

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, June 18, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 339 ~ 1 of 27

- 1- Recycling trailers
- 1- Dairy Queen Ad
- 1- Home Gym for sale
- 2- Chicken Soup for the Soul image
- 3- Obit - Ronald Spencer
- 4- Groton Triathlon
- 5- Gov. Daugaard's Weekly Column
- 6- Atheists at work in Wisconsin
- 7- Kassubes win Big Stone Walleye Classic
- 8- Rev. Snyder's Column
- 9- Junior Teeners beat Redfield in pair of games
- 9- Junior Teeners split with Clark
- 10- Today in Weather History
- 11- Today's Forecast
- 12- Yesterday's Weather
- 12- Today's Weather Info
- 12- National Weather Map
- 13- Daily Devotional
- 14- News from the Associated Press

FOR SALE

MARCY MWM900 Home Gym for sale. Asking \$100. Contact Brian at 397-7180.

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

The cardboard/paper recycling trailer at the school is Open

			
Oven Fresh Sandwiches	Hot Desserts	Snack Melts	
11 E Hwy 12, Groton ~ 397-8627			

Sunday, June 18

FATHER'S DAY

St. John's Lutheran: Worship with communion, 9 a.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship with communion, 9 a.m.; Sarah Circle serves at nursing home, 3 p.m.

United Methodist Church: Conde worship, 9 a.m.; coffee fellowship time, 10 a.m., Groton worship, 11 a.m.

Catholic Parish: Mass at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church at 9 a.m., then at St. Joseph in Turton at 11 a.m.

First Presbyterian: Bible Study at 9 a.m., Worship at 10 a.m.

Heaven Bound Ministries: Worship in Pierpont at 10 a.m.

19

Senior Menu: Lasagna rotini, tossed salad with dressing, fresh fruit, cookie, whole wheat bread.

St. John's Lutheran: Christian Literature Circle, 7:30 p.m.

Emmanuel: Bible Study at 6:30 a.m.

United Methodist: Cub Scouts at 6:30 p.m.

T-Ball: Black team practice at 6 p.m., Gold team at Andover, 6 p.m.

Legion: hosts Redfield for 1 game, 7 p.m.

Jr. Legion: hosts Redfield for 1 game, 6 p.m.

U10: at Andover for 1 game, 7 p.m.

City Council: Meet at 7 p.m. at the Groton Community Center

Olive Grove: Kid's lessons, 9:30 a.m.-10:15 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. to 11 a.m.; Ladies Invitational 18 holes at 10 a.m.

20

Senior Menu: Teriyaki chicken, almond rice with peas, pineapple strawberry ambrosia, orange sherbet, dinner roll.

T-Ball: Black team at Columbia, 5:30 p.m.

Jr. Teener: hosts Claremont for 2 games, 6 p.m.

U12: Hosts Welke for 2 games, 6 p.m., Nelson Field

U10: vs. Borge at Manor Park, Aberdeen, for 1 game at 6:30 p.m.

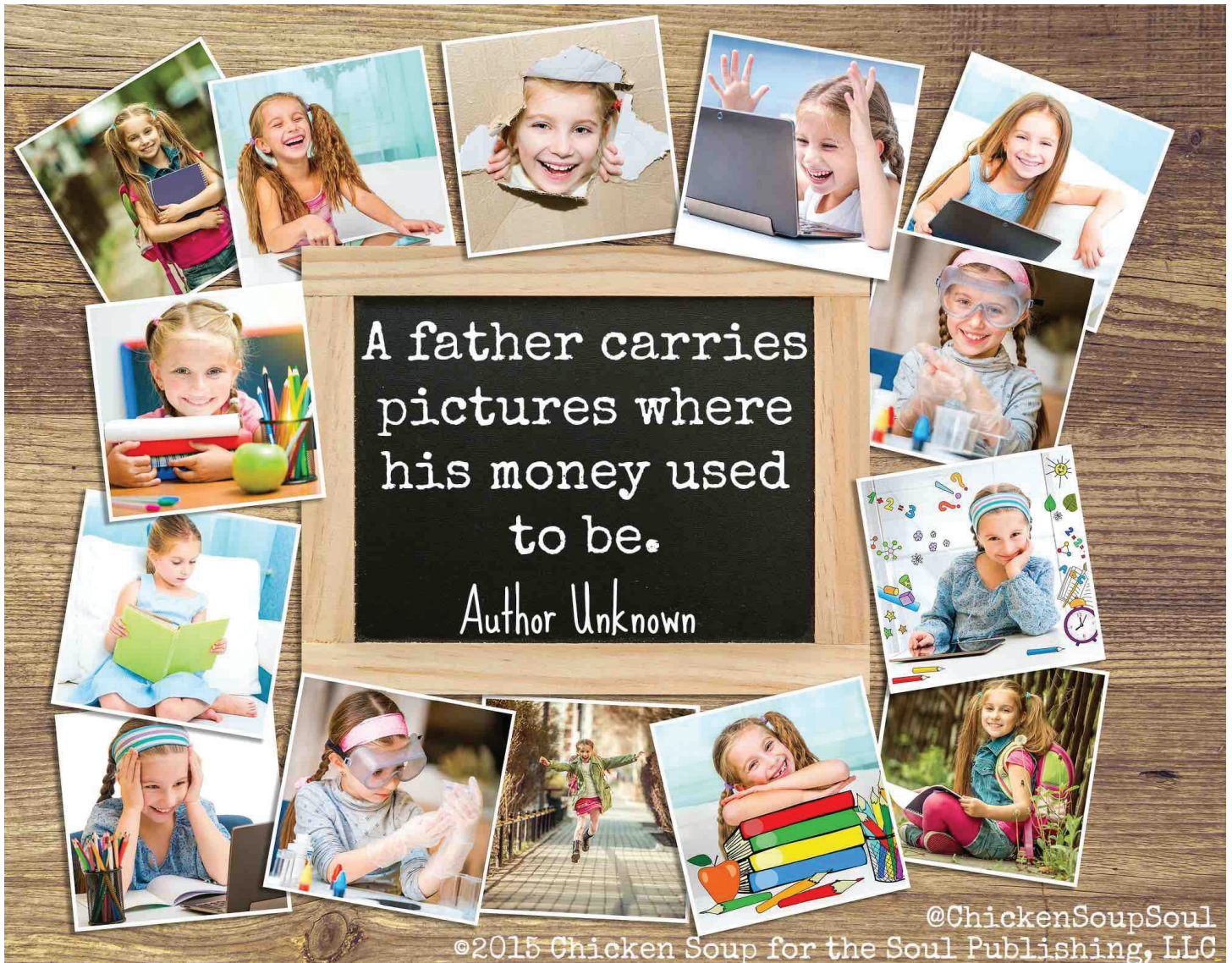
U8 Blue: vs. Borge at Manor Park, Aberdeen, for 1 game, 5:30 p.m.

