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Manager Wanted

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

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

The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **Open**

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Sunday, June 19

Father's Day
Anniversary: Garrett-Sindi Heitmann.
Birthday: Pat Dahlquist.
9:00am: Emmanuel Lutheran Worship with Communion
9:00am: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church Mass
9:00am: St. John's Lutheran Worship with Communion
10:00am: Heaven Bound Ministries worship at Pierpont Church
11:00am: United Methodist Church Worship
6:00pm: Legion at Sisseton (2)

Monday, June 20

Senior Menu: Meatloaf, baked potato with sour cream, creamed peas, fruited Jell-O, whole wheat bread.

Birthdays: Scott Hanlon, Robert Osterman, Cary Bruckner.

6:30am: Emmanuel Lutheran Bible Study
6:00pm: Junior Teeners at Milbank (DH)
6:00pm: U8 Softball at Webster
6:30pm: Amateurs at Aberdeen (1 9-inning game)
7:00pm: U10 Softball at Webster
7:30pm: St. John's Lutheran Christian Literature Circle

Tuesday, June 21

Senior Menu: Tater tot hot dish, green beans, grape juice, sour cream apple pie square, whole

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

Mark Malmberg, DDS
19 North 6th St.

Oakes, N.D.
701-742-3401



Outdoor World®



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Wade fishing is a fun and productive way to spend the hot days of summer. No matter where you live, there are wade fishing streams and creeks that offer shade, cool water and many species of fish.

Drive backcountry roads in your area, pausing at low water crossings and bridges to check out the possibilities. Even if it doesn't look like there is much water, you might be surprised how many deep pools holding fish are both upstream and downstream.

Go light or ultralight on equipment. Small baits that imitate crayfish or grasshoppers are hard to beat. Wear lightweight shirts with multiple pockets to hold your tackle, as well as sunglasses, and a wide brimmed hat to protect you from the July sun.

Chances are you probably aren't going to catch big fish, so you're better off releasing them to be caught again. If you don't catch fish, you can still take a refreshing dip, skip rocks, have fun catching crayfish or relax on a gravel bar and listen to the soothing sounds of the water.

By Larry Whiteley, Host of the award-winning Outdoor World Radio

*For more tips, go to
basspro.com and click on 1Source
News & Tips*

Service Notice: Mary Ann Flihs (August 20, 1928 - June 16, 2016)

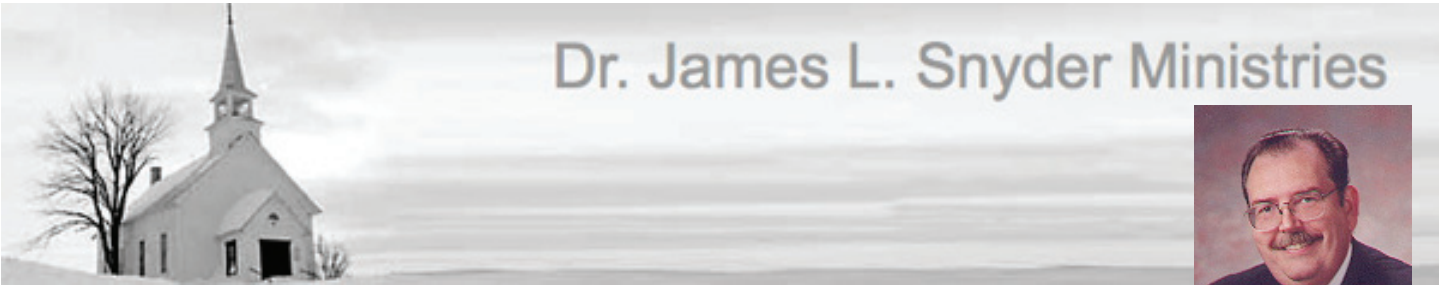
The funeral for Mary Ann Flihs, 87 of Forman, formerly of Cogswell, will be 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, June 21, 2016 at St. John's Lutheran Church of Britton, SD. Rev. Craig Grams will officiate and burial will be in Sunset Memorial Gardens in Aberdeen, SD. Visitation will be 5-7:00 p.m. Monday at the Price Funeral Chapel in Forman, ND.

Mary Ann fell asleep Thursday, June 16, 2016 at Four Seasons Healthcare Center in Forman.

Condolences may be directed to the family in care of Dennis Flihs – 12792 96th Street SE – Cogswell, ND 58017.

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Go Ahead - Make Dad's Day



Throughout the year, many days of celebration are tucked capriciously into the calendar. So much so, it is hard to find any day of the year where something or someone is not being observed, which has benefited the greeting card company, you can be sure. I am not positive, but I think they have had a great deal to do with designating these days.

Some days are celebrated a little more enthusiastically than others. The Fourth of July has firecrackers; Halloween has funny and scary costumes, not to mention bags of candy; and Christmas boasts the Christmas tree and jolly old St. Nick with all his presents, and it is hard to compete with Christmas parties when it comes to celebrations.

And we come to Mother's Day. According to experts, more telephone calls are placed on Mother's Day than any other day of the year. Also, try to walk into a restaurant and get a seat on that certain Sunday.

There is a theory, which I subscribe to personally, stating the reason Father's Day is so lame is because so much has been spent on Mother's Day, there is nothing left.

I think there should be a rule that says, whatever Mother's Day costs fathers, mothers should spend on Father's Day. This would do one of two things; decrease Mother's Day or puff Father's Day spending. Personally, I am in favor of puffing.

Perhaps with some effort, Father's Day could be a little more exciting. I am not saying this just because I am a father. Well, maybe I am, but if I don't who will?

Fathers in general are rather humble and hesitant to speak about themselves. Contrary to popular opinion, every father knows talk is not cheap, and because he has spent so much on Mother's Day, he simply is practicing good manners and shuts up.

However, every father needs to know he is truly appreciated by his family. Although you cannot buy a father, it is possible to rent him on occasion.

I am in favor of celebrating Father's Day "any which way you can." It really does not matter to the father involved. Any father would consider his child a "million dollar baby" if he or she would just give a Father's Day card to him, along with a nice hot cup of coffee while sitting in his favorite chair reading the newspaper. Nothing the children did throughout the year would remain "unforgiven" if something this simple were done on Father's Day.

As it stands, Father's Day is celebrated "every which way but loose," and I believe it is time this has

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stopped. Too many loose ends concerning Father's Day. It is a "true crime" the way certain things are left hanging concerning fathers. Some fathers have felt like "the dead pool" around Father's Day, not knowing exactly what to expect.

Mother's Day is rather simple. Every mother knows that she will get certain things; flowers, a Mother's Day card and dinner at her favorite restaurant.

By the time Father's Day comes around everybody is so exhausted from Mother's Day, not to mention most fathers are broke, nobody knows exactly how to make dad's day special or, more importantly, who will finance it.

Too many people are uptight about Father's Day and feel like they are running "the gauntlet." When I say people, I am referring primarily to Yours Truly. Nobody seems to know what to do about good ole dad on his special day.

Fortunately, I have some ideas along this line.

With some of the presents I have received over the years, I am beginning to think my children imagine me as a "space cowboy," or maybe a "high plains drifter" driving around in a "pink Cadillac" heading for "the bridges of Madison County."

When it comes to being a father, I assure you I am not "the rookie" walking on a "tightrope," directly "in the line of fire" running toward "heartbreak ridge." I have quite a bit of experience being a father, going back more than 40 years.

As a father, I have three children notched on my belt. At times, I have felt like "the enforcer" and the only way to deal with those children was to use "magnum force" and "hang 'em high."

I must confess at times I felt like a "pale rider" sweating it out in the "city heat," realizing no matter how hard I try it is not "a perfect world" we live in. What would make my day, and other fathers' day, would be a present I could really use, or at least understand without spending an entire day reading the directions.

In spite of all this, I have discovered one thing; being a father is its own reward. The Bible puts fatherhood high on the list of important positions in life.

David, the Psalmist, put his feelings about being a father into familiar words to all who have read the Bible. "Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate." (Psalm 127:3-5 KJV.)

This year, my advice is, whatever it costs, go ahead and make dad's day. He deserves it.

Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, PO Box 831313, Ocala, FL 34483. He lives with his wife, Martha, in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 1-866-552-2543 or e-mail jamesnyder2@att.net. His web site is www.jamesnyderministries.com.

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The Life of Lorraine Cowan

Services for Lorraine Cowan, 86, of Ulysses, Kansas and formerly of Groton will be 10:30 a.m., Monday, June 20th at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ferney. Rev. Lloyd Redhage will officiate. Burial will follow in the Conde City Cemetery.

Visitation will be held at Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel from 5-7 p.m. on Sunday with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m.

Lorraine fell asleep June 15, 2016 in Ulysses, Kansas.

