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- 1- Recycling trailers
- 1- Dakota Brush Ad
- 1- Fr. Kelly to celebrate 40 years
- 1- Manager Wanted
- 1- Apts. for Rent
- 2- Aerobics offered at pool twice a day
- 2- Lions Club Meeting
- 3- School Board Agenda
- 4- Museum/Granary Summer Activities
- 5- Cutting Edge Lawn Care Ad
- 5- Today in Weather History
- 5- Golden Living Center ad
- 6- Local Weather Forecast
- 7- Yesterday's Groton Weather
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- 7- National Weather map
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- 9 AP News

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. Re-

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 Fact Pail

The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave.

The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **Open**

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Friday, June 10

Junior Teeners at Watertown Tourney

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

Saturday, June 11

Junior Teeners at Watertown Tourney

7:00pm: U10 Softball hosts Sisseton

Legion at Northville Tourney Anniversary: Wayne & Patty Hein

Birthdays: Charles Westby, Lila Dirksen 3:00pm: Amateurs hosts Mobridge (DH)

4:30pm: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church

Mass

Sunday, June 12

Junior Teeners at Watertown Tourney

Legion at Northville Tourney

Anniversaries: Brad & Kay Ruden, Dale & Marge Washnok.

Birthday: Sandi Sippel.

9:00am: Emmanuel Lutheran Worship

9:00am: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church

Mass

9:00am: St. John's Lutheran Worship

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 Brush

Brooms, Brushes, Mops, Can Liners, Paper Products.

Get Ready for Spring With Wash Brushes & Squeegees

397-9337

104 N. Main, Groton

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Water Aerobics are now being offered twice a day at the Groton Swimming Pool. Once in the morning and once in the late afternoon. The Groton pool is a very busy place in the summer months.

Groton Lions Club

Justin Olson, first vice president, led the short business session, for the June monthly Groton Lions Club meeting.

Dave Pigors, president-elect; asked that the meetings be changed to 7 pm, starting in August.

Secretary Nancy Larsen announced that plans for the annual Governors nite on July 14, are going well. There will be a 6:30 pm supper, before the meeting.

Justin reported some details of a city council proposed pumpkin fest. The club voted to sponsor this event.

Lee Schinkel announced his committee is working on the free ice cream social, June 22, 2-4 pm, at the community center, for folks 80 and over in the community.

After the meeting, some members drove to the Terry and Judy Thompson farm, to make final preparations the Show n Shine show.

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School Board Agenda
GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT #06-6 School Board Meeting June 13, 2016 – 7:30 PM – GHS Conference Room

AGENDA:

1. Call to Order with members present. Approve agenda as proposed or amended.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Approval of minutes of May 9, 2016 school board meeting as drafted or amended.
- 2. Approval of North Central Special Education Co-Op (NCSEC) agenda items...as school of record.
- 3. Approval of May 2016 School Transportation Report and School Lunch Report.
- 4. Approval of May Financial Report, Agency Accounts, and Investments.
- 5. Approval of May District bills for payment.
- 6. Approve Open Enrollment Applications for 16-17 school year:
- a. #17-05 (Grade 1) from Aberdeen School District
- b. #17-06 (Grade 7) from Aberdeen School District
- c. #17-07 (Grade 8) from Aberdeen School District
- d. #17-08 (Grade 5) from Aberdeen School District
- e. #17-09 (Grade 2) from Webster Area School District
- f. #17-10 (Grade 2) from Webster Area School District
- g. #17-11 (Grade 12) from Aberdeen School District

OLD/CONTINUING BUSINESS:

- 1. Open Forum for Public Participation...in accordance with Board Policy & Guidelines.
- 2. Review proposed building improvement measures and discussion on next steps and committee recommendations.
 - 3. School Board Committee Reports:
 - a. Building, Grounds, & Transportation: Lars Hanson, Marty Weismantel, Merle Harder
 - b. Personnel, Policy, & Curriculum: Dorene Nelson, Grant Rix
 - c. Negotiations: Kelly Kjelden, Steve Smith
- 4. Administrative Reports: (a) Superintendent's Report; (b) Principal's Reports; (c) Business Manager Report

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Curriculum review presentation Science.
- 2. Discussion with Groton Area Elementary PAC concerning playground.
- 3. First reading of MS/HS Student Handbook changes.
- 4. First reading of Elementary Student Handbook changes.
- 5. Approve Consolidated Application for the 2016-2017 school year.
- 6. Approve hiring Alexa Schuring as educational paraprofessional for the 16-17 school year.
- 7. Approve hiring Teresa Foertsch as educational paraprofessional for 16-17 school year.
- 8. Approve reassignment of Deb Tollifson from kindergarten paraprofessional to RtI paraprofessional.
- 9. Approve educational advancement lane change for Becky Erickson from MS to MS+15 for 16-17 school year.
 - 10. Authorize request of 2016-2017 energy quotes (fuel/oil/diesel/gas) with due date of 4:00 PM June 27.
- 11. Authorize reguest of 2016-2017 newspaper specifications and quote form with due date of 4:00 PM June 27.
- 12. Authorize Business Manager to publish 2016-2017 Groton Area School District Budget with 8:00 PM "Public Hearing" set for July 11...organizational school board meeting.
 - 13. Executive session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(4) negotiations and SDCL 1-25-2(2) personnel. **ADJOURN**

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Summer Activities at the DPM & Granary in 2016

Granary Rural

Cultural Center

Museum

"AN EAGLE FLIES" Artwork by Christine Rawstern Dacotah Gallery May 31 - Oct. 2 Artist Reception: June 6, 5-7 pm

<u>"WHEN WORK IS PLAY"</u> Interactive 3-D artwork by NSU's Exo-Syndicate Lamont Gallery June 1 - Aug. 31

GALLERIES & MUSEUM STORE HOURS:

Tue. - Fri. 9am-5pm Sat. & Sun. 1-4pm

History Camp @ Centennial Village Ages 9-13 (\$15/session) July 6, 7, 8 & July 13, 14,15

Registration forms online



Granary

ART CAMP FOR KIDS Ages 8-13 (\$15/session) June 6-9 & June 20-23 Registration forms online

THE GREAT ART ESCAPE

Painting Class for Adults June 25, 10am-2pm - \$25 w/lunch June 28, 6-8pm - \$20 w/refreshments Call to 605.626.7117 to register

PHIL BAKER IN CONCERT

For all ages of kids! July 14, 2:30-3:30 Freewill Donation

OLD TIME MUSIC & ICE CREAM SOCIAL For all ages, from grandparents to parents to grandkids July 17, 1-4pm Freewill Donation

LIVING HISTORY FALL FESTIVAL

Come in pioneer dress! SAVE THE DATE: Sept. 24

GALLERY SHOWS

Granary Gallery: Artwork by Ashley Farrand, SDSU Art student Putney Hall:

"Booming Brown County Towns"

Gallery Hours:

Thur. & Fri. 1-7pm, (June - Aug.) Sat. & Sun. 1-4pm (June - Sept.) ~Closed the week of the Brown County Fair~

Dacotah Prairie Museum 21 S Main Street Aberdeen, SD 57401 www.dacotahprairiemuseum.com Granary Rural Cultural Center 40161 128th St Groton, SD 57445 www.granaryfinearts.org

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Today in Weather History

1752 - It is believed that this was the day Benjamin Franklin narrowly missed electrocution while flying a kite during a thunderstorm to determine if lightning is related to electricity. (David Ludlum)

1957 - A dust devil at North Yarmouth, ME, lifted a 600 to 1000 pound chicken shelter into the air and carried it 25 feet. It landed upright with only slight damage. It is unknown whether any eggs were scrambled. (The Weather Channel)

1958 - A woman was sucked through the window of her home in El Dorado, KS, by a powerful tornado, and was carried sixty feet away. Beside her was found a broken phonograph record entitled Stormy Weather . (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Thunderstorms produced 2 to 4 inch rains in southern Texas. Two and a half inches of rain at Juno TX caused flooding and closed a nearby highway. Flooding on the northwest side of San Antonio claimed one life as a boy was swept into a culvert. Thunderstorms in the north central U.S. produced an inch and a half of small hail at Monida Pass MT. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

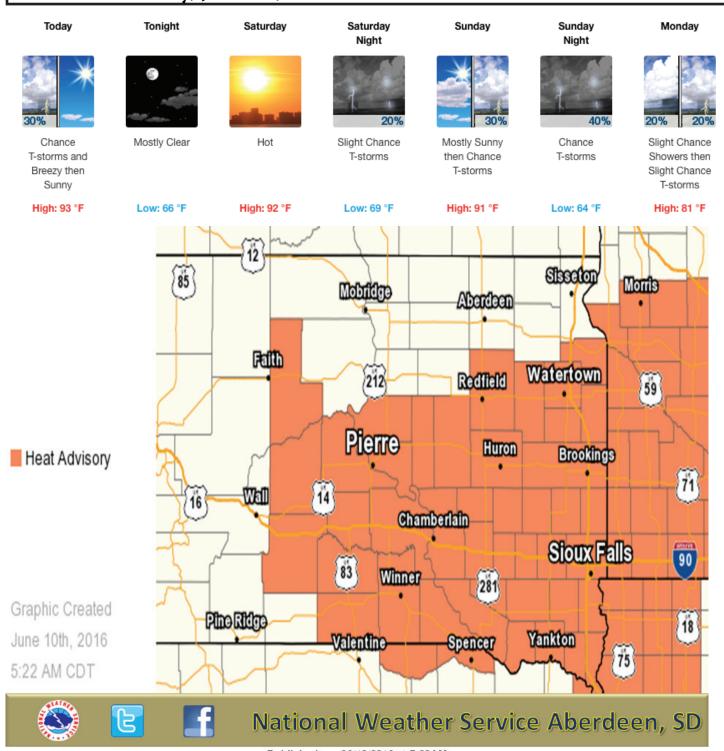
1988 - Three dozen cities, mostly in the eastern U.S., reported record low temperatures for the date, including Elkins, WV, with a reading of 33 degrees. Unseasonably hot weather continued in the Northern High Plains Region. The record high of 105 degrees at Williston, ND, was their seventh in eight days. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather through the day and night across much of the southern half of the Great Plains Region. Thunderstorms spawned 14 tornadoes, and there were 142 reports of large hail and damaging winds. Hail three inches in diameter caused three millions dollars damage at Carlsbad, NM. Hail four inches in diameter was reported at Estelline TX and Stinnett, TX. Thunderstorm winds gusted to 80 mph at Odessa TX. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)





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Published on: 06/10/2016 at 5:30AM

Much of the southern half of South Dakota and Minnesota is going to experience rather hot and muggy conditions today. With Heat Index values bumping up into the 100 to 105 degree range, a heat advisory has been issued for today into early this evening.

