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**Regular Curbside Garbage Pickup
will resume today**

Tuesday, May 2

School Lunch: Pizza, green beans, romaine salad, fruit.

School Breakfast: French toast, links, fruit, juice, milk.

Senior Menu: Goulash, corn, cherry crisp, whole wheat bread.

Groton School: Varsity track at Milbank at 2 p.m., Elementary Spring Concert at 7 p.m.

United Methodist: Bible Study at 10 a.m.

Wednesday, May 3

School Lunch: Taco salad, refried beans, fruit, garlic toast.

School Breakfast: Egg sausage, biscuit, fruit, milk, juice.

Senior Menu: Bratwurst with bun, mashed potatoes, sauerkraut, green beans, German chocolate cake.

St. John's Lutheran: Ladies Aid/LWML at 1:30 p.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Sarah Circle at 5 p.m., League at 6:30 p.m., Confirmation at 7 p.m.

United Methodist: Wednesday coffee at 9 a.m., UMW Salad Luncheon at 11 a.m., Confirmation at 6 p.m.

Thursday, May 4

School Lunch: Cheese sticks, broccoli and dip, fruit.

School Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, yogurt, fruit, juice, milk.

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

St. John's Lutheran: Nursery circle and good cheer circle at 1:30 p.m.



Railroad Avenue going east to US 12 from Sixth Street east is closed. Work has started on repairing the road in preparation for the SD37 Bypass. This will be the route taken once SD37 is closed for renovation in the very near future.

Closed: 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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JOHNSON AGENCY

Real Estate & Insurance

Jay Johnson, Broker

www.johnsonagencygroton.com

102 N Main St.
Groton, SD 57445

Office: 605/397-2424
Home: 605/397-8565



Can You Coupon Without the Extreme?

By Nathaniel Sillin

Following the Great Recession, it seemed like extreme couponing was a competitive sport. You could watch on TV as shoppers armed with binders full of clipped coupons and an in-depth knowledge of stores' policies would get incredible discounts at the checkout counter.

Extreme couponing may not be as popular today, but the Recession gave many people an appreciation for living a frugal lifestyle. That's a good thing. Living within one's means is a core tenant of practicing good financial habits and couponing can help you achieve this goal. However, as with most things in life, you want to try and find a healthy balance and look for ways to coupon without the extreme.

Make the most out of your couponing. Whether you're on your weekly grocery run or making a major purchase, a discount can always be helpful. However, be wary of buying products you don't regularly need or use simply because you have a coupon or there's a sale.

Some people might choose to avoid temptation by looking for coupons after the items are in their cart. With a smartphone in hand, you can use a savings app to look for savings while you're waiting to check out.

Another option, that might require a bit more time and strategy, is to plan your meals for the week ahead of time. You can write down your shopping list and spend five or ten minutes looking for applicable coupons before heading to the store. You might also choose to look at the coupons available and plan your meals for the week based off of what's on sale.

No matter what tactics you use, the point is to save money on items that you will use, not to purchase merchandise simply because it's discounted.

Invest your time proportionately to the potential saving. The time investment that an attempt at extreme couponing can require doesn't always match the potential savings. Spending hours couponing and winding up saving \$1.50 probably isn't worth the time commitment.

A less extreme method is to consider the potential savings and spend a proportional amount of time researching products and looking for savings opportunities. But many people don't take this approach. A survey conducted by Ipsos on behalf of Zillow in 2016 found that on average, people spent eight hours researching mortgages or mortgage refinancing; 11 hours researching a new car or truck; and four hours researching a new phone, tablet or TV. Almost a fifth of those surveyed spent an hour or less shopping for their home mortgage.

Learning about and comparing options before making major purchases, such as a home or car, makes sense. A small change in your mortgage's interest rate could save or cost you tens of thousands of dollars. Comparing two new phones could save a few hundred dollars when it comes time to purchase.

Smaller recurring savings, such as the previously mentioned grocery runs, can certainly add up in the long run. If you've got a tried-and-true method that's working for you, go for it. Just make sure you get a good return on the time and effort you put in.

If you find joy in the hunt that's okay too. There are always exceptions and there are times when putting the extreme in couponing makes perfect sense. For example, there are extreme couponers who view their interest and practice as a hobby and coupon because it can be enjoyable to hunt for deals. While most hobbies cost money – this is one that could actually lead to savings.

There are also extreme couponers who figure out ways to get free products and then donate them to a local charity. It's a win-win for the couponer and those in need.

Bottom line: While saving money is important, and can be fun, try not to become so enthralled by potential savings that you lose sight of the purpose – to spend less money on what you want or need. If you are going to invest your time in money-saving endeavors, make sure you can potentially get a good return on your investment.



City Finance Officer Anita Lowary issues the Oath of Office to Karyn Babcock. Then the rest of the council was issued a renewal of their oath of office. Pictured left to right are President David Blackmun, Vice President Jay Peterson, Finance Officer Anita Lowary, Mayor Scott Hanlon, City Attorney Drew Johnson, Eddy Opp, David McGannon and Karyn Babcock. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Anderson thanks city workers for great snow removal

Norman Anderson came before the Groton City Council Monday night to say the city workers are doing a great job. He said the snow removal was excellent and as a token of his appreciation, he presented a check to the city for \$1,000.

The 129th city council was "killed" with the Sine Die and the 130th council was convened. David Blackmun was elected as president and Jay Peterson as vice president. Drew Johnson was appointed as city attorney. Karyn Babcock was sworn in as the new councilman.

The new appointments by the mayor were announced and they are as follows:

NECOG representative: Jay Peterson

Planning and Zoning Representative: David Blackmun

Electric, transit, insect and weed control and airport: David McGannon, chairman; Blackmun, co-chairman.

Water, swimming pool, skating, economic development: Babcock, chairman; Burt Glover, co-chairman.

Streets, baseball, storm drainage, other recreation: Blackmun, chairman; McGannon, co-chairman.

Waste water, cemetery, civil defense, community center: Eddy Opp, chairman; Peterson, co-chairman.

Finance office, legal, library, insurance, general administration, elections, code enforcement: Peterson, chairman; Babcock, co-chairman.

Solid waste, rubble site, parks, forestry, liquor: Glover, chairman; Opp, co-chairman.

Police: Blackmun, chairman; Opp, co-chairman.



Mayor Scott Hanlon accepts a gift of \$1,000 from Norman Anderson for the great snow removal the city employees did this winter. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

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The new playground equipment for the baseball complex is expected to arrive on May 23. The council declared the Rainbow equipment at the ballpark as surplus at a value of \$100 and to open bids at the next council meeting. The Rainbow equipment was donated in 1991 when the ballpark was opened.

The council reviewed a letter from Northwestern Energy about the gap facilities between the Southwest Power Pool and the City of Groton, which is still owned by Northwestern Energy. It includes three switches in the substation. The council decided to lease the switches at a rate of 3 cents per KW each month which will be an average of \$90.57 per month. That way any maintenance on the switches will remain with Northwestern Energy. The other option was to buy them for \$3,504.78.

WE'RE TICKLED PINK!
AND HAPPY TO SAY
A BABY GIRL IS ON THE WAY!

JOIN US FOR A COME AND GO
BABY SHOWER HONORING
MOM-TO-BE

McKinsey Smith
MAY 20, 2017
9:30 TO 11 A.M.
STEVE AND CAROL SMITH HOME
1104 North Main Street, Groton

McKinsey is registered at Target

Sanford
Underground
Research
Facility



Subscribe at: Sanfordlab.org/newsletters

Deep Thoughts

Notes from the underground by Communications Director Constance Walter

Monday, May 1, 2017

Neutrino Day celebrates discovery

In September 1967, Dr. Ray Davis Jr. released the first results from his Solar Neutrino Experiment. His discovery led to three decades of controversy in the physics community: he had captured less than two neutrinos per day, two-thirds fewer than had been predicted.

Still, it offered humankind a glimpse into what Dr. Michael Landry calls, “a dark sector” of the universe. Landry, director of the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO) in Hanford, Wash., is this year’s keynote speaker for Neutrino Day.

The free science festival celebrates the persistence leading to breakthrough discoveries that help us better understand the universe and our place in it. Landry’s presentation will focus on LIGO’s discovery of gravitational waves, first theorized by Albert Einstein in his General Theory of Relativity.

In September 2015, the Hanford observatory was one of two LIGO facilities to discover gravitational waves. The cataclysmic event, which happened approximately 1.3 billion light years away, sent ripples across the fabric of spacetime and throughout the scientific community.

“Discovering gravitational waves is akin to acquiring a new sense that allows us to listen to the universe instead of just looking at it,” Landry said in a Ted Talk. “It alters our perception and allow us to access things we haven’t seen before.

“The universe is grander, more complicated and, at times, intimidating,” Landry said. “It needs particularly tenacious people to track down the dark sectors of the universe”—things like dark matter, black holes, gravitational waves and neutrinos.

Davis was one of those tenacious

people. For three decades he measured neutrinos, always with the same results.

“The solar neutrino problem caused great consternation among physicists and astrophysicists,” Davis said in his Nobel biography. “My opinion in the early years was that something was wrong with the standard model; many physicists thought there was something wrong with my experiment.”

The story ended happily for Davis. In 2000, a discovery by the Sudbury Neutrino Observatory vindicated him with its discovery of a phenomenon called neutrino oscillation, which showed that neutrinos change between three types as they travel. Davis’ experiment could only count electron neutrinos. In 2002, he received the Nobel Prize in Physics for his work.

For decades, physicists expressed doubt about the existence of gravitational waves—even Einstein thought he might be wrong. Could their tenacity earn them the next Nobel Prize in Physics?

DUGL

A LIGO-related project, the Deep Underground Gravity Laboratory (DUGL), placed 24 seismometer stations in several levels of Sanford Lab and on the surface. Placed in a grid that probed approximately 1 cubic mile, the seismometers measured ground movement to velocities less than a micron per second. DUGL’s findings could inform the design of future gravitational wave detectors. “LIGO’s observation is just the beginning,” said Vuk Mandic, associate professor of physics and astronomy at the University of Minnesota and a member of both collaborations. “Not only did we see gravitational waves, we saw black holes merging for the first time ever. It was a spectacular event! More sensitive detectors will allow us to learn so much more about the universe.”



Neutrino Day: Discovery, July 8

Dr. Bonnie Fleming, a researcher at Fermilab and Yale, will talk about progress on the Deep Underground Neutrino Experiment (DUNE).

Features: children’s activities, demonstrations by “Science” Steve Rokusek, hoistroom tours and videoconferences with scientists at Fermilab and underground.

“Now then again,” a play about physicists and love, opens Friday, July 7. Playwright Penny Penniston will be on hand for a discussion after the show.



Volunteer or register an activity for Neutrino Day:
<http://www.sanfordlab.org/neutrinoday2017>

Lucky for Life Lotto Game Coming to South Dakota

(Pierre) – What would you do with \$1,000 a day for life? South Dakota lotto players can start making their lists following the approval today by the Legislative Rules Review Committee of game rules for the Lucky for Life lotto game.

The twice-weekly draw game has a top prize of \$1,000 per day for life and a second prize of \$25,000 a year for life. The South Dakota Lottery Commission unanimously approved adding the game to the South Dakota Lottery's product line on March 24, 2017. With today's action, Lucky for Life sales are scheduled to begin in South Dakota on June 4, 2017.

Norm Lingle, executive director of the South Dakota Lottery, says the game's fixed prize structure and draw schedule make it a good fit in the current lotto game line-up.

"We'd been looking for something different to replace Wild Card 2 which ended in February of last year and 'for life' games have done well in other states. Although the top prize doesn't change like in a traditional lotto draw game, players like the thought of making plans for the future and knowing they'll have the money to do what they want," Lingle said. "And because the drawings are Monday and Thursday nights, we'll be able to give our players lotto drawings six nights a week."

Lucky for Life costs \$2 per play and tickets can be purchased via play slip or Quick Pick. Five numbers are randomly drawn from a field of 48 white ball numbers and one Lucky Ball is picked from among 18 numbers. Matching five of five white ball numbers and the Lucky Ball wins the player the top prize of \$1,000 a day for life while hitting five numbers without the Lucky Ball is worth the second prize of \$25,000 a year for life. The odds of winning the top prize in Lucky for Life are 1:30.8 million and the odds of winning any prize are about 1:7.8.

More information on the game will be available in the coming weeks at lottery.sd.gov. Lucky for Life is currently played in 22 states and the District of Columbia.



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Destination Imagination



Please
Pre- Order
Pork Loins by
the whole or
half. Also
sliced or
unsliced.

**Destination
Imagination**
Thanks you for
your support!

PORK FEED

Also offering Hot Dog meals and Rib meals (until ribs are sold out)

Tuesday May 2nd and Thursday May 4th

Before the Elementary & Junior/Senior High School Spring Concerts

SERVING 5 to 7 p.m.

GROTON AREA HIGH SCHOOL GYM

Meal includes sandwich, chips, drink and dessert

To PRE ORDER half or whole cooked loins

Please contact Julie Milbrandt at julie.milbrandt@k12.sd.us

or

Joann Donley at joann.donley@k12.sd.us

or

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Pump Prices Drift Lower in South Dakota

May 1, 2017 – Gas prices have dropped slowly on the week. Today's national average price for a gallon of regular gasoline is \$2.39, a three cents drop from one week ago; however, it is an increase of seven cents over last month and 18 cents more than this time last year.

"One year ago, the country was experiencing higher consumer demand and prices were increasing," said Marilyn Buskohl, spokeswoman for AAA South Dakota. "Fast forward to today, consumers are still experiencing higher gas prices over last year due to the OPEC agreement, but we are not seeing substantial increases at the pump due to increased gasoline inventories and low demand across the country."

The South Dakota pump price average has fallen for six consecutive days and is down four cents from its 2017 high of \$2.42 recorded on April 20.

Current Price Averages per Gallon of Regular Gasoline

Sioux Falls – \$2.29, up 10 cents from one month ago ... up 21 cents since 5/1/16

Rapid City – \$2.41, up 9 cents from one month ago ... up 27 cents since 5/1/16

South Dakota – \$2.38, up 6 cents from one month ago ... up 24 cents since 5/1/16

U.S. – \$2.39, up 7 cents from one month ago ... up 18 cents since 5/1/16

Quick Stats

· The nation's top ten least expensive markets are: South Carolina (\$2.09), Oklahoma (\$2.10), Mississippi (\$2.15), Tennessee (\$2.15), Arkansas (\$2.15), Alabama (\$2.16), Missouri (\$2.18), Louisiana (\$2.18), Virginia (\$2.20) and Kansas (\$2.22).

· The nation's top ten markets with the largest weekly decreases include: Indiana (- 13 cents), Ohio (-10 cents), Michigan (-10 cents), Kentucky (-7 cents), Illinois (-6 cents), Oklahoma (-5 cents), Delaware (-4 cents), Florida (-4 cents), Kansas (-4 cents) and Wisconsin (-4 cents).

Global Market Dynamics

At the close of trading Friday, April 28, on the NYMEX, WTI increased 36 cents to settle at \$49.33. The below \$50 price per barrel can be partly attributed to increasing crude oil stocks. According to energy services company Baker Hughes, the U.S. added nine oil rigs last week, putting the total at 697 – the largest number of rigs since April 2015. Increased production from the U.S. comes ahead of talks to extend a production cut agreement from OPEC and non-OPEC countries, which is scheduled to end on June 30. The countries in the agreement will meet on May 25 in Vienna, Austria to discuss whether to end or extend the supply reduction.

There is reason to believe that continued low oil prices are reducing global investment in oil exploration, which could lead to tighter supplies moving forward. Last week, the International Energy Agency released information that revealed global oil discoveries fell to a record low in 2016, as companies continued to cut spending and conventional oil projects were at their lowest level in 70 years. Deepwater offshore exploration, which accounts for almost a third of crude oil production and is a crucial component of future global supplies, has been particularly hard hit by the industry's slowdown. In 2016, only 13 percent of all drilling of conventional resources was offshore, compared with more than 40 on average between 2000 and 2015. This reduction could lead to higher prices per barrel, assuming demand continues to grow and the market experiences further constrained crude stocks.

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The planting of this tree at the nursing home in memory of Gladys Dirks features Janice Flihs, Arlys Kluess, Mayor Scott Hanlon, Garden Club President Bev Sombke, Eunice McCloister, Pat Larson, Pam Rix, Elda Stange, Linda Anderson, Charlie and Jen Dirks in back, the gal in front of them is Charlie's sister, Mary Fruedenthal and her husband in front, Gene.

The left photo features Arlys Kluess holding the tree while Mayor Scott Hanlon spreads out the roots in the hole. The tree was planted at the nursing home in memory of Gladys Dirks.

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Today in Weather History

May 2, 1984: High winds picked up a trailer home northwest of the Pierre Airport and hurled it through the air, smashing it to the ground 50 yards away. The upper sections of a home were damaged by the airborne trailer. Several branches and shed roofs were also damaged nearby.