Lorraine Leona was born on January 16, 1930 in Dallas, South Dakota to Joseph and Margaret (Hotz) Pusi. She attended school in Gregory/Dallas area. Lorraine continued her education at Northern State Teachers College and earned her teaching certificate in July of 1950. She taught grade school in Putney and Verdon for several years each. On June 7, 1951 she was united in marriage with Clair Robert Cowan at the Catholic Church in Groton. Together they

made their home in Mesa, Arizona and later settled on the family farm near Verdon. Lorraine worked as assistant Postmaster in Verdon for many years before they retired to Groton in 1979. Following Clair's passing in October of 2013, Lorraine became a resident of Rosewood Court. She later moved to Kansas to be near her daughter.

Lorraine was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Ferney. She was also active in the American Legion Auxiliary. In earlier years, she enjoyed cooking and sewing. Lorraine loved helping on the family farm, raising large gardens and canning after the harvest.

Celebrating her life are her children: Peggy (Jim) Spencer of Ulysses, Kansas; Rob (Pam) Cowan of Rosville, Minnesota; Rick (Donna) Cowan of Casa Grande, Arizona, her sister, Peggy Guhin of Plano, Texas, 8 grandchildren: Joseph Spencer, Thomas Whitworth, Justin Cowan, Lindsay (Graham) McCall, Lance (Carrissa) Cowan, Andy (Haley) Cowan, Josh Cowan and fiancé Malerie Ell, James Cowan and 7 great-grandchildren: Cecilia, Naomi, Brecklyn, Willow, Graham, Hudson and Hawthorne.

Preceding her in death were her parents, her husband of 62 years, three brothers and three sisters.

Casketbearers will be Justin Cowan, Lance Cowan, Andy Cowan, Josh Cowan, James Cowan, Lindsey McCall and Graham McCall.

Memorials may be directed to Rosewood Court, in care of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, PO Box 575, Groton, SD 57445.

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An Invitation to the Governor's Mansion

Linda and I are very fortunate these days. We live in a big home on Capitol Lake where we have a great view of the Capitol Building. My place of employment is only a short walk away and, except when hundreds of geese arrive for the winter, our neighborhood is nice and quiet.

Some of South Dakota's former governors weren't quite as lucky. When Pierre was named as the state Capitol, there was no Governor's residence. Instead, governors received a housing allowance of \$75 per month. In 1925 the Legislature approved the purchase of a small yellow cottage on the eastern shore of Capitol Lake.

In 1936, Gov. Tom Berry thought it was time to make improvements to the Governor's residence. State funds were limited at the time because of the Great Depression, so South Dakota accepted help from the Works Progress Administration (WPA) to construct a new home. From 1937 until 2003, governors lived in that home built by the WPA. It was a 57 x 97 foot, two-story house made with native brick, lumber and concrete.

By the time Gov. Mike Rounds came into office, the residence was in rough shape. The wiring was outdated, the plumbing leaked and dry rot had weakened the walls. One night, the Rounds family was preparing to host an evening event. Just before the guests arrived, as someone was upstairs taking a shower, water started pouring through one of the light fixtures. It was time for a new Governor's Mansion.

The new Governor's Mansion where Linda and I now reside was completed in the summer of 2005. It was funded entirely through private donations. Thousands of South Dakotans and numerous businesses from across the state donated money and materials to make this mansion possible. The mansion is approximately 14,000 square feet and is located in the precise location of the previous Governor's Mansion. One-third of the mansion serves as the private residence for the governor and their family. Two-thirds of the building is the public area where large groups can be hosted.

This summer my wife Linda and I are once again opening your Governor's Mansion for public tours. The 45-minute tours begin at 1 p.m. Central Time on Wednesdays and they are conducted by the First Lady and volunteers. There is no charge for the tours, but you must reserve tickets in advance. June is already booked up, but there are still openings for tours in July and August. Reserve tickets by calling the Pierre Area Chamber of Commerce at 605-224-7361.

Linda and I are honored to stay in such a beautiful home. We know the Governor's Mansion belongs to the people of South Dakota and we want South Dakotans to be able to experience it for themselves.

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Items of interest from SDHSAA Board Meeting

Here are a few items approved at the South Dakota High School Activities Association board meeting held June 9.

The region plaque for Class A basketball and volleyball will now read "State Qualifier" instead of "Region Champion."

Two additional plaques and team medals will be awarded in the state cross country meet for fifth and sixth place in all classes.

Class B golf and all classes of wrestling will no longer have seventh and eighth place plaque and medals at the state event.

Two additional plaques will be added for all classes for track for fifth and sixth place.

Aberdeen will be hosting the following events in the 2019-20 school year: Cheer and Dance October 25-26, 2019; Gymnastics February 14-15, 2020; Boys "B" Basketball March 19-21, 2020; Show Choir April 4, 2020; Jazz Band May 7-9, 2020; and Boys and Girls "B" Golf June 1-2, 2020.

The following were approved with the second reading:

Basketball

1) Class A and B Mercy Rule: When the point differential reaches 30 or more points in the second half, the clock will continue to run. The clock will only be stopped for free throws and time outs (team or official). Regular timing rules will be used if the score differential drops back to less than 20 points.

2) Class B Shot Clock: Add the shot clock for Class B with the implementation date of 2017-18 school year.

3) Undergarment Rule: Sublimated or printed logos around the collar of the undershirt are permitted

Football

1) Classifications/Grace Period: Rules that allow a nine-man team to apply for a two-year grace period remain in place. However, a requirement shall be added that requires any team applying for a two-year grace period to demonstrate, using published SD Department of Education figures, that their enrollment will return to nine-man figures for the following cycle in order for the grace period to be granted. Without this published proof, no two-year grace period will be granted.

2) Co-operative Agreements: Specific to the sport of football: "All co-operative agreements in the sport of football must remain intact for a period of four years. If a co-op is broken by either school before four years have passed, neither school will be eligible for post-season play unless a hardship is granted by the SDHSAA Board of Directors."

3) Halftimes for all 11-man varsity competitions shall be 15 minutes, with the mandatory plus-three warm-up. Halftimes may be extended to 20-plus-3 only if both teams are provided 24 hours of advance notice.

4) 11A Semi-Finals: All Class 11A Semi-Finals shall all be played on the Friday prior to the State Championship.

Volleyball:

1) Class A: Use the Sweet 16 format, effective starting in the 2016-17 school year.

In wrestling: Collaboratives-Wrestling: Allow schools to form a "collaborative" (practice co-op) in the sport of wrestling, provided demonstrated need by way of lack of facilities, lack of coaching staff, or lack of participant numbers. Further, no more than five wrestlers from the "satellite" school would be allowed to participate in the arrangement.

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Today in Weather History

1835 - A tornado tore through the center of New Brunswick NJ killing five persons and scattering debris as far as Manhattan Island. The tornado provided the first opportunity for scientists to study firsthand the track of such a storm. (David Ludlum)

1938 - A cloudburst near Custer Creek, MT, (near Miles City) caused a train wreck killing forty-eight persons. An estimated four to seven inches of rain deluged the head of the creek that evening, and water flowing through the creek weakened the bridge. As a result, a locomotive and seven passenger cars plunged into the swollen creek. One car, a tourist sleeper, was completely submerged. (David Ludlum)

1972 - Hurricane Agnes moved onshore near Cape San Blas FL with wind gusts to 80 mph, and exited Maine on the 26th. There were 117 deaths, mainly due to flooding from North Carolina to New York State, and total damage was estimated at more than three billion dollars. Up to 19 inches of rain deluged western Schuylkill County PA. The rains of Hurricane Agnes resulted in one of the greatest natural disasters in U.S. history. Agnes caused more damage than all other tropical cyclones in the previous six years combined (which included Celia and Camille). (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1987 - It was a warm June day, with plenty of thunderstorms east of the Rockies. Lightning knocked out power at Throckmorton, TX, and ignited an oil tank battery. A woman in Knox City TX was struck by lightning while in her car, and a man was struck by lightning near his home in Manatee County FL. Strong thunderstorm winds overturned several outhouses near Bixby OK, but no injuries were reported. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Temperatures soared above 100 degrees in the central U.S. for Father's Day. Fifteen cities reported record high temperatures for the date. Severe thunderstorms in Minnesota and Wisconsin produced softball size hail near River Falls WI, and wind gusts to 80 mph at Menomonie WI. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Fourteen cities reported record high temperatures for the date as searing heat spread from the southwestern deserts into the High Plains Region. Record highs included 98 degrees at Billings, MT, 107 degrees at Valentine, NE, and 112 degrees at Tucson, AZ. (The National Weather Summary)

2006 - Up to 11 inches of rain fell in the Houston, Texas area, causing widespread flash flooding. The Houston Fire Department rescued more than 500 people from flood waters, but no serious injuries or fatalities were reported.

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golden living

We now accept

Avera Health Plans






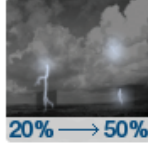

for out patient therapy.

