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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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Monday, July 11

Couples Golf Night at Olive Grove
Senior Menu: Goulash, green beans, apple crisp, whole wheat bread.
Anniversaries: Roger & Marjorie Overacker •
Anniv: Rick & Sherry Koehler
Birthdays: Rebecca Clocksene • Rhonda Fliehs • Richard Nehls
6:30am: Emmanuel Lutheran Bible Study
6:00pm: Amateurs at Claremont (DH)
6:00pm: Legion hosts Northville (2)
6:00pm: U12 Softball hosts Warner (DH)
6:00pm: U8 Softball hosts Warner
7:00pm: U10 Softball hosts Warner
7:30pm: Groton School Board Meeting

Tuesday, July 12

Senior Menu: Baked pork chop, mixed veggies, pineapple strawberry ambrosia, whole wheat bread
Anniv: Brent & Christi Swenson • Collin & Deb Gengerke
Birthdays: Rod Kluess • Braden Freeman • Ashtyn Kay Bahr • Jerica Locke
10:00am: United Methodist Women's Bible Study
12:00pm: Bridge at Olive Grove
5:00pm: T-Ball Black hosts Claremont
6:00pm: Laides Night at Olive Grove
7:00pm: Emmanuel Lutheran Church Council

Wednesday, July 13

Senior Menu: Ranch chicken, boiled potato, green beans, cake with strawberries, whole wheat bread.

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.

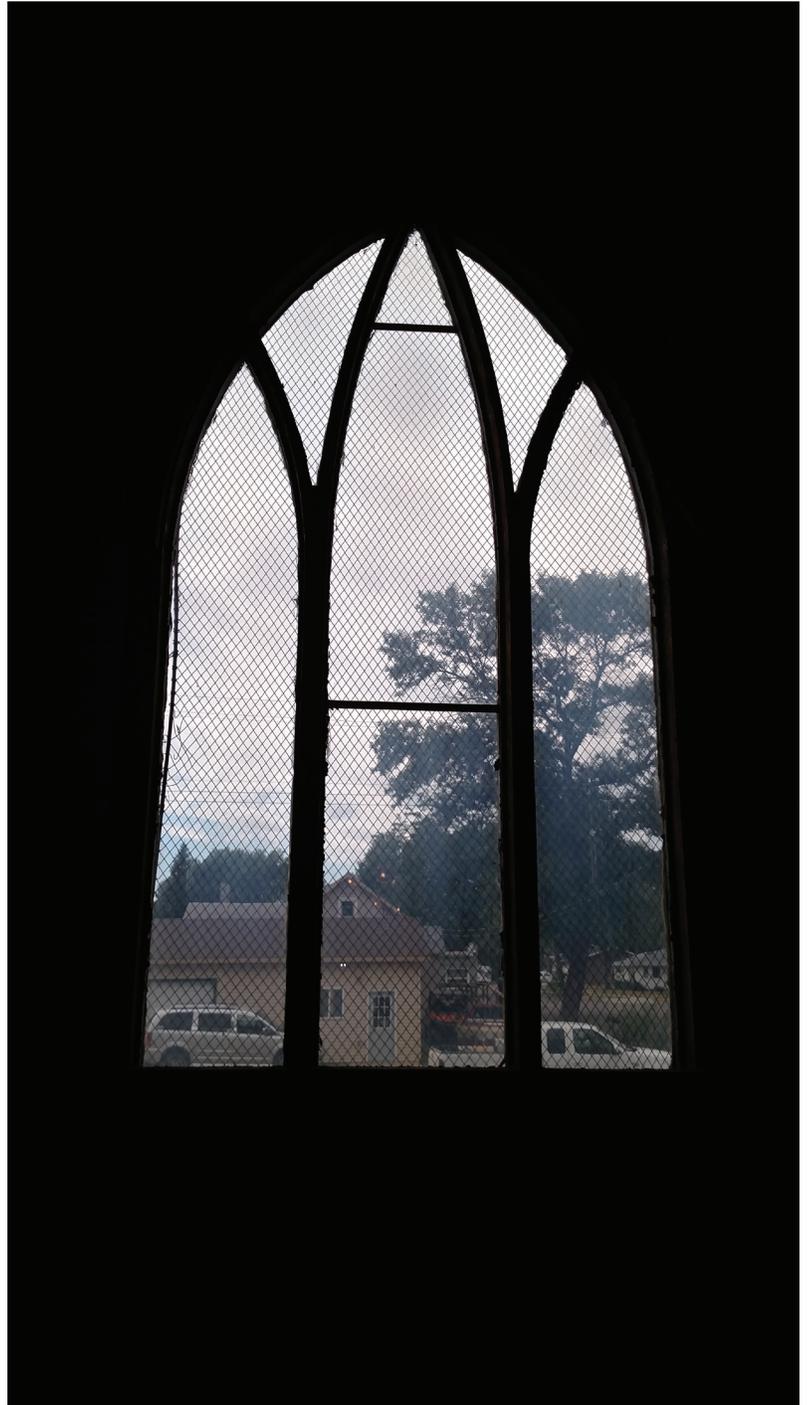
Oakes, N.D.
701-742-3401



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The window at the historic Trinity Church in Groton has a much different look right now. The stained glass window was removed last week and they were safely delivered to their studio in Winona, Minn. (Photo by Betty Breck)



Death Notice: Donald Walter

Donald Walter, 88, of Groton fell asleep Sunday, July 10, 2016 at Golden Living Center, Groton. Services are pending with Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton.



We now accept



for out patient therapy.

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



The Life of Audrey Padfield

Services for Audrey Padfield, 91, of Groton will be 11 a.m., Tuesday, July 12, 2016 at the United Methodist Church, Groton. The Rev. Derek Baum will officiate. Burial will follow in Union Cemetery.

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

Audrey fell asleep July 8, 2016 at Golden Living Center, Groton.

Audrey Florene was born on May 11, 1925 in Cresbard, SD to Troy Guy and Mary (Nash) Matthews. She attended school in Cresbard through the 7th grade when the family moved to Conde. Following her graduation from Conde High School in 1942, she worked in the Conde restaurant and Wagner Drug Store. On April 26, 1945, she was united in marriage with Arthur Zell Padfield in Webster. The couple moved to rural Putney in 1946 and were blessed with 7 children. In 1965, they moved into Groton and Audrey worked part-time for Pilgrim Cleaners. After Arthur's passing on January 18, 2006, Audrey remained in Groton. She became a resident of Golden Living Center in 2014.

Audrey was a member of the United Methodist Church, Groton, where she was active in the UMW. She was honored with the Jewel of a Woman Award in 2012. In earlier years, Audrey was a 25 year 4-H Leader and belonged to the Women of the Moose Lodge. She was a charter member of the ABC card club, and was active in the Putney Ladies Aid. She and her husband were members of the Senior Citizens and had delivered Meals on Wheels for many years. Audrey was currently serving as President of the Golden Living Center Resident Council. She was also a 30 year member of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program.

Celebrating her life are her children: Rose Marie (Doug) Krueger of Alberta, MN, Judy (Don) Burdick of Huron, Karen (Al) Backman of Alberta, MN, Lea Ann (David) Alwin of Watertown, Robert (Marilu) Padfield of Alberta, MN, John Padfield of Aberdeen, 11 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were her parents, an infant brother, her husband of 60 years, and infant son and one daughter, Linda Padfield.

Casketbearers will be Rebecca Coverdale, Dan Krueger, Tammie Eggebraaten, Ann Diehl, Steven Burdick, Joshua Backman, Jessica Backman, Erin Alwin, Ryan Alwin and Evan Alwin.

Six Basics to Consider Before Investing with a Robo Advisor

By Nathaniel Sillin

You're looking to grow your money, but you're not quite sure how to get started.

Should you go robo?

Robo advisor, that is. A robo advisor is a digital investment management service that allows you to input your funds, financial data and investment preferences online and designs algorithm-based recommendations based on your responses. While a human advisor may charge one percent or more of your invested assets to help you manage your money, robo advisors typically charge only a fraction of that amount in management fees. Some allow you to open an account with only a few dollars, and others don't even require a minimum deposit to open an account.

Major investment firms have entered the growing robo advisor market with their own computerized services. As new advisor options emerge and evolve quickly, it's a good idea to consider all options carefully. Examine the services industry experts (<http://www.investopedia.com/articles/personal-finance/011916/5-best-roboadvisors-investors-2016.asp>) provide to know what you should look for in an advisor.

Here are some considerations to factor into your research on robo advisors as you evaluate whether they are right for your needs.

1. Reasonable management fees and small initial investments. Robo funds often have preset investment choices based on client questionnaires about risk tolerance and investment goals, and they typically charge lower fees than human advisors. Human advisors may charge upwards of one percent of all the money you have in your account, while robo advisor pricing options are typically a fraction of that.

2. The best robo advisor sites are streamlined and simple. Good robo advisor sites provide clearly organized, straightforward advice. For example, one of the leading robo advisor sites makes sure you have an emergency fund in place before you start selecting investments. That's the kind of good financial practice you should look for in an advisor, robo or not.

3. Federal regulators are still evaluating robo advisors. The Securities and Exchange Commission has its own recommendations for investing with robo advisors, but the most important unanswered question is whether robo advisors (and the companies that own them) really exercise fiduciary responsibility by truly putting the needs of the investor first. It's essential to understand the risks involved with entrusting your investments to the robo advisor market, where restrictions and consequences are still not completely clear.

4. As major investment firms and even banks enter the market, it's likely that more diverse options in advisory services and pricing will emerge. As big investment names are starting to offer their own robo advisor options for small investors, different robo advisor providers will likely start to differentiate their marketing, services, and fees. It's always smart to shop around for the best deals and fit for you.

5. Robo advisors are no substitute for a basic personal finance education. It's easy to sign up for a robo fund or even find a fee-only financial planner, but it's still important to cultivate your own financial knowledge. Consider public resources on basic financial topics, the range of money management resources offered on Practical Money Skills for Life, or workshops at your community college or public library. Self-education is the most powerful tool for any endeavor, but it's especially essential to handling your finances.