May 2, 2008: A two-day blizzard dropped two to four feet of snow across the northern Black Hills and in Harding and Butte counties. Six to 14 inches of snow fell along the eastern foothills and in western Perkins and Meade counties.

1762: A tornado struck Port Royal Island, South Carolina. It left a path 400 yards wide, tore up trees by the roots, and carried away houses and bridges.

1899 - A storm buried Havre, MT, under 24.8 inches of snow, an all-time record for that location. The water equivalent of 2.48 inches was a record 24 hour total for the month of May. (The Weather Channel)

1920 - A swarm of tornadoes in Rogers, Mayes and Cherokee Counties in Oklahoma killed 64 persons. (David Ludlum)

1929: Virginia's worst tornado disaster occurred on this day. Six tornadoes, two of which were west of the Blue Ridge Mountains, killed 22 people. One tornado killed twelve children and a teacher at Rye Cove, in Scott County. The storms destroyed four schools.

1983: Severe thunderstorms produced 21 tornadoes across the northeastern states of Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New York. One tornado even occurred in Ontario, Canada. Of the 21 tornadoes in the United States, nine were rated F3, and six were rated F2. The tornadoes caused five deaths.


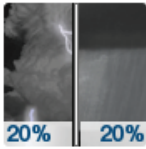





1987 - Thunderstorms in the Lower Mississippi Valley produced golf ball size hail in northern Louisiana, and wind gusts to 77 mph at Lake Providence LA. Thunderstorms in Arkansas produced 4.20 inches of rain at Arkadelphia and 4.00 inches at Bismarck. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - A powerful storm produced snow and high winds in the Central Rockies and the Central High Plains Region. Snowfall totals in Colorado ranged up to 12 inches at Strasburg, and winds in southeastern Colorado gusted to 87 mph at Lamar. Snow and high winds created blizzard conditions in eastern Colorado and southeastern Wyoming. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

2010: May began with two days of historical rainfall over much of Middle Tennessee, with the heaviest swath stretching along the I-40 corridor from Benton County to Davidson County. Some areas received nearly 20 inches of rain during this 2-day period, the highest of which was 19.41 inches reported by a CoCoRaHS observer in Camden, TN. Numerous rainfall records were broken at the Nashville International Airport, including the most rain received in a 6 hour period, highest calendar day rainfall, and wettest month, along with several others. Incredibly, the Nashville Airport experienced its wettest and third wettest days in history on back to back days. Many area rivers exceeded their record crest levels, including the Harpeth River near Kingston Springs, which rose to 13.8 feet above the previous record. The Cumberland River at Nashville reached its highest level since flood control was implemented in the late 1960s, flooding parts of downtown Nashville. Waters from the Cumberland reached as far inland as 2nd Avenue, flooding many downtown businesses. Forty-nine Tennessee counties were declared disaster areas with damage estimates of between \$2 and \$3 billion statewide. Many Nashville landmarks received damage from floodwaters, including Gaylord Opryland Hotel and the Grand Ole Opry. Other popular Nashville landmarks affected by the floods include LP Field, Bridgestone Arena, the Country Music Hall of Fame, and the Schermerhorn Symphony Center, which received damage to the basement and its contents, including two Steinway grand pianos and the console of the Martin Foundation Concert Organ. Over \$300 million in Federal Disaster Assistance was approved for the people of Tennessee.

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Today	Tonight	Wednesday	Wednesday Night	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday
						
Patchy Fog then Mostly Sunny	Slight Chance T-storms then Slight Chance Showers	Partly Sunny then Slight Chance T-storms	Mostly Clear	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny
High: 65 °F	Low: 40 °F	High: 65 °F	Low: 37 °F	High: 69 °F	Low: 37 °F	High: 74 °F

Isolated afternoon and evening showers and thunderstorms

HIGHS: Low to mid 60s

LOWS: Near 40



National Weather Service - Aberdeen, SD

@NWSAberdeen   www.weather.gov/Aberdeen Updated: 5/2/2017 4:50 AM Central

Published on: 05/02/2017 at 4:57AM

Temperatures will top out in the low to mid 60s this afternoon. Only isolated showers and thunderstorms are expected this afternoon and evening. These showers will develop again Wednesday afternoon, especially over eastern South Dakota and western Minnesota, as temperatures rise into the mid 60s once again.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 61.3 F at 6:35 PM

Low Outside Temp: 38.8 F at 7:16 AM

High Gust: 21.0 Mph at 3:27 PM

Snow: Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 90° in 1955

Record Low: 20° in 1909

Average High: 64°F

Average Low: 38°F

Average Precip in May: 0.20

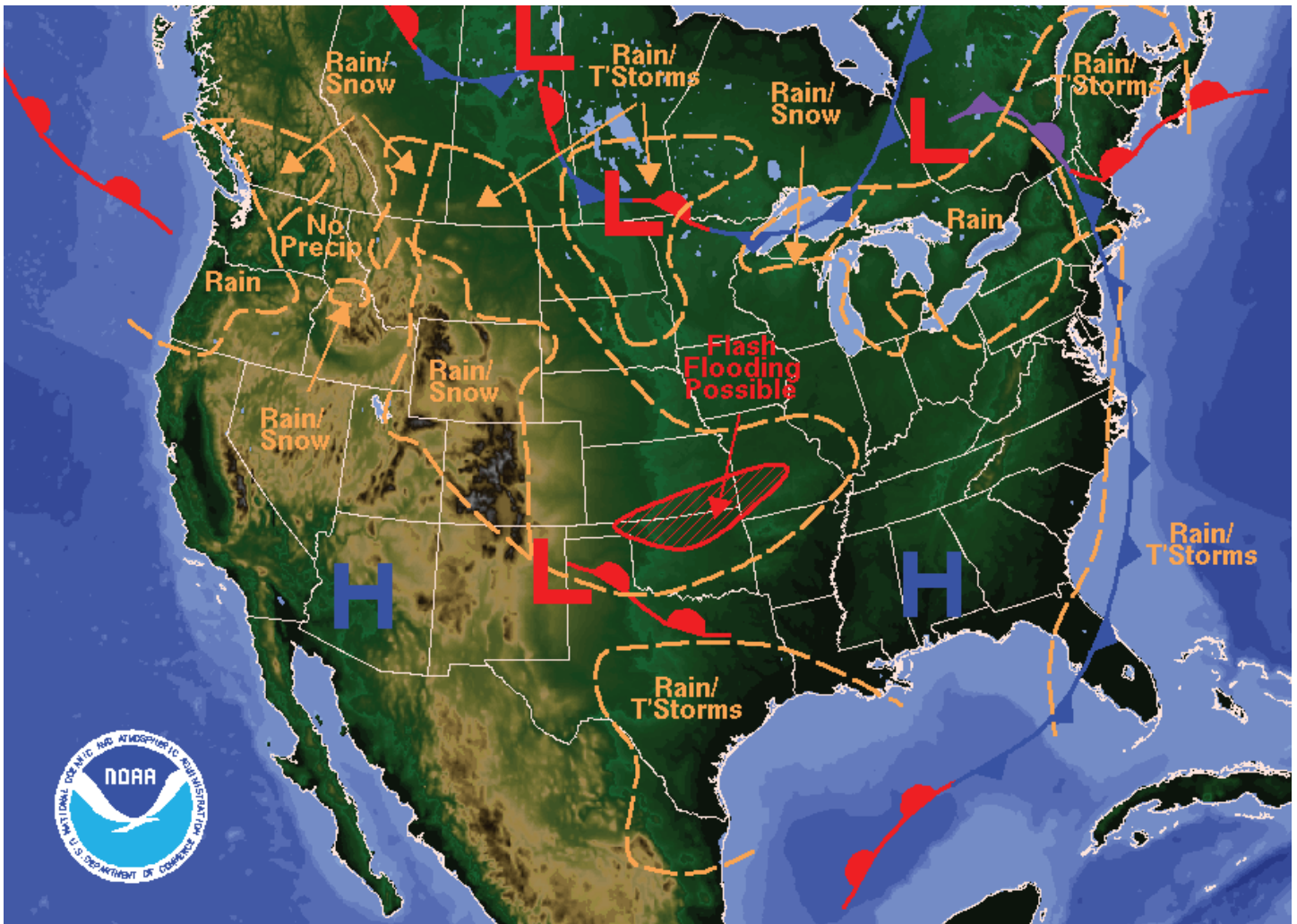
Precip to date in May: 0.00

Average Precip to date: 4.23

Precip Year to Date: 1.98

Sunset Tonight: 8:42 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:18 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Tue, May 02, 2017, issued 4:47 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Mcreynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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BEING ALONE IS A CHOICE

We all enter this world alone and we all depart this world alone. But we do not need to go through life alone.

A visitor walked through the Garden and then came into the office. After sitting quietly for a moment he began to weep loudly, his body trembling. "You know," he said, "I am so alone and so misunderstood. I wish I belonged to somebody, anybody. I hate life with all of its bitterness and loneliness but I am afraid to die."

Continuing on he said, "I have wealth and property, success and influence. But I would rather feel accepted by someone, anyone in exchange for all of my possessions."

Unfortunately, he was not aware of our Father. The Psalmist said, "O, Lord, You have searched me and You know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; You perceive my thoughts from afar. You discern my going out and my lying down; You are familiar with all my ways. Before a word is on my tongue, You know it completely, O Lord."

Many lead lonely lives because of a fear of being known - or as some might say, "being found out." This comes from a fear of not being acceptable to others for who we are or what we might have done in the past. "If you know me," so it seems, "you probably won't like me."

Perhaps that may be true of people, but not God! He has searched us, knows everything about us, and in spite of it all loves us so much that "He gave His only begotten Son to die on our behalf so we can be saved." And if we accept His salvation, He'll never leave us nor forsake us.

Prayer: Thank You, Father, that You offer us a love we do not deserve and Your salvation that we cannot earn. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 139:1, 2a-4b You have searched me, Lord, and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you, Lord, know it completely.

News from the Associated Press

Nebraska village becomes ghost town after beer stores close

By GRANT SCHULTE, Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — A Nebraska village blamed for fueling alcohol-related problems on South Dakota's Pine Ridge Indian Reservation remained a virtual ghost town Monday as mental health and substance abuse advocates arrived to help people at risk of suffering from withdrawal.

The advocates found empty streets in Whiteclay, a sharp contrast from the usual scenes of public drunkenness, loitering and violence in a town that sells millions of cans of beer each year near the home of the Oglala Lakota Tribe. As of Monday afternoon, no one had requested their services.

"We honestly didn't know what to expect," said Matt Walz, a representative for the Keystone Treatment Center based in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. "We're just trying to be helpful and complement the efforts of people here within the tribe. But it's looking right now that Whiteclay is probably not where the needs are at this point in time."

The push to offer services comes amid a major shakeup in the town, which has nine full-time residents. All four of Whiteclay's beer stores closed on Sunday after state regulators refused to renew their licenses, citing concerns about inadequate law enforcement. A district court judge overturned the decision not to renew their licenses, but that ruling was put on hold while the case is appealed.

In a separate case, the Nebraska attorney general's office has filed a combined 22 charges against the stores, including bootlegging and selling alcohol after hours. An attorney for the beer stores filed a motion Monday to dismiss the charges.

Scottsbluff attorney Andrew Snyder argued that because state regulators hadn't renewed the licenses, the liquor-law charges against his clients were moot.

Walz said he was concerned that some regulars in Whiteclay may try to detox by themselves, which can be dangerous. People who are in severe withdrawal can suffer from heart or breathing problems, he said, and in extreme cases they can die.

On Monday, trucks arrived in town to take back unsold beer from the stores. On a sunny day that would typically draw 18 to 20 people to Whiteclay at a time, the streets were empty, said Bruce BonFleur, a faith ministry leader who lives and works in town.

"It's kind of surreal for people who are familiar with the way it normally looks," BonFleur said. "There's going to be a period of adjustment, visually, psychologically, emotionally."

BonFleur's group, Lakota Hope Ministry, is co-hosting an event on May 19-20 with a newly formed legislative task force that is looking to address public health problems in Whiteclay. The gathering will include property and business owners in the area who are looking to spruce up storefronts.

State officials have also demolished several old, abandoned homes where drunken people were known to pass out. BonFleur said he'd like to see the town get a detoxification center, a hub for business and art projects and a YMCA facility to offer services not available on the reservation.

Follow Grant Schulte on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/GrantSchulte>

OSHA: Company ignored safety rules before building collapse

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The construction company that was remodeling a historic downtown Sioux Falls building when it collapsed and killed a worker willfully ignored precautions, federal workplace

safety officials allege.

The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration on Friday issued two new citations against Hultgren Construction. The company was renovating the former Copper Lounge building Dec. 2 when it collapsed, killing a construction worker and trapping an apartment resident under the rubble for hours.

The citations allege the company told employees to remove two load-bearing walls but did not provide instruction on how to install a temporary support system. The investigation found the company also failed to conduct an engineering survey before beginning the demolition work.

OSHA is proposing penalties of \$101,400 for the new citations. That follows more than two dozen other citations and a \$100,000 penalty issued against Hultgren Construction last week related to the construction site. A temporary labor company, Command Center, was also fined \$114,000 last week and intends to contest its citations.

Hultgren Construction president Aaron Hultgren told the Argus Leader (<http://argusne.ws/2pQNaJL>) in an email Monday that his company has received the citations but declined comment.

"Each step we take is with the utmost gravity and respect for everyone concerned," Hultgren wrote. "We at Hultgren Construction remain committed to working through the process with OSHA and all other concerned parties."

An attorney representing the family of Ethan McMahon, the 24-year-old worker killed in the collapse, said OSHA's findings confirm the family's belief that the collapse was avoidable.

"The OSHA citations issued today confirm that this tragedy was entirely preventable and should have never happened," attorney Vince Roche wrote.

The citation report was also being reviewed by an attorney for the family of Emily Fodness, the 22-year-old woman who was trapped in the rubble until firefighters rescued her.

Hultgren Construction has 15 days to contest the citations.

Information from: Argus Leader, <http://www.argusleader.com>

May snow knocks out power in South Dakota but melts quickly

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — April showers gave way to heavy, wet May snow and high winds that brought down power lines in eastern South Dakota.

Xcel Energy reports that more than 2,200 customers lost power Monday morning as the wintry conditions brought down utility poles. Fewer than 700 customers remained without power by 2 p.m.

Northbound lanes of Interstate 29 were closed Monday morning after power lines fell onto the highway.

Sioux Valley Energy says about 1,400 of its customers lost service for part of the day, mainly in Minnehaha County.

The National Weather Service says about 4 inches of snow fell in the Sioux Falls area. With temperatures in the mid-40s, it was melting quickly. Highs in the 60s are forecast for the rest of the week.

Report: Sioux Falls has better rent for minimum wage workers

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A new report shows lower-wage workers have an easier time making rent in Sioux Falls than in other metro areas in the Dakotas, Iowa and Minnesota.

The Argus Leader (<http://argusne.ws/2pxuPOP>) reported the National Low Income Housing Coalition said a full-time minimum-wage worker spending 30 percent of their income on rent would fall \$20 short of the average studio apartment rate in Sioux Falls. Residents in Rapid City and Fargo would fall about

\$100 short.

Calli Johnson works as a cook in downtown Sioux Falls. Even with a roommate, the 31-year-old said finances still get tight.

"I do live paycheck-to-paycheck," Johnson said. "But it's still affordable."

Sioux Falls Housing and Redevelopment Commission executive director Karl Fulmer said the gap between paychecks and bills is growing because older, more affordable housing in Sioux Falls is disappearing as developers renovate buildings and raise rent prices.

"We're fortunate that the gap isn't as large," Fulmer said. "But the future doesn't indicate that the gap will be closing. It will be widening."

Fulmer said the study doesn't take into consideration the quality of the unit or the neighborhood.

"One of the things those studies don't take into effect is the quality of the housing stock," Fulmer said. "We do have a lot of older, aging housing."

The analysis includes units with cheaper rents in rural communities around Sioux Falls, which brings down the area's cost of living.

Information from: Argus Leader, <http://www.argusleader.com>

Midwest economy: April state-by-state glance

By The Associated Press

The Institute for Supply Management, formerly the Purchasing Management Association, began formally surveying its membership in 1931 to gauge business conditions.

The Creighton Economic Forecasting Group uses the same methodology as the national survey to consult supply managers and business leaders. Creighton University economics professor Ernie Goss oversees the report.

The overall index ranges between 0 and 100. Growth neutral is 50, and a figure greater than 50 indicates an expanding economy over the next three to six months.

Here are the state-by-state results for April:

Arkansas: The state's overall index for April fell to 61.1 from March's 63.2. Components of the index were new orders at 59.8, production or sales at 64.1, delivery lead time at 55.1, inventories at 63.4 and employment at 63.2. The state's overall nonfarm job growth over the past 12 months was 1.1 percent. That's higher than the region's 0.9 percent but below the nation's 1.5 percent. "Creighton's survey results over the past several months indicate that Arkansas job and economic growth will climb toward the national average through the third quarter of this year," Goss said.