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Yesterday's Weather High Outside Temp: 98.5 F at 7:14 PM

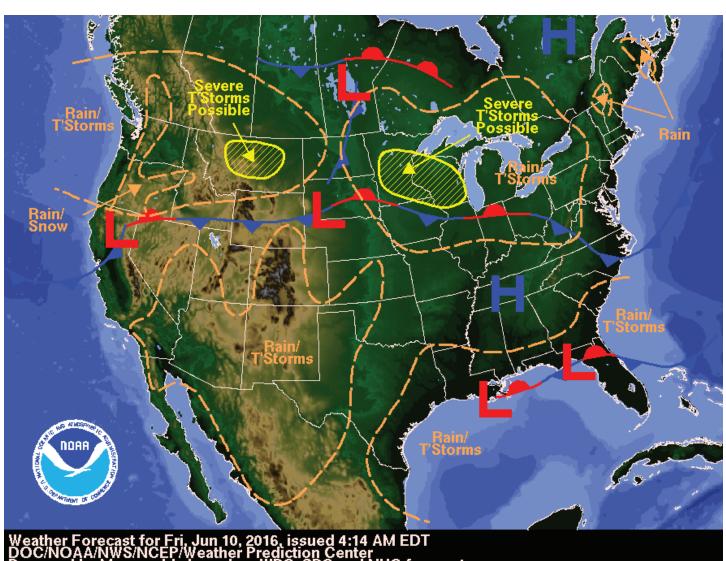
Low Outside Temp: 61.5 F at 5:26 AM High Gust: 19.0 Mph at 12:02 AM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info Record High: 100° in 1933

Record Low: 37 in 1936 Average High: 76°F **Average Low:** 52°F

Average Precip in June: 1.18 Precip to date in June: 0.72 **Average Precip to date: 8.32 Precip Year to Date: 5.71** Sunset Tonight: 9:21 p.m. Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:44 a.m.



for Fri, Jun 10, 2016, issued 4:14 AM EDT NCEP/Weather Prediction Center molds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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FOREVER GOING FORWARD

Having been called to be a missionary, David Livingstone was required to appear before an organization for their endorsement and support. While being questioned about his call, he was asked, "Where are you willing to go?"

"Anywhere," he answered, "as long as it's forward!"

In concluding his second letter, Peter wrote, "But grow in the special favor and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." By his life and in his writings, Peter emphasized the importance of growth in the life and service of Christians. No matter how well we may believe we know God or how mature we may think that we are in our spiritual development, there is always space to "move forward."

We live in a world that is hostile to the things of God. There is little doubt that many would be pleased if they could make God completely invisible.

Because of the spirit of antagonism toward God, we must be aware of the battles that are going on around us and, sometimes even within us.

The world will always challenge our faith. The only way to make certain that we are moving forward is to spend time each day with God.

Prayer: May we realize, Lord, the importance of drawing closer to You each day so that we are always prepared to stand for truth and righteousness. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: 2 Peter 3:18 but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

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News from the App Associated Press

Lawrence County OKs rock quarry despite neighbors' concerns

DEADWOOD, S.D. (AP) — Lawrence County commissioners have narrowly approved a permit for a rock quarry that has met stiff opposition from area residents.

Rapid City-based Mountain View Ranches LLC sought the county permit for a 192-acre sand, gravel and rock quarry off Crook City Road. The company said only 10 acres would be operated at a time, and that land would be reclaimed as the work progressed.

"This location here is an appropriate location for this activity," company lawyer Barton Banks said during a contentious public hearing Thursday that lasted three hours.

Area residents worry the operation will jeopardize historic trails and lead to other problems including noise, dust and road damage.

"There are very nice houses within 700 feet of this quarry, and it's totally going to destroy their family life and value," opponent Les Auer said.

The county's planning and zoning board in April recommended approval of the project with more than 40 conditions aimed at limiting the quarry's impacts on the surrounding area. The commission voted 3-2 Thursday to approve the quarry.

Opponents plan to gather petition signatures to try to bring the matter to a public vote.

"We'll let the people of Lawrence County decide whether this quarry should go in," said opponent Kevin Farmer.

\$500,000 bond set for school official accused of sex crime

GARRETSON, S.D. (AP) — A judge has set bond at \$500,000 cash for the Garretson School District business manager, who's accused of soliciting a minor.

Fifty-eight-year-old Rodney Fischer was arrested Tuesday and made his initial court appearance Thursday. He did not enter a plea.

Authorities allege Fischer was caught in an online sting in which he solicited sex from what he thought was a 13-year-old girl but was actually an undercover agent.

Superintendent Guy Johnson says Fischer has been suspended from his school duties.

Carney to retire from high school activities association

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota High School Activities Association Executive Director Wayne Carney is retiring from the organization effective at the end of the 2016-17 school year.

Carney made the announcement Thursday at the group's board of directors meeting. He joined the activities association in 2001.

Jason Uttermark is chairman of the activities association's board. Uttermark says members are thankful for Carney's service to the students of South Dakota over his entire career.

The board will discuss the timeline for hiring a successor at its meeting in August.

Professional kite flyers set for annual Jamestown festival

JAMESTOWN, N.D. (AP) — More than 25 professional kite flyers are expected in North Dakota this weekend for the 22nd annual Jamestown Kite Festival.

One of the founders of the festival, Mike Gee (jee), tells KQDJ radio that the three-day outing is considered a "major event in the kiting world" and participants love coming to Jamestown.

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Gee says a man from Aberdeen, South Dakota, plans to bring one of the largest kites in the country. It measures 30 by 60 feet.

The event runs Friday through Sunday. It is free and open to the public.

South Dakota's hot weather expected to last into weekend

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Temperatures in parts of South Dakota may reach triple digits Friday as part of hot weather that's expected to stretch into the weekend.

The National Weather Service says Sioux Falls hit 95 degrees Thursday, with warmer temperatures expected to start on Friday.

Meteorologist Jennifer Hacker says there are forecast highs of 97 degrees in Rapid City and 99 degrees in Pierre on Saturday.

Hacker says people should take breaks while working outside, drink water and try to stay cool.

Backers lay groundwork for South Dakota's school choice law JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Parents looking for help sending their children to private school may be able to tap a state-backed scholarship program as soon as this fall under South Dakota's new school choice law, the measure's legislative sponsor said Thursday.

Going into effect next month, the plan mimics other states' programs by offering tax credits in exchange for donations to private-school scholarships. Advocates are laying the groundwork for South Dakota's program, which targets insurance companies with the tax incentive.

Lawmakers approved the plan this year over the protests of public education advocates.

Under the law, insurance companies can get an 80 percent tax credit for total contributions to a grant organization that provides the scholarships. The total amount of credits is capped at \$2 million each budget year.

Supporters last month established a nonprofit called South Dakota Partners in Education to dole out scholarships as funding becomes available. Advocates have been contacting insurance companies and learning from other states that have similar programs, said retiring Republican Sen. Phyllis Heineman, the measure's legislative sponsor.

The organization aims to award at least some scholarships for the fall, said Heineman, who is also a board member of the new nonprofit. Her work is "purely a volunteer effort," and she won't see any financial gain from the unpaid position, Heineman said.

Some insurance companies have already shown interest in the program, and larger national insurers are familiar with the tax credit concept from other states, said board member Katie Mellor, president of the South Dakota Christian Schools Association.

Boosters say the tax credits target businesses that pay an insurance company tax in South Dakota because it is a stable source of revenue that shows consistent growth.

"We'd love to be able to hit our \$2 million tax credit limit," Heineman said. "That would be our ultimate goal, and with that we could award many hundreds of scholarships."

Students under the South Dakota program will be eligible for the scholarships if their families the year before made up to 150 percent of the income standard used to qualify for free or reduced-price lunch, among other conditions.

Critics argue the state has an obligation to provide public education and that the measure could unconstitutionally direct public funds to religious schools. They worry it could lay the groundwork for a

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larger program that would siphon a significant number of students and support from public schools in the future.

"We've seen tax credits be the beginning of vouchers in other states, and it's a concern when we begin to talk about diverting revenues from our public schools," said Mary McCorkle, president of the South Dakota Education Association, a teacher's union. "Our public schools are the great equalizer, the provider of opportunity for all our students."

2 sentenced in South Dakota women's prison meth case

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Two more inmates from the South Dakota women's prison have been sentenced on methamphetamine-related charges and two others in the case have entered pleas.

Attorney General Marty Jackley said Thursday that 36-year-old Michaela Mousseau and 21-year-old Shauntel Shangreaux have each been sentenced to an additional year behind bars.

They were charged in November 2015 for methamphetamine use.

Two other inmates charged in the case, 39-year-old Dawn Mesteth and 29-year-old Sylvia Bordeaux, have pleaded guilty to ingesting methamphetamine.

Sentencing is scheduled for Aug. 1.

Pipeline work begins in Iowa, protesters vow nonviolent acts DAVID PITT, Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Work has begun in Iowa on an oil pipeline despite repeated attempts by landowners and environmental groups to stop it, a spokeswoman for the Texas company building the pipeline said Thursday.

The Iowa Utilities Board signed a final order Wednesday allowing construction on the \$3.8 billion, 1,150-mile pipeline that spans four states, and work began shortly after that, according to Lisa Dillinger with Texas-based Dakota Access.

"We have provided the proper notifications in Iowa, allowing us to begin immediately," she said. "Construction activities have begun along the route in all four states."

Iowa was the last state to approve construction on the pipeline, which will carry oil from the Bakken oil fields in North Dakota across South Dakota and Iowa before ending at a storage facility in Illinois. Work began last month in the other three states.

Dakota Access has not received permits from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for river crossings and other federal land in Iowa, including a parcel that is under investigation as a possible Native American burial site. Plus, the project faces at least five lawsuits in Polk County District Court in Des Moines, and individual landowners along the route have said they plan to challenge in court the company's use of eminent domain. The first condemnation hearings begin next week.

Pipeline opposition group Bold Iowa said Thursday that 60 members have signed a pledge to risk arrest if necessary in nonviolent protests.

"In the tradition of other great American struggles for freedom, from the Boston Tea Party to the March to Montgomery to the Farm Crisis, when farmers stood with their neighbors to block foreclosure auctions, we ask Americans passionate about defending our land and liberty to step forward to stop the Bakken Pipeline," said Ed Fallon, the group's director.

Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement, a citizen activist group in Des Moines, will join Bold Iowa's protest, political director Adam Mason said, adding that action could begin as early as July.

Dakota Access said the construction work that has begun includes staking, grading, clearing, tempo-

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rary road construction and building temporary fences and gates, Dillinger said. Currently, there are a few hundred workers are in Iowa, but she said that number will grow as work expands, reaching about 4,000 workers in each state at the peak.

EPA's plan to boost ethanol use in gasoline gets hearing JIM SUHR, AP Business Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — The Obama administration's proposal to boost the amount of ethanol and other renewable fuels blended into gasoline produced at least one consensus Thursday during the matter's only public hearing: Few, if anyone, is entirely satisfied by the plan.

Ethanol advocates, largely from Midwest farming states, testified that the Environmental Protection Agency's target for biofuels next year again falls short of what Congress had in mind. Oil companies countered that the market, not the government, should dictate how much ethanol goes into gas, and that the target should be lowered.