Softball: hosts Ipswich (U8 at 5:30 p.m., U10 at 6:30 p.m., U12 at 7:30 p.m.)

Olive Grove: Ladies Night, 6 p.m.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, June 18, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 339 ~ 2 of 27



A father carries
pictures where
his money used
to be.
Author Unknown

@ChickenSoupSoul

©2015 Chicken Soup for the Soul Publishing, LLC

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, June 18, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 339 ~ 3 of 27

The Life of Ronald Spencer

Services for Ronald "Ron" Spencer, 68, of Houghton will be 2 p.m., Tuesday, June 20, 2017 at the United Methodist Church, Claremont. The Rev. Loren Salfrank will officiate. Burial with military honors will follow at Huffton Cemetery.

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

Ron passed away June 15, 2017 at his home, surrounded by family.

Ronald Martin was born on January 18, 1949 in Morris, Minnesota. In 1954, he was placed in a foster home in Havana, North Dakota, where he was found by Jim and Doris (Nelson) Spencer on May 4, 1954. Ron's early school years were spent at Hostetter Country School and Barnes School before transferring to Claremont. He enjoyed playing football and basketball during those years and graduated from Claremont High School in 1967. Ron continued his education at NDSCS in the fall and graduated in 1968 from Diesel Mechanics. He then enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1969 and completed basic training in San Antonio, Texas. During his service years, he was stationed at Chanute Air Force Base and Lockland Air Force Base in California, where he worked as a machinist. Ron took additional training to become an air frame mechanic before his deployment to Vietnam on December 30,

1970. On return from Vietnam, he ended his military service in Grand Forks Air Base, ND, working in the engine shop. He was honorably discharged May 1, 1972.

Ron later came back to the Claremont area to farm with his father. He met the love of his life, Roberta (Ibis) Falk in 1981 and they were united in marriage on October 15, 1984.

Ron was a member of the Claremont Legion, the National Farmers Organization, Shrine and Masons. He was an avid racing fan, and raced a late model car from 1976-1980. He raced on tracks in Sioux Falls, Watertown, Huron and Aberdeen. He also had visited Nascar tracks in Daytona, Kansas City and Knoxville, Iowa. Other hobbies included farming, playing cards, traveling, and attending the State B's. Ron had never missed a State B Boys Basketball Tournament in 33 years. He also belonged to league bowling, and had been to several State Bowling Tournaments. Bobbie and Ron wintered in Mesa, Arizona. He was extremely proud of having completed treatment and remaining sober for 20 years.

Celebrating his life is his mother, Doris of Groton, his wife of 32 years, Roberta of Houghton, his daughter, Rhonda Willson of Harrisburg, son, Jason (Melinda) Spencer of Claremont, step-son, Shane Falk of Houghton and three grandchildren; Autumn, Connor and Danessa Willson. Ron is also survived by his biological brothers; Pete (Kathy) Mugg, Bob Enkers, Rick Enkers, El Roy (Melissa) Enkers, Wes (Karen) Enkers and J.R. Enkers.

Preceding him in death was his dad, James Spencer, infant sister, Judy Rodland, infant brother, Jerry Enkers, a sister, Arlys Reynolds, and brother, Mike Sauer.

Honorary Casketbearers will be the Claremont Legion Post #262 members and Morning Coffee Crew.

Casketbearers will be Doug Hinrichs, Frank Rasmussen, Todd Martin, Ron Nehls, Don Hanson and Chuck Knecht.

Family requests that casual attire be worn to the services.



Groton Triathlon

Team Scores

- 1, Replacements (Reid Johnson, Ian Rose, Karl Alberts, Thad Albee), 7163
- 2, Full Circle Ag (Larry Frohling, Ryan Sperry, Lance Frohling, TJ Sperry), 7032
- 3, Team Dinger (Aaron Dinger, Levi Dinger, Weston Dinger, Gentry Gauer), 6188
- 4, Tiny Bubbles (Josh Heupel, Kevin Nehls, Zelos Johnson, Cody Hanson), 6110
- 5, Hub City Radio/Steven Lust (Dean Schaunaman, Jason Schaunaman, Cory Moser, Chris Feiock), 5907
- 6, OffInChurch (Austin Schuelke, Scott Ketterling, Aaron Johnson, Mike Spanier), 5713
- 7, Team Waage (Gavin Voss, Tony Waage, Zach Herron, Tyler Kolb), 5614
- 8, Team Sternhagen (Lucas Sternhagen, Zack Crosby, Landon Larson, Braden Miller), 5577
- 9, Team Herron (Colin Herron, Evan Erickson, Andrew Kappes, David Rosenberg), 5908
- 10, Woodsy's Place (Tom Woods, Jayde Graves, Dalton Sichmeller, Zach Geary), 3885

Trap

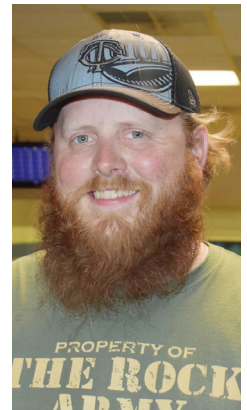
- Replacements 2720 (Reid 600, Ian 520, Karl 660, Thad 940)
Team Dinger 2560 (Aaron 380, Levin 760, Weston 520, Gentry 900)
Tiny Bubbles 2300 (Josh 580, Kein 720, Zelos 620, Cody 380)
Full Circle Ag 2220 (Larry 460, Lance 580, TJ 700, Rayn 480)
Team Sternhagen 2140 (Lucas 580, Zack 380, Landon 600, Branden 580)
Team Waage 2120 (Gavin 320, Tony 460, Zach 720, Tyler 620)
Team Herron 1940 (Colin 580, Evan 360, Andrew 580, David 420)
OffInChurch 1700 (Austin 180, Scott 620, Aaron 520, Mike 380)
Hub City Radio/Steven Lust 1560 (Dean 560, Jason 300, Cory 400, Chris 300)
Woodsy's Place 1260 (Tom 160, Jayde 300, Dalton 240, Zach 560)

Golf

- Replacements 2028 (Reid and Thad 972, Ian and Karl 1056)
Team Sternhagen 2000 (Lucas, Zach, Landon and Branden each with 1000)
OffInChurch 2000 (Austin, Scott, Scott, Mike each with 1000)
Full Circle Ag 1833 (Larry, Lance, TJ and Ryan each with 917)
Team Dinger 1722 (Aaron and Levin 806, Weston and Gentry 917)
Team Waage 1694 (Gavin and Tyler 722, Tony and Zach 972)
Hub City Radio/Steven Lust 1361 (Dean and Jason 556, Cory and Chris 806)
Tiny Bubbles 1361 (Josh and Zelos 556, Kevin and Cody 806)
Team Herron 1278 (Colin and David 639, Evan and Andrew 583)
Woodsy's Place 722 (Tom and Jayde 361, Dalton and Zach 472)