Iowa: Iowa's overall index jumped to 64.7 last month from 60.5 in March. Components of the index were new orders at 65.8, production or sales at 64.3, delivery lead time at 58.7, employment at 67.3 and inventories at 67.5. The state's overall nonfarm job growth over the past 12 months was 0.5 percent — below the region's 0.9 percent and the nation's 1.5 percent. The survey results over the past several months indicate that Iowa job and economic growth will climb but fall short of the national average through the third quarter of 2017, Goss said.

Kansas: The state's index rose to 56.4 in April from 52.2 in March. Components of index were new orders at 57.5, production or sales at 59.7, delivery lead time at 51.3, employment at 54.3 and inventories at 59.0. The state's overall nonfarm job growth over the past 12 months was 0.3 percent, trailing the region's figure of 0.9 percent and the nation's 1.5 percent. The survey results over the past several months indicate that Kansas job and economic growth will climb but will remain below the national

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average through the third quarter, he said.

Minnesota: Minnesota's overall index slipped to 61.2 last month from March's 61.8. Components of the index were new orders at 61.8, production or sales at 64.1, delivery lead time at 55.1, inventories at 61.7 and employment at 63.2. Minnesota's overall nonfarm job growth over the past 12 months was 1.5 percent, well above the region's 0.9 percent and equal to the nation's figure. "Creighton's survey results over the past several months indicate that Minnesota job and economic growth will exceed the national average through the third quarter of this year," Goss said.

Missouri: The state's index declined to 62.4 in April from 66.6 in March. Components of the index were new orders at 62.7, production or sales at 65.0, delivery lead time at 55.9, inventories at 64.3 and employment at 64.1. "The state's overall nonfarm job growth over the past 12 months was 1.4 percent, which was above the region's 0.9 percent but slightly below the nation's 1.5 percent," Goss said. Creighton's survey results suggest Missouri's job and economic growth will exceed the national average through the third quarter, he said.

Nebraska: Nebraska's index rose in April to 61.0, compared with 59.8 in March. Components of the index were new orders at 60.2, production or sales at 62.4, delivery lead time at 58.9, inventories at 61.7 and employment at 61.5. Nebraska's overall nonfarm job growth over the past 12 months was 0.9 percent — equal to the region's 0.9 percent but under the nation's 1.5 percent. "Creighton's survey results over the past several months indicate that Nebraska job and economic growth will climb toward, but remain below, the national average through the third quarter of this year," Goss said.

North Dakota: The state's overall index climbed to 57.3 last month from 54.3 in March. Components of the index were new orders at 57.6, production or sales at 59.8, delivery lead time at 51.4, employment at 58.9 and inventories at 59.1. The state has lost 0.3 percent of its total nonfarm jobs over the past 12 months. "Creighton's survey results over the past several months indicate that North Dakota job and economic growth will climb into positive territory through the third quarter of this year," Goss said.

Oklahoma: Oklahoma's index jumped to 61.2 in April from 58.2 in March. Components of the overall index were new orders at 61.4, production or sales at 63.7, delivery lead time at 54.8, inventories at 63.0 and employment at 62.8. The state lost 0.1 percent of its total nonfarm jobs over the past 12 months. "Creighton's survey results over the past several months indicate that Oklahoma job and economic growth will climb into positive territory through the third quarter of this year but remain below the national average," Goss said.

South Dakota: The state's overall index rose to a regional high of 68.8 in April from 67.2 in March — also a regional high. Components of the index were new orders at 69.2, production or sales at 71.7, delivery lead time at 61.6, inventories at 70.9 and employment at 70.7. "South Dakota's overall nonfarm job growth over the past 12 months was 1.6 percent, which was above the region's 0.9 percent and the nation's 1.5 percent," Goss said. Survey results over the past several months indicate that South Dakota job and economic growth will continue to exceed the regional and national averages through the third quarter, he said.

Quebec woman wins '2017 Miss Indian World'

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — A member of the Mohawk tribe has been crowned 2017 Miss Indian World at the Gathering of Nations.

The 23-year-old Raven Swamp, of Kahnawake, Quebec, Canada, received the honor this weekend out of 23 Native American women representing their different tribes. Contestants were judged on areas of tribal knowledge, dancing ability, public speaking, and personality assessment.

Dancers from across the United States, Canada and Mexico came to Albuquerque this weekend for the

Gathering of Nations — one of North America's most prominent American Indian powwows.

The powwow featured a number of competitions for dancers, drummers and performers.

Miss Indian World will represent native and indigenous people as a cultural goodwill ambassador for one year.

Survey suggests improvement in Midwest economic conditions

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — A monthly survey of business supply managers suggests economic conditions in nine Midwest and Plains states improved slightly in April, according to a report released Monday.

The Mid-America Business Conditions Index report said the overall economic index for the region rose to 61.4 in April from 60.1 in March. It's the fifth month in a row that the index remained above growth neutral.

"The overall index over the past several months indicates a healthy regional manufacturing economy and points to strong growth for both manufacturing and nonmanufacturing through the third quarter of this year," said Creighton University economist Ernie Goss, who oversees the survey.

The survey results are compiled into a collection of indexes ranging from zero to 100. Survey organizers say any score above 50 suggests growth in that factor. A score below that suggests decline. The survey covers Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma and South Dakota.

The April employment index remained well above growth neutral, climbing to 62.9 from 62.6 in March.

"This is the highest employment gauge recorded since May of 2006," Goss said. "The nonmanufacturing sector of the regional economy continues to outperform the manufacturing sector, but that gap is closing."

The supply managers surveyed were asked last month to identify the greatest economic challenge facing their companies this year. Almost four of 10 reported that finding and hiring qualified workers was their greatest obstacle to 2017 business expansion, the report said.

The business confidence index declined to 69.5 in April from 70.2 in March. Goss attributed the continuing high economic confidence to strong profit growth and still low interest rates.

In two regional measures of foreign trade, the new export orders index fell to 60.5 last month from 61.6 in March, and the import index dropped to 60.7 from March's 62.8.

Dakotas, tribes getting historic preservation grants

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — Both Dakotas and tribes in the two states are getting federal grant money for historic preservation work.

The grants are through the Interior Department and National Park Service. They're aimed at efforts that help preserve historic places, culture and traditions.

The state of North Dakota is getting about \$437,000 and South Dakota nearly \$443,000.

Eleven tribes in the two states also are getting money, ranging from \$27,000 for the Crow Creek Sioux to more than \$46,000 for the Cheyenne River Sioux.

Both are in South Dakota. Other tribes in that state getting funds are the Flandreau Santee, Oglala, Yankton and Rosebud Sioux tribes, and the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate.

In North Dakota, the Spirit Lake and Standing Rock Sioux are getting grants, along with the Three Affiliated Tribes and Turtle Mountain Chippewa.

New camp hopes to erase memory of location's troubled past

CAITLYNN PEETZ, The Daily Republic

PLATTE, S.D. (AP) — Daniel Daum's eyes light up when he talks about a Christian summer camp that will soon "redeem" an area stamped by tragedy.

New Hope Christian Camp and Retreat Center, located on the former Westerhuis estate, has undergone extensive renovations and its "retreat center" is nearly complete, likely ready for use by the end of May, according to Daum, with the Platte Area Ministerial Association.

"It'll be really exciting to have that first group come in and utilize the facility," Daum told the Daily Republic (<http://bit.ly/2nVZJ6b>) earlier this month, looking out a window in the Retreat Center overlooking the 40.4 acre property.

The Ministerial Association hopes the camp will bring healing for Platte residents who were stunned by what authorities ruled as murder-suicide.

New Hope sits on the land formerly owned by Scott and Nicole Westerhuis, a pair of Platte residents allegedly involved in a string of scandals resulting in the termination of an annual \$4.3 million management contract held by Mid-Central Educational Cooperative, at which both were employed. In Sept. 2015, Scott is accused of shooting and killing Nicole and the couple's four kids, setting the family's home ablaze and killing himself.

In Sept. 2016, nearly a year to the day after the killings, the Ministerial Association purchased the land for \$370,000. And, if the Ministerial Association's vision for the property — including implementing a three-acre pond, paint ball area, rope course, playground and more — becomes a reality in the coming years, it could create a one-of-its-kind camp in South Dakota.

"Whether that work begins a year from now or two years from now, we're not really sure," Daum said. "Right now, we're just overwhelmed by God's grace to make everything possible this far."

The nearly completed retreat center is located on the second floor of the shop building, and features four bedrooms, bathrooms, a dining room, kitchen and other living space. Only minor work is left to be completed, Daum said, like drywall and trim work. The last "major" piece of the renovation is to install an outside doorway to serve as an exit from the second floor, that will be a stairwell that leads from a doorway to the ground outside.

But once the work at the retreat center is complete, the Ministerial Association will have to begin what it considers the "major" work at the site. Those renovations will include installing an industrial kitchen, renovating current buildings for cabins, building bathroom facilities and the outdoor chapel and creating space for various activities, Daum said.

Before that work can begin, the group has to do serious fundraising, Daum said. They have already started fundraising.

For \$500, people can sponsor one of 20 bunk beds the camp needs, or \$250 for a half-bunk. In its first week, the fundraiser has netted enough to buy half of the bunk beds the ministerial needs, and Daum said the fundraiser is expected to continue throughout April.

That kind of generosity isn't unprecedented for New Hope.

Most of the supplies for the camp have been donated, as has much of the labor involved in removing charred remains of the house that once sat on the property.

Some of the help has come from people who said they would not be associated with the camp, Daum said.

And while the Ministerial Association is anxious to have all of the work done, its members are more excited get campers to New Hope this summer.

"The thing about Platte is that it's a real God-fearing community, so tragedies like that don't happen

here," Daum said. "They were content with sweeping it under the rug, and us coming in and making people talk about it again wasn't really well-received at first. We're breaking through that now — people are coming around."

Information from: The Daily Republic, <http://www.mitchellrepublic.com>

Study: anglers spend \$47 million fishing Missouri River

NICK LOWREY, The Capital Journal

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — According to a recent study, direct spending on hunting and fishing in South Dakota between October 2015 and October 2016 was more than \$954 million. By comparison, the total value the state's wheat crop as estimated by the USDA was about \$440 million.

The Capital Journal (<http://bit.ly/2pruwI3>) reported that fishing accounted for a little more than \$271.3 million in direct spending around the state, while hunters spent just shy of \$683 million in the state. The study, conducted by Southwick Associates for about \$48,000, broke the spending down by region and by spending categories. The two main spending categories for both hunting and fishing were trip and equipment spending.

Fishing trip-related spending in the state was divided into two regions; the Missouri River and the rest of the state. Along the Missouri, anglers spent more than \$47.3 million on such things as lodging, food, fuel and liquor. Residents spent roughly \$25.7 million on trip expenses, while nonresidents spent a little more than \$21.6 million.

In the rest of the state, resident anglers spent around \$56.3 million while nonresident anglers spent a little more than \$30.6 million on trip expenses for a total of close to \$87 million. In all, anglers spent more than \$134.3 million on trip expenses in South Dakota, the Southwick Associates study found.

Equipment related spending for fishing was broken down between the East and West river regions of the state. Residents spent \$37.6 million on such things as rods, reels, lines and boats in West River South Dakota. Meanwhile, on the eastern side of the state, anglers spent roughly \$89.7 million. The statewide total for resident spending on equipment came to around \$127.4 million.

Statewide, nonresident spending on fishing equipment came to around \$9.5 million.

The Southwick Associates study broke spending on hunting in South Dakota into three regions; the Black Hills, East River and West River. The study also broke down how much money was spent on hunting different categories of game as well as trip-related and equipment expenses.

Trip-related and equipment spending by South Dakota Residents in the East River region came to almost \$257 million. In the West River region spending topped \$52.4 million and in the Black Hills, residents spent almost \$63 million. Statewide, resident spending topped \$372 million.

Nonresidents, meanwhile, spent a total of \$310.7 million on hunting in the state. In the Black Hills nonresidents spent a tad more than \$26 million. In the West River region, nonresidents spent close to \$56 million and in the eastern half of the state nonresidents spent more than \$228.5 million.

Unsurprising is the fact that pheasants drew the largest amount of hunting spending, according to the Southwick Associates study. Nonresidents spent roughly \$172.2 million on pheasant hunting, while residents spent a little more than \$112 million. Most of the spending, about \$236 million occurred East River, while West River saw about \$51 million.

Deer hunting drew the second highest amount of hunter spending, garnering \$160.3 million worth of direct spending. Residents, in this case, were the big spenders. They spent \$112.4 million. Nonresidents spent \$47.8 million on deer hunting.

East River saw \$101.7 million of the deer hunting-related spending, West River garnered \$20.2 million worth of spending and the Black Hills saw \$38.2 million spent on deer hunting.

Information from: Pierre Capital Journal, <http://www.capjournal.com>

Biker mauled by buffalo sues South Dakota ranchers

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A North Dakota woman is suing a South Dakota ranch after she says she was mauled by a buffalo as she drove by the ranch on her motorcycle.

Marisol Heidrich, of Minot, North Dakota, contends that Mickelson Ranch and its owners are negligent, because they allegedly failed to take steps that would have prevented her injuries.

Heidrich is seeking more than \$75,000 in compensation from the ranch and its father-and-son owners, Sam and Travis Mickelson.

Heidrich's attorney says she and her husband were traveling on their motorcycles to the Sturgis rally in August 2014 when a buffalo cow charged Heidrich, knocking her off her motorcycle and stomping on her head.

The Rapid City Journal (<http://bit.ly/2oVD8SY>) reports the Mickelsons deny any negligence and have asked the court to dismiss the complaint.

Information from: Rapid City Journal, <http://www.rapidcityjournal.com>

Rapid City man pleads not guilty in motel killing

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A Rapid City man has pleaded not guilty to charges he fatally stabbed a woman at a motel.

Twenty-three-year-old Vincent Mousseaux is charged with first-degree murder and an alternative of second-degree murder in the death of 30-year-old Deziree Martinez. Police say Martinez was found dead March 8 in a room at the Price Motel in Rapid City following an argument involving Mousseaux.

A prosecutor has said Martinez was stabbed 40 years.

Mousseaux entered his plea Friday. The Rapid City Journal (<http://bit.ly/2qsvpg0>) reports prosecutors are expected to inform the court in May if they plan to seek the death penalty.

Mousseaux is also facing alternate charges of aggravated assault. Police say he stabbed another person in the hotel room.

Information from: Rapid City Journal, <http://www.rapidcityjournal.com>

10 Things to Know for Today

By The Associated Press

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

1. AP ANALYSIS: WHY 'SMART COOKIE' REMARK IS RATTLING SEOUL

Trump's unusual flattery of Kim Jong Un is leaving South Koreans fearful that the geopolitical neophyte may play directly into the hands of Asia's most masterful manipulator.

2. AMERICAN ACCOUNT OF DEADLY MOSUL STRIKE DISPUTED

Witnesses and survivors tell AP they doubt Islamic State militants forced families into the building and booby-trapped it to blow up when hit by a March 17 strike.

3. WHERE GOP MODERATES ARE FEELING THE HEAT

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When it comes to scrapping "Obamacare," some Republican members of Congress are also fielding pressure from divided constituents at home.

4. HOW HOSPITALS ARE DEALING WITH OPIOID EPIDEMIC

Non-addictive alternatives like an ultrasound-guided nerve block that can bathe a key nerve in local anesthetic are just some of treatments for the severe pain of trauma and surgery, AP finds.

5. HOLLYWOOD WRITERS GUILD STRIKES DEAL

A spokesman for film and television producers says a tentative deal has been reached with writers, averting a costly strike that would have blacked out popular TV shows.

6. A STRUGGLE TO FIND SEASONAL HELP

Innkeepers, restaurateurs and landscapers around the U.S. say they are turning down business because the government tightened up on visas for temporary foreign workers.

7. OREGON MAY ENACT STRONG RENTER PROTECTIONS

As the Pacific Northwest state endures an acute housing shortage, the Legislature is considering making landlords pay tenants for no-cause evictions.

8. 'THE LONGEST THREE HOURS OF MY LIFE'

During his monologue, a tearful Jimmy Kimmel tells his audience his newborn son is home and doing great after open-heart surgery.

9. TONY AWARD NOMS WITHOUT 'HAMILTON' MURKY

The biggest crown is the best new musical trophy and most observers expect "Dear Evan Hansen" — a critical and box office hit — to easily claim a nomination.

10. SCENE TURNS UGLY AT FENWAY PARK

Orioles center fielder Adam Jones says he was taunted with racial slurs and had a bag of peanuts thrown at him during Baltimore's game against the Boston Red Sox.

Hollywood writers, producers reach deal; strike averted

By LYNN ELBER, AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A tentative deal was reached between screenwriters and producers Tuesday, averting a strike that could have crippled TV and film production and inflicted harm on the wider California economy.