The head of a renewable fuels trade group said Thursday he was "increasingly confident" the EPA could be swayed to push the targets upward, citing the weight of roughly 140 people registered to testify — the bulk pressing the EPA to call for the even larger increase when it issues its final rule expectedly by the end of the year.

"If they don't (boost the goal), you have to question the commitment of the administration," Bob Dinneen, the Renewable Fuels Association's president and CEO, told reporters as the hearing unfolded in a Kansas City, Missouri, hotel.

The EPA oversees the decade-old Renewable Fuel Standard program commonly known as the ethanol mandate, which sets out how much corn-based ethanol and other renewable fuels refiners must blend into gasoline. The program's intent was to address suspected global warming, pare dependence on foreign oil and bolster the rural economy by requiring a steady increase over time.

While almost 700 million gallons more than 2016's requirement, next year's target of 18.8 billion gallons of renewable fuels, mostly ethanol, is less than the 24 billion-gallon threshold set in law.

But the EPA has flexibility to make adjustments, called waivers, in the yearly targets based on conditions, including infrastructure and availability; this year, the agency cites fuel market constraints and slower-than-expected development of next-generation biofuels, made from agricultural waste such as wood chips and corncobs.

Simply mandating Congress' targets "would be inappropriate in our view," said Benjamin Hengst with the EPA's Office of Transportation and Air Quality, adding that the proposed quotas still "are consistent with Congress' clear goal of increasing renewable fuel."

"We believe the proposed standards to be ambitious and achievable," he said.

More renewable fuels are good news for the agriculture and ethanol industries, which aggressively pushed back on a 2013 proposal that would have decreased the amount of ethanol mixed into fuel. On Thursday, their representatives said Congress' intentions were doable.

"The EPA is not keeping its side of the deal," said Chip Bowling, the National Corn Growers Association's president. "Our message today is clear: Any reduction of statutory targets takes America backward."

Patrick Kelly of the American Petroleum Institute, the biggest lobbying group in the oil industry that has spent years fighting the program, testified the EPA did not go far enough in reducing the volumes of ethanol in gasoline.

"Until Congress repeals or significantly reforms the RFS, (the) EPA must continue to address the outdated volume requirements by exercising its waiver authorities," said Kelly, the institute's senior fuels

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policy adviser.

Environmental groups say farmers growing large amounts of corn for ethanol are tearing up the land and diverting grain from needed food, and some conservatives call the government's longtime support for ethanol "corporate welfare."

Join the euro? We'll get back to you on that DAVID McHUGH, AP Business Writer

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP) — The euro's waiting room is empty.

No one is lining up to join the 19-country currency, and the next memberships — if any — will only be years down the road, certainly not in this decade.

It marks a shift from a recent steady growth in membership, with seven countries joining in the past nine years, and reflects a sense that the euro is still patching the problems uncovered by the debt crisis that sank Greece's finances.

The issue was highlighted this week when the European Union's executive Commission and the European Central Bank made it clear that none of the seven potential new members — Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Croatia, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Sweden — have put their economies and state finances in shape needed to join, although progress has been made on many counts.

And no one's asking to get in, either.

Governments in Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and elsewhere are paying lip service to the requirement to join. They committed to the euro simply by joining the EU in the first place.

But they are not moving toward the entrance door. Instead, they are waiting to see whether and how the currency zone sorts out the debt and economic problems that threatened it with collapse and saw Ireland, Greece, Portugal, Spain and Cyprus bailed out. In Poland, the leader of the ruling Law and Justice Party, Jaroslaw Kaczynski, said last year "we could join in 40 years," and there matters seem to remain.

That's at least partly due to concern about repeating the experience with Greece. Many think the country was not economically ready to join the euro when it did so in 2001, and people there have suffered under high unemployment, higher taxes and government cutbacks.

Bulgaria, which seems more eager, is being politely told to first sort out its problems with corruption, which can hinder growth and investment. Britain and Denmark won the right to opt-out of the euro when the currency was conceived, and Sweden, though on paper obligated to join, rejected the euro in a 2003 referendum.

While many see stability in binding their countries to rich economies like Germany and France, others are worried it could lead to higher prices, a common view despite the fact that eurozone inflation right now is so low it's negative, at minus 0.1 percent.

"One thing is for sure: prices would go up 10-20 percent in the switch," says Marek Liwinski, a 73-year-old furrier in Warsaw.

The most recent Eurobarometer survey in April for the EU's executive commission showed that the proportion of residents in favor of introducing the euro varies widely, from 64 percent in Romania to 29 percent in the Czech Republic. Less than one in five, 17 percent, said their country was ready.

The no-rush mood extends to the EU centers of power in Brussels, headquarters of the commission, and Frankfurt, Germany, home of the euro's issuer, the European Central Bank. Asked about the issue at a news conference last week, ECB head Mario Draghi said that while there had been "very significant progress," 'we have to judge all these issues in perspective, really. We have to give ourselves time."

Countries that want to join the euro must show they can control inflation and keep budget deficits

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below 3 percent of annual economic output and government debt below 60 percent. None of the seven countries checks all the boxes.

The upsides of euro membership include streamlining crossborder business by eliminating foreign exchange transactions. It can also help keep inflation and markets stable and is a stronger form of union with the West. That can be appealing to former Soviet-dominated states worried about Russia's desire to expand its sphere of influence.

There are a few downsides as well, however.

New members must hand over control of interest rates to the ECB, and lose the possibility to devalue their currency, an important safety valve in an economic crisis and one that would have given Greece an alternative to some of the tough austerity cuts it had to impose under the bailouts.

Even top EU officials say the monetary union, launched with optimism in 1999, remains incomplete. Some weak points are being addressed. In particular, big banks are now supervised at the EU level — by the ECB in a so-called "banking union" — to prevent lenient national regulators from ignoring trouble. But other fixes that would soften financial crises, such as EU-wide deposit insurance or a centralized fiscal pot, remain only on the drawing board.

Before others join, "the eurozone will have to completely recover and banking union will have to show full implementation," said Daniel Gros, director of the Centre for European Policy Studies in Brussels.

When that happens, Poland could be the most likely addition.

Poles remain convinced that integrating with Western Europe is in their best interests. And from the eurozone's point of view, the large country with its 38 million people presents a chance to extend the bloc significantly.

Eugeniusz Smolar, senior fellow at the Centre for International Relations in Warsaw, thinks Poland will join "when the euro is ready and the applicant is ready." He estimated that could take 7 to 10 years, as the eurozone fixes its problems and Poland continues to close the economic gap with western Europe: "We need to catch up quite a lot."

"Poland has been studying the examples of the south of Europe and Greece," he said. "Poland would hate to find itself on the receiving end of such a process."

Suspect caught in Ohio apartment complex shooting; 2 injured

DEERFIELD TOWNSHIP, Ohio (AP) — A suspect is in custody in a shooting at an Ohio apartment complex that left a sheriff's deputy and another person wounded, officials said early Friday.

The suspect in the shooting, 19-year-old Mohammed Abdou Laghaoui, was captured at about 5 a.m.by authorities not far from the apartment complex in Deerfield County after a seven-hour manhunt, Lt. John Faine of the Warren County Sheriff's Office said.

No further information about how the suspect was caught was immediately available.

Faine said the female deputy who was shot while responding to a report of a domestic situation at the apartment complex at about 9:45 p.m. Thursday has been treated and released from a hospital.

Another person also was shot and taken to a hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. There was no immediate word on that person's condition.

The names of the shooting victims were not immediately released.

A shelter-in-place order was lifted in Deerfield Township, about 25 miles northeast of Cincinnati, shortly after 5 a.m.

"We're relieved, obviously, even more so that our deputy was OK," Faine said. "In the end, to have a peaceful resolution, to have the suspect in custody, peacefully, without anyone else getting hurt, that is a great relief."

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Faine said the shooting occurred almost immediately after the deputy arrived at the apartment complex.

Brian Freedman, a resident of the apartment complex, told The Cincinnati Enquirer that he arrived home to find the area cordoned off.

"I don't know if I've ever seen so many police officers in one place," Freedman said.

Helicopters and K-9 units were called to the scene to assist in the search for the alleged gunman.

Israel sets 3 day West Bank closure after Palestinian attack

JERUSALEM (AP) — The Israeli military says the West Bank will be closed off until the end of the Jewish holiday of Shavuot due to security concerns following a Palestinian shooting attack this week that killed four civilians.

It said Friday that crossings will be open for "humanitarian" cases and for Palestinians to worship at al-Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem.

Police are on high alert in Jerusalem as thousands of Palestinians are expected for prayers on the first Friday of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

The holy site has been a flashpoint of violence in the past, and tensions are especially high after Palestinian gunmen killed four Israelis in a shooting at a popular Tel Aviv tourist spot on Wednesday.

The military says the closure will end Sunday night after the Shavuot holiday.

Top 'Hamilton' premium ticket pushed to record \$849MARK KENNEDY, AP Drama Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Be prepared to fork over a lot more Hamiltons to see the Broadway smash "Hamilton." Producers have pushed the top premium seat price up to a record \$849.

The previous high for premium ticket prices was \$477 for the best seats at "The Book of Mormon." 'Hamilton" will easily shatter than mark, an attempt to cut scalpers out of the resale business.

But lead producer Jeffrey Seller has also opened access for people unable to spend hundreds by increasing the number of last-minute digital lottery seats for \$10 - 0 or a Hamilton — from 21 to 46 people.

"It's not a token amount. Forty-six tickets a night is a lot of tickets," said Seller on Thursday. "On an annual basis, 19,000 people will receive an opportunity to see 'Hamilton' in the first two rows for \$10."

Lin-Manuel Miranda's hip-hop-flavored biography about the first U.S. treasury secretary is the hardest ticket to get on Broadway, making close to \$2 million a week. A thriving black market for tickets has sprung up to feed demand.

"We know that scalpers have been buying our tickets — often in illegal ways — and reselling them for four or five or six times their face value. And we know that all of those dollars are going to those usurious brokers and they're not going to the very people that create the play, perform the play or work on the play every single day," said Seller.

Seller said his team settled on \$849 to "take the air out of those very brokers who are using our tickets to make a killing" and put that money back in the show, "which is where it belongs and which is where it is deserved."

According to the plan, a total of 200 seats will sell for \$849 at the Broadway box office, while 1,075 will be listed between \$179 and \$199 — up from the current \$139-\$177 range. The plan goes into effect in late January.

"Hamilton" has burst through the Broadway bubble like few shows in history. It has been praised by

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politicians and rap stars, influenced the debate over the nation's currency and the show has become a cultural phenomenon.

Seller said he will put the new pricing strategy into effect when the show opens a production in Chicago in September. Versions of "Hamilton" are also gearing up for a national tour and a spot in London.

In addition to the lottery, which currently represents \$4 million in lost revenue, the show also offers \$10 tickets for 20,000 school children a year, meaning almost 40,000 people are seeing the show every year for \$10.