Bowling

- Hub City Radio/Steven Lust 2986 (Dean 579, Jason 956, Cory 731, Chris 720)
Full Circle Ag 2979 (Larry 660, Lance 696, TJ 723, Ryan 900)
Tiny Bubbles 2449 (Josh 697, Kevin 667, Zelos 600, Cody 484)
Replacements 2416 (Reid 667, Ian 560, Karl 714, Thad 474)
OffInChurch 2013 (Austin 416, Scott 694, Aaron 447, Mike 456)
Team Dinger 1906 (Aaron 573, Levin 377, Weston 539, Gentry 417)
Woodsy's Place 1903 (Tom 491, Jayde 603, Dalton 443, Zach 366)
Team Herron 1880 (Colin 516, Evan 567, Andrew 410, David 387)
Team Waage 1800 (Gavin 363, Tony 474, Zach 613, Tyler 350)
Team Sternhagen 1437 (Lucas 379, Zack 309, Landon 356, Branden 394)



**J a s o n
Schaunaman
was the top
bowler.** (Photo by
Paul Kosel)



**T o m W o o d s
earned the
c o u r a g e
award.** (Photo by
Paul Kosel)

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, June 18, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 339 ~ 5 of 27

Individual Scores

Karl Alberts 2430
Thad Albee 2387
TJ Sperry 2340
Scott Ketterling 2314
Zach Herron 2305
Ryan Sperry 2297
Reid Johnson 2239
Gentry Gauer 2234
Kevin Nehls 2193
Lance Frohling 2192
Ian Rose 2136
Larry Frohling 2037
Weston Dinger 1975
Branden Miller 1974
Aaron Johnson 1967
Lucas Sternhagen 1959
Landon Larson 1956
Levi Dinger 1943
Cory Moser 1937
Tony Waage 1907
Mike Spanier 1836
Josh Heupel 1833
Chris Feiock 1826
Jason Schaunaman 1811
Zelos Johnson 1776
Aaron Dinger 1758
Colin Herron 1735
Dean Schaunaman 1694
Zack Crosby 1689
Tyler Kolb 1692
Cody Hanson 1670
Austin Schuelke 1596
Andrew Kappes 1573
Evan Erickson 1510
David Rosenberg 1446
Gavin Voss 1405
Zach Geary 1398
Jayde Graves 1264
Dalton Sichmeller 1155
Tom Woods 1013



The first place team was the Replacements featuring Ian Rose, Reid Johnson, Karl Alberts and not pictured is Thad Albee. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Full Circle Ag was the runner-up team, featuring Lance Frohling, TJ Sperry, Ryan Sperry and Larry Frohling. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Top golfers were Karl Alberts and Ian Rose. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Karl Alberts won the Iron Man Award. He is pictured with Addison Hoffman. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Atheist Activist Group Seeks Removal of City's 'Churches Welcome You' Signs

By Heather Clark
on June 13, 2017

OCONOMOWOC, Wisc. — A prominent professing atheist group is seeking the removal of a Wisconsin city's welcome signs because of their religious content.

CHRISTIAN NEWS
CHRISTIAN NEWS NETWORK | CHRISTIANNEWS.NET

The Freedom From Religion Foundation (FFRF) recently sent a letter to the mayor of Oconomowoc after being notified by a local resident that the city has two signs on public property that read, "The Churches of Oconomowoc Welcome You." A cross rests on the same structure that holds the sign.

"Displaying signs that promote Oconomowoc's Christian churches, along with Latin crosses, fails to respect [the] constitutional mandate of neutrality," it wrote. "It endorses religion over nonreligion and Christianity over all faiths."

FFRF said that contrary to the message of the signs, unbelievers will feel unwelcome.

"These signs convey a message to non-Christians in Oconomowoc that they are not 'favored members of the political community,'" it asserted. "These citizens should not be made to feel excluded, like outsiders in their own community, because their city prominently places Christian symbols and promotes Christian churches on city property."

The group asked that the signs be removed from city property.

However, the Wisconsin Institute for Law and Liberty soon pushed back by also writing a letter to Mayor David Nold, refuting FFRF's belief that the signs violate the Establishment Clause of the U.S. Constitution.

"[I]t is not unconstitutional to acknowledge the historical role that religion has played in this country. There are many organizations and communities that have made Oconomowoc the vibrant place that it is. One is its 'churches' and it is not wrong to acknowledge that," it wrote.

The Institute noted that private parties paid for and maintain the signs, and that the welcome on the signs excludes no one.

"The signs welcome everyone to the City of Oconomowoc. There is absolutely nothing wrong with the churches of Oconomowoc (or the Rotary, or the Lions, or the Kiwanis) welcoming people to the city. No one would argue that people who are not associated with the Rotary or the Lions or the Kiwanis would feel unwelcome in the City because of their signs," it said.

The legal organization also pointed out that that as religious drawings are even on display at the nation's highest court, there is no mandate to purge religion from everything pertaining to the government.



Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, June 18, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 339 ~ 7 of 27

"Contrary to what the FFRF would have you believe, there is no absolute prohibition on religious symbols in public places," it wrote. "The building where the United States Supreme Court, itself, is housed contains paintings of Moses and the Ten Commandments. If the FFRF was correct, then it would be necessary for all such religious symbols to be removed from government property, but that is not the law."

The city states that it is investigating, but has not yet indicated one way or the other its position on the matter.

As previously reported, the 2005 U.S. Supreme Court decision of *Van Orden v. Perry*, which upheld a Ten Commandments monument at the Texas state capitol, noted that religious displays may be found in a number of government buildings.

"For example, a large statue of Moses holding the Ten Commandments, alongside a statue of the Apostle Paul, has overlooked the rotunda of the Library of Congress' Jefferson Building since 1897," it wrote. "And the Jefferson Building's Great Reading Room contains a sculpture of a woman beside the Ten Commandments with a quote above her from the Old Testament (Micah 6:8)."

"A medallion with two tablets depicting the Ten Commandments decorates the floor of the national archives," the court outlined. "Inside the Department of Justice, a statue entitled 'The Spirit of Law' has two tablets representing the Ten Commandments lying at its feet. In front of the Ronald Reagan Building is another sculpture that includes a depiction of the Ten Commandments."