The three-year agreement, which requires ratification by members of the Writers Guild of America, was confirmed by the guild and producers' spokesman Jarryd Gonzales shortly after the current contract expired early Tuesday. The deal came after a flurry of last-minute bargaining, conducted during a media blackout that offered no tangible details about whether picket lines would go up until after midnight Tuesday.

In a memo to its members, the guild said gains were made across the board, including contributions to the union's health plan that should "ensure its solvency for years to come" — an issue that writers considered key.

The union said it also made strides in pay for series with fewer episodes per season, and in residuals. Members overall will net \$130 million more over the contract's life than they were expected to accept, according to the memo.

There were no details released by the producers early Tuesday.

The agreement spares the late-night shows that would immediately have gone dark without writers, and allows the networks to pursue their schedules for the upcoming TV season without interruption. Movie production would have felt a strike's sting more gradually.

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Guild members voted overwhelmingly last month to authorize a strike, and the WGA could have called for an immediate walkout Tuesday absent a deal. The previous writers' strike extracted an estimated \$2 billion toll on the state. The producers group said the 2007-08 strike cost writers \$287 million in lost compensation.

Russ DeVol, the chief research officer at the Milken Institute, estimated a strike of similar duration would have cost California \$2.5 billion today.

After the 2007-08 strike, the two sides reached agreements in 2010 and 2013, but TV writers in particular have seen their earnings slide since then and wanted to claw back some of those losses.

Driving the dispute were changes in how television is distributed, with streaming platforms including Netflix and Amazon joining broadcast and cable TV and rising in importance.

More outlets have led to more shows, but the TV season model is greatly changed. Despite the fact that there are more series than ever - 455 this season, more than double the number six years ago - shows run for fewer episodes than the traditional 22-24 episode broadcast series.

Short seasons of eight, 10 or 12 episodes means less pay for writers whose payment is structured on a per-episode basis.

To address that, the guild said it won additional compensation for writers who spend more than 2.4 weeks working on a script.

The guild also touted first-time job protection for writers on parental leave.

The agreement avoided a repeat of the 2007-08 strike, which played out in true Hollywood style. Writers took to social media to make their case, entertainingly. Stars including Julia Louis-Dreyfus and Tina Fey joined picket lines, and then-"Tonight Show" host Jay Leno brought doughnuts for strikers.

Before Tuesday's deal was announced, writer-actress Lena Dunham said she would back a strike this time.

"I would never have had the health coverage I had without the union, and that's one of the main points in this," Dunham said at the Met Gala on Monday night.

Actress Debra Winger said she would support any reasonable job action by the writers, but was mindful of the damage it would cause.

"I'm thinking of all the businesses that I work with at Warner Bros. for several months out of the year and (the) restaurants, shoe repair, dry cleaners," Winger said during an interview promoting her new film, "The Lovers." "The last writers' strike affected the city of Los Angeles in a devastating way."

At the Met Gala, CBS chairman and CEO Les Moonves said he was guardedly optimistic that a deal would be reached without a strike.

Associated Press writers Marcela Isaza in Los Angeles and Brooke Lefferts in New York contributed to this report.

What on Earth might a Trump-Kim Jong Un meeting look like?

By TED ANTHONY, Associated Press

BANGKOK (AP) — In one corner: the unpredictable dictator, the third-generation family ruler whose nation has a seven-decade reputation of being erratic, quick to take umbrage and insistent that it is powerful enough to upend the planet. In the other corner: a sandpaper-tongued American president like no other, barely past his first 100 days as leader of the free world, liable to say just about anything — including a handful of conciliatory words at the most unexpected of moments.

On Monday, those conciliatory words from the mouth of Donald Trump included some extraordinary ones about North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, long an object of American scorn and suspicion.

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There were these words from Trump: "Obviously, he's a pretty smart cookie."

And, even more so, there were these: "If it would be appropriate for me to meet with him," Trump told Bloomberg News, "I would absolutely, I would be honored to do it."

Wow, says an astonished world: What if?

In the annals of diplomatic history, such a tete-a-tete, unlikely as it is, would tumble into a category that offers few possible comparisons.

There are the ones that never happened — Roosevelt sitting down with Hitler during World War II, George Bush (whichever one) facing Saddam Hussein while in office. And there are those that did: Kennedy meeting Khrushchev in Vienna, Nixon arriving in Beijing at the dawn of the U.S.-China thaw and immediately heading to a meeting with Mao.

Even those, however, were before many things we take for granted today — perhaps most notably the internet, live television and the instantaneous social-media pipelines that Trump knows and uses so fluidly.

The notion of a substantive sit-down between two of the most gazed-upon figures of this moment in the planet's history is a staggering prospect — and a potential logistical nightmare if the two countries ever tried to make it happen.

Presuming that such a trial balloon is to be taken seriously, what, in fact, would it take to pull off? The loose contours of it could play out as follows:

THE VENUE

Possible locations could include the DMZ, which would be about as cinematic a piece of drama as human geopolitics could offer up, with a room featuring negotiation tables that sit halfway in the North and halfway in the South.

The benefit of this location would be the presence of existing security. It's already the nucleus of one of the most tense patches of the planet, and it's effectively already wired for such an event. Somewhere in China would be a possible, though highly unlikely, location as well.

But could it be elsewhere? Perhaps famously neutral Switzerland, where the now-infrequent world traveler Kim Jong Un almost certainly spent part of his upbringing attending school? Could it possibly even be the White House, where Trump has already caused uproars by hosting the president of Egypt and by calling the president of Turkey, both perceived in the West as hardly the most robust upholders of American values. That would be highly controversial and even more unlikely — just getting Kim a visa would be an interesting proposition — but stranger things have happened.

Or perhaps, gaming it out, things might take place in an unexpected or even unknown place. In 1989, George H.W. Bush and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev met on a ship off Malta to discuss the changes taking place in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, and it propelled the tiny Mediterranean island into notoriety for several years. Malta was itself a follow-up in some ways to the fabled Yalta conference, in which Roosevelt, Winston Churchill and Joseph Stalin met in Crimea in early 1945 to plot out Europe's postwar configurations.

The United States has been the site of such sensitive meetings, too, with Camp David being the most notable locale for its Carter-administration peace talks between Israel's Menachem Begin and Egypt's Anwar Sadat. The history of such things is lengthy; in 1905, Theodore Roosevelt helped broker peace between the warring nations of Japan and Russia in the unlikely locale of a small New England town. More recently, the unlikely venue of Dayton, Ohio, became the site in 1995 of peace accords to end the Bosnian war. But those were other nations in conflict, not the United States itself.

And what about Pyongyang? There would be precedent for that — from U.S. envoys like Madeleine

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Albright to a previous Japanese prime minister to faded basketball star Dennis Rodman — and the Kims are not known for their love of foreign travel, which carries them away from turf and situations they can completely control.

Whatever the case, barring it taking place at the DMZ, such a high-stakes, high-security Trump-Kim meeting would change a place for a long time, if not forever.

THE TOPICS

Nuclear disarmament — North Korea's — would be first on the table. You'd think. But with two such unpredictable rulers, no one could be absolutely certain.

Given Trump's style so far, time might be given to developing some sort of rapport between the two men before any negotiations began. But major topics would surely emerge before too long.

Among them: Aid to the North, which has played the brinkmanship game many times before with an eye toward getting assistance for its poor, sometimes hungry populace. Relations with the South. And weapons tests — missile and in particular nuclear, which make the United States and China, not to mention the South, very uncomfortable.

THE REACTION

The wildcards here would be South Korea, Russia, and, of course, China — the North's patron for many decades and, of late, its increasingly wary and irritated neighbor.

In South Korea's case, such a meeting would be an existential event. Most agree that Kim's arsenal has enough accuracy and firepower to devastate the South, and so a meeting between the United States, South Korea's military protector, and the North would have serious security implications for Seoul even if virtually nothing of substance was discussed.

China is wary of any U.S. involvement in its sphere of influence, and is already at odds with Washington about territorial claims in the South China Sea, while the perennial issue of Taiwan's autonomy always lurks in the background. Beijing has courted South Korea in recent years more than before, with Chinese President Xi Jinping visiting Seoul in 2014 in what was seen as a hint to the North. (Recent Chinese trepidations over THAAD, the U.S.-made missile system being set up in South Korea, have restored some of the tension with Beijing.)

Against this backdrop, any Trump-Kim sit-down would, using conventional wisdom, have to involve China and the pressure it can exert on the North — something the Trump White House has always said was necessary. But protocol does not always seem to be the order of the day, as Trump's unexpected, pre-inauguration call to Taiwan's new president underscored.

Finally, Russia and its leader, Vladimir Putin, would watch from afar with great wariness and probable dismay. Such a meeting could alter Moscow's relationships with both Beijing and Washington, and probably Pyongyang as well.

Oh, and let's not forget the media reaction. Obviously any such meeting would be THE visual of the year for news organizations. Setting it up as a media event would draw hundreds if not thousands of news outlets. That would mean a major infrastructure setup that's on par with a summit meeting of leaders or an Olympics.

THE ALLURE

Whatever the political implications, this much is certain: Any meeting with Donald Trump and Kim Jong Un, anywhere in the world, would be — if it ever actually happened — one of the most dramatic events of the 21st century thus far.

It would encompass three major global narratives at once: The United States under Donald Trump, and what his administration means; the Kim family and the unique, mercurial way they have ruled

North Korea and projected themselves to the world; and the regional security and defense of East Asia, one of the most strategically pivotal regions in the world.

It would be big. It would be loud. It would be momentous, somewhat surreal and entirely unexpected. All things quite familiar to the worlds of two singular, bound-to-change-the-world men named Kim Jong Un and Donald J. Trump.

Then again, you might not want to hold your breath. This came in Tuesday afternoon from the official news agency for North Korea, which goes by the formal name Democratic People's Republic of Korea: "The Trump administration that newly took office in the U.S. is provoking the DPRK with no reason, not knowing what rival it stands against."

Ted Anthony, director of Asia-Pacific News for The Associated Press, is based in Bangkok, Thailand. He has covered Asia for nearly a decade over his career and traveled to North Korea six times since 2014. Follow him on Twitter at @anthonyted

Overcoming Opioids: When pills are a hospital's last resort

By LAURAN NEERGAARD, AP Medical Writer

BALTIMORE (AP) — A car crash shattered Stuart Anders' thigh, leaving pieces of bone sticking through his skin. Yet Anders begged emergency room doctors not to give him powerful opioid painkillers — he'd been addicted once before and panicked at the thought of relapsing.

"I can't lose what I worked for," he said.

The nation's opioid crisis is forcing hospitals to begin rolling out non-addictive alternatives to treatments that have long been the mainstay for the severe pain of trauma and surgery, so they don't save patients' lives or limbs only to have them fall under the grip of addiction.

Anders, 53, from Essex, Maryland, was lucky to land in a Baltimore emergency room offering an option that dramatically cut his need for opioids: An ultrasound-guided nerve block bathed a key nerve in local anesthetic, keeping his upper leg numb for several days.

"It has really changed the dynamics of how we care for these patients," said trauma anesthesiologist Dr. Ron Samet, who treated Anders.

An estimated 2 million people in the U.S. are addicted to prescription opioids, and an average of 91 Americans die every day from an overdose of those painkillers or their illicit cousin, heroin.

This grim spiral often starts in the hospital. A Harvard study published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* in February raised the troubling prospect that for every 48 patients newly prescribed an opioid in the emergency room, one will use the pills for at least six months over the next year. And the longer they're used, the higher the risk for becoming dependent.

Doctors and hospitals around the country are searching for ways to relieve extreme pain while at the same time sharply limiting what was long considered their most effective tool. It's a critical part of the effort to overcome the worst addiction crisis in U.S. history but, as Anders' experience shows, their options are neither simple nor perfect.

Anders' excruciating injury eventually did require a low opioid dose when the nerve block wore off but, Samet said, far less than normal.

"Provide them with good pain relief initially, for the first 24 to 48 hours after surgery, the pain that comes back after that isn't necessarily as hard and as strong," said Samet, an assistant anesthesiology professor at the University of Maryland School of Medicine.

And some doctors are discovering an added benefit of cutting back or even eliminating opioids. At the

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University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, a program called "enhanced recovery after surgery" is getting some patients home two to four days faster following major abdominal operations, using non-opioid painkillers that are gentler on the digestive tract.

"Our patients are very afraid of pain, especially the patients with a history of opioid addiction," said Dr. Jennifer Holder-Murray, a UPMC colorectal surgeon who helped start the program. "When they come back to me and tell me they didn't even fill their opioid prescription, that's a remarkable experience."

In trauma centers and surgery suites, there are no one-size-fits-all replacements for prescription opioids — narcotic painkillers that range from intravenous morphine and Dilaudid to pills including Percocet, Vicodin and OxyContin. They so rapidly dull severe pain that they've become a default in hospital care, to the point where it's not uncommon for patients to have an opioid dripping through an IV before they wake from surgery, whether they'll really need it or not.

Now, amid surging deaths from drug overdoses, some hospitals and emergency rooms are rethinking their own dependence on the painkillers, taking steps to make them a last resort rather than a starting reflex.

The new approach: Mixing a variety of different medications, along with techniques like nerve blocks, spinal anesthesia and numbing lidocaine, to attack pain from multiple directions, rather than depending solely on opioids to dampen brain signals that scream "ouch." It's known by the wonky name "multi-modal analgesia."

Consider colorectal surgery, so painful that standard practice is to administer IV opioids in the operating room and switch to a patient-activated morphine pump right afterward. The University of Pittsburgh program ended that opioid-first mentality. Instead, doctors choose from a wide mix of options including IV acetaminophen and prescription-strength anti-inflammatory painkillers known as NSAIDs, anti-seizure medications such as gabapentin that calm nerve pain, muscle-relaxing drugs, and others.

Without the opioid side effects of nausea, vomiting and constipation, patients may find it easier to start eating solid food and walking around hours after surgery. Some do still need a low opioid dose, Holder-Murray cautioned, but few require a morphine pump. And for those who go home earlier, the approach can save hundreds, even thousands, of dollars.

"It's not just changing a medication or two. It's a whole culture change," she said.

At MedStar Georgetown University Hospital, anesthesiologist Dr. Joseph Myers is adding to his non-opioid cocktail a long-acting version of the numbing agent bupivacaine that's squirted into wounds before they're stitched closed. Called Exparel, it's controversial because it costs more than standard painkillers. But Myers said it lasts so many hours longer that he recently used it for a cancer patient who had both breasts removed, without resorting to opioids.

Hours after surgery, she was "eating crackers and drinking ginger ale and she says she's fine," he recalled.

At Stanford University, pain psychologist Beth Darnall says it's not just about using different medications. Patients who are overly anxious about surgical pain wind up feeling worse, so doctors also need to address psychological factors if they're to succeed in cutting the opioids.

In Baltimore, Anders remembers waking up in the University of Maryland's Shock Trauma Center and telling doctors and nurses, "I am a recovering addict." Years earlier, another car crash had led him to a pain clinic that prescribed Percocet "just like candy," Anders said.

Before getting addiction treatment, he said, "I came close to losing my job, losing my wife."

Samet, the anesthesiologist, estimates that Anders' nerve block cut by tenfold the amount of opioids he'd otherwise have received for his latest injury. Samet wheeled over a portable ultrasound machine, placed a probe over Anders' pelvis and searched the black-and-white screen for the dots that mark key

nerves. He threaded a tiny tube directly to Anders' femoral nerve, allowing for repeated infusions of a non-addictive numbing medication for three days.

"It's like a Godsend. If you can have something like this, why would you want to take anything else?" Anders said a day after surgeons implanted a rod in his femur to fix the break. "I can wiggle my toes, I can move my foot, there's feeling right above the ankle," but in that damaged thigh, "I can't feel anything."

Patients need to ask about these kinds of alternatives, Samet said, but they're not available at all hospitals. Nerve blocks are becoming more common for elective bone surgery than in fast-paced trauma care, for example.

What Samet calls a lingering weak link: Even if patients go home with only a small supply of an opioid for lingering post-surgical pain, too often they get a refill from another doctor who assumes that prescription must be OK if a hospital chose it.

Not Anders. Sent home with some low-dose oxycodone, he discarded the last 20 pills.

"I didn't want them," he said, "and I didn't want nobody else getting their hands on them."

Gunman calls ex-girlfriend as he unleashed terror by a pool

By JULIE WATSON and ELLIOT SPAGAT, Associated Press

SAN DIEGO (AP) — The pool party was in full swing when a lone man reclining in a lounge chair with a blank expression pulled a gun from his waistband and began shooting.

As bodies fell on the pool deck and people ran for their lives, the gunman despondent over a recent breakup dialed his ex-girlfriend so she could listen as he continued firing at strangers.

Although Peter Selis was white and all but one of the victims were black and Latino, Chief Shelley Zimmerman said Monday there was "zero indication" race was a motive.

