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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.

## Manager Wanted

Part Time Apartment Manager wanted. Responsible for showing apartments, handing out applications, overseeing maintenance and other duties as needed. Up to \$25 per hour. Previous sale experience a plus. Send email of interest to Grotnmnger@gmail.com

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

## The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **Open**

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## 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)

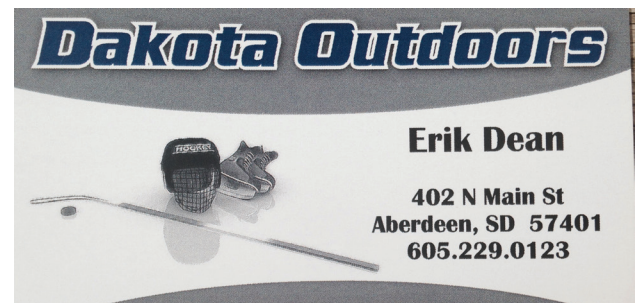
6:00pm: U8 Softball hosts Sisseton

7:00pm

U10 Softball hosts Sisseton

## Apts for Rent

1 bedroom and HUGE 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartments available NOW! All utilities included except A/C, 1 bedroom \$504 and HUGE 2 bedroom 2 bath \$674 Please call or text 239-849-7674



**Dakota Outdoors**

**Erik Dean**

402 N Main St  
Aberdeen, SD 57401  
605.229.0123



**Yellow stripes were added to the Groton Tennis Courts which outline the boundaries of the Pickleball Court. As of Wednesday, the west court was completed.**

## Kiwanis Club

Larry Schelle was program leader for last week's Kiwanis Club Meeting. Larry introduced Pat Krause, who gave an overview of the Groton boys baseball program, that he is in charge of.

The Groton baseball program serves all ages in Groton area.

Lee Schinkel is next week's program leader.

Next year's officers will be Tom Paepke, president; Reed Litch, first vice president; Tom Mahan, second vice president; Roger Rix, treasurer; and Kathy Sundermeyer, secretary.

Holdover directors for another term are Steve Giedt, Steve Simon, and Lee Schinkel.



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**The damaged umbrella was repaired yesterday with the new bright canvas being put into place, just in time for the hot weather arriving today. Dan Sunne of the Groton Electric Department is pictured replacing one of the rods.**

## Anyone Can Make Mistakes With Estate Matters – You Don't Have To

By Nathaniel Sillin

Adulthood brings certain financial responsibilities like the building of budgets, bank accounts and proper insurance. It's surprising how few consider a proper estate plan part of that essential mix.

In fact, a recent ABCNews poll (<http://abcnews.go.com/Business/story?id=86992>) found that only about 50 percent of Americans have created a will and significantly fewer have created the supporting estate documents like a living will or a power of attorney.

Preparing now for the end of your life or for illness may not sound like fun, but it is necessary. Having a plan for the future can help bring you peace and even put you on the road to stronger financial security. It can also help those you care most about. We've all heard cautionary tales about relatives or friends who did not have a will, and family members who were left with difficult but avoidable situations.

So, how do you start an estate plan? It has a lot to do with carefully drawn documents, but it's the planning behind them that really counts. I would encourage you to work with a qualified financial, estate and/or tax professional in your home state at the earliest opportunity to make sure your plans fit your needs and the needs of your loved ones. Here's a bit more detail on each.

A will, also called a testament, is the starting point. Wills are generally seen as the umbrella document that drives the rest of an individual's estate process. A will generally accomplishes the following:

It details how you want to leave your property to specific people or institutions after you die.

If you have minor children, it allows you to name a guardian to care for them after you die or become incapacitated. It also indicates who will manage your kids' assets, including what you leave them.

It lets you name your executor, the trusted person who will carry out all your wishes in the will.

If you die without a valid will, your state's court system may get involved in distributing your assets depending on intestacy laws on the books.

A living will – also known as an advance directive – allows you to define how you want to be medically treated under specific situations, including irreversible injury or terminal illness. Depending on your state laws, living wills allow you to express your exact wishes about feeding, breathing assistance and other life-sustaining procedures in addition to how you want them carried out at certain decision points in your care. A living will may also provide information on pain or infection medications you either want or don't want administered as well as specific instructions about your remains, including release to your family or donation for medical research.

Powers of attorney are legal documents that allow you to name a specific person to take care of your money or healthcare wishes if you are incapacitated. It is particularly wise to seek professional counsel from a qualified trusts and estates attorney in writing these documents. The person you designate as healthcare power of attorney will be speaking with doctors and executing your wishes on various forms of treatment; your financial power of attorney will be in charge of paying your bills and depending on the range of responsibilities you outline for that person, handling your investment and business affairs. Both are extremely important jobs that should be carried out by people you trust, and that's why they need to be people in the know. Make their preparation part of your estate planning so they know how to step in and carry out the assignments you've given them efficiently.

Bottom line: Estate planning is the final, responsible step in all good financial planning. While it may be unpleasant to do, it is essential in taking care of family, loved ones and causes you support after you're gone.

Nathaniel Sillin directs Visa's financial education programs. To follow Practical Money Skills on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney](http://www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney).



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

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| Today   | Tonight   | Friday  | Friday Night  | Saturday   | Saturday Night  | Sunday  |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hot   | Mostly Clear  | Hot   | Mostly Clear  | Hot  | Mostly Clear  | Slight Chance T-storms  |
| High: 93 °F   | Low: 68 °F  | High: 93 °F   | Low: 67 °F  | High: 93 °F  | Low: 72 °F  | High: 92 °F   |



## Hot Temperatures Today!



### Thursday

Temps: Rising into the 90s



Winds: Southeast 5 to 10 mph

### Late Thursday Night

Chance for showers and thunderstorms, mainly over parts of northwest and north central SD. Severe storms not anticipated.



[weather.gov/Aberdeen](http://weather.gov/Aberdeen)



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen

Published on: 06/09/2016 at 5:53AM

Temperatures will rise well into the 90s across the region today, nearing 100 degrees at some locations. The heat will persist through the weekend and into early next week. There is a chance for showers and thunderstorms late tonight, mainly for parts of northwest and north central South Dakota. Severe storms are not anticipated at this time.

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## Yesterday's Weather

**High Outside Temp: 84.9 F at 5:52 PM**

**Low Outside Temp: 58.7 F at 2:26 AM**

**High Gust: 24.0 Mph at 3:15 PM**

Precip: 0.00

## Today's Info

**Record High: 100° in 1933**

**Record Low: 33 in 1915**

**Average High: 75°F**

**Average Low: 52°F**

**Average Precip in June: 1.05**

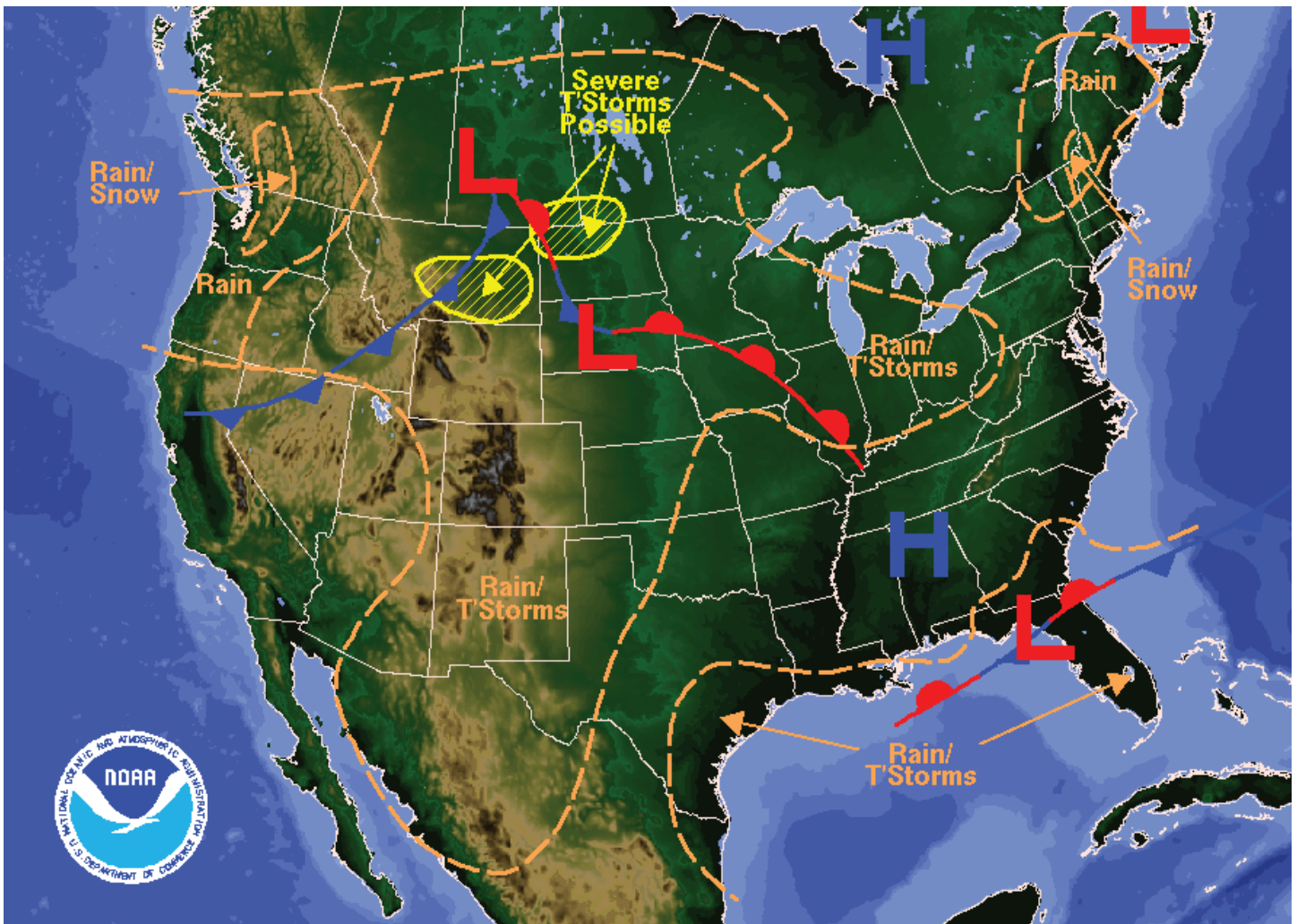
**Precip to date in June: 0.72**

**Average Precip to date: 8.19**

**Precip Year to Date: 5.71**

**Sunset Tonight: 9:21 p.m.**

**Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:44 a.m.**



Weather Forecast for Thu, Jun 09, 2016, issued 3:40 AM EDT  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



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## BLESSINGS AND BURDENS

His daughter, Amy, was born disabled and could not get from one place to another without a walker or crutches. His wife, May, suddenly became ill and was bedridden. It had been a difficult day at work with more problems than solutions.

He decided, however, that he would brighten the day of his leading lady and purchased her a lovely bouquet of flowers. Upon entering his home, he briefly showed the flowers to Amy and said, "I want to take these upstairs to Mom to cheer her up."

"Oh," cried Amy, "please let me do that."

"But you can't, Dear," he said. "It's not possible for you get them to Mom with your crutches."

"I know," she said, "but if you carry me, I'll carry the flowers." And he did.

How like our Lord! From time to time we are crippled with concerns and cares. The obstacles of life overwhelm us. Then, God appears at the right moment, places His loving arms underneath us and lifts us to new heights with His strength. And in spite of the difficulties in our lives, we can take a bouquet of blessings to others as we share the goodness of His love and grace to those who need His encouragement.

Prayer: Father, may we never be so focused on our own pains and problems that we fail to bring a word or deed of kindness to others in need. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 5:2-12 Let those also who love Your name Be joyful in You. For You, O Lord, will bless the righteous; With favor You will surround him as with a shield.



## News from the Associated Press

### **Northern State basketball leads nation in fan average**

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — The Northern State University men's and women's basketball programs both led the nation in average attendance this past season, for the ninth year in a row.

The women's team drew an average of 2,880 fans per game and the men's team 3,346 fans. Both were tops in NCAA Division II.

Wolves Athletic Director Josh Moon credits an "amazing tradition of strong community support."

### **SDSU wins 4th straight Summit League Commissioner's Cup**

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota State University has won the Summit League Commissioner's Cup for the fourth year in a row.

The award goes to the school with the best overall performance in men's and women's athletics. SDSU has won it five times in the past six years.

The Jackrabbits this year easily outdistanced second-place North Dakota State, compiling 98.5 points to NDSU's 79.5. South Dakota was third, followed by Oral Roberts and IUPUI.

### **Watertown man accused of having large amount of drugs**

WATERTOWN, S.D. (AP) — A Watertown man is accused of possessing more than 500 tablets of the illegal drug Ecstasy, with a street value of more than \$10,000.

Local and state police executed a search warrant Wednesday and arrested Julian Olinger, who is charged with using drugs and possessing them with the intent to distribute to others.