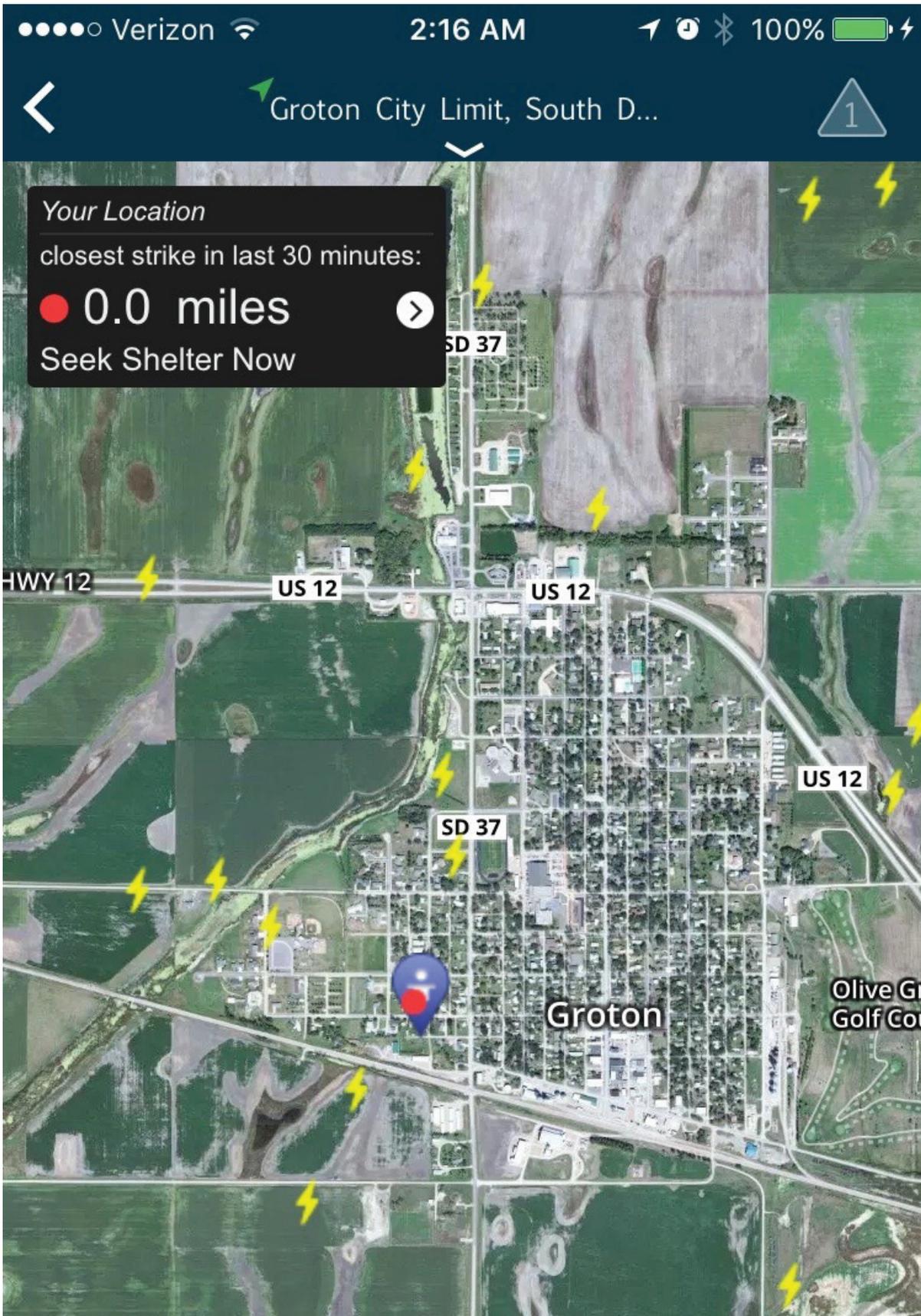
6. Robo advisors aren't capable of providing truly personalized investment advice. An algorithm can't ask countless questions about your long-time financial goals and values or answer all of your queries during a major market change. Though robo advisors provide a low-cost way to get started in investing, you won't have someone who can give you personal advice when unexpected situations arise. Before you sign up, take some time to consider how much personal assistance you think you'll need.

Bottom line: Like most computerized services, automated financial advice and investment planning will probably get more sophisticated with time. But while robo advisor services allow lower initial investments and fees, it's important to study the pros and cons first.

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

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Did you think that thunder was loud? It's probably because the lightning bolt hit very close to your house. There were several lightning strikes within the city limits this morning. This time, however, we got a lot of rain. As of 6:30 this morning, we had 1.66 inches of rain.

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We won't be needing the sprinklers for a while as the area received nearly 1.75 inches of rain this morning. This was taken Saturday morning at the SEAS Church. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

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Today in Weather History

July 11, 1909: A deadly, estimated F2 tornado moved ESE across the Simpson Park section of Big Stone City in South Dakota. A bus was thrown from the road, and the driver was killed. Two homes and several barns were destroyed. As the tornado crossed the foot of Big Stone Lake, it tore apart a railroad yard and killed four of the 26 Armenian laborers who were living in box cars at Ortonville, Minnesota. Nineteen were injured.

July 11, 1981: Severe thunderstorms moved eastward across the entire length of the South Dakota along the northern portion of the state. Hail, with the largest up to nine inches in circumference, resulted in 100 percent crop loss, damage to numerous buildings and loss of livestock. Trees were stripped, and large limbs were broken. High winds also accompanied these storms. Storms lasted into the early morning hours on the 12. Thunderhawk in Corson County had estimated winds of 70 to 75 mph that destroyed a machine shop and seven metal grain storage bins. In and around Pollock, a silo was moved three feet off the foundation. Power and telephones lines were down. Rainfall measured 2.28 inches in two hours in Pollock.

1888 - Heavy snow reached almost to the base of Mt. Washington, NH, and the peaks of the Green Mountains were whitened. (David Ludlum)

1936: From July 5-17, temperatures exceeding 111 degrees in Manitoba and Ontario claimed 1,180 lives (mostly the elderly and infants) during the longest, deadliest heat wave on record. Four hundred of these deaths were caused by people who drowned seeking refuge from the heat. In fact, the heat was so intense that steel rail lines and bridge girders twisted, sidewalks buckled, crops wilted and fruit baked on trees. Some record temperatures include; 112 degrees at St. Albans and Emerson, Manitoba, 111 at Brandon, Manitoba, 108 at Atikokan, Ontario, and Winnipeg, Manitoba.

1987 - Early morning thunderstorms produced wind gusts to 90 mph at Parkston, SD, and wind gusts to 87 mph at Buffalo, MN. Later in the day strong thunderstorm winds at Howard WI collapsed a circus tent injuring 44 persons. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Thunderstorms produced heavy rain in southern Texas, with totals ranging up to 13 inches near Medina. Two men drowned when their pick-up truck was swept into the Guadalupe River, west of the town of Hunt. Ten cities in the eastern U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date. Baltimore, MD, reported a record high reading of 102 degrees for the second day in a row. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Afternoon and evening thunderstorms produced severe weather from North Dakota to Indiana. Thunderstorms in North Dakota produced tennis ball size hail at Carson. Thunderstorms in Indiana produced wind gusts to 75 mph at Fort Wayne. Five cities in the Southern Atlantic Coast Region reported record high temperatures for the date, including Lakeland, FL, with a reading of 100 degrees. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1990: The costliest hailstorm in U.S. history occurred along the Front Range of the Colorado Rockies. (Denver, Colorado): Softball-sized hail destroyed roofs and cars, causing more than \$600 million in total damage.

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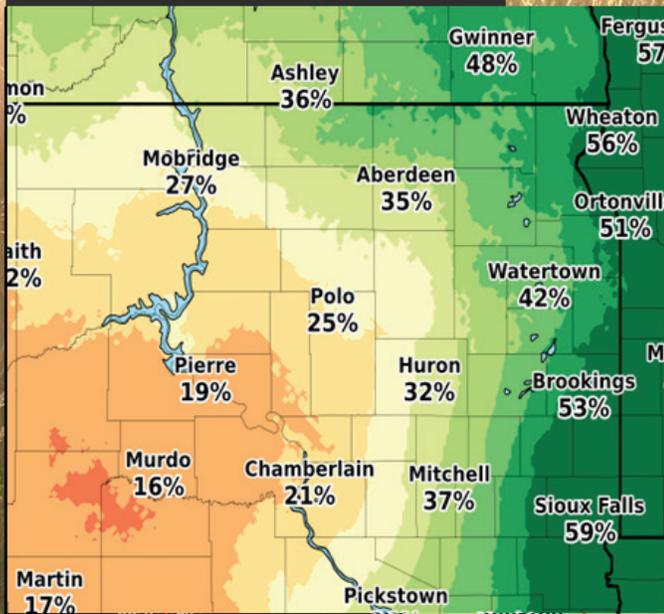
Today	Tonight	Tuesday	Tuesday Night	Wednesday	Wednesday Night	Thursday
						
70% → 20%						
T-storms Likely and Breezy then Slight Chance T-storms	Mostly Clear	Sunny and Breezy	Mostly Clear and Breezy then Mostly Clear	Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny
High: 89 °F	Low: 62 °F	High: 85 °F	Low: 59 °F	High: 82 °F	Low: 57 °F	High: 76 °F



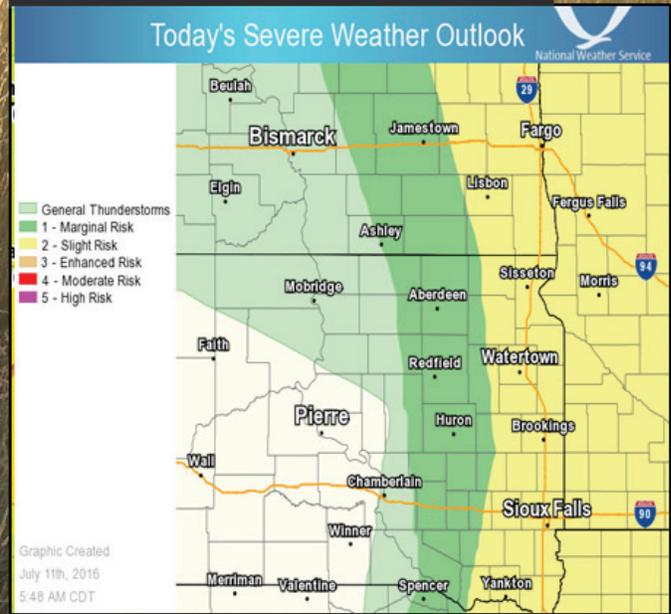
Dry Air West, Storms East



Lowest Humidity Today



Severe Weather Potential



weather.gov/Aberdeen



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen

Published on: 07/11/2016 at 5:54AM

A frontal boundary will move across the area today and be responsible for strong to perhaps severe thunderstorms later this afternoon and evening across eastern South Dakota and into Minnesota. Large hail and strong winds will be the main threats. Drier air will move in behind this front, especially over western and central South Dakota. Humidity will drop down to around 20 percent or less this afternoon over southwest and south central South Dakota. This low humidity combined with gusty west winds will bring very high to extreme fire danger.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 86.4 F at 3:16 PM