Instead, the attack that killed one woman and injured six other partygoers seemed to be driven by a recent split-up with the woman he called after he shot his first two victims.

"It is apparent that Selis wanted his ex-girlfriend to listen in as he carried out his rampage," Zimmerman said. "These victims were just in his vicinity when he committed this terrible tragedy."

Selis, 49, was gunned down in a shootout Sunday with police in the upscale apartment complex where people screamed in terror as gunshots echoed between the towers.

Less than an hour earlier, Selis had stood out from the crowd of about 35 as he sat alone in the pool area of the massive La Jolla Crossroads apartment complex, where he lived on Judicial Drive.

As children splashed, a family soaked in a hot tub and others ate chips and hot dogs, Selis sat by the pool gate wearing a heavy black jacket on a hot day, said Demetrius Griffin, a guest at the party.

The shooting began after the man celebrating his 50th birthday approached Selis. Griffin assumed his friend, who was always welcoming, invited the man to join the fun.

Instead, Selis pulled a gun from his waistband, shot the party host twice in the torso and then opened fire on the party, Griffin said.

"It was very eerie, to say the least," Griffin said. "He didn't stand up. He didn't say anything. He just opened fire."

Griffin briefly froze and then dropped to the ground as six rounds sent people scattering and dropped others on the pool deck.

Selis called his ex-girlfriend during the shooting and immediately told her that he had shot two people, the police were arriving and then "made some reference to 'shooting it out' or something along those lines," Assistant Police Chief Brian Ahearn said. The woman heard two more gunshots before the line

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went dead, Ahearn said.

One victim, 34-year-old Thomas Blea, said he was grateful to a security guard at the apartment complex who hustled him and two other victims quickly to safety.

"That guy saved us a lot of time. Getting us to the fire department in a safe zone," said Blea as he sat with his leg bandaged in a wheelchair outside the hospital. The guard's name has not been released.

Selis, a father who worked as a mechanic at a Ford dealership, had been distraught and depressed after a breakup just days before, though family and friends interviewed by police had no hint of any sinister plot.

He filed for federal bankruptcy protection in October 2015, listing \$14,000 in assets and \$108,000 in liabilities, according to court records.

Selis shot three black women, two black men, a Latino man and a white woman, police said.

Six of the shooting victims were expected to survive, Zimmerman said. Another man was taken to the hospital after he broke his arm running away.

None of the victims was identified. Efforts to reach his ex-girlfriend were unsuccessful.

Investigators have not found any writings or evidence from internet searches that Selis had planned the shootings, Ahearn said.

"There was nothing obvious or public that this was his intention," he said.

Griffin, who helped carry a woman shot in the legs to safety, woke up Monday in a panic thinking he was still at the pool.

"I was shaking. I started crying," he said. "My eyes got really, really big as if they were going to pop out of my head and I kind of rolled over off the couch, onto the floor as if the gunman were still active."

Associated Press reporters Christopher Weber, Michael Balsamo and Brian Melley in Los Angeles contributed to this report.

Arrests made as thousands rally in US for and against Trump

By LISA BAUMANN and STEVE PEOPLES, Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — Tens of thousands across the country peacefully chanted, picketed and protested Monday against President Donald Trump's immigration and labor policies on May Day, despite a small pocket of violent unrest in the Pacific Northwest.

Peaceful protesters flocked to the streets in Chicago. At the White House gates, they demanded "Donald Trump has got to go!"

But police shut down a protest in Portland, Oregon, that they said had become a riot, after marchers began throwing smoke bombs and other items at officers. Police said they made more than two dozen arrests as a group of anarchists wearing black bandanas and ski masks grew unruly, reportedly breaking windows at businesses, setting fires on downtown streets and damaging a police car.

Five people in Seattle were arrested, one for hurling a rock as pro- and anti-Trump demonstrators faced off.

In the Washington state capital of Olympia, police ordered protesters to disperse, calling them "members of a mob" as some threw bottles, used pepper spray and fired marbles from slingshots at officers. Objects struck nine officers and nine people were arrested, according to Olympia Police Chief Ronnie Roberts.

In Oakland, California, at least four were arrested after creating a human chain to block a county building where demonstrators demanded that county law enforcement refuse to collaborate with federal immigration agents.

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Despite the West Coast clashes, most nationwide protests were peaceful as immigrants, union members and their allies staged a series of strikes, boycotts and marches to highlight the contributions of immigrants in the United States.

"It is sad to see that now being an immigrant is equivalent to almost being a criminal," said Mary Quezada, a 58-year-old North Carolina woman who joined those marching on Washington.

She offered a pointed message to Trump: "Stop bullying immigrants."

May 1 is International Workers' Day and protesters from the Philippines to Paris celebrated by demanding better working conditions. But the widespread protests in the United States were aimed directly at the new president.

Trump, in his first 100 days, has intensified immigration enforcement, including executive orders for a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border and a ban on travelers from six predominantly Muslim countries.

In Chicago, 28-year-old Brenda Burciaga was among thousands of people who marched through the streets to push back against the new administration.

"Everyone deserves dignity," said Burciaga, whose mother is set to be deported after living in the U.S. for about 20 years. "I hope at least they listen. We are hardworking people."

In cities large and small, the protests intensified throughout the day.

Teachers working without contracts opened the day by picketing outside schools in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. Activists in Phoenix petitioned state legislators to support immigrant families.

Thousands of union members and activists marched in the shadow of some of the biggest resorts on the Las Vegas Strip, including a hotel that bears the president's name.

In a Los Angeles park, several thousand people waved American flags and signs reading "love not hate."

Selvin Martinez, an immigrant from Honduras with an American flag draped around his shoulders, took the day off from his job waxing casino floors to protest. "We hope to get to be respected as people, because we are not animals, we are human beings," said Martinez, who moved to Los Angeles 14 years ago fleeing violence in his country.

The White House did not respond to requests for a response to the May Day demonstrations.

Several protesters, like 39-year-old Mario Quintero, outed themselves as being in the country illegally to help make their point.

"I'm an undocumented immigrant, so I suffer in my own experience with my family," said Quintero at a Lansing, Michigan, rally. "That's why I am here, to support not only myself but my entire community."

In Miami, Alberto and Maribel Resendiz closed their juice bar, losing an estimated revenue of \$3,000, to join a rally.

"This is the day where people can see how much we contribute," said Alberto Resendiz, who previously worked as a migrant worker in fields as far away as Michigan. "This country will crumble down without us."

He added, "We deserve a better treatment."

In Providence, Rhode Island, about the same number of people gathered at Burnside Park before a two-hour protest that touched on deportation, profiling and wage theft.

In Oakland at a later march, more than 1,000 people marched peacefully representing labor groups along with Mexican, Vietnamese, Chinese, Filipino and other immigrants.

While union members traditionally march on May 1 for workers' rights around the world, the day has become a rallying point for immigrants in the U.S. since massive demonstrations were held on the date in 2006 against a proposed immigration enforcement bill.

In recent years, immigrant rights protests shrank as groups diverged and shifted their focus on voter

registration and lobbying. Larger crowds returned this year, prompted by Trump's ascension to the presidency.

Peoples reported from New York. AP writers Amy Taxin in Los Angeles, Jessica Gresko in Washington, D.C., Kristen De Groot in Philadelphia, Adriana Gomez Licon in Miami, Sophia Tareen in Chicago, Deepti Hajela in New York, Sarah Rankin in Richmond, Virginia, Lisa Adams in Charlotte, North Carolina, Gillian Flaccus in Portland, Oregon and Crystal Hill in Boston contributed to this report.

Pool party gunman called ex-girlfriend during deadly rampage

By JULIE WATSON and ELLIOT SPAGAT, Associated Press

SAN DIEGO (AP) — A gunman distraught over a recent breakup calmly reclined in a pool chair as he shot strangers at a birthday party and phoned his ex-girlfriend so she could hear the gunfire and screams of terror, San Diego police said Monday.

Before police fatally shot him, Peter Selis killed one woman and wounded six other people in a rampage that turned a birthday party into bedlam as shots echoed among upscale apartment towers, people ran for their lives and the wounded lay bleeding by the pool.

All but one of the victims were black and Latino and Selis was white, but police don't think race played a factor.

"These victims were just in his vicinity when he committed this terrible tragedy," police Chief Shelley Zimmerman said. "What started as a celebration of a friend's birthday party turned into a tragedy of just epic proportion for all those in attendance."

Selis, 49, was despondent and depressed over a recent breakup, though family and friends interviewed by police had no hint of any sinister plot.

As children splashed in the pool Sunday, a family soaked in a hot tub and others ate chips and hot dogs, the gunman stood out from the crowd of about 35 as he sat by the pool gate wearing a heavy black jacket on a hot day, said Demetrius Griffin, a guest at the party.

The shooting began after the man celebrating his 50th birthday approached Selis. Griffin assumed his friend, who was always welcoming, invited the man to join the fun.

Instead, he pulled a gun from his waistband, shot the party host twice in the torso and then opened fire on the party, Griffin said.

"It was very eerie, to say the least," Griffin said. "He didn't stand up. He didn't say anything. He just opened fire."

Griffin briefly froze and then dropped to the ground as six rounds sent people scattering and dropped others on the pool deck.

After shooting two people, Selis, a resident at the complex, called his ex-girlfriend to tell her what he'd done.

"Selis stayed on the phone talking to his ex-girlfriend as he continued to fire his weapon," Zimmerman said. "It is apparent that Selis wanted his ex-girlfriend to listen in as he carried out his rampage."

During the brief call, Selis told the woman that he had shot two police, the police were arriving and then "made some reference to 'shooting it out' or something along those lines," Assistant Police Chief Brian Ahearn said. The woman heard two more gunshots before the line went dead, he said.

At 6:06 p.m., a caller told police two people had been shot at the La Jolla Crossroads complex on Judicial Drive. Several other callers reported hearing gunfire and people screaming.

One victim, 34-year-old Thomas Blea, gave thanks to a security guard at the apartment complex who

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quickly hustled him and two other victims to safety.

"That guy saved us a lot of time. Getting us to the fire department in a safe zone," said Blea as he sat with his leg bandaged in a wheelchair outside the hospital. The guard's name has not been released.

Rikky Galiendes, a student at the University of California, San Diego, said he heard between eight and 10 gunshots, looked outside his sixth-story apartment and saw a bleeding man running near the pool below.

"The whole thing was really emotionally draining — seeing blood everywhere, seeing bodies on the ground, hoping they survived, seeing bloody footsteps you know of people who ran away," Galiendes said. "There was just so much blood."

A police helicopter and officers on the ground arrived about 7 minutes after the first call. The pilot reported seeing multiple victims down and directed officers to Selis, who he said appeared to be reloading his weapon.

Selis was killed as he fired his .45-caliber handgun at a sergeant and two officers, Zimmerman said.

Selis shot three black women, two black men, a Latino man and a white woman, police said.

Six of the shooting victims were expected to survive, Zimmerman said. Another man was taken to the hospital after he broke his arm running away.

Selis, a father who worked as a mechanic at a Ford dealership, filed for federal bankruptcy protection in October 2015, listing \$14,000 in assets and \$108,000 in liabilities, according to court records.

Investigators have not found any notes or evidence in his internet search history to suggest that Selis planned the shooting, Ahearn said.

"There was nothing obvious or public that this was his intention," he said.

Griffin, who helped carry a woman shot in the legs to safety, woke up Monday in a panic thinking he was still at the pool.

"I was shaking. I started crying," he said. "My eyes got really, really big as if they were going to pop out of my head, and I kind of rolled over off the couch, onto the floor as if the gunman were still active."

Associated Press reporters Christopher Weber, Michael Balsamo and Brian Melley in Los Angeles contributed to this report.

This story has been corrected to show that one of the victims was white and not all of the victims were black or Latino, according to new information provided by police.

Major hops: LeBron scores 35, grabs beer as Cavs top Raptors

By TOM WITHERS, AP Sports Writer

CLEVELAND (AP) — LeBron James resisted drinking some beer. He downed the Raptors again instead. James grabbed a bottle of beer on the sideline while scoring 35 points, Kyrie Irving added 24 and the Cleveland Cavaliers picked up where they left off following a long layoff and throttled Toronto 116-105 on Monday night in the opener of their Eastern Conference semifinal.

The Cavs hadn't played since April 23, when they completed a four-game sweep of Indiana. But the defending champions didn't show signs of rust and were well-prepared to face the revenge-seeking Raptors, who lost to Cleveland in last year's conference finals.

"That was the mystery coming into the game, how we would come out?" James said. "Obviously you prepare, you want to come out and play well, but you never know after an eight-day layoff. But the energy was phenomenal."

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Toronto dropped to 1-12 in playoff openers, and the Raptors got blown out in the playoffs for the fourth straight time in Cleveland.

Game 2 is Wednesday night.

Kyle Lowry scored 20 and DeMar DeRozan 19 for the Raptors, who were within seven in the third quarter before James dropped a 3-pointer, converted a three-point play, drained another 3 and then considered washing down a brew — a moment he said wasn't planned.

After drawing a foul on a missed layup, James playfully hopped toward the sideline, where a courtside server was passing by. The three-time champion reached and grabbed a beer bottle from her hand and brought it toward his lips before putting it back.

"I wasn't going to run over our beer lady," he said. "She had one and I grabbed it. I'm not a beer guy. If she had some red wine I would have probably taken a sip."

With trade acquisitions Serge Ibaka and P.J. Tucker, this Toronto team seemed better equipped to beat Cleveland than the one which lost in six games in last year's playoffs.

Trouble is, James only seems to be getting better and the Cavs are gaining speed.

"They were well-rested, flying around — almost like a half a step quicker than we were all night," said Toronto coach Dwane Casey. "We've got to make adjustments as far as how we want to guard the paint and then get out to the 3. Offensively, get cleaner looks."

Before the game, Casey talked about the big comebacks that have been a theme in these playoffs. The Raptors blew a 25-point lead to Milwaukee in the first round, while the Cavs overcame a 25-point deficit and pulled off the biggest second-half rally in playoff history.

"There's no lead safe in the NBA," he said.

That's what happened to the Cavs in the first half as they built an 18-point lead only to watch the Raptors go on a 19-3 burst to pull within 41-39.

But Cleveland regrouped and, playing a turnover-free second quarter, led 62-48 at half.

James' legs looked fresh early on as he and Irving teamed up on a stunning alley-oop.

After he poked the ball away for a steal, James took off up the floor with Irving on the break. James pointed toward the backboard and Irving understood the message, bouncing a pass high off the glass that James grabbed and dunked with his left hand.

TIP-INS

Raptors: Have lost last four postseason games in Cleveland by an average 24.7 points. ... G Norman Powell appeared to intentionally hit Kevin Love in the groin area, a play that could come under league review. Later, Powell was assessed a technical for jawing with Cavs G Dahntay Jones, who was ejected and will be fined. ... Toronto's lone win in a playoff opener came in 2001.

Cavaliers: G/F J.R. Smith banged his surgically repaired right thumb in the first half. He said the team's medical staff told him there was no structural damage. ... James needs 25 points to pass Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (5,762 points) for second place on the league's postseason scoring list, and two 3-pointers to join Ray Allen, Reggie Miller and Manu Ginobili as the only players to connect on 300 postseason 3s. ... James has scored at least 30 in 88 playoff games, tying Kobe Bryant for second on the career list. Only Michael Jordan (109) has more.

IRVING'S DIMES

Irving had a playoff career-high 10 assists after getting just 12 in the entire series against Indiana. None was as memorable as his leave for James.

"It's just another play in the books for me and Bron," he said.

THE WHOLE TRUTH

James had some memorable playoff matchups with Paul Pierce, who played his last game on Sunday when the Los Angeles Clippers were eliminated by Utah.

The 39-year-old Pierce played 19 seasons, and as far as James is concerned, he should be on his way to basketball immortality.

"He put his mark on this game," James said. "Somebody I've always respected and competed against and pushed me in the Eastern Conference for quite a while. A champion. His numbers and what he was able to do out on the floor speaks for itself. So I would say his next stop is the Hall of Fame. He had a hell of a ride for sure."

UP NEXT

The Cavs are 16-1 at home against Eastern teams in the playoffs since 2015.

More AP NBA: <https://apnews.com/tag/NBAbasketball>

Seoul: THAAD can defend against North Korean missiles

By KIM TONG-HYUNG, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — A contentious U.S. anti-missile system in southeastern South Korea is now operating and can now defend against North Korean missiles, a South Korean official said Tuesday.

The Terminal High Altitude Defense system set up at a converted golf course in Seongju has "early capability" to respond to North Korea's nuclear and missile threat, Defense Ministry spokesman Moon Sang Gyun said. He didn't say when Washington and Seoul expected THAAD to be operating fully.

The deployment has triggered anger from Seongju residents who fear North Korea may target their town and who worry about rumored health hazards linked to THAAD's powerful radar.