"Accessibility is deeply important to me. It's deeply important to Lin and to our entire team. It always has been. I know what it's like to not be able to afford a full-price theater ticket," said Seller, who created a \$20 ticket for "Rent" in 1996.

10 Things to Know for Today

The Associated Press

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

1. DEMOCRATS COALESCING AROUND HILLARY CLINTON

Nearing the end of a lengthy primary, Democrats seek to unite the party through carefully orchestrated steps to ease Clinton rival Bernie Sanders toward the exit.

2. SOME IN GOP MAINTAIN SLIM HOPE OF DUMPING THE DONALD

It's exceedingly improbable, but dismayed Republicans could still topple Trump and find a different presidential nominee at their national convention next month.

3. US RELAXING RULES ON AIRSTRIKES IN AFGHANISTAN

The White House approves plans to expand the military's authority to conduct airstrikes against the Taliban as the violence in Afghanistan escalates.

4. 'THE GREATEST' GETTING SENDOFF BEFITTING A LEGEND

Civil rights activists, actors, past presidents, global leaders and a childhood neighbor are among thousands around the globe who will pay tribute to Muhammad Ali.

5. GUN SUPPORTERS SUFFER SETBACK

A federal appeals court rules that Americans do not have a constitutional right to carry concealed weapons in public.

6. WHY EUROZONE MAY HAVE REACHED ITS LIMITS

Skepticism over economic integration is growing, meaning that new European Union member states like Poland and the Czech Republic may look to delay — possibly indefinitely — the day they adopt the common currency.

7. TROUBLE FLARES IN ADVANCE OF EURO 2016 SOCCER TOURNAMENT

Witnesses say clashes in Marseille between supporters from England and local youths are quickly dealt with by police, who use tear gas to restore calm.

8. WHICH TURF BACARDI AND PERNOD RICARD ARE TUSSLING OVER

The two liquor giants are escalating a 20-year fight to secure the rights to sell Havana Club rum in the U.S. when the Cuban embargo finally ends.

9. SHARKS STAVE OFF ELIMINATION IN STANLEY CUP FINAL

San Jose downs Pittsburgh 4-2 to cut the Penguins' series lead to 3-2 and force a Game 6.

10. WHO'S AN EXPERT ON BIRDS — YET HAS NEVER SEEN ONE

Juan Pablo Culasso was born blind. And yet, through his gifted sense of hearing, the Uruguayan can tell apart more than 720 different species and identify more than 3,000 different bird sounds.

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Unlikely path for foes hoping to dump Trump at convention ALAN FRAM, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — It's exceedingly improbable, but not completely farfetched: Dismayed Republicans could still dump Donald Trump and find a different presidential nominee at their national convention next month.

Once viewed as a political joke, the blunt-spoken billionaire has stormed to the cusp of becoming the GOP nominee. He has more than enough delegates to be formally anointed at the party's gathering in Cleveland.

But Trump's recent disparagement of a judge, claiming he was incapable of impartially hearing a Trump lawsuit because he is Mexican-American, has triggered talk of replacing Trump. Republicans were already divided over his past comments about Hispanics, women and others, and some leaders like House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., are backing Trump but labeling his remark "racist."

Here's the scenario for derailing Trump and why it's unlikely — at least now:

THE MATH

Trump has 1,542 delegates, according to The Associated Press' count, including 1,447 required by current GOP rules to vote for him at the convention. That's well above the 1,237 delegates needed for the nomination and more than double the 559 of his nearest rival, Texas Sen. Ted Cruz.

Measured another way, Trump has amassed 13.4 million votes in primaries, well above Cruz' 7.7 million.

Those numbers add up to one word: Winner.

THE PROBLEM

Some Republicans think Trump can't win and will drag down the party's congressional and other candidates with him. Senate control, and less likely the House, are at also stake in November's election. Such talk is limited, at least publicly. But it's out there.

Sen. Jeff Flake, R-Ariz., said this week that Trump's denigration of the judge "might spur" talk of finding a different nominee. He noted that Trump's 70th birthday is approaching and said, "It's tough to change. And he certainly hasn't shown any signs that he's going to."

"What does Trump have to do or say for the party to disassociate itself from him?" asked Rory Cooper, senior adviser to the Never Trump political committee.

And conservative talk radio host Hugh Hewitt said on his show that Trump should be dropped because "the plane is headed toward the mountain."

THE CURE

One way to stop someone from winning a game is to change the rules.

Mechanically, if not politically, that's possible in Cleveland next month. The procedures governing the convention will be whatever a majority of its 2,472 delegates approve.

Current rules, which they seem likely to adopt, give the nomination to whoever wins a majority of their votes.

GOP rules experts say that to block Trump, one option is to set a higher threshold than he currently can reach, such as requiring a two-thirds margin.

That would only be needed for the first ballot. If no candidate wins the nomination by then, most delegates are free to vote for anyone in the second and succeeding rounds of voting.

Another option: Let all delegates immediately support whoever they'd like.

Though it's widely disputed, some say current rules already let delegates support whomever they please. That would mean no changes would be needed.

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"The primaries are baloney" and award candidates "bragging rights," not committed delegates, said Curly Haugland of North Dakota, a member of the Republican National Committee.

THE PROBLEM WITH BLOCKING TRUMP

As torn as the GOP is, many believe booting him is politically unrealistic because it would intensify the party's rifts and is probably impossible.

"It's too late," said Trump detractor and former presidential contender Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C. James Bopp Jr., an Indiana convention delegate and rules expert, says disregarding Trump's primary victory and naming a different nominee would mean "the destruction of the Republican Party."

Rep. Tom Cole, R-Okla., said talk of ditching Trump at the convention was a "Washington fantasy" that would look like the party was "trying to undo the will of the Republican electorate" and pull off "some sort of coup."

BUT WAIT

If Trump has a majority of delegates, does he really have to worry about rules changes that could deny him the nomination?

Probably not. But maybe.

That's because by party bylaws, delegates are free to vote however they want on the rules, platform and challenges to delegates' credentials. The only thing most must do is support the candidate they are pledged to, and only on the first round of votes.

The danger for Trump: Many of his delegates — the numbers are unclear — actually prefer Cruz or perhaps other alternatives. If they're persuaded to do so, perhaps by additional intemperate Trump comments, they can vote for rules changes that would open the door for a replacement.

But many say Trump has the delegates needed to prevail.

"It's just not going to happen," said Randy Evans, a GOP national committeeman from Georgia.

Trump aides did not respond to emails and phone messages requesting comment.

Asked Thursday if he was open to the convention picking a different candidate than Trump, Cruz said, "I'm going to leave political punditry to the people who get paid to do it."

Cruz spokeswoman Catherine Frazier said the senator did not favor a challenge to Trump, saying, "The voters made their decision."

Uruguay's blind 'bird man' can identify 3,000 bird sounds LEONARDO HABERKORN, Associated Press

MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay (AP) — Born blind, Juan Pablo Culasso has never seen a bird. But through his gifted sense of hearing, he can identify more than 3,000 different bird sounds and differentiate more than 720 species.

The 29-year-old said he realized he had perfect, or absolute pitch, when he was a boy. Tossing stones in a river, he was able to tell his father exactly the note each one made when it hit the water.

Absolute pitch, the rare ability to hear a tone and immediately know it's a C-sharp, for example, is so unusual that only one of every 10,000 people has it, Culasso said, adding that Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was among them.

Culasso said his dad later read to him about birds from an encyclopedia that came with an audio cassette of their calls.

"That's when I realized that I could memorize birds by their sounds," he said.

He said he discovered his calling as a teenager, when he joined an ornithologist on a 2003 field visit, inspired by his love of birds. The bird expert gave him a recorder, and he was hooked.

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"At that moment, I felt as if I had been doing this forever without knowing it. I fell in love with that task," he said.

Culasso's passion now is to record and learn from the sounds of nature. He recently completed a two-month journey to Antarctica, where he recorded sounds from the Earth's coldest, wildest and most mysterious continent.

"I keep adding sounds to my list," he said. "In Antarctica, I recorded sea lions, seals and a melting iceberg."

Although Culasso can distinguish light, allowing him to differentiate night from day, he cannot register shapes, forms, and even less so the colors of birds. His ears have always been his way to connect more profoundly with the world.

His ability to recognize and record nature's sounds has landed him jobs working for documentary soundtracks. Culasso currently lives in his native Montevideo after more than a decade in Brazil, where he studied bioacoustics and nature sounds.

In 2014, Culasso's ability to recognize birds through their sounds landed him a top prize of \$45,000 on a Nat Geo TV program. He invested most of the money in audio equipment. In the final test, he had to identify the sounds of 15 birds picked at random from a group of 250 birds and recognized every one.

The achievement was possible thanks to early music training and his perfect pitch.

Carrying a professional audio recorder and a microphone with a furry windscreen, Culasso recently visited the shores of the Santa Lucia river on Montevideo's outskirts. As he walked and listened, he cried out the names of birds before anyone else saw them.

Alicia Munyo, who heads the phonology department at Uruguay's Republica University, says that perfect pitch has more to do with the brain than the ear.

"It's not that these people hear more, they hear the same as anyone else," said Munyo. "It's that their brain has a great capacity to interpret sounds and their nuances, much more than normal people do." Culasso has always pushed boundaries. As a young boy, he rode his bicycle with friends, following the sounds of the other kids. He didn't mind falling occasionally then and he doesn't mind risking it now as he recently rode a horse at an equestrian center.

"Most blind people move within the confines of the blind world, and never leave that comfort zone, but I was never that way," he said.

After years of siege, first food aid reaches Syria's Daraya BASSEM MROUE, Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — The Syrian Arab Red Crescent and the United Nations have delivered food aid to the Damascus suburb of Daraya for the first time since it came under siege in 2012, hours after the U.N. said the Syrian government had approved access to 15 of the 19 besieged areas within Syria.

The rebel-held suburb of Daraya, just southwest of the Syrian capital, has been under siege since November 2012 and has witnessed some of the worst bombardment during the country's civil war, now in its sixth year.

The delivery of food supplies late on Thursday night came a week after a joint convoy of the U.N., the International Committee of the Red Cross and SARC reached Daraya and delivered medicines, vaccines, baby formula, and "nutritional items for children"— but no food.

The U.N. estimates that there are currently 592,700 people living under siege in Syria, with the vast majority of them — some 452,700 people — besieged by government forces.

Lifting the siege on rebel-held areas was a key demand by the opposition during indirect peace talks

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held in Geneva earlier this year.

SARC said the food delivery was coordinated with the United Nations in the Syrian capital. It said food, flour and medical supplies were delivered.

An official with the U.N.'s World Food Programme said in a video posted online by media activists in Daraya that WFP is delivering assistance to the suburb for the first time since 2012. He said that WFP had delivered about 480 food rations that would feed about 2,400 individuals for one month.

The WFP official said he had met with some beneficiaries of the food aid and community leaders. "The supply of the very basic commodities is very challenging, so as a consequence the prices of the commodities themselves are very high whenever they are available," he said.

"As a result most families are having to do with one meal, which is not complete as a meal, per day in order to be able to get by," he said.

