' these walls," Sharif said. "We cannot do it with a shovel, the only thing we can do is use paint."

Sediqi, the marketing manager of the blast wall factory, says Kabul seems to be running out of space for more walls.

"Everyone already has all the walls they need," he said.

`Small handful' of NBC employees opt out of Olympics DAVID BAUDER, AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Savannah Guthrie of the "Today" show put a public face Tuesday on what NBC says is a "small handful" of employees who will not travel to Rio de Janeiro this summer for Olympics coverage because of concern over the Zika virus.

The co-host of the morning news show, who is 44, announced she was pregnant with her second child. Brazil is the country hardest-hit by the mosquito-borne virus, which can cause severe birth defects, including babies born with abnormally small heads.

NBC is sending more than 2,000 employees to Brazil to cover the Olympics, which take place Aug.

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5-21. The company advises anyone concerned about the virus to check with their own doctors, and said no one will be required to travel if they believe their health would be at risk.

The network would not specify what it meant by a "small handful" of employees, NBC Sports spokesman Chris McCloskey said. Guthrie is the first employee to drop out of the trip to identify herself publicly.

It's an important trip for the "Today" show, which is a close second to ABC's "Good Morning America" in the ratings. NBC plays up the Olympic connection for its morning news program, in the hopes of drawing new viewers who will stick with the program after the games are over.

"You'll have to go to female beach volleyball without me, Matt," Guthrie said to co-host Matt Lauer on Tuesday.

Many of the employees who won't make the trip to Rio are assigned instead to NBC Sports' facility in Stamford, Connecticut, just outside New York. The network runs its digital operation from there, and even has broadcast teams that work on some of the lesser-watched sports from the Stamford offices. All of the Olympic competition is streamed online.

The World Health Organization said in Geneva on Tuesday that it will convene a special Zika emergency committee to examine the present stage of the virus. There have been outbreaks of the virus throughout Latin America. The WHO and Centers for Disease Control recommend that pregnant women shouldn't travel to any country where Zika is spreading, including Brazil.

The WHO's director-general asked the emergency committee to examine the risks of holding the Olympics in Brazil.

Venezuelans pick through trash for food to eat or sell FABIOLA SANCHEZ, Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Until recently, Julio Noguera worked at a bakery. But he now spends his evenings searching through the garbage for food.

"I come here looking for food because if I didn't, I'd starve to death," Noguera said as he sorted through a pile of moldy potatoes. "With things like they are, no one helps anyone and no one gives away meals."

Across town, unemployed people converge every dusk at a trash heap on a downtown Caracas sidewalk to pick through rotten fruit and vegetables tossed out by nearby shops. They are frequently joined by small business owners, college students and pensioners — people who consider themselves middle class even though their living standards have long ago been pulverized by triple-digit inflation, food shortages and a collapsing currency.

Venezuela's poverty had eased during the administration of the late President Hugo Chavez. But a study by three leading Caracas universities found that 76 percent of Venezuelans are now under the poverty line, compared with 52 percent in 2014.

Staples such as corn flour and cooking oil are subsidized, costing pennies at the strongest of two official exchange rates. But fruit and vegetables have become an unaffordable luxury for many Venezuelan families.

"We're seeing terrible sacrifices across many sections of society," said Carlos Aponte, a sociology professor at the Central University of Venezuela. "A few years ago, Venezuela didn't have the kind of extreme poverty that would drive people to eat garbage."

While some search through the garbage piles for food they can eat, many more are drawn by the opportunity to fetch a few bolivar bills by rescuing and reselling bruised produce.

On a recent evening, Noguera managed to retrieve a dozen potatoes.

"I'm a trained baker, but right now there's no work anywhere here. So I make do with this," he said.

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The trash pickers aren't just people who've lost their jobs.

Jhosriana Capote, a vocational student, comes to the trash heap to supplement her pantry. She recently completed an internship with a Coca-Cola subsidiary.

"I used to be able to find food, but not anymore. Everything is lines," she said after an evening picking through the refuse.

Dumpster diving isn't a new phenomenon in Venezuela, but it is a growing one. Venezuela was once the richest nation in South America, but a fall in oil prices combined with other economic problems has sparked desperation.

Nearly half of Venezuelans say they can no longer afford to eat three meals a day, according to a recent poll by the local firm Venebarometro. The poll surveyed 1,200 adults at their homes the first week in April and had a margin of error of plus or minus of about 2 percentage points.