People also debate whether the security benefits of THAAD would outweigh drawbacks if relations worsen with China, which sees the system as a threat, and they have been angered by President Donald Trump's statement that he would make South Korea pay \$1 billion for the system.

The United States and South Korea say THAAD is crucial to counter North Korea's weapons advances. The North conducted two nuclear tests last year alone, which experts say would have improved its knowledge for making nuclear warheads small enough to fit on missiles, and has been speeding up its development of new missiles, including solid-fuel rockets that can be fired from mobile launchers on land and from submarines.

President Donald Trump says he isn't ruling out military action against North Korea but has also expressed openness to a future meeting with North Korean ruler Kim Jong Un, offering unusual praise for the third-generation dictator amid the nuclear tensions.

"If it would be appropriate for me to meet with him, I would absolutely, I would be honored to do it," Trump told Bloomberg News. In an interview with CBS' "Face the Nation" that aired Sunday, Trump said Kim was obviously a "pretty smart cookie" as he took power in his 20s and held it despite "a lot of people" trying to take it away.

The THAAD battery had originally been scheduled to enter operation by the end of the year. When completed, it will consist of six truck-mounted launchers that can fire up to 48 interceptors toward incoming missiles detected by the system's x-band radar.

Critics question whether the United States and Seoul's caretaker government are rushing to set up THAAD before an election May 9 that will bring a change in the government in Seoul, which became necessary after Park Geun-hye was impeached and ousted from the presidency in a corruption scandal.

Front-runner Moon Jae-in, a liberal who calls for engagement with North Korea, has said he would reconsider THAAD if he becomes president.

North Korea conducted another missile test on Saturday, its third launch in April alone, which reportedly failed soon after launch, and its Foreign Ministry said Monday the country will speed up measures to bolster its nuclear program "at the maximum pace."

A statement circulated by North Korea's U.N. Mission says the government is ready to respond to any option taken by the United States.

Maduro decrees Venezuelans will write new constitution

By HANNAH DREIER, Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Venezuela's embattled president issued a decree Monday for writing a new constitution, ratcheting up a political crisis that has drawn hundreds of thousands of anti-government protesters into the streets.

President Nicolas Maduro gave no details on how members would be chosen for a planned citizen assembly to produce a new charter, though he hinted some would be selected by voters. Many observers expect the socialist administration to give itself the power to pick a majority of delegates to the convention.

Opposition leaders immediately objected, charging that writing a new constitution would give Maduro an excuse to put off regional elections scheduled for this year and a presidential election that was to be held in 2018. Polling has suggested the socialists would lose both those elections badly amid widespread anger over Venezuela's economic woes.

Speaking hours after another big march demanding his ouster ended in clashes between police and protesters, Maduro said a new constitution is needed to restore peace and stop the opposition from trying to carry out a coup.

"This will be a citizens assembly made up of workers," Maduro said. "The day has come brothers. Don't fail me now. Don't fail (Hugo) Chavez and don't fail your motherland."

If the constitutional process goes forward, opposition leaders will need to focus on getting at least some sympathetic figures included in the citizens assembly. That could distract them from the drumbeat of near daily street protests that they have managed to keep up for four weeks, political analyst Luis Vicente Leon said.

"It's a way of calling elections that uses up energy but does not carry risk, because it's not a universal, direct and secret vote," Leon said. "And it has the effect of pushing out the possibility of elections this year and probably next year as well."

The constitution was last rewritten in 1999, early in the 14-year presidency of the late Hugo Chavez, who began Venezuela's socialist transformation.

The leader of the opposition-controlled National Assembly, Julio Borges, called the idea of a constitutional assembly a "giant fraud" by Maduro and his allies designed to keep them in power at any cost. Borges said it would deny Venezuelans the right to express their views at the ballot box, and he urged the military to prevent the "coup" by Maduro.

"What the Venezuelan people want isn't to change the constitution but to change Maduro through voting," he said at a news conference in eastern Caracas, where anti-government protesters once again clashed with police Monday.

Anti-government protests have been roiling Venezuela for a month, and Borges said more pressure is needed to restore democracy. He called for a series of street actions, including a symbolic pot-banging protest Monday night and a major demonstration Wednesday.

Earlier Monday, anti-Maduro protesters tried to march on government buildings in downtown Caracas, but police blocked their path — just as authorities have done more than a dozen times in four weeks.

of near-daily protests. Officers launched tear gas and chased people away from main thoroughfares as the peaceful march turned into chaos.

Opposition lawmaker Jose Olivares was hit in the head with a tear gas canister and was led away with blood streaming down his face. Some demonstrators threw stones and gasoline bombs and dragged trash into the streets to make barricades.

A separate government-sponsored march celebrating May Day went off without incident in the city.

At least 29 people have died in the unrest of the past month and hundreds have been injured.

People of all ages and class backgrounds are participating in the protests. The unrest started in reaction to an attempt to nullify the opposition controlled-congress, but has become a vehicle for people to vent their fury at widespread shortages of food and other basic goods, violence on a par with a war zone, and triple-digit inflation. Maduro accuses his opponents of conspiring to overthrow him and undermine the country's struggling economy.

The move to rewrite the constitution underscored many protesters' chief complaint about the administration: That it has become an unfeeling dictatorship. Sergio Hernandez, a computer technology worker who attended Monday's protest, said he would not return to his normal life until Maduro's administration had been driven out.

"We're ready to take the streets for a month or however long is needed for this government to understand that it must go," he said.

Hannah Dreier on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/hannahdreier>. Her work can be found at <https://www.ap.org/explore/venezuela-undone>.

Attacker kills 1, wounds 3 in stabbings at Texas university

By JIM VERTUNO, Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — A student with a large hunting knife stabbed at least four people Monday on the University of Texas campus, killing one and seriously wounding the others before surrendering to police, authorities said.

There was no immediate word about a motive.

Student Rachel Prichett said she was standing in line at a food truck outside a gym when she saw a man with a knife resembling a machete approach the person standing behind her.

"The guy was standing next to me," Prichett said. "He grabbed him by the shoulder and shoved the knife in it. I just started running as fast as I could."

Police identified the suspect as 21-year-old Kendrex J. White.

University police Chief David Carter described the weapon as a "Bowie-style" hunting knife. He said the stabbings occurred within a one-block area as the attacker "calmly walked around the plaza."

Another student, Ray Arredondo, said he was walking to his car when a mass of students near the gym started running.

"They were just screaming, 'Run! Get out of here!'" Arredondo said.

One person died at the scene near the gym. The others were taken to the hospital. There were reports of additional victims with non-life-threatening injuries, according to tweets from Travis County Emergency Medical Services.

The attacker did not resist when officers confronted him at gunpoint, Carter said.

Lindsey Clark said she saw the suspect get tackled by police as he was running toward the entrance of Jester Hall, a complex of dormitories and classrooms. She described him as wearing a bandanna and

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gray sweatshirt and said he appeared quiet and subdued as police held him on the ground.

"You could see and hear people running and screaming: 'There he is!'" before he was tackled by officers, Clark said.

Carter said it would be "premature" to discuss the suspect's motive and "what was going through his mind."

Arredondo later saw what looked like CPR being performed on someone outside the front door of the gym. Another student was sitting on a bench being treated for cuts to the head or neck, he said.

Authorities cordoned off the scene as a large contingent of state and local police, including officers in helicopters, swarmed the area.

The University of Texas is blocks from downtown Austin and the Texas Capitol and is one of the nation's largest universities.

White was an active member of the Black Health Professionals Organization student organization on campus, said Melody Adindu, the group's new president. She said White was passionate about his work and was "very interactive and easygoing."

Some of White's former classmates at Killeen High School, near the gates of the Fort Hood Army post in Central Texas, had similar recollections of him.

"He was a really smart guy in high school, he was always nice, had plenty of friends, and was in the International Baccalaureate program. I'm definitely surprised he would do this," Kay'Lynn Wilkerson told the Killeen Daily Herald.

Ex-classmate Angela Bonilla called White "the sweetest guy, laughing and having a good time with people".

Adindu and other students complained on social media it took too long for the campus officials to send a text alert of the attack. Texts to students showed a nearly 30-minute lag between the arrest and warning, even though city and county emergency offices were tweeting about the incident when they first responded.

Carter said White was confronted and arrested within two minutes of the first call to police and the situation was immediately under control. The campus siren wasn't used because there was no need for a lockdown to keep people in place, he said.

"There was no ongoing threat. We had him in custody as soon as we arrived," Carter said.

The attack occurred in the central campus, just a short walk from the administration building and the landmark clock tower that was the scene of a mass shooting in 1966.

"This breaks my heart that any of our students are touched by tragedy. They come here to learn, to look to the future," said university President Greg Fenves.

The stabbings came only a few days after a 19-year-old man armed with a machete wounded two people at a university coffee shop in Lexington, Kentucky.

In the April 28 attack, the assailant at Transylvania University asked about the political affiliations of people at the shop. He was arrested and charged with assault. The victims' wounds were not life-threatening, authorities said.

Associated Press writer Paul J. Weber contributed to this report.

Trump on Civil War: Why couldn't they have worked that out?

By JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The U.S. president had a historical question: Why did America's Civil War happen? "Why could that one not have been worked out?"

Remarks by Donald Trump, aired Monday, showed presidential uncertainty about the origin and necessity of the Civil War, a defining event in U.S. history with slavery at its core. Trump also declared that President Andrew Jackson was angry about "what was happening" with regard to the war, which started 16 years after his death, and could have stopped it if still in office.

Trump, who has at times shown a shaky grasp of U.S. history, questioned why issues couldn't have been settled to prevent the war that followed the secession of 11 Southern states from the Union and brought death to more than 600,000 Americans, North and South.

"People don't realize, you know, the Civil War, if you think about it, why?" Trump said in an interview with The Washington Examiner that also aired on Sirius XM radio. "People don't ask that question, but why was there the Civil War? Why could that one not have been worked out?"

In fact, the causes of the Civil War are frequently discussed, from middle school classrooms to university lecture halls and in countless books. Immigrants seeking to become naturalized are sometimes asked to name a cause of the war in their citizenship tests .

Fierce disagreement over the future of slavery was a driving force behind the war, but economic issues and disputes over state rights were also factors.

"Slavery was the root cause of the Civil War. It was not the only cause, but it was the underlying cause," said Eric Foner, a Columbia University history professor and a leading expert on the war. "As a historian, I would prefer the president had a better handle on American history."

Trump's comments about the war came after he lauded Jackson, the populist president whom he and his staff have cited as a role model. He suggested that if Jackson had been president "a little later, you wouldn't have had the Civil War."

"He was really angry that he saw what was happening with regard to the Civil War. He said, 'There's no reason for this,'" Trump continued.

Jackson died in 1845. The Civil War began in 1861.

Late Monday, after a day of incredulous news coverage, Trump took to Twitter to amplify his message and seemingly stress that he did in fact know when Jackson died, writing: "President Andrew Jackson, who died 16 years before the Civil War started, saw it coming and was angry. Would never have let it happen!"

Jackson was a slave-holding plantation owner. Some historians do credit him with preserving the full Union when South Carolina threatened to secede in the 1830s over an individual state's ability to void federal tariffs. But that controversy, known as the "Nullification Crisis," was not about slavery, and the eventual compromise that preserved states' rights did little to alter the nation's path to the War Between the States.

"Even Andrew Jackson, were he alive, could not have solved the problem," Foner said. "The situation in 1861 was far more dire than in the 1830s during the Nullification Crisis."

The Civil War was decades in the making, stemming from disputes between the North and South about slavery and whether the union or the individual states had more power. The question over the expansion of slavery into new Western territories simmered for decades and Southern leaders threatened secession if anti-slavery candidate Abraham Lincoln was elected in 1860.

After Lincoln won without carrying a single Southern state, Southern leaders believed their rights were imperiled and seceded, forming the Confederate States of America. War erupted soon afterward

as the North fought to keep the nation together. The conflict lasted four years.

The White House did not respond to requests for an explanation of Trump's reasoning. His comments on the Civil War drew swift criticism from some civil rights groups and Democrats, including Rep. Barbara Lee of California who tweeted "President Trump doesn't understand the Civil War. It's because my ancestors and millions of others were enslaved."

This is far from the first time that Trump expressed a muddled view on American history.

Trump, during an African-American history month event, seemed to imply that the 19th century abolitionist Frederick Douglass was still alive. Trump said in February that Douglass "is an example of somebody who's done an amazing job and is getting recognized more and more, I notice."

While justifying his argument for a border wall with Mexico, Trump said last week that human trafficking is "a problem that's probably worse than any time in the history of this world," a claim that seemed to omit the African slave trade.

Trump, prompted by his chief strategist Steve Bannon, embraced the legacy of Jackson soon after his election.

The White House has eagerly drawn parallels between the two men, particularly between Trump's success with working-class voters and how Jackson fashioned himself as a champion of the common man against a political system that favored the rich and powerful. Trump paid tribute to Jackson, known as "Old Hickory," by visiting Jackson's grave in Tennessee in March.

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No shutdown: \$1.1 trillion agreement shows Democrats' clout

By ANDREW TAYLOR, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Erasing the threat of a disruptive government shutdown, the White House and top lawmakers endorsed a \$1.1 trillion spending bill Monday to carry the nation through September, an agreement underscoring that Democrats retain considerable clout in Donald Trump's turbulent presidency.

Negotiators released the 1,665-page bill after Republicans dropped numerous demands on the environment, Obama-era financial regulations and abortion in marathon sessions over the weekend. The bill is slated for a House vote on Wednesday, with a Senate vote ahead of a Friday midnight deadline.

"We thought we had the upper hand because a government shutdown would be on their shoulders, and we made that clear," Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said in an interview. "We knew that if we didn't push things too far we could get a good deal that could make us happy and that's what happened."

Trump and the White House had made concessions last week when the president relented on his demand that the measure include a \$1.4 billion down payment for his proposed wall along the U.S.-Mexico border. Trump repeatedly insisted during the election campaign that Mexico would pay for the wall, a claim Mexican officials have vigorously rejected.

Congressional Republicans and Democrats ignored Trump's proposal to cut billions of dollars from domestic programs.

Democrats boasted of money for foreign assistance and cash-strapped Puerto Rico while winning funding for favored programs like transit projects and grants for first responders. They also defied Trump on a bid to punish "sanctuary cities" and on immigration enforcement.

The White House and some top GOP allies declared victory anyway, citing billions of dollars more for

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the military. Trump won a \$15 billion down payment on his request to strengthen the military, though that also fell short of what he requested.

Vice President Mike Pence told CBS News Monday that the administration "couldn't be more pleased" and called the agreement it a "budget deal that's a bipartisan win for the American people."

House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., praised the bill as well, saying it "acts on President Trump's commitment to rebuild our military for the 21st century and bolster our nation's border security to protect our homeland."

Longstanding conservative resistance to big spending bills requires the party to seek Democratic votes to pass spending bills despite the Republican majorities both houses of Congress. That made the party out of power a major player in the negotiations. The talks were also spurred by a strong Republican desire to complete unfinished business well into the fiscal year and move on to health care repeal and tax overhaul, both of which are iffy propositions.

"If nothing else, it does allow the president to have at least one major success this week, which is great," said White House budget director Mick Mulvaney. "He's going to sign his first substantive piece of legislation this week, and it's going to make dramatic increases in funding to his priorities."

Ryan's office peppered reporters' inboxes with news releases cheerleading for the bill and GOP-won provisions such as extending a private school vouchers program for students in Washington, D.C.'s troubled school system through 2019.

Democrats had sought additional spending for nondefense accounts to match Pentagon increases above spending caps set by a 2015 budget pact negotiated with former President Barack Obama. They were forced to settle for far less with domestic increases in the 1 percent range.

The measure funds the remainder of the 2017 budget year, through Sept. 30. Capitol Hill Republicans joined Democrats in supporting increases for popular domestic programs such as medical research at the National Institutes of Health, with Sen. Roy Blunt, R-Mo., for instance, using his powerful post on the Appropriations panel to take the lead on a 40 percent boost in research on Alzheimer's disease.

Democrats stressed their efforts to protect the Environmental Protection Agency, infrastructure grants and foreign aid. Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., led the fight for a \$1.3 billion provision to preserve health benefits for more than 22,000 retired coal miners and their families, while top House Democrat Nancy Pelosi provided the muscle behind a hard-won effort to give the cash-strapped government of Puerto Rico \$295 million to ease its Medicaid burden.

Some Republican conservatives remain wary.

"I think you're going to see conservatives have some real concerns with this legislation," Rep. Jim Jordan of Ohio said on CNN's "New Day," citing domestic spending obtained by Democrats and other issues. "Our job is to do what we told the voters we were going to do."

Mulvaney had said the administration wanted priorities such as the Mexico border wall, cuts to domestic programs and new flexibility to punish "sanctuary cities" as part of the measure. Each was rejected, however, with Trump signaling last month that the wall issue could be addressed in the next round of spending bills.