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



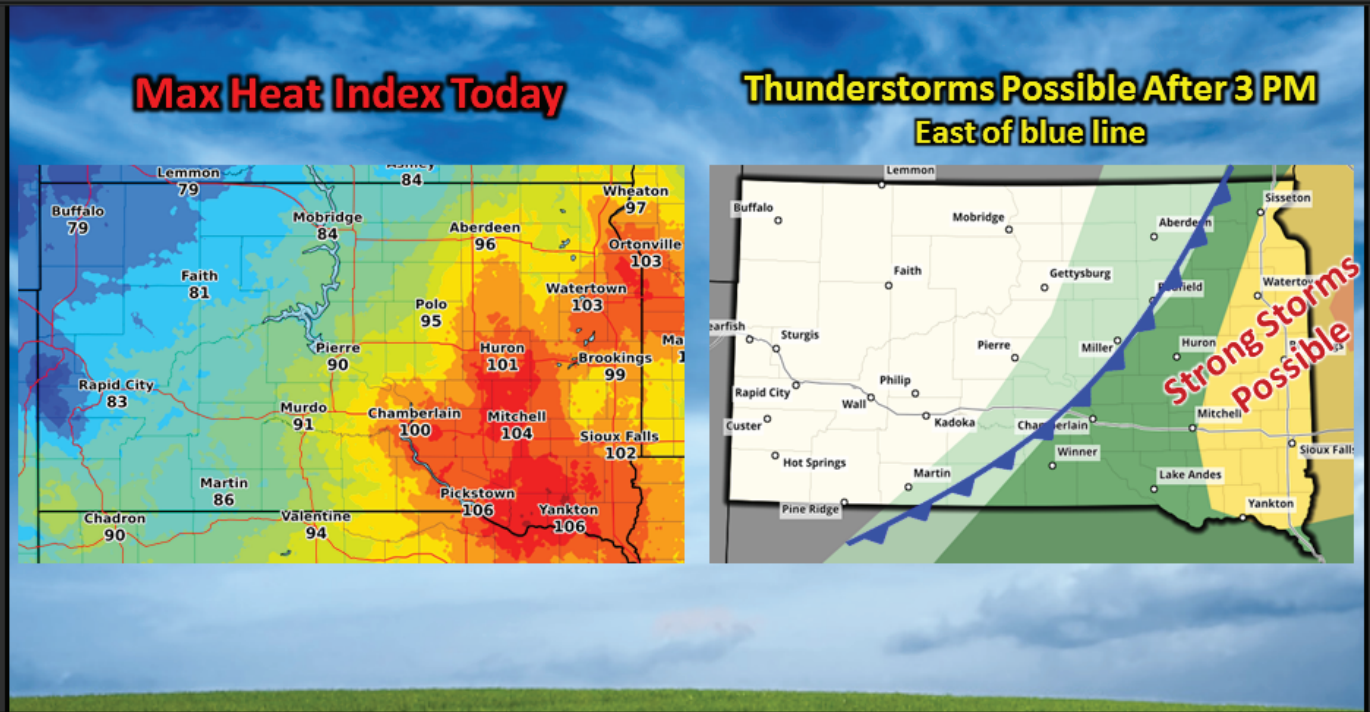
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Today	Tonight	Monday	Monday Night	Tuesday	Tuesday Night	Wednesday
						
Sunny and Breezy then Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny	Slight Chance T-storms then Chance T-storms	Chance T-storms
High: 93 °F	Low: 57 °F	High: 80 °F	Low: 52 °F	High: 82 °F	Low: 60 °F	High: 81 °F

Hot Today

Scattered Thunderstorms East Late Afternoon



National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD

 weather.gov/Aberdeen  National Weather Service Aberdeen  @NWSAberdeen Updated: 6/19/2016 5:38 AM Central

Published on: 06/19/2016 at 5:49AM

Another hot day is expected across the area, as temperatures rise into the middle 80s to upper 90s. A cold front will move across the area this afternoon, bringing the potential for a few strong thunderstorms east of a line from Sisseton to Redfield.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 88.6 F at 4:59 PM

Low Outside Temp: 65.3 F at 3:29 AM

High Gust: 23.0 Mph at 6:13 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 108° in 1933

Record Low: 38 in 1940

Average High: 79°F

Average Low: 55°F

Average Precip in June: 2.33

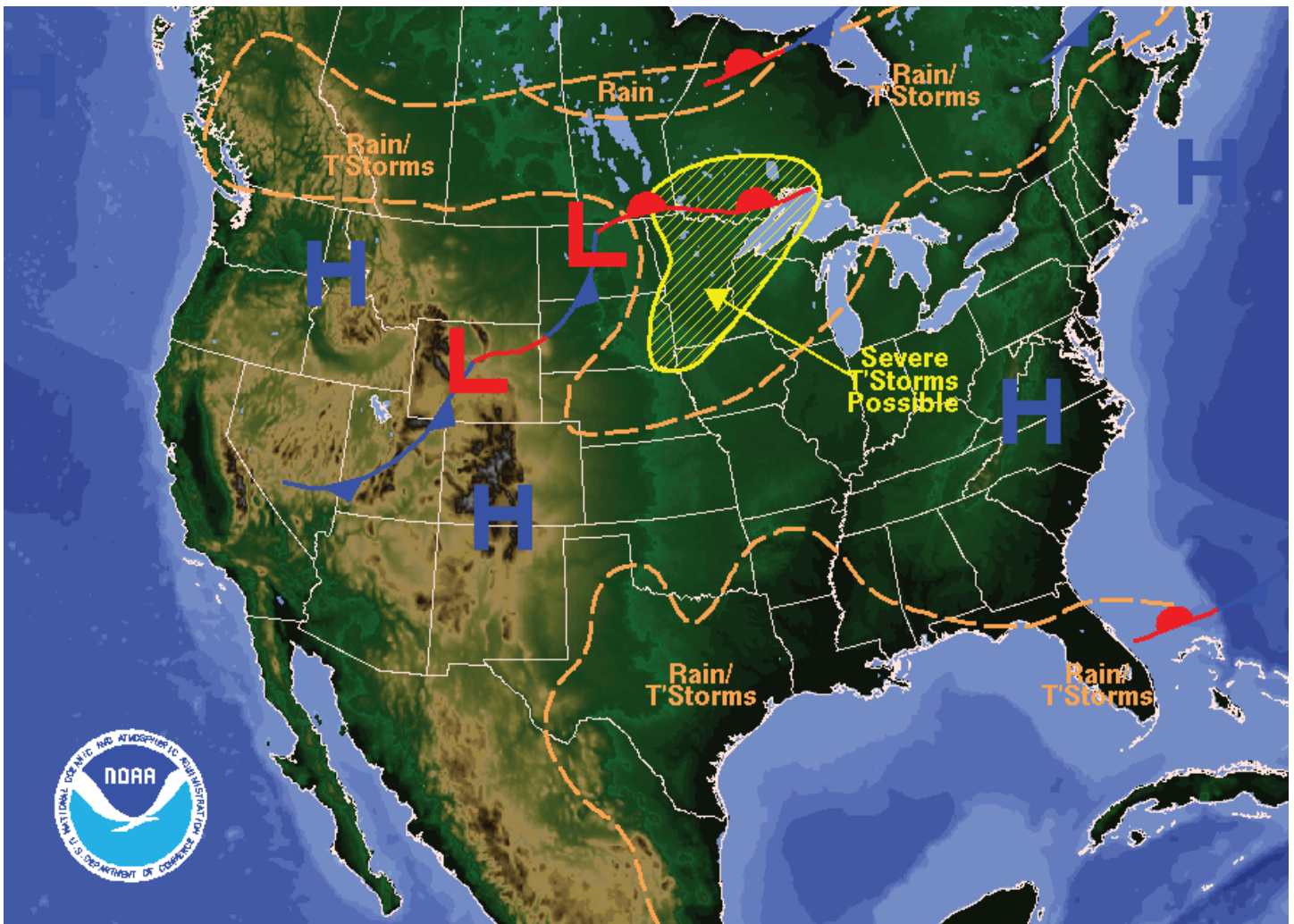
Precip to date in June: 1.67

Average Precip to date: 9.47

Precip Year to Date: 6.66

Sunset Tonight: 9:25 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:45 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Sun, Jun 19, 2016, issued 4:37 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Santorelli based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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"LET'S TURN IT ON!"

Thomas Edison worked many years to develop a light bulb. The day finally arrived when his first one was ready to be tested. He turned to his lab technician and said, "Take this downstairs and let's turn it on!"

The technician was filled with excitement as he left the laboratory. As he ran down the stairs, he slipped, fell and broke the bulb.

Discouraged but not defeated, Edison went on to make his second bulb. When it was finished, he turned to the same technician and said, "Take this downstairs and let's turn it on!" With the same amount of excitement, but more cautious, he carefully took the bulb downstairs and the experiment was completed successfully.

More often than not, it is easy to give up when things do not turn out as we expect them to. In a moment of despair we find it easier to turn our backs on projects that fail or goals that crumble. But even though we may make a mess of things, God has not nor ever will give up on us. The Lord, speaking through Joshua, said, "Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the LORD your God is with you wherever you go!"

