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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.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Nigeria Circle at 2 p.m.

Groton School: MS/HS Spring Concert at 7 p.m.

United Methodist: Prayer Group at 7 p.m.

Friday, May 5

School Lunch: Hamburgers, French fries, carrots and dip, fruit.

School Breakfast: Cheese omelette, muffin, fruit, milk, juice.

Senior Menu: Taco salad, Mexican rice, seasonal fresh fruit, breadstick.

Groton School: Track at Sisseton at 4 p.m.

United Methodist: MOMS Group at 9:30 a.m.

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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Groton Senior Citizens

Groton Senior met April 10 at the community center. Twenty one members were present. President Ruby Donovan opened the meeting with the flag pledge. Lee Schinkel played "America" and "In a Garden" for Holy Week. A get well card was sent to Jan Raap. Cards were played winners from each game. pinochle -Alan Zoellner, bridge-Wally Fischer, whist- Tony Goldade and Grace Albrecht. Door prizes- Lee Schinkel, Alan Zeollner and Ruth Pray. Lunch was served by Ruby Donavon Mary Walker and Lee Schinkel.

April 17 was the pot lunch dinner. Twenty members attended , one visitor Bob Berg. President opened with the flag pledge. Get well cards were sent to DeLoris Knoll and Lorraine Sippel. Sec. read the March minutes treasurer report read. Both were accepted. Bingo was played. Ruth Pray won black out. Door prizes- Pat Larson, Darlene Fischer and Evan Morehouse. Serving committee-Tony Goldade, Marian Raines and Mary Walker.

Seniors met April 24. present were twenty two members. DeLoris Knoll thanked everyone for her card. Lorraine Sippel is in the hospital. Cards were played the winners of the games Pinochle-David Kleinsasser, bridge-Darlene Fischer, whist- Marian Raines, Ella Johnson, Canasta- Beulah Hoops and Eunice McColister, door prizes- Lois Pasch, Pat Larson, and Mary Larson. Lunch was served by Bev Sombke Pat Larson, and Grace Albrecht.

Governor's Mansion Tours To Resume

PIERRE, S.D. – The seventh season of free weekly tours at the South Dakota Governor's Mansion will begin next month.

First Lady Linda Daugaard said she and the Governor are happy to again open the home on the shore of Capitol Lake to the public.

"We are pleased to host another year of summer tours," Mrs. Daugaard said. "The Governor's mansion belongs to the people of South Dakota, and Dennis and I invite every South Dakotan to enjoy this special home."

Beginning June 7, weekly public tours will be conducted each Wednesday in June, July and August. This year's tours will feature Native American art from South Dakota artists, including a print of the Dignity sculpture gifted by Dignity artist Dale Lamphere, South Dakota's artist laureate.

"It's truly a pleasure to welcome guests to the Governor's mansion. I know visitors will appreciate the talented display of artwork showcased on this year's tours," added Mrs. Daugaard.

The 30-minute tours will begin at 1 p.m. CDT and will be conducted by volunteers, including the First Lady. Tour groups will consist of up to 40 people.

Public tour tickets, at no charge, must be obtained in advance and will be available only from the Pierre Area Chamber of Commerce. Those interested in a tour should call the Chamber at 605-224-7361.

Lot for Sale

Great building lot in Groton located on the North side of HWY 12. Mature trees surround the south and east of the lot for extra privacy. New move on stick built homes allowed! Seller will look at all reasonable offers.\$35,000 Contact Eric Vetter Century 21 Investment Realtors 605-380-0031

Community Endorses Travel's Economic Benefits During National Travel and Tourism Week

ABERDEEN, SD — The Aberdeen Area Convention & Visitors Bureau is taking part in the nationwide celebration of National Travel and Tourism Week (May 7-13).

National Travel and Tourism Week unites communities across the country to celebrate what travel means to American jobs, economic growth and personal well-being.

"Travel supports one in nine American jobs," said Casey Weismantel, executive director of the Aberdeen Area CVB. "During this week, we are celebrating what travel means to our community, and we call on everyone—from elected officials to local residents—to join us in saluting this important industry, and to support travel-friendly legislation that affects our local, state and national economies."

The theme of this year's NTTW, "Faces of Travel," shines a spotlight on the people that make up America's travel industry. Across South Dakota, travel employs a prosperous and diverse workforce, from airline and hotel employees to restaurant, attraction and retail workers, and supports related sectors such as construction, manufacturing and finance.

Some of the numbers:

Visitor-supported employment represents 9.5% of all employment in South Dakota.

Travel and tourism generates more than \$41.5 million in local tax revenue in the Glacial Lakes and Prairies region of South Dakota.



**Mowers
for any
size
yard!**



In the absence of the state and local taxes generated by visitors, each South Dakota household would need to pay \$821 to fill the gap.

The Aberdeen Area Convention and Visitors Bureau handed out 37,386 Aberdeen Community Guides to visitors that attended travel shows, meetings, conventions, and sporting events in the Aberdeen area.

Looking back at 2016, here are some fun facts and numbers from Aberdeen:

Wylie Park and Storybook Land in Aberdeen welcomed 3,321 registered campers and 157,130 ride guests from 47 of the 50 states, five Canadian provinces and multiple foreign countries. (Rhode Island, Vermont and New Hampshire were not represented.)

The Storybook Land Express carried 56,333 visitors during the 2016 summer tourism season. The Storybook Land Express train ride is still the favorite ride at Storybook Land.

During the celebration of the 40th Anniversary of Storybook Land, visitor center sign-ins totaled 18,557 which was an increase of 21.4% from 2015.

The Aberdeen Aquatic Center had 59,166 visitors traveling 20,708,100 ft. of lazy river during the 2016 summer season.

Thunder Road at Wylie Park had over 50,000 miles of track driven in 2016 with their E85 ethanol powered go karts. That's enough to circle the globe nearly two full times!



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Thunder Mountain Mini Golf features an active volcano that erupts every 20-30 minutes that shoots a 20ft. fireball into the sky!

The Dacotah Prairie Museum and the Granary Rural Cultural Center welcomed 43,940 visitors in 2016 with their in-house traffic and outreach programs.

The Dacotah Prairie Museum and Granary Rural Cultural Center was visited by people from 48 of the 50 states along with 30 foreign countries and five Canadian provinces. (Delaware & Louisiana were not represented.)

The Brown County Fair saw 258,320 visitors for the weeklong event. Visitors travel from a multi-state region to attend.

These local figures are an important part of travel's economic importance nationwide. Additionally:

Travel is a \$2.3 trillion industry in the U.S., with \$990.3 billion in direct travel-related spending in the U.S. by domestic and international visitors in 2016.

These visitors support 15.3 million American jobs—roughly 8.6 million direct travel jobs, and 6.7 million indirect and induced jobs.

Travel-related spending generated \$157.8 billion in federal, state and local tax revenues in 2016.

In addition to its benefits for the local economy, travel can also have a positive effect on personal well-being for residents and visitors of Aberdeen. Numerous research studies have confirmed the positive health effects of travel and time off, from reducing the risk of heart disease to decreasing depression. Using time off to travel with family is good for everyone, especially our children—kids who travel with their families are more likely to attend college and earn more as adults.

"Our industry is one that relies on human interaction," said Roger Dow, president and CEO of the U.S. Travel Association, the umbrella organization representing the U.S. travel industry. "Whether it's the front desk concierge at a hotel, the tour guide in a city's historic district, or the CEO of a destination marketing organization, our people are what make America a great place to visit, and keep our economy strong. This National Travel and Tourism Week, we're saluting the people behind the travel industry, and calling on our nation's leaders to prioritize travel-friendly legislation, for the sake of millions of American workers."

To learn more about traveling to the Aberdeen area, please visit our webpage, www.visitaberdeensd.com.

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

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NSU spring commencement set for Saturday, May 6

ABERDEEN, S.D. – On Saturday, May 6, 260 students will graduate at Northern State University's spring commencement.

The ceremony will begin at 10:30 a.m. in the NSU Barnett Center.

South Dakota Supreme Court Chief Justice David Gilbertson will deliver the commencement address. Student speaker will be 2016-17 Student Association President Corey Klatt.

A list of graduates and their hometowns follows, categorized by degree.

GRADUATE STUDIES

MASTER OF MUSIC EDUCATION

Charlene M. Blondo, Aberdeen (Music Education) James Daniel Callahan, Arlington, Minn. (Music Education)
Andrew Marsolek, Winona, Minn. (Music Education)#

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Rhonda C. LaBatte, Sisseton (Banking and Financial Services)

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION

Janet L. Asheim, Mohall, N.D. (Leadership and Administration)
Stephanie Carrillo, Rohnert Park, Calif. (Counseling: Clinical Mental Health)#
Karla Kay Chase, Redfield (Counseling: School)
Caitlin Marie Friesz, Mobridge (Teaching and Learning)
Ruiting Gong, Shanghai, China (Counseling: School)
Samuel P. Herauf, Dickinson, N.D. (Sport Performance and Leadership)
Paula F. Jackman, Stratford (Counseling: Clinical Mental Health)
Andrew V. Johnson, Aberdeen (Sport Performance and Leadership)
Nikki Karst, Harrisburg (Leadership and Administration)
Adam L. Kiefer, Watertown (Sport Performance and Leadership)
RC Kilgore, Aberdeen (Sport Performance and Leadership)
Sarah L. L'Allier, Lino Lakes, Minn. (Sport Performance and Leadership)
Gabrielle Lane, Aberdeen (Sport Performance and Leadership)
Leandro B. Layne, Christ Church, Barbados (Educational Studies)
Dan Lown, Sioux Falls (Counseling: School)
Brent M. Mareska, Timber Lake (Leadership and Administration)
Brian E. McDermott, Aberdeen (Counseling: School)
Nicole Barbara Monanian, Manahawkin, N.J. (Sport Performance and Leadership)
Yianoula L. Nadeau, Dickinson, N.D. (Sport Performance and Leadership)
Jon Redmond, Henry (Leadership and Administration)
Rachel R. Sellari, Aberdeen (Sport Performance and Leadership)
Elizabeth A. Smith, Terry, Mont. (Educational Studies)
Mercede L. Stotesbery, Sioux Falls (Sport Performance and Leadership)
Jeffrey Tobin, Sioux Falls (Leadership and Administration)
Matthew M. Weidner, Aberdeen (Counseling: School)

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COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN HONORIBUS

***Alexis Joy Doerr, Aberdeen (Communication Studies; Art)
***Stacey McDonald, Crooks (English)
*Brooke Nelson, Volga (English)
*Michael D. Schliewe, Redwood Falls, Minn. (Communication Studies; Political Science)
**Sabrina A. Smith-Mount, Aberdeen (Communication Studies)

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Waleed M. Ahmed, Aberdeen (Political Science)
*Rachel L. Albright, Pasadena, Calif. (Sociology: Criminal Justice)
Jeffery J. Bartel, Huron (History)
*Taylor Wolf Bice, Aberdeen (Sociology: Human Services; English)
Ian T. Coughlin, Pierre (History)
Trent Dean, Mitchell (History)
*Addyson E. Diaz, Breckenridge, Minn. (Communication Studies)
**Collin P. Fransen, Watertown (History)
Janessa P. Guy, Lake City (Sociology: Criminal Justice)#
Sean Havlovic, Bensenville, Ill. (Sociology: Criminal Justice)
Holly Holborn, Aberdeen (English)
Jessalyn L. Holsing, Sioux Falls (English)
Kathryn Linnea Johnson, South Sioux City, Neb. (English)
Corey Klatt, Henry (History; Political Science)
Blake Christopher Lohr, Watertown (Sociology: Criminal Justice)
Trevor Matteson, Watertown (History)
Christian L. McAlvain, Windsor, Calif. (Sociology: Criminal Justice)
*Ivori Moser, Aberdeen (Communication Studies)
Matthew T. Murray, Stratford (English)
Erin Noehre, Bentonville, Ark. (English)#
Marybeth M. Pappas, Rapid City (English; History)
Joseph Park, Daegu, South Korea (Political Science)
**Boyce Pond, Aberdeen (History)
Jeffrey M. Rideout, Vancouver, Wash. (Sociology: Criminal Justice)
Heather J. Royka, Blunt (Sociology: Criminal Justice)#
Philip D. Sauer, Forest Lake, Minn. (Political Science)
Courtney C. Sronce, Adrian, Mich. (English)
Cassidy R. Stevens, Huron (Political Science; English)
Heidi Marie Tayson, Prescott, Wis. (Sociology: Human Services)#