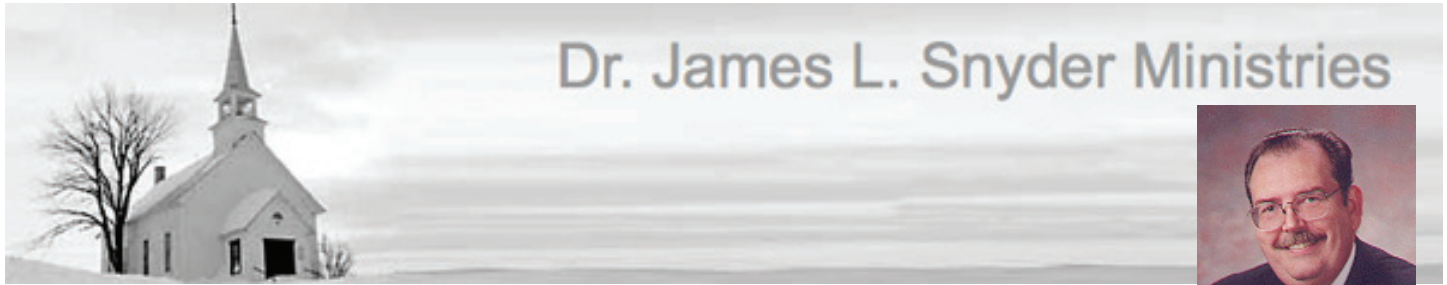


Pictured are Cory Kassube and Chris Kassube.

Kassubes win Big Stone Walleye Classic

Chris Kassube, Groton, and his brother, Cory Kassube, Big Stone City, were winners at the 37th Annual Big Stone Walleye Classic held Saturday. There were 99 teams in the tournament. The Kassubes had six fish for 17.4 pounds.

Another local, Blake Anderson, won the Bitter Optimist Club Walleye Tournament at Ried Lake on Saturday.



Can Two Walk Together, Except They Be Going to the Same Store?

After about a million days of toil, sweat and aggravation, the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and I decided to take a few days off and relax.

I am not a real expert when it comes to relaxing. I have not pursued a PhD in relaxing and therefore it is a foreign theme to me.

Of course, I have advised many people to chill out, relax a little bit and not get so excited about things. What doctor do you know who takes his own medicine? Or, what pastor do you know that listens to his own sermon?

I could preach a sermon to beat all sermons on relaxing and not getting so uptight about things. You would think after listening to some of these sermons that I was an expert in this area. My expertise is only in telling other people what they should be doing. I do not have time to listen to my own sermons.

My wife and I realized a month or so ago that we have not taken a day off in over six months. Actually, we were trying to figure out the last time we did take a day off.

"I think," my wife said most reflectively, "that we should take a day off and relax."

It has been my policy throughout my marital life to not disagree with my wife. This was one of those times when I was in full agreement with her statement. It doesn't happen often, when it does, it is time to celebrate.

For us, a couple days off takes a couple months of planning and when I say planning, I mean planning. We had to coordinate the date with the rest of our family, and with the church schedule.

I fully understand that the church will run quite well without me, but I have conned myself into believing that it can't. That means, I have to make special plans for when I take a day off.

It did not take me long to rearrange my schedule, but it was a different story with my wife.

She had to coordinate her schedule for a couple days off with both of the daughter's schedule because she watched the grandchildren while the parents were working. It took several months for her to coordinate all of the schedules and finally, voilà, we arranged a time that we could "leave Dodge," and head to St. Augustine for a couple days off.

We left after the Sunday evening service and our plan was to return Wednesday before the Wednesday night service. If you plan something right, it all comes together.

We left that Sunday night and headed for our motel to settle down for several days of rest and frivolity. I do admit that I have a PhD in frivolity and so I was ready to frivole. (Pardon my French).

When we woke up Monday morning, I began to realize that my definition of rest was not exactly the definition my wife embraced.

For me rest is staying in bed with a cup of coffee in one hand and a good book in the other hand. Actually, in my hand was my tablet, which had my Kindle app, which contains over 300 books. The hardest decision I had was to choose which book I was going to read first.

I had recently purchased the Kindle edition of *The Complete Father Brown Mysteries* by G. K. Chesterton. Oh, that Father Brown. What an interesting character he is.

I had just got into the first story when I heard from my wife, "Well, are you ready to go?"

It was then I discovered her definition of rest is not my definition of rest.

Her definition of rest is to visit all the thrift stores in the St. Augustine area. Unfortunately for me, she knows every one of them.

With a little bit of persuasion on her part I got out of bed, dressed and walked with her to the car so she could drive us to the first thrift store.

It has been a long time since I have been in a thrift store and so I had forgotten pretty much what it was all about. I walked in the first one and that thrift store aroma smacked me right in the face.

"Doesn't that," my wife said with a giggle in her throat, "smell wonderful?"

Obviously, we have noses from different resources and my nose said, "Yuck, what stinks?" I was afraid to give the information to my nose in fear that it would start a sneezing fit.

After five minutes I had seen everything in that thrift store I wanted to see. So, I said to my wife, "Could I borrow the car keys?"

"You're not done shopping?" she said quizzically.

I nodded my head and with a great deal of hesitation, she handed over the car keys and I exited the thrift store and three steps out of the door my nose said to me, "Thanks."

I must say that my wife and I are good partners in just about everything except in this area of relaxation. However, every good relationship has its opposites. The important thing is to recognize the opposite and not allow that to define the relationship.

I like what the prophet Amos said, "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?" (Amos 3:3).

The best part of a relationship is walking together.

Junior Teeners beat Redfield in pair of games

Groton's Junior Teeners posted a double win over Redfield on Thursday at Locke-Karst Field in Groton. Groton won the first game, 4-0, scoring two runs in the first inning and two in the fourth.

Alex Morris was the winning pitcher with 10 strike-outs, one walk and one hit. Kaden Kurtz was the catcher.

Alex Morris and Jayden Zak each had two singles, Kaden Kurtz had a double and adding a single each were Trevor Harry, Chandler Larson and Evin Nehls.

Groton won the second game, 10-0, in four innings. Chandler Larson was the winning pitcher with six strike-outs and two hits, and at bat, he was three for three with three singles. Pierce Kettering and Kaden Kurtz each had a single and a double and Lee Iverson had a single and Adrian Knutson had a triple. Kurtz was the catcher.

Groton Junior Teeners split with Clark

Groton's Junior Teener team travelled to Clark on June 12th where they split a pair of games.

Clark's defeated Groton in the first game, 7-6. Alex Morris had a single and two doubles, Jayden Zak and Kaden Kurtz each had two singles while Trevor Harry, Chandler Larson and Lucas Simon each had a single. Jayden Zak pitched the game with six strike-outs, 13 walks and seven hits with Wicks having four singles for Clark. Morris was the catcher.

Groton scored 10 runs in the first inning to coast to a 12-1 win in five innings to win the second game.

Alex Morris had a double and a single while getting one single each were Trevor Harry, Chandler Larson, Lane Krueger and Trey Johnson.

Kaden Kurtz was the winning pitcher with nine strike-outs, four walks and three hits. Adrian Knutson was the catcher.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, June 18, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 339 ~ 10 of 27

Today in Weather History

June 18, 1964: A tornado moved from SSW to NNE damaging three farmsteads between Hoven to 8 NNW of Bowdle. This tornado was estimated to have F2 strength. An estimated five inches of rain fell in three hours near Bowdle causing soil erosion just before the tornado hit.