An amateur video posted online showed U.N. SUVs and white SARC trucks driving through sand barriers in the dark until they were met by opposition fighters.

The video appeared genuine and corresponded to other AP reporting of the events.

Photographs posted online by activists in the suburb showed U.N. and SARC officials meeting local dignitaries and men removing WFP boxes from a white truck.

Among those joining the convoy into Daraya were the U.N. humanitarian coordinator for Syria, Yacoub El Hillo, and Khawla Mattar, a spokeswoman for the U.N. Special Envoy to Syria, Staffan de Mistura, according to photographs posted by local activists.

The U.N. estimates that 4,000 to 8,000 people live in Daraya, which has been subject to a crippling government blockade since residents expelled security forces in the early stages of the 2011 uprising against President Bashar Assad.

Officials: White House OKs expanded Afghanistan airstrikes LOLITA C. BALDOR, Associated Press ROBERT BURNS, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — After months of debate, the White House has approved plans to expand the military's authority to conduct airstrikes against the Taliban when necessary, as the violence in Afghanistan escalates, senior U.S. and defense officials said Thursday.

Several officials said the decision was made in recent days to expand the authority of U.S. commanders to strike the Taliban and better support and assist the Afghan forces when needed in critical operations, using the U.S. troops already in the country. There is a broad desire across the Obama administration to give the military greater ability to help the Afghans fight and win the war.

The 9,800 U.S. troops still in Afghanistan, however, would still not be involved in direct combat.

The officials were not authorized to talk publicly about the discussions so spoke on condition of anonymity.

The decision comes as the Afghans struggle with a resurgent Taliban, particularly in the south. But it is fraught with political sensitivities because President Barack Obama had made clear his commitment to get U.S. forces out of Afghanistan. That effort, however, has been stalled by the slow pace of the development of the Afghan military and the resilience of the Taliban.

The decision will give U.S. forces greater flexibility in how they partner with Afghan forces, but the new authorities must be used in selective operations that are deemed to have a strategic and important effect on the fight.

The Taliban are refocusing their attention mostly on the southern provinces of Helmand, Kandahar and Uruzgan, according to U.S. and Afghan military officials, although the insurgents also have struck

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elsewhere, such as in Kunduz province in the north, where they overran and held the provincial capital for a few days last fall.

The results have been daunting: The U.N. says 3,545 Afghan civilians were killed and 7,457 wounded in 2015, most of them by the Taliban.

The U.S. has continued to conduct counterterrorism strikes against al-Qaida and Islamic State militants in Afghanistan. But strikes against the Taliban were largely halted at the end of 2014, when the U.S.-led coalition's combat role ended. Limited strikes have been allowed in cases of self-defense or when Afghan forces were in danger of being overrun.

Gen. John Nicholson, the top U.S. commander in Afghanistan, has discussed with Defense Secretary Ash Carter his recommendations for moves the U.S. can make to further assist the Afghans. And there have been repeated conversations with the White House in recent weeks.

Pentagon press secretary Peter Cook, asked Thursday whether the administration was looking at expanding the U.S. military's authorities to strike the Taliban more broadly, said: "In every step of our review of Afghanistan, the question of what's the best way to use our forces is something we're constantly looking at. It's also in the same sense that we're looking at the number of troops. We are always looking at the authorities question and the best use of our troops."

Nicholson's predecessor, Gen. John Campbell, made it known before he left Kabul in March that he believed Carter should consider expanding U.S. military authorities to take on the Taliban.

As an example, U.S. troops are able to partner with Afghan special operations forces, but this new decision would allow commanders to have U.S. troops work more closely with conventional Afghan units in critical battles, including providing close air support or helping to call in strikes. Officials stressed that this will not allow routine U.S. airstrikes against the Taliban, just provide authority to take those actions when commanders believe they are vital to the fight.

Also under discussion is whether the U.S. should reduce the number of American troops in Afghanistan to 5,500 as planned by the end of this year, or if a higher number is needed. Campbell favored keeping the troop level at the current total of 9,800 into next year.

U.S. officials have insisted they are encouraged by the Afghan forces' resilience, despite their high rate of battlefield casualties. And they point to the Taliban's loss of its leader, Mullah Mohammed Akhtar Mansour, who was killed by a U.S. drone strike in late May in Pakistan.

The U.S. and NATO formally ended their combat mission in Afghanistan at the end of 2014, but have continued to provide support and assistance as the Afghan forces struggle to grow and gain greater capabilities, including in their air operations.

Brig. Gen. Charles Cleveland said last week that Nicholson was sending his assessment of the ongoing security threat there and the needs of the Afghan military to U.S. Central Command and to the Pentagon, and was expected to brief senior military leaders soon afterward.

House OKs bill to ease Puerto Rico's debt, Senate up next MARY CLARE JALONICK, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A rescue package for debt-stricken Puerto Rico has cleared a major hurdle in the House and now heads to the Senate just three weeks before the island owes a \$2 billion debt payment to creditors.

The House on Thursday passed legislation to create a financial control board and allow restructuring of some of Puerto Rico's \$70 billion debt. In a rare display of political unity, the bill had the support of President Barack Obama, House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., and Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif. "The Puerto Rican people are our fellow Americans. They pay our taxes, they fight in our wars. We

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cannot allow this to happen," Ryan said in a floor speech just before the bill passed.

The overwhelming, bipartisan 297-127 vote in favor of the bill was a victory for Ryan, who had urged his colleagues, especially reluctant conservatives in the GOP caucus, to back the bill. He participated closely in negotiations on the legislation, which was one of the first major bills he shepherded through the House since becoming speaker last fall.

After the vote, the White House urged the Senate to follow the House's lead quickly. Earlier this week, Texas Sen. John Cornyn, the No. 2 Senate Republican, said it was likely the Senate would take up the House version of the bill if it passed the House.

"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.

Some senators have opposed the bill, however, and a single member of the Senate can slow down proceedings. New Jersey Sen. Bob Menendez has spoken out strongly against the House bill, saying the control board would take away the rights of ordinary Puerto Ricans.

The legislation would allow the seven-member 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.

Puerto Rico has already missed several payments to creditors and faces the \$2 billion installment on July 1. A lengthy recession has forced businesses to close, driven up the unemployment rate and sparked an exodus of hundreds of thousands of people to the U.S. mainland. Some schools on the island lack proper electricity and some hospitals have said they can't provide adequate drugs or care.

The island's only active air ambulance company announced this week that it has suspended its services.

"It is regrettable we have reached this point, but it is reality," said Pedro Pierluisi, Puerto Rico's representative in Congress.

Puerto Rico Gov. Alejandro Garcia Padilla said that he didn't like the plan but it is the least harmful alternative for Puerto Rico. "This will protect us from the chaos that will result from an inevitable default that looms on July 1," he said.

Despite leadership support, the measure faced opposition from some in the ranks of both parties, as some bondholders, unions and Puerto Rican officials have lobbied against it. Some conservatives said it would cheat bondholders, while some Democrats argued the control board has colonial overtones.

Democrats and labor unions have also opposed a provision in the bill that would allow the Puerto Rican government to temporarily lower the minimum wage for some younger workers. A Democratic amendment that would have deleted that provision was rejected, 225-196.

Still, Pelosi said the bill will provide the people of Puerto Rico with the tools they need to overcome the crisis and move forward.

In a push to get the bill passed, Obama summoned House Democrats with ties to Puerto Rico to a meeting in the Oval Office on Wednesday, including supporters and opponents of the measure.

Ahead of the vote, some bondholder groups tried to pick off conservatives with the argument that the bill is unfair to creditors and tantamount to a bailout for the territory. Some conservatives strongly opposed the bill, expressing concern for the bondholders and saying it could set a precedent for financially strapped states.

"If Congress is willing to undermine a territory's constitutionally guaranteed bonds today, there is every reason to believe it would be willing to undermine a state's guarantee tomorrow," said Rep. Tom McClintock, R-Calif.

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Rep. Sean Duffy of Wisconsin, a Republican who sponsored the bill, fought back against the idea that the legislation is a bailout of any sort.

"The bottom line is, this bill doesn't spend any taxpayer money bailing anybody out," Duffy said.

AP Interview: Billionaire Koch fed up with politics as usual JULIE BYKOWICZ, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Billionaire Charles Koch, one of America's most influential conservative donors, said he is fed up with the vitriol of the presidential race and will air national TV ads that call on citizens to work together to fix a "rigged" economy that leaves behind the poor.

Koch, in a telephone interview with The Associated Press, described Republican Donald Trump and Democrat Hillary Clinton as part of personality politics at its worst. He said that's why neither he nor the political and policy groups he controls are playing much of a role in the presidential election. Instead, in an unusual strategy, the ads will be paid for by his private company, Koch Industries.

"Both the primaries and the general (election) seems it's more, 'You're the enemy, you're evil, or you're stupid,' or whatever ad hominem attacks on each other," Koch said, "rather than trying to find common ground so different opposing views can learn from each other and we can find better solutions."

Democrats, who have spent years vilifying Charles and David Koch, are unlikely to see them as unifiers. The brothers steer hundreds of millions of dollars — their own money and from like-minded donors whose identities are largely kept private — into electoral politics and mostly Republican efforts at all levels of government.

While the Kochs have supported most of the previous GOP presidential nominees, they have a far less favorable view of Trump. A billionaire himself, Trump wrote on Twitter last year that most of his GOP rivals were "puppets" of the Kochs. The bad blood reflects the tensions between Trump and some of the Republicans' biggest donors, which could hurt his fundraising efforts.

Still, Charles Koch said his policy team plans to meet with Trump's policy team, at the request of the Trump campaign. He added he'd be happy to arrange the same sort of chat with Clinton's camp. Koch said he'd "love to get them on board" with any of his political ideas, the same feeling he has about Trump.

With a campaign they're calling "End the Divide," the Kochs are taking a page from the playbook of other Republican leaders eager to talk about something other than their party's flame-throwing nominee.

They're plowing ahead with recommendations from a study the Republican Party made after its 2012 nominee, Mitt Romney, lost to President Barack Obama. It found the party has been harmed by a perception "that the GOP does not care about people."

Also offering a kinder, gentler Republican counterweight to Trump: House Speaker Paul Ryan. On Tuesday, he held forth at a drug and alcohol rehabilitation clinic in Washington to outline House Republicans' plan to reduce poverty.

The Koch ads are part of a branding strategy for their multibillion-dollar conglomerate, based in Wichita, Kansas. But their long-time political activism means the campaign doubles, in a way, as a Republican effort.

The 60-second ad has the feel of something coming from a political candidate, with language that might appeal to supporters of Democratic presidential candidate Bernie Sanders.

It shows Americans in contrasting neighborhoods and homes, and some people who look content and others who appear stressed. A narrator says: "Look around: America is divided. Between success and failure. With government and corporations picking winners and losers. Rigging the system against the

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people. Creating a two-tiered society."