Heat Index: 93.0 at 3:03 PM

Low Outside Temp: 64.0 F at 4:19 AM

High Gust: 26.0 Mph at 4:47 AM

Precip: 1.66

Today's Info

Record High: 110° in 1930

Record Low: 45 in 1941

Average High: 83°F

Average Low: 59°F

Average Precip in July: 1.18

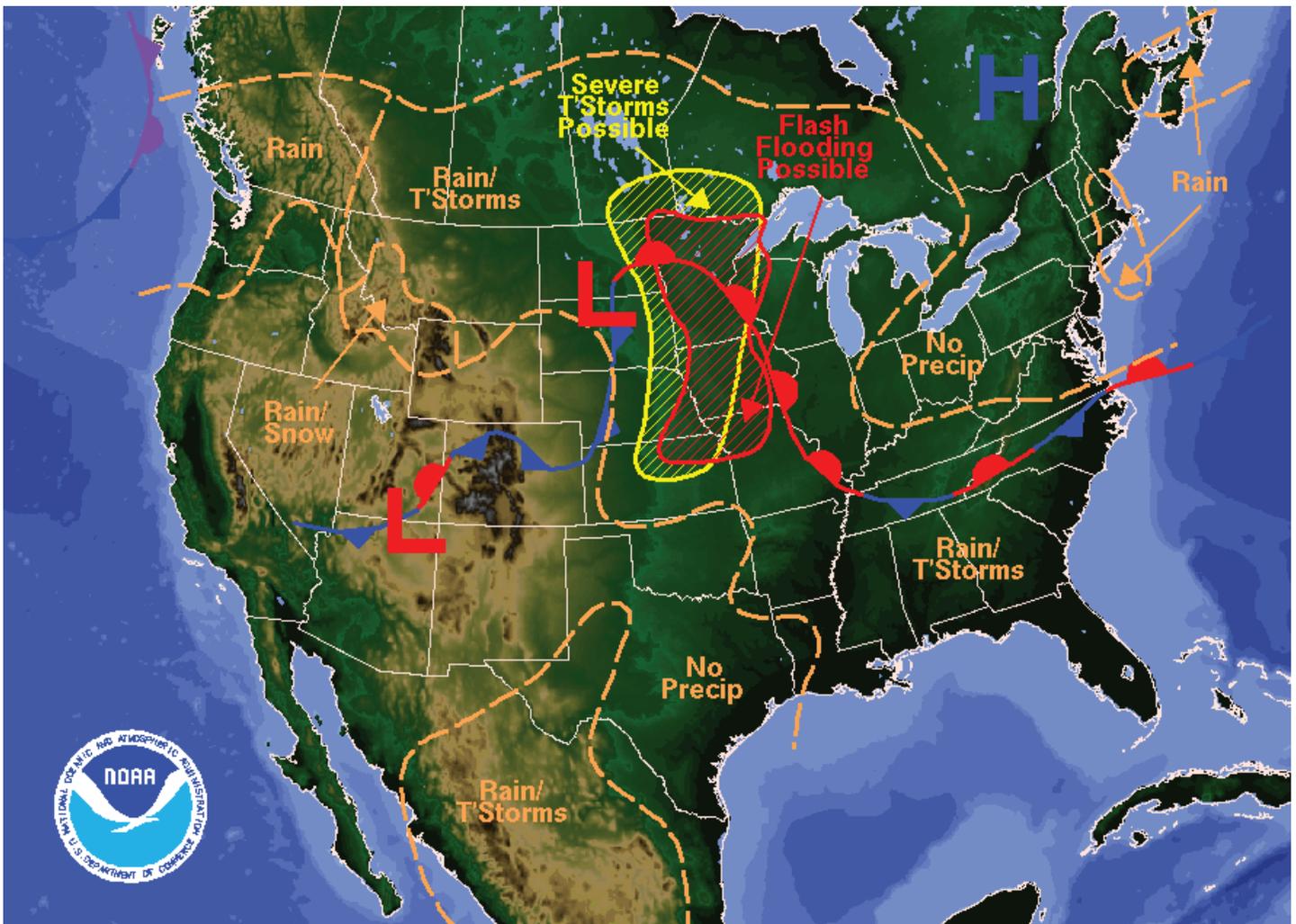
Precip to date in July: 2.39

Average Precip to date: 12.02

Precip Year to Date: 9.05

Sunset Tonight: 9:21 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:57 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Mon, Jul 11, 2016, issued 4:37 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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HIGHER! FASTER!

A drill sergeant, wanting to get his recruits in shape, was pushing them harder and harder. Yelling at them loudly he said, "Fall on your backs. Now get your legs in the air. Now, make them go in circles like you're riding a bicycle. Higher! Faster!" he shouted. But one recruit was lying quietly with his legs in a "V" position.

Walking over to where he was lying, he glared at him and demanded, "What are you doing? You are supposed to be riding a bicycle!"

"I am, Sir," said the recruit. "But right now I'm coasting downhill!"

Paul once said, "I am focusing my energies on one thing...and...I am straining to reach the end of the race and receive the prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us up to heaven." He was totally consumed with becoming who God wanted him to be so he could do what God called him to do. This took all of his energies. With the single-mindedness of an athlete in training he set aside everything that would distract him or destroy him from being an effective witness for Christ. There was no place in his training program for "coasting downhill" even if the wind was at his back.

As "saints in training" we, like Paul, must stay focused, be diligent, work earnestly, live obediently and strive constantly to receive the "prize" God has for us.

Prayer: Father, we call upon You to make us alert and aware of temptations that would limit our effectiveness. May we live disciplined, determined lives always. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: But one thing I do: ...straining toward what is ahead...I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Jesus Christ. Philippians 3:13-14

News from the Associated Press

Man drowns in Pactola Lake; recovery efforts ongoing

SILVER CITY, S.D. (AP) — Authorities in western South Dakota say a man has drowned near the dam on the east side of Pactola Lake.

Officials from several agencies were dispatched Sunday afternoon for the reported drowning, which happened after the man got out of a boat to swim. Authorities say he wasn't able to make it back to the watercraft.

The 130-foot deep water has so far impeded efforts to locate the victim, and further attempts are set to resume Monday morning. The Burleigh County Sheriff's Department will help in the recovery using a remotely operated vehicle.

Authorities aren't releasing the victim's name until his family is notified.

Authorities identify victims in motorcycle crash near Irene

IRENE, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Highway Patrol has released the name of a man who died after hitting a deer with a motorcycle near Irene.

Authorities have identified the driver as 55-year-old Scot Brockmueller of Irene.

The Highway Patrol says Brockmueller tried to avoid the deer while riding Saturday, but they collided. He and 59-year-old Vickie Brockmueller were thrown from the motorcycle.

The driver died at the scene, while Vickie Brockmueller received serious injuries that were not a threat to her life. A helicopter transported her to a Sioux Falls hospital.

The Highway Patrol says the two victims weren't wearing helmets. The crash remains under investigation.

Low grain prices encourage farmers to add storage

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota farmers have been adding grain storage in an effort to save more money by selling when grain prices rebound.

Farmers can easily make an extra 50 cents a bushel by holding grain through harvest and selling it later, Greg Trame, senior manager for grain storage for Illinois-based Grain Systems, told the Tri-State Neighbor (<http://bit.ly/29aTGCB>). "These are times that grain storage pays for itself" in two or three years, he said.

For example, a 500-acre corn crop that yields 200 bushels per acre could sell for \$3.40 at harvest or for \$3.85 in the future, accounting for a difference of \$45,000.

"This is actually an investment that will help the bottom line," Trame said.

Farmers have been building bigger grain bins as a result of the massive yields hauled in at harvest. They've also been upgrading their grain handling equipment to keep up with faster combines.

Grain bin companies are offering models that are taller with a bigger diameter, designing bins to be stronger and adding extra safety features.

The newspaper reported that safety features found at commercial grain storage facilities are being brought to the family farm, with stairs and handrails replacing ladders, and stair systems that follow the same Occupational Safety and Health Administration standards for details such as step height and handrail width.

The stairs make it easier for aging farmers to climb bins and make it safer for the family members who are working with them, according to Lane Sanderson, Grain Systems' district manager for South

Dakota and Nebraska.

"It's a good trend. It's nice to see it coming around," he said.

Man pleads not guilty to enticing minors using the internet

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota man accused of using the internet to entice minors is denying all allegations against him.

The 42-year-old Box Elder resident Christopher Michael Fox has pleaded not guilty to the charges of sexual exploitation of a minor, enticement of a minor using the internet and transfer of obscene material to a minor.

The office of U.S. Attorney Randolph Seiler says a federal indictment charges Fox with using a cell-phone and a computer to "engage in sexually explicit conduct" with girls.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Daneta Wollmann ordered Fox detained pending a detention hearing scheduled for Monday in Rapid City. A trial date has not been scheduled in his case.

Fox's attorney could not immediately be reached by phone to comment on the case.

South Dakota man gets 10 years in prison for dealing meth

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota man has been sentenced to 10 years in federal prison for his involvement in a methamphetamine ring.

The 37-year-old Darrick Bessman, of Hill City, was also ordered to follow his prison term with five years of supervised release. Bessman pleaded guilty in April to one count of conspiracy to distribute a controlled substance.

Federal authorities in court records say Bessman received "distributable quantities of methamphetamine" from Washington state beginning in the fall of 2013. They say Bessman distributed more than 500 grams — over 17 ounces — of the drug in South Dakota through September 2015.

U.S. District Court Chief Judge Jeffrey Viken ordered Bessman to serve his federal sentence at the same that he serves a sentence imposed by a state court for a drug-related conviction.

Fort Sisseton Historic State Park hosting 2 plays in July

LAKE CITY, S.D. (AP) — Fort Sisseton Historic State Park in northeast South Dakota is hosting performances of two plays throughout July.

The park and Northern State University in Aberdeen have collaborated with the Northern Fort Playhouse Foundation for 11 years to present plays at the historic fort.

This summer season, the park is hosting performances of "Making God Laugh" by Sean Grennan and the musical "The Spitfire Grill" by James Valcq.

Christopher Soukup is the park manager at the fort. He says the plays are the perfect way to see the beauty of the park and the talent of the region all in one place."

The performances are scheduled for Friday and Saturday evenings through July 22 with Sunday matinees on July 10 and 17.

Dakota Wesleyan University creates new innovation labs

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — Dakota Wesleyan University is in the process of phasing out computer labs and implementing innovation labs.

The Daily Republic (<http://bit.ly/29kllmq>) reports that the walls in each innovation lab are covered in a special paint that creates dry-erase surfaces to allow students and teachers to use dry erase markers

and erasers on the walls. The chairs in the innovation labs are mobile and flexible so students are able to move around and talk to each other in group settings.

Each innovation lab also features an 80-inch television screen that's controlled through a wireless keyboard and mouse, as well as a camera that allows the class to video chat with anyone in the world.

The first innovation lab was created in January and the school is currently creating a third.

Fighting enters 5th day in South Sudan capital

CHARLTON DOKI, Associated Press

JASON PATINKIN, Associated Press

JUBA, South Sudan (AP) — Explosions and heavy weapons gunfire are shaking South Sudan's capital Juba Monday in the fifth day of clashes between government and opposition forces, raising the specter of a return to civil war.

Widespread shooting preventing residents from moving in the city.

A "massive explosion" hit shortly after 9 a.m. followed by further blasts in the Topping area of Juba, home to embassies, the airport and a U.N. base, said an aid worker.