Another storm moved from south to north and intensified as it moved northward. Winds were estimated between 50 and 100 mph. The greatest damage was in McPherson County where it was estimated 2 million dollars in crop damage occurred. Heavy rain was also observed on this day. Some storm total rainfall includes; 6.73 inches in Eureka, 4.28 in Roscoe, 3.75 in Leola, 2.68 in Shelby, 2.45 in Britton, and 2.31 inches in Ipswich.

June 18, 1991: Large hail up to 2 inches in diameter broke windows and produced widespread tree damage in Watertown and vicinity. Extensive damage was caused to surrounding soybean and corn fields. Approximately 25,000 acres of crops were destroyed. Thunderstorm winds of 55 mph uprooted trees and downed power lines primarily on the Revillo area. Trees fell on cars, and an apartment complex was damaged.

1875 - A severe coastal storm (or possible hurricane) struck the Atlantic coast from Cape Cod to Nova Scotia. Eastport ME reported wind gusts to 57 mph. (David Ludlum)

1958: Hailstones up to four inches in diameter killed livestock as a storm passed from Joliet to Belfry in Carbon County, Montana.

1970 - Wind and rain, and hail up to seven inches deep, caused more than five million dollars damage at Oberlin KS. (The Weather Channel)

1972: Hurricane Agnes was one of the largest June hurricanes on record. The system strengthened into a tropical storm during the night of the 15th and a hurricane on the 18th as it moved northward in the Gulf of Mexico. Click [HERE](#) for more information from the Weather Prediction Center.

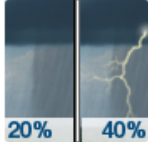






1987 - It was a hot day in the Upper Great Lakes Region. Nine cities in Michigan and Wisconsin reported record high temperatures for the date. The high of 90 degrees at Marquette, MI, marked their third straight day of record heat. Severe thunderstorm in the Northern and Central High Plains Region spawned half a dozen tornadoes in Wyoming and Colorado. Wheatridge, CO, was deluged with 2.5 inches of rain in one hour. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Severe thunderstorms in eastern North Dakota and northern Minnesota produced hail three inches in diameter and spawned four tornadoes in Steele County. Thunderstorms also produced wind gusts to 80 mph at Clearbrook MN. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Unseasonably hot weather prevailed in the southwestern U.S. In Arizona, afternoon highs of 103 degrees at Winslow, 113 degrees at Tucson, and 115 degrees at Phoenix were records for the date. (The National Weather Summary)

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, June 18, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 339 ~ 11 of 27

Today	Tonight	Monday	Monday Night	Tuesday	Tuesday Night	Wednesday
						
Slight Chance Showers then Chance T-storms	Slight Chance T-storms then Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy then Slight Chance T-storms	Mostly Sunny
High: 71 °F	Low: 52 °F	High: 76 °F	Low: 51 °F	High: 78 °F	Low: 59 °F	High: 85 °F

Mild With Highs In The 70s

Isolated To Scattered
Thundershowers
This Afternoon

Gradual Warming Trend
Mon – Wed



National Weather Service
Aberdeen, SD

Find your forecast at www.weather.gov/abr

Graphic Created:
6/18/2017 5:35 AM

Published on: 06/18/2017 at 5:39AM

A few weak showers and thundershowers can be expected to pass across the area today, with mild temperatures. A gradual warming trend can be expected over the next few days with mostly dry conditions next week.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, June 18, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 339 ~ 12 of 27

Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 71.2 at 10:24 AM

Low Outside Temp: 54.8 at 4:47 AM

High Gust: 19 at 7:40 PM

Precip: 0.23

Today's Info

Record High: 108° in 1933

Record Low: 38° in 1902

Average High: 78°F

Average Low: 55°F

Average Precip in June: 2.20

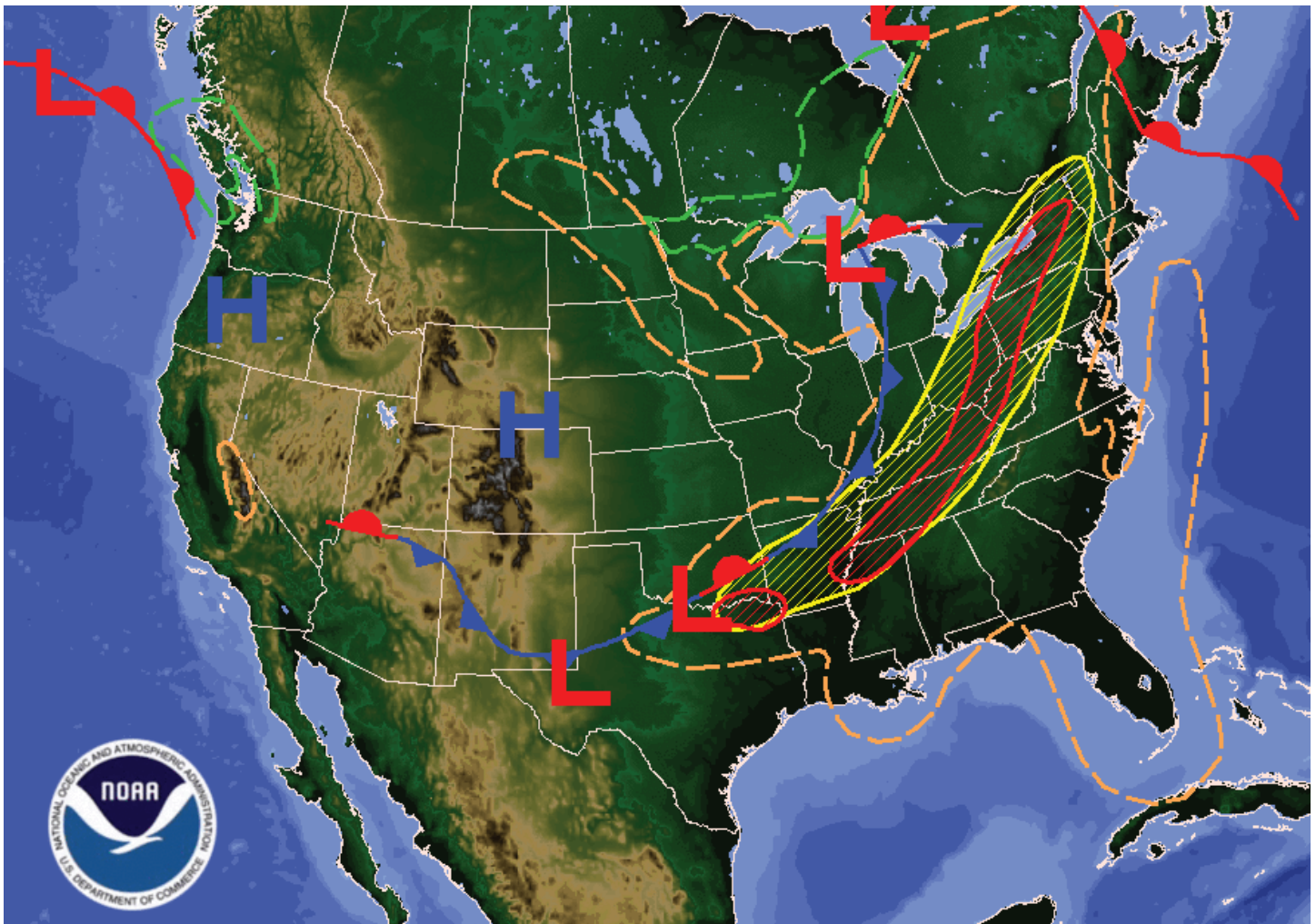
Precip to date in June: 2.25

Average Precip to date: 9.34

Precip Year to Date: 5.44

Sunset Tonight: 9:25 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:44 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Sun, Jun 18, 2017, issued 4:43 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Tate with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain
Rain and T'Storms
Rain and Snow
Snow

Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)
Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, June 18, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 339 ~ 13 of 27



OUR EVER PRESENT GOD

"Sorrow," begins a French proverb, "comes swiftly on horseback, but leaves slowly on foot." Few would disagree that our moments of happiness are as brief as a heartbeat and sometimes sorrow last as long as the darkest night.

Once when he was distressed David cried, "How long, O Lord, will You forget me? Forever? How long will You look the other way?" We all suffer greatly when someone we deeply love and need does not seem available.

Betty was suffering with measles. Her infected eyes could not stand the sunlight. As her mother closed the curtains and turned out the light in her bedroom, she asked, "Are you afraid?" "No," said Betty, "as long as I can touch you."

David asked a critical question that every believer asks: "How long, O Lord, will You forget me?" And when he did not get an immediate answer, he cried again: "How long will You look the other way?" And finally, "How long must I struggle?"

Our Lord may be out of sight but we are never beyond His reach! David felt that God had abandoned him, had turned away from him and that He was no longer interested in him. But David did not give up. He continued to pray and said, "I will trust in Your unfailing love."

His faith was larger than all of his fears. He knew God would deliver him as He had in the past.

Prayer: When we become impatient, Father, remind us of David's steadfast faith and Your unfailing love. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 13:1 How long, LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me?

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, June 18, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 339 ~ 14 of 27

News from the Associated Press

SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Dakota Cash
10-18-21-24-34
(ten, eighteen, twenty-one, twenty-four, thirty-four)
Estimated jackpot: \$245,000

Hot Lotto
14-17-22-38-39, Hot Ball: 6
(fourteen, seventeen, twenty-two, thirty-eight, thirty-nine; Hot Ball: six)
Estimated jackpot: \$7.44 million

Mega Millions
Estimated jackpot: \$123 million

Powerball
10-13-32-53-62, Powerball: 21, Power Play: 2
(ten, thirteen, thirty-two, fifty-three, sixty-two; Powerball: twenty-one; Power Play: two)
Estimated jackpot: \$52 million

Man killed by Rapid City police after firing at officer

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Rapid City police say a man was shot and killed after firing at a local officer. Rapid City Police Chief Karl Jegeris says police responded to a report of an “active shooter situation” Saturday afternoon in a residential area in northern Rapid City. Shots were fired both before and after officers arrived on the scene.

Jegeris says police were working to evacuate the homes in the area when the subject exited the house and threatened an officer. The chief says the man then shot at the officer, who returned fire. The subject was pronounced dead at the scene.

Police say no other injuries were reported.

Rout by Macron’s party expected in French parliament vote

By ELAINE GANLEY, Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — French voters are casting ballots Sunday in the final round of parliamentary elections that could clinch President Emmanuel Macron’s hold on power, as his fledgling party appears set to rout mainstream rivals and turn politics as usual on its head.

Pollsters say that after its dominant performance in last week’s first-round vote, Macron’s Republic on the Move! party could win up to 450 seats Sunday in the 577-seat National Assembly, the powerful lower chamber.

If the steamroller effect continues for Macron’s party, half of whose candidates are women and the other half new to politics, France will have a chamber of representatives like few others, fulfilling the president’s wish to renew a political class dominated by career politicians, peppered with corruption and losing credibility.

The strong mandate would also give the 39-year-old president a free hand to move fast with promised legislation, notably on changing labor laws to make hiring and firing easier.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, June 18, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 339 ~ 15 of 27

That prospect worries both rivals and some voters, and makes the turnout rate critical. A healthy participation rate might dampen the expected victory of Macron's party.

At midday, turnout appeared to be lagging. The Interior Ministry said just 17.8 percent of voters had cast ballots, down from 19.2 percent at the same time during the first round, and 21.4 percent at the same time during the second-round voting in the last parliamentary elections in 2012.

Less than half the 47.5 million-strong electorate turned out to vote last Sunday, a record low that especially punished the once-feared far-right National Front party of Marine Le Pen, runner-up to Macron for the presidency.

Candidates from the conservative party, The Republicans, are expected to form the largest opposition group, with 70-110 seats, according to pollsters, with other parties sharing the rest.

The Socialists, who dominated the outgoing Assembly with 314 seats, but were flattened under the unpopularity of former President Francois Hollande, could win as few as 20 seats.

Macron's party has 513 candidates vying for 573 seats. Four seats were won outright in last Sunday's first round.

Concern that opposition voices might be silenced, and pluralism allegedly diminished, by a massive pro-Macron legislature were reflected in a poll published Thursday by Elabo for BFM-TV suggesting that more than half of respondents hoped the second round would "rectify the first round with a less large majority than expected."

"This is France, not Russia," far-left candidate Jean-Luc Melenchon said Friday on Europe 1 radio. "We're going to find ourselves with fewer opposition representatives than there are in Russia." While Melenchon is known for bold talk, his words underscored worry about an eventual all-powerful Macron who, Melenchon said, "is going to end up believing he walks on water."

While French voters have handed past presidents large majorities in parliament, what's different this time is that Macron's party is splitting — and therefore weakening — the opposition.

Some voters seemed excited by a victory for Macron's party, while others were frustrated.

Parisian voter Olivier Palate said the success of Macron's party was like a "tidal wave. Now I think that for the second round we no longer have too much choice."

The party of Melenchon, a candidate in a Marseille district facing off a Macron candidate, was also hit hard by the low turnout rate. But his alliance with the French Communist Party could end up giving them more seats than Le Pen's National Front — even if her party gets more votes.

The voting system punishes parties outside the mainstream, or with no mainstream allies, like Le Pen's National Front.

The party is expected to win only a handful of seats despite its third-place showing in the first round. The populist Le Pen, running for a parliamentary seat to represent her northern bastion around Henin-Beaumont, appears likely to win after scoring 46 percent of the vote in the first round.

The National Front had two seats in the outgoing parliament and the only lawmaker seeking to renew his mandate, Gilbert Collard running in the southern Gard region, could lose. His opponent, a former bullfighter representing Macron's party got a public boost this week from visiting Prime Minister Edouard Philippe.