Before directing viewers to an "End the Divide" website hosted by Koch Industries, the narrator says, "It's time to remove the barriers, to end the divide, to replace winner-take-all with a system where we all can win."

Many of Koch's policy prescriptions on issues such as education reform, government regulation and reducing poverty align more closely with Republicans. Yet Koch says he could find common ground with Democrats on some things, pointing to his partnership with the White House and Democratic senators on efforts to reduce incarceration.

It's not a comfortable fit. Obama and Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid are among those who have called out the Kochs by name, with Reid denouncing them from the Senate floor as "un-American."

Koch said those sorts of attacks "are not about to stop me."

Koch said that because he's not a politician worried about the next election, he has the flexibility to make an issues-based appeal to Americans through ads, which will air starting Friday on national networks, cable channels and online.

"We're not running a popularity contest. We're not promising people things that can't be delivered," Koch said. "We're trying to encourage people to think about how do I succeed by helping others improve their lives" even if it involves doing things that "may not win me votes or get me a lot of money."

Democrats searching for unity as Clinton locks up nomination KEN THOMAS, Associated Press KATHLEEN HENNESSEY, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Nearing the end of a lengthy primary fight, Democrats are coalescing around Hillary Clinton's presidential bid and looking to reunite the party through a carefully orchestrated plan aimed at nudging rival Bernie Sanders to make his exit.

President Barack Obama's endorsement of his former secretary of state on Thursday headlined a day of unity for Democrats as the party prepares for Republican Donald Trump. Amid the message of harmony, Sanders crisscrossed the nation's capital and received praise in meetings with Obama, Vice President Joe Biden and Senate Democratic leaders.

On Thursday night, Sanders' District of Columbia rally outside RFK Stadium didn't mention Clinton and didn't repeat his calls to persuade superdelegates to support him or his plans for a contested convention in Philadelphia. The Vermont senator barely mentioned Tuesday's primary election in the city, the last on the Democratic calendar.

"It would be extraordinary if the people of Washington, our nation's capital, stood up and told the world that they are ready to lead this country into a political revolution," Sanders said in the final sentence of his hourlong address.

Democrats are wary that divisions that emerged between Clinton and Sanders during the primaries might spill out during next month's Democratic National Convention or provide an opening to Trump, who is on course to become the Republican nominee. So unity has become Job 1 in the party.

Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren joined that effort Thursday evening, endorsing Clinton and signaling to many of Sanders' supporters that it's time to unite around the party's presumptive nominee.

The progressive stalwart, who has been positioning herself as one of Trump's toughest adversaries, had been the only holdout among the Senate's Democratic women. But she said she would do all that she can to prevent Trump from getting "any place close to the White House."

"I think having a fighter in the lead, a female fighter in the lead, is exactly what this country needs," Warren said on MSNBC's "The Rachel Maddow Show."

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In his long-expected endorsement, delivered via an online video, Obama pointed to Clinton's grit and determination but also called for "embracing" Sanders' economic message, which has galvanized liberals and independents. Obama sought to reassure Democrats that Clinton shares their values and is ready for the job.

"Look, I know how hard this job can be. That's why I know Hillary will be so good at it," Obama said. The president plans to campaign next week with Clinton in Green Bay, Wisconsin, marking his first major foray into the 2016 campaign.

Trump responded to Obama's endorsement by tweeting: "Obama just endorsed Crooked Hillary. He wants four more years of Obama — but nobody else does!"

The Clinton campaign tweeted back, "Delete Your Account."

Obama's testimonial came less than an hour after he met privately with Sanders at the White House to discuss the future of the senator's "political revolution."

While Sanders stopped short of endorsing Clinton, he told reporters he planned to press for his issues — rather than victory — at the party's convention and he would meet with Clinton in the near future to discuss ways they could work together to defeat Trump.

Clinton declared victory over Sanders on Tuesday, having captured the number of delegates needed to become the first female nominee from a major party. Her extended primary campaign against Sanders, who entered the race as an obscure independent, had set off a round of private phone calls and backchannel negotiations, all aimed at addressing Sanders' issues while easing him out of the race without angering his die-hard supporters.

Obama's endorsement and Sanders' visit were the public culmination of that work.

Obama taped his endorsement video at the White House on Tuesday, before Clinton claimed victory in the primary, and had alerted Sanders earlier in the week that it was coming. Sanders came prepared with his statement.

The careful choreography was part of the Democrats' attempt to show some respect to the senator, even as they steered him toward the campaign off-ramp.

Obama greeted Sanders and his wife, Jane, in the residence and then strolled with the senator, smiling and laughing warmly, past the Rose Garden to the Oval Office, as cameras recorded the moment.

Sanders campaign spokesman Michael Briggs said the men discussed "how we can all work together to create an economy that works for all people and not just the 1 percent."

Leaders on Capitol Hill underscored Obama's message. After leaving the White House, Sanders met with Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., who invited him to speak at a Senate luncheon next week, and Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y. Sanders stopped by the Naval Observatory later in the afternoon to meet with Biden.

Biden's office said they discussed how Sanders' campaign had focused attention on income inequality and other issues and Biden congratulated Sanders on "energizing so many new voters and bringing them into the Democratic Party."

The party's delicate handling of the Vermont senator reflected Sanders supporters' deep distrust of the Democratic establishment and its meddling in the primary.

Obama stayed publicly neutral through the sometimes-bitter race, mindful that his involvement could tarnish his standing with parts of his own loyal coalition, namely young people and progressives.

Clinton is now counting on the president to help bring those voters on board. Obama has said he's "fired up" and ready to get started.

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Ruling on concealed weapons keeps applications on hold PAUL ELIAS, Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Thousands of California gun enthusiasts hoping to legally carry concealed weapons for personal protection were dealt a setback when a federal appeals court upheld a state law requiring applicants to show a good reason beyond simple safety.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled Thursday that Americans don't have a constitutional right to carry concealed guns in public and that California law enforcement officials can require applicants to show "good cause" such as routinely carrying large amounts of money before granting permits.

That ruling undid a previous 2014 ruling of the same court that tossed out the restrictions and prompted thousands of Californians to flood sheriff's departments with concealed weapons applications seeking the permits for personal safety.

The San Diego sheriff received some 2,463 applications that didn't show "good cause" and placed them on hold while the court sorted out the issue.

Robert Faigan, a lawyer for the San Diego sheriff, said those applications won't be granted unless the U.S. Supreme Court overturns the ruling Thursday.

Other sheriff departments had similar policies while still others like the Orange County Sheriff's Department did issue permits under the looser, 2014 ruling. Orange County Sheriff Sandra Hutchens told the National Rifle Association that some 1,700 permits were issued under the looser standard. Those permit holders will be asked to show good cause when they renew their permits in four years if the ruling stands, the sheriff said.

"Those of us that want to carry concealed, we're the good guys. We go through an incredible amount of background checks," said Timothy Smith, an Anaheim, California gun dealer. "I've already been checked so many times. So we're the good guys."

By a vote of 7-4, the court upheld a California law that says applicants must cite a "good cause" to obtain a concealed-carry permit. Typically, people who are being stalked or threatened, celebrities who fear for their safety, and those who routinely carry large amounts of cash or other valuables are granted permits.

"We hold that the Second Amendment does not preserve or protect a right of a member of the general public to carry concealed firearms in public," Circuit Judge William A. Fletcher wrote for the majority.

The ruling overturned a 2014 decision by a three-judge panel of the same court that said applicants need only express a desire for personal safety.

In a dissent, Circuit Judge Consuelo M. Callahan said the ruling "obliterates the Second Amendment's right to bear a firearm in some manner in public for self-defense."

Three other federal appeals courts have ruled similarly in the past, upholding California-like restrictions in New York, Maryland and New Jersey. In addition, another federal appeals court struck down Illinois' complete ban on carrying concealed weapons.

The 9th Circuit covers nine Western states, but California and Hawaii are the only ones in which the ruling will have any practical effect. The others do not require permit applicants to cite a "good cause." Anyone in those states with a clean record and no history of mental illness can get a permit.

The National Rifle Association called the ruling "out of touch."

"This decision will leave good people defenseless, as it completely ignores the fact that law-abiding Californians who reside in counties with hostile sheriffs will now have no means to carry a firearm outside the home for personal protection," said NRA legislative chief Chris W. Cox.

Gun control advocates and others hailed the ruling.

"This is a significant victory for public safety and for local jurisdictions that apply sensible policies to

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protect the public," said California Sen. Dianne Feinstein, a Democrat.

The California case began in 2009, when Edward Peruta filed a legal challenge over the San Diego County sheriff's refusal to issue him a permit. Peruta said at the time he wanted a weapon to protect himself, but the sheriff said he needed a better reason, such as that his occupation exposes him to robbery.

Peruta, who is a videographer known for legally challenging local government restrictions, said he is neither a hunter, collector or target shooter but challenged the law because he believed it violated the Constitution. The NRA joined him in fighting the law.

Britain prepares to mark queen's official 90th birthday

LONDON (AP) — LONDON — Queen Elizabeth II is celebrating her official 90th birthday with a three-day series of festivities.

The queen's birthday has been a three-month affair starting with her real birthday in April. The monarch's birthday is traditionally celebrated in June when London's weather can be more favorable.

Elizabeth and her husband Prince Philip will attend a service of thanksgiving at St. Paul's Cathedral Friday on what is Philip's 95th birthday.

The traditional Trooping the Color parade will be held Saturday, the queen's official birthday. The event is expected to draw throngs of Britons and visitors to Buckingham Palace for a possible balcony appearance by the senior royals.

On Sunday, the Mall in front of the palace will host lunch for hundreds of charity workers and members of the royal family.

Ali to return to his old Kentucky neighborhood 1 last time BRUCE SCHREINER, Associated Press CLAIRE GALOFARO, Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Muhammad Ali will return to his old Kentucky neighborhood one last time. Ali's body will ride in a miles-long procession spanning his life — from his boyhood home where he shadowboxed and dreamed of greatness to the boulevard that bears his name and the museum that stands as a lasting tribute to his boxing triumphs and his humanitarian causes outside the ring.

Louisville is accustomed to being in the limelight each May when the Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs captures the world's attention. But the send-off for the three-time heavyweight champion and global advocate for social justice looms as one of the city's most historic events.

"We've all been dreading the passing of The Champ, but at the same time we knew ultimately it would come," Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer said. "It was selfish for us to think that we could hold on to him forever. Our job now, as a city, is to send him off with the class and dignity and respect that he deserves."

Ali died last Friday at 74 after a long battle with Parkinson's disease. The procession and memorial service follow a traditional Muslim funeral service held Thursday afternoon. The faithful traveled from all over the world to pay their respects.

Thousands more are expected to line the procession route Friday to wave a final goodbye to the city's favorite son. The motorcade will begin at the funeral home and head north onto the interstate. It will pause briefly as it overlooks the Muhammad Ali Center in the heart of downtown.

The cars will head west onto Muhammad Ali Boulevard, pass the Kentucky Center for African-American Heritage and visit his childhood home on Grand Avenue. Then it will turn toward his final resting

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place. Officials predict a 90-minute tour.