"It rings through the whole city every time they fire," said the aid worker, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to press. "I think one of the tanks must be near me, my ears are burning."

Explosions and "very heavy gunfire" sounding "like popcorn," was reported by a resident in the Gudele area, who insisted on anonymity for safety.

Considerable fighting has centered around the U.N. base in the Jebel area, where some 30,000 civilians have taken refuge. The opposition also has a base near Jebel and their leader also has his home there.

Two government helicopters have been bombing areas near the base while ground forces shell the base, including a camp of tens of thousands of displaced civilians, according to a source within the U.N. compound, who insisted on anonymity because he is not authorized to speak to the press. The displaced civilians are mostly of the Nuer ethnicity and sought protection from the U.N. after a series of government-led killings of Nuer in Juba in 2013 which sparked the civil war, according to an African Union commission of inquiry.

Government officials have repeatedly accused the civilians inside the U.N. bases of being rebels or rebel supporters.

U.N. peacekeepers have not fired at the troops shelling the base, said the source in the base, who accused the soldiers with U.N. blue helmets of abandoning their positions.

"U.N. peacekeepers, they even run away," he said. "They are not stopping it." U.N. peacekeepers in South Sudan are mandated to use lethal force to protect civilians under imminent threat in South Sudan.

Two U.N. peacekeepers from China were killed at the base Sunday night, according to Chinese state media. An eyewitness in the U.N. base who was not authorized to speak to the press told The Associated Press that he saw a government tank fire on a Chinese armored personnel carrier. Video broadcast on Chinese state TV showed smoke rising after the attack and Chinese peacekeepers tending to their wounded.

There were 67 injuries and 8 deaths in the U.N. base Sunday, according to an internal situation report circulated among humanitarian organizations and seen by AP. Water tanks have not been able to bring water to the tens of thousands sheltering inside the base.

The fighting in the capital began Thursday and continued through the weekend, when South Sudan

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marked its fifth anniversary of independence from Sudan. The gun battles in the capital are similar to fighting in December 2013 that sparked a two-year civil war in which tens of thousands died and displaced more than 2 million.

President Salva Kiir and former rebel leader Riek Machar, who is now vice president, signed a peace accord last year and formed a transitional coalition government. But fighting continued despite the peace agreement and the current clashes in Juba threaten to plunge the parts of South Sudan that had been relatively stable back into violence.

The renewed fighting has exposed South Sudan's ethnic divisions; Kiir's supporters are largely Dinka and Machar's followers mostly Nuer.

Many of the thousands displaced by the renewed fighting in Juba are sheltering at the two U.N. bases, a World Food Program compound and other areas, said U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs spokeswoman Matilda Moyo.

The United States told its citizens it would evacuate all non-essential staff from the country. The Canadian embassy has closed entirely, according to a message sent to its citizens. India is planning to evacuate its citizens, according to a tweet by its external affairs minister.

Global shares rise on Wall Street gain on upbeat jobs report **YURI KAGEYAMA, AP Business Writer**

TOKYO (AP) — Global shares rose Monday after Wall Street rose on a strong U.S. employment report and as investors recovered gradually from post-Brexit jitters.

KEEPING SCORE: France's CAC 40 gained 1.2 percent in early trading to 4,240.56, while Germany's DAX was up 1.4 percent at 9,766.67. Britain's FTSE 100 added 0.7 percent to 6,634.28. U.S. shares were set to drift higher with Dow futures adding nearly 0.5 percent at 18,125. S&P 500 futures were up 0.4 percent at 2,129.60.

ASIA'S DAY: Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 surged 4.0 percent to finish at 15,708.82, following a weekend election that landed the ruling coalition a resounding victory, ensuring stability and more stimulus spending. South Korea's Kospi gained 1.3 percent to 1,988.54. Hong Kong's Hang Seng rose 1.5 percent to 20,872.56, while the Shanghai Composite was up 0.2 percent at 2,994.92. Other Asian markets were also higher.

U.S. JOBS: Markets were cheered by a strong June job report out of the U.S. that sent Wall Street to nearly record highs. The Labor Department said U.S. employers added 287,000 jobs last month. That was far more than analysts expected, and after weak reports from April and May, it suggests the economy and job market haven't run out of steam. A strong American economy is a boon to Asia, which relies on exports.

THE QUOTE: "While the US equity market response is encouraging, it is important not to factor too much into one single monthly report, as more data is needed to confirm that the dismal May jobs report was an aberration," warned Stephen Innes, senior trader at OANDA Asia Pacific.

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude sank 43 cents to \$44.98 a barrel in New York. It added 27 cents to \$45.41 a barrel Friday. Brent crude, a standard for international oil prices, lost 39 cents to \$46.37 a barrel in London.

CURRENCIES: The dollar rose to 101.94 yen from 100.58 yen late last week in Asia. The euro slipped to \$1.1027 from \$1.1080.

Protests over police killings aim at occupying interstates

REBECCA SANTANA, Associated Press

MICHAEL KUNZELMAN, Associated Press

BATON ROUGE, Louisiana (AP) — Police made dozens of arrests in Louisiana's capital city during weekend protests around the country in which people angry over police killings of young black men sought to block some major interstates.

Riot police in full gear stopped a group of protesters in Baton Rouge late Sunday in their attempt to walk onto Interstate 110 in Baton Rouge, thwarting a protest tactic that social justice activists have increasingly tried in several U.S. cities.

Tensions between black citizens and police have risen since last week's killings of Alton Sterling in Baton Rouge, and Philando Castile in Minnesota by white officers, and a retaliatory attack on white police by a black sniper in Dallas that killed five officers and wounded others.

More than a thousand people left a Black Lives Matter rally in Memphis, Tennessee, and walked up a bridge over the Mississippi River on Sunday night, temporarily blocking all traffic on Interstate 40.

At a West Coast protest, hundreds of people poured into the streets of in Southern California late Sunday night, blocking traffic for several minutes on the 405 Freeway. Authorities told the Los Angeles Times there were no arrests and no reports of violence.

Elsewhere, hundreds blocked a segment of Interstate 94 in Minneapolis-St. Paul on Saturday. And hundreds also blocked motorists recently on part of Interstate 264 in Portsmouth, Virginia. Demonstrators have also tried but failed in recent days to block highways in Atlanta and Columbia, South Carolina.

Some government and law enforcement officials have been outspoken in seeking to discourage protesters from blocking traffic.

"While I appreciate the peaceful intent of this weekend's rallies, I'd ask that we not put our fellow citizens or law enforcement at risk — which is exactly what attempting to block highways does," South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley said in a statement.

In Louisiana, some 2,000 people rallied peacefully Sunday outside the Capitol building, State Police Maj. Doug Cain said, calling that initial protest "very organized and peaceful."

Then, by Sunday night, a few hundred people aimed for an on-ramp of Interstate 110 in Baton Rouge. After a lengthy standoff, helmeted police in riot gear moved in, pinning some of the protesters as others fled. Some 30 to 40 people were taken into custody for trying to block a highway, sheriff's spokeswoman Casey Rayborn Hicks said.

Video footage showed officers reaching into a crowd and pulling individuals away.

The arrests brought the count to more than 160 taken into custody in recent days in the Louisiana capital. One officer was hit by a projectile and injured in the weekend protests, authorities said.

Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards said late Sunday he was "very proud" of his state's law enforcement response. Speaking at a news conference, Edwards said he didn't believe using riot gear to push protesters away from highway ramps was overly aggressive.

"I can assure everyone we are hearing the protesters," the governor said. "We are listening to their voices. But I'm especially gratified that our citizens here in Louisiana, to a very large degree, have decided to protest in a constructive and peaceful manner."

A Baton Rouge police spokesman, Sgt. Don Coppola, had blamed the large number of arrests on outside agitators. Police have confiscated three rifles, three shotguns and two pistols during that protest, he wrote in an email.

But most of those detained live in and around Baton Rouge and neighboring New Orleans and faced a single charge of obstructing a highway, the sheriff's spokeswoman Hicks said.

Some of the recent demonstrations in Baton Rouge began at the convenience store where 37-year-old Alton Sterling was killed while two police subdued him. The U.S. Justice Department has launched a civil rights investigation.

China intensifies opposition ahead of South China Sea ruling

GILLIAN WONG, Associated Press

JIM GOMEZ, Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — China has intensified the drumbeat of its opposition to an international tribunal's ruling expected Tuesday that could threaten its expansive claims in the South China Sea.

How Beijing responds to the ruling in the case filed by U.S. ally the Philippines could chart the course of global power relations in an increasingly dangerous hotspot. It comes as the U.S. has ramped up its military presence in the region and could seek to marshal world opinion to pressure Beijing into complying with the verdict. A new Philippine leader who appears friendlier to Beijing could also influence the aftermath of the ruling.

The Hague-based tribunal will decide on the 2013 case that challenges the so-called nine-dash line that China uses to claim virtually the entire South China Sea and which Manila opposes because it infringes upon its own 200-mile exclusive economic zone. The dispute centers on waters through which an estimated \$5 trillion in global trade passes through each year and are home to rich fishing stocks and a potential wealth of oil, gas and other resources.

The Philippines has also asked the tribunal to rule on whether several disputed areas are outcrops, reefs or islands, a move aimed at clarifying the extent of territorial waters they are entitled to or if they can project exclusive economic zones.

More than merely about the sovereignty over the rocks and reefs or the actual waters, the South China Sea dispute has become a testing ground for a rising China to challenge the U.S.'s leadership in the Asian strategic order, analysts say.

Beijing wants to use this dispute to show how "China's own growing maritime power and its economic significance to the United States and the global economy have reached the point where the United States can no longer afford to stand up to China," said Hugh White, professor of strategic studies at The Australian National University. "That calculation might prove to be wrong."

China has boycotted the case, arguing that the tribunal has no jurisdiction and saying it won't accept the ruling. It has insisted that bilateral talks between Beijing and other claimants is the only way to address the dispute.

Some experts have speculated that China could respond to an unfavorable ruling by establishing an air defense identification zone over all or part of the South China Sea. There is similar speculation that China might militarize a reef off the Philippine coast, the Scarborough Shoal, where a standoff with China prompted the Philippines to initiate the tribunal case in 2013. Beijing has given no direct indication of a tougher response, saying it remains committed to bilateral negotiations with Manila.

Tuesday's ruling might further pressure China to clarify what exactly it is claiming with its "nine-dash line" boundary.

Findings of the tribunal are binding on the parties, including China. But the court - without police or military forces or a system of sanctions at its disposal - can't enforce its ruling, so its potential impact remains unclear.

Still, in recent weeks, China has spared no effort to denounce the proceedings as unlawful, publishing state media commentaries and deploying senior military officers, current and former top officials and academics to relentlessly convey Beijing's opposition. On Monday, the day before the verdict, the

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overseas edition of the ruling Communist Party's mouthpiece, the People's Daily, urged the Philippines to return to talks with China and the U.S. to stay out of the dispute.