What a gracious promise of His presence and power!

Prayer: Lord, may we always work with You to turn every tragedy into triumph and every disaster into a delight that honors You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Joshua 1:1-9 Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

News from the Associated Press

UK's EU vote: Cameron warns 'leave' leader wants to divide

GREGORY KATZ, Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — British Prime Minister David Cameron warned Sunday of the dangers of embracing "leave" campaigner Nigel Farage's vision of Britain ahead of the country's referendum on its European Union membership.

The UK Independence Party leader wants to take Britain "backwards" and divide rather than unite, Cameron said, as both sides in the referendum debate prepared to make a final push before the Thursday vote.

He made the argument in an article in the Sunday Telegraph as the battleground shifted to the news media with large rallies still on hold because of the Thursday slaying of Labour Party lawmaker Jo Cox.

Former London Mayor Boris Johnson, a prominent "leave" campaigner from Cameron's Conservative Party, turned to the influential Sunday newspapers to press his case.

Johnson told the Sun on Sunday newspaper that a British exit, or Brexit, offers voters a "once in a lifetime" chance to change British life for the better. He said it would make a statement that would last through the ages.

Johnson had initially planned a major rally Sunday but it was cancelled after the Cox murder. Parliament has been recalled for a special session Monday to honor her memory.

It is not clear what impact, if any, the shocking killing of Cox will have on the vote.

A 52-year-old man has been charged with murder over the death of the lawmaker, who had publicly backed the "remain" side. When asked his name in court Saturday, the suspect said "death to traitors, freedom for Britain."

Some have criticized the tone of the Farage branch of the "leave" campaign for a poster unveiled hours before the shooting that used a photo of trudging migrants crossing Europe on foot that carried the capital-letter warning BREAKING POINT.

Treasury Chief George Osborne denounced the poster as "disgusting and vile" and called for a more civil debate in the aftermath of Cox's death. He accused the "leave" side of "making baseless assertions that millions of people are going to come into the country in the next couple of years from Turkey, saying that dead bodies are going to wash up on the beaches of Kent."

Osborne compared the Farage poster to the Nazi propaganda of the 1930s.

Farage also returned to the public eye Sunday after a brief hiatus since the killing of Cox. He said on ITV that the "leave" campaign had probably lost some momentum because of the tragedy, which he blamed on "one person with serious mental issues."

"I don't know what's going to happen over the course of the next three or four days," he said as the campaign hangs in the balance.

Newspaper editorial boards also weighed in Sunday. The Sunday Times and Sunday Telegraph urged voters to leave the EU. The Observer and the Mail on Sunday endorsed staying within the bloc.

The Sun tabloid has earlier said it favors a Brexit.

Both sides are expected to resume full-scale campaigning shortly ahead of the Thursday vote.

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Road to 270: Donald Trump stuck on GOP's California dream

MICHAEL R. BLOOD, Associated Press

WESTMINSTER, Calif. (AP) — Bob Dole thought he could he could win California with a “fishhook” strategy. George W. Bush came armed with \$15 million. John McCain was bullish, too. They all lost.

Donald Trump's prediction that he can capture the biggest prize in the November presidential election, the state's 55 electoral votes, rubs up against a dismal history for Republicans over a generation. The names on the ballot have changed, but the outcome has been the same — double-digit wins for Democrats since 1992.

Here's Trump's challenge: unite Republicans while finding millions of new supporters in a state where Democrats hold every statewide office and both chambers of the Legislature. They also have a 3.1 million edge in voters, a number equal to the population of Iowa.

In 1996, Dole was brimming with confidence about his chances against then-President Bill Clinton. Dole's campaign aimed to drive up vote margins in Republican-friendly communities down the state's interior spine, then up through coastal counties in the south, roughly in the shape of a fishhook. Money and staff poured in. Dole's running mate, Jack Kemp, had special credentials: He grew up in Los Angeles.

It wasn't even close. Clinton ran up a 51-to-38 percent win.

“Since 1996, the California electorate has swung even more to the left,” said Ken Khachigian, a former chief speechwriter in the Reagan White House who ran Dole's campaign in the state.

“Five months out, it's political malpractice to rule out any possibility,” Khachigian added. But a Republican win in California “comes as close as anything to an exception.”

The home turf of Richard Nixon and Ronald Reagan, California was once Republican in presidential elections. But pronounced demographic shifts, particularly a boom in the Hispanic population, have transformed the state.

The number of Hispanics, blacks and Asian-Americans combined has outnumbered whites in California since 1998, and Latinos alone now outnumber the white population. Most of the new voters are Democrats or independents who tend to vote like them.

Trump is looking to expand his support at a time when he already faces challenges with Hispanics and women. That stems in part from his promise to build a wall along the border with Mexico and his verbal attacks on U.S. District Judge Gonzalo Curiel, who is hearing a lawsuit against Trump University. Trump also has criticized New Mexico Gov. Susana Martinez, who heads the Republican Governors Association.

Richard Hoyt, a registered independent from Westminster, in Orange County, is the kind of voter Trump needs to pull his way. But the 64-year-old retired engineer says he's leaning toward Clinton, in part because of Trump's statements about Curiel and the judge's family's Mexican roots.

Hoyt said he would give Trump a “zero for his mannerisms” and added: “I can't imagine how all of the sudden he's going to change.”

Part of Trump's challenge is simple arithmetic.

In California's June 7 primary, the billionaire businessman ran essentially unopposed, pulling in about 1.5 million votes, or about 75 percent of the total. Ted Cruz and John Kasich were still on the ballot, though they earlier dropped out of the race.

Analysts predict 14 million people are likely to vote in November.

To win, Trump would need a heroic turnout from the state's 4.9 million Republicans, while finding 2 million or more swing voters to get near a majority. Indeed, some of those swing voters could be lurking in counties where Republican candidates have outperformed the party's registration numbers.

But there are more than 8 million Democrats, and the state's 4.2 million independents — about 1 in

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4 voters — tilt Democratic.

Trump's state director, Tim Clark, emphasized that Trump's supporters are strongly motivated in a year when many voters are looking for candidates from beyond Washington. As an outsider, Trump could appeal to a vast pool of dormant voters soured on status quo politics, Clark said.

"Elections are won by those who show up, and those who show up are those motivated by their candidate," Clark added.

The last significant push by a Republican to win California was in 2000, when Bush was backed by \$15 million, then lost to Democrat Al Gore by 12 points. In 2004, Bush's campaign vowed to compete in California, but the campaign effectively shut down in early autumn.

McCain, the 2008 GOP nominee against Barack Obama, boasted about competing in California, but he lost by 24 points. Mitt Romney suffered a 23-point loss to Obama in 2012.

Aside from her registration advantage, Clinton also has a formidable get-out-the-vote operation. The campaign made 2 million phone calls in the final days before the state primary. Trump has no comparable organization. An energized Hispanic turnout is likely, favoring Clinton, who also carried the state in the 2008 Democratic presidential primary.

Republicans remain healthy in pockets of California, including parts of the vast farm belt and the so-called Inland Empire running east and north of Los Angeles. But party registration overall has withered to 27 percent of the state total, compared with 45 percent for Democrats.

Independents now outnumber Republicans in nearly two dozen of the state's 53 congressional districts.

Former Gov. Pete Wilson, a Ted Cruz supporter who now backs Trump, is the last Republican to win a U.S. Senate race in the state, in 1988.

He acknowledges the steep climb Trump faces, but said in an unpredictable political year Trump could make inroads with independents and voters wary of Clinton. At the minimum, he said Trump could win a tactical victory if he forces Democrats to compete on their own ground.

Democrats "will have to respond and they will have to spend time and money here," he said.

AP FACT CHECK: Facts undercut Trump's post-Orlando arguments

ALICIA A. CALDWELL, Associated Press

CALVIN WOODWARD, Associated Press

EDITOR'S NOTE _ A look at the veracity of claims in the presidential campaign

WASHINGTON (AP) — Donald Trump says the United States admits Syrian refugees without checking their backgrounds and that Hillary Clinton wants to allow "radical Islamic terrorists to pour into our country."

Neither is so, part of a pattern of exaggeration that strains the credibility of his argument since the Orlando nightclub shooting that the U.S. faces apocalyptic danger from Muslim immigrants.

Trump's rhetoric has been slashing, polarizing, passionate and at times illogical. He confuses immigrants with refugees and overlooks the fact some extremists are U.S. citizens. He speaks as if the U.S. border is a gate wide open. And his numbers are off.

It's a given that hyperbole comes with Trump territory. He's acknowledged that exaggeration for dramatic effect is part of how he rolls. It's how he connects at a gut level with supporters who look past mangled facts to what they see as a larger truth, while opponents stand back aghast.

Altogether, the Orlando massacre by a U.S. citizen with Islamist beliefs, radical sympathies and an apparently tortured psyche has reignited a tangle of debates on domestic terrorism, threats from abroad,

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the nation's refugee traditions, hate crimes and guns in the early days of the Trump-Clinton general election campaign.