The procession ends at Cave Hill Cemetery where his family and closest friends will gather for a private burial.

At 2 p.m., thousands will gather at the KFC Yum Center a final send-off befitting The Greatest.

The service will feature a eulogy by former President Bill Clinton, a longtime friend, and remarks by comedian Billy Crystal, television journalist Bryant Gumbel and the champ's wife, Lonnie. The king of Jordan and president of Turkey will attend.

President Barack Obama was unable to make the trip because his daughter, Malia, is graduating from high school. Valerie Jarrett, a senior White House adviser, will read a letter Obama wrote to Ali's family at the service.

The memorial is expected to draw 15,000 people and will bookend a weeklong series of planned services and spontaneous celebrations.

The Ali Center stopped charging people for admission. A tour company began impromptu tours of Ali's path through the city. Businesses printed his quotes across their billboards. City buses flashed "Ali - The Greatest" in orange lights across their marquees. A downtown bridge said it would be lit the rest of the week in red and gold: red for his gloves and gold for his medal.

How can the storied life of a man revered by fans worldwide be encapsulated in a two-hour service? As it turns out, Ali called the shots.

Years ago, the champ signed off on how he wished to say goodbye to the world. One of his mandates was that ordinary fans attend, not just VIPs. Thousands of free tickets were snatched up within an hour, many fans waiting hours for the chance to witness history.

"Everybody feels a sense of loss with Ali's passing," said Mustafa Abdush-Shakur, who traveled from Connecticut to pay tribute to him. "But there's no need to be sad for him. We're all going to make that trip."

New US-Cuba ties fuel bitter Havana Club rum trademark fight JENNIFER KAY, Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — With his tuxedo loosened and her dress slightly askew, the couple unwinding with cocktails in a new U.S. ad for Bacardi's Havana Club evokes the openness and decadence of pre-revolution Cuba that many exiles have longed for.

By contrast, an online gallery of portraits of employees at the distillery in Cuba of a rival brand of Havana Club jointly run by Pernod Ricard and the Cuban government shows Cubans proud to show the craft and heritage their country offers now, without looking back.

The fresh marketing campaigns for the two brands are the latest escalation in the liquor industry giants' 20-year fight to secure the exclusive right to sell Havana Club throughout the U.S. when the half-century-old embargo on Cuban goods ends.

Both Bacardi and Pernod Ricard hope to capitalize on consumers' growing appreciation for premium rums, as well as U.S. excitement for easier travel to Cuba and its once-forbidden rum and cigars. Similar disputes typically are resolved by establishing who registered first, but this case is complicated and has been defined by bitterness between Cuba's government and exiles.

After President Barack Obama announced a detente in December 2014, Pernod Ricard's chairman and CEO said the thaw was good news for Cubans and Americans, and the company hopes to finally sell its Havana Club in the United States. Bacardi, privately held by its founding Cuban family, still seeks the rights to its own name in Cuba, a trademark it lost to Fidel Castro's government.

Cuba registered its U.S. trademark in 1976 and exported Havana Club mostly to Eastern Europe until

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a 1993 joint venture with Paris-based Pernod Ricard. Now it's sold in over 120 countries — except the United States, the world's biggest rum market.

U.S. rum sales generated \$2.3 billion in revenue for distillers last year, and premium brands meant for sipping are gaining on popular flavored and spiced rums, according to figures from the Distilled Spirits Council of the United States.

Bacardi produces its rums in Puerto Rico and Mexico, but the company argues that it's been supplying the U.S. with Cuban rum for over a century.

It has sold its Havana Club in a handful of states since the mid-1990s. The new "golden age" ad campaign alluding to Bacardi's past in Cuba is part of a nationwide rollout that includes a new, dark style of Havana Club.

Bacardi bought the name and a distillation formula handwritten from memory by the Arechabala family, who created the brand in Cuba in 1935 but lost control to Castro's government in 1960. The company's filings in federal lawsuits and trademark board appeals bristle with indignation while describing Castro's troops forcibly confiscating the Arechabalas' office property.

When Havana Club was acquired, then-Chairman Manuel Jorge Cutillas felt obligated to help the Arechabalas, who lacked facilities outside Cuba to sustain their business, said Rick Wilson, Bacardi's senior vice president of corporate affairs.

"I remember him in particular saying that it was important that we were going to help this family so that all of their assets were not taken outside of Cuba," Wilson said in an interview in Bacardi's suburban Miami offices.

In court documents, Bacardi describes the rum produced by its competitor as "ersatz Havana Club." Pernod Ricard's general counsel, Ian FitzSimons, scoffed at Bacardi's labeling of rum distilled in Puerto Rico as Cuban in any way.

"There's a tradition of over 100 years of rum-making in Cuba, and we rely heavily on that. If you're going to have a rum named Havana Club, it should be made in Cuba, and it should be made with Cuban products," FitzSimons said by phone from Havana.

Havana Club's sales, buoyed by promotions featuring Cuban artists and classic cocktails, totaled 4 million cases for the 2015 fiscal year, according to Pernod Ricard's annual report that listed \$9.7 billion overall in net sales.

Pernod Ricard is investing \$90 million over the next few years to expand its operations in Cuba in preparation for the opening of the U.S. market, said Havana Club CEO Jerome Cottin-Bizonne.

Bermuda-based Bacardi doesn't disclose its earnings, but its corporate responsibility report for the 2014 fiscal year tallied 60 million cases generating \$4.477 billion in net sales. Court records show it paid \$1.25 million to the Arechabalas for the Havana Club rights.

U.S. courts generally have ruled against Cuba in this case, but the island's government pursued renewal for its Havana Club registration, arguing that if the U.S. could not renew the trademark it also couldn't cancel it under the embargo.

In spite of decades of icy relations, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office appeals board regularly declined Bacardi's request to have Cuba's registration canceled, saying it lacked the authority to answer Bacardi's politically charged complaints.

A stalled federal lawsuit was revived when U.S. trademark officials abruptly renewed Cuba's trademark in January. Republican Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, echoing Cuban hard-liners in her Miami-area district, blasted the Obama administration for siding with Cuba over U.S. business interests.

In its response to Bacardi's latest legal challenge, Pernod Ricard and the Cuban government say the U.S. trademark for Havana Club had been abandoned by its originators after Cuba "assumed manage-

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rial control" of the Arechabalas' company.

Bacardi ultimately lost its claim to the Havana Club trademark in Spain after lengthy litigation there. The World Trade Organization also has sided with Cuba, saying the U.S. violates multilateral trade rules with its regulations for cases involving assets seized by the island's government.

None of that matters, Wilson said, because only two companies run by the two Cuban families have ever sold rum labeled Havana Club in the U.S.

"Regardless of what happened with the registration, we have the common law rights. Cuba doesn't," Wilson said.

Sharks stave off elimination, top Penguins 4-2 in Game 5 WILL GRAVES, AP Sports Writer

PITTSBURGH (AP) — There's very little flash to Martin Jones. The San Jose Sharks goaltender speaks in a polite monotone, only too eager to deflect attention elsewhere. Call it a reflex action honed from years spent wearing a mask while intentionally standing in the way of a puck often fired at high speed. Only this time he couldn't get out of the spotlight. Not after spoiling Pittsburgh's long-awaited house

party with 60 minutes of the best hockey of his life.

The Sharks and the understated guy in net are heading back west for Game 6. So are the Penguins. The Stanley Cup, too. Blame Jones, who turned aside 44 shots in a 4-2 victory in Game 5 on Thursday night.

Outplayed but not outscored, San Jose heads home with a chance to even the best-of-seven series at 3-3 on Sunday.

"Joner bailed us out tonight," said San Jose defenseman Justin Braun.

Repeatedly. Their breakthrough season on the line after spending the better part of four games chasing — but not quite catching — the relentless Penguins, the Sharks responded by jumping on Pittsburgh rookie goaltender Matt Murray early then relying on Jones late.

Not that he wanted to talk about it, not even after becoming the first goaltender in the expansion era to win two games in the final while making at least 40 saves.

"I don't know, I felt good tonight," Jones said. "I thought our (defense) did a good job in front of the net and we got a few bounces tonight."

His teammates knew better. San Jose still has a chance to become the second team in NHL history to claw out of a 3-1 deficit in the final because Jones refused to serve as doorman for a coronation for Sidney Crosby and company.

"He was unbelievable," Braun said. "He was calm. He doesn't flinch. He doesn't go after guys. He doesn't lose his cool. He's tapping us on the pads saying we did a good job and usually he bails us out. We need to give him a little more help."

The Sharks, particularly their stars, gave him enough in the first period and Jones had all the wiggle room he would need.

Logan Couture had a goal and two assists while Brent Burns, Melker Karlsson and captain Joe Pavelski also scored for San Jose, which was outshot 46-22 but held firm after surviving a chaotic opening five minutes and playing capably after getting the lead in regulation for the first time in the series.

"We know we haven't scored many goals or any in this series and it's one of the reasons we're down 3-1," Couture said, "(but) we didn't want our season to end."

Evgeni Malkin and Carl Hagelin scored for Pittsburgh but the 22-year-old Murray, whose postseason play helped fuel Pittsburgh's return to the final after a seven-year break, faltered early and his high-profile teammates struggled to the puck by Jones.

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"We were right there," Crosby said. "We hit a few posts. We were in around the net. Guys were working hard."

Just not enough to finish off the Sharks.

San Jose coach Peter DeBoer preached patience with his team in a hole only one club in NHL history has climbed out of to raise the Cup. He pointed to the Sharks' own first-round collapse two years ago against Los Angeles — when a three-game lead became a 4-3 loss that took an entire season to get over — as proof of how quickly the tenor of a series can change.

The Penguins stressed the final step in the long slog from the tumult of December — when Mike Johnston was fired and replaced with Mike Sullivan with the team languishing on the fringe of the playoff picture — would be the most difficult. Yet the prospect of celebrating the first title captured within the city limits in 56 years sent thousands into the streets around Consol Energy Center and ticket were going for well over \$1,000.

Things were no different inside, with the largest crowd in the arena's brief history — a group that included Pirates Hall of Famer Bill Mazeroski, whose epic ninth-inning blast in Game 7 of the 1960 World Series at Forbes Field a couple miles up the street marked the last time a championship season ended in Pittsburgh — in a frenzy from the opening faceoff.

It took all of 64 seconds for the Sharks to quiet them and 2:53 to leave them stunned. Burns' first goal of the final, a wrist shot from the circle that didn't look unlike Joonas Donskoi's overtime winner in Game 3, put San Jose in front in regulation for the first time in the series. Couture doubled San Jose's advantage less than two minutes later with a redirect in front of the net.

The momentum evaporated quickly. Malkin scored on the power play 4:44 into the first and Hagelin followed 22 seconds later to tie it, the fastest opening four-goal sequence in the history of the final.

Things settled down — at least a little — until Karlsson's shot from in front with just under five minutes left in the first, set up by a pretty backhand feed from Couture.