The arbitration outcome, known as an "award," was dismissed by former Chinese state councilor Dai Bingguo, in a conference in Washington, D.C., last week, as "nothing more than a piece of paper."

Beijing has faced mounting calls to observe international law. At a U.S. congressional hearing last week, Abraham Denmark, deputy assistant secretary of defense for East Asia, urged both parties to comply with the ruling. Denmark said it was a chance to determine whether the region's future will be defined by adherence to international laws or by "raw calculations of power."

China might use strong rhetoric but not take aggressive action to avoid having the topic dominate the agenda at upcoming multilateral forums, said Bonnie Glaser, senior adviser for Asia at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, D.C.

Glaser said Chinese officials she's spoken to say privately they hope the case would not rule entirely in the Philippines' favor so that Beijing can say in internal discussions that Chinese interests have not been "irreparably harmed."

A key factor that could change the equation of the consequences of this ruling is how the Philippines' new President Rodrigo Duterte decides to respond. His predecessor Benigno Aquino III's government filed the case, straining Manila's relations with Beijing, but Duterte has shown readiness to mend frosty ties with China.

While Duterte has made critical remarks against the U.S., he has pointed out the benefits of nurturing friendly relations with Beijing, including a Chinese offer of financing railway projects in the Philippines. Duterte's rise has given China an opening to make inroads in one of America's closest security allies.

Last week, Duterte said his government stood ready to talk to China if it gets a favorable ruling. "When it's favorable to us, let's talk," he said. "We are not prepared to go to war, war is a dirty word."

It remains to be seen, however, how far Duterte can stray from Manila's critical stance on China's territorial assertiveness, given his country's close ties with the U.S. and growing nationalist sentiment against China's actions.

Jay Batongbacal, an expert on South China Sea issues at the state-run University of the Philippines, said the government should avoid revealing its cards ahead of potential negotiations with Beijing, "otherwise you lose the leverage that you have."

Left-wing activists protested at the Chinese consulate in metropolitan Manila on Monday, urging China to leave what they said were other countries' territories.

"We're calling on our brothers in Southeast Asia that this call for a 'Chexit,' or China exit, now is not only for Filipinos but for all to call on China to respect our territorial integrity," said protest leader Mong Palatino.

U.S. Defense Secretary Ash Carter called his Philippine counterpart, Delfin Lorenzana, Monday to reaffirm the strength of their countries' decades-long treaty alliance. They discussed the arbitration issue "and agreed to consult closely as the ruling is announced," according to a statement issued by the Philippine Department of National Defense.

Experts say the outcome of the dispute could provide ammunition for other countries involved in disputes with China. Six governments have overlapping territorial claims in the South China Sea - China, Vietnam, the Philippines, Taiwan, Malaysia and Brunei. In addition, China's nine-dash line overlaps waters that are part of Indonesia's internationally recognized exclusive economic zone.

"This is a time for China not to keep pushing forward too aggressively because they could embolden Vietnam and Indonesia to file a case as well," Glaser said.

Regardless, the ruling is unlikely to stop China from continuing to pursue more effective control over

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the sea space and airspace of the South China Sea, Glaser said.

Over the last few months, the U.S. has held combined exercises by two Navy aircraft carrier strike groups off the coast of the Philippines and freedom of navigation cruises near China's man-made islands to assert its presence in the Western Pacific. Chinese state media have accused Washington of trying to turn the South China Sea "into a powder keg" and warned it not to underestimate China's determination to defend its territorial claims.

Chinese warships, fighter jets and submarines have held live-fire war games as part of what the People's Liberation Army Navy called routine exercises in the week running up to the tribunal's ruling, drills that were seen at least in part responding to the U.S. presence.

"There's a real game of nerves going on here with China perhaps assuming that the U.S. is bluffing and the U.S. hoping that China will actually not test American resolve," Australian National University's White said.

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. GUNMAN IN DEADLY ATTACK ON DALLAS POLICE HAD PLANS FOR LARGER ASSAULT

Micah Johnson possessed enough explosive material to inflict far greater harm, the city's police chief and a top elected official said.

2. PROTESTERS AROUND THE US BLOCK MAJOR FREEWAYS TO PROTEST POLICE SHOOTINGS OF BLACK MEN

Police in riot gear kept protesters from entering a major artery in Baton Rouge and made dozen of arrests.

3. HOW OPEN-CARRY LAW POSED CHALLENGE TO POLICE DURING DALLAS SNIPER ATTACK

The presence of many armed individuals caused instant confusion, a scenario that some law enforcement officials predicted when Texas approved the open carry-law earlier this year.

4. WHAT OBAMA WILL FACE WHEN HE RETURNS FROM ABROAD AND VISITS DALLAS

He will try to help Americans make sense of shootings that have emerged as a tipping point in the national debate about race and justice.

5. HEAVY EXPLOSIONS SHAKE SOUTH SUDAN'S CAPITAL AS FIGHTING ENTERS FIFTH DAY

An Associated Press reporter in Juba reported widespread shooting preventing residents from moving around.

6. NORTH KOREA VOWS TO END DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATION CHANNEL WITH US

The North hinted at harsher punishment for Americans detained in the country in retaliation for U.S. sanctions that target leader Kim Jong Un.

7. CARTER SAYS THE US WILL USE AIRBASE IN IRAQI CITY AS BASE TO RECAPTURE MOSUL

The U.S. defense chief spoke after landing in Baghdad on an unannounced visit Monday.

8. HOW PORTUGAL STUNNED FRANCE TO WIN EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

The Portuguese did it the hard way after playing without an injured Ronaldo from the 25th minute through extra time.

9. AEROSMITH GUITARIST JOE PERRY HOSPITALIZED AFTER BECOMING ILL AT NYC CONCERT

An administrator at Coney Island Hospital confirmed the 65-year-old Perry is undergoing tests.

10. WHO MADE THE US WOMEN'S OLYMPIC GYMNASTICS TEAM

Three-time world champion Simone Biles will be joined by defending Olympic champion Gabby Douglas, three-time Olympic medalist Aly Raisman and newcomers Madison Kocian and Laurie Hernandez.

Dallas sniper victims included fathers, volunteers, veterans

The Associated Press

They were spouses and parents. They volunteered in schools and at church. And they had sworn to serve and protect.

The five officers killed in Thursday's sniper attack in Dallas are being remembered for their character and service to others.

The attack also injured at least nine officers and two civilians. Here's a closer look at the victims:

A COPS' COP

Michael Smith, 55, once received a "Cops' Cop" award from the Dallas Police Association.

The police sergeant's positive attitude impressed those around him.

The pastor of a church where Smith worked security remembered him as professional and compassionate.

"It genuinely troubled him when he saw people treated as objects or when protocol got in the way of personal care," Pastor Todd Wagner of Watermark Community Church in Dallas said in a statement.

Father Michael Forge, pastor at Mary Immaculate Catholic Church, notified parishioners of Smith's death in an email. Smith, his wife, Heidi, and their two daughters were part of the parish in Farmers Branch, north of Dallas.

"I'm asking all of us to pull together in prayer and support for the Smith family, as well as the other officers' families," Forge wrote.

Smith was a U.S. Army Ranger before joining the Dallas Police Department in 1989. He volunteered at his church and the YMCA, according to a 2009 article in the Dallas Police Association's newsletter.

The article described him as conscientious, noting he often attended advanced training on his own dime.

In one incident, he was cut on the head when he intervened as a gang member lunged at his partner, the article said. Smith received 31 stitches.

"He's just a really nice guy. He loved his wife, loved his daughters. He spent time with his family," Vanessa Smith, a friend of the officer's wife, told The Associated Press.

BIG MAN, BIG HEART

There was a lot of Lorne Ahrens to love.

His size — 6-foot-5, 300 pounds — could intimidate, but his character was kindness.

The day before Ahrens, 48, was killed, he bought a homeless man dinner and encouraged fellow officers to greet the man, Jorge Barrientos, another Dallas police officer who was wounded, told the Dallas Morning News.

Ahrens volunteered, in uniform, at the school his 8-year-old and 10-year-old attended, said his mother-in-law, Karen Buckingham.

He was married to the law — his wife, Detective Katrina Ahrens, also worked on the Dallas force.

On Thursday night, Buckingham and her husband stayed with their grandchildren while Katrina Ahrens rushed to the hospital.

Lorne Ahrens was already out of surgery when Katrina Ahrens arrived, her father, Charlie Buckingham, told the Washington Post. Then something went wrong. Doctors had to take him back in, and he died, Charlie Buckingham said.

The former semi-pro football player rose from dispatcher at the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Depart-

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ment to become a senior corporal on the Dallas police force.

"Lorne was a big guy with an even bigger heart," Los Angeles County Sheriff's Capt. Merrill Ladenheim said in a department Facebook post.

Former sheriff's department colleagues described Ahrens as an incredible dispatcher who always looked out for the patrol deputies.

He began work at the department in 1991 and left for Dallas in January 2002.

NEWLYWED STARTING SECOND FAMILY

Brent Thompson, 43, was an officer with the Dallas Area Rapid Transit authority for the past seven years. There he found love, marrying another transit officer within the past two weeks, DART Chief James Spiller said.

On Thursday, he became the first DART officer killed in the line of duty since the agency's police force was founded in 1989, spokesman Morgan Lyons said.

Thompson had six grown children from a previous marriage and recently welcomed his third grandchild, according to Tara Thornton, a close friend of Thompson's 22-year-old daughter, Lizzie.

Thompson and his close-knit family often got together and had classic rock singalongs, with Thornton and his son, Jake, playing guitar, Thornton said. He lived an hour's drive south of Dallas, in Corsicana.

"He loved being a police officer," Thornton said. "He instantly knew that's what he wanted to do. He knew he wanted to save lives and protect people."

Before joining the DART force, Thompson worked from 2004 to 2008 for private military contractor DynCorp International. According to Thompson's LinkedIn page, he served as an international police liaison officer, helping teach and mentor Iraqi police.

NAVY VETERAN WITH AN URGE TO SERVE

Patrick Zamarripa had an urge to serve — first in the Navy, where his family said he did three tours in Iraq, then back home in Texas as a Dallas police officer.

"He went over there (to Iraq) and didn't get hurt at all, and he comes back to the states and gets killed," his father, Rick Zamarripa, told The Associated Press by phone Friday.

The elder Zamarripa described his son as hugely compassionate.

"Patrick would bend over backward to help anybody," Rick Zamarripa said.

Zamarripa, who would have turned 33 next month, was married with a 2-year-old daughter and 10-year-old stepson. He joined the Navy shortly after high school in Fort Worth, serving eight years on active duty and then in the reserves, according to the Navy.

Zamarripa returned to Texas in 2009. He joined the Dallas force about five years ago and recently was assigned to downtown bicycle patrols, his father said.

Rick Zamarripa recently put his son in touch with an in-law who works elsewhere in government, hoping his son might leave behind the force and its risks.