He's being held on \$10,000 cash bond. It wasn't immediately clear if he has an attorney. He could face up to 15 years in prison if convicted.

### **Judges must ask about youths' tribal status under new rule**

**MARY HUDETZ, Associated Press**

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — A new federal rule will require judges in every state to ask whether a child is a Native American during foster-care and adoption proceedings — especially when there's reason to believe a child is a tribal member.

Under the rule announced Wednesday by the Interior Department, judges also must ask about a child's status as a tribal member during hearings to determine whether or not a mother or father's parental rights will be terminated. The regulation is set to go into effect in December as part of the Indian Child Welfare Act — a highly scrutinized law that aims to place Native American children, who are removed from their homes at disproportionately high rates, with relatives or another Native American family.

Citing 2013 data, the federal Bureau of Indian Affairs said Native American children nationwide are represented in their state foster care systems at a rate 2.5 times greater than their presence in the general population.

"One of the challenges has been the courts not knowing to ask that very simple question just at the outset," Larry Roberts, the Interior Department's assistant secretary for Indian Affairs, said in an interview with The Associated Press. "Even though it's a very simple question, it will make a world of difference for children and Native communities."

Contentious and high-profile custody cases involving Native American children have regularly tested the law since it passed in 1978, including a recent challenge from a California foster family that is fight-

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ing a decision to place a Choctaw girl they had hoped to adopt with relatives of her father.

Another well-known case involving the Indian Child Welfare Act was that of Baby Veronica. Her father, a member of the Cherokee Nation, cited the law in seeking custody of her from a non-Indian family who had adopted her. But the U.S. Supreme Court in 2013 ruled that the Indian Child Welfare Act didn't apply because they said the father, Dusten Brown, had been absent from part of Veronica's life.

By requiring judges and others to ask about a child's Native American status during court proceedings, advocates, tribal leaders and others hope such cases will be resolved early in court before they evolve into the emotionally charged custody battles that have made headlines in California, Oklahoma and other states.

The regulation requiring children and family court judges to inquire about a youth's Native American status reflects guidelines issued last year by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, a move that was met with opposition from the American Academy of Adoption Attorneys.

The group argued then that the guidelines were issued without giving its legal experts opportunity to provide input and said they were not issued in the best interest of Native American children — a notion with which the Goldwater Institute, which has filed a class action lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the law, agrees.

"The Indian Child Welfare Act creates a separate and unequal system for Indian children," said Timothy Sandefur, vice president for litigation at the Arizona-based Goldwater Institute. "It is more difficult to protect these children from abuse, more difficult to find them safe and stable and loving families."

Roberts said the new rule developed in consultation with the Justice Department and Department of Health and Human Services won final approval from Interior Department officials after they held multiple public hearings and listening sessions with tribes this spring. He said it will establish more consistency among state courts, many of which adhere to the Indian Child Welfare Act with their own individual rules and regulations.

In cases where a judge does not follow the regulation, family members of the child or a tribe can challenge the proceedings, Roberts said.

Interior Secretary Sally Jewell said Wednesday that the new rule "reflects the highest standards in child welfare."

## **Sanders under pressure to quit as Democrats look to unite**

**ERICA WERNER, Associated Press**

**JOSH LEDERMAN, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Under mounting pressure from Democratic leaders to abandon his presidential campaign, Bernie Sanders returned home to Vermont on Wednesday following dispiriting losses to Hillary Clinton. He vowed to fight on for a political revolution but showed signs he would bow to the inevitable and bring his insurgent effort to a close.

For Sanders, as his remarkable White House bid runs out of next stops, the only question is when. Just as important for Sanders is how to keep his campaign alive in some form, by converting his newfound political currency into policies to change the Democratic Party, the Senate or even the country itself, on issues including income inequality and campaign finance reform.

To that end the senator was to travel to Washington on Thursday to meet with President Barack Obama and Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid and speak at a rally. Obama is expected to endorse Clinton as soon as Thursday after his meeting with Sanders, and Reid is prepared to discuss with Sanders how the self-described democratic socialist might advance his goals back in the Senate.

Neither Clinton nor Republican Donald Trump had public events Wednesday, both preparing for the

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next big hurdle between themselves and the White House — a five-month head-to-head race to November.

Clinton told The Associated Press in an interview, "I think it's time that we move forward and unite the party and determine how we are going to defeat Donald Trump, which is our highest and most pressing challenge right now."

She said of Sanders: "He has said that he's certainly going to do everything he can to defeat Trump. I'm very much looking forward to working with him to do that."

Ahead of Thursday's meetings, Sanders' Democratic colleagues were growing increasingly outspoken in nudging him to wind down his campaign and throw his support behind Clinton. However, most stopped short of calling on him to drop out right away.

"Let him make that decision. Give him time," Vice President Joe Biden said when asked if it was time for Sanders to halt his effort. Biden was arranging calls with both Sanders and Clinton to discuss the race before making a public endorsement of his own.

Sanders promised to continue his campaign to the last primary contest, in the District of Columbia next Tuesday. But about half his campaign staff is being laid off, two people familiar with the plans said Wednesday. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to speak publicly about the layoffs.

Sen. Bob Casey of Pennsylvania said it was time for the party to unite, "the sooner the better," and Sen. Bill Nelson of Florida said Sanders should "stand down."

Even Sen. Jeff Merkley of Oregon, the one Senate Democrat to endorse Sanders, said in an interview Wednesday, "We have a nominee, that nominee is Hillary Clinton, congratulations to her for winning the Democratic primary."

Of Sanders, he said, "I think he's laying the groundwork to make sure that we have a unified party at the convention and go into the November battle shoulder to shoulder."

Democratic Sen. Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts, a liberal hero, also will formally endorse Clinton in coming days, according to two officials who demanded anonymity to speak ahead of a public announcement.

Sanders declined to talk to reporters in Vermont. His campaign manager, Jeff Weaver, declined to identify Clinton as the presumptive nominee, saying it was "a term of art that the media uses."

Some Democrats were disappointed that Sanders hadn't acknowledged Clinton's "milestone," as she described it, in becoming the first woman to be the presumptive presidential nominee of a major party. In his speech following Tuesday's primaries in California and New Jersey, which Clinton won easily, Sanders merely mentioned that they had shared a "very gracious call."

The task of persuading Sanders' supporters to fall in line falls in part to Obama, still one of its most popular figures.

Though the White House has signaled for days that a presidential endorsement is imminent, Obama has sought to give Sanders the space to exit the race on his own terms. He has promised to campaign full-throttle for the Democratic nominee.

One big campaign question is whether the voters who helped elect Obama — young people, minorities and women — can be counted on to show up for someone else. To that end, aides said Obama planned to place a particular emphasis on young voters who have formed the core of Sanders' support.

That effort started Wednesday, when Obama taped an appearance with "The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon," and said he hoped Democrats start unifying.

On Tuesday, Sanders ended his final California rally with three simple words — "The struggle continues" — but his brief address in a Santa Monica airport hangar felt at times like a valedictory as he



thanked supporters for "being part of the political revolution."

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 on Tuesday, Trump was in damage control mode over his ethnicity-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 speech in which he insisted to voters he "will never, ever let you down."

Despite Ryan's concerns about Trump's remarks, the speaker reaffirmed his support in a closed-door meeting with fellow GOP lawmakers Wednesday.

## **North Dakota PSC hosting conference of energy regulators**

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — The North Dakota Public Service Commission is hosting a conference of energy regulators from 14 states.

The three-day Mid-America Regulatory Conference begins Monday in Bismarck and brings together utility and energy regulatory agencies in states from the Dakotas to Texas.

North Dakota Public Service Commissioner Brian Kalk was elected president of the group last year. The annual conference typically is held in the home state where the group's president resides.

The group was formed 60 years ago. Its conferences are aimed at discussing regulatory and policy issues affecting member states and the nation.

## **US Rep. Kristi Noem seeking applicants for fall internships**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — U.S. Rep. Kristi Noem is seeking college students to be interns this fall in Washington, D.C., and her offices in South Dakota.

Applications from interested students are due July 15. The South Dakota internships are located in her Rapid City, Sioux Falls and Watertown offices.

Interns work with staff on constituent service and communications projects. They also help with legislative research.

The Republican lawmaker is South Dakota's lone U.S. representative.

## **Group promoting farm, ranch safety with online videos**

HURON, S.D. (AP) — A group of farmers in South Dakota is trying to raise awareness of farm and ranch safety issues and best practices through a series of videos available online.

The South Dakota Farmers Union is leading the safety effort with 10 educational videos that were produced by the National Farmers Union.

Doug Sombke is the South Dakota group's president and a fourth-generation farmer. He says parents and their children often work together in farms and ranches over the summer, and they shouldn't forget that the work can be dangerous regardless of their age.

The organization says that nearly 500 farm work-related deaths take place every year.

## **Garretson school official accused of soliciting minor**

GARRETSON, S.D. (AP) — The business manager for the Garretson School District is accused of soliciting a minor.

Fifty-eight-year-old Rodney Fischer was arrested Tuesday at the district office. He's scheduled to make his first court appearance Thursday afternoon.

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It wasn't immediately clear if Fischer had an attorney, and a home telephone listing for him couldn't be found.

Superintendent Guy Johnson says Fischer remains employed with the school district.

Court documents show that a special agent with Homeland Security in Sioux Falls received a tip from the agency's San Jose, California, office that an undercover agent had talked with a Sioux Falls man interested in having sex with a 13-year-old girl.

Authorities say Fischer sent sexually explicit messages to someone he thought was a 13-year-old girl. Fischer is being held on \$500,000 bond.

## **SD Secretary of State: 22 percent voter turnout in primary**

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The Secretary of State's office says about 22 percent of voters cast ballots in South Dakota's primary election.

The office said Wednesday that Republican turnout was roughly 27 percent, while the Democratic primary saw 17.5 percent turnout from party members and independents.

Secretary of State Shantel Krebs had projected turnout of 20 to 25 percent in the Tuesday election.

Hillary Clinton won the Democratic presidential primary in South Dakota, while Donald Trump claimed victory on the GOP side.

At the legislative level, voters cast ballots in 22 Republican and four Democratic primary races.

Krebs' office says there are possible legislative recounts in two Republican House contests. Under state law, a candidate within the 2 percent margin required for a recount can petition for one after election returns are made official.

## **Officer assaulted by suspect, nearly falls from 3-story roof**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A Sioux Falls man is in custody after allegedly nearly causing a police officer to fall from a three-story building.

Officers responded to a report of a domestic dispute at a residence shortly after 2:30 a.m. Wednesday and chased the man when he fled from the home.

The officers found the man atop the Gilbert Science Center on the Augustana University campus. Authorities allege the man charged an officer and kicked him, nearly causing the officer to fall from the roof.

The man was apprehended at the base of some scaffolding on the building and arrested on charges including aggravated assault on law enforcement. Formal charges were pending.

Police say the officer who was kicked suffered only minor injuries and has returned to work.

## **South Dakota farmers getting corn, soybean crops planted**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Corn planting is wrapping up in South Dakota, and farmers are turning their focus to finishing up soybeans.

The Agriculture Department says in its weekly crop report that 96 percent of the corn crop is in the ground, and soybean planting is 83 percent complete. About three-fourths of both crops are rated in good to excellent condition.

The report says the northern and eastern parts of the state got up to an inch of rain over the past week, and some areas also got hail. Insects continue to be an issue with the alfalfa hay crop, along with the unfavorable moisture conditions.

Pasture and range conditions statewide are rated 79 percent good to excellent. Stock water supplies are 90 percent adequate to surplus.

## Michigan Legislature OKs \$617M bailout for Detroit schools

DAVID EGGERT, Associated Press

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — The Michigan Legislature narrowly approved a \$617 million bailout and restructuring of Detroit's debt-ridden school district early Thursday, two years after the state spent less than a third of that amount to help the city government emerge from bankruptcy.

The legislation goes to Gov. Rick Snyder for his expected signature. The Republican-controlled Senate passed a main bill 19-18 late Wednesday, and the GOP-led House followed with a similar razor-thin 55-54 vote. Some Republicans joined all Democrats in opposition during an emotional debate that brought some lawmakers to tears.

Snyder, who had warned legislators that insolvency would be disastrous for students and the state if the district ran short of money this summer — as it would have without further intervention — said in a statement that the measure is a "fresh start" and an "unprecedented investment for the education of Detroit's children."

The financially and academically ailing 46,000-student Detroit Public Schools has been managed by the state for seven years, during which it has continued to face plummeting enrollment, deficits and, more recently, teacher sick-out protests.

Under the bills, the district would be split in two and control would be returned to an elected school board. A commission of state appointees would oversee the district's finances, similar to how it now reviews the city's budgeting as part of a \$195 million state rescue in 2014.

The new debt-free district would educate students. The old district would stay intact for tax-collection purposes to retire \$617 million in debt over 8½ years, including \$150 million in transition costs to launch the new Detroit Community Schools.

Furious Democrats accused "coward" Republicans of bowing to the politically influential school-choice lobby in dropping a proposed commission of mayoral appointees to regulate the opening of new schools — including independent, publicly funded charters that have drawn students and funding away from traditional neighborhood schools.