A look at some of Trump's recent statements on those issues and how they compare with the facts:

TRUMP: "We are taking in thousands of people into our country. We have no idea where they come from, we have no idea who the hell they are. We know they believe in certain things that we don't want to believe in."

THE FACTS: It's not true that the government knows nothing about refugees who come to the United States.

The State Department's Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration keeps detailed records about how many refugees arrive monthly, and from where. The information is available to the public online through the agency's Refugee Processing Center (www.wrapsnet.org). The arrival information is broken down by country and region.

In May, for example, 6,511 refugees were resettled in the United States. The Democratic Republic of the Congo had the largest number of refugees who arrived last month, 1,274.

Annual data about immigrants is also available from the government through the Homeland Security Department's Yearbook of Immigration Statistics.

Would-be immigrants and refugees are screened to ensure they haven't been identified by intelligence agencies or law enforcement as having ties to terrorist organizations or criminal records. But people's belief systems are not generally considered as part of their applications to move to the United States.

TRUMP: "And yet you see this great migration, which is a horrible thing to watch."

THE FACTS: Trump is right that there is a mass migration taking place from Syria and other countries in the Middle East.

Millions of people are thought to have fled. But he's wrong to imply that the huge influx has come into the United States.

Since 2011, about 5,760 Syrian refugees have been brought to the U.S.

As of the end of May, 41,424 refugees from around the world have come to the United States since the start of the budget year in October. According to the State Department, 14,898 of those people are from the "Near East/South Asia" region, which includes Syria. But only 2,805 Syrians were among them.

As a whole, African nations have accounted for more refugees and Myanmar (also known as Burma) leads all countries, with 8,112 refugees, in the first eight months of the current budget year.

According to the U.N. High Commission on Refugees, more than 1 million Syrians have sought refuge in Europe since 2011. That's the "great migration."

TRUMP: "Now she (Clinton) wants to allow them to come into our country pretty much unvetted because every law enforcement person that I've spoken to and that you watched and that you read is saying it's very hard, if not impossible, to check out people. There are just no papers. There are no papers. And yet you see this great migration."

"Altogether, under the Clinton plan, you'd be admitting hundreds of thousands of refugees from the Middle East with no system to vet them or to prevent the radicalization of their children.

"Clinton wants to allow radical Islamic terrorists to pour into our country — they enslave women and murder gays."

THE FACTS: That's not what Clinton has said.

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The presumptive Democratic nominee says she wants to “begin immediately to put into place the mechanisms for vetting the people that we would take in, looking to really emphasize some of those who are most vulnerable, a lot of the persecuted religious minorities, including Christians, and some who have been brutalized, like the Yazidi women.”

Clinton proposes that the United States accept as many as 65,000 people from Syria, compared with President Barack Obama’s plans to resettle 10,000 people from that country this year. She has never suggested that she would scale back the refugee processing system as it exists today.

Late last year, the Obama administration for the first time disclosed details about how refugees are investigated. Officials described a drawn-out process that includes in-person interviews overseas and involves multiple agencies, led by Homeland Security.

Refugees must submit to interviews before they can come, and provide biographical details about themselves — their families, friendships, social or political activities, employment, telephone numbers, email accounts and more. They also provide biometric information, including fingerprints. Syrians are subject to additional, classified controls that officials have declined to describe specifically.

Refugee processing generally takes 18 months to 24 months. It can be longer for Syrians.

While Trump is wrong to say Syrian refugees undergo no screening or practically none, that’s not to say the system is foolproof.

Contrary to Trump’s assertion that “there are no papers,” refugee applicants must provide documentation. But the administration has acknowledged it can be difficult to verify the accuracy or authenticity of documents provided by refugee applicants against foreign government records from countries that don’t cooperate with the U.S. government, such as Syria.

It can be tough for the U.S. to check foreign government records for local arrests or lesser bureaucratic interactions, such as bank records, business licenses or civil filings.

Refugees from Syria in particular tend to provide extensive documents involving their day-to-day lives. They often have family histories, military records and other information that can be useful for American authorities investigating them.

TRUMP: “We have a dysfunctional immigration system which does not permit us to know who we let into our country, and it does not permit us to protect our citizens.”

THE FACTS: Trump may be right on his overall description of the U.S. immigration system as “dysfunctional.” It’s demonstrably false to say the U.S. doesn’t know who is being allowed into the country.

Illegal immigration along the Mexican border remains a problem. Tens of thousands of unaccompanied children and people traveling as families, mostly from Central America, have arrived at the U.S. border this year.

The U.S. still lacks a comprehensive exit system to determine more effectively who has stayed in the country after their visas have expired.

But the U.S. government obviously knows who receives the government’s permission to legally immigrate into the country. Would-be immigrants, refugees and foreign tourists are all subjected to background checks and various forms of screening.

In the case of tourists, people from 38 countries approved for the Visa Waiver Program must submit biographic and other data about themselves before they can legally travel to the United States using the online Electronic System for Travel.

People from the approved countries who are also citizens of Iran, Iraq, Sudan, or Syria or who have traveled in those countries since March 2011 are generally not eligible to use the visa-free travel program. Tourists from all other countries have to apply for visas and submit to interviews, as well as other vetting.

Hong Kong bookseller contemplated suicide in China detention

KELVIN CHAN, Associated Press

HONG KONG (AP) — A Hong Kong bookseller whose disappearance sparked international concern said Sunday that he was so despondent during his detention by authorities in mainland China that he considered suicide.

Lam Wing-kee told The Associated Press that he thought about using his clothes to hang himself but couldn't find a way to do it in the small room where he was kept under constant watch for five months.

Lam and four other men who worked for a Hong Kong publishing company disappeared last year, only to turn up months later in police custody on the mainland.

The publisher specialized in gossipy books on China's communist leadership that were popular with Chinese visitors to Hong Kong but banned on the mainland.

Their case raised concerns that Beijing is tightening its hold on the former British colony and undermining its considerable autonomy. Hong Kong retains rule of law and civil liberties such as freedom of speech unseen on the mainland under its status as a special Chinese administrative region that runs until 2047.

Lam, 60, returned to Hong Kong on Tuesday, following three other colleagues who had done so earlier. But he went off the script written for him by the Chinese authorities and spoke out Thursday at a news conference, giving a harrowing account of his ordeal, which unfolded when he paid a visit to the neighboring mainland city of Shenzhen in October.

He was handcuffed and blindfolded, taken on a 13-hour train ride and then confined to a small room for months while he was interrogated about the authors writing for the Mighty Current publishing company and the customers at its Causeway Bay Bookshop, which he managed.

Lam's story contradicted the version of events given by his colleagues to Chinese media and Hong Kong police, in which they said they traveled to the mainland voluntarily to aid in investigations or confess to crimes. Lam said he was forced to sign a confession admitting to illegally mailing books to mainland buyers.

Lam said his interrogators were particularly interested in details about the writers behind two of the company's books.

One was about a Communist Party directive that urged officials to curb the spread of ideas such as press freedom, judicial independence, civil rights, civil society and the party's historic mistakes. It was based on a high-level internal circular leaked in 2013 that was seen as an attempt to attack Western democratic ideals and crush dissent to protect the party's rule.

The other book was about the purported love lives of President Xi Jinping and other Chinese leaders.

"At the later stage of interrogation, I was questioned about information of authors, whether I knew these authors, the source of transcripts," Lam said. "I was asked to give detailed accounts. I didn't know much about the authors because I was there to sell books. I could only tell them the limited information I knew."

One of Lam's most frightening times came when two unidentified men arrived from Beijing to aggressively question him. They accused him of trying to "overthrow the Chinese government by mailing books to mainland customers, maliciously defaming Chinese leaders and causing terrible influence and damage to society," he said.

"I was told I could be put in prison for 20 to 30 years or even life imprisonment, without any announcement following the sentence," he said.

Lam's mental health deteriorated.

"I planned to end my life in the quickest way," he said.

But there was nothing in the room that he could use to kill himself. He couldn't carry out his plan with his pants because there was nowhere to hang them from. The people watching him also took away any hard objects he could use to hurt himself.

Lam said he has stopped worrying about his safety after speaking out publicly.

"That's not my main concern, it's not so important," he said. "I know I made the right decision."

Floods, landslides kill 24 people in Indonesia

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — At least 24 people have been killed by flooding and landslides in central Java and many others remained missing Sunday, an Indonesian official said.

Dozens of houses were buried in the landslides and thousands of homes were inundated by floods in 16 districts and towns over the weekend.

The dead included two 10-year-olds and a pregnant woman.

The spokesman for the National Disaster Management Agency, Sutopo Purwo Nugroho, said that 26 villagers were missing in the worst-hit district of Purworejo, where 11 people died.

He said seven people were killed in Kebumen district and six in Banjarnegara district.

Rescue workers including soldiers, police and volunteers were still searching for victims and evacuating others.