"No, I want to stay here," was the reply, according to his father. "I like the action."

NEVER SHIED FROM DUTY

Michael Krol, 40, was a caring person who always wanted to help others, his mother said.

"He knew the danger of the job, but he never shied away from his duty," Susan Ehlke of Redford, Michigan, said in a statement the day after her son was killed.

Krol's family said he moved to Dallas to become a police officer in 2007 because Detroit wasn't hiring. He had worked security at a local hospital, then was a deputy at the Wayne County jail. He graduated

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from the Dallas Police Academy in 2008.

Family members told the Detroit Free Press that Krol was single with no children but had a girlfriend in Dallas. He texted her the night of the protest saying everything was going peacefully.

"He was a guy that was serving others," said Brian Schoenbaechler, Krol's brother-in-law. "And he gave his life in service of others."

'WE NEED TO LOVE EACH OTHER'

Wounded by a bullet and shrapnel, Officer Jorge Barrientos is most concerned with the healing of his Dallas police force and the community at large.

"Whether it's law enforcement, lawyers, teachers, at the end of the day, we're all humans," Barrientos told the Dallas Morning News. "We need to love each other and stop the hate."

Barrientos, 28, has been on the force for four years. Barrientos, who was shot in the hand and hit in the chest by shrapnel, was released from the hospital Friday.

He told The Associated Press on Sunday that he never saw the gunman, just heard a single gunshot as he and his colleagues were finishing directing traffic away from protesters.

The shot hit Officer Michael Krol, who stood a few feet away from Barrientos. Then the bullets began to fly.

Barrientos dropped to the ground, trying to make his way toward Krol and to get cover. Not far away, two other officers lay shot and bleeding.

What followed were long, desperate moments to try and save his fellow officers from dying. Ultimately, three died, including Krol.

"I don't know how I made it out alive," Barrientos said Sunday as he recovered at home.

INJURED DART OFFICER RELEASED FROM HOSPITAL

Dallas Area Rapid Transit Officer Elmar Cannon was released from the hospital Saturday after being treated for unspecified injuries.

The 44-year-old joined the force in 2009, the transit agency said. It provided no further details. Attempts to reach Cannon have been unsuccessful.

'READY TO GET BACK OUT THERE'

From her hospital room, DART Officer Misty McBride told loved ones the day after she was struck by gunfire that she just wanted to return to work.

"She's ready to get back out there," her friend Wendy Carson said Friday after visiting the officer and her family. "She's a very, very strong woman."

DART says McBride was discharged from the hospital Saturday evening.

McBride, an officer and mother of a 10-year-old girl, was struck by bullets in her abdomen and arm, her father said.

"I'm just glad that she's alive, really," her daughter, Hunter, told reporters outside the hospital. "I said that 'I love you' and that 'I'm glad you're here.'"

Carson described McBride as a dedicated officer who often speaks with excitement about learning new policing skills.

"She is always willing to protect and serve, even off duty," Carson said.

SHOT PROTECTING SON

Shetamia Taylor, who was wounded when she threw herself over her son during the attack at the protest march, she would attend another demonstration to show her boys that she's not a quitter.

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Taylor, an Amazon employee, had attended the march with her four sons — ages 12, 13, 15 and 17. Speaking Sunday from a Dallas hospital, she thanked police for protecting her in the chaos that erupted Thursday night. She says officers shielded her as bullets whizzed through the air around them.

"I never had an issue with police officers," she said. "If anything, it made my admiration for them greater."

Taylor, who is black, said she went to the march to protest the killings of black men by police in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, outside St. Paul, Minnesota, and in previous encounters between blacks and police.

Taylor said she and her sons were getting ready to leave when they heard two shots and saw an officer fall. "As he was going down, he said, 'He has a gun. Run,'" she recalled.

As they fled, she felt a bullet hit her in the back of the leg. She said she tackled her 15-year-old son and "laid on top of him."

An officer then jumped on top of them. "And there was another one at our feet. And there was another one over our heads. And there were several of them lined against the wall," she said. "And they stayed there with us. And I saw another officer get shot right in front of me."

Two of her other sons escaped through a parking garage, while the fourth fled the gunfire with another woman he didn't know.

Taylor suffered a bad fracture of her tibia just below her right knee, one of her doctors said.

GAY OFFICER PUSHED FOR CHANGE

When his marriage wasn't legally recognized, Dallas Area Rapid Transit Officer Jesus Retana helped change the way DART treats same-sex partners of its employees.

Retana, 39, joined the agency's force in April 2006. He and his husband, Andrew Moss, worked with a gay rights group called the Resource Center to win benefits for same-sex partners of DART employees.

Moss lobbied for the benefits after an illness made him too sick to work and the Resource Center took up the fight, the Dallas Morning News reported in 2012.

Moss told the newspaper Retana is open about his relationship at work, and his colleagues support him.

Resource Center communications manager Rafael McDonnell called Retana a friend and said he was recovering after leaving the hospital, where he received treatment for unspecified injuries.

RECOVERING OFFICER REFLECTS ON TENSIONS

Ivan Saldana was among the Dallas police officers directing traffic downtown during the protest when the shots rang out.

By Saturday, Saldana was up walking around his home, recovering from a shrapnel wound to his right leg.

"Everything happened so quickly, but at the same time, everything was so slow," Saldana, 44, told The Dallas Morning News.

During a pause in the bullets, Saldana realized he couldn't find Officer Gretchen Rocha, a rookie he was assigned to look after. It turned out she was rushing another officer to the hospital, even after she herself was wounded. Saldana says Rocha did a good job.

A 15-year veteran of the Dallas Police Department, Saldana has felt the simmering tension between police and civilians for a while.

He said these are difficult times to be an officer, but white officers in particular have a target on their backs. Saldana has watched the news reports of officer-involved shootings around the country and said

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those who apply race as a motive don't understand the challenges police face in the moments before firing.

Saldana began his police career with the Guaynabo Police Department in Puerto Rico, where he is from. He told the newspaper: "America is the only place where they call black people African-American. In Puerto Rico, you can be black or white, and it doesn't matter. You're Puerto Rican."

"I hope it gets better, but it feels like it's going to get worse," he said.

RURAL KID TO BIG CITY OFFICER

Gretchen Rocha came to the Dallas police force by way of the farm.

Rocha grew up just outside Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, where she was home-schooled and loved riding the family's horses, said her mother, Diane Bayer. Becoming a police officer or soldier was her dream, Bayer said, and Rocha attended a police academy at Madison Area Technical College.

Classmates called her "Mama Rocha," and she won an award for unifying the class, said her sister, Katrina Schwartz.

The 23-year-old was wounded by shrapnel, but the family did not have details on the extent of her injuries.

Rocha used her Spanish language skills during an internship with the Madison Police Department in 2013, spokesman Joel DeSpain said, helping with a program called Amigos en Azul (Friends in Blue).

"She was a very competent and poised young woman," DeSpain said.

Rocha joined the Dallas Police Department in 2014 after she couldn't find any jobs in Wisconsin, Schwartz said. Rocha's husband's family is from Houston.

Schwartz said she asked her sister if she still wants to be an officer.

"The way she put it is, 'I'm still in this,'" Schwartz said. "She's so tough."

Carter: US will use Iraq city as base to retake Mosul

LOLITA C. BALDOR, Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP) — U.S. and coalition forces will use the newly retaken air base in Qayara as a staging hub, as Iraqi security forces move forward in the long-awaited battle to recapture Mosul from Islamic State militants, Defense Secretary Ash Carter said Monday as he arrived in Iraq.

Carter, who landed in Baghdad on an unannounced visit, said U.S. advisers are prepared to accompany Iraqi battalions if needed, as those units begin to encircle the key northern city.

A senior defense official said it's not clear when U.S. advisers would begin accompanying the battalions closer to the battlefield. But it could be in the coming weeks and months. The U.S. officials said a team of American troops went into Qayara for a quick site assessment Sunday and left.

One job they could do would be to help the Iraqis troops use highly technical bridging capabilities to get across the river into Mosul.

Carter laid out the U.S. vision for Qayara for the first time, describing its recapture as a key strategic victory. Speaking to reporters before he arrived in Baghdad, he said the air base will be one of the hubs from which "Iraqi Security Forces, accompanied and advised by us as needed, will complete the southern-most envelopment of Mosul. That's its strategic role, and that's its strategic importance."

Carter compared the role of Qayara to how forces used the eastern city of Makhmour. There, U.S. troops set up a fire base for artillery to support advancing Iraqi units. Marine Staff Sgt. Louis F. Cardin was killed at the fire base in March in an IS rocket attack.

"The point of seizing that (Qayara) airfield is to be able to establish a logistics and air hub in the im-

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mediate vicinity of Mosul," Carter told reporters. "So, there will be U.S. logistics support."

Iraqi forces recaptured the air base from the Islamic State group on Saturday, in a victory hailed by Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi as a key step ahead of the Mosul fight. Residents of Mosul, Iraq's second largest city, should "get ready for the liberation of their areas," he said.

U.S. officials said that American advisers have already been working at the brigade level with Iraqi special operations forces, but they have not yet accompanied Iraqi Army brigades, U.S. officials said.

The officials were not authorized to discuss the matter publicly, so spoke on condition of anonymity.

President Barack Obama in April approved plans to allow U.S. troops to assist Iraqi forces at the brigade and battalion level, where they could be at greater risk, closer to the battle, but still behind the front lines. They had previously been limited to advising at the headquarters and division levels, which are further from the battle.

Carter is expected to meet al-Abadi and minister of defense Khalid al-Obeidi, as well as Lt. Gen. Sean MacFarland, the top U.S. military commander for the Islamic State fight. The main topic, he said, will be the next steps in the military campaign, with a particular focus on Mosul.

Mosul is considered crucial. It was captured by IS in the summer of 2014 and the extremist group has been using it as a main headquarters since.

Carter's daylong visit to Iraq comes on the heels of the two-day NATO summit where allies agreed to expand their military support for the war.

This is Carter's fourth trip to Iraq as Pentagon chief, and his second in three months, to assess the campaign to oust Islamic State militants from the country.

Qayara is the latest in a string of successful operations by Iraqi forces, backed by coalition airstrikes. Government troops have also retaken the city of Ramadi and a number of towns along the route to Mosul.

One of the defense officials said the Pentagon identified 10 initial goals for the Iraq fight earlier this year, and with the recapture of Qayara, all 10 have now been achieved. A number of those 10 included retaking some of those cities.

Islamic State militants, however, still control large swaths of the country and continue to launch deadly attacks, including the massive suicide bombing July 3 at Baghdad's bustling commercial area of Karada. As many as 186 died in the attack.

And late Thursday, an attack at a Shiite shrine north of Baghdad killed 37 people. The Islamic State group claimed responsibility for both attacks.