Sen. Bert Johnson, a Highland Park Democrat who represents part of Detroit, said the legislation is "paternalistic" and "unethical."

"If you do this, you are systematically spelling the end of the Detroit Public Schools system," he said. "Parents are already concerned. ... I think it's going to drive enrollment further into the ground."

But majority Republicans said bankruptcy would have been the worst possible outcome.

"I know many will weigh in with opinions on how we could have done better, and (we) all hear criticism about this compromise. But at the end of the day, our responsibility is to solve the problem," said Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof, a West Olive Republican.

The vote came more than a year after the Republican governor proposed an overhaul. He said debt was crushing the district and warned that insolvency would leave the state with billions of dollars in liabilities and stifle Detroit's recovery post-bankruptcy.

Before the final voting, there had been fairly broad agreement on the need to help the district.

Yet Democrats united against the bills, expressing a range of concerns, including that the money would fall short of what is needed to adequately help the district decimated by declining enrollment — both due to population loss and the role of charter or suburban schools.

"This plan is a farce," said Sen. David Knezek of Dearborn Heights.

Some Republicans were reluctant to offer taxpayer support to the state's largest school district that for decades has grappled with mismanagement and corruption, while others joined with Democrats in contending that the legislation allows the continued pitting of district schools and charters against each



other.

"My fear is that the serious lack of coordination related to school site planning decisions will continue," said Sen. Goeff Hansen, a Hart Republican who choked up during his floor speech. He voted against some bills despite sponsoring and shepherding an earlier bipartisan package through the Senate.

"By not truly fixing these systemic problems, are we not furthering the confusion and chaos that negatively impacts parents' abilities to seek stability and positive educational options for their children?" he said.

But House Speaker Kevin Cotter, a Mount Pleasant Republican, said lawmakers initially were asked to pay off the debt and hand back control of the district to locally elected officials.

"It does both of those things," he said.

## Stanford sex assault case gives parents a teachable moment

LISA LEFF, Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Gena O'Brien was catching up on headlines this week when she stumbled across a young woman's account of her life since she was sexually assaulted at Stanford University — a statement to the former student-athlete who molested her behind a dumpster 16 months ago.

O'Brien has two sons, ages 10 and 14. The older boy is a competitive swimmer, like 20-year-old Brock Turner was at Stanford before his arrest. In the raw words of an assault survivor, O'Brien recognized a teachable moment. She read portions of the woman's statement out loud to her 9th grader while he was getting ready for school and made him promise to read all 12 pages when he was done studying for finals.

"There are so many golden truths in there, stark truths," said O'Brien, a hairdresser who lives with her family in Berkeley, California. "It's about victimizing somebody and somebody's feelings of being a victim of something. And I want my boys to have empathy."

With the six-month jail sentence Turner received last week generating widespread publicity, some parents are using the case to talk with their own children about sexual misconduct, binge drinking, personal responsibility and boundaries. It's an opportunity that even comes with primary sources — the victim's statement, the plea for leniency Turner's father wrote to the sentencing judge — that are helping to fuel discussions about rape with young people who are old enough.

"Let's not kid ourselves about this. One of the reasons we are resonating with this so much is two people caught the person, it's not a 'She said, he said.' Two white men caught him," Rosalind Wiseman, the author of a book about modern boy culture called "Masterminds & Wingmen," said. "The other reason is (the victim) did an amazing job of articulating her experience."

Wiseman, a parent educator and bullying expert with two sons ages 13 and 15, said she wants her children to read the assault survivor's statement. But she also plans to engage them in a conversation about how social privilege played out in the case, how women who report rapes are often discounted, how boys and men also experience sexual violence and how difficult it can be to do the right thing, like the two Stanford graduate students who stopped Turner and held him until police arrived.

"It does them no good to talk in sound bites to our children about these kinds of issues," she said. "We have to be able to tell them they will be in situations that are really uncomfortable or messy, and it's possible people we love might do things we are not proud of. And we have to use the opportunity to ask, 'What do you think is the most important take-away from this for how you conduct yourself?'"

As the father of three sons ages 9 to 13, Jeffrey Shinbrot, an attorney in Los Angeles, found in the harrowing details of Turner's behavior a way of illustrating a point he'd been trying to hammer home for

a while: namely, that some of hip-hop lyrics his boys mindlessly sang normalized misogynistic behavior he considered neither normal nor cool.

"I said, 'Look you guys, this is how serious the things you are repeating in music are. I really wanted them to understand the seriousness of those types of acts and the seriousness of the acts the lyrics are describing,'" Shinbrot said. "Did it sink in? Who knows."

Margaret Silverman of Orinda, California has an 18-year-old son heading off to college in the fall. She remembers speaking with him when he was a high school freshman about communicating well with his future sexual partners, about respecting that both he and the girls he was interested in had the right to say no.

While touring the university where her son will be in September, the two of them heard about a campus fraternity that had been suspended after police broke up a party and found a woman passed out on a couch. Silverman told him she hoped he would be the one to notice, to pay attention rather than ignore, if he found himself in a situation like that, a message she plans to deliver again.

"I'll be reminding him, 'If you see a buddy of yours acting out, I would hope you would have the sensibility to say, Hey dude, leave her alone, let's get out of here.'"

## **Suicide bombings in and around Iraqi capital kill 27 people**

**SINAN SALAHEDDIN, Associated Press**

BAGHDAD (AP) — Two suicide attacks in and around the Iraqi capital on Thursday killed at least 27 people and wounded dozens, officials said.

The deadliest attack took place in a commercial area of a majority Shiite neighborhood in Baghdad. At least 15 civilians were killed and 35 wounded, police said.

Another suicide bomber rammed his explosives-laden car into an Iraqi army checkpoint north of Baghdad, killing at least 12 people, police said. Seven civilians and five troops were killed in the attack in the town of Taji, about 20 kilometers (12 miles) north of the capital, a police officer said. At least 28 people were wounded, he added.

Medical officials confirmed the casualty figures. All officials spoke on condition of anonymity as they were not authorized to brief the media.

In an online statement, the Islamic State group claimed responsibility for the attack in the New Baghdad neighborhood, saying it targeted Shiite militia members. It later claimed responsibility for the Taji bombing in a second online statement, saying it was targeting the Iraqi army.

The Associated Press could not verify the authenticity of the statements, but they were posted on a militant website commonly used by the extremists.

The Sunni militant group often targets Iraq's Shiite majority, security forces and government officials. Baghdad has seen near-daily attacks in recent weeks.

The deadly attacks in the capital and beyond are seen by Iraqi officials as an attempt by the militants to distract the security forces' attention from the front lines. The attacks came a day after Iraqi special forces pushed into the IS-held city of Fallujah in a large-scale military operation launched last month.

Fallujah, which is about 65 kilometers (40 miles) west of Baghdad, is one of the last major IS strongholds in western Iraq. The extremist group still controls territory in the country's north and west, as well as Mosul, Iraq's second largest city.

## Israel beefs up troops in West Bank after Tel Aviv shooting

**DANIEL ESTRIN, Associated Press**

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel on Thursday imposed a series of sweeping restrictions on Palestinian movement and deployed hundreds of additional troops to the West Bank in response to a Tel Aviv attack that killed four Israelis.

The shooting, carried out by two West Bank Palestinians, targeted a crowded tourist and restaurant district in the heart of Tel Aviv and was among the deadliest and most brazen attacks in a nine-month wave of violence. The area is located across the street from the Israeli military's headquarters.

As Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu prepared to meet with his Security Cabinet to discuss further responses, the Israeli military announced that it was deploying two additional battalions to the West Bank "in accordance with situation assessments." The deployment, involving hundreds of troops, includes soldiers from infantry and special forces units.

Among the participants in the Security Cabinet meeting was Israel's new defense minister, Avigdor Lieberman, the leader of an ultranationalist party known for his hard-line views toward the Palestinians. Before the meeting, Lieberman visited the site of the shooting and had a cup of coffee in a local cafe.

"I do not intend to speak and detail the steps we intend to take, but I am sure that I have no intention to stop at words," he said.

Earlier Thursday, defense officials suspended tens of thousands of special permits given to Palestinians to visit Israel during the current Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

COGAT, an Israeli defense body, said 83,000 permits for Palestinians in the West Bank to visit relatives in Israel had been frozen. Special Ramadan permits were also suspended for Palestinians in the Gaza Strip to visit relatives in Israel, travel abroad and attend prayers at the Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, COGAT said.

Israel considers the Ramadan permits a goodwill gesture toward Palestinians.

In addition, the military said it had frozen Israeli work permits for 204 of the attackers' relatives, and was preventing Palestinians from leaving and entering the West Bank village of Yatta, the attackers' home village. COGAT said entering or leaving will only be permitted for humanitarian and medical cases.

The military was also making preparations to demolish the family home of one of the attackers. Israel often responds to attacks by demolishing the homes of the assailants or their relatives — a tactic that is criticized by the Palestinians and human rights groups as collective punishment.

In Tel Aviv, extra police units were mobilized, mainly around the city's central bus station and train stations, said police spokesman Micky Rosenfeld.

The "Sarona" compound, the scene of Wednesday's shooting, quickly reopened.

In the attack, two Palestinians dressed in black suits opened fire at the Max Brenner restaurant in Sarona, killing four Israelis and wounding nine others. Sarona, home to dozens of shops, cafes and restaurants, is one of Tel Aviv's most population destinations and is often crowded with visitors and soldiers in uniform taking a break from their duties at the nearby headquarters.

Police identified the victims as Michael Feige, 58, a sociologist and anthropologist at Ben-Gurion University, and Ido Ben Arie, 42, a veteran of an elite army unit who was an executive at the Coca-Cola Co.'s Israel branch, his wife, who was injured in the attack, told Israeli media. Two other victims were identified as Ilana Naveh, 39, and Mila Mishev, 32.

Police said the two gunmen in their twenties were members of the same family from the Palestinian village of Yatta, near the West Bank city of Hebron, which has been a flashpoint for violence in recent



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months. One gunman was injured and was being treated in an Israeli hospital. The other was apprehended by security.

Israeli security officials said the weapons were crudely improvised, indicating that a militant organization was not involved. They said the attackers did not have special Ramadan permits allowing them to enter Israel, but that they had sneaked into Israel illegally to carry out the assault, according to initial assessments.

Ahmad Mussa Mahmara, the father of one of the attackers, said his son has two uncles serving life sentences in Israeli prison.

"We didn't expect this. My son is young and has been in Jordan for the past four years, and just came here for the past five months. He does not have any political affiliation," Mahmara said.

The military interrogated Mahmara Wednesday night at his home, where his son was staying. Soldiers took measurements of the home in preparation for demolishing it, the military said.

Hamas, the Islamic militant group that rules Gaza, welcomed the attack but did not claim responsibility. Hamas official Mushir al-Masri called the shootings a "heroic operation" and the group later issued an official statement promising the "Zionists" more "surprises" during Ramadan.

Islamic Jihad, another militant group, called the shooting a "natural response" to Israel's "brutal actions" against Palestinians. But it also did not claim responsibility for the attack.

Over the last eight months Palestinians have carried out dozens of attacks on civilians and security forces, mostly stabbings, shootings and car ramming assaults that have killed 32 Israelis and two Americans. About 200 Palestinians have been killed during that time, most identified as attackers by Israel. The assaults were once near-daily incidents but they have become less frequent in recent weeks.

Most of the attacks have been in east Jerusalem or the West Bank, territories Israel seized in the 1967 Mideast war and which the Palestinians want for their future state.

German foreign minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier condemned Wednesday's attack.

"Murder and terror are completely without justification and cannot be used as an instrument of political disagreement," said Steinmeier.

## Ohio woman 'prisoner' in own home due to deer attacks

MENTOR-ON-THE-LAKE, Ohio (AP) — An Ohio woman says she feels like a "prisoner" because a deer has been attacking her near her home.

Cindy Frost says she's called police about the doe and asked for assistance in walking her dogs near her suburban Cleveland home.

Frost says the deer charged her last week while she was taking her dogs out. She says she had to fight the doe off with a dog leash and her fist, and tried to zigzag back and forth. Frost says the deer slipped on the black top allowing her to safely return inside. She says the deer then circled her home.

Frost says the doe's fawn lives in her backyard.

State wildlife officials say her there's not much they can do, and that such encounters are likely quite common.

## Africans in India face constant battles with racism

MUNEEZA NAQVI, Associated Press

NEW DELHI (AP) — Fear and anger. Those are the emotions that shadow Odole Emmanuel Opeyemi every time the Nigerian man steps out of his New Delhi apartment.

Every encounter with Indians is fraught with those feelings, whether he's taking an autorickshaw or

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the Metro, buying vegetables or trying to find a spot to park his car.

"When I sit down in the Metro, people sit away from me. Even old men and women will stand up as if any contact with me will give them a disease," he said, describing the mixture of fear and revulsion with which most Indians treat Africans.