Seasonal rains often cause flooding and landslides in Indonesia, an archipelago of 17,000 islands where millions of people live in mountainous areas or flood-prone plains close to rivers.

Massive protest on Okinawa opposes US military after killing

YURI KAGEYAMA, Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — Tens of thousands of people on Okinawa protested Sunday against the presence of U.S. military bases on the Japanese island, many wearing black to mourn the rape and killing of a local woman in which an American contractor is a suspect.

The rally called for a review of the U.S.-Japanese security agreement, which burdens Okinawa with hosting the bulk of American troops in Japan. Also contentious is a plan to relocate a Marine Corps air station to a less-populated part of the southwestern island. The relocation plan developed after public anger erupted in 1995 over the rape of a girl by three American servicemen.

The killing of the local woman, who had been missing for several weeks when her body was found last month, set off outrage on Okinawa, where tensions periodically run high over crime linked to American troops. The U.S. contractor, a former Marine, was arrested on May 19 on suspicion of abandoning the woman's body, but has not yet been charged with killing her.

Okinawa Gov. Takeshi Onaga told the crowd at the rally in Okinawa's capital, Naha, that he wanted to apologize to the woman for failing to protect her, even after what happened in 1995.

"We had pledged never to repeat such an incident," he said. "I couldn't change the political system to prevent that. That is my utmost regret as a politician and as governor of Okinawa."

About 65,000 people attended the rally, according to the Kyodo News agency. Many people held signs demanding the Marines leave and the overall military on Okinawa be scaled back.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's government is behind the security agreement with the U.S., and wants Japan to take on a bigger military role on the international stage. But those at the rally said they wanted a more peace-oriented Japan.

"This is not how we want the country to be," said university student Jinshiro Motoyama. "We want the bases gone."

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A rally was also held in front of the prime minister's residence in Tokyo, drawing about 10,000 people, timed to coincide with and show support for the Okinawa rally.

The U.S. military has periodically tried to ease tensions on Okinawa, and says the crime rate among its ranks is lower than among the general public.

Earlier this month, the U.S. Navy imposed a drinking ban after an American sailor was arrested on suspicion of drunken driving on Okinawa, driving the wrong way on a freeway and crashing into two vehicles, injuring two people. The restriction was recently eased.

Last month, Lt. Gen. Lawrence Nicholson, the commanding general of Marine Forces Japan, stressed the importance of the bilateral alliance. "Please do not allow this terrible act of violence to drive a wedge between our two communities," he said on Okinawa, referring to the woman's death. "There may be issues we differ on. But we must continue to talk. Let's keep those lines of communication open."

But Jeff Kingston, a professor of Asian history at Temple University in Tokyo, said resentment about the bases will likely continue on Okinawa, adding that he believes the base relocation project may be delayed.

"I think they just feel so frustrated," he said of residents of Okinawa. "These protests are not just going to go away."

Cash-strapped Zimbabwe government delays military salaries

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) — Zimbabwe's cash-strapped government says it will delay paying salaries to the military and police by up to two weeks.

It said other workers on the state payroll will only receive their salaries next month.

The finance ministry issued a notice dated June 16 saying the military will be paid on June 27 and the police three days later. It said workers in other departments will only get their June salaries in mid-July.

The military, a key pillar of President Robert Mugabe's rule, is usually the first to get paid around mid-month.

Struggling with severely depleted revenues, Zimbabwe has been delaying pay to the military and other workers for about a year. But this is the first time that salaries have been delayed by this much.

Iran aviation official says Boeing sale involves 100 planes

NASSER KARIMI, Associated Press

JON GAMBRELL, Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Boeing Co. is negotiating a deal to sell 100 airplanes to Iran, state-run media reported Sunday, a sale potentially worth billions that would mark the first major entry of an American company into the Islamic Republic after last year's nuclear deal.

Chicago-based Boeing declined to discuss details of the talks or the figure of 100 planes, attributed to Ali Abedzadeh, the head of Iran's Civil Aviation Organization.

Regulatory hurdles and U.S. sanctions that remain in place after the nuclear agreement could complicate the deal. Despite efforts by the U.S. State Department to encourage trade to Iran, many American firms remain worried about the legal and political ramifications of any agreements with the country.

The state-run IRAN newspaper quoted Abedzadeh as saying negotiations took "several stages" and final figures and terms had yet to be reached.

"Both sides — Iran and Boeing — have reached a written agreement for buying Boeing airplanes," Abedzadeh was quoted as saying.

Fakher Daghestani, a Boeing spokesman based in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, declined to answer

any questions about Abedzadeh's comments.

"Any agreements reached will be contingent on U.S. government approval," Daghestani said in a statement.

Iranian airlines have some 60 Boeing airplanes in service, but most were purchased before the 1979 Islamic Revolution that ousted Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi and brought Islamists to power.

Out of Iran's 250 commercial planes, about 150 are flying while the rest are grounded due to lack of spare parts. Parts and servicing remained nearly impossible to get while the world sanctioned Iran over its contested nuclear program.

Included in last year's nuclear deal is approval for airline manufacturers to enter the Iranian market. Already, Iran Air has signed agreements to buy 118 planes from the European consortium Airbus and 20 more from French-Italian aircraft manufacturer ATR.

Iran is a lucrative market, with the Airbus deal alone worth 22.8 billion euros (\$25 billion). But Boeing has treaded cautiously.

U.S. sanctions not tied to the nuclear program remain in place, and American lawmakers have warned Boeing not to do business there as the Iran deal remains a hot topic in the ongoing presidential election. Boeing may need to run the sale through an overseas subsidiary and use a currency other than U.S. dollars in order to avoid running afoul of American laws.

In April, Iran's state-run IRNA news agency quoted Maqsood Asadi Samani, the secretary of the Society of Iranian Airlines, as saying Boeing officials offered 737, 777 and 787 model aircraft on a trip to Tehran.

In his published remarks Sunday, Abedzadeh said that "Iran will not be in a hurry about the agreement since the U.S. has always used Iran's old fleet as leverage."

"Iran will apply caution in the talks," he said.

Activists say 8 Syrians killed trying to cross into Turkey

BEIRUT (AP) — Activists say at least eight Syrian refugees, including four children, were shot dead while trying to cross into Turkey.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights says the eight were shot by Turkish border guards while trying to cross from Kherbet al-Jouz in northwestern Syria into Turkey's Hatay province late Saturday.

The Local Coordination Committees, an activist network, put the toll at 11 dead and also blamed Turkish border guards. It says at least one of those trying to cross was from Jarablus, a northern Syrian town under Islamic State control.

Turkish officials could not immediately be reached for comment.

The Syrian war has pushed over 2.7 million refugees into Turkey, according to the U.N. Turkey has tightened security along its border in recent months to prevent further inflows.

Acclaimed Australian filmmaker Paul Cox dies aged 76

BRISBANE, Australia (AP) — Award-winning Australian filmmaker Paul Cox has died, the Australian Directors Guild said Sunday. He was 76.

The guild did not disclose the cause of death, but Cox said last year that his transplanted liver had cancer.

He wrote and directed the 2015 movie "Force of Destiny," starring David Wenham, which follows the journey of a man who finds love while waiting for a life-saving liver transplant.

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The film was loosely based on Cox's own cancer battle before a transplant in 2009 pulled him back from the brink.

His early features, "Lonely Hearts" in 1981, "Man of Flowers" in 1983 and "My First Wife" in 1984 were acclaimed in Australia and internationally.

His documentaries included "Vincent: The Life and Death of Vincent van Gogh" in 1987, and "The Diaries of Vaslav Nijinsky" in 2001.

Cox was born on April 16, 1940, in Venlo, in the southeast Netherlands, and migrated to Australia in 1965 as a professional photographer.

His credits include 19 feature films and 12 documentaries.

Australian opposition leader makes health center of election

ROD McGUIRK, Associated Press

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) — Opposition leader Bill Shorten used his center-left Labor Party's official campaign launch on Sunday to cast July 2 general elections as a referendum on the future of Australia's universal health care system.

A Labor government introduced government-funded Medicare in 1983 to provide free or subsidized health care for all Australian citizens and permanent residents. Labor argues the conservative coalition government plans to privatize Medicare — a claim Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull denies.

"If you want to know why this election will make a difference to you, your family, your street, your workplace, to Australia's future, I can give you the answer of why politics matters in one word: Medicare," Shorten told a Sydney auditorium in front of the slogan: "We'll put people first."

The government has been quick to assure the public that the popular health care system is not under threat.

Turnbull, who will officially launch his conservative Liberal Party's campaign next weekend, announced on Saturday that his government had scrapped plans to outsource the Medicare payments system to private enterprise.

"Medicare will never ever be privatized," Turnbull told reporters Sunday. "What Bill Shorten is doing is peddling an extraordinary lie so audacious ... it defies belief."

Six weeks after the election was called, Shorten launched his campaign in western Sydney where Labor hopes to win several seats from the government.