The government blames the political opposition, accusing it of waging an "economic war" to stir unrest and oust President Nicolas Maduro from power. The administration has launched an aggressive program to build urban farms in an effort to address food shortages.

One recent night, two young girls found some cilantro, lemons and remains of a cabbage in the garbage. Their mother, Monica Espinosa, said the scavenging helps them get by since her husband walked out on the family. Espinosa said she still owns two apartments, but makes ends meet by cooking sauces from the vegetables she finds and selling them to stores, earning about \$6 a week.

"I'm a single mother with two children, and this is helping me get by," she said.

News Guide: 6 states casting presidential primary ballots LAURIE KELLMAN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Spoiler Alert:

Democrat Hillary Rodham Clinton and Republican Donald Trump emerged from Tuesday's coast-tocoast contests the presumptive presidential nominees of their parties.

No suspense there: Trump has held that title for weeks, and Clinton clinched it on the eve of the votes. But Tuesday's contests in six states and the candidates' speeches were full of history, emotion and drama.

Clinton soaked in the history she has made as the first woman ever assured of a major party's presidential nomination. Donald Trump seized the opportunity to speak in the unifying, substantive tones Republican leaders have demanded in recent days.

And for Bernie Sanders, Tuesday's contests offered the chance to cap a remarkable and resilient campaign to level the American playing field — one that vexed the Clinton armada for a solid year. But Tuesday's contests gave Sanders a new taste of victory, and his campaign suggested he's not done.

Political mathletes get to stand down after Tuesday's votes and the final contest of the primaries in District of Columbia June 14.

Here's a look at how Tuesday is unfolding:

THE BASICS:

The evening offered 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 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 in five states (there's no GOP contest in North Dakota). Trump is the only remaining GOP candidate.

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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. Associated Press counts of Republican and Democratic convention delegates found enough support to assure Clinton and Trump their parties' nominations.

WHY IT MATTERS FOR CLINTON

This time, Clinton got the celebration she'd hoped for in 2008 — and by many accounts, long before that.

Emotional from the moment she stepped onstage at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, Clinton made clear she considers the competition with Sanders over and delivered yet another broadside against Trump.

The speech was also notable for its timing: The event comes on the eight-year anniversary of Clinton's concession speech to then-Sen. Barack Obama, in which she noted her campaign hadn't breached "that highest, hardest glass ceiling" but that barrier now had "about 18 million cracks in it."

She's now assured of crossing a boundary as the first woman to win the presidential nomination of any party. How she proceeds toward Election Day begins with mending the stubborn split between her supporters and Sanders' — and depends significantly on how well she learns a bracing lesson he taught her: Young people, especially young women, flocked to him in the primaries.

The occasion also opens the gates to flashy endorsements. House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi didn't wait for the votes Tuesday to announce her support. There's a bigger endorsement on the horizon from President Obama, followed by joint appearances.

WHY IT MATTERS FOR TRUMP

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

In his victory speech, Trump spoke of new beginnings.

"We're only getting started, and it's gonna be beautiful," Trump said at his golf course in Westchester County, N.Y., calling it an "honor" to lead the GOP. "I understand the responsibility of carrying the mantle."

"Tonight we close one chapter of history and we begin another."

He even spoke of issues — trade, economic prosperity and more.

His words were far closer to the tone and approach Republicans have been demanding in the weeks since Trump's remaining rivals surrendered the contest — a sign, perhaps, that he was starting to turn away from the combative and impulsive style that served him well in the primaries and toward fulfilling his promise to unite the fractured party.

For at least one high-profile Republican, it was too late: Sen. Mark Kirk, who is in a tough re-election fight in Illinois, rescinded his endorsement of Trump. House Speaker Paul Ryan kept his but called Trump's remarks about the judge "racist" and suggested that the mature thing for Trump to do would be to admit they were wrong.

That didn't happen. But instead of attacking his critics, Trump offered signs he was turning a corner.

CONTESTED REPUBLICAN CONVENTION?

Nope.

Regardless of how many GOP politicians come out against Donald Trump, the math says they can't contest his nomination.

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With his victories Tuesday, Trump now has at least 1,239 bound delegates who are required by party rules to vote for him at the convention. It takes 1,237 delegates to win the GOP nomination.

Trump also has public support from 95 unbound delegates, but they could possibly change their minds and switch to another candidate.

Several Republicans in Congress are criticizing Trump for saying a federal judge could not preside fairly over a case involving Trump University because of his Mexican heritage.