During his visit to Iraq in April, Carter unveiled a series of moves to provide additional military support to the Iraqis, including the deployment of 200 more U.S. troops to Iraq, embedding advisers with Iraqi brigades and battalions, and using Apache attack helicopters at the request of the Iraqi government, when they were needed in battle.

During the NATO summit this past weekend, allies also approved several moves to expand military aid in the fight. NATO will use surveillance aircraft to collect intelligence, and will begin training Iraqi forces inside the country.

Until now, NATO has been training Iraqis in Jordan.

President Barack Obama has authorized a U.S. troop level of 4,087 in Iraq.

Solar-powered plane leaves Spain for Egypt

MADRID (AP) — An experimental solar-powered airplane has left Spain for Egypt in the penultimate leg of its globe-circling voyage.

Organizers said the Solar Impulse 2 flew out of Seville airport Monday and was heading for Cairo.

The flight, piloted by Swiss man Andre Borschberg, is expected to last 50 hours and 30 minutes. The around-the-world voyage began in March 2015 in Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates and is due to finish there too.

The plane arrived in Seville on June 23 after an unprecedented three-day flight across the Atlantic. The wings of Solar Impulse 2, which stretch wider than those of a Boeing 747, are equipped with 17,000 solar cells that power propellers and charge batteries. The plane runs on stored energy at night.

Organ transplants have come a long way but hurdles remain

LAURAN NEERGAARD, AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Brenda Hudson recalls weeks spent in a glass-enclosed isolation room after her first kidney transplant, her family allowed to visit only when suited up against germs.

That transplant lasted a remarkable four decades — and now Hudson's recovery from a second one, this time faster and surrounded by germy visitors, showcases how far organ transplants have come and the hurdles that still await.

"I'm ready to be well again," Hudson exclaimed before being wheeled into an operating room at Med-Star Georgetown University Hospital last month, far more confident than back at age 17 when she was that hospital's first recipient of a living-donor kidney.

Transplants still require courage, but medical advances haven't just helped patients. Hudson's initial donor, her older sister, has a scar stretching from belly to side where doctors cut into her rib cage. This time Hudson's husband donated, and went home two days after surgeons squeezed his kidney through a roughly 3-inch incision.

Hudson's own lupus-damaged kidneys were removed about a month before her first transplant. That's hardly ever done anymore — nonworking kidneys shrink to make room.

Back then, finding a donor was pretty miraculous.

It still is.

And with more than 120,000 people on the national waiting list for a kidney or other donated organ — but only about 30,000 transplants performed each year — new moves are getting underway to try to ease the critical shortage.

Efforts range from smartphone apps letting would-be donors register with a few clicks, to helping transplant centers use some organs that today would be discarded for fear they're not good enough.

"I really didn't think about getting another kidney. How could I be that fortunate?" said Hudson, 57, of Owings, Maryland, who this time went home five days after surgery. Her thoughts strayed to friends on dialysis: "I just wish we could see more donors coming out."

The average kidney from a deceased donor lasts 10 years, while one from a living donor averages about 15 years, said Dr. David Klassen of UNOS, the United Network for Organ Sharing, which oversees the nation's transplant system. Doctors can't explain why occasionally people like Hudson beat those odds by a lot.

Dana Hudson knew his wife wouldn't ask for another kidney so when her first deteriorated badly enough to require dialysis, he volunteered.

Dr. Matthew Cooper, Georgetown's kidney and pancreas transplant director, examined the fist-sized organ and proclaimed it "a beauty."

Sewing it into its new owner, however, would prove nerve-wracking.

More than 6,000 people died last year waiting for a new kidney, liver, lung or other organ, according to UNOS.

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Last month, the White House issued a call to reduce the wait, and highlighted \$160 million in regenerative research that one day might offer alternative therapies.

Kidneys are most in demand, with nearly 100,000 people on the national transplant list awaiting one. "Without a transplant, we lose way too many people," said Georgetown's Cooper. "It's just an organ supply problem."

To try boosting that supply:

—Apple says its upcoming software update will let iPhone users register as an organ donor through its health app, linking to Donate Life America's national registry. Georgetown also is developing an app for smartphones and tablets that will allow a click for donor registration.

—Studies are underway to preserve donated organs longer by pumping them with oxygenated fluids, and to spur use of higher-risk organs that work despite not being in optimal condition, Klassen said.

—And the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and Donate Life launched a new Facebook page to educate the public about the need for living donors; fewer than 6,000 every year give a kidney or part of their liver.

It's hard to ask, and there are some disincentives. A living donor's surgery is covered by the recipient's insurance but not related costs such as lost wages. Dana Hudson expects to be away from his truck-driving job for about four weeks but said, "The most important thing is that she gets better."

Back at Georgetown, where about a third of kidney transplants now are from living donors, Dana Hudson underwent a battery of tests to be sure he was healthy enough to live with one kidney.

The "keyhole" surgery used for living donation today is easier on patients but trickier for surgeons. Guided by a miniature camera, Dr. Seyed Ghasemian inserted long-handled probes through tiny abdominal incisions and painstakingly snipped the kidney free from surrounding tissue. It was producing plenty of urine and had great blood vessels, Ghasemian reported.

But he paused before severing that blood supply, the point of no return. Across the hall, Cooper had found a problem with Brenda Hudson.

Hunched tensely over the operating table, Cooper was uncovering arteries hardened by high blood pressure and Type 2 diabetes — no good for sewing on her husband's kidney.

Finally the surgeons devised a way for blood vessels to feed the incoming organ. "This was not an easy case," Cooper said. "You have to have a Plan B."

Back across the hall again, Ghasemian made the last cut to Dana Hudson's kidney and tugged it through a slit in the abdomen.

Taking the kidney, Cooper flushed out the donor's blood, cleaned away some yellowish fat and carefully carried it to Brenda Hudson — with one brief stop. Using high-tech imaging, researchers scanned the kidney's filtering tubules as part of a study to better determine which donated organs will have the best outcome.

Soon after being stitched into place, Brenda Hudson's new kidney started to work. Two days later, she softly told her husband: "It's pretty amazing what you did for me, honey."

In Dallas remarks, Obama will aim to make sense of shootings

KATHLEEN HENNESSEY, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — For President Barack Obama, the decision to return early from an overseas trip after a series of shocking shootings will prove to be easy compared to his next challenge: Comforting an America that has witnessed a rash of shootings.

After arriving from Spain late Sunday, Obama will fly Tuesday to Dallas, the scene of the massacre

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of police officers that, on the heels of two caught-on-video police shootings, has emerged as a tipping point in the national debate about race and justice. Obama is due to deliver remarks at an interfaith memorial service and is expected to meet with victims' families and with local law enforcement officials mourning their own.

To some degree, the trip is a familiar ritual for a president who has embarked in recent years on similar consolation missions with relentless frequency. But it's clear that Obama views the moment as distinct. In choosing to deliver a speech, rather than a private visit with families, Obama has tasked himself with ministering to Americans as they make sense of a frustrating cloud of issues swirling around the shootings.

The president sees delivering this sort of guidance a core part of his leadership, so much so that some of his memorable speeches were in honor of mass shooting victims, including his challenge to protect children from guns in Newtown, Conn. — "We're not doing enough." — and his singing of "Amazing Grace" after the shooting in a black church in Charleston, S.C.

But it's far from clear whether these moments fostered movement — either on legislation or race relations — and Obama has had to face the limits of his rhetoric. As he has in the past, Obama will search this week for a way to break through.

As he traveled to Poland and Spain last week for meetings with European leaders, the president was publicly working through his thoughts. At times, he acknowledged "anger" and "confusion" in the public, and at other times he seemed to downplay the enormity of events.

On the shootings by police of black men in Minnesota and Louisiana, Obama called for more activism and reforms. And he sought to impress upon white Americans what he said he and other African Americans already know: The problem is real.

On the shooting in Dallas, Obama cast Micah Johnson, the sniper killed in a standoff with police, as "demented" and his motives as unknowable. People should not believe that "the act of a troubled individual speaks to some larger political statement across the country," he said. "It doesn't."

Obama also pointed to other forces driving discontent at home and in Europe — lone-wolf terrorism or economic instability wrought by globalization — and tried to sell his policies aimed at each.

The comments highlighted this president's rationality and a tendency to analyze people's fears rather than validate them — both traits that at times have limited his ability to connect. Asked Saturday about rising worries about safety, Obama cited crime statistics. He bluntly dismissed comparisons to the domestic turbulence of the 1960s as overblown. "That's just not true," he said.

Obama's remarks also captured the president continuing to try to serve as bridge builder between white and black Americans, protesters and police. It's a role that helped catapult him to political stardom, but one he's struggled to inhabit as president during a period of sharp political polarization and continued racial tensions.

Still, Obama wasn't about to cede the role this week. White House officials said the decision to trim his trip to Spain by one day was driven in part by not wanting other, divisive voices to fill the void left in his absence.

On Sunday, a few hours before returning home, Obama tried again to walk a center line, as he issued a plea for better understanding between police and demonstrators taking part in the protests across the country.

"I'd like all sides to listen to each other," he said.

Friend or foe? Open-carry law poses challenge to police

LISA MARIE PANE, Associated Press

PARIS, Texas (AP) — Gun-rights activists, some of them wearing camouflage and military-style gear and openly toting rifles and handguns, marched alongside the hundreds of people who flocked to downtown Dallas last week to protest police shootings of blacks.

Their presence was part of the new legal landscape in Texas, which earlier this year allowed people to openly carry firearms in public.

Moments later, when a sniper gunned down officers patrolling the peaceful march, killing five, the attack ignited panic and confusion. Who was shooting? Were the people with weapons friend or foe?

It was the same nightmare scenario that some law enforcement officials predicted when Texas approved the open-carry proposal.

Dallas Police Chief David Brown estimated that 20 to 30 open-carry activists attended the rally. He said some wore gas masks, bulletproof vests and fatigues. They ran when the shots rang out, but the presence of so many armed individuals at the scene of a sniper attack caused instant confusion.

"Doesn't make sense to us, but that's their right in Texas," Brown told CNN, adding: "For our officers, they were suspects. And I support that belief. Someone is shooting at you from a perched position, and people are running with AR-15s and camo gear and gas masks and bulletproof vests. They are suspects until we eliminate that."

One man in the crowd, Mark Hughes, was carrying an AR-style firearm and wearing a camouflage T-shirt. In the early moments after the attack, police released a photo of Hughes describing him as a suspect. He was questioned and released, and authorities soon announced that the attack had been the work of a single gunman named Micah Johnson.

In the aftermath, President Barack Obama criticized the open-carry law.

Police, Obama said, "have a really difficult time in communities where they know guns are everywhere. And as I said before, they have a right to come home, and now they have very little margin of error in terms of making decisions. So if you care about the safety of our police officers, then you can't set aside the gun issue and pretend that that's irrelevant."

Forty-five states have laws that allow citizens to openly carry a firearm in public places.