An opinion poll published by Fairfax Media on Saturday showed Labor ahead of the government with support of 51 percent of respondents compared to 49 percent for the conservative coalition. But this lead is within the poll's 2.6 percentage point margin of error.

The poll was based on a nationwide telephone survey of 1,437 voters from June 14 to 16.

Many analysts don't believe Labor's support will deliver the 21 seats it needs to form a majority in the 150-seat House of Representatives, where parties form governments.

All but one of Labor's surviving prime ministers attended the launch: Bob Hawke, Paul Keating and Julia Gillard.

Kevin Rudd, who was ousted by Gillard in an internal party showdown in 2010, then replaced her in a similar coup in 2013, was in Russia on business.

Since Rudd was elected in 2007, there have been four changes of prime minister in an era of extraordinary volatility in Australian politics.

Shorten was a powerbroker within the party who was instrumental in overthrowing both Rudd and Gillard.

AP Interview: Jia Zhangke plans virtual reality romance

LOUISE WATT, Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — Critically acclaimed Chinese director Jia Zhangke says he will make a virtual reality film next year with a romantic story as he and viewers get used to the new medium, and declared: "I think VR is going to be the next big thing."

The director, better known for films that depict China's social changes and acts of violence, told The Associated Press that the short film would be a gentle romance as "it takes time for people to feel comfortable" in virtual reality.

"The speed and direction of movements may make people feel physically uncomfortable, so we're starting with a romantic story," he said in an interview.

Virtual reality entertainment consists largely of video games, but film festivals are starting to showcase VR films as directors venture into the new medium. It offers a much more solitary experience compared to watching a movie in a packed theater.

VR requires a headset that blocks out your surroundings and lets you wander through a story in a different world — either by moving a few steps in various directions or sitting on a swivel chair and moving your body to look around a 360-degree scene.

The fake environment is, nonetheless, often realistic, but movie makers are still trying to work out how to tell a story in VR.

"I am still learning about VR and trying to understand it at the moment, but I'm very interested in this new technology which lets us view space from different angles," Jia said Saturday.

It also gives the audience more power as they choose what to watch.

"In the past, the audience could only imagine the world inside and outside the frame," he said. "VR liberates an audience and allows people to independently choose what we want to be concerned with. Audiences become more important."

"Today, we can divert our attention from the close-up shot in a traditional film that we had to watch in the past," added the 46-year-old Jia. "I think it's a brand new and valuable idea."

Earlier Saturday, Jia spoke at an event with Richard Peña, former director of the New York Film Festival, who told him that he felt the VR medium impinged on the ability of a director to tell a story.

Peña recalled a short VR detective film he had seen in which "the filmmaker wanted me to look left but I wanted to look right."

Jia said he thought the filmmaker "probably did a bad job" and suggested a director could deploy actors whose movements could direct a viewer's attention.

Jia has explored China's rapid transformation throughout his career, which includes early underground films, documentaries and international film festival prize winners, 2006 "Still Life" and 2013 "A Touch of Sin."

He spent years making underground films before censors allowed his first movie to be released in Chinese cinemas in 2004.

Jia will next month launch his own video streaming site, "Jia Screen," that he said would premiere 108 short films from around the world.

Jia told the audience at the talk organized by Columbia Global Center in Beijing that while today's technology and various streaming websites in China allowed people to make and upload their own films, those weren't being seen because the public didn't know which of the thousands to watch.

His platform will "work as a bridge to bring the information to the audiences instead of asking the audiences to do the job themselves," he said.

Gay pride events festive but some concerned after Orlando

JASON KEYSER, Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — The music was thumping and crowds were dancing at gay pride events around the U.S., with some revelers saying the partying was proof that people won't give in to fear after last weekend's attack at a gay nightclub in Florida.

Festivals and parades went ahead Saturday under increased security in cities such as Chicago, Columbus, Ohio; and Providence, Rhode Island, a week after a gunman fired on a crowd at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando. The attack left 49 people dead.

At Chicago Pride Fest, security staff meticulously checked bags, unzipping each and every pocket, and extra police patrolled on foot in a highly visible presence.

The annual two-day street festival in the Boystown neighborhood draws thousands of revelers and serves as a warmup to Chicago's even bigger Pride Parade the following weekend.

Attorney Kavita Puri said that after Orlando, the Chicago event took on even more importance.

"I wouldn't call it defiance," she said. "I wouldn't call it perseverance. I would call it just living your life and not being scared to live your life."

By noon, a D.J. had already cranked the music to ear-splitting volume, energizing a crowd that included young clubbers, families pushing kids in strollers, and retirees. The only outward sign of the Orlando attack was a makeshift memorial of flowers, rainbow flags and candles clustered on a street corner a few blocks away.

The attack was on Cheryl Hora's mind. The school bus driver from suburban Rolling Meadows, Illinois, said her son, a drag performer, had done a show at Pulse in October and has a close friend who lost a cousin in the attack. Her son was performing Saturday at the Chicago festival, and Hora — wearing a button with the words "I love my gay son" — said it was important for her to turn up and cheer him on.

"We're just down here to support him," she said. "We thoroughly believe in what he's doing and thoroughly believe in his happiness."

In New Orleans, Frank Bonner and Pedro Egui wore matching American flag tank tops as they stood with their arms around each other outside a bar called the Phoenix where the city's pride parade would pass.

Bonner and Egui both had Orlando on their mind.

"I never imagined this," said Bonner. "I have many friends in Orlando. I didn't lose any. But I'm..." he shook his head and his voice trailed off.

"It's really hit me hard," said Egui, who said he lost a partner to suicide a couple of years ago. "It's like all the grieving is sort of seen again," he said. "So I'm happy to be here to celebrate life and celebrate all of us."

Reminders of the nightclub shooting were inescapable. One bar near the Phoenix had pasted the logo of the Pulse over its door. In the French Quarter, rainbow-flags and bunting were everywhere but over the door to one lounge there was an image of a black mourning ribbon next to a rainbow-hued one.

Local sheriff's deputies were posted outside the Phoenix. And in the French Quarter, a strong police presence was evident.

Security was tight elsewhere, too. At a pride event in Grand Rapids, Michigan, police patrolled by car, bike and on foot, and enforced a clear bag policy to keep suspicious items out of the street fair, WZZM-TV reported.

In Columbus, Ohio, Pride Parade grand marshal Lana Moore, a retired firefighter who is transgender, said there was heightened resolve in the aftermath of the Orlando attack, which was carried out by a gunman who had expressed hatred of gay people and sympathy for Islamic extremists.

"This is America and we're a free people," Moore told the Columbus Dispatch.

The Columbus chapter of Muslims for Progressive Values marched in the parade for the fourth time. Group founder Frank Parmir told the newspaper that they were trying to combat the hatred felt toward gay people.

"It has to stop," he said.

Crowds were thinner at Rhode Island PrideFest in Providence, said Shay Pimentel, who has volunteered at the event for three years.

"I think some people might be scared with everything's that happened," Pimentel said.

Some said the Orlando attack struck a blow to the community in contrast to last year when the LGBT community celebrated the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in favor of same-sex marriage.

At a parade and festival in Syracuse, New York, Mary Gillen wondered if a safer environment for gays in recent years was under threat from divisive political rhetoric.

"We have felt safe as lesbians up until now," she told the Post-Standard of Syracuse. "With (Donald) Trump and the religious right, I'm starting to look over my shoulder. Do I have to watch my back again? Damn it, we're not afraid. We're not backing down. Those days are done."

Former Vanderbilt football player again convicted of rape

SHEILA BURKE, Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — A jury has convicted a former Vanderbilt football player on all counts after finding that he encouraged his teammates to rape an unconscious woman he had been dating. It took jurors a little more than four hours of deliberation before finding Brandon Vandenburg guilty on five counts of aggravated rape and two counts of aggravated sexual battery. In addition, he was convicted of one count of unlawful photography.

Vandenburg's mother cried in the courtroom Saturday after the verdict was read. He appeared to be weeping as he was taken away.

The verdict comes amid a furor over the six month sentence a former Stanford swimmer was given for sexually assaulting an unconscious woman. It also comes during an ongoing debate about sexual assaults on the nation's college campus and the conduct of student athletes.

The lives of everyone involved have been ruined, Deputy District Attorney General Tom Thurman said of the case. He said he hoped the widespread publicity surrounding the Vanderbilt case would send a message.

The jurors in the this case had to decide whether to hold Vandenburg, 23, criminally responsible for what teammates were accused of doing to the female student in a dorm room in June of 2013.

His defense had maintained that he was drunk and should not be held responsible for what players he didn't even know did to the woman.

Four former players were all charged in the case but only two were accused of raping and sexually assaulting the woman.

Throughout the trial, Vandenburg was portrayed as a man who violated the female student's trust by plying her with alcohol and then encouraging teammates to sexually assault her.

"He served her up to three strangers — for whatever reason, it doesn't matter, is that he did it," Assistant District Attorney Jan Norman told jurors in closing arguments Saturday.