Opeyemi is among hundreds of thousands of Africans in India, drawn by better education and work opportunities. For them rampant racism is a daily battle in a country where their dark skin places them at the lower end of a series of strictly observed social hierarchies. Indians routinely perceive Africans as either prostitutes or drug dealers.

The daily indignities Africans suffer usually go undocumented both by the police and local media.

That changed on May 20, when Congolese student Masunda Kitada Oliver was fatally attacked in a dispute over hiring an autorickshaw in New Delhi. Three men who insisted they had hired the vehicle beat him up and hit him on the head with a rock, killing him, according to police.

The death made the city's African students, diplomats and business owners rally together demanding quick justice. The African Heads of Mission in New Delhi issued a statement asking the government to address "racism and Afro-phobia" in the country.

"Given the pervading climate of fear and insecurity in Delhi, the African Heads of Mission are left with little option than to consider recommending to their governments not to send new students to India, unless and until their safety can be guaranteed," the statement said.

The killing and the outrage it sparked drew an unusually prompt reaction from local police and India's foreign ministry. Two men suspected in the attack were arrested within a day, while a third remains at large.

Minister Sushma Swaraj tweeted that her ministry asked for "stringent action against the culprits." But the ministry also said all criminal acts involving Africans should not be seen as racial in nature.

The bad press the country got as a result of the killing prompted India's glacial government machinery to move quickly to try to address the issue.

An India-Africa art exhibition was cobbled together at government expense and on short notice. A protest planned by African students in the Indian capital was put off after government officials reached out to African student groups.

The police and government began holding workshops in neighborhoods across the city to try to sensitize local residents about their African neighbors.

There were other well publicized examples of anti-African prejudice in India before Oliver's death.

In February, a Tanzanian woman was beaten and stripped naked by a mob in the southern city of Bangalore after a Sudanese student's car hit an Indian woman. In September 2014, a video of three African men being beaten inside a security booth at a New Delhi Metro station went viral. For several minutes a large mob beat the men with bare hands and sticks and shoes as they climbed up the walls of the glass booth in terror. The police were absent.

These incidents made it to the local newspapers. Hundreds more do not.

Prejudice is open in India. The matrimonial columns of the newspaper are strictly segregated along caste lines. Landlords in cities including New Delhi and Mumbai deny homes to people based on race and religion.

Indians from northeastern India, who look different because of their Asian features, are routinely harassed and have to endure being called names on the streets.

But the worst kind of discrimination is reserved for the Africans. In a country obsessed with fair skin and skin lightening beauty treatments, their dark skin draws a mixture of fear and ridicule.

Landlords shun Africans in all but the poorest neighborhoods, and in those they are charged unusu-

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ally high rent. African students in the New Delhi neighborhood of Chhatarapur reported paying 15,000 rupees (\$225) a month for a single room and bathroom that would normally rent for 6,000 to 7,000 rupees.

Strangers point at them and laugh — or gang up and assault them.

At a recent racial sensitization session in Chhatarapur, the mutual distrust between the Indian landlords and their African tenants was glaring.

"I'm scared," said Nancy Joseph, a 23-year-old law student from South Sudan. That fear keeps her from visiting friends at night. The autorickshaw driver may refuse to take her. Groups of Indian men could gather and call her vile names just for fun.

"Delhi is the worst city I've ever lived in," said Eddie King, a student from Nigeria. He hasn't made a single friend in the year that he has spent in the country.

"I can't talk to my classmates. They won't even answer me. They pretend they don't understand."

The landlords say African tenants drink all day and play loud music all night, characterizations that Africans dismiss as unfair.

"They stand drinking beer on the road. We feel scared crossing the area," landlord Umed Singh said.

Whether this session succeeded in sensitizing anyone was unclear. Police simply told both sides to try to understand each other.

King said he'll leave India as soon as he finishes his studies next year. "The African man cannot work with Indians. That's just the truth," he said.

Opeyemi, a 34-year-old soccer coach, said he will stay. It's easier for him to earn a living here than in Nigeria, so he will endure the indignities.

Those include hearing someone call out "Habshi!" — the Hindi word for a black person — as he tries to get on a bus.

Recently, as he tried to park his car, someone called him "bandar" — a monkey. "The security was looking but they said nothing," Opeyemi said.

"We are scared. We don't fight back because we know what will happen," he said. "They will break your head with a brick."

## With debt payment looming, House weighs Puerto Rico bill

MARY CLARE JALONICK, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Republican leaders and President Barack Obama pressured lawmakers in both parties to back legislation to help ease Puerto Rico's financial crisis as the U.S. territory faces a \$2 billion debt payment in just over three weeks.

The House was scheduled to begin debate Thursday on a bill that would create a financial control board and restructure some of Puerto Rico's \$70 billion debt. Republican and Democratic leaders support it, as does the Obama administration, but it faces opposition from both sides, as well, as some bondholders, unions and island officials who have lobbied against the bill.

Speaker Paul Ryan will need significant support from his own caucus as well as most Democrats to get the bill passed. He has argued the legislation is the only way to avoid an eventual taxpayer bailout for the island.

Obama summoned House Democrats with ties to Puerto Rico to a meeting in the Oval Office Wednesday. One of those, Rep. Luis Guterrez, is an outspoken opponent of the legislation, saying he doesn't believe it will do enough for ordinary Puerto Ricans.

Puerto Rico's representative in Congress, Pedro Pierluisi, is supporting the bill despite opposition from other lawmakers on the island.



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"He made absolutely clear that there is no 'Plan B' here," Pierluisi said of Obama.

Puerto Rico, which has struggled to overcome a lengthy recession, has missed several payments to creditors and faces the \$2 billion installment on July 1. The economic crisis has forced businesses to close, driven up the employment rate and sparked an exodus of hundreds of thousands of people to the U.S. mainland. Schools lack electricity and some hospitals have said they can't provide adequate drugs or care. The island's only active air ambulance company announced Tuesday that it has suspended its services.

Ahead of the vote, Republicans said they had enough support from both parties for passage. Supporters were bolstered by a 29-10 vote in the House Natural Resources Committee on May 25.

But some bondholder groups continued to try and pick off conservatives with the argument that the bill is unfair to creditors and tantamount to a bailout for the territory.

The control board would "cast aside bondholder contracts and retroactively subvert them to Puerto Rico's government pension system at its sole discretion," a group called Main Street Bondholders said in a release this week.

Some conservatives said they would vote against the bill.

"People in my district are very unhappy with it," said Rep. John Fleming, R-La. "They see it as just another bailout of a government that was run in a liberal progressive way."

Others are supporting it, however. Idaho Rep. Raul Labrador, a Republican born in Puerto Rico who is a member of the House Freedom Caucus, helped negotiate the legislation and has worked to sell it to colleagues.

Unions have also lobbied against the legislation because of a provision that would allow the Puerto Rican government to temporarily lower the minimum wage for some younger workers. Democrats are offering an amendment to delete that provision from the bill.

The Senate has not yet acted, but senators said this week that they are watching the House vote. Texas Sen. John Cornyn, the No. 2 Senate Republican, said Tuesday that it's likely that the Senate will take up the House version of the bill if it passes the House this week.

"We don't want to be in a situation where there is a huge meltdown and then the next cry is for a taxpayer bailout," Cornyn said.

Like U.S. states, Puerto Rico cannot declare bankruptcy. The legislation would allow the control board to oversee negotiations with creditors and the courts over reducing some debt. It does not provide any taxpayer funds to reduce that debt.

It would also require the territory to create a fiscal plan. Among other requirements, the plan would have to provide "adequate" funds for public pensions, which the government has underfunded by more than \$40 billion.

During negotiations, the administration pushed to ensure that pensions are protected in the bill, while creditors worried they would take a back seat to the pension obligations. Supporters say the bill is designed so that all can be paid.

## Police say they wounded 4 people in Sydney mall shooting

SYDNEY (AP) — Police officers opened fire on a man armed with a carving knife in a Sydney shopping mall on Thursday, wounding the man and three women aged between 60 and 80, police said.

Police were called to the mall in the northern suburb of Hornsby around noon following reports that a man was armed with a knife, New South Wales Police Assistant Commissioner Denis Clifford told reporters.

Officers approached the man and a confrontation broke out, Clifford said. The man then approached the officers with a large carving knife, and two officers opened fire. He was wounded several times, and the three women were also hit by bullets or bullet fragments, Clifford said. All four were being treated at various hospitals and were in stable condition.

The man had been reported missing from a nearby psychiatric facility on Wednesday and police had been looking for him before he turned up at the mall, Clifford said.

An investigation would be launched into the circumstances of the shooting, including the decision by the officers to use their guns in a public area, Clifford said. The officers had access to other weapons including a Taser and batons, he said, but added they were facing a "life and death situation" that unfolded over a matter of seconds.

"You can't dictate exactly what option to use in every circumstance," Clifford said. "In this one ... we do know they are dealing with a person with a rather large knife who came at the officers and they've made that decision to use their weapons."

Clifford acknowledged it was "alarming" that bystanders had been hurt but said the consequences of the officers not drawing their weapons are unknown.

"I wonder what may have happened had the police not intervened and stopped this person with a knife," he said.

## **Officials: Pentagon to unveil plan to adjust promotion rules**

**LOLITA C. BALDOR, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. military troops may be able to sidestep the Pentagon's entrenched "up or out" promotion system under sweeping new proposals being unveiled Thursday, aimed at keeping high-tech experts or other specialists on the job, according to defense officials.

Defense Secretary Ash Carter is expected to roll out the plans Thursday, marking the third — and most groundbreaking — installment in his campaign to modernize the military's antiquated bureaucracy. The proposals are largely aimed at giving the military services a greater ability to attract or hold on to quality service members and keep them in jobs where they excel.

Carter's plan, hammered out by staff and senior military leaders over recent months, won't abolish the traditional system that forces service members to leave if they don't get promoted within a certain period of time. Instead, the officials said it will give the services the flexibility to bypass those rules for individuals when they feel it's needed.

Several defense officials spoke about the details of the plans on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to discuss the issue publicly ahead of the announcement. Military leaders have expressed varying degrees of support for the promotion changes, noting that in some fields — such as fighter pilots or certain combat command positions — the strict advancement system may make more sense.

Many of the proposals will require congressional approval, but there is some general support for giving the military greater flexibility, as long as the historical systems aren't eliminated.

One idea likely to hit opposition on Capitol Hill is Carter's proposal that the Pentagon give department civilians six weeks of paid paternal leave for the birth or adoption of a child. There are currently rules for family leave that apply to the entire federal workforce, and it would be difficult to carve out that type of more generous exception for the Defense Department, and likely even harder to get it approved for federal workers across the board.

Carter also wants to allow civilians to work part-time during the first year after a birth or adoption, and allow them to have more flexible work hours when possible. That plan may not require legislation.

The promotion proposal, which also requires a law change, would allow a major or captain to remain

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at their rank for years or even their entire career, if they are highly skilled in a critical field such as cyberwarfare or another technical job.

The new plans would also allow troops to ask to have their promotion review postponed if they haven't completed all the requirements for the next rank, and want to pursue another opportunity, such as an internship or higher education.

The current promotion system has been in existence for decades, and gives senior leaders little flexibility. Service members must complete a number of specific requirements — including certain command responsibilities and schooling — before getting promoted to the next rank. And they must do it within certain timelines.

Carter has complained that such systems tie leaders' hands and make it harder for them to compete for talent, particularly as he works to beef up innovation and technology within the department.

Another suggested change would allow the services to bring in new people with critical abilities and start them at a higher rank, rather than at the bottom of the officer pool. That is done now with some specialties, such as doctors, lawyers and chaplains. But Pentagon officials want to be able to do it for many high-tech jobs.

Other proposals would allow the military services to schedule promotions based on merit, rather than seniority, and make it easier for troops who leave the service for medical reasons to get civilian defense jobs.

And there are plans to upgrade recruiting efforts to make them more computerized and targeted, and also allow the department to hire more quickly when needed to get quality personnel.

The latest proposals come in the wake of changes Carter announced over the past seven months. In January, he doubled the length of fully paid maternity leave for female service members and expanded the hours that military child care facilities are open and the number of children that can be accommodated.

Last November, he rolled out plans to change the retirement system to allow investments in a 401(k)-type retirement plan and increase internships.

He has argued that the Pentagon needs to get in line more with the corporate world, and strengthen ties with high-tech companies to bring the best and brightest into the department.

## **Thai king marks 70 years on the throne - from hospital bed**

**GABRIELLE PALUCH, Associated Press**

**GRANT PECK, Associated Press**

BANGKOK (AP) — Thailand's King Bhumibol Adulyadej, the world's longest-reigning monarch, on Thursday marked his 70th year on the throne — from his hospital bed, immobile and wracked by a variety of age-related ailments that have made Thais wonder what their world would be like without him.

There was a time when Bhumibol (pronounced "Poo-me-pon") would lead his aides on treks through swamps and over mountains to learn what was on the minds of his subjects in the most far-flung areas of his realm. But the 88-year-old guest of honor is unlikely to make a public appearance this week.