BACHELOR OF GENERAL STUDIES

Kirk Thomas Bender, Aberdeen (General Studies)
Carson Henry, Dover, Minn. (General Studies)#
Kate L. Jarland, Jamestown, N.D. (General Studies)
Dongsuk Lee, Aberdeen (General Studies)
Teresa R. Pengilly, Inkster, N.D. (General Studies)
Adam Plageman, Papillion, Neb. (General Studies)
*Kara M. Schlottman, Rapid City (General Studies)
Erin Leigh Wolter, Frederick (General Studies)

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BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HONORIBUS

**Joseph Keryakos, Jezzine, Lebanon (Biology)#

***Tiffany Mae Kopetsky, Aberdeen (Biology)

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Benjamin James Allen, Alexandria, Minn. (Biology)

Jeffery J. Bartel, Huron (Biology)

***Bethany M. Crosswait, Spearfish (Biology)

**Melissa K. Elkins, Lake Crystal, Minn. (Biology)

*Stephen Thomas Erlandson, Aberdeen (Biology)@

***Joseph Michael Gomez, Graham, Wash. (Biology)#

Justin W. Howard, Eureka (Medical Laboratory Science; Biology)#

Breann C. Jackson, Wheatland, Wyo. (Biology)

Christina M. Johnson, Aberdeen (Biology)

Melissa Jean Lepel, Aberdeen (Chemistry)

Brian J. Monson, Aberdeen (Medical Laboratory Science; Biology; Environmental Science)

Mathew Muston, Watertown (Environmental Science; Biology)

Brandon M. O'Dea, Philip (Biology; Finance)

James A. Salinas, Aberdeen (Mathematics)

Samuel Sheffield, Aberdeen (Chemistry: Forensic Science)

Marisa N. Sundermeyer, Aberdeen (Chemistry)

Kaitlyn M. Szeles, North Las Vegas, Nev. (Biology)

*Molly Wynn, Wahpeton, N.D. (Biology)

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION IN HONORIBUS

Matthew C. Remmich, Pierre (History)

***Brandon S. Vockrodt, Pierre (Mathematics)

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION

**Brianna S. Arbogast, Chamberlain (English)

Megan M. Brink, Renner (Chemistry)

Tabitha L. DeVoss, Aberdeen (History)

Lisa J. Keizer, Watertown (History)

***Courtney J. Moore, Mitchell (Spanish)

**Kamie S. Wagar, Valley City, N.D. (Biology)

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS

Janet L. Heathman, Aberdeen (General Studies)

^Amanda Karlen, Warner (General Studies)

Hezekiah L. Moo, Huron (General Studies)

Michaela Schaefer, Wall (General Studies)#

Cody J. Shepardson, Brookings (General Studies)

Dustin J. Stephenson, Bath (General Studies)

Keanna R. Tiger, Wakpala (General Studies)

Jacqueline K. Tschetter, Huron (General Studies)

Brandon J. Walgren, Plano, Ill. (General Studies)

Isaac J. Wanttie, Aberdeen (General Studies)

Joshua Weber, Detroit Lakes, Minn. (General Studies)

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ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE

^Molly Wynn, Wahpeton, N.D. (Biotechnology)

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HONORIBUS

**Maris Victoria Grewe, Aberdeen (Management)

**Sabrina A. Smith-Mount, Aberdeen (Management)

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Brenna J. Ackerman, Huron (Business Administration)

Carissa F. Anderson, Hawarden, Iowa (Banking and Financial Services)

Torriano E. Barrett, Nassau, Bahamas (Management)

*Matthew J. Bettencourt, Elk Grove, Calif. (Business Administration)

Hope Block, Groton (Accounting)#

**Anna C. Bondy, Pierre (Finance)

Keegan C. Brown, Aberdeen (Business Administration)

Erick L. Cervenka, Lakeville, Minn. (Management Information Systems)

Tyler A. Cope, Aberdeen (Business Administration)

Jace W. Everson, Gettysburg (Business Administration)#

*Hayley Christine Fisher, Sisseton (Professional Accountancy)#

Maria Carmelia D. Garcia, Aberdeen (Professional Accountancy)

Thomas S. Gardner, Brandon (Management)

*Adam Z. Geist, Aberdeen (Management)

Tyler S. Genzlinger, Canova (Professional Accountancy)

Amy L. Glavan, Champlin, Minn. (Business Administration)

Tyler W. Gripentrog, Wahpeton, N.D. (Business Administration)

Garrett Gunderson, Bath (Business Administration)#

Su M. Hlaing, Huron (Professional Accountancy)#

Scott P. Hoffman, Mobridge (Professional Accountancy)

*Carrie A. Johnson, Aberdeen (Management; Accounting)#

Daniel B. Johnson, Aberdeen (Management; Marketing)

*Thad J. Johnson, Sioux Falls (Accounting)

**Lauren M. Kunz, Sioux Falls (Business Administration)

Margo A. Loeb, Groton (Banking and Financial Services)

*Jacob C. Loomis, Wadena, Iowa (Business Administration)#

**Colin M. McAlvain, Windsor, Calif. (Finance)

*Connor A. McDonald, Champlin, Minn. (Professional Accountancy)

Ben Moen, Cheyenne, Wyo. (Management; Marketing)

**Nicholas W. Murphy, Elk Point (Management; Professional Accountancy)

Joseph Patrick Murtagh IV, Aberdeen (Business Administration)

***Haley L. Nelson, Bowdle (Banking and Financial Services)

Kimberly Owen, Sioux Falls (Marketing)#

David J. Parsley, Flandreau (Business Administration)

***Joseph James Parsley, Flandreau (Professional Accountancy)#

Patricia D. Pudwill, Herreid (Management)

**Micah R. Rogers, Aberdeen (Professional Accountancy)

Jason K. Rohrbach, Aberdeen (Management)

Lauren L. Rulofson, Cottonwood, Calif. (Business Administration)

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Juan Carlos Salcedo, Huron (Accounting)
Katie P. Schoellerman, Sioux Falls (Management)
Michael D. Schreiber, Rogers, Minn. (Management)
Autumn L. Schulz, Spearfish (Management)
JooHee Seo, Gyeonggi-do, South Korea (Accounting)
Katherine E. Seyer, Aberdeen (Finance)
Brayden D. Thares, Ipswich (Management)
Trevor L. Tomlinson, Liberty Lake, Wash. (Finance)
**Zachary James Ulmer, Lisbon, N.D. (Management)
Callyann M. Wallenstein, Huron (Business Administration)
Dalton J. Wangerin, Mitchell (Management)
**Paige B. Waytashek, Lino Lakes, Minn. (Marketing)
Adam Weiszhaar, Bowdle (Management)
Shelby L. Werdel, Miller (Accounting)
James A. White, Huron (Management)
*Kendra A. Woytassek, Aberdeen (Management)
*Tyson D. Zemlicka, Watertown (Management)

ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE

Brandon Lee Loewel, Dassel, Minn. (Business Administration)
Bal Parsai, Sioux Falls (Banking and Financial Services)

MILLICENT ATKINS SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HONORIBUS

***Kendra A. Hengen, Aberdeen (Psychology)
**Adam R. Leach, Grand Forks, N.D. (Sport Marketing and Administration)

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Evan W. Aaron IV, Aberdeen (Human Performance and Fitness)
Jacob Adam, Thompson, N.D. (Sport Marketing and Administration)
**Jessica L. Anderson, West Fargo, N.D. (Human Performance and Fitness)
Channing R. Barber, Dell Rapids (Sport Marketing and Administration)
Zachery L. Barber, Dell Rapids (Sport Marketing and Administration)
Zachary D. Beatty, Renton, Wash. (Sport Marketing and Administration)#
Preston Wilson Brown, Panama City, Fla. (Human Performance and Fitness)
Priscilla N. Cooper, Aberdeen (Psychology)#
Austin Michael Dancer, Peoria, Ariz. (Human Performance and Fitness)
Katelyn DeJong, Brookings (Psychology)#
Ryan P. Dietz, Faribault, Minn. (Sport Marketing and Administration)#
Candace B. Dobberpuhl, Aberdeen (Human Performance and Fitness)
*Courtney E. Espeland, Pierre (Human Performance and Fitness)
Scott W. Finkelstein, Corona, Calif. (Human Performance and Fitness)
*Braden S. Goldade, Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada (Sport Marketing and Administration: Management)
Christopher M. Gonzales, San Antonio, Texas (Psychology)#
Jordan D. Goracke, Jordan, Minn. (Sport Marketing and Administration)
Jessica A. Gourneau, Aberdeen (Human Performance and Fitness)#
**Logan James Gruber, Colgate, Wis. (Human Performance and Fitness)
Gabby Gruenwald, Redfield (Psychology)

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Trever C. Heining, Atwater, Minn. (Human Performance and Fitness)
Kellan W. Herman, Mission (Human Performance and Fitness)
Heather M. Heyd, Aberdeen (Psychology)
Avery J. Holzer, Aberdeen (Psychology)
Danielle L. Johnson, Aberdeen (Psychology)
*Kristoffer C. Johnson, Omaha (Psychology)
Suzie Kilber, Roscoe (Psychology)
Paige Landis, Warner (Human Performance and Fitness)
*Josefin Leberger, Tumba, Sweden (Human Performance and Fitness)
*Makayla R. McConnell, Hawarden, Iowa (Human Performance and Fitness)
Tyler D. Oftedahl, Eagle Bend, Minn. (Human Performance and Fitness)
***Clara J. Pierskalla, Champlin, Minn. (Psychology)
Taylor J. Rolf, Elkton (Human Performance and Fitness)
*Bianca Rosa, Monterey, Calif. (Human Performance and Fitness)
Brandon R. Ruud, Sioux Falls (Sport Marketing and Administration)
Sydney N. Torrence, Aberdeen (Psychology; Biology)
Mitch Weber, Waconia, Minn. (Human Performance and Fitness)#
Amanda L. Wipf, Aberdeen (Psychology)

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION

**Jamie Bjur, Aberdeen (Elementary Education)
Cassandra A. Bottum, Tulare (Elementary Education)
Donnie Bowden, Gettysburg (Physical Education)
*Chelsey Colleen Carmichael, Rapid City (Elementary Education)
**Hallee K. Cronin, Gettysburg (Elementary Education)
***Samantha G. Elbert, Watertown (Elementary Education)
*Evan J. Finley, Chelsea (Elementary Education)
***Rachel J. Hartmann, Pierre (Elementary Education)
Brendon K. Hoellein, Aberdeen (Elementary Education)
**Eliza L. Jacob, Zimmerman, Minn. (Elementary Education)
*Elizabeth A. Kolda, Sioux Falls (Elementary Education)
*Kristin K. Maier, Witten (Elementary Education)
**Lauren M. McCafferty, Aberdeen (Elementary Education)
Joyce C. Nolan, Cooperstown, N.D. (Elementary Education; Special Education)
***Amber J. Ogren, Langford (Elementary Education)**
Tyler J. Robel, Watertown (Elementary Education)
***Brendan T. Roso, Aberdeen (Elementary Education)
*Leann J. Schlotterback, Sioux Falls (Elementary Education)
Angela M. Sieh, Aberdeen (Special Education)
*Donavan T. Soulek, Armour (Elementary Education)
*Kylie Nicole Stoltenberg, Stuart, Neb. (Elementary Education)
Calli A. Vearrier, Aberdeen (Elementary Education)
***Jessica M. Vernon, Bellevue, Neb. (Special Education)
Melayna L. Waisanen, Deadwood (Elementary Education)
Chelsea White, Aberdeen (Elementary Education; Special Education)
Emma L. Wik, Aberdeen (Elementary Education)

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SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN HONORIBUS

* Levi M. Seefeldt, Clark (Art: Advertising Design)

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Luke J. Bergjord, Aberdeen (Music)#

Quinn A. Determan, Mitchell (Art: Fine Arts)

Nicolas D. Harrison, Aberdeen (Art: Advertising Design)

Rebecca B. Hunt, Pierre (Art: Multimedia Design)

*Tyler J. Lanam, Rapid City (Musical Theater)

*Maggie Mae Martinmaas, Aberdeen (Art: Fine Arts)

Lexy Premus, Groton (Art: Fine Arts)

Jennifer M. Rappe, Ipswich (Art: Advertising Design)

**Tabitha R. Reule, Aberdeen (Music)

Bridget L. Solsaa, Aberdeen (Art: Fine Arts)

*Emily K. Tillma, Twin Brooks (Art: Multimedia Design)

Michael Benjamin Weber, Rapid City (Music)

**Carrie A. Wegleitner, Lake City (Art: Advertising Design)

BACHELOR OF MUSIC EDUCATION

*Shelby V. Bauer, Aberdeen (Music: Vocal Music, Instrumental)

Jacque Q. Bratcher, Lead (Music: Instrumental)

***Emily Louise Cruse, Huron (Music: Vocal Music)

Danica Ellen Mae Mickelson, Miller (Music: Vocal Music, Instrumental)

***Mikayla E. Nuese, Hendricks, Minn. (Music: Vocal Music, Instrumental)

Josh Opp, Aberdeen (Music: Instrumental)

*Nicholas P. Ries, Goodwin (Music: Instrumental)

*Sárka Stehnová, Velke Hamry, Czech Republic (Music: Instrumental)

***Paige R. Tooker, Warner (Music: Vocal Music, Instrumental)

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION

Kelsee M. Hartman, Mount Vernon (Art)

Alyssa R. Serfling, Mellette (Art)

***Candidate for Summa Cum Laude

**Candidate for Magna Cum Laude

*Candidate for Cum Laude

^^^Candidate for Highest Honor

^^Candidate for High Honor

^Candidate for Honor

@Fall 2016

#Summer 2017

Urine Drug Tests: Effective But Easy To Cheat On

With America facing an opioid epidemic, the most effective diagnostic tool for uncovering misuse and abuse of opiates remains the urine-drug testing that numerous businesses and physicians rely on.