Associated Press journalist Nicolas Garriga contributed to this report.

58 dead in central Portugal wildfires; many killed in cars

By HELENA ALVES and ARMANDO FRANCA, Associated Press

AVELAR, Portugal (AP) — Raging forest fires in central Portugal killed at least 58 people, many of them trapped in their cars as flames swept over a road, in what the prime minister on Sunday called "the biggest tragedy of human life that we have known in years."

Nearly 60 other people were injured, including four firefighters and a seriously injured minor, Interior Ministry official Jorge Gomes told state broadcaster RTP.

A lightning strike is believed to have sparked the blaze in the Pedrogao Grande area after investigators

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, June 18, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 339 ~ 16 of 27

found a tree that was hit during a "dry thunderstorm," the head of the national judicial police told Portuguese media.

Dry thunderstorms are frequent when falling water evaporates before reaching the ground because of high temperatures. Portugal, like most southern European countries, is prone to forest fires in the dry summer months.

"This is a region that has had fires because of its forests, but we cannot remember a tragedy of these proportions," said Valdemar Alves, mayor of Pedrogao Grande. "I am completely stunned by the number of deaths."

Authorities had previously said that 40 C (104 F) heat in recent days might have played a part in the inferno about 150 kilometers (95 miles) northeast of Lisbon. About 700 firefighters have been trying to put out the fires since Saturday, Gomes said.

A huge wall of thick smoke and bright red flames towered over the top of trees near houses in the wooded region. Local resident Isabel Brandao told The Associated Press that she had feared for her life.

"Yesterday we saw the fire but thought it was very far. I never thought it would come to this side," she said. "At 3:30 a.m., my mother-in-law woke me up quickly and we never went to sleep again. We were afraid the fire would reach us."

RTP showed terrifying images of several people on a road trying to escape the intense smoke that had reduced visibility to a question of a few meters (yards). A young man shared a bottle of water with a distraught woman as she stumbled down the road.

Gomes said that at least 30 people were killed when their vehicles were engulfed by flames on a road between the towns of Figueiro dos Vinhos and Castanheira de Pera, and three others died from smoke inhalation in Figueiro dos Vinhos. The rest of the bodies were found outside of the cars or in the forest, the official said.

The official also said that firefighting crews were having difficulties in battling the fire, which was "very violent" in at least two of its four fronts.

The European Union said it had activated its civil protection efforts responding to a call for assistance by Portuguese authorities. EU Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management Christos Stylianides expressed his condolences for the victims in a statement, saying the "EU is fully ready to help."

As a result, a Spanish firefighting aircraft was already assisting on Sunday morning and another one was expected to arrive later in the day. France was also sending three aircraft.

Prime Minister Antonio Costa said that firefighting crews were having difficulties in approaching the area because the fire was "very intense."

On Sunday, Costa also tweeted his "deepest regret for the victims... and a word of encouragement and strength for all who help combat this scourge."

The loss of life due to forest fire was the biggest in memory in Portugal. It has been over 50 years since 25 Portuguese soldiers perished fighting wildfires in 1966.

Last August, an outbreak of fires across Portugal killed four people, including three on the island of Madeira, and destroyed huge areas of forest.

Portugal's civil protection agency, which coordinates firefighting efforts, issued a warning of the increased risk for forest fires in Friday. Citing the high temperatures, it said that all outdoor fires were prohibited.

Many world leaders, including French President Emmanuel Macron, Pope Francis and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, expressed solidarity with Portugal.

Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy tweeted that he is "overwhelmed by the tragedy at Pedrogao Grande. The Portuguese people can count on our solidarity, support and care."

Associated Press writers Joseph Wilson in Barcelona, Spain, and Aritz Parra in Madrid, contributed to this report.

UK government scrambles to limit fallout from London fire

By GREGORY KATZ, Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — The British government Sunday scrambled to contain political fallout from the London high-rise inferno that has claimed at least 58 lives.

The cause of Wednesday's blaze is still under investigation, but anger has mounted in the community amid reports that exterior paneling used in an extensive renovation completed last year may have spread the flames.

Treasury chief Philip Hammond said Sunday he believes the flammable cladding used on the building's exterior is banned in Britain.

Labour Party lawmaker David Lammy said that the government and the police should immediately seize all documents relating to the building's renovation to prevent the destruction of evidence that could show criminal wrongdoing.

"The prime minister needs to act immediately to ensure that all evidence is protected so that everyone culpable for what happened at Grenfell Tower is held to account and feels the full force of the law," Lammy said.

He said all records, including emails, minutes of meetings, correspondence with contractors, safety assessments, specifications and reports — must be kept intact.

"When the truth comes out about this tragedy, we may find that there is blood on the hands of a number of organizations," Lammy said.

Prime Minister Theresa May said more help will be sent to the scene to help survivors cope and find alternative housing now that the 24-story Grenfell Tower has been destroyed.

"I have ordered that more staff be deployed across the area, wearing high visibility clothing, so they can easily be found, dispense advice and ensure the right support is provided," May said after a meeting with survivors at her Downing Street office on Saturday.

In addition, British health authorities will provide long-term bereavement counselling for those who lost loved ones in the tragedy. Counselors are already working with 52 families.

There has been a public outcry at the government's initial failure to provide up-to-the minute information.

May, criticized in the first few days after the blaze for failing to meet with victims, says the public inquiry looking into the tragedy will report directly to her.

She says she will receive daily reports from the stricken neighborhood, where hundreds of people have been displaced. Anger among residents has been mounting in recent days as information about the missing has been scanty and efforts to find temporary housing have faltered.

British officials say they are helping the Syrian family of the first officially confirmed victim of the London tower blaze to come to Britain.

The Home Office said late Saturday night it will make arrangements for the family of Mohammad Alhajali to "travel to the U.K. in these terribly sad circumstances."

The 23-year-old Alhajali is the only victim of the Grenfell Tower fire to be officially named as the difficult process of identifying human remains continues.

His family said in a statement that Alhajali "came to the U.K. because he had ambitions and aims for his life and for his family."

Police say at least 58 people are either confirmed or presumed dead, with the figure likely to rise in coming days.

Officials are using dental records, fingerprints and DNA samples to try and positively identify victims. They say they will also use visual elements like tattoos and scars, in the painstaking process.

Sixteen bodies have been taken to a mortuary for examination.

Cosby's team attacks judge likely to retry him in sex case

By MARYCLAIRE DALE and MICHAEL R. SISAK, Associated Press

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (AP) — Bill Cosby, the comedian once known as "America's Dad" for his TV role as paternal Dr. Cliff Huxtable, is declaring victory this Father's Day after a jury deliberated 52 hours without reaching consensus on charges he drugged and molested a woman in 2004.

No one from Cosby's real or TV families was in court Saturday when the case ended in a mistrial. Instead, Cosby emerged from the courthouse with his publicity team, which read a statement from his wife that accused the judge likely to retry him of arrogance and collusion with prosecutors.