For most of the past decade the king has lived in a hospital — in a new wing built for him— for treatment of various problems, according to regular palace statements on his health. The ailments have sapped his strength and taken him gradually out of the public eye. On Tuesday, he underwent an operation to clear an artery; doctors said the results were satisfactory.

"I really can't think about the country without the king ... it's just impossible to do so," said Nonthawit Kanlapanayut, a 23-year-old trader at Thailand's biggest food processing conglomerate. "The monarchy is at the core for Thai people."



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Ten years ago, the ceremonies for his 60th diamond jubilee were splendid. Golden royal barges glinted in a twilight procession, gliding down the Chao Phraya River, for an audience that included representatives of 25 of the world's royal families, who also attended an opulent banquet the next day. Hundreds of thousands of ordinary Thais jammed Bangkok's Royal Plaza to hear their king — wearing a gold brocade robe and flanked on a palace balcony by his family — deliver a short speech calling for national unity.

This year's 70th anniversary will not go unmarked. On Thursday morning, 770 monks were ordained during religious ceremonies at a newly built throne hall in the palace temple complex, and fireworks will accompany a candlelight gathering near the ceremonial Grand Palace. Long lines formed outside banks to buy for 100 baht a special commemorative 70-baht banknote, worth about \$2 -- encased in a yellow paper frame, the color of the royalty. Commuter trains were packed with people wearing yellow shirts.

Bhumibol took the throne in 1946 as a teenage boy under difficult circumstances: His 20-year-old brother, King Ananda, had been shot dead in his palace bedroom.

The absolute monarchy had been ended by an army coup in 1932, leading to a series of military dictatorships. Old royalists slowly but successfully helped the young Bhumibol regain power and influence for the monarchy.

Their efforts were aided in no small part by the king's charisma, rectitude and genuine devotion to seeing his nation develop. Admirers and critics alike credit the king with steering the nation through the turbulent decades of the 1960s and '70s, when neighboring countries fell prey to war and totalitarian rule.

"Being king for so long is an accomplishment," Thai studies scholar Kevin Hewison wrote in recently published comments. He noted that the monarchy was in poor political and economic shape when Bhumibol took over, but he and advisers were "able to make it 'great' again, not to say wealthy, politically powerful and part of the what the elite likes to think is the fabric of Thai society."

The royal palace doesn't talk about the king much and it didn't respond to calls for comment on this article. The king is widely loved by his people, but open discussion of the monarchy is an extremely sensitive because strict lese majeste laws make criticism of the royal family punishable by up to 15 years in prison.

The king is known to be the wealthiest monarch in the world with net wealth assessed by Forbes to be more than \$30 billion, although most of it is owned by the crown as an institution, including land, a bank and an industrial conglomerate.

However, the past decade has taken a toll not only on the king's health, but also on Thailand's body politic. When Bhumibol spoke at his 60th anniversary in 2006 and called for unity, Thailand was sliding into crisis. A billionaire populist politician, Thaksin Shinawatra, had become prime minister, and his popularity and political power — rooted in electoral democracy — rubbed traditional royalist power-holders the wrong way.

Just three months after the king's balcony speech, the army deposed Thaksin in a coup, setting off a sustained and sometimes violent political conflict that has left the country socially and politically polarized between Thaksin's supporters — many of them poor rural residents — and opponents.

The barely concealed involvement of palace circles in the army takeover also dragged the monarchy down to the level of a political player, tarnishing its image as an honest broker above the fray. Thaksin's opponents ostentatiously touted their royalist credentials. Bhumibol was still widely admired, but the consensus that used to value a royally-supervised democracy over popular democracy was severely eroded.

Weakened by age and ill health, Bhumibol meanwhile was unable or unwilling to exercise his personal

prestige to promote reconciliation, which he had often done in the past during coups and political conflicts.

Now there was a void. In 2014, the army stepped in again, and declared that it would be calling the shots, even if a promised 2017 election established a facade of democratic rule.

It also started enforcing vigorously a law that makes criticism of the monarchy a crime. Critics say the law's loose interpretation has allowed the military government to detain even those criticizing the junta. Calls to the junta spokesman were not returned.

"Much of the old reverence is gone; even among royalists, it has been replaced by a politics of intolerance and persecution," says Michael Montesano, a Thailand expert who works with Singapore's Institute of Southeast Asian Studies. "At the same time, younger members of the royal family have, not least because the times have changed, been unable to play anything like the role that the king played decades ago."

The accelerating decline in the king's health underlines another concern: How smooth a succession can be arranged in a country where the vast majority of people have known no other king?

The king's only son and heir apparent, 63-year-old Crown Prince Vajiralongkorn, is a controversial figure, even among royalists. He does not command the same respect and affection as his father.

"Under the best of circumstances, the monarchy will in the future play a purely ceremonial, rather passive role. The tensions and rhetoric of the past decade, along with the emergence of a more politically aware electorate, mean that the widely accepted unifying role that the monarchy played in the past is probably over," says Montesano.

In the absence of a unifying figure, there is fear that Thailand will descend into political turmoil as the rural supporters of Thaksin — already given a taste of their electoral power — will be emboldened to take on the so-called royalists who want to maintain the status quo and their power in what one expert defines as "royal democracy."

"Royal democracy is only possible because of him. It is not an exaggeration to say that without him, royal democracy might not survive," said Thongchai Winichakul, a Thai scholar and professor of history at University of Wisconsin-Madison. "Thailand's political future is highly uncertain."

## **Clinton endorsement imminent, Obama to sit down with Sanders**

**JOSH LEDERMAN, Associated Press**

**KATHLEEN HENNESSEY, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — On the verge of endorsing Hillary Clinton, President Barack Obama will pay tribute to Bernie Sanders' historic candidacy for presidency with an Oval Office meeting aimed at unifying the Democratic Party for a general election brawl with Donald Trump.

Sanders, the runner-up for the Democratic nomination, was heading Thursday to the White House under intense pressure to drop out and clear the way for Clinton. Though he showed signs he understood the end was near — he was laying off about half his team — he vowed to keep fighting for his movement, which Democratic leaders hope will evolve into a new base of support for Clinton.

Obama, who was expected to formally endorse Clinton following his midday meeting with Sanders, has sought to give the Vermont senator the courtesy of exiting the race on his own terms. On "The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon" on Wednesday night, he praised the Sanders campaign.

"It was a healthy thing for the Democratic Party to have a contested primary. I thought that Bernie Sanders brought enormous energy and new ideas," Obama said during a taped appearance on "The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon". "And he pushed the party and challenged them. I thought it made

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Hillary a better candidate.”

Obama planned to use the meeting, requested by Sanders, to discuss how to build on the enthusiasm Sanders brought to the primary and advance issues like income inequality and campaign finance reform that Sanders championed, the White House said. That’s a diplomatic way of saying it’s time for Sanders to pass the baton to Clinton, who declared victory over Sanders on Tuesday.

Now head to head in the presidential race, Clinton and Trump have one thing in common: Both are working to woo Sanders supporters once his campaign fully sputters. Trump has said he welcomes Sanders’ voters “with open arms” while Clinton vowed to reach out proactively to voters who backed her opponent in the Democratic primary.

“He has said that he’s certainly going to do everything he can to defeat Trump,” Clinton said of Sanders in an Associated Press interview. “I’m very much looking forward to working with him to do that.”

Trump, despite a string of victories this week that reaffirmed his place as the GOP nominee, was still working to convince wary Republicans that he’s presidential material. Looking ahead to an upcoming speech attacking Clinton and her husband, Trump tried to turn the page following a dust-up over his comments about a Hispanic judge’s ethnicity

That controversy and others before it have led prominent Republicans, including House Speaker Paul Ryan, to open chastise their party’s nominee. Yet Trump’s dominance in the GOP race was hard to overstate: He now has 1,542 delegates, including 1,447 required by party rules to vote for him at the convention. It takes just 1,237 delegates to win the Republican nomination.

For Sanders, any rationale for staying in the race grew murkier as even some of his staunchest supporters started looking to Clinton. Sen. Jeff Merkley of Oregon, the one Senate Democrat to endorse Sanders, said Clinton was the nominee and offered his congratulations. And Rep. Raul Grijalva, a Sanders backer from Arizona, suggested the time to rally behind Clinton would come next week when the primary season concludes with the final contest in the District of Columbia.

“Bernie’s going to do the right thing,” Grijalva said Wednesday on the sidelines of discussions about the official Democratic Party platform.

Sanders, who also planned to meet Thursday with Senate Democratic leader Harry Reid, promised to continue his campaign through Tuesday’s contest. But about half his campaign staff was being laid off, two people familiar with the plans said. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren’t authorized to speak publicly about the layoffs.

The task of persuading Sanders’ supporters to fall in line falls largely to Obama, still one of the Democratic Party’s most popular figures. Obama’s aides have said he’s itching to get off the sidelines and take on Trump, but the key question was whether voters who helped elected him twice would follow his lead now that he’s not on the ballot.

There was little reason for overconfidence among Democrats, who’ve never seen that powerful coalition of minorities, young people and women reliably show up for candidates not named Obama.

“It’s going to be hard to get African-American turnout as high as Obama got it, and to get youth turnout as high as Obama got it,” said Celinda Lake, a Democratic pollster. “We have to work really hard.”

## Ali’s gravesite: Boxer will share cemetery with Col. Sanders

**CLAIRE GALOFARO, Associated Press Writers**

**BRUCE SCHREINER, Associated Press Writers**

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Every year on the same day, Muhammad Babar plans to walk past a soaring clock tower that juts 180 feet toward the sky, through a gate and into Cave Hill Cemetery, one of his



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city's greatest wonders.

It will be an annual pilgrimage to visit The Greatest, his hero, Muhammad Ali.

The boxing superstar will be buried at the cemetery — already on the National Register of Historic Places and the final resting place of Kentucky Fried Chicken founder Col. Harland Sanders — on Friday. Ali's tomb will undoubtedly become a draw for visitors from around the world.

"I think it will be a symbol of purity, a symbol of compassion, a symbol of commitment, dedication, conviction and perseverance under most difficult circumstances," said Babar.

Ali always said he wished to be buried in his hometown, where he learned to box and fought his first fight; where he built a museum and the city named a street in his honor.

"He wanted to come home," family spokesman Bob Gunnell said.

He chose Cave Hill a decade ago. The challenge was deciding on a plot among its 300 acres. He toured its twisting paths, towering trees and 130,000 graves whose inscriptions assemble into a who's who of Kentucky history.

"He fell in love with this site," Gunnell said.

Ali will have a simple marker, in accordance with Muslim tradition and his wish to remain humble despite his outsized life.

Gunnell and the cemetery would not say exactly where the grave would be.

University of Louisville staff archaeologist Philip DiBlasi said Cave Hill can handle a world-famous resident. It has tall, stone walls and 24-hour security. It is also well-known for its beauty and wildlife. Cave Creek is home to more than 400 varieties of trees, with foxes, deer and peacocks skittering around.

The 24-page rules manual warns against leaving offensive items, like liquor bottles. Climbing trees, lying on graves, angry discussion and profane language are all prohibited. As are fake flowers and unnatural ornaments, like balloons or trinkets.

That hasn't stopped fans of Sanders, who died in 1980, from leaving buckets of chicken on his grave. Cave Hill painted a yellow line along the path to lead visitors from the entrance to his gravesite.

DiBlasi said he doubts that the vandalism that has haunted some other celebrity graves will happen to Ali's site.

James Dean's headstone has been stolen twice from a cemetery in rural Indiana, said Phyllis Seward, whose husband serves as the secretary of the complex, about a mile from where the heartthrob grew up. Someone tried to take a chip out of the stone, so the family replaced the headstone with one with shallow, curved carvings to deflect knives.

"They leave him beer, money, cigarettes," Seward said. "They kiss it. We have to wipe the lipstick off the headstone all the time."

Robert Fells, executive director of the International Cemetery, Cremation and Funeral Association said it is human nature for people to feel drawn to the graves of those they admire.

"That's the closest thing they'll ever get to them on the face of the earth," he said. "They ask themselves 'what can I do to know this person, to get close to this person.' It's a pilgrimage I guess."

Some visitors have something more devious planned. Someone stole Charlie Chaplin's body from his grave in Switzerland and held it for ransom, Fells said. Elvis Presley was first buried at Forest Hill Cemetery in Memphis, but his family moved him to Graceland after three men were accused of plotting to steal the body.

A man pried a bronze plaque from Mark Twain's tomb in Elmira, New York, two years ago. Even now, more than a century after the author's death, a half-dozen people show up every day, with many leaving letters or cigars, said Bryce Cuyle, the cemetery's superintendent.

"You're creating a shrine," Cuyle said.

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They don't throw away the items. When it gets unsightly, they clean off the grave, put the material in a box and take it to a local Twain museum. Cuyle expects something similar to happen in Louisville.

"I'm sure for the next three, four years, that cemetery is going to have to take stuff off that marker every day," he said.