But what happens when that "effective" tool is easily cheated – and an entire industry springs up to help the cheaters?

"Many people may not realize it, but there's a quiet war going on out there aimed at defeating this important test," says Dr. Matt McCarty, a board-certified physician specializing in pain management and the CEO of Genotox Laboratories (<http://genotoxlabs.com/toxprotect/>).

A quick Google search of "how to cheat a drug test" yields more than 1.5 million results. Blogs give detailed instructions on the use and purchase of devices, adulterants and synthetic urine that allow drug users to slip through the tests unscathed.

"The sole purpose of these products is to fraudulently produce a clean urine test result, and hide the user's drug misuse, abuse or addiction," McCarty says.

The cheapest and most foolproof way to cheat is to use substitute urine provided by another person. But another option the cheaters turn to is fake urine that, when warmed, is almost indistinguishable from the real thing, he says.

Apparently, the cheaters are experiencing success. Research presented last September at the American Pain Management Conference reported that traditional validity measures failed to detect substitute or synthetic urine in 98 percent of urine samples where they were present. The United States Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) has estimated that at least 10 percent of all urine samples could be adulterated.

So what can be done? McCarty says that having someone witness the urine sample being collected could possibly identify cheaters.

"But watching someone urinate in a cup is somewhat impractical," he says. "And frankly, motivated patients would just acquire one of the prosthetic devices that are designed to fool the sample collection observer."

Saliva, blood and hair samples have their own strengths, McCarty says, but also weaknesses when it comes to point-of-care monitoring of recent use and uncovering newer synthetics.

McCarty is among those at the forefront of finding an answer to the drug-test-cheating problem. To that end, he and a team of scientists at Genotox Labs developed ToxProtect, which matches a patient's DNA to the DNA in a urine sample, and also identifies all types of substitute urine, including synthetic-urine products.

"With 91 people dying every day from opioids we must rethink every part of the solution," McCarty says. "Using urine-drug testing that eliminates the risks of sample substitution by those motivated to do so will be a strong step in the right direction."

About Dr. Matt McCarty, M.D.

Dr. Matt McCarty is a board certified, fellowship trained physician specializing in chronic pain management. As the CEO of Genotox Laboratories (<http://genotoxlabs.com/toxprotect/>) in Austin, Texas, McCarty and his team have invented a patent pending DNA authenticated sample-matching method called ToxProtect™. It ensures urine submitted for drug testing is matched to a specific donor. ToxProtect™ uncovers the use of substitute and synthetic urine and detects substance misuse, abuse and relapse when all other urine drug testing fails.

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Today in Weather History

May 3, 1895: A tornado moved northeast from 3 miles northwest of Redfield through Ashton. It was estimated to be on the ground for about 5 miles. Several homes were unroofed and barns destroyed. Tornadoes were also spotted in Minnehaha and Bon Homme Counties in South Dakota.

May 3, 1907: The low temperature at Watertown fell to 16 degrees, making this coldest May temperature ever recorded Watertown.

May 3, 1960: Late season snowfall of 3 to 7 inches covered Perkins, Corson, and Campbell Counties. Lemmon reported 7 inches, and 6 miles SE of McIntosh had 6.5 inches. Main roads were very slippery and some rural roads impassable for about one day.

May 3, 1999: Two to four inches of rain fell across southeastern Dewey County causing flash flooding south of La Plant, mainly on Willow Creek. As a result of the flash flooding, several roads were underwater. Highway 212 just south of La Plant was flooded for a few hours along with Highway 8, 15 miles south of La Plant. The flash flooding resulted in some road and bridge damage.

May 3, 2002: With low humidity, arid vegetation, and increasing South winds, embers from a day old controlled burn initiated a large grassland fire in the early afternoon hours west of Claremont. South winds of 30 to 40 mph gusting to 50 mph caused the fire to spread quickly. The fire extended to 4 miles wide and spread 4 miles north before it was contained late in the evening. Many trees along with a mobile home, an abandoned house, and an old barn burned. Seven miles of road had to be closed due to poor visibility for smoke. Eleven fire departments with nearly 150 firefighters extinguished the fire. The fire was completely put out during the afternoon hours of the 4th. This fire was one of the largest grassland fires in Brown County history.

1761: Large tornadoes swept through the harbor at Charleston, South Carolina when a British fleet of 40 sails was at anchor. The tornadoes raised a wave 12 feet high, leaving many vessels on their beam ends. Four people drowned.








1868: A tornado traveled 15 miles across Warren and Knox Counties, northwest of Galesburg, Illinois. The small town of Ionia, in Warren County, was destroyed. 16 homes and two churches in the town were leveled, along with 30 homes elsewhere. The tornado killed six people and injured 40 others. Many of the casualties occurred during a church service when the church roof was torn off and dropped onto the congregation.

1895: In Sioux County, Iowa an extremely violent tornado, at times 1,000 yards wide packing winds estimated at over 250 mph moved from three miles north of Ireton to two miles southwest of Hull hitting four schools. Two school houses several miles apart were leveled, killing teachers and students. Sibling teachers were killed at two different schools. Adjoining farms were also entirely destroyed with several deaths in homes.

1999: There were 63 tornadoes in Oklahoma, making this the worst outbreak ever to strike the state. In Central Oklahoma alone, eight individual supercell thunderstorms produced 57 tornadoes. Bridge Creek, Moore and southern parts of the Oklahoma City Metro area were hit the hardest. When it was near Moore, Oklahoma, a truck-mounted Doppler radar measured a wind speed of 318 mph, the highest ever observed in a tornado. Forecasters at the Storm Prediction Center in Norman, OK were faced with the unprecedented situation of a major tornado on the ground threatening their location. As a major F5 tornado was approaching the Oklahoma City metro area from the southwest, the SPC notified its backup, the Air Force Weather Agency at Offutt AFB in Omaha, Nebraska that they might have to assume operational responsibility if the tornado approached Norman. The storm remained several miles west of the facility but was visible from the SPC roof. Damage from this single tornado was around one billion dollars, making it the most costly tornado in history. Estimated damage from the entire tornado outbreak was \$1.485 billion dollars, making this the most costly tornado outbreak ever. 2,314 homes were destroyed, and another 7,428 were damaged. To the north in Kansas, an F4 tornado tracked 24 miles through Sumner and Sedgwick Counties, killing 6, injuring 154, and causing \$146 million in damages. Haysville and Wichita suffered severe damage. A total of 8,480 buildings and homes were damaged or destroyed with, 109 totally destroyed.

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Today	Tonight	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday
						
Mostly Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny
High: 66 °F	Low: 39 °F	High: 71 °F	Low: 41 °F	High: 77 °F	Low: 45 °F	High: 77 °F



WARMER DAYS AHEAD

 **Today**
near 65

 **Thursday**
near 70

 **Friday - Sunday**
70s to near 80

Updated 5/3/2017 5:24AM Central

National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD



Published on: 05/03/2017 at 5:34AM

Warmer and drier days are ahead! Today, as a trough of low pressure lingers across eastern South Dakota, will be the last day with a chance of showers until at least Monday of next week. A rumble of thunder will not be out of the question this afternoon. While temperatures will rise to near 65 today, they will top out in the 70s to near 80 degrees from Friday through the weekend.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 66.8 F at 4:56 PM

Low Outside Temp: 27.9 F at 6:04 AM

High Gust: 21.0 Mph at 3:41 PM

Snow: Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 90° in 1952

Record Low: 13° in 2005

Average High: 65°F

Average Low: 39°F

Average Precip in May: 0.30

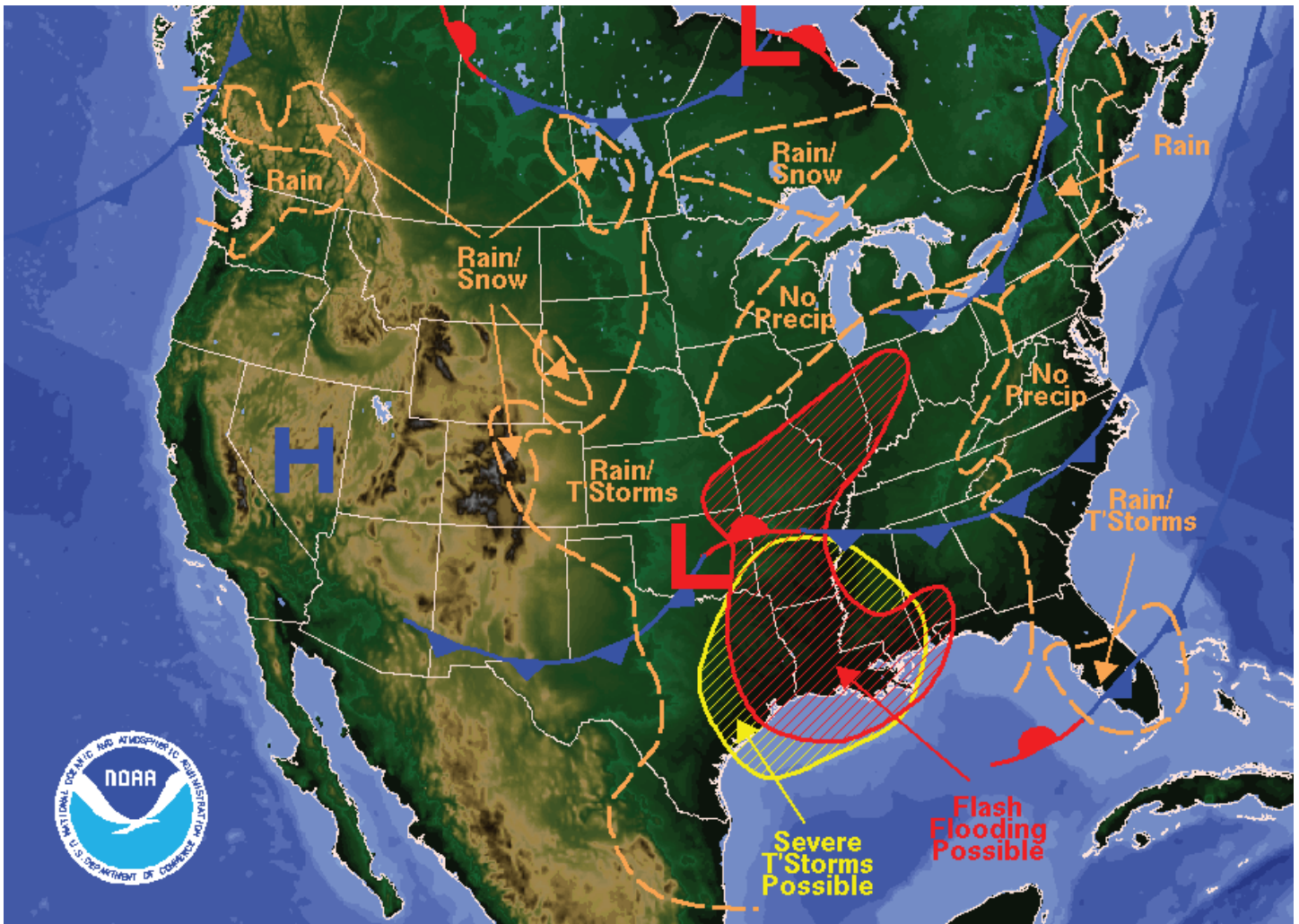
Precip to date in May: 0.00

Average Precip to date: 4.33

Precip Year to Date: 1.98

Sunset Tonight: 8:43 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:17 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Wed, May 03, 2017, issued 4:26 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Mcreynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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"GOD IS NOW HERE!"