During debate over the open-carry issue, some people in Texas law enforcement expressed concerns, fearing that it would lead to panic, especially in active shooter situations. The state, which legalized concealed-carry firearms in the 1990s, now has more than 850,000 residents with licenses to carry.

C.J. Grisham, the president and founder of Open Carry Texas, stood Saturday outside the Lamar County Sheriff's Department in Paris with a small group of people, most of them with a handgun and spare magazines visible and strapped to a belt. They were there in part to protest the agency's refusal to allow people to openly carry a firearm into the building, which is connected to a jail, and to talk about what issues are next on the frontier of gun rights.

Grisham, who served in the military in Iraq and Afghanistan, travels around the state with a trailer in tow. Inside, he's got T-shirts, stickers and pamphlets that trumpet the group's key messages.

"We're not the threat," Grisham said.

As he spoke, members of the group nodded their heads. They expressed concern that requiring people to carry concealed weapons is sometimes impractical. Texas weather can make it difficult to conceal a gun without wilting in the summer heat or to shed a coat in the winter. That puts them at risk of breaking the law by revealing they are carrying a weapon.

"That's what this is really about: being able to get comfortable and not become a criminal," Grisham said. "If you boil it down, the only difference between open carry and concealed carry is a thin piece

of fabric.”

None of those who stood outside the sheriff’s department said they had been stopped by police. And they maintain they haven’t caused any panic among civilians worried when they see their firearm.

Still, Grisham offers a practical suggestion for preventing alarm: Carry a long gun slung over your back with the muzzle pointed downward and don’t touch it. That way, “it’s hard to call it confrontational,” he said.

On Sunday, Hughes was quizzed by his pastor about his decision to attend the protest with a gun.

“What in the world were you thinking?” Bishop T.D. Jakes asked him during services at The Potter’s House, a megachurch with 30,000 members.

The crowd of several hundred people laughed. “I’m just curious,” Jakes said, chuckling.

Hughes said it was an opportunity to exercise his rights and make a statement, and he would do it again.

“I understand and respect your right,” Jakes responded. “But I think the right is wrong.”

Several in the audience shouted in agreement.

Cambodian PM promises vigorous probe into critic’s killing

SOPHENG CHEANG, Associated Press

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP) — Cambodia’s prime minister said Monday that authorities will conduct a vigorous investigation to uncover any conspiracy behind the shooting death of a government critic, and urged the opposition not to use the assassination to incite people.

Kem Ley, 45, was killed at a gas station mini-mart complex in Phnom Penh on Sunday and his attacker was arrested shortly afterward. Police said the suspect claimed to have shot Kem Ley, a high-profile political analyst, because he failed to pay him back for a loan.

But Cambodia’s opposition, which has long been suppressed by Prime Minister Hun Sen, have suggested that Kem Ley, 45, was a victim of a conspiracy for his outspoken views about government corruption. His friends and supporters have decided to keep his body at a Buddhist temple for 10 days before holding the funeral to allow people to pay their respects.

Speaking at the inauguration of a new military police headquarters, Hun Sen condemned the killing and offered his condolences to Kem Ley’s family.

“I have ordered the competent authority to conduct a vigorous investigation into the attacker and the conspirators to face justice,” he said.

The killing comes at a time of political tension that began last year with legal and other pressures on the opposition Cambodia National Rescue Party by Hun Sen’s government.

Kem Ley was often critical of the government, and was widely known because he was frequently heard on the popular Cambodian-language services of Radio Free Asia and Voice of America, U.S. government-funded services that are among the few independent news sources in Cambodia. He was also frequently quoted in the country’s handful of independent newspapers.

One of his most recent commentaries was about a report issued last week by the London-based research and advocacy group Global Witness that alleged that Hun Sen and his family have enriched themselves and kept power through corruption.

The Interior Ministry identified the attacker as Chuob Samlap, 38, one of the many migrant Cambodian farm workers in neighboring Thailand.

Hun Sen said he hoped the killing is not used to incite the public.

“Hopefully, our people will give authorities time to perform their duties by not turning this tragedy into

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something politically motivated," he said.

Violence has long played a prominent part in Cambodian politics, though it often is carried out in the countryside, where it gets little attention. Activists and members of the political opposition are frequent targets, and attackers are rarely brought to justice.

Kem Ley is the most prominent Cambodian government critic to be killed since trade union leader Chea Vichea in 2004.

Kem Ley's body will be moved from the Buddhist temple in Phnom Penh on July 19 and taken to his hometown Takeo in the south for cremation, said Sum Po, one of the funeral organizers.

For now, his body was placed on a bed covered by a Cambodian flag up to his neck. Buddhist monks sat nearby to pray for his soul.

Typhoon Nepartak batters China's coast, killing at least 6

BEIJING (AP) — At least six people were dead and 8 others missing after Typhoon Nepartak battered China's coastal Fujian Province with heavy rain and strong winds that toppled homes and triggered landslides, government agencies said.

Fujian's water resources department said that more than 438,000 people had been relocated. Hundreds of flights and trains were canceled, while damaged power stations left swaths of the province without electricity.

Nepartak, the first typhoon of the season, first struck Taiwan on Friday with even greater power, leaving two people dead and 72 injured.

It weakened into a strong tropical storm after making landfall in Fujian on Saturday, but continued to soak the region, where emergency workers scrambled to reach residents trapped on the upper floors of submerged buildings and collapsed homes.

The Chinese civil affairs ministry said late Sunday that six were dead and eight others were missing in Fujian Province, but did not give details. The storm moved on Sunday into neighboring Jiangxi Province, where 500 people have been evacuated, the ministry said.

Unusually heavy rain has pounded southern China in recent months, triggering severe flooding along rivers, including the Yangtze. Meteorologists blame the floods on a particularly intense El Nino weather pattern that has resulted in up to a 50 percent increase in rainfall in certain areas.

The government said Friday that 164 people have been killed by floods, hail and landslides since June 30, while 32 million people across 26 provinces have been affected.

Dramatic pictures have emerged of people pushing cars through waist-high water and a soccer stadium with rainwater filled to its upper rafters in Wuhan, a central Chinese city that has been particularly hard hit.

Today in History **The Associated Press**

Today in History

Today is Monday, July 11, the 193rd day of 2016. There are 173 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 11, 1804, Vice President Aaron Burr mortally wounded former Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton during a pistol duel in Weehawken, New Jersey. (Hamilton died the next day.)

On this date:

In 1767, John Quincy Adams, the sixth president of the United States, was born in Braintree, Mas-

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sachusetts.

In 1798, the U.S. Marine Corps was formally re-established by a congressional act that also created the U.S. Marine Band.

In 1922, the Hollywood Bowl officially opened with a program called "Symphonies Under the Stars" with Alfred Hertz conducting the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

In 1936, New York City's Triborough Bridge (now officially the Robert F. Kennedy Bridge) linking Manhattan, Queens and The Bronx was opened to traffic.

In 1952, the Republican National Convention, meeting in Chicago, nominated Dwight D. Eisenhower for president and Richard M. Nixon for vice president.

In 1955, the U.S. Air Force Academy swore in its first class of cadets at its temporary quarters at Lowry Air Force Base in Colorado.

In 1960, the novel "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee was first published by J.B. Lippincott and Co.

In 1966, the game show "The Newlywed Game," hosted by Bob Eubanks, premiered on ABC-TV.

In 1979, the abandoned U.S. space station Skylab made a spectacular return to Earth, burning up in the atmosphere and showering debris over the Indian Ocean and Australia.

In 1989, actor and director Laurence Olivier died in Steyning, West Sussex, England, at age 82.

In 1991, a Nigeria Airways DC-8 carrying Muslim pilgrims crashed at the Jiddah, Saudi Arabia, international airport, killing all 261 people on board.

In 1995, the U.N.-designated "safe haven" of Srebrenica (sreh-breh-NEET'-sah) in Bosnia-Herzegovina fell to Bosnian Serb forces, who then carried out the killings of more than 8,000 Muslim men and boys. The United States normalized relations with Vietnam.

Ten years ago: Eight bombs hit a commuter rail network during evening rush hour in Mumbai, India, killing more than 200 people. In Chicago, a Blue Line train derailed and started a fire during the evening rush hour, filling a subway tunnel with smoke and forcing dozens of soot-covered commuters to evacuate. The American League edged the National League 3-2 in the All-Star Game in Pittsburgh. Actor Barnard Hughes died in New York at age 90.

Five years ago: Rupert Murdoch's media empire was besieged by accusations that two more of his British newspapers engaged in hacking, deception and privacy violations. So Yeon Ryu (soh yahn yoo) won the U.S. Women's Open, defeating fellow South Korean Hee Kyung Seo (soh) by three shots in a three-hole playoff.

One year ago: Top Mexican drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, head of the powerful Sinaloa Cartel, escaped from a maximum security prison for the second time by exiting through a secretly dug mile-long tunnel (he was recaptured in January 2016). A crowd of furious Bosnian Muslims jumped over fences and attacked Serbia's prime minister, Aleksandar Vucic, with stones and water bottles, marring the 20th anniversary commemorations of the Srebrenica (sreh-breh-NEET'-sah) massacre. Serena Williams won her sixth title at Wimbledon, beating Garbine Muguruza of Spain 6-4, 6-4 in the women's final; for Williams, it was her second "Serena Slam" holding all four major titles at the same time.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Tab Hunter is 85. Actress Susan Seaforth Hayes is 73. Singer Jeff Hanna (Nitty Gritty Dirt Band) is 70. Ventriloquist-actor Jay Johnson is 67. Actor Bruce McGill is 66. Singer Bonnie Pointer is 66. Actor Stephen Lang is 64. Actress Mindy Sterling is 63. Boxer Leon Spinks is 63. Actress Sela Ward is 60. Reggae singer Michael Rose (Black Uhuru) is 59. Singer Peter Murphy is 59. Actor Mark Lester is 58. Jazz musician Kirk Whalum is 58. Singer Suzanne Vega is 57. Rock guitarist Richie Sambora (Bon Jovi) is 57. Actress Lisa Rinna is 53. Rock musician Scott Shriner (Weezer) is 51. Actress Debbe (correct) Dunning is 50. Actor Greg Grunberg is 50. Wildlife expert Jeff Corwin is 49. Actor Justin Chambers is 46. Actress Leisha Hailey is 45. Actor Michael Rosenbaum is 44. Pop-rock singer

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Andrew Bird is 43. Country singer Scotty Emerick is 43. Rapper Lil' Kim is 41. Actor Jon Wellner is 41. Rock singer Ben Gibbard is 40. Rapper Lil' Zane is 34. Pop-jazz singer-musician Peter Cincotti is 33. Actress Serinda Swan is 32. Actor Robert Adamson is 31. Actor David Henrie is 27. Actor Connor Paolo is 26. Tennis player Caroline Wozniacki is 26.

Thought for Today: "Those people who think only of themselves, are hopelessly uneducated. They are not educated, no matter how instructed they may be." — Nicholas Murray Butler, American educator (1862-1947).