Trump, however, obtained \$1.5 billion for border security measures such as 5,000 additional detention beds, an upgrade in border infrastructure and technologies such as surveillance.

While the measure would peacefully end a battle over the current budget year, the upcoming 2018 budget cycle promises to be even more difficult. Mulvaney's plans to slash domestic agency budgets could grind this summer's round of spending bills to a halt.

GOP leaders decided against trying to use the must-do spending bill to "defund" Planned Parenthood and dropped a House provision to "zero out" Title X family planning funds.

Pushing for victories, Trump shows disconnect with House GOP

By KEN THOMAS and ERICA WERNER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump could be on the verge of marking two significant legislative accomplishments at the start of his presidency. Yet he's displayed a curious disconnect with Republicans on Capitol Hill, raising questions about how deeply he is delving into the specifics of legislative sausage-making.

In interviews and Tweets, Trump has been notably off-topic and off-message about the state of affairs in Congress.

His recent description of the health care bill suggested he was unfamiliar with how the bill addresses coverage for people with pre-existing conditions. Congressional leaders and White House aides have struggled to agree on the level of optimism and timing for a vote.

During tense budget negotiations last week, Trump was sounding off about issues — health care for miners and a finance package for Puerto Rico — that were not major points of contention in the deal, which came to together Sunday.

It all added up to a portrait of a president who, even while he's eager for legislative victories, pays little attention to the nitty-gritty details that can make or break them on Capitol Hill.

The White House on Monday struggled to explain the president's assertion that the health care bill guaranteed coverage for people pre-existing conditions.

"Pre-existing conditions are in the bill. And I mandate it. I said, 'Has to be,'" Trump said Sunday on CBS News.

The legislation being considered by House Republicans, in fact, does not require such coverage. It would allow states to opt out of the requirement under certain circumstances — a concession that won over conservatives while alienating some moderates. Trump also asserted the bill allows insurance sales across states lines, something that's not in the bill at all.

White House spokesman Sean Spicer said that ensuring "coverage of pre-existing conditions is at the core" of the effort to repeal and replace the law. "So that is something that he is ensured is in the current bill and we'll continue to push for to make sure that coming out of the Senate and going to conference it's there as well."

The American Medical Association has said the Republican safeguards for patients with pre-existing conditions "may be illusory."

Trump told Bloomberg News in an interview on Monday that the bill was "not in its final form right now" and predicted it would be "every bit as good on pre-existing conditions as Obamacare."

House Republican leaders are hopeful for a vote on the health care plan ahead of a weeklong recess next week. But Spicer sought to tamp down expectations on Monday, telling reporters that "we're not there yet," even though the administration is "getting closer and closer every day."

Two White House officials said they expected a vote on the health care bill on Wednesday or Thursday, depending in part on the timing of the budget vote. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss internal deliberations.

White House chief of staff Reince Priebus has taken the lead in discussions with Congress on health care, traveling to Capitol Hill multiple times for discussions with leadership, as well as lawmakers in both the conservative Freedom Caucus and moderate Tuesday Group.

Legislative director Marc Short and deputy chief of staff Rick Dearborn have also been active in the discussions, according to White House officials. Vice President Mike Pence was also selling the health care plan in Congress and was inviting senators and their spouses to the Naval Observatory for a dinner on Tuesday night.

How involved Trump will be in the discussions remains unclear. But he has been sending mixed signals in his recent dealings with lawmakers.

In an interview with The Associated Press late last month, Trump surprised members of his administration and congressional leaders when he declared he would be announcing his tax overhaul proposal within days.

Last week, as lawmakers on both sides were working to finalize the budget plan, Trump took to Twitter, accusing Democrats of bailing out Puerto Rico. "The Democrats want to shut government if we don't bail out Puerto Rico and give billions to their insurance companies for OCare failure. NO!"

The deal included nearly \$300 million to help the Puerto Rican government with Medicaid financing to ease its budget emergency — a demand of House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi — but did not appear to be central to the overall deal.

Democrats on Monday took a victory lap on a \$1 trillion-plus spending bill to fund the government through Sept. 30. The bill successfully avoids a government shutdown, a priority for both Democrats and Republicans. But it includes no money for construction of Trump's long-promised wall along the U.S.-Mexico border.

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer said there had been no "constructive engagement" from the White House on the spending plan to stave off a government shutdown. Vermont Sen. Patrick Leahy, a top Democratic negotiator, said he hadn't heard from anyone in the administration at all.

This is not the first time Trump has appeared disconnected from the legislation he's pushing. During the administration's first attempt to repeal and replace former President Barack Obama's health care law, Trump appeared unaware that his campaign pledge to ensure that insurance could be purchased across state lines was not included in the legislation, according to a person familiar with the situation who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss a private conversation.

Associated Press writers Julie Pace and Jill Colvin contributed to this report.

Nevada coalition seeks unprecedented insulin refund law

By ALISON NOON, Associated Press

CARSON CITY, Nev. (AP) — Aiming to rein in soaring prescription drug prices, an unlikely Nevada coalition is trying to force pharmaceutical companies to disclose how they set insulin prices — and issue refunds to diabetics or their insurance companies if annual price hikes surpass inflation.

Las Vegas casino owners have banded together with their employees' unions of cooks, servers and other resort workers to support the unprecedented legislation in their effort to control their own medical insurance costs.

The bill expected to face its first vote in early May would attempt to cap how much employers, insurers and corporate middle men pay for insulin, which is injected to manage blood sugar levels. Lawmakers also hope the bill would cap what diabetics pay out of their own pockets near their current cost levels — typically between \$50 and \$600 per month, depending on diabetics' insurance coverage.

It remains far from clear that the bill, if passed, would survive legal challenges or have the intended effect. But it would make Nevada the first U.S. state to force detailed release of drugmakers' proprietary information and effectively establish a price control on prescription drugs via the refund plan.

The bill is expected to pass in both houses of Nevada's Democratic-controlled Legislature. Republican Gov. Brian Sandoval, in an interview with The Associated Press, did not rule out signing it.

The move in Nevada illustrates public ire reaching critical mass over price hikes on insulin, epineph-

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rine, antibiotics and other common prescription medicines, said Steve Brozak, president of the New Jersey-based WBB Securities investment banking firm, which focuses on health care.

Brozak and other industry experts warned against assuming government intervention would result in lower pharmacy bills, and said drugmakers would likely sue to block the law. They said price constraints could have unintended consequences.

"I don't think this will work in the way people think it will, but this could be the shot across the bow," Brozak said.

The bill would trigger reimbursements to insurers and others who pay for diabetes-related drugs when price increases outpace the national Consumer Price Index Medical Care Component, which rose between 2 percent and 5 percent each of the last 10 years.

"There is no question that lives are at stake and that, every day that people have to make the choice between their medicine and putting food on the table, we go further down the road to reaching a true public health crisis," said bill sponsor Sen. Yvanna Cancela, former political director with the Culinary Union 226 lobbying for the bill's passage.

The pharmaceutical industry argues that basing refunds on sticker prices would be ineffective because those rates constantly fluctuate and the market is much more complex than bill supporters say. Drugmakers also say prices reflect research costs and point a finger at insurance companies that have drastically increased co-pays and deductibles.

Nevada's casino owners and unions representing casino workers have long opposed each other in wage proposals but formed their rare lobbying partnership after reviewing costs in their negotiated health care plans.

Insulin and other diabetes medications represent 21 percent of prescription costs for the casino unions' 57,000 Nevada members, and increased 21 percent from 2015 to 2016, said Bobbette Bond, health policy director at Unite Here Health, which oversees Culinary Union 226 health plans.

About one in every 11 Nevada residents had diabetes in 2014, similar to the national average that year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Jacobo Perez-Jimenez, a Las Vegas cook who has diabetes, said a monthly bottle of insulin cost him \$7 in 2011. Now he pays \$75.

Perez-Jimenez, whose health insurance covers part of his medical costs, said insulin makers are "killing people with those prices."

The Nevada effort comes less than a year after the pharmaceutical industry won a major victory against prescription drug price controls in California. Ohio voters will consider the same proposal in November.

Lawmakers in about half of U.S. states have made some attempt to curb prescription drug prices.

Vermont last year adopted a law asking drugmakers to justify certain price increases of 15 percent or more, and California legislators are now seeking notification of price hikes above 10 percent.

The Nevada bill would mark the first time drugmakers would be required to publicly detail business data about specific drugs including research costs and discounts they give insurers, pharmacy benefit managers and wholesalers.

Supporters claim disclosure will prompt manufacturers to lower prices, but market experts said there's no guarantee the idea would work and the notion disappoints some consumers who want immediate action.

"Even if they cough up that information, what would it benefit me?" said Soila Solano, a diabetic resident of Las Vegas. "How would I know if they're really, you know, giving you the right information?"

Hey kids, salt stays and grains go in school meals

By MARY CLARE JALONICK, Associated Press

LEESBURG, Va. (AP) — Schools won't have to cut more salt from meals just yet and some will be able to serve kids fewer whole grains, under changes to federal nutrition standards announced Monday.

The move by President Donald Trump's Agriculture Department partially rolls back rules championed by former first lady Michelle Obama as part of her healthy eating initiative. Separately, the Food and Drug Administration said on Monday it would delay — for one year — Obama administration rules that will require calorie labels on menus and prepared food displays. The rule was scheduled to go into effect later this week.

As his first major action in office, Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue said the Agriculture Department will delay an upcoming requirement to lower the amount of sodium in meals while continuing to allow waivers for regulations that all grains on the lunch line must be 50 percent whole grain.

Schools could also serve 1 percent flavored milk instead of the nonfat now required.

"If kids aren't eating the food, and it's ending up in the trash, they aren't getting any nutrition — thus undermining the intent of the program," said Perdue, who traveled to a school in Leesburg, Virginia, to make the announcement.

Health advocates who worked closely with the Obama administration on nutrition issues criticized the two moves, saying that the Trump administration is messing with rules that are popular with the public.

The menu labeling law would have required chain restaurants and other establishments that sell prepared foods to post the calorie content of food. The FDA said the delay "allows for further consideration" of ways to reduce costs or make the rules more flexible as supermarkets and pizza delivery companies have lobbied against it.

"The Trump administration is showing in two important ways that it puts business interests before its populist rhetoric on the campaign trail and what mainstream Americans want," said Margo Wootan, a lobbyist for the Center for Science in the Public Interest.

The school meal changes reflect suggestions from the School Nutrition Association, which represents school nutrition directors and companies that sell food to schools. The group often battled with the Obama administration, which phased in the healthier school meal rules starting in 2012.

The Obama administration rules set fat, sugar and sodium limits on foods in the lunch line and beyond. Schools have long been required to follow government nutrition rules if they accept federal reimbursements for free and reduced-price meals for low-income students, but these standards were stricter. Obama pushed the changes as part of her "Let's Move" campaign to combat childhood obesity.

The Trump administration changes leave most of the Obama administration's school meal rules in place, including requirements that students must take fruits and vegetables on the lunch line. Some schools have asked for changes to that policy, saying students often throw them away.

But the health advocates who have championed the rules are concerned about the freeze in sodium levels, in particular. School lunches for elementary school students are now required to have less than 1,230 mg of sodium, a change put in place in 2014. The changes would keep the meals at that level, delaying until at least 2020 a requirement to lower sodium to 935 mg. That requirement was scheduled to begin in the 2017-2018 school year.

"By forgoing the next phase of sodium reduction, the Trump administration will be locking in dangerously high sodium levels in school lunch," Wootan said.

Before he signed the proclamation, Perdue and Senate Agriculture Chairman Pat Roberts, R-Kan., ate chicken nuggets, fruit and salad with children at Catocin Elementary. Perdue said he doesn't see the

changes as a rollback, but “we’re just slowing down the process.” He praised Obama’s nutrition efforts as first lady but said he wants the healthier meals to be more palatable.

He said the department will work on long-term solutions to further tweak the rules.

Becky Domokos-Bays, the nutrition director for Loudon County, Virginia, including Catoctin Elementary, said she has been experimenting with the lower sodium levels and she’s had a hard time adjusting some of the more popular foods she serves. Kids like her chicken noodle soup, she says, but rejected it when she lowered the sodium content because it was thinner and had less taste.

Perdue, a former governor of Georgia, said some schools in the South have had problems with grits, because “the whole grain variety has little black flakes in it” and kids won’t eat it.

“The school is compliant with the whole-grain requirements, but no one is eating the grits,” Perdue said. “That doesn’t make any sense.”

Others don’t want to see any changes to the healthier meals. Outside the school, Leesburg Mayor Kelly Burk and about 20 others protested ahead of the announcement. One sign read: “Sonny — Our children do not want big business soda, chips and fries!”

“Some people don’t like regulations, but these are important regulations that impact kids,” Burk said.

Defiant rallies for worker rights mark May Day around world

ISTANBUL (AP) — Workers and activists marked May Day around the world Monday with defiant rallies and marches for better pay and working conditions.

Police detained 70 people in Istanbul as they tried to march. Garment workers in Cambodia defied a government ban to demand higher wages, and businesses in Puerto Rico were boarded up as the U.S. territory braced for a huge strike over austerity measures. In Paris, police fired tear gas and used clubs on rowdy protesters at a march that included calls to defeat far-right presidential candidate Marine Le Pen.

Some May Day events around the world:

FRANCE

A May Day march in Paris turned violent less than a week before the runoff French presidential election as police clashed with a small group of protesters who threw Molotov cocktails at officers.

A few hundred protesters started throwing gasoline bombs and other objects at police at the front end of what started as a peaceful union march in the French capital on Monday.

Police responded with tear gas and truncheons. Riot police clubbed some protesters who were pushed up against a wall on a tree-lined avenue. One police officer was seen spraying a troublemaker in the face.

Four police officers were injured, one seriously burned in the face, Interior Minister Matthias Fekl said, denouncing the “intolerable violence.”

His statement said all would be done to identify and arrest those responsible.

The annual march to celebrate workers’ rights this year included calls to block far-right presidential candidate Marine Le Pen from winning the presidency during a runoff election on Sunday.

Some of the violent protesters at the May Day event had signs referring to the presidential election and expressing dissatisfaction with both candidates in Sunday’s runoff election.

“Not one or the other; instead it’s the people’s self-defense” read one sign. “Macron=Louis XVI, Le Pen=Le Pen,” read another.

Video showed riot police surrounding the protesters disrupting the march after isolating most of them from the rest of the crowd near the Place de la Bastille. However, some continued to lob firebombs that exploded into flames in the street.

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The union activists continued to march separately, although police are interrupting to check bags for gasoline bombs.

PUERTO RICO

Protesters blocked roads and marched in Puerto Rico's capital to vent their anger over a decade-long economic crisis and looming austerity measures.

Demonstrators denounced the leaders of the U.S. Caribbean territory, blamed their economic troubles on a federal control board overseeing the Puerto Rican government's finances and demanded an audit to identify those responsible for running up a \$70 billion public debt.

The protests affected services at Puerto Rico's largest public hospital, paralyzed the bus system and forced many businesses to close. Demonstrators also briefly blocked traffic near San Juan's international airport, prompting some travelers to walk along the highway dragging suitcases.

While the protests began peacefully, toward the end police fired tear gas and smoke bombs and used pepper spray against a small group of protesters who broke several windows of a bank using a pipe and a skateboard. Some in the crowd burned U.S. flags.

A measure that has protected the territory's public agencies from creditor lawsuits was expiring at midnight as the government struggled to reach a deal with bondholders to restructure part of the debt.

TURKEY

Police in Istanbul detained 165 people during May Day events around the city, most of them demonstrators trying to march to a symbolic square in defiance of a ban.

A security department statement said 18 other people suspected of planning illegal demonstrations and possible acts of violence Monday were detained in separate police operations.

Turkey declared Taksim Square off-limits to May Day demonstrations for the third year in a row. Police blocked points of entry, allowing only small groups of labor union representatives to lay wreaths at a monument there.

Major trade unions marked the day with rallies at government-designated areas in Istanbul and Ankara. Still, small groups tried to reach the square, leading to scuffles with police.

Taksim holds a symbolic value for Turkey's labor movement. In 1977, 34 people were killed there during a May Day event when shots were fired into the crowd from a nearby building.

CUBA

A protester briefly disrupted the start of Cuba's largest annual political event, sprinting in front of May Day marchers with a U.S. flag before being tackled and dragged away.

President Raul Castro watched along with other military and civilian leaders and foreign dignitaries as the man broke through security and ran ahead of the tens of thousands in the pro-government march.

Plainclothes officers struggled to control the man but eventually lifted him off the ground and hauled him away in front of foreign and Cuban journalists covering the parade.

The protest was a surprising breach of security at a government-organized event where agents line the route.

Castro has said he will step down as president in February, making this his last May Day parade as head of state.

RUSSIA

Two May Day marches were held in Moscow, both drawing from nostalgia for Soviet times.