A professor of biology, who was an atheist, wrote on the dry erase board, "God is no where!" A student raised his hand and asked, "Sir, may I try something?"

"Of course," said the professor.

Walking to the front of the class he moved the "w" from "where" to the end of the word "no" and the sentence read, "God is now here!"

Wherever anyone is, God is! There is no place, nor can there be any place, where He is not. He is the Creator, Sustainer and Governor of the universe.

There are approximately seven billion people on our planet occupying seven billion different places. Each of them could, if they would, say with equal certainty, "God is now here." No one is closer to or further from God at any time in any place. Again, wherever anyone is, God is.

Do you remember the story of Jonah? God had a plan for him. It was to travel east - to Nineveh. But Jonah had his own plan and he decided to go west - to Tarshish. He crossed half of the world trying to get away from God and when he got there he found God waiting for him.

There was a king who made the same discovery. He said, "If I go up to the heavens, You are there. If I make my bed in the depths, You are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there Your hand will guide me, Your right hand will hold me fast."

We may be above the clouds in an aircraft or on the floor of the ocean in a submarine, He will be there waiting.

Prayer: Thank You, Father, for Your presence in our lives knowing that "You will never leave us." Never! In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 139:8 If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

News from the Associated Press

SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) _ These South Dakota lotteries were drawn Tuesday:

Mega Millions

05-14-42-43-58, Mega Ball: 1, Megaplier: 4

(five, fourteen, forty-two, forty-three, fifty-eight; Mega Ball: one; Megaplier: four)

Estimated jackpot: \$15 million

Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$130 million

Police investigating 2 Sioux Falls deaths as murder-suicide

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls police say officials are investigating the deaths of two men at an apartment building as a murder-suicide.

Authorities say the department responded to a well-being call at about 8:40 a.m. Tuesday at the northwestern Sioux Falls building. Officers discovered the residence's occupant and another man dead inside. Authorities say they were acquainted.

Police say the investigation is ongoing and didn't identify the two people who died.

Settlement reached in Missouri River project lawsuit

FORT PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A city council in central South Dakota has agreed to settle a lawsuit filed by a business owner who accused the city of giving special breaks to the developer of a Missouri River development project known as Riverwalk Landing.

The Capital Journal (<http://bit.ly/2pTy0Uc>) reported that the Fort Pierre City Council voted 5-1 to settle the lawsuit Monday. Kevin Gabriel of Ward 1 was the sole council member to vote no.

Business owner Diane London filed suit against the city, the Fort Pierre Development Corporation and Midwest Construction Ind. in 2015, alleging that Midwest Construction received special breaks not given to other property owners near the Missouri River and the Riverwalk project. London owns the Perkins Restaurant near the project area.

London requested that the project halt until it complied with the bylaws of the Teton Island Business Park Owners Association. London also wanted a judge to rule that condominiums planned for the Riverwalk Landing would be dwellings solely for residential use and therefore violated bylaws.

The terms and conditions of the settlement agreement were made confidential.

The first part of the Riverwalk Landed project, a restaurant and bar called Drifters opened in 2016.

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

Defense questions reliability of witnesses to teen's death

PINE RIDGE, S.D. (AP) — An attorney for a man charged with fatally shooting a 13-year-old girl is questioning the reliability of three witnesses to the crime on the Pine Ridge reservation.

James Dowty is charged in federal court with second-degree murder in the July death of Te'Ca Clifford. Prosecutors say Clifford and three other teens were out in the middle of the night buying liquor when they encountered Dowty. They say one of the teens began throwing rocks in Dowty's direction and saw a "muzzle flash" before Clifford fell to the ground.

The Rapid City Journal (<http://bit.ly/2pCbsV0>) reports defense attorney Jennifer Albertson described the three witnesses as drunken teenagers and questioned whether they had clearly seen the shooter in the dark from a distance. The trial is expected to last through the week.

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

Schools urge parent-child discussions about Netflix show

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Some school districts in South Dakota are urging parents to talk to their teens about a popular Netflix series that includes graphic scenes of sexual assault and suicide.

School officials and mental health experts are concerned the "13 Reasons Why" series about a 17-year-old girl who takes her own life could trigger dangerous thoughts and actions by vulnerable teens. The Sioux Falls district has created a page on its website linking parents to resources for talking with their teens about the show. Those resources have also been shared with counselors and administrators in the city.

The Argus Leader (<http://argusne.ws/2p1pgpW>) says the Baltic and West Central school districts sent notes to parents to make sure they know about the show and the difficult topics it addresses.

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

Wet, cold weather affects spring planting in South Dakota

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota farmers trying to get their crops in the ground had to deal with wet and unseasonably cold weather over the past week.

The Agriculture Department says in its weekly crop report that parts of the state saw rain, snow and ice.

Planting of small grains crops is still ahead of the average pace. Corn seeding is behind average.

South Dakota's winter wheat crop is rated 54 percent in good to excellent condition.

In the ranching community, calving is 83 percent done and lambing is 91 percent complete. Stock water supplies are 89 percent adequate to surplus, and hay supplies are 78 percent in those categories.

Trump seeks steps from Abbas to promote peace with Israel

By MATTHEW LEE, AP Diplomatic Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump will press Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas Wednesday to end payments to families of Palestinians imprisoned in Israeli jails, according to U.S. officials, one of several actions Washington believes could lead to resumed peace talks with Israel.

Other actions include a Palestinian end to anti-Israel rhetoric and incitement of violence, said officials familiar with planning for the meeting. It will be Trump and Abbas' first face-to-face discussion.

The issue of stipends for families of Palestinians killed or jailed in the context of the conflict with Israel is sensitive. Israel considers such payments a reward for terrorists, but stopping them seems untenable to Abbas, especially at a time of broad Palestinian support for a mass hunger strike of prisoners held by Israel. American officials said such a request was raised in preparatory talks with Palestinian officials

and three Republican senators urged a halt to such payments in a letter to Trump that reflected widespread opinion in Congress.

While Abbas will be challenged on the payments, Trump will also use their meeting to recommit the United States to helping the Palestinians improve their economic conditions, said the U.S. officials, who weren't authorized to publicly preview the talks and demanded anonymity. They said Trump will reiterate his belief that Israeli settlement construction on land claimed by the Palestinians does not advance peace prospects.

The peace process has been stalled since 2014 when former Secretary of State John Kerry's effort to lead the sides into peace talks collapsed. Since then, there have been no serious attempts to get negotiations restarted. The Obama administration spent its last months in office attempting to preserve conditions for an eventual resumption.

"We hope this will be a new beginning," Abbas told Palestinians at a meeting in Washington on the eve of the talks.

He blamed the lack of dialogue in recent years on the Israeli government, saying its leaders "have no political vision," and reiterated his demands for an independent Palestinian state along pre-1967 lines, with east Jerusalem as its capital.

"Without this we will not accept any solution," said Abbas, who touted an Arab League peace plan that offers Israel diplomatic relations with the Muslim world for a Palestinian state. "There is no alternative."

Israel rejects the 1967 lines as a possible border, saying it would impose grave security risks. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu hasn't outlined an alternative demarcation.

Abbas also criticized ideas for a "one state" peace agreement, saying it could mean "racial discrimination" or an apartheid-like system. Left unspoken was the apparent reference to Trump.

In a February news conference with Netanyahu, Trump broke with longtime U.S. policy by raising the one-state idea and withholding clear support for an independent Palestine, though officials quickly stressed he would support any arrangement agreed by the two sides.

Another contentious issue: Trump's campaign promise to move the U.S. Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. The symbolic relocation would essentially recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital. Abbas and other Arab leaders have said doing so would inflame already simmering tensions.

Since taking office, Trump has backed away from the pledge while saying he's still discussing it. On Tuesday, Vice President Mike Pence said the White House was giving "serious consideration" to the idea.

Pence also said Trump was making progress toward peace, though he didn't elaborate. He stressed that Israel's interests would be protected.

"Thanks to the president's tireless leadership, momentum is building and good will is growing," Pence said at an event commemorating the anniversary of Israeli independence. "And while there will undoubtedly have to be compromises, you can rest assured: President Donald Trump will never compromise the safety and security of the Jewish state of Israel. Not now, not ever."

No trial balloons: Trump flips script with startling ideas

By NANCY BENAC, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Washington policymakers have a time-tested method for rolling out new ideas: float a trial balloon. Spread rumors of a policy change or selectively leak it to the press, then see how it plays and proceed only if it looks doable.

President Donald Trump has flipped that script.

Big and startling ideas fly out of his mouth or from his Twitter feed. Then the rest of his administration

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scrambles to catch up — and to figure out when his statements signal new presidential policies and when they're offhand remarks that mean little.

In the past week alone, Trump has suggested he's open to higher gas taxes, tweeted that a government shutdown could be a good thing and called North Korean dictator Kim Jong Un a "smart cookie" whom he'd be honored to meet under the right conditions. Trump also invited Philippine leader Rodrigo Duterte, with a troubling human rights record, to visit the White House and insisted the GOP health plan would provide coverage for people with pre-existing medical conditions, even though an ironclad guarantee is not reflected in the latest version of the legislation.

Such pronouncements sometimes force Trump's top policy advisers to try to adjust administration policy to sync with the president's remarks. His communications aides contort themselves to explain away inconsistencies in administration messages. And blindsided GOP congressional leaders have to decide when to realign their positions and when to stay the course.

"It's a scramble drill in the White House every day, and certainly a scramble drill in Trump's mind every day," says Calvin Jillson, a presidential scholar at Southern Methodist University.

The frustration of Republican legislators was clear when Trump tweeted Tuesday that the government "needs a good shutdown" in September to fix the "mess," after Democrats prevailed on a number of spending issues in a bipartisan budget bill designed to keep the government open.

"I do wish somebody would take his iPhone away from him," said Sen. Bob Corker, R-Tenn.

"I wish he'd think twice before tweeting," seconded Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz.

House Speaker Paul Ryan wondered aloud: "How many times have I had this, 'Do you agree with the tweet this morning?'"

Ryan said he shared the president's aggravation with Democrats over the spending negotiations. But he also defended the budget deal, telling reporters it was an "important first step in the right direction."

On North Korea, Trump seemed to recognize the startling nature of his conciliatory comments about Kim in which he told CBS on Sunday that he would be "honored" to meet the leader if circumstances were right. The president labeled his own comments "breaking news."

White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer quickly stressed that Trump wouldn't meet with the North Korean leader unless he changed course and showed "signs of good faith."

Asked how Trump could be honored to meet with someone who's threatened to destroy the U.S., Spicer said that because Kim was a head of state, "there's a diplomatic piece to this."

Likewise, it fell to Spicer to tamp down expectations after Trump told Bloomberg in an interview that he would "certainly consider" generating more money for his big infrastructure plan by raising gasoline and diesel fuel taxes. The idea of raising taxes is a no-go zone for most Republican legislators.

Spicer said Trump was merely showing "respect" for an idea that had been raised by industry groups and "there was no endorsement of it or no support of it."

Trump's interviews sometimes make news to his own team.

When Trump promised an AP interviewer last month that he'd roll out his tax plan the following week, officials at the White House and Treasury Department, as well as Republicans on Capitol Hill, were caught off guard. The announcement sent aides scrambling to put together a one-sheet outline of a tax plan by the president's surprise deadline.

Trump's Twitter feed is an ongoing source of surprise, perhaps most notably his March accusation that President Barack Obama had him wiretapped during the presidential campaign. That triggered an all-out effort by aides to find ways to justify the claim.