District Attorney Kevin Steele vowed to try the 79-year-old Cosby a second time, saying accuser Andrea Constand supported the decision.

"She has shown such courage through this, and we are in awe of what she has done," Steele said. "She's entitled to a verdict in this case."

Cosby's team declared victory, however temporary.

By sowing doubt among one or more jurors, Cosby's lawyers managed to overcome two years of unrelenting bad publicity for their client after the public release of his damaging testimony about drugs and sex, as well as a barrage of accusations from 60 women who came forward to accuse him of sexual assault.

Constand, now 44, told jurors Cosby gave her pills that made her woozy and then penetrated her with his fingers as she lay paralyzed on a couch, unable to tell him to stop. The 2004 encounter at Cosby's suburban Philadelphia estate was the only one to result in criminal charges.

Constand, who worked at Cosby's alma mater, Temple University, is ready to go to trial again.

"She's a very spiritual woman, she believes things happen for a purpose, and I think the purpose is ... it should encourage other women to come forward and have their day in court," said her lawyer, Dolores Troiani.

Troiani acknowledged the difficulty of the case, given the passage of time and the impact of the alleged drugging on Constand's ability to recall details.

The jury failed to reach a unanimous decision on any of the three counts against the comedian, ending the trial without a verdict after a long week of deliberations.

Cosby's team immediately went on the attack.

Camille Cosby, the entertainer's wife of 53 years, slammed prosecutors for bringing the case to court, calling Steele "heinously and exploitively ambitious." She also criticized the judge, the accuser's lawyers and the media.

"How do I describe the judge? Overtly arrogant, collaborating with the district attorney," she said in her statement, which was tweeted by her husband and read by an associate of the public relations firm representing Cosby.

Cosby himself didn't comment.

He remained stoic as the judge declared a mistrial, but his spokesman Andrew Wyatt declared the star's "power is back. It has been restored."

That seemed debatable.

Cosby's career and good-guy image were already in tatters by the time his chief accuser took the witness stand, and the prosecution's decision to pursue a second trial keeps him in legal limbo.

Cosby had broken barriers as the first black actor to star in a network show, "I Spy," in the 1960s and, two decades later, created the top-ranked "Cosby Show." He also found success with his "Fat Albert" animated TV show and starred in commercials for Jell-O pudding.

But it was Cosby's reputation as a public moralist who urged young people to pull up their saggy pants and start acting responsibly that prompted a federal judge to unseal portions of an explosive deposition he gave more than a decade ago as part of Constand's civil lawsuit against him.

Under questioning from her lawyer, Cosby acknowledged that he had obtained several prescriptions for quaaludes in the 1970s for the purpose of offering the powerful sedative to women he wanted to have sex with.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, June 18, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 339 ~ 19 of 27

Cosby also said he gave Constand three half-tablets of the cold and allergy medicine Benadryl to help her relax before what he insisted was a consensual sexual encounter at his home. Prosecutors suggested he drugged her with something stronger.

The jurors clearly struggled with their verdict, telling Judge Steven O'Neill on Thursday they were at impasse. O'Neill instructed them to keep working toward a unanimous decision. On Saturday, they came back and told him they were hopelessly deadlocked.

The judge sought to comfort the jurors, at least one of whom fought back tears, calling their epic deliberation "one of the more courageous acts, one of the more selfless acts that I've seen in the justice system. ... I feel bad for all of you, I really do."

He reminded prosecutors and the defense that "a mistrial is neither vindication nor victory for anybody."

It wasn't immediately known how many jurors wanted to convict and how many wanted to acquit. None of the jurors commented after the trial ended and they headed home to the Pittsburgh area, some 300 miles (480 kilometers) from the courthouse outside Philadelphia.

Former federal prosecutor David Weinstein said Cosby's celebrity almost certainly played a role in the jury's deliberations, perhaps to convince "two or three jurors that it's impossible to convict Dr. Huxtable, to convict Fat Albert ... that he couldn't have done this horrible thing."

The Associated Press does not typically identify people who say they are victims of sexual assault unless they grant permission. Constand has done so.

For more on Cosby, including trial updates, historical photos, videos and an audio series exploring the case, visit <http://www.apnews.com/tag/CosbyonTrial>.

Navy stops search for 7 missing sailors after bodies found

By MARI YAMAGUCHI, Associated Press

YOKOSUKA, Japan (AP) — The search for seven U.S. Navy sailors missing after their destroyer collided with a container ship off Japan was called off Sunday after several bodies were found in the ship's flooded compartments, including sleeping quarters.

Vice Adm. Joseph Aucoin, the commander of the Navy's 7th Fleet, described the damage and flooding as extensive, including a big puncture under the waterline. The crew had to fight to keep the ship afloat, he said, and the ship's captain is lucky to have survived.

"The damage was significant, this was not a small collision," he said.

Navy divers found "a number of" bodies in the ship Sunday, a day after it returned to the 7th Fleet's home base in Yokosuka, Japan, with the help of tug boats. Aucoin, speaking at a news conference at the base, wouldn't say how many bodies were recovered, pending notification of next of kin.

He said much of the crew of about 300 was asleep when the collision happened at 2:20 a.m. Saturday, and that one machinery room and two berthing areas for 116 crew members were severely damaged.

"You can't see most of the damage, the damage is mostly underneath the waterline, and it's a large gash near the keel of the ship," he said. "So the water flow was tremendous, and so there wasn't a lot of time in those spaces that were open to the sea. And as you can see now the ship is still listing, so they had to fight the ship to keep it above the surface. It was traumatic."

The Fitzgerald's captain, Cmdr. Bryce Benson, was airlifted from the ship's deck after daybreak Saturday to the U.S. Naval Hospital in Yokosuka with a head injury. Two other crew members suffered cuts and bruises and were also flown out by helicopter.

"His cabin was destroyed, he is lucky to be alive," Aucoin said of Benson.

The container ship ACX Crystal weighs 29,060 tons and is 222 meters (730 feet) long, much larger than the 8,315-ton Navy destroyer. The container ship's left bow was dented and scraped, but it did not appear to have sustained any major structural damage.

All of the ACX Crystal's 20-member Filipino crew were safe, said Japanese shipping company Nippon

Yusen K.K., which operates the Philippine-flagged ship.

The Japanese coast guard questioned crew members of the ACX Crystal, and is treating the incident as a case of possible professional negligence, said Masayuki Obara, a regional coast guard official.

Conditions were clear at the time of the collision, though the area is particularly busy with sea traffic.

The victims might have been killed by the impact of the crash or drowned in the flooding, said Navy spokesman Lt. Paul Newell, who led news media on a visit to get a first-hand look at the mangled vessel.

Aucoin wouldn't speculate on the cause of the collision. He said he would order a full and thorough investigation.

Colombia: Bombing at mall kills 3, including French woman

By SERGIO LEON and JOSHUA GOODMAN, Associated Press

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — A homemade bomb placed in