Most days, someone is hovering around Bruce Lee's grave at Lake View Cemetery in Seattle, more than 40 years after his death. Cemetery manager George Nemeth Jr. said they leave him karate belts and nunchucks, and sometimes perform martial arts routines.

For some celebrities, interest tapers off over time. Buses used to show up in droves at Malcolm X's gravesite every year on his birthday, said Joanne Aliberto, vice president of operations at Ferncliff Cemetery in Greenburgh, New York. Now only one bus comes. Judy Garland is also buried there. People used to leave flowers there every day. But now, almost 50 years after her death, her grave is often bare, Aliberto said.

Michael Lelys, executive director of the Oak Ridge Cemetery adjacent to Abraham Lincoln's tomb, says people still come by the hundreds to visit. The cemetery is the second most visited graveyard in America, after Arlington National Cemetery. Lelys watches them appraise the tomb, heads often bowed, voices lowered to a whisper.

"It feels like you're able to go back in time with that person," he said. "If you're within feet of a famous celebrity there's almost an aura, a feeling like their spirit with you."

## Rutherford's rapid makeover paying dividends for Penguins

**WILL GRAVES, AP Sports Writer**

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Tasked two summers ago with rebooting a franchise whose window for success around stars Sidney Crosby and Evgeni Malkin appeared to be closing, Jim Rutherford didn't tinker. He gutted.

The man they call "Trader Jim" spent the better part of the next 18 months making over the Pittsburgh Penguins on the fly. It started almost immediately after he took over as general manager in June, 2014. The early returns were hardly promising. Marred by injuries and dispassionate play under then-head coach Mike Johnston, the Penguins fell to the New York Rangers in five listless games last spring, leading to concerns the man who built a Stanley Cup winner in NASCAR country in Carolina a decade ago had lost his touch.

Now, the 67-year-old has his fingerprints all over a team that heads into Game 5 of the Stanley Cup Final on Thursday night up 3-1 over the San Jose Sharks.

Asked recently about the heat he took during the transition, Rutherford deadpanned, "I did?"

Yeah. Kinda. Not that it stopped Rutherford from continuing his search for the right pieces to put around his high-profile core, a process that included admitting to a few mistakes of his own along the way.

Only a small handful of familiar faces remain from the roster Rutherford inherited from Ray Shero. The departed have been replaced almost universally by quicker, more versatile players who — along with a needed jolt of intensity from new coach Mike Sullivan — have the Penguins on the brink of a fourth title.

"I think what Jim has done has given us an identity," backup goaltender Jeff Zatkoff said.

One that will have three shots over the next week to add another adjective: champion. A quick look at Rutherford's most significant moves during an overhaul that's made the former goaltender a finalist for the NHL General Manager of the Year and propped open that window that no longer appears on the verge of slamming shut.

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THE DATE: June 27, 2014

THE DEAL: Sending forward James Neal to Nashville in exchange for forward Patric Hornqvist and Nick Spaling.

THE FALLOUT: Rutherford wasted little time getting to work, sending the productive but volatile Neal to the Predators. While Spaling's tenure didn't last long — he's actually playing for the Sharks during the Cup Final — Hornqvist has gelled nicely with Crosby. Hornqvist's ability to get to the net frees up space for Crosby, and his eight playoff goals this postseason include an overtime winner against Washington and a hat trick in the first round against the Rangers.

THE DATE: July 1, 2015.

THE DEAL: Acquiring Phil Kessel from Toronto in a trade that included six players and a couple of draft picks.

THE FALLOUT: Pittsburgh needed depth — badly — to help take some of the scoring burden off Crosby and Malkin. Enter Kessel, who spent six seasons in Toronto scoring goals and becoming a three-time All-Star while also becoming an unwitting avatar for a fan base frustrated by the team's inability to generate any momentum in the postseason. Put together with Carl Hagelin and Nick Bonino (like Kessel, brought in by trades) as part of the "HBK" line in March, Kessel has been the Penguins' most consistent player. His 21 points through 22 playoff games have him as one of the favorites to earn the Conn Smythe Trophy given to the playoff MVP.

THE DATE: Dec. 12, 2015

THE DEAL: Firing Johnston and promoting Sullivan to head coach

THE FALLOUT: Johnston wasn't Rutherford's first choice to replace Dan Bylsma, and the professorial Johnston's brief tenure was marked by a sometimes nonchalant style that hardly seemed to take advantage of Crosby, Malkin and Kris Letang's unique talents. Sullivan took over with the Penguins on the fringe of the playoff picture and issued a challenge to the entire roster to hold itself accountable while evolving as a group. After a sluggish start, Pittsburgh took off around Jan. 1 and tore through the final weeks of the regular season by forcing opponents to play 200 feet.

THE DATE: Dec. 14, 2015

THE DEAL: Sending defenseman Rob Scuderi to Chicago for Trevor Daley

THE FALLOUT: Scuderi, who helped the Penguins to a Cup in 2009, was brought back in 2013 to provide guidance and grit at the blue line. By last fall, Scuderi's best days were firmly in the rearview mirror. Rutherford found an unlikely partner in Chicago, who sent the underperforming Daley to Pittsburgh so long as the Penguins held on to a portion of Scuderi's contract. The deal went down as the Penguins were finishing a dismal 5-1 loss to Washington in Sullivan's coaching debut. Daley immediately upgraded Pittsburgh's skill at the blue line and was playing perhaps the best hockey of his career before an ankle injury suffered in Game 4 of the Eastern Conference finals.

THE DATE: July 1, 2015 & March 14, 2016

THE DEAL(S): Signing Conor Sheary, Tom Kuhnhackl and Bryan Rust to two-year contracts

THE FALLOUT: On the surface, the respective deals for the three young forwards — all 25 and under — barely caused a ripple when they were announced. Yet, the trio's precocious play has given the Penguins an influx of speed and youth. All three were regulars by March and have been factors through June. Sheary has two goals in the Cup Final, including the overtime winner in Game 2. Rust has more goals in the playoffs (six) than he did during the regular season (five) and Kuhnhackl is an effective penalty killer with plenty of defensive chops.

Rutherford raised eyebrows when he took the job, saying he figured to be around only a few years. He's chucked the timetable for now and perhaps for good.



"I'm not worried about myself," he said. "I've been around a long time. If you want me to leave today, I'll leave."

## Judge even-handed in black man's police custody death case

**JULIET LINDERMAN, Associated Press**

BALTIMORE (AP) — The judge overseeing the emotionally charged case of a young black man who died in police custody is a former federal prosecutor who used to put dirty police officers on trial.

Friends and colleagues describe Baltimore Circuit Judge Barry Williams, an African-American, as an even-handed judge who has a sense of humor but doesn't tolerate courtroom grandstanding. People on both sides of the Freddie Gray case agree he's the best judge for the job.

Williams will decide perhaps the most important trial in the Gray case. Officer Caesar Goodson faces a second-degree murder charge in the death of Gray, whose neck was broken in the back of a police wagon last spring. Goodson waived his right to a jury in favor of placing his fate in Williams' hands. His trial begins Thursday.

## AP Exclusive: Water giant gave \$1.4M loan to official

**ELLEN KNICKMEYER, Associated Press Writer**

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A California public water district that earned a rare federal penalty over what it described as "a little Enron accounting" loaned one of its executives \$1.4 million to buy a riverfront home, and the loan remains unpaid nine years later although the official has left the agency, according to records and interviews.

Westlands Water District says its 2007 loan to deputy general manager Jason Peltier — now at \$1.57 million with a 0.84 percent annual interest rate — is allowed under agency rules on salary.

But experts in governance say the deal raises red flags, not just over the unpaid loan and its generous terms but over whether Peltier and Westlands complied with laws mandating disclosure of the use of public funds.

"Show me the statute that allows this," said Peter Detwiler, long the top consultant, now retired, to the California Senate on local government finance.

"Where else could you borrow \$1.6 million dollars for 0.84 percent?" Detwiler asked. "Who wouldn't want a real-estate deal like that? Sweet."

Westlands, which sells water to big farmers and other landowners in the country's largest public irrigation district, came under scrutiny in March, when federal regulators levied a \$125,000 penalty against it over bookkeeping that a Westlands' general manager had described as "a little Enron accounting."

The Securities and Exchange Commission had concluded Westlands misled bond investors about its financial condition.

A heavyweight in California water politics, Westlands currently is negotiating two multi-billion-dollar deals with local, state and federal agencies that would reshape water distribution in California, the country's agriculture leader.

Peltier described the loan from Westland's reserve funds as a good deal for the water agency and for him.

"It was what was attractive to me, and I guess it worked for them relative to where their reserves were," said Peltier, who has since bought an additional house in Pebble Beach while his loan to Westlands for his home on "Millionaires Row" along the Sacramento River has remained unpaid.

Governance experts say public agencies sometimes provide home loans to help recruit executives,

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but say Peltier's appears unusual because it was extended for years at a fraction of the interest rates of commercial mortgages, the district's various actions on the loan were not disclosed publicly although Peltier is a public official, and the loan will continue for years after he stopped working at Westlands.

"Each of the individual features is a bit unusual. Taken together these features are very unusual," Fred Whittlesey, a consultant on employee compensation based in Washington state, said of the circumstances of the loan.

"Free money is usually a great deal," Whittlesby said. "But it may not be appropriate in an employment arrangement."

The story on the loan is this, according to Peltier and records from Westlands and the U.S. Interior Department, where he worked before Westlands:

In March 2007, Peltier, whose Interior job included overseeing California water issues, notified the department he was looking for a job elsewhere. Two months later, he signed a \$1.4 million purchase agreement for his home with a new, "state of the art" \$115,000 boat dock and a \$100,000 swimming pool.

Peltier said he had already signed the paperwork before getting the Westlands job offer. Westlands hired Peltier June 25, 2007, as chief deputy general manager, and a short time later loaned him the full \$1.4 million home price, agency records show.

Terms initially required Peltier to repay the money within a year, when he sold his old house in a Virginia suburb of Washington, D.C. But Peltier said the home didn't move after the 2007 housing crash, and records show he signed repeated one-year loan extensions.

In 2012, he and Westlands revamped their agreement giving him until 2021 to pay off the loan, with a final payment of more than \$1 million, according to district records. Peltier made monthly payments of about \$5,000 from January 2013 to February 2015.

Peltier, whose salary ranged between \$185,000 and \$200,000 according to state records, finally sold the house back East in February 2014, and left Westlands for a job at an affiliated water agency in summer 2015, with the Westlands loan still unpaid.

Current Westlands Deputy General Manager Johnny Amaral defended the transaction.

"Unfortunately, Mr. Peltier, like millions of other Americans, was unable to sell his property in Virginia because of the collapse of the housing market and the bridge loan was converted to a long-term loan," Amaral said in an email.

Westlands officials declined interviews.

The Associated Press had asked Westlands under open records laws to provide all documents on the loan, including any showing whether the district disclosed the deal publicly.

In response to written questions, Chief Operating Officer Dan Pope said the home loan was allowed under a district rule that gives officials the authority to set salaries. There was no public record of the district board's loan decision, Pope wrote, because it was made in a closed session.

The AP could find public mention of the loan only on the website of a federal agency that oversees municipal bonds. Posted there were Westlands' annual audits, which from 2010 on reported a \$1.4 million loan to an unidentified management-level employee.

Peter Scheer, head of the California-based non-profit First Amendment Coalition, said Westlands as a public agency should have disclosed all of its actions on Peltier's loan, noting that the public has a right to know those details. Scheer's group has been supported by donations from some news organizations, including the AP.

California law requires public officials like Peltier to file annual financial disclosure forms, which includes reporting some loans.

Peltier said he had begun reporting the loan in his most recent annual disclosures. However, his reports through 2015, obtained from the state, make no mention of an outstanding loan from Westlands. Asked about the apparent discrepancy, Peltier said he thought he had included the information.

Asked whether the loan from a public agency would require disclosure, Jay Wierenga, spokesman for the state Fair Political Practices Commission, said, "Someone probably has to have a pretty good reason to not report a loan that's outside of the realm of what's normal and available to the public at large."

## **NASA takes 23,000-foot view of the world's coral reefs**

**CALEB JONES, Associated Press**

COCONUT ISLAND, Hawaii (AP) — Coral reefs have almost always been studied up close, by scientists in the water looking at small portions of larger reefs to gather data and knowledge about the larger ecosystems. But NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory is taking a step back and getting a wider view, from about 23,000 feet above.

NASA and top scientists from around the world are launching a three-year campaign Thursday to gather new data on coral reefs like never before.

Using specially designed instruments mounted on high-flying aircraft, the scientists plan to map large swaths of coral around the world in hopes of better understanding how environmental changes are impacting these delicate and important ecosystems.

The researchers hope to discover how environmental forces including global warming, acidification and pollution impact coral reefs in different locations by creating detailed images of entire reef ecosystems.