Jillson allowed that sometimes Trump may appear to be winging it when his statements are planned, such as the president's phone conversation during the transition with the president of Taiwan. The call

generated speculation that Trump had unthinkingly broken longstanding U.S. policy but appears to have been part of a calculated effort to throw China off-balance, Jillson said.

Trump's White House invitation to Duterte, whose record includes extrajudicial killings of suspected drug dealers and users, caught key players at the State Department unaware and left White House officials trying to explain why it would be a good idea.

White House chief of staff Reince Priebus framed the president's invitation as part of an effort to counter the military threat of North Korea, adding that "it doesn't mean that human rights don't matter."

Jillson said that while administration officials may feel compelled to align the policies they're developing with Trump's latest statements, GOP members of Congress are becoming more discriminating about when they need to sync up with the president's pronouncements and when they can disregard them.

On the bipartisan budget deal, he said, congressional Republicans and Democrats "forgot about Trump for enough time to craft a deal, almost without reference to him, and got a win."

"They're learning to let this stuff wash off their backs and continue to try to think systematically," Jillson said.

Associated Press writers Julie Pace and Josh Lederman contributed to this report.

Follow Nancy Benac on Twitter at: <http://twitter.com/nbenac>

Government-wide spending bill headed for a House vote

By ANDREW TAYLOR, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A government-wide spending bill that President Donald Trump seemed to criticize Tuesday morning but now calls "a clear win for the American people" is headed for a House vote.

The House is scheduled to vote on the bipartisan \$1.1 trillion measure Wednesday afternoon. It is a product of weeks of Capitol Hill negotiations in which top Democrats like House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi successfully blocked Trump's most controversial proposals, including a down payment on the oft-promised Trump Mexico border wall, cuts to popular domestic programs, and new punishments for so-called sanctuary cities.

The White House instead boasted of \$15 billion in emergency funding to jumpstart Trump's promise to rebuild the military and an extra \$1.5 billion for border security.

"After years of partisan bickering and gridlock, this bill is a clear win for the American people," Trump said, citing the Pentagon and border money. "This is what winning looks like." Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., also declared victory, but the opinions of top party leaders were not shared by the rank and file.

"From my point of view, we pretty well got our clock cleaned," said Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C.

Earlier Tuesday, however, Trump took to Twitter, angrily reacting to media reports depicting Democrats such as Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer of New York as winners in the negotiations. He cited Senate rules that empower minority Democrats and tweeted that the U.S. government "needs a good shutdown" this fall to fix a "mess" in the Senate.

At issue is a mammoth, 1,665-page measure to fund the government through September that largely continues a long-established tradition of bipartisan spending deals that boost funding for medical research, aid for schools, and law enforcement accounts, while defending foreign aid, grants to state and local governments, and the Environmental Protection Agency from cuts sought by tea party Republicans.

Democratic votes will be needed to pass the measure even though Republicans control both the White House and Congress, which made Pelosi and Schumer active and powerful participants in the talks,

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leading to bipartisan outcomes like a \$2 billion disaster aid fund, \$407 million to combat Western wildfires, and additional grants for transit projects, \$100 million in emergency funding to fight the nation's opioid crisis, and a \$2 billion increase for medical research at the National Institutes of Health.

The White House and Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., both crowed over a hard-fought \$1.3 billion provision to preserve health benefits for more than 22,000 retired coal miners and their families, which was included over the opposition of House Speaker Ryan. Pelosi was the driving force behind an effort to give the cash-strapped government of Puerto Rico \$295 million to ease its Medicaid burden.

Negotiators on the bill say it looks pretty much like the measure would have looked like if it had been ironed out last year under Obama — save for Trump's add-ons for the Pentagon and the border. Democrats scored some wins as well, and Schumer was quick to run a victory lap in a series of media interviews on Monday that appeared to get under Trump's skin.

"The president is frustrated with the fact that he negotiated in good faith with the Democrats, and they went out to try to spike the football and make him look bad," White House budget director Mick Mulvaney told reporters. Asked about a potential shutdown later in the year, Mulvaney said, "if the Democrats aren't going to behave any better than they have in the last couple of days, it may be inevitable."

Democrats were gleeful at the shutdown talk coming from the highest levels of the White House, which could only increase their leverage in talks on this summer's round of spending bills for 2018, though Schumer demurred when offered a chance to counter Trump.

"This is a good day, and it's a bipartisan day, so I'm not going to get into finger pointing," Schumer said. "It was a bipartisan negotiation as I said. The leaders — Democrat, Republican, House and Senate — work well together. And why ruin that?"

Boston sports struggle with perception built on racist past

By ERRIN HAINES WHACK, Associated Press

When Red Sox fans hurled peanuts and the N-word toward Orioles outfielder Adam Jones in Fenway Park, it was a reminder of Boston's racial legacy — particularly around its sports teams.

Boston's reputation as a racist sports town developed through decades of barriers broken and maintained, intertwined with broader struggles for progress along with today's climate of racial tension that sports can't avoid.

Despite its teams and the city making strides on race, Boston still has perceptions of racism to overcome.

"Boston has a reputation, partially left over from a long time ago, that there is more racism within Boston sports," said Richard Lapchick, director of the Institute for Diversity and Ethics in Sport at the University of Central Florida. "The type of incident that happened ... is something I would've expected to read about in Boston 25 years ago."

Jones was given an extended ovation on Tuesday night as he stepped to the plate for his first at-bat, a moment sharply different from what he described Monday night, saying he heard fans call him the N-word and had peanuts thrown in his direction in the dugout, hitting a nearby police officer.

The All-Star said he felt "it was just the right time" to speak out after experiencing previous racial heckling at Fenway over 12 seasons, though he said it was more a sign of larger racial issues than an indictment of Boston or its fans. Several black ballplayers Tuesday said Jones was just describing what they regularly experience.

The Celtics and the Bruins were pioneers in professional basketball and hockey during the 1950s. But the Red Sox were the last Major League Baseball team to field a black player. Pumpsie Green debuted

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at Fenway in 1959 — more than a decade after Jackie Robinson played for the Dodgers, and even after Willie O'Ree took the ice for Boston in the all-white National Hockey League.

The Red Sox ballpark and offices are located on Yawkey Way, named for franchise owner Tom Yawkey who presided over the team at the time. The Red Sox passed on Robinson in 1945 and also passed on a chance to sign future Hall of Famer Willie Mays.

The Celtics were the first team to draft a black player, the first to field an all-black starting five and the first to hire a black head coach. Bill Russell was among the league's first black players and champions, but wasn't embraced by fans during his career and was embittered by his experience in Boston for years, though he is now a beloved figure in the city. In the 1980s, the rivalry between the white Celtics Larry Bird and the African-American Lakers star Magic Johnson epitomized the NBA's racial divide. Earlier this season, Celtics forward Jae Crowder, who is black, said he felt "disrespected" by fans openly coveting white potential free agent Gordon Hayward, rekindling the debate.

In 2012, some fans upset with the Washington Capitals bouncing the Boston Bruins from the NHL playoffs lobbed racial insults on Twitter toward Joel Ward, a Canadian who is black. And in an episode of Saturday Night Live before the New England Patriots played in the Super Bowl this year, comedian Michael Che called Boston "the most racist city I've ever been to."

Boston fans pride themselves on rabidly supporting one of America's greatest sports cities. While the Sox-Orioles rivalry shouldn't automatically result in racism, "for some white Americans, that's often where they go if they're angry," said University of Hartford sociologist Woody Doane.

"Pulling a racial epithet out of our back pocket is something a lot of us still do," said Doane, who studies sports, society and whiteness.

Boston's racial history — including fights over segregated housing, schools and politics — has spilled into sports as some working class residents experience a "white crisis," said University of Connecticut sociologist Matthew Hughey.

"They can't live up to the levels of superiority they're told they're supposed to naturally have, so they turn to symbolic things or people to build a sense of identity and to take out a sense of frustration," Hughey said. "Sports can be that sense of identity."

Ballparks can also be an environment where some people feel more comfortable expressing offensive views while others feel uncomfortable or unwelcome.

More black and Latino fans have begun attending games at Fenway, but they remain largely in the minority, said Doane, who has regularly attended Red Sox games since 1963.

"It's a white space," Doane said. "If you are a person of color there, you would definitely feel in the minority."

The situation is not much different for players on the field. Lapchick's 2017 report card on Major League Baseball showed only 7.7 percent of players are African-Americans — the lowest figure in the years since the institute has tracked the data. Black players have long commented on the atmosphere at Fenway, saying they expect racial taunts.

On Tuesday, Yankees pitcher CC Sabathia said: "You get called names, N-word, all kinds of stuff when you go to Boston.

"We know," he said. "There's 62 of us and we all know: When you go to Boston, expect it."

Both the city and its sports franchises have changed in recent years. Last season, the Patriots started a black quarterback for the first time. The Red Sox have several African-American players in their starting lineup. And Celtics guard Isaiah Thomas is currently leading his team in the NBA playoffs.

Red Sox President Sam Kennedy said his ownership group made it a mission in 2002 to "acknowledge the shameful past of the Boston Red Sox" and its reputation as an unfriendly environment.

"We've worked really hard to change that. We want to open up Fenway Park to everyone," Kennedy said. "Everyone should feel comfortable at Fenway Park. No matter your race, religion, political beliefs, your sexuality — you are welcomed at Fenway."

Boston's neighborhoods have diversified and its racial boundaries have become less rigid. The city's population is now a quarter black, up from roughly 16 percent in 1970 and 3 percent in 1940. Since 2000, at least half of Boston's population has been made up of minorities.

Kennedy, Mayor Marty Walsh and Gov. Charlie Baker were all swift Tuesday to condemn the fan behavior. While Kennedy called the conduct the acts of "an ignorant few," city councilor Ayanna Pressley said in a statement that the incident "lays bare the racism that many residents of our city grapple with on a regular basis."

It may also be a sign of the times, said Lapchick.

"This is one more alarm bell that racism is alive and well in the United States," he said. "To think it doesn't take place in sports, or in any other aspect of our society would be naive on the part of the public. But it puts it in our face more when something like that happens in a ballpark."

AP sports writers Kyle Hightower and Jimmy Golen in Boston and Mike Fitzpatrick in New York contributed to this report.

Errin Haines Whack covers urban affairs for The Associated Press. Follow her work on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/emarvelous>.

This story has been resent to delete redundant "who is white" and correct spelling of Hayward in 9th paragraph.

State charges still possible for Baton Rouge officers

By **SADIE GURMAN** and **MICHAEL KUNZELMAN**, Associated Press

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — The Justice Department's decision not to charge two white Baton Rouge police officers in the shooting death of a black man may not be the final legal chapter in a case that reverberated far beyond Louisiana's capital.

The department's decision doesn't preclude state authorities from conducting their own investigation of Alton Sterling's fatal shooting last summer and pursuing their own criminal charges in the case.

A person familiar with the Justice Department's decision disclosed it to The Associated Press on Tuesday. The person was not authorized to talk publicly about the decision and spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity.

Dozens of people gathered Tuesday evening outside the Baton Rouge convenience store where Sterling was shot and killed during a struggle with the two officers on July 5, 2016. At the vigil, residents and community activists held hands and prayed before urging state authorities to step in and take action.

Some called for Louisiana Attorney General Jeff Landry's office to investigate. Mya Richardson, an 18-year-old activist, read out Landry's Twitter handle and office phone number over a microphone and urged the crowd to "show him how angry you are."

Raheejah Flowers, 16, fought back tears as she told the crowd that "this is not the end."

"We are not going to take this sitting down," she said. "Alton did not die here for us to suck it up and move on!"

Police arrested nearly 200 protesters in Baton Rouge in July following Sterling's death, which occurred

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a day before another black man was killed by police in Minnesota.

Racial tensions in Baton Rouge were simmering when a black military veteran from Missouri ambushed and killed three Baton Rouge law enforcement officers and wounded three others before being shot dead on July 17. The city was still reeling from the shootings when August floodwaters damaged or destroyed tens of thousands of homes in the area.

Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards immediately asked for a federal investigation of Sterling's death. He called cellphone video of the incident "disturbing, to say the least."

No public announcement has been made by the Justice Department as of late Tuesday, and many officials in Baton Rouge said they haven't been notified.