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First, a crowd that police estimated at about 130,000 people paraded across the cobblestones of Red Square, the site of Soviet-era May Day celebrations. The tradition was revived in 2014 after Russia's annexation of Crimea and is seen as part of President Vladimir Putin's efforts to stoke patriotic feelings.

Marchers, organized by official trade unions, waved the Russian tricolor flag and carried white, blue and red balloons.

The second march was led by the Communists, who over the years have tried to keep the May Day tradition alive. Their march, which skirted Red Square, drew several thousand people.

Many carried red flags with the Soviet hammer and sickle, but there was little honoring of Soviet leaders Vladimir Lenin and Josef Stalin compared to previous years.

The Communist Party still has a faction in the Russian parliament but rarely poses any opposition to the Kremlin.

SOUTH AFRICA

South African President Jacob Zuma was jeered by labor unionists and his May Day speech was cancelled after scuffles broke out between his supporters and workers chanting for him to step down.

Zuma, who is facing calls to resign after a string of scandals, was expected to call for unity between his ruling party, the African National Congress, and labor unions at the rally in Bloemfontein.

Groups in the crowd booed the president and clashed with his supporters before he could speak.

All speeches scheduled for the event then were cancelled by the Congress of South African Trade Unions, the country's largest body of unions.

The organization has called for the 75-year-old Zuma to resign.

Zuma once a popular figure among South Africa's workers, was eventually ushered away by his bodyguards.

CYPRUS

Greek and Turkish Cypriots marked May Day with a "Rock for Peace" concert in support of talks aimed at reunifying their ethnically divided island.

Monday's celebrations kicked off with a gathering of hundreds of Greek Cypriot left-wing trade unionists in front of Cyprus' Finance Ministry to affirm their support for a peace deal that would bring about a united country.

The ambassadors of Palestine and Cuba, as well as the charge d'affaires of the Venezuelan Embassy, were also in attendance.

To the beat of marching bands, union members then marched to the capital's Ledra Palace checkpoint, where they joined Turkish Cypriot counterparts. The checkpoint connects the breakaway Turkish Cypriot north and the island's internationally recognized south.

In unison, they entered a soccer field inside the United Nations-controlled buffer zone where Greek and Turkish Cypriot rock acts took to the stage.

SPAIN

Spain's two major unions called marches in over 70 cities under the slogan "No More Excuses." The UGT and CC.OO unions demanded that Spain's conservative government roll back its labor reforms that made it cheaper to fire workers and increase wages and pensions.

CC.OO general secretary Ignacio Fernandez Toxo said that "Spain has been growing for two years and now it is time for the economy to align itself with the needs of the people."

He spoke at a march of several thousand people in Madrid, which he led alongside UGT leader Josep

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Maria Alvarez. Thousands more marched in Barcelona, while other rallies were held in Seville, Valencia and other cities.

Under conservative Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy, Spain's economy has rebounded and unemployment has dropped from 27 percent in 2013 to 19 percent, but that is still the second-highest unemployment rate in the 28-nation European Union behind Greece.

Rajoy thanked Spain's workers on Twitter: "I appreciate your contribution to the economic recovery. The government is working to create more and better jobs."

POLAND

Labor union and left-wing activists appealed for unity in order to oppose Poland's current conservative government as they marked May Day with a parade in Warsaw.

The rally and a march was by the All-Poland Alliance of Trade Unions and by the Democratic Left Alliance, which lost all parliament seats in the 2015 election that brought the conservative populist Law and Justice party to power.

Sebastian Wierzbicki of the SLD said the left wing needs to protect workers' rights but also focus on civic rights and human dignity.

CAMBODIA

Riot police watched carefully as more than 1,000 garment workers defied a government ban on marching to deliver a petition to the National Assembly in Phnom Penh, demanding a higher minimum wage and more freedom of assembly.

The marchers, holding a forest of banners, filled a street a short distance from the parliament complex and advanced noisily until they were stopped by a barricade and lines of police, holding batons, shields and guns capable of firing gas canisters. A standoff of several hours was resolved when a representative from the Assembly came out and accepted the petition.

The workers were from the Coalition of Cambodian Apparel Workers Democratic Union. Among their demands was increasing the minimum wage from \$153 to \$208 per month. The clothing and footwear industry is Cambodia's biggest export earner.

The major Cambodian labor unions traditionally have been loosely allied with opposition parties, posing a potential political threat to longtime authoritarian leader Hun Sen.

GREECE

Several thousand protesters gathered outside Greece's parliament as unions braced for more austerity measures imposed by bailout lenders.

Two large union-organized rallies were called in Athens on the holiday, with employees at many public services nominally on strike.

As the marches began, government officials prepared for more talks at a central Athens hotel with representatives of bailout creditors as the two sides were near an agreement to maintain draconian spending controls beyond the current rescue program.

The talks had been expected to end Sunday. Future spending cuts will include additional pension cuts and tax increases for Greeks, already hit by seven years of harsh cuts.

Greece's largest labor union, the GSEE, has called a general strike for May 17 to protest the latest austerity package.

PHILIPPINES

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A few thousand left-wing activists and laborers marched and held noisy rallies to press for higher wages and an end to temporary contractual jobs that deprive workers of many benefits. In sweltering summer heat, the crowds in Manila also protested alleged extrajudicial killings under President Rodrigo Duterte's drug crackdown.

The activists carried murals of Duterte and President Donald Trump, asking the Philippine leader to stay away from the U.S. president, who has invited Duterte for a U.S. visit. Protest leader Venzer Crisostomo fears an "America First" policy would be disadvantageous to poorer countries like the Philippines. "We would not want Duterte to be in cahoots with Donald Trump in oppressing the country and in implementing policies."

TAIWAN

In Taipei, thousands of Taiwanese workers hoisted cardboard signs and banners in a march protesting what they said were unfairly low wages and deteriorating work conditions. A number of them staged a fake funeral procession, carrying a coffin with the words "basic annual pension" written on it, while others waved black flags.

Huang Yu-kai, president of the labor union of the Taiwan High-Speed Rail Corp. and a train conductor, said low wages in Taiwan are "the root of all problems."

"This is why we take part in this march every year," Huang said.

President Tsai Ing-wen said in a post on her Facebook page that improvements are being made even if major changes would take time. "Although reform would not be completed in one step, the progress we have made is not small."

BANGLADESH

Thousands of garment industry workers in the impoverished South Asian nation gathered to demand better wages and legal protection.

About 4 million people are employed in the country's garment industry, the second largest in the world. The industry, with about 4,000 factories, earns \$25 billion a year from exports, mainly to the United States and Europe, but working conditions often are grim.

Lovely Yesmin, president of the Readymade Garments Workers Federation, one of several unions representing factory workers, said just increasing salaries is not enough.

She said workers must be provided better living quarters and health benefits, and factories must make provisions so the children of factory workers can be educated.

"These are our demands on the great May Day of 2017," she said.

GERMANY

Thousands of people celebrated May Day peacefully in Germany's capital, but police clashed with far-right demonstrators in the eastern town of Apolda, taking 100 people into custody before declaring the situation under control.

Police told the dpa news agency that about 150 demonstrators who had attended a protest elsewhere started causing problems in Apolda's town center after getting off a train. Authorities said they ignored police warnings and started throwing stones and firecrackers at officers.

Meanwhile, several thousand far-left demonstrators marched through Berlin, setting off smoke bombs and firecrackers along their route. The "Revolutionary May 1 Demonstration" was not registered with authorities as required, but police decided to tolerate the evening march.

Primarily dressed in black, the demonstrators chanted slogans like "flood the G20" — referring to the

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summit of the Group of 20 major economic powers being held in Hamburg this summer. Some 5,400 police officers, called in from across the country, were on hand.

PORTUGAL

Thousands of people marched through the streets of Lisbon under the slogan "Value Work and Workers."

The CGTP-IN union that helped organize the May Day march said in a manifesto that workers must push for "a renegotiation of the (national) debt," the second-highest in the European Union after Greece despite an improving economy.

Portugal's national statistics agency reported Friday that the unemployment rate had hit an 8-year low of 9.9 percent under the current center-left government. That's down from the high of 16.2 in 2013.

"I wish Portugal could serve as example," government worker Jose Goncalves, 42, said while marching in Lisbon. "I have my doubts, but yes, there may be an alternative to the rise of the far right in France, to a state of almost dictatorship in Turkey, or such a dubious situation in Brazil. Workers are still here and willing to fight."

VENEZUELA

Venezuelan police and anti-government demonstrators clashed in the streets of the capital as an intensifying protest movement opposing socialist President Nicolas Maduro entered its second month.

Opposition supporters sought to march on government buildings in downtown Caracas, but police blocked their path, as they have done more than a dozen times in four weeks of near-daily protests. Officers launched tear gas and chased people away from main thoroughfares as the peaceful march turned into chaos.

Some demonstrators threw stones and gasoline bombs and dragged trash into the streets to make barricades.

A separate government-sponsored march celebrating May Day went off without incident.

Asian shares mostly higher despite soft China factory data

By ELAINE KURTENBACH, AP Business Writer

TOKYO (AP) — Shares were mostly higher in Asia early Tuesday after an upbeat day on Wall Street. Weaker than expected China manufacturing data appeared to have a muted impact.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's Nikkei 225 index advanced 0.7 percent, helped by a weaker yen which boosts profits for manufacturers. The Hang Seng in Hong Kong rose 0.3 percent to 24,678.44 and South Korea's Kospi jumped 0.9 percent to 2,224.81. Australia's S&P ASX 200 fell 0.6 percent to 5,922.20 and the Shanghai Composite index gave up 0.4 percent to 3,143.51. Shares were higher in Taiwan and mixed in Southeast Asia.

CHINA MANUFACTURING: The Caixin China purchasing managers survey found Chinese factories slowed production and slashed jobs in April as new orders weakened. The index fell to 50.3 from 51.2 in March, on a scale of 0-100 with readings above 50 indicating expansion. An official survey released earlier showed the same trend. "The latest PMI readings support our view that growth in China peaked at the turn of the year and is now decelerating," Julian Evans-Pritchard of Capital Economics said in a commentary.

WALL STREET: U.S. stocks rose Monday as big technology companies like Apple continued to rally. Investors bought stocks and sold bonds and gold after Congress agreed to a deal that will keep the government operating for the rest of the fiscal year, averting a shutdown, so they bought riskier stocks

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and sold government bonds, gold, and high-dividend stocks. The VIX, an index that is seen as a measure of the market's anxiety level, fell to its lowest level since February 2007. The Standard & Poor's 500 index picked up 0.2 percent to 2,388.33. The Dow Jones industrial average lost 0.1 percent to 20,913.46 as Boeing and IBM lagged. Gains for tech companies pushed the Nasdaq composite up 0.7 percent to 6,091.60, another record high.

U.S. GOVERNMENT SPENDING: The House is due to vote Wednesday on a spending bill that would fund most government operations through September. The bill does not include the border wall President Donald Trump has proposed, and rejects his proposed cuts to popular domestic programs.

ANALYST VIEWPOINT: "After all the political events were settled, at least temporarily, the market focus now turns to corporate earnings season. So far, over 80 percent of the S&P 500 companies have announced positive surprises in their first-quarter earnings," said Margaret Yang of CMC Markets Singapore.

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude shed 8 cents to \$48.76 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract fell 49 cents, or 1 percent, to \$48.84 a barrel on Monday. Brent crude, used to price international oils, slipped 5 cents to \$51.47 a barrel. It declined 53 cents, or 1 percent, to \$51.52 a barrel in London.

GOLD: The price of gold fell \$12.80, or 1 percent, to \$1,255.50 an ounce, reflecting greater appetite for risk and less for safe havens.

CURRENCIES: The dollar rose to 111.87 yen from 111.84 yen. The euro advanced to \$1.0911 from \$1.0898.

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AP Markets Writer Marley Jay contributed. He can be reached at <http://twitter.com/MarleyJayAP>

His work can be found at <https://apnews.com/search/marley%20jay>

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, May 2, the 122nd day of 2017. There are 243 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 2, 1927, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *Buck v. Bell*, upheld 8-1 a Virginia law allowing the forced sterilization of people to promote the "health of the patient and the welfare of society." (On this date in 2002, Virginia Gov. Mark R. Warner apologized for the state's thousands of forced sterilizations from 1924 to 1979, calling the practice "a shameful effort.")

On this date:

In 1863, during the Civil War, Confederate Gen. Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson was accidentally wounded by his own men at Chancellorsville, Virginia; he died eight days later.

In 1890, the Oklahoma Territory was organized.

In 1908, the original version of "Take Me Out to the Ball Game," with music by Albert Von Tilzer and lyrics by Jack Norworth, was published by Von Tilzer's York Music Co.

In 1936, "Peter and the Wolf," a symphonic tale for children by Sergei Prokofiev, had its world premiere in Moscow.

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In 1946, violence erupted during a foiled escape attempt at the Alcatraz Federal Penitentiary in San Francisco Bay; the "Battle of Alcatraz" claimed the lives of three inmates and two correctional officers before it was put down two days later.

In 1952, commercial jet service began as a BOAC de Havilland Comet carrying 36 passengers and seven crew members took off from London on a flight to Johannesburg with five stopovers along the way.

In 1957, crime boss Frank Costello narrowly survived an attempt on his life in New York; the alleged gunman, Vincent "The Chin" Gigante, was acquitted at trial after Costello refused to identify him as the shooter. Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy, R-Wis., died at Bethesda Naval Hospital in Maryland.

In 1965, Intelsat 1, also known as the Early Bird satellite, was first used to transmit television pictures across the Atlantic.

In 1970, jockey Diane Crump became the first woman to ride in the Kentucky Derby; she finished in 15th place aboard Fathom. (The winning horse was Dust Commander.)

In 1982, the Weather Channel made its debut.

In 1997, a new national memorial honoring President Franklin D. Roosevelt was officially opened in Washington, D.C. Tony Blair, whose new Labour Party crushed John Major's long-reigning Conservatives in a national election, became at age 43 Britain's youngest prime minister in 185 years.

In 2011, Osama bin Laden was killed by elite American forces at his Pakistan compound, then quickly buried at sea after a decade on the run. Because of the time difference, bin Laden's death came May 1, U.S. time.

Ten years ago: In a defeat for anti-war Democrats, Congress failed to override President George W. Bush's veto of legislation requiring the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq. In a speech to construction contractors in Washington, President Bush declared al-Qaida "public enemy no. 1 in Iraq."

Five years ago: Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich formally exited the Republican presidential contest. Taliban insurgents attacked a compound housing foreigners in the Afghan capital, killing seven people, hours after President Barack Obama made a surprise visit. Opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi (ahng sahn soo chee) was sworn in to Myanmar's military-backed parliament. Former NFL star Junior Seau (SAY'-ow) was found shot to death at his home in Oceanside, California, a suicide. Jered Weaver pitched the second no-hitter in the majors in less than two weeks, completely overmatching Minnesota and leading the Los Angeles Angels to a 9-0 win over the Twins.

One year ago: The first U.S. cruise ship in nearly 40 years pulled into Havana Harbor, restarting commercial travel on waters that had served as a stage for a half-century of Cold War hostility. Ashlyne Mike, an 11-year-old Navajo girl, was abducted on the Navajo Nation; she was found dead the next day in the desert south of Shiprock, New Mexico. (A suspect has pleaded not guilty to murder, sexual abuse and other charges.) Afeni Shakur, the former Black Panther who inspired the work of her son, rap icon Tupac Shakur, died in Sausalito, California, at age 69.

Today's Birthdays: Singer Engelbert Humperdinck is 81. Former International Olympic Committee President Jacques Rogge is 75. Actress-activist Bianca Jagger is 72. Country singer R.C. Bannon is 72. Actor David Suchet (SOO'-shay) is 71. Singer-songwriter Larry Gatlin is 69. Rock singer Lou Gramm (Foreigner) is 67. Actress Christine Baranski is 65. Singer Angela Bofill is 63. Fashion designer Donatella Versace is 62. Actor Brian Tochi is 58. Movie director Stephen Daldry is 57. Actress Elizabeth Berridge is 55. Country singer Ty Herndon is 55. Actress Mitzi Kapture is 55. Broadcast journalist Mika Brzezinski is 50. Rock musician Todd Sucherman (Styx) is 48. Wrestler-turned-actor Dwayne Johnson (AKA The Rock) is 45. Soccer player David Beckham is 42. Actress Jenna Von Oy is 40. Actress Ellie Kemper is 37. Actor Robert Buckley is 36. Actor Gaius (GY'-ehs) Charles is 34. Pop singer Lily Rose Cooper is 32.

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Olympic gold medal figure skater Sarah Hughes is 32. Rock musician Jim Almgren (Carolina Liar) is 31. Actor Thomas McDonell is 31. Actress Kay Panabaker is 27. Princess Charlotte of Cambridge is two.

Thought for Today: "We should not judge people by their peak of excellence; but by the distance they have traveled from the point where they started." — Henry Ward Beecher, American clergyman (1813-1887).