"CORAL (Coral Reef Airborne Laboratory) is an airborne mission to survey reefs at select locations across the Pacific," Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences' Eric Hochberg, who is principal investigator for the project, told The Associated Press on Tuesday. "The idea is to get a new perspective on coral reefs from above, to study them at a larger scale than we have been able to before, and then relate reef condition to the environment." Hochberg and the project's lead NASA scientist Michelle Gierach were in Oahu's Kaneohe Bay with The Associated Press on Tuesday to gather baseline data in the water.

While the primary science will be conducted using instruments that map the sea floor from above, the team must also take baseline measurements in the ocean to validate the data they get from the air, Gierach said. Her main role in the project is to decipher the data gathered from the aircraft.

"PRISM, the instrument that we're using ... is the state-of-the-art instrument for addressing coastal and in-water science questions," Gierach said. "CORAL wouldn't be possible without an instrument like PRISM, it's really the heart and soul of the project."

Coral reefs drive many tourist economies around the world, but they provide much more than pretty places to dive and snorkel, Gierach said. Reefs are critical habitat for the majority of the fish humans consume and also protect shorelines from dangerous storm surges and rising ocean levels.

Recently scientists have developed pharmaceutical applications from coral reefs, including pain killers that aren't habit forming, Hochberg said.

"Just realizing that though you may not see a coral, that you may not have your backyard be within this beautiful environment that we're in right now, corals are impacting you, they are globally important," Gierach said. "We have to understand how they're changing so we can make some managed decisions about their future."

Reefs are among the first ecosystems to be dramatically and directly impacted by global warming, according to the researchers.

The International Society for Reef Studies Consensus Statement, published in 2015, said that over the past few decades, up to 50 percent of coral reefs have been “largely or completely degraded by a combination of local factors and global climate change.”

Julia Baum, assistant professor of biology at the University of Victoria in British Columbia, has done extensive research on coral reefs and told The Associated Press on Wednesday that the data gathered from this kind of project could prove highly valuable for international reef scientists and the conservation community.

“I’m a huge proponent of open source data,” Baum said. “To me, the application of this technology to coral reefs holds great promise, but to fulfill that promise the data has to be made openly available to the scientific community.” The CORAL researchers said all data will be publicly available and will take about six months to process once captured.

Baum acknowledged that a lot of coral reef science has been limited by the lack of broad data sets like this project plans to provide.

“As scientific divers we’re limited by the depth we can work at and the amount of bottom time that we have while we’re diving, so much of underwater marine science, especially on coral reefs is a painstakingly slow process,” Baum said. “This Coral Reef Airborne Laboratory can’t replace scientists in the water, but it can provide a very high-level, complementary type of data.”

The CORAL team will study the reefs of Hawaii, Palau, the Mariana Islands, and Australia’s Great Barrier Reef over the next three years.

## **America’s beauty hasn’t faded. Has its greatness?**

**JAY REEVES, Associated Press**

**ROBIN McDOWELL, Associated Press**

EDITOR’S NOTE \_ This story is part of Divided America, AP’s ongoing exploration of the economic, social and political divisions in American society.

Americans agree on this much: They are disgusted with politics.

Yet Americans say they still believe in America, the experiment in democracy that the founders described as a place where the government should protect the rights of ordinary people to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. There’s something at the core of America they long for, even if it’s hard to define and seems distant in 2016.

Donald Trump proclaims he will “make America great again.” Hillary Clinton counters that America “has never stopped being great.” But what does that even mean?

The Associated Press interviewed a wide range of Americans to get a sense of what they think about the nation’s greatness in the twilight of President Barack Obama’s eight years in office. The responses were as different as Americans can be, yet a theme emerged: Compared to other nations, the United States is at least good, probably even great. But there’s a lot of work to be done.

“Yes, America is great. It could be a lot better if the politicians weren’t fighting each other all the time ...,” said Rodney Kimball, a 74-year-old stove dealer in West Bethel, Maine. “The government needs to start doing what’s right for the people.”

America is divided, and the current dearth of confidence in the nation’s politics and government is striking. Recent polling by the AP and the NORC Center for Public Affairs Research shows just 13 percent of Americans are proud of the 2016 election, and 55 percent feel helpless. Only 10 percent have a great deal of confidence in the overall political system.



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Although their America is still a land of shining seas, spacious skies and majestic mountains, many express a deep sense of disenchantment and uncertainty in their own lives.

"I think that America as an idea is one of the most beautiful ideas that the world has ever known. I think that American opportunity and ingenuity has built some of the most incredible technologies and innovations today," said Allene Swanson, 22, of Chicago. "And still, when I look around, I see a country that seems like it's crumbling. I see people who are hungry and broke and who are struggling a lot."

For people like 32-year-old Craig House, real success has always seemed out of reach. He lives in inner city St. Louis with his grandmother in a sea of burned-out buildings and abandoned schools, not far from a hip, trendy part of town.

"America has always been great, just not for me and my people. For us it's been the worst ever," said House. "People come from all over the world, Arabs own this, that. Black man don't own nothing."

Known as "Deacon" in his native New Orleans, 74-year-old guitarist John Moore fondly recalls the 1960s, when black people like him were seeing an end to racial segregation; when women were gaining equality; when politicians were taking a stand to end poverty despite the turmoil of protests over the Vietnam War.

"Those were the best years," said Moore, tears welling in his eyes in the living room-turned-recording studio of his shotgun house. "And then they were destroyed right before my very eyes when they assassinated all of our leaders. Robert Kennedy. John Kennedy. Martin Luther King. Malcom X. All of our leaders. And, you know, that was the end of hope. We had no more hope."

Hope returned, at least for some, in 2008 when the election of Barack Hussein Obama as president seemed to prove anyone really could accomplish anything in America.

Yet the years that followed have seemed more unsettling than uplifting to many. Today, some people want more from their government. Others just want it to go away as much as possible.

"I expect less government, less regulation," said Russ Madson, 45, a steel industry worker looking for better opportunities in Birmingham, Alabama. "Our country was built by people like the Rockefellers, Edison, Henry Ford — pioneers. And today they couldn't do what they did because of regulation."

But others expect more of government. Agriculture consultant and farmer Mike Poling of Delphos, Ohio, expects good governance and leadership "and nothing less."

"That's what got us to this point and that's what made America great," said Poling, 58. "What made America great is its people. That's what built the country. Our forefathers had the foresight to draft the Constitution, the Bill of Rights that has laid the groundwork for (the) nation carrying on for 200 years and continues to guide us."

Yet American greatness isn't just about words scrawled on yellowed paper and kept in a vault at the National Archives. A veteran of the war in Afghanistan, daughter of immigrants from Hong Kong, 29-year-old Kimberly Jung sees it as something deeper, a challenge to every citizen.

"I believe greatness is a responsibility," said Jung, of Chicago. "It's a dual state of mind in which you know your power or you know what resources you have but also your weaknesses. And you harness that set of strengths and weaknesses to work with a group and form a team and do great things."

That striving for the common good is somehow AWOL in America right now, people say.

"If there was one thing I could change about this country it would be to sit here and get us focused back on the country itself and not on our own self-interest," said Poling, the Ohio farmer.

Whether they opt for Trump, Clinton or someone else in November, Americans say the state of the union isn't good enough. Amal Kassir, a 20-year-old college student from Denver, sees her own future caught up with the chance the country has right now to make itself into something better.

"No doubt whatever greatness I'm capable of comes from being in this place," she said.

## LeBron scores 32, Cavs wallop Warriors 120-90 in Game 3

**TOM WITHERS, AP Sports Writer**

CLEVELAND (AP) — Crawling on the floor after a loose ball, LeBron James gathered himself and quickly got to his feet.

He stood tall, and so did the Cavaliers.

James had 32 points and 11 rebounds, Kyrie Irving added 30 points and Cleveland, pushed for 48 minutes by a delirious, championship-starved crowd, hammered the Golden State Warriors 120-90 in Game 3 on Wednesday night to pull within 2-1 in the NBA Finals.

On their home floor, where they have been dominant all postseason, the Cavs recovered from a 33-point loss in Game 2 and yanked their season from the brink of disaster following back-to-back blowouts in the Bay Area.

"We finally got back to our game," said James, whose energy from the start electrified 20,000 fans, and most importantly his teammates. "It was a good flow, a collective team win."

They Cavs did it without starting forward Kevin Love, with little help from their bench and by keeping Stephen Curry penned in.

The league's MVP was mostly MIA, scoring 19 points — two in the first half — on 6-of-13 shooting. Harrison Barnes scored 18 and Klay Thompson 10 for the Warriors, who had won seven straight over Cleveland — the first two finals games by a combined 48 points — and came back to the birthplace of rock and roll looking to party like they did after winning the title in Quicken Loans Arena last year.

The Cavs, though, have made this a series after it appeared the Warriors were on the fast track to another crown.

James had called it "do or die" for Cleveland.

Done and living.

The Warriors didn't look anything like the team that won a record 73 games during the regular season or the one that overcame a 3-1 deficit in the Western Conference finals.

"We were soft," said coach Steve Kerr. "When you're soft, you get beat on the glass and turn the ball over."

Curry didn't offer any excuses, but the two-time MVP hasn't been himself so far in this series.

"I've got to play 100 times better than that," he said, dismissing any notion he's slowed by injuries. "I'm fine. Not the way we wanted the night to go."

Irving bounced back from two rough games out West, J.R. Smith made five 3-pointers and Tristan Thompson did the dirty work inside, getting 13 rebounds for the Cavs, who improved to 8-0 at home and can even the series with a win in Game 4 on Friday night.

The Cavs hardly missed Love, still suffering from a concussion sustained in Game 2. He wanted to play, but is still in the NBA's concussion protocol and has not yet been cleared to return by league and team doctors.

Coach Tyronn Lue started veteran Richard Jefferson and moved James into Love's power forward spot, giving the Cavs a smaller lineup better equipped to run with the Warriors.

The 35-year-old Jefferson gave the Cavs a huge boost in 33 minutes, scoring nine points with eight rebounds.

Leading by eight at half, Cleveland took control in the third quarter when James and Irving combined on a play that symbolized the Cavs' resurrection.

Scrambling on his hands and knees while for a ball near midcourt, James got to his feet and whipped a pass to Irving on the left side. Irving returned a lob to James, who leaped high and flushed it with his

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right hand, a basket that seemed to erase all that went wrong for the Cavs in California.

"I wanted to see something great," Irving said of high pass, which forced James to soar. "It was awesome."

Said James, "I had to go get it."

The Cavs had to get Game 3, and James gathered his teammates in the hallway with some instructions.

"Follow my lead from the beginning!" he screamed. "And do your job!"

The Cavs listened, scoring the game's first nine points and opening a 20-point lead in the first quarter, rattling the Warriors.

"They just punched us right in the mouth," Kerr said.

**BLOWOUT CITY**

The Warriors won the opener 15, Game 2 by 33 and then lost by 30. What gives?

"It's the NBA," Kerr said. "This is how it is. As Gregg Popovich used to tell me, the other guys make millions of dollars to play too."

**PICKED OFF**

Klay Thompson left briefly in the first quarter with a thigh bruise after he crashed into Cleveland's Timofey Mozgov trying to set a screen.

"It seemed kind of dirty to me," Thompson said. "He stuck his knee out, too."

**SIT DOWN**

Curry was beaten on two back cuts early in the game and was benched by Kerr.

"I would have done the same thing," Curry said. "He's trying to figure out a way to get me going."

**TIP-INS**

Warriors: Are 0-4 in Game 3s in these playoffs. Golden State is 2-6 in Game 3s over the past two seasons and 28-5 in all other games. ... Kerr became emotional before the game when paying his respects to Sean Rooks, his former Arizona teammate who died Tuesday at the age of 46.

Cavaliers: Have won their eight home games in these playoffs by an average 22 points. ... Cleveland is 13-0 when scoring 100 points in this postseason. ... James has 82 career 30-point games in the playoffs, third most all-time. Only Michael Jordan (109) and Kobe Bryant (88) have more. ... Lue said he doesn't pay any attention to the all the outside second-guessing about his lineups. "I don't care," he said. "They (critics) should be coaches."

## Peru's presidential election wait enters 4th day

**JOSHUA GOODMAN, Associated Press**

**FRANKLIN BRICENO, Associated Press**

LIMA, Peru (AP) — Peru's presidential election went down to the wire, with the final ballots trickling in from abroad and frayed nerves reaching the breaking point as the wait entered its fourth day on Thursday.

With 99.5 percent of the polling stations counted, front-runner Pedro Pablo Kuczynski was topping rival Keiko Fujimori, the daughter of imprisoned ex-President Alberto Fujimori, by a 50.1 to 49.9 margin.

While most experts said it's already mathematically impossible for Fujimori to make up the roughly 40,000-vote difference separating her from Kuczynski, she hasn't conceded and her supporters are holding out hope for a turnaround.

"She's worked so hard crisscrossing the country," said Lusa Maria Cuculiza, a congresswoman for Fujimori's Popular Force party. "It would be unfair if she doesn't win."

Dozens of supporters of Fujimori have held demonstrations outside the electoral board to denounce

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what they said was fraud, even though neither the candidate nor her campaign have presented any evidence to back up their supporters' claims.