"The Governor's Office has not been notified of a timeline or decision regarding the Alton Sterling investigation. We have been in constant contact with the U.S. Attorney's Office and were assured that both our office and the Sterling family would be given advance notice," said Richard Carbo, a spokesman for Edwards.

A district attorney's recusal left Landry to decide whether to have his own office review evidence for possible state charges or to appoint another district attorney to the case. A spokesman for Landry said Tuesday that their office would not comment until after an official Justice Department announcement.

Sterling, 37, was selling homemade CDs outside the Triple S Food Mart before his deadly confrontation with police. Two cellphone videos of Sterling's struggle with the two officers, Blane Salamoni and Howie Lake II, quickly spread on social media after the shooting.

A police report says Sterling was initially jolted with a stun gun after he didn't comply with the officers' commands to put his hands on the hood of a car. The report also says the officers saw the butt of a gun in one of Sterling's pants pockets and saw him try to reach for it before he was shot.

The videos show Sterling scuffling with Salamoni and Lake after they responded to a caller's complaint that Sterling had threatened the caller with a gun outside the convenience store. The two officers had Sterling pinned on his back when gunfire erupted, moments after someone yelled, "He's got a gun!"

One of Alton's aunts, Veda Sterling, spoke at Tuesday's vigil and led the crowd in chants of "No justice, no peace!"

"It's been almost a year and we're still suffering like it happened yesterday," she said. "We need closure. We need a conviction. We need justice."

John McLindon, Salamoni's attorney, said he can't comment until he reads an official report from the Justice Department. An attorney for Lake did not return a call seeking comment.

Justin Bamberg, an attorney for some of Sterling's relatives, has said the family wanted an indictment.

Bamberg also represents relatives of Walter Scott, an unarmed black man who was running from a traffic stop in Charleston, South Carolina, when a white police officer shot and killed him in 2015. The former officer, 35-year-old Michael Slager, pleaded guilty to federal civil rights charges Tuesday, five months after a jury deadlocked on state murder charges against him.

Tuesday's decision in the Sterling case was the highest profile decision not to bring charges against police officers in a deadly shooting since Jeff Sessions became attorney general. But the federal investigation into possible civil rights violations by the officers was seen as problematic. Authorities in such cases must meet a difficult standard of proof, a challenge that has complicated prosecutions in past police shootings.

Sessions has said his Justice Department is committed to holding individual officers accountable when they break the law. But he also believes too much federal scrutiny of police departments can diminish officers' effectiveness and hurt morale, and has ordered a sweeping review of federal consent decrees that force cities to agree to major policing overhauls.

The Baton Rouge police chief has said Sterling was armed. The store's owner has said Sterling wasn't holding a gun during the shooting but he saw officers remove one from his pocket afterward.

As a convicted felon, Sterling couldn't legally carry a gun. Court records show Sterling had pleaded guilty in 2011 to being a felon in possession of a firearm and illegally carrying a weapon and was arrested in May 2009 after an officer confronted him outside another store where he was selling CDs.

Police said they have dashcam and bodycam video and store surveillance footage of the shooting; none has been released.

Both officers remain on administrative leave, a standard procedure.

Gurman reported from Washington. Associated Press reporter Melinda Deslatte in Baton Rouge contributed to this report.

EU Brexit chief warns time running out for talks

By LORNE COOK, Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — The European Union's point-man on Brexit urged Britain to work tirelessly to conclude negotiations on leaving the bloc, warning Wednesday that time is running out to seal a deal by 2019.

Unveiling his mandate for the talks on Britain's departure, Michel Barnier said that in the coming months he will focus on tackling three issues: The future of some five million citizens affected by the move; London's financial debts, which could climb to as much as 100 billion euros (109 billion dollars) according to reports; and border issues with neighboring Ireland.

It's the first time a member has ever left the EU, so these negotiations are taking the Europeans into uncharted waters. The process is unprecedented and complicated, and combined with snap elections in Britain, have ratcheted tensions between Prime Minister Theresa May's government and the 27 nations that will remain in the EU.

Barnier, a former French government minister, told reporters in Brussels that "the UK must put a great deal of energy and effort" into the talks, which can only start in earnest once a new government is formed in London. He suggested that the parties will have some 16 months to negotiate, leaving time for respective parliaments to endorse any accord.

"Time is short, very short. Days are going by," he said.

Barnier insisted that he is not hostile to Britain and that the talks are not a form of punishment, saying that "we have to settle the account, not more not less."

He underlined that Britain and its EU partners had together agreed the bloc's long-term budget, running from 2014 to 2020, and that Britain must pay up its share of contributions.

"Engagements were undertaken and they have to be honored. It's a question of responsibility," he said.

Barnier did not specify how much Britain should pay, but the British government minister charged with overseeing the withdrawal rejected the notion that Britain will be forced to pay a reported bill of 100 billion euros.

David Davis told television station ITV that the EU was not able to arbitrarily set a figure and that the final amount paid will come out of negotiations.

It had been widely discussed that the bill would be 60 billion euros, but The Financial Times reported Wednesday that it had gone up amid added demands by the EU.

Davis said Britain would meet its international obligations but that "we will not be paying 100 billion."

He also dismissed reports the EU could bar May from Brexit discussions at future heads of state and

government meetings.

Under the negotiating mandate, EU states would have to approve progress on immediate exit issues before Barnier can start negotiating the outline of the bloc's future relations with Britain after it leaves.

Danica Kirka in London contributed.

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: US FIRM IN IRAQ IGNORES SECURITY RISKS FOR F-16S

Sallyport Global, paid nearly \$700 million to secure an Iraqi base for F-16 fighter jets, turned a blind eye to alcohol smuggling, theft, security violations, and allegations of sex trafficking, an AP investigation finds.

2. WHAT IS EXPECTED TO PASS IN CONGRESS

A \$1.1 trillion spending bill that Trump at first seemed to criticize but now calls "a clear win for the American people" is headed for a House vote.

3. TRUMP TO PRESS ABBAS ON MIDEAST PEACE

In a White House meeting, the Palestinian leader will be asked to end payments to families of Palestinians imprisoned in Israeli jails, U.S. officials say.

4. ANGER GROWS IN SOUTH KOREA OVER THAAD

Next week's presidential election in South Korea will likely end conservative rule that maintained a hard line against North Korea and backed the installation of the U.S. anti-missile system.

5. DOJ DECISION IN BATON ROUGE CASE NOT NECESSARILY THE END

The government's decision not to charge two white officers in Alton Sterling's fatal shooting doesn't preclude state authorities from conducting their own probe and pursuing criminal charges.

6. WHERE ADDICTS HAVE BEEN FINDING TREATMENT

A small cluster of privately owned treatment centers have sprung up in the northwest corner of Georgia, and locals are miffed that most of the patients are from nearby Tennessee.

7. BORDER PATROL STEPS UP RECRUITING

Seeking new agents, the government is turning up at country music festivals, sporting events and careers fairs to fill jobs at a time of increasing demand.

8. NO TRIAL BALLOONS: TRUMP FLIPS SCRIPT

Washington policymakers have a time-tested method for rolling out new ideas: float a trial balloon. But Trump's use of social media is a game-changer.

9. JAZZ FANS TURN TABLES ON WARRIORS' RAZZ

Salt Lake City leaders and tourism officials playfully jab back at Golden State Warriors players who bemoaned the lack of nightlife in Utah.

10. BOSTON SPORTS STRUGGLE WITH RACIST PERCEPTION

The racial slurs hurled by Fenway Park fans toward Baltimore outfielder Adam Jones were a reminder of Boston's racial legacy around its sports teams.

US firm in Iraq ignores smuggling, security risks for F-16s

By **DESMOND BUTLER** and **LORI HINNANT**, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — An American company that was paid nearly \$700 million to secure an Iraqi base for F-16 fighter jets turned a blind eye to alcohol smuggling, theft, security violations, and allegations of sex trafficking — then terminated investigators who uncovered wrongdoing, an Associated Press investigation has found.

Documents and interviews with two former internal investigators and a half-dozen former or current Sallyport Global staff describe schemes at Iraq's Balad Air Base that were major contract violations at best and, if proven, illegal.

The fired investigators, Robert Cole and Kristie King, said they uncovered evidence that Sallyport employees were involved in human trafficking for prostitution. Staff on base routinely flew smuggled alcohol onto the base in such high volumes that a plane once seesawed on the tarmac under the weight. Rogue militia stole enormous generators using flatbed trucks and a 60-foot crane, driving right past Sallyport security guards.

The trouble stretches to headquarters in Reston, Virginia, say the investigators and other ex-employees interviewed by AP. They say what they uncovered was not revealed to the U.S. government, which was footing the \$686 million contracting bill, until early this year — after an auditor started asking questions.

The investigators were fired abruptly on March 12 — just two months ago — and immediately flown out of Iraq. They say they had been looking into timesheet fraud allegations and were set to interview company managers, whom they considered suspects.

"I feel like they got us out so quickly because they feel like we knew too much," King said in an interview. "When we finally got the idea that they were hiding all of the stuff from the U.S. government, it was mind-blowing."

In a statement to the AP, Sallyport said it follows all contracting rules at the base, home to a squadron of F-16s that are indispensable to the operations of the U.S.-led coalition against the Islamic State group.

"Sallyport has a strong record of providing security and life support services in challenging war zones like Iraq and plays a major but unheralded role in the war against ISIS," Chief Operating Officer Matt Stuckart wrote. "The company takes any suggestion of wrongdoing at Balad very seriously."

In one allegation, informants told the investigators that "flight line" staff, who directed airplanes on the runways and handled cargo, were showing up drunk. At one point they passed around a bowl of gummy bears soaked in vodka.

Alcohol on base was restricted, but the booze was everywhere, smuggled in by plane, several former employees told The AP. According to investigative documents and witnesses, empty suitcases were loaded onto Baghdad-bound roundtrip flights. The bags returned packed with alcohol-filled plastic water bottles that skirted security — a significant risk in a war zone.

Stuckart said Sallyport stood by its security procedures and got "high marks" from the U.S. Air Force.

But Steve Anderson, who worked on flight logistics, says he was told by managers to sign off on manifests he knew had been falsified to hide alcohol and guns. The planes were so heavy that one tipped over nose-first while parked, "like a seesaw," he recalled.

When he raised concerns, it was suggested he find a new job, said Anderson, whose position was soon eliminated.

Balad is controlled by the Iraqi government. Americans have been there off and on since 2003. The

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base was evacuated in June 2014, when IS began overrunning Iraqi territory .

When the Americans returned, Sallyport's job was to keep Balad safe for the F-16s — and their Iraqi pilots. The contract required investigations into potential crimes and contract violations. That was the job of Cole and King.

On July 13, 2015, four F-16s landed at the base , the first of a planned 36 from the U.S. Trouble came within 24 hours, when a long skid mark appeared on the tarmac, stopping about 45 yards from a jet in the "no-go area."

A truck driver had lost control of his vehicle, but never reported it.

Three months later, Cole reported the theft of an armored Toyota SUV assigned to VIPs. His chief suspect was a Sallyport bodyguard. The Toyota was recovered within days; Cole was called off the case.

A former senior manager defended that order, telling the AP that negotiations with the militias were sensitive and needed Iraqi cooperation. He said the chief suspect was banned from the base, but Cole later saw the man walking around freely.

Security breaches continued. On Nov. 15, 2016, just before 2 a.m., militia drove three flatbeds onto the base, one equipped with a crane. After lifting three enormous generators onto the trucks, the militia drove away unchallenged.

Cole's reports noted lax protection for the F-16s. Despite requirements to report major security breaches, the U.S. government was not informed until early this year of the truck skidding near a jet or the armored-SUV theft, according to Cole and two other former Sallyport employees. Both spoke only on condition of anonymity because they did not want to jeopardize current jobs.

As Cole and King sought to get to the bottom of the alcohol smuggling, they stumbled across a prostitution ring in Baghdad whose customers included Sallyport employees, informants said. They learned that four Ethiopians who had previously worked as prostitutes at the hotel had moved to Balad and were doing the same while moonlighting as Sallyport housekeepers.

Before either investigation was completed, a Sallyport executive in Virginia shut them down, they say. Stuckart said the prostitution allegations were not substantiated.

"It is absurd to suggest that the company would shut down an inquiry into a matter of such gravity," he said.

By then, Cole and King had begun their investigation into complaints that Sallyport managers were falsifying timesheets and people were getting paid without working.