GOP Sen. Jeff Flake of Arizona said Trump's comments could spur talk of a challenge at the convention.

WHAT ABOUT BERNIE?

For Sanders, Tuesday presented an opportunity to emerge from the race with significant gravitas in the Democratic Party and the Clinton campaign.

But first, he insisted on NBC that he's going to continue to "fight for the working class in this country, for low-income people," in the remaining contest and perhaps beyond.

Sanders planned to travel to Vermont on Wednesday and head to Washington Thursday for meetings and a rally.

His campaign, meanwhile, sent out a fundraising email Tuesday evening urging supporters to help him finish strong June 14 in the District of Columbia contest.

And Tuesday's results contained good news for Sanders: He defeated Clinton in North Dakota.

IN HOUSE ELECTION NEWS ...

In North Carolina Tuesday, Rep. Renee Ellmers, endorsed by Trump, became the first Republican incumbent ousted in this year's primaries. Rep. George Holding defeated her in a contest resulting from redrawn district lines.

AND IN SENATE ELECTION NEWS....

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. Harris clinched a spot late Tuesday.

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 the U.S. Senate, says Claremont McKenna College political scientist Jack Pitney. Republicans in the state account for only 27 percent of registered voters.

Asian stocks lower ahead of China trade data JOE McDONALD, AP Business Writer

BEIJING (AP) — Asian stocks were mostly lower Wednesday after the World Bank cut its global growth forecast, as investors looked ahead to Chinese trade data.

KEEPING SCORE: The Shanghai Composite Index fell 0.4 percent to 2,922.98 points and Hong Kong's Hang Seng lost 0.3 percent to 21,276.25. Tokyo's Nikkei 225 rose 0.6 percent to 16,774.50 while Seoul's Kospi advanced 0.1 percent to 2,013.21. Sydney's S&P-ASX 200 retreated 0.1 percent to 5,366.40 and New Zealand also declined. Benchmarks for Taiwan and Singapore rose but Indonesia was lower.

WALL STREET: Stocks edged up, led by gains for energy companies as oil prices rose. Chevron rose 2.1 percent while Newfield Exploration added 4.7 percent. The Dow Jones industrial average and Stan-

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dard & Poor's 500 index both gained 0.1 percent. The Nasdaq composite, heavily weighted with biotech companies, lost 0.1 percent.

GLOBAL GROWTH: The World Bank cut its forecast for this year's global economic growth to 2.4 percent from the 2.9 percent pace projected in January. It cited sluggish growth in advanced economies, stubbornly low commodity prices, weak global trade and diminishing capital flows. It said half the revision was prompted by the struggle of commodity-exporting economies to adapt to lower prices for oil and other key commodities.

ANALYST'S TAKE: "It does seemed like the various financial markets are a little disjointed, as trades are somewhat odd," said Bernard Aw of IG in a report. He pointed to a slump in yields on German, Japanese and other sovereign bonds, which forces investors to buy riskier assets. "Global equities are firmer, but it is not indicative of an uptake in risk appetite," said Aw. "The upmove was mostly driven by higher oil prices."

CHINESE TRADE: Investors looked ahead to data that were expected to show China's trade contracted in May for another month, with exports declining 4 percent and imports down about 7 percent. The weakness threatens to disrupt Beijing's efforts to lift the economy out of a slump, potentially requiring more stimulus that would set back efforts to reduce reliance on trade and investment.

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude gained 3 cents to \$50.39 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract rose 67 cents on Tuesday to close at \$50.36. Brent crude, used to price international oils, shed 4 cents to \$51.40 per barrel in London. It jumped 89 cents the previous session to \$51.44.

CURRENCY: The dollar declined to 106.83 yen from Tuesday's 107.31 yen. The euro edged up to \$1.1370 from \$1.1356.

Today in History The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, June 8, the 160th day of 2016. There are 206 days left in the year. Today's Highlights in History:

On June 8, 1966, the strongest of a series of tornadoes struck the Topeka, Kansas, area, killing 17 people. A merger was announced between the National and American Football Leagues, to take effect in 1970.

On this date:

In A.D. 632, the prophet Muhammad died in Medina.

In 1845, Andrew Jackson, seventh president of the United States, died in Nashville, Tennessee.

In 1864, Abraham Lincoln was nominated for another term as president during the National Union (Republican) Party's convention in Baltimore.

In 1912, the ballet "Daphnis et Chloe" was premiered by the Ballets Russes in Paris.