Prosecutors told jurors that he passed out condoms to the other players, videoed the rape and sent footage to friends as it was happening.

The defense had maintained that Vandenburg was a newly-arrived recruit to the Nashville school and

had asked teammates outside the dorm to help him carry the unconscious woman into his room after he couldn't get her into her apartment. Vandenberg's lawyers told jurors the other players were on the woman as soon as they got her in the room.

The trial featured graphic videos and photos that were taken from the players' cell phones.

"The videos are disturbing," Albert Perez, one of Vandenberg's attorneys told jurors in closing. "They make you mad, they make you sad." But Perez pointed out that the sex acts charged in the indictment were for things the other players did.

The victim in the case, who was then a 21-year-old neuroscience major, testified that she had no memory of the event. She said Vandenburg would later tell her that she had gotten drunk and sick and he took care of her, and she was embarrassed as a result. Prosecutors have suggested that she was under the influence of a date-rape drug.

Nashville Police became involved after Vanderbilt officials contacted them when security camera footage at the school showed players carrying an unconscious woman in a dorm room.

Vandenburg and Cory Batey were convicted last year on multiple counts of aggravated rape and aggravated sexual battery. The verdicts, however, were thrown out after it was revealed that a juror had not disclosed that he had been a victim of statutory rape.

Batey was convicted again in April. Both he and Vandenburg face a minimum sentence of 15 years in prison for aggravated rape with no possibility of parole.

Neighbor: 'Something isn't right' about girls at man's house

FEASTERVILLE, Pa. (AP) — A neighbor said she had long felt that "something isn't right" at a Bucks County home where a man is accused of sexually assaulting a teenager whose parents police say gave her to him when she was 14.

Jen Betz of Feasterville said she called authorities because was concerned about the young girls she saw outside the house, which she said had boarded windows and high weeds.

"They're so sad and fearful every time I see them. That's what made me call," she said Saturday. "I've been telling my husband for years 'Something isn't right, something isn't right.'"

Officials acting on a tip Thursday found 51-year-old Lee Kaplan at his home along with the girls, ranging in age from six months to 18 years. The 18-year-old told police that she and Kaplan have a 3-year-old and a six-month-old. Kaplan faces charges including statutory sexual assault, unlawful contact with a minor, and aggravated indecent assault.

District Attorney David Heckler said the parents of the girl Kaplan is accused of assaulting told police they were going to lose their farm until Kaplan "came out of the blue and saved them from financial ruin."

Authorities allege in an affidavit that the girl's father told an officer he gave his 14-year-old daughter to Kaplan after researching the legality of such an action online.

On Saturday, police and dogs scoured the home's backyard for evidence. Lt. Ted Krimmel of the Lower Southampton police department said authorities waited until dawn so they would be able to search the property in daylight.

"We have a search warrant for the entire property," he said. "There are dogs searching for evidence."

Krimmel said officials are trying to verify who the parents of the other children found at the home are. The teenager's parents told police the other nine girls in the house were their children, but no birth certificates or Social Security cards could be located to confirm that, he said.

When police entered the home Thursday, "all the children were running around," Krimmel said. "Some were hiding. They were well-behaved, but scared."

The oldest girl's father, Daniel Stoltzfus, is charged with conspiracy of statutory sexual assault and

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children endangerment. His wife, Savilla Stoltzfus, is charged with endangering the welfare of a child. The couple and Kaplan were being held in lieu of \$1 million bail. Court documents don't list attorneys for them.

WPVI-TV reported that the Stoltzfuses 19-year-old son, John, told the station at the house Friday night that his folks are "good parents."

Heckler said the children apparently did not attend school and it was unclear if they had ever been to a doctor, but they didn't appear to be in bad health and showed no visible signs of trauma.

Another neighbor, Bob Greenfield, said Kaplan seemed "weird" and he now wishes that he also had called authorities.

"You knew something was wrong," he said. "It makes you feel bad. If I had said something a while ago, they would have come earlier."

The Philadelphia Inquirer reported that the Stoltzfuses were born into the Amish faith, but renounced it amid a long fight with community elders, according to a federal lawsuit they filed in 2009 against their former church. The lawsuit, which was dismissed later that year, said they operated a metalworking business on their property.

Heckler said the children are now together in protective custody.

Today in History The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Sunday, June 19, the 171st day of 2016. There are 195 days left in the year. This is Father's Day.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 19, 1910, the first-ever Father's Day was celebrated in Spokane, Washington. (The idea for the observance is credited to Sonora Louise Smart Dodd.)

On this date:

In 1764, Jose Gervasio Artigas, considered the father of Uruguayan independence, was born in Montevideo.

In 1865, Union troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, with news that the Civil War was over, and that all remaining slaves in Texas were free — an event celebrated to this day as "Juneteenth."

In 1934, the Federal Communications Commission was created; it replaced the Federal Radio Commission.

In 1944, during World War II, the two-day Battle of the Philippine Sea began, resulting in a decisive victory for the Americans over the Japanese.

In 1953, Julius Rosenberg, 35, and his wife, Ethel, 37, convicted of conspiring to pass U.S. atomic secrets to the Soviet Union, were executed at Sing Sing Prison in Ossining, New York.

In 1964, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 was approved by the U.S. Senate, 73-27, after surviving a lengthy filibuster.

In 1966, actor-comedian Ed Wynn, 79, died in Beverly Hills, California.

In 1972, Hurricane Agnes, blamed for at least 122 deaths, made landfall over the Florida Panhandle.

In 1975, former Chicago organized crime boss Sam Giancana was shot to death in the basement of his home in Oak Park, Illinois; the killing has never been solved.

In 1986, University of Maryland basketball star Len Bias, the first draft pick of the Boston Celtics, suffered a fatal cocaine-induced seizure. Artificial heart recipient Murray P. Haydon died in Louisville, Kentucky, after 16 months on the manmade pump.

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In 1991, actress Jean Arthur died in Carmel, California, at age 90.

In 1999, author Stephen King was seriously injured when he was struck by a van driven by Bryan Smith in North Lovell, Maine. Britain's Prince Edward married commoner Sophie Rhys-Jones (rees johnz) in Windsor, England.

Ten years ago: Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice warned North Korea it would face consequences if it test-fired a missile thought to be powerful enough to reach the West Coast of the United States. Louisiana Gov. Kathleen Blanco said she would send National Guard troops and state police to patrol the streets of New Orleans after a bloody weekend in which six people were killed. The Carolina Hurricanes won their first Stanley Cup with a 3-1 victory over the Edmonton Oilers in Game 7.

Five years ago: Libya's government said NATO warplanes had struck a residential neighborhood in the capital and killed nine civilians, including two children; NATO confirmed hours later that one of its airstrikes had gone astray. Rory McIlroy ran away with the U.S. Open title, winning by eight shots and breaking the tournament scoring record by a whopping four strokes. (McIlroy shot 2-under 69 to close the four days at Congressional in Bethesda, Maryland, at 16-under 268.) Alyssa Campanella of Los Angeles won the Miss USA pageant in Las Vegas.

One year ago: The Obama administration released its annual terrorism report which said Iran's support for international terrorist groups had remained undiminished in the last year and even expanded in some respects. Alex Rodriguez of the New York Yankees homered for his 3,000th career hit, becoming the 29th player in major league history to reach that milestone. (The Yankees beat the Detroit Tigers 7-2.) Author James Salter, 90, died in Sag Harbor, New York.

Today's Birthdays: Pop singer Tommy DeVito (The Four Seasons) is 88. Actress Gena (JEH'-nuh) Rowlands is 86. Hall of Fame race car driver Shirley Muldowney is 76. Singer Spanky McFarlane (Spanky and Our Gang) is 74. Nobel peace laureate Aung San Suu Kyi (soo chee) is 71. Author Salman Rushdie is 69. Actress Phylicia Rashad is 68. Rock singer Ann Wilson (Heart) is 66. Musician Larry Dunn is 63. Actress Kathleen Turner is 62. Country singer Doug Stone is 60. Singer Mark DeBarge is 57. Singer-dancer-choreographer Paula Abdul is 54. Actor Andy Lauer is 53. Rock singer-musician Brian Vander Ark (Verve Pipe) is 52. Actor Samuel West is 50. Actress Mia Sara is 49. TV personality Lara Spencer is 47. Rock musician Brian "Head" Welch is 46. Actor Jean Dujardin is 44. Actress Robin Tunney is 44. Actor Bumper Robinson is 42. Actress Poppy Montgomery is 41. Alt-country singer-musician Scott Avett (AY'-veht) (The Avett Brothers) is 40. Actor Ryan Hurst is 40. Actress Zoe Saldana is 38. Actress Lauren Lee Smith is 36. Rapper Macklemore (Macklemore and Ryan Lewis) is 33. Actor Paul Dano is 32. Actor Giacomo Gianniotti is 27. Actor Atticus Shaffer is 18.

Thought for Today: "Becoming a father is easy enough, but being one can be tough." — Wilhelm Busch, German illustrator and poet (1832-1908).