The investigators say company lawyers ordered them to keep two sets of books, which they interpreted as an attempt to deceive auditors.

"One for the government to see and one for the government not to see," King said.

Hinnant reported from Paris. Susannah George in Baghdad and Jack Gillum in Washington contributed.

Follow Butler on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/desmondbutler> and Hinnant at <http://twitter.com/lhinnant>

Have a tip on government contracting? Contact the authors securely at <https://www.ap.org/tips/>

Yates to say she expressed alarm to White House on Flynn

By ERIC TUCKER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former acting attorney general Sally Yates is expected to testify to Congress next week that she expressed alarm to the White House about President Donald Trump's national security adviser's contacts with the Russian ambassador, which could contradict how the administration has characterized her counsel.

Yates is expected to recount in detail on Monday her Jan. 26 conversation about Michael Flynn and to say that she saw discrepancies between the administration's public statements on his contacts with ambassador Sergey Kislyak and what really transpired, according to a person familiar with that discussion and knowledgeable about Yates's plans for her testimony. The person spoke on condition of anonymity so as not to pre-empt the testimony.

Yates is expected to say that she told White House counsel Don McGahn that she was concerned Flynn's communications with Kislyak could leave Flynn in a compromised position as a result of the contradictions between the public depictions of the calls and what intelligence officials knew to be true, the person said. White House officials have said publicly that Yates merely wanted to give them a "heads-up" about Flynn's Russian contacts, but Yates is likely to testify that she approached the White House with alarm, according to the person.

"So just to be clear, the acting attorney general informed the White House counsel that they wanted to give a 'heads up' to us on some comments that may have seemed in conflict with what he had sent the Vice President out in particular," White House spokesman Sean Spicer said at a Feb. 14 press briefing.

Flynn resigned in February after published reports detailed Yates's conversation with McGahn. White House officials initially maintained that Flynn had not discussed Russian sanctions with Kislyak during the transition period, but after news reports said the opposite, they then admitted that he had misled them about the nature of that call.

"The issue, pure and simple, came down to a matter of trust," Spicer said.

Flynn was in frequent contact with Kislyak on the day the Obama administration slapped sanctions on Russia for election-related hacking, as well as at other times during the transition, a U.S. official has said.

Yates's scheduled appearance before a Senate Judiciary subcommittee, alongside former national intelligence director James Clapper, will provide her first public account of the conversation with the White house. It will also represent her first testimony before Congress since Yates, an Obama administration holdover, was fired in January for refusing to defend Trump's travel ban.

She was previously scheduled to appear in March before a House committee investigating Russian interference in the presidential election, but that hearing was canceled.

Follow Eric Tucker on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/etuckerAP>

Family want officer who shot black teen charged with crime

By CLAUDIA LAUER and NOMAAN MERCHANT, Associated Press

BALCH SPRINGS, Texas (AP) — Police in suburban Dallas fired the officer who shot and killed a black 15-year-old boy riding in a vehicle leaving a party, and family members of the teenager said they want criminal charges filed against the officer.

The Balch Springs, Texas, officer, identified as Roy Oliver, was terminated on Tuesday for violating department policies in the shooting death of Jordan Edwards, police chief Jonathan Haber said.

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Edwards, a high school freshman, was leaving the party with his two brothers and two other teenagers Saturday night. Police arrived at the scene to investigate an underage drinking complaint and spotted the vehicle leaving. Oliver opened fire as the teenagers were driving away.

Shots from his rifle pierced the front side passenger window, hitting Edwards in the front seat, according to Edwards' family attorneys, Lee Merritt and Jasmine Crockett. His 16-year-old brother was driving.

The Dallas County district attorney and the Dallas County sheriff's office are investigating the case. The race of the fired officer was not revealed.

The Dallas County medical examiner ruled Edwards' death a homicide.

Thousands of Facebook and Twitter users have posted about the case in recent days with the hashtag "#jordanedwards," some comparing his death to other police shootings of young black men, such as 12-year-old Tamir Rice in Cleveland, who was fatally shot in November 2014 as he held a pellet gun.

Police originally said the teenagers' vehicle was reversing "in an aggressive manner" toward officers, but Haber said Monday that video taken at the scene proved the vehicle was actually driving away.

The police department's latest statement, released Tuesday night, says officers entering the house heard gunshots ring out during a "chaotic scene with numerous people running away from the location." As officers exited the house, they encountered the vehicle backing out onto a main road and driving away despite their attempts to tell the driver to stop, the new statement said.

Edwards' family had called for the officer to be fired and criminally charged.

A family statement released Tuesday night called for disciplinary action against other officers who "extended this nightmare for those children."

"Our family is working hard to deal with both the loss of our beloved Jordan and the lingering trauma it has caused our boys," the family statement said.

Cindy Stormer, an attorney for Oliver, issued a statement saying the shooting was "recent and still being investigated."

"Everyone should wait until the facts come out and we know more," she said, according to the Dallas Morning News.

Friends have described Edwards as a good student and popular athlete. Edwards and the four people with him decided to leave what was becoming an unruly party as they heard gunfire and police were arriving, Merritt said, citing what witnesses had told lawyers.

As they drove away from the party, Crockett said, the brother driving the vehicle heard multiple gunshots that were close enough to leave his ears ringing. It took a few moments before the people inside in the car noticed Edwards slumped over, she said. They couldn't tell if he was already dead.

Merchant reported from Houston.

Police say Chicago officers shot and wounded were targeted

CHICAGO (AP) — Two Chicago police officers were shot and wounded late Tuesday when two vehicles pulled up alongside their car and someone started firing indiscriminately in what authorities believe was a targeted attack.

One officer was shot in the arm and hip and the other in the back, police spokesman Anthony Guglielmi said. Police Superintendent Eddie Johnson visited them at Stroger Hospital and said both were alert and expected to recover.

"We believe that the officers were definitely targeted," Guglielmi told The Associated Press.

The shooting happened in the Back of the Yards neighborhood, a high crime area on the city's South

Side.

The officers were conducting a follow up investigation to a previous incident when two vehicles pulled up and those inside began firing. The officers were wearing civilian clothes at the time but had on vests with police badges on them, Guglielmi said.

A manhunt was underway for the suspects and Guglielmi said police were questioning three people of interest in the case. Police said they believe the officers were shot with a high powered weapon. Two guns and a vehicle have been recovered that police they believe are linked to the shooting.

Chris Villanueva, 36, said he was walking back to his car in a strip mall parking lot south of the shooting scene, when he heard about a dozen rapid-fire shots.

"I thought it was fireworks maybe, but around here you hear gunshots a lot," he told the Chicago Sun-Times. "Next thing, cops are everywhere."

Jones says racial taunts speak to wider racial issues

By KYLE HIGHTOWER, AP Sports Writer

BOSTON (AP) — Orioles outfielder Adam Jones said Tuesday that racial taunts that prompted immediate condemnation around baseball and Boston have no place in today's game but speak to larger racial issues in the United States.

"I thought we'd moved past this a long time ago," said Jones, who said he heard fans call him the N-word on Monday night and had a bag of peanuts thrown in his direction.

"With what's going on in the real world, things like this, people are outraged and are speaking up at an alarming rate," he said.

Jones received a personal apology from Red Sox team president Sam Kennedy on behalf of the club. When he stepped up for his first at-bat during Tuesday night's game, he was also given an extended applause from the Fenway crowd, with Red Sox pitcher Chris Sale stepping off the mound to allow the applause to continue.

"Just appreciative that action was taken and not everybody feels the same way as selected people," Jones said. "Sale, who works extremely fast, took his time and let it relish a little bit, so I appreciate the sentiments," Jones said after Boston won 5-2.

Before the game, the All-Star said he felt "it was just the right time" to speak out.

Kennedy said 34 people were ejected for various reasons Monday night and reiterated the team's "zero tolerance" policy for such incidents. He also said there would be extra security around the outfield Tuesday night.

"I'm a grown man with a family to raise. So I'm not just gonna let nobody sit there and berate me," Jones said. "Where I come from if you say things like that, you put on the gloves and you go after it. Obviously in the real world you can't do that, especially in my field."

Kennedy said that 10-15 people are usually ejected from Fenway any given night, calling the 34 ejected Monday usually high. Along with the fan ejected for throwing the peanuts, a second fan was ejected for using foul language toward a player, though the team didn't know whether the fan used the bad language toward Jones.

Kennedy and manager John Farrell separately met with Red Sox players on Tuesday and said the players said they'd experienced similar incidents in both Fenway and around the league.

"I think one person hears an inappropriate remark or slur, that's one person too many," Kennedy said.

Boston's professional teams — like the city's neighborhoods — had different reactions to the civil rights movement and the integration of professional sports.

While the Celtics and Bruins broke barriers in pro basketball and hockey, the Red Sox were the last

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Major League Baseball team to field a black player.

In the 1980s, the Red Sox also dealt with an incident during spring training in Florida in which an Elks Lodge was giving passes to only white players.

It also wasn't until last season that the New England Patriots started a black quarterback for the first time in its history. Rookie Jacoby Brissett started two games with Tom Brady suspended as part of his "Deflategate" punishment and backup Jimmy Garoppolo injured.

"It's changed a lot over many years, but it sure takes a long time to change everything," said Steve McHugh, who is white and said he's been a Red Sox fan since he moved to the Boston area in 1977.

Michael Towns, 39, has been a casual fan of the Red Sox since attending the University of Rhode Island.

"It's sad that even today such attitudes exist," said Towns, who is black. "We shouldn't dwell on it, but it's important to acknowledge it."

Outrage and condemnation flowed from around Major League Baseball on Tuesday.

"It's nothing new to any of us," Atlanta Braves outfielder Matt Kemp said. "He let it be known that's what we go through. I mean, it's pretty much normal, especially in some of these different cities. I'm not going to name all the cities, but there's some pretty tough cities where people say some pretty ruthless things. There's no filters or nobody holding anybody accountable for some of the things these fans do."

"You get called names, N-word, all kinds of stuff when you go to Boston," Yankees pitcher CC Sabathia said.

Monday's incident also touched off widespread social media use of the hashtag #BostonWrong — a dark twist on the post-marathon bombing #BostonStrong.

Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker called the incident "outrageous and disgraceful."

"I'm glad they kicked the guy out and I hope they never let him back in ever again," the Republican told reporters.

Police Lt. Mike McCarthy said a fan threw a bag of peanuts at the Orioles' dugout and hit a police officer posted nearby, not the center fielder. He told The Associated Press that security officials had the man thrown out before police could identify him.

Jones, a five-time All-Star, said he has been the subject of racist heckling in Boston's ballpark before. "Hopefully the awareness comes," he said. "People around in the stands will hold other fans accountable."

The Red Sox said any spectator behaving poorly forfeits the right to be in the ballpark and could be subject to further action.

"The racist words and actions directed at Adam Jones at Fenway Park last night are completely unacceptable and will not be tolerated at any of our ballparks," Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred said in a statement.

Hall of Famer and Yankees senior adviser Reggie Jackson said the incident with Jones proves the United States has a long way to go with race relations.

"While there was a residue of racism in the game, certainly it wasn't out in the open when I played," he said. "I guess this thing with Adam Jones, it makes you well up and get teary-eyed. ... You really feel that way?"

AP Sports Writers Mike Fitzpatrick in New York and Charles Odum in Atlanta, Associated Press writers Steve LeBlanc and Bill Kole, and videographer Rodrique Ngowi contributed to this report.

More AP baseball: <https://apnews.com/tag/MLBbaseball>

Follow Kyle Hightower on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/khightower>

US warns on sanctions over Venezuela's move on constitution

By HANNAH DREIER, Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — The Trump administration is warning that it might impose more sanctions on Venezuelan officials over President Nicolas Maduro's push to rewrite the constitution amid an escalating political crisis with near-daily demonstrations calling for his ouster.

A U.S. State Department official expressed "deep concerns" Tuesday about the socialist leader's motivation for calling a constitutional convention as he grapples with widespread anger over Venezuela's economic struggles.

"What President Maduro is trying to do yet again is trying to change the rules of the game," said Michael Fitzpatrick, deputy assistant secretary of state for Western Hemisphere affairs. "The actions that were taken yesterday may well give us new reasons for considering additional individualized sanctions."

Opposition leaders called for a major march Wednesday in Caracas, seeking to keep the heat on Maduro after a month of unrelenting protests. On Tuesday, protesters disrupted traffic in the capital by blocking streets with broken concrete, twisted metal and flaming piles of trash. Police used tear gas to scatter demonstrators as they have almost every day for weeks.