In 1915, U.S. Secretary of State William Jennings Bryan resigned over what he viewed as President Woodrow Wilson's overly bellicose attitude toward Germany following the sinking of the RMS Lusitania.

In 1948, the "Texaco Star Theater" made its debut on NBC-TV with Milton Berle guest-hosting the first program. (Berle was later named the show's permanent host.)

In 1953, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled unanimously that restaurants in the District of Columbia could not refuse to serve blacks. Eight tornadoes struck Michigan's Lower Peninsula, killing 126 people.

In 1967, 34 U.S. servicemen were killed when Israel attacked the USS Liberty, a Navy intelligence-

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gathering ship in the Mediterranean. (Israel later said the Liberty had been mistaken for an Egyptian vessel.)

In 1972, during the Vietnam War, an Associated Press photographer captured the haunting image of 9-year-old Phan Thi Kim Phuc (fahn thee kihm fook) as she ran naked and severely burned from the scene of a South Vietnamese napalm attack.

In 1978, a jury in Clark County, Nevada, ruled the so-called "Mormon will," purportedly written by the late billionaire Howard Hughes, was a forgery.

In 1982, President Ronald Reagan became the first American chief executive to address a joint session of the British Parliament.

In 1996, China set off an underground nuclear test blast.

Ten years ago: The Food and Drug Administration approved Gardasil, a vaccine against HPV, the virus that causes cervical cancer. Sheikha Haya Al Khalifa (SHAY'-kah HY'-ah al hah-LEE'-fah), a lawyer from Bahrain, was elected U.N. General Assembly president, the first woman from the Middle East to take the post.

Five years ago: Rep. Allyson Schwartz of Pennsylvania became the first Democratic House colleague to call for Rep. Anthony Weiner of New York to resign after he admitted sending a lewd photo of himself to a woman via Twitter and lying about it. OPEC unexpectedly left its production levels unchanged, causing oil prices to jump as senior officials reported their meeting in Vienna had ended in disarray. Meredith Vieira ended her five-year run as co-anchor of NBC's "Today" show, telling viewers her decision to go was "right, but it's hard."

One year ago: Acknowledging setbacks, President Barack Obama said at the close of a G-7 summit in Germany that the United States still lacked a "complete strategy" for training Iraqi forces to fight the Islamic State. Siding with the White House in a foreign-policy power struggle with Congress, the Supreme Court ruled 6-3 that Americans born in the disputed city of Jerusalem could not list Israel as their birthplace on passports. The NCAA approved multiple rule changes to men's basketball for the 2015-16 season, including a 30-second shot clock and fewer timeouts for each team.

Today's Birthdays: Former first lady Barbara Bush is 91. Actor-comedian Jerry Stiller is 89. Actress Millicent Martin is 82. Actor James Darren is 80. Actor Bernie Casey is 77. Singer Nancy Sinatra is 76. Singer Chuck Negron is 74. Musician Boz Scaggs is 72. Author Sara Paretsky is 69. Actress Sonia Braga is 66. Actress Kathy Baker is 66. Country musician Tony Rice is 65. Rock singer Bonnie Tyler is 65. Actor Griffin Dunne is 61. "Dilbert" creator Scott Adams is 59. Actor-director Keenen Ivory Wayans is 58. Singer Mick Hucknall (Simply Red) is 56. Musician Nick Rhodes (Duran Duran) is 54. Rhythm-and-blues singer Doris Pearson (Five Star) is 50. Actress Julianna Margulies is 49. Actor Dan Futterman is 49. Actor David Sutcliffe is 47. Actor Kent Faulcon is 46. Rhythm-and-blues singer Nicci Gilbert is 46. Actress Kelli Williams is 46. Former U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, D-Ariz., is 46. Actor Mark Feuerstein is 45. Contemporary Christian musician Mike Scheuchzer (MercyMe) is 41. Actor Eion Bailey is 40. Tennis player Lindsay Davenport is 40. Rapper Kanye (KAHN'-yay) West is 39. TV personality/actress Maria Menounos is 38. Country singer/songwriter Sturgill Simpson is 38. Blues-rock musician Derek Trucks (The Derek Trucks Band) is 37. Rock singer Alex Band (The Calling) is 35. Folk-bluegrass singer-musician Sara Watkins (Nickel Creek) is 35. Tennis player Kim Clijsters is 33. Actress Torrey DeVitto is 32.

Thought for Today: "Love hath no physic for a grief too deep." — Robert Nathan, American author and poet (1894-1985).