The advantage set the stage for Jones, who spent a large portion of the second period fending off one odd-man rush after another as Pittsburgh's frenetic speed pinned the Sharks in their end for long stretches. Yet the goalie who watched as a backup behind Los Angeles star Jonathan Quick two years ago as the Kings roared back to stun San Jose on their way to a title gave the Sharks the spark they needed to extend their season for at least three more days and keeping their slim hopes of raising the Cup themselves alive.

"We played the way we needed to win the game," Murray said. "But their goalie stood on his head."

Tubman Town: New face of \$20 could be honored with US parkMICHAEL HILL, Associated Press

AUBURN, N.Y. (AP) — Harriet Tubman's upcoming debut on the \$20 bill is just half the good news in the upstate New York town where the Underground Railroad conductor settled down and grew old.

A long-sought national historical park here honoring Tubman could be officially established as early as this summer. The move would give a boost to preservation efforts at her old home and church just as the former slave is poised to replace President Andrew Jackson as the face of the \$20 bill.

"It's about time," Judith Bryant, Tubman's 80-year-old great-great-grandniece said of the recognition as the first African-American on U.S. paper currency. "People who don't know about her will now."

Bryant stood beside a simple headstone describing Tubman as a "Heroine of the Underground Railroad," a phrase that resonates personally with the Auburn resident. Bryant's great-great grandfather was Tubman's brother, and was among the dozens of slaves she guided north to freedom.

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Tubman had been free for a decade in 1859, when she bought a parcel of land on the outskirts of Auburn, about 25 miles west of Syracuse. She was given a good deal by fellow abolitionist Sen. William Seward, who would later become President Abraham Lincoln's secretary of state. She settled long-term in the area after the Civil War, during which she served as a spy, a scout, a cook, a nurse and, famously, as a leader in a military raid.

She married for a second time, spoke out for women's suffrage, grew potatoes and apples, took in boarders and continued to spend her time and scarce money helping others. She was able to establish a home for the aged next door to her house before she died in 1913. Accounts of her age at death vary, though most put it between 91 and 93.

Tubman had family in the area and some latter-day relatives still live in the small city in the Finger Lakes region, like Bryant and 88-year-old great-great grandniece Pauline Copes Johnson.

Johnson had spent decades traveling around the country "keeping Aunt Harriet's name alive." Now she can take pleasure in the new \$20 bill, the national park and a planned TV biography under development starring Viola Davis.

"I'm so glad that at last she's being recognized," she said.

Tours of Tubman's property are now run by the not-for-profit Harriet Tubman Home. The old brick house is closed for remodeling, but visitors can visit an interpretive center and walk through the home for the aged, where she died.

"This is the only place for nearly five decades where we can document Tubman's comings and goings," said the group's president, Karen Hill. "That's huge, to know that we can actually stand on the soil that she tilled."

The Harriet Tubman National Historical Park would encompass that 31-acre site plus the A.M.E. Zion Church about a mile away where Tubman worshipped. The weathered clapboard church is boarded up now and offers sanctuary only for neighborhood birds.

The transition to a national park is complicated, involving two parcels of land and the purchase of a historic easement on the larger property. The park could be formally established this summer once the church land is sold. Parks officials say they will then work with the Harriet Tubman Home and the church to improve the site. Hill looks forward to having the house reopened and bringing back Tubman's apple orchard and more.

The design of the new \$20 bill with Tubman on the front is expected to be completed by 2020.

Bryant said the idea of pulling a bill from her pocket with her ancestor's image on it is still unimaginable. But she already appreciates the effect the ancestor who died before she was born had on her life. Not only did Tubman lead her family here, Bryant's home on a quiet Auburn street was built by Tubman's nephew, her great grandfather, and his son.

"Sure I'm proud to have a famous ancestor, but not because she's famous, because of what she did and what she meant to my family. ... I wouldn't be in Auburn, New York. I would not be in this house," she said. "I wouldn't be who I am."

Asian stocks slip as investors await China data, Fed meeting KELVIN CHAN, AP Business Writer

HONG KONG (AP) — Asian stock markets slipped Friday in holiday-thinned trading as investors shied away from risky assets before the release of Chinese economic data and a Fed policy meeting, and as fears loomed that Britain could vote to leave the European Union.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 index lost 0.6 percent to 16,561.79 while South Ko-

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rea's Kospi dipped 0.4 percent to 2,016.17. Hong Kong's Hang Seng shed 0.5 percent to 21,203.52 and Australia's S&P/ASX 200 slid 1.1 percent to 5,301.50. Singapore's benchmark fell but in Indonesia and Philippines they rose. Markets were closed in mainland China and Taiwan for a holiday.

CHINA DATA: The latest figures for Chinese retail sales, industrial production and fixed asset investment are expected this weekend. The numbers will provide further clues on the direction of the protracted slowdown of the world's second-biggest economy. Export data released earlier this week showed further contraction as global and domestic demand remained weak, underscoring the difficulties officials in Beijing face in trying to reverse the slump.

FED IN FOCUS: Investors are keenly awaiting the outcome of a scheduled two-day Fed meeting that wraps up on Wednesday. Doubts are growing that U.S. policymakers will raise interest rates soon after Fed chief Janet Yellen said Monday that many lingering uncertainties mean it's unclear when the Fed should resume raising rates.

BREXIT FEARS: Investors are avoiding risk as polls suggest growing support for Britain to quit the European Union ahead of a June 23 referendum on the issue. The uncertainty over how a so-called "Brexit" might affect financial markets is driving investors into safer assets, analysts said.

QUOTEWORTHY: "The market has a number of potential risk events before it," said Ric Spooner, chief analyst at CMC Markets in Sydney. "Chief among these is the Brexit vote on 23 June. Now only two weeks away, the Brexit vote is likely to impact trader behavior in the broader risk markets like equities and commodities."

WALL STREET: Major U.S. benchmarks ended slightly lower, with the Dow Jones industrial average edging 0.1 percent lower to 17,985.19. The Standard & Poor's 500 index lost 0.2 percent to 2,115.48 and the Nasdaq composite declined 0.3 percent to 4,958.62.

ENERGY: U.S. crude shed 11 cents to \$50.45 a barrel in New York. Brent crude, the benchmark for international oil prices, fell 9 cents to \$51.86 a barrel in London.

CURRENCIES: The dollar rose to 107.16 yen from 107.05 yen in late trading Thursday. The euro dropped to \$1.1298 from \$1.1310.

Today in History The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Friday, June 10, the 162nd day of 2016. There are 204 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 10, 1692, the first execution resulting from the Salem witch trials in Massachusetts took place as Bridget Bishop was hanged.

On this date:

In 1864, the Confederate Congress authorized military service for men between the ages of 17 and 70.

In 1921, President Warren G. Harding signed into law the Budget and Accounting Act, which created the Bureau of the Budget and the General Accounting Office.

In 1935, Alcoholics Anonymous was founded in Akron, Ohio, by Dr. Robert Holbrook Smith and William Griffith Wilson.

In 1940, Italy declared war on France and Britain; Canada declared war on Italy. Jamaican-born Pan-African nationalist Marcus Garvey died in London at 52.

In 1942, during World War II, German forces massacred 173 male residents of Lidice (LIH'-dyiht-zeh),

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Czechoslovakia, in retaliation for the killing of Nazi official Reinhard Heydrich.

In 1944, German forces massacred 642 residents of the French village of Oradour-sur-Glane.

In 1967, the Middle East War ended as Israel and Syria agreed to observe a United Nations-mediated cease-fire.

In 1971, President Richard M. Nixon lifted a two-decades-old trade embargo on China.

In 1981, 6-year-old Alfredo Rampi fell down an artesian well near Frascati, Italy; the story ended tragically as efforts to rescue him proved futile.

In 1985, socialite Claus von Bulow was acquitted by a jury in Providence, Rhode Island, at his retrial on charges he'd tried to murder his heiress wife, Martha "Sunny" von Bulow.

In 1991, 11-year-old Jaycee Dugard of South Lake Tahoe, California, was abducted by Phillip and Nancy Garrido; Jaycee was held by the couple for 18 years before she was found by authorities.

In 2004, singer-musician Ray Charles died in Beverly Hills, California, at age 73.

Ten years ago: Two Saudis and one Yemeni were found hanged at the Guantanamo Bay military prison, the first successful suicides at the base after dozens of attempts. Justine Henin-Hardenne won the French Open, beating Svetlana Kuznetsova 6-4, 6-4. Jazil cruised to victory, holding off Bluegrass Cat in the Belmont Stakes.

Five years ago: In a stern rebuke, Defense Secretary Robert Gates warned in Brussels that the future of the historic NATO military alliance was at risk because of European penny pinching and a distaste for front-line combat. Tony La Russa managed his 5,000th game as his St. Louis Cardinals lost to the Milwaukee Brewers 8-0.

One year ago: President Barack Obama ordered the deployment of up to 450 more American troops to Iraq in an effort to reverse major battlefield losses to the Islamic State. Pope Francis took the biggest step yet in cracking down on bishops who covered up for priests who raped and molested children, creating a new tribunal inside the Vatican to hear cases of bishops accused of failing to protect their flocks.

Today's Birthdays: Britain's Prince Philip is 95. Columnist Nat Hentoff is 91. Attorney F. Lee Bailey is 83. Actress Alexandra Stewart is 77. Singer Shirley Alston Reeves (The Shirelles) is 75. Actor Jurgen Prochnow is 75. Media commentator Jeff Greenfield is 73. Football Hall of Famer Dan Fouts is 65. Country singer-songwriter Thom Schuyler is 64. Former Sen. John Edwards, D-N.C., is 63. Actor Andrew Stevens is 61. Singer Barrington Henderson is 60. Former New York Gov. Eliot Spitzer is 57. Rock musician Kim Deal is 55. Singer Maxi Priest is 55. Actress Gina Gershon is 54. Actress Jeanne Tripplehorn is 53. Rock musician Jimmy Chamberlin is 52. Actor Ben Daniels is 52. Actress Kate Flannery is 52. Modelactress Elizabeth Hurley is 51. Rock musician Joey Santiago is 51. Actor Doug McKeon is 50. Rock musician Emma Anderson is 49. Country musician Brian Hofeldt (The Derailers) is 49. Rapper The D.O.C. is 48. Rock singer Mike Doughty is 46. Rhythm-and-blues singer JoJo is 45. Former Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal is 45. Rhythm-and-blues singer Faith Evans is 43. Actor Hugh Dancy is 41. Rhythm-and-blues singer Lemisha Grinstead (702) is 38. Actor DJ Qualls is 38. Actor Shane West is 38. Country singer Lee Brice is 37. Singer Hoku is 35. Actress Leelee Sobieski is 34. Olympic gold medal figure skater Tara Lipinski is 34. Americana musician Bridget Kearney (Lake Street Drive) is 31. Model-actress Kate Upton is 24. Sasha Obama is 15.

Thought for Today: "Always be a first-rate version of yourself, instead of a second-rate version of somebody else." — Judy Garland, American singer-actress (born this date in 1922, died in 1969).