Kuczynski, a former World Bank economist, has urged patience from his supporters while talking as if he were already the winner.

Still being counted are the last ballots cast by an estimated 885,000 Peruvians eligible to vote abroad. Peruvians living outside the South American country, most of them in the United States, turned out massively for Fujimori in the 2011 election but with 90 percent of their vote already counted they appear to have favored Kuczynski this time around.

Another potential spoiler is the thousands of handwritten tallies that were being disputed and evaluated by a special electoral board. Currently 677 such tallies representing up to 200,000 votes remain to be computed. Disputes are common in Peru, where voting is mandatory and any observer can lodge a complaint, but they've never proven decisive in past elections and almost always a losing candidate ends up conceding defeat before they are resolved.

Both candidates have remained largely silent while awaiting final results of Peru's tightest presidential race since 1962, a contest that ended in a military coup. While Fujimori has traveled every day to her campaign headquarters, Kuczynski has remained mostly holed-up in his mansion with his family and aides.

President Ollanta Humala on Wednesday urged Peruvians to avoid jumping to conclusions and said the police would remain on alert until results were known.

"We exhort the authorities to deliver the results the quickest and most-responsible manner," he said.

Regardless of who wins, half of voters are bound to be disappointed, making it harder for the next president to govern. Aides in both campaigns were jockeying for positions in an eventual alliance in congress, where Fujimori's party won a solid majority of 73 of 130 seats. Kuczynski's fledgling movement will have just 18, fewer than the country's main leftist alliance.

The 77-year-old Kuczynski was once far behind, but rose by reminding voters of Alberto Fujimori's ties to the corruption, organized crime and death squads for which he's serving a 25-year prison sentence.

Kuczynski also benefited from a last-minute endorsement by the third-place finisher in the first round of voting, leftist congresswoman Veronika Mendoza.

## Asian shares mostly lower despite US stocks' gains

**TERESA CEROJANO, Associated Press**

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Asian shares were mostly lower Thursday despite gains on Wall Street as a weaker dollar negatively impacted Japanese stocks and investors weigh risks amid the Federal Reserve's cautious stance about tightening rates.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's Nikkei 225 shed 0.9 percent to 16,677.84. Australia's S&P ASX 200 slipped 0.4 percent to 5,348.30. South Korea's KOSPI was 0.2 percent lower at 2,022.17. The Philippines' PSE index was down 0.9 percent at 7,651.78, Singapore's FTSE Strait Times index was up 0.5 percent at 2,878.91. Financial markets were closed for holidays in China, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

ANALYST VIEWPOINT: "The Fed being more cautious about tightening rates should negatively impact stocks, since they are worried about the state of the economy and its ability to withstand higher interest rates," said IG Market Strategist Bernard Aw. "While there is some sort of a macro theme, at least for June, investors are reacting in an incoherent manner in the markets." But Aw added: "Make no mistake, the cautious undertone pervades the financial markets."

WALL STREET GAINS: Stocks rose for the third day in a row Wednesday as machinery and mining



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companies traded higher. Oil prices also continued their rise, and stocks and oil prices are at their highest in almost a year. Metals prices jumped as the dollar got weaker. Also trading higher were makers of beverages and other consumer goods. That's because a weaker dollar could mean better sales and bigger profits for U.S. companies that do a lot of business overseas. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 66.77 points, or 0.4 percent, to 18,005.05. The Standard & Poor's 500 index gained 6.99 points, or 0.3 percent, to 2,119.12. The Nasdaq composite added 12.89 points, or 0.3 percent, to 4,974.64. The S&P 500 and oil prices are both at their highest levels since July, and the Nasdaq hasn't been this high since Dec. 31.

**SOUTH KOREA'S ECONOMY:** Bank of Korea lowered its key interest rate to a record low Thursday in a move that took market watchers by surprise. South Korean central bank policymakers lowered the policy rate by a quarter of a percentage point to 1.25 percent for the month of June. The move is the first rate cut in Asia's fourth largest economy since June last year. The bank lowered the key interest rate twice in 2015 to aid the slowing economic recovery. Most market analysts had expected the bank to lower interest rates later in the year as growth was expected to slow during the second half of this year. The South Korean economy shows "no clear trends of improvement in domestic demand," the central bank said in a statement. There are "considerable downside risks surrounding the future growth path, such as corporate restructuring and the slowdown in global trade." South Korea has seen weak exports amid low crude oil prices that hit its shipyards and other key export sectors.

**OIL:** U.S. crude gained 34 cents at \$51.57 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. It jumped 87 cents on Wednesday to \$51.23 a barrel. Brent crude, the benchmark for international oil prices, rose 22 cents to \$52.73 a barrel in London. On Wednesday, it went up \$1.07 to \$52.51.

**CURRENCIES:** The dollar slid to 106.60 to the yen from 106.94 the previous day. The euro edged up to \$1.141 from \$1.1397 on Wednesday.

## Your phone may soon sense everything around you

**MICHAEL LIEDTKE, AP Technology Writer**

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — Suppose your smartphone is clever enough to grasp your physical surroundings — the room's size, the location of doors and windows and the presence of other people. What could it do with that info?

We're about to get our first look. On Thursday, Lenovo will give consumers their first chance to buy a phone featuring Google's 3-year-old Project Tango, an attempt to imbue machines with a better understanding about what's around them.

Location tracking through GPS and cell towers tells apps where you are, but not much more. Tango uses software and sensors to track motions and size up the contours of rooms, empowering Lenovo's new phone to map building interiors. That's a crucial building block of a promising new frontier in "augmented reality," or the digital projection of lifelike images and data into a real-life environment.

If Tango fulfills its promise, furniture shoppers will be able to download digital models of couches, chairs and coffee tables to see how they would look in their actual living rooms. Kids studying the Mesozoic Era would be able to place a virtual Tyrannosaurus or Velociraptor in their home or classroom — and even take selfies with one. The technology would even know when to display information about an artist or a scene depicted in a painting as you stroll through a museum.

Tango will be able to create internal maps of homes and offices on the fly. Google won't need to build a mapping database ahead of time, as it does with existing services like Google Maps and Street View. Nonetheless, Tango could raise fresh concerns about privacy if controls aren't stringent enough to pre-

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vent the on-the-fly maps from being shared with unauthorized apps or heisted by hackers.

Lenovo announced its plans for the Tango phone in January, but Thursday will mark the first time that the company is showing the device publicly. At the Lenovo Tech World conference in San Francisco, the Chinese company is expected to announce the phone's price and release date.

The efforts come as phone sales are slowing. People have been holding off on upgrades, partly because they haven't gotten excited about the types of technological advances hitting the market during the past few years. Phones offering intriguing new technology could help spur more sales.

But Tango's room-mapping technology is probably still too abstract to gain mass appeal right away, says Ramon Llamas, an analyst at the IDC research group.

"For most folks, this is still a couple steps ahead of what they can wrap their brains around, so I think there's going to be a long gestation period," Llamas says.

Other smartphones promising quantum leaps have flopped. Remember Amazon's Fire phone released with great fanfare two years ago? That souped-up phone featured four front-facing cameras and a gyroscope so some images could be seen in three dimensions. The device also offered a tool called Firefly that could be used to identify objects and sounds. But the Fire fizzled, and Amazon no longer even sells the phone.

The key to the Tango phone's success is likely to hinge on the breadth of compelling apps that people find useful in their everyday lives. If history is any guide, the early apps may be more demonstrative than practical.

Google already has released experimental Tango devices designed for computer programmers, spurring them to build about 100 apps that will work with Lenovo's new phone. At a conference for developers last month, Google demonstrated an app for picturing furniture in actual living rooms and for taking selfies with digital dinosaurs.

Both large and small tech companies are betting that augmented reality, or AR, will take off sooner than later. Microsoft has been selling a \$3,000 prototype of its HoloLens AR headset. Others, such as Facebook's Oculus and Samsung, are out with virtual-reality devices. Google has one coming as well through its Daydream project. While AR tries to blend the artificial with your actual surroundings, virtual reality immerses its users in a setting that's entirely fabricated.

With both, the devices out so far invariably require users to wear a headset or glasses. In many cases, they also must be tethered to more powerful personal computers, restricting the ability to move around.

None of that is necessary with Lenovo's Tango phone. Instead, you get an augmented look at your surroundings through the phone's screen.

"This has a chance to become pervasive because it's integrated into a device that you already have with you all the time," says Jeff Meredith, a Lenovo vice president who oversaw development of the Tango device. "You aren't going to have to walk around a mall wearing a headset."

Google plans to bring Tango to other phones, but is focusing on the Lenovo partnership this year, according to Johnny Lee, a Google executive who oversaw the team that developed the technology.

Tango drew upon previous research in robotics and the U.S. space program. Lee believes three-dimensional imagery and data — whether through the new Tango phone or another technology — will help reshape the way people interact with e-commerce, education and gaming.

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## Today in History The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Thursday, June 9, the 161st day of 2016. There are 205 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 9, 1986, the Rogers Commission released its report on the Challenger disaster, criticizing NASA and rocket-builder Morton Thiokol for management problems leading to the explosion that claimed the lives of seven astronauts.

On this date:

In A.D. 68, Roman Emperor Nero committed suicide, ending a 13-year reign.

In 1870, author Charles Dickens died in Gad's Hill Place, England.

In 1911, Carrie (sometimes spelled "Carry") A. Nation, the hatchet-wielding temperance crusader, died in Leavenworth, Kansas, at age 64.

In 1934, the first Walt Disney animated cartoon featuring Donald Duck, "The Wise Little Hen," was released.

In 1943, the federal government began withholding income tax from paychecks.

In 1946, Bhumibol Adulyadej (poo-mee-POON' ah-dool-yah-DAYD') became king of Thailand at age 18, beginning a reign that continues to this day.

In 1953, 94 people died when a tornado struck Worcester (WU'-stur), Massachusetts.

In 1954, during the Senate-Army Hearings, Army special counsel Joseph N. Welch famously berated Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy, R-Wis., asking McCarthy: "Have you no sense of decency, sir? At long last, have you left no sense of decency?"

In 1969, the Senate confirmed Warren Burger to be the new chief justice of the United States, succeeding Earl Warren.

In 1973, Secretariat won the Belmont Stakes, becoming horse racing's first Triple Crown winner in 25 years.

In 1985, American educator Thomas Sutherland was kidnapped in Lebanon by members of Islamic Jihad; he was released in November 1991 along with fellow hostage Terry Waite.

In 1994, a fire destroyed the Georgia mansion of Atlanta Falcons receiver Andre Rison; his girlfriend, rap singer Lisa "Left Eye" Lopes, admitted causing the blaze after a fight, and was later sentenced to probation.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush said the elimination of al-Qaida in Iraq founder Abu Musab al-Zarqawi (AH'-boo MOO'-sahb ahl-zahr-KOW'-ee) two days earlier "helps a lot" with security problems in Iraq but wouldn't bring an end to the war.

Five years ago: The entire top echelon of Newt Gingrich's presidential campaign resigned in a mass exodus that left his bid for the Republican nomination in tatters; the former House speaker vowed defiantly to remain a candidate. Alabama passed a tough law against illegal immigration, requiring schools to find out if students were in the country lawfully and making it a crime to knowingly give an illegal immigrant a ride. (Federal courts have since blocked parts of the law.)

One year ago: Former U.S. House Speaker Dennis Hastert pleaded not guilty in Chicago to charges that he had violated banking rules and lied to the FBI about promising to pay \$3.5 million in hush money to conceal misconduct from his days as a high school teacher. (Hastert later pleaded guilty to violating banking law in a case that revealed accusations of sexual abuse, and was sentenced to 15 months in prison.) President Barack Obama, addressing the annual Catholic Health Association Confer-

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ence in Washington, declared his health care law a firmly established "reality" of American life.

Today's Birthdays: Comedian Jackie Mason is 88. Media analyst Marvin Kalb is 86. Former baseball manager and player Bill Virdon is 85. Sports commentator Dick Vitale is 77. Author Letty Cottin Pogrebin is 77. Rock musician Mick Box (Uriah Heep) is 69. Retired MLB All-Star Dave Parker is 65. Film composer James Newton Howard is 65. Mystery author Patricia Cornwell is 60. Actor Michael J. Fox is 55. Writer-producer Aaron Sorkin is 55. Actor Johnny Depp is 53. Actress Gloria Reuben is 52. Gospel singer-actress Tamela Mann is 50. Rock musician Dean Felber (Hootie & the Blowfish) is 49. Rock musician Dean Dinning is 49. Musician Ed Simons is 46. Country musician Shade Deggs (Cole Deggs and the Lonesome) is 42. Bluegrass singer-musician Jamie Dailey (Dailey & Vincent) is 41. Actress Michaela Conlin is 38. Actress Natalie Portman is 35. Actress Mae Whitman is 28. Actor Lucien Laviscount (TV: "Scream Queens") is 24.x

Thought for Today: "Imagination was given to man to compensate him for what he isn't. A sense of humor was provided to console him for what he is." — Horace Walpole, English author (1717-1797).