Maduro began the week by signing a decree to begin the process of rewriting Venezuela's constitution, which was pushed through in 1999 by his predecessor and mentor, the late President Hugo Chavez.

Opposition leaders called the planned constitutional assembly a ploy to keep Maduro and his allies in power by putting off regional elections scheduled for this year and a presidential election that was to be held in 2018. Opinion polls have suggested the socialists would lose both elections badly at a time of widespread anger over triple-digit inflation and shortages of food and other goods.

South American governments criticized Maduro's move in stronger language than they have used so far in condemning the South American country's crisis, with Brazil calling the decree a "coup." Meanwhile, Venezuela's foreign minister came away empty-handed after seeking support at Tuesday's meeting of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, but the left-leaning regional group didn't issue any statement.

Although he has hinted that some members of the constitutional assembly will be chosen by voters, Maduro has given no details on how the body might be picked, and that has led many observers to predict the selection process will favor the socialists.

The president said Tuesday that he hoped the opposition would join in the process of creating a new constitution.

"They don't realize how lost they are in their violence. I'm extending my hand and asking them to come to the constitutional convention," he said.

Venezuela's congress, which has an opposition majority, ignored that Tuesday, officially rejecting the idea of holding a constitutional congress. It said Venezuelan voters should decide whether to call one, though the rejection was a symbolic gesture because congress has no power to block a constitutional assembly.

Venezuela's constitution was last rewritten in 1999, early in Chavez's 14-year presidency as he launched a socialist revolution in this oil-exporting nation. Chavez called his new constitution the best in the world, predicting it would last centuries. He carried around a blue pocket-size version of the

charter, and would often whip it out and say: "This is our Bible. After the Bible, this." At the height of his popularity, people mobbed him to ask that he sign their copies.

At least 29 people have died in the unrest of the past month and hundreds have been injured. On Tuesday, the government suspended for 180 days the right to carry guns. The unrest erupted after an attempt to nullify the powers of the opposition-controlled, but a growing number of people have joined to show their anger over Venezuela's economic ruin and violent crime.

People manning barricades that choked streets across Caracas on Tuesday vowed to keep protesting until Maduro leaves office.

"Unlike some of these young people, I remember a time before the socialists. Now is not the time for fear," said Ricardo Herrera, a 36-year-old chauffeur who was piling trash and pieces of concrete into a street barricade in front of his apartment building.

Herrera said he had sat out the protests because he had to work, but decided after Maduro's call for a new constitution that he could no longer stand by.

"No one is going to work today. If we back down now, we'll be under their boot for the rest of our lives," he said.

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

Entertainer recalls 'infectious smile' of shooting victim

By JULIE WATSON, Associated Press

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Monique Clark was remembered for her infectious smile by her friends, including entertainer Nick Cannon who wrote on social media that "tears can't express the pain and shock" that she was gunned down over the weekend in a mass shooting at an apartment complex in San Diego.

The 35-year-old mother of three was the lone person killed by a gunman who shot seven people at a poolside birthday bash Sunday. Police said the shooter was despondent over a recent breakup with a girlfriend.

Cannon, who grew up in San Diego, posted a photo on Instagram of himself and Clark laughing and sitting on stairs when they were young.

"Such a beautiful spirit with an infectious smile," the former host of TV's "America's Got Talent" wrote. "I have nothing but wonderful memories of this Angel."

Two prayer services were planned Wednesday night at local churches and a vigil was also set to be held at the apartment complex to honor Clark, who had three daughters — 2, 11 and 13. White flowers and a floral wreath were placed Tuesday outside the pool area.

"She had such a great personality," said Vincent Howard, who met Clark in high school. "She was always smiling. She was always with her kids and everyone else's kids. She was like a mother to them all." Howard said Clark also helped homeless people, volunteering often at food drives.

Authorities say Clark was shot and killed by 49-year-old Peter Selis, who called his ex-girlfriend during the attack so she could hear him shooting strangers.

Officers killed Selis in a shootout at the upscale apartment complex that owners describe as a Mediterranean village with playgrounds, pools, deli and other facilities. The six other victims were expected to survive.

Clark's family could not be reached for comment. Her mother, Michelle Fuget, wrote on the GoFundMe website that her daughter was beautiful, funny and feisty.

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"The grieving process is fresh, raw, and real," Fuget wrote. "My granddaughters lost their mother, I lost my daughter, her siblings lost their sister, and countless other family members and close friends have lost someone who was taken from us too soon due to a senseless" cowardly act of violence.

Another victim, Michigan State University graduate Charnee James, 24, was supposed to start a job at a marketing firm in San Diego on Tuesday but instead was in a hospital after being shot in both legs at the party, her grandfather, Emmuel Gullatt, told the Detroit Free Press.

Her mother, Stacy Gullatt, told the newspaper that James will probably come back home to Michigan to recover but her daughter's dream is to make it in the fashion industry in California.

"She's just got to get over the trauma and the shock," her mother said.

Police searched the apartment of Selis, a father who worked as a car mechanic, and found no evidence that he planned an attack, Assistant Chief Brian Ahearn said.

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

Efforts to reach his family and ex-girlfriend were unsuccessful.

AP researcher Rhonda Shafner in New York and reporters Elliot Spagat in San Diego and Christopher Weber, Michael Balsamo and Brian Melley in Los Angeles contributed to this report.

Asian stocks lower ahead of US Federal Reserve meeting

By JOE McDONALD, AP Markets Writer

BEIJING (AP) — Asian stocks declined Wednesday ahead of a meeting of U.S. Federal Reserve policymakers as markets in Japan and Hong Kong closed for a holiday.

KEEPING SCORE: Sydney's S&P-ASX 200 fell 1 percent to 5,892.30 points and the Shanghai Composite Index declined 0.25 percent to 3,135.72. India's Sensex lost 0.1 percent to 29,902.35 and benchmarks in New Zealand and Jakarta also retreated. Taiwan and Singapore gained. South Korean markets also were closed for a holiday.

WALL STREET: U.S. stocks gained but shrinking auto sales offset strong results from industrial companies. Engine maker Cummins sent manufacturers and other industrial companies higher after reporting solid first-quarter earnings. Ford, General Motors and Fiat Chrysler fell after they reported their April sales declined. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 0.1 percent to 2,391.17. The Dow Jones industrial average gained 0.2 percent to 20,949.89. The Nasdaq composite set another record as it picked up 0.1 percent to 6,095.37.

FED WATCH: Investors looked ahead to a meeting of policymakers of the U.S. Federal Reserve to discuss interest-rate policy. Many investors expect the Fed to freeze the benchmark interest rate this month but are looking to a post-meeting statement for signs of when the next increase might come. The CME Group's FedWatch tool says futures markets indicate a 66 percent chance of a hike in June.

ANALYST'S TAKE: "Certainly, the poor vehicle sales print can be added to a growing list of below par U.S. data points of late and that will almost certainly be a theme the Federal Reserve will explore," said Chris Weston of IG in a report. "Keep in mind the interest rate markets are pricing a 60 percent chance of a hike from the Fed in June, so this probability will move depending on the tone of the statement."

AUTO SLOWDOWN: U.S. auto sales fell 4.7 percent last month, the most pronounced slowdown of the year and a strong indication that 2017 will end seven straight years of growth. Auto executives and analysts, who have been anticipating a slowdown, saw no cause for panic. Many expect sales in the important economic sector to top 17 million for the third straight year, an industry first. Sales have

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dropped for four straight months, the first time that's happened since the economy ground to a halt in 2009. April sales totaled just over 1.4 million, which translates to an annual sales rate of 16.9 million, far below last year's record of 17.5 million. The April decline brought year-to-date sales down by 2.4 percent from a year ago.

CURRENCY: The dollar edged up to 112.03 yen from Tuesday's 111.99 yen. The euro gained to \$1.0932 from \$1.0929.

ENERGY: U.S. benchmark crude gained 37 cents to \$48.03 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract plunged \$1.18 on Tuesday to close at \$47.66. Brent crude, used to price international oils, rose 42 cents to \$50.88 in London. It lost \$1.06 the previous session to \$50.46.

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, May 3, the 123rd day of 2017. There are 242 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 3, 1952, the Kentucky Derby was televised nationally for the first time on CBS; the winner was Hill Gail, ridden by Eddie Arcaro.

On this date:

In 1515, Pope Leo X promulgated the bull "Inter sollicitudines" allowing the Catholic Church to review and censor books.

In 1791, the Commonwealth of Poland-Lithuania adopted a constitution.

In 1802, Washington, D.C., was incorporated as a city.

In 1916, Irish nationalists Padraic Pearse, Thomas Clarke and Thomas MacDonagh were executed by a British firing squad; they were among 16 people put to death for their roles in the Easter Rising.

In 1937, Margaret Mitchell won the Pulitzer Prize for her novel, "Gone with the Wind."

In 1945, during World War II, Allied forces recaptured Rangoon (Yangon) from the Japanese.

In 1947, Japan's postwar constitution took effect.

In 1960, the Harvey Schmidt-Tom Jones musical "The Fantasticks" began a nearly 42-year run at New York's Sullivan Street Playhouse.

In 1979, Conservative Party leader Margaret Thatcher was chosen to become Britain's first female prime minister as the Tories ousted the incumbent Labor government in parliamentary elections.

In 1986, in NASA's first post-Challenger launch, an unmanned Delta rocket lost power in its main engine shortly after liftoff, forcing safety officers to destroy it by remote control.

In 1987, The Miami Herald said its reporters had observed a young woman spending "Friday night and most of Saturday" at a Washington townhouse belonging to Democratic presidential candidate Gary Hart. (The woman was later identified as Donna Rice; the resulting controversy torpedoed Hart's presidential bid.)

In 1999, some 70 tornadoes roared across Oklahoma and Kansas, killing 46 people and injuring hundreds.

Ten years ago: British girl Madeleine McCann vanished during a family vacation in Portugal nine days before her fourth birthday; her disappearance remains unsolved. Britain's Queen Elizabeth II arrived in Virginia for the commemoration of Jamestown's 400th anniversary. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice told Syrian Foreign Minister Walid Moallem (wah-LEED' moh-AH'-lehm) of U.S. concerns about his country's porous border with Iraq in the two nations' first Cabinet-level talks in years. The Florida

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Legislature gave its final approval to moving the state's 2008 primary from early March to Jan. 29. Ten Republican presidential candidates held their first debate of the 2008 race at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, California. Astronaut Wally Schirra died in La Jolla, California, at age 84.

Five years ago: U.S. officials published online a selection of letters from Osama bin Laden's last hide-away; the documents portrayed a network that was weak, inept and under siege — and its leader seemingly near wit's end about the passing of his global jihad's supposed glory days.

One year ago: In a stunning triumph for a political outsider, Donald Trump all but clinched the Republican presidential nomination with a resounding victory in Indiana that knocked rival Ted Cruz out of the race. A funeral was held for six of the eight family members killed in rural southern Ohio as authorities continued chasing leads in the slayings.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Alex Cord is 84. Singer Frankie Valli is 83. Sports announcer Greg Gumbel is 71. Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., is 68. Pop singer Mary Hopkin is 67. Singer Christopher Cross is 66. Country musician Cactus Moser (Highway 101) is 60. Rock musician David Ball (Soft Cell) is 58. Former Sen. David Vitter, R-La., is 56. Country singer Shane Minor is 49. Actress Amy Ryan is 49. Actor Bobby Cannavale (ka-nuh-VAL'-ee) is 47. Music and film producer-actor Damon Dash is 46. Country musician John Driskell Hopkins (Zac Brown Band) is 46. Country-rock musician John Neff (formerly of Drive-By Truckers) is 46. Country singer Brad Martin is 44. TV personality Willie Geist (TV: "Today") is 42. Actress Christina Hendricks is 42. Actor Dule (doo-LAY') Hill is 42. Country singer Eric Church is 40. Actress Tanya Wright is 39. Dancer Cheryl Burke is 33. Soul singer Michael Kiwanuka is 30. Actress Jill Berard is 27. Actress Zoe De Grand Maison is 22. Rapper Desiigner (cq) is 20.

Thought for Today: "Nobody is bored when he is trying to make something that is beautiful, or to discover something that is true." — William Inge, American author and playwright (born this date in 1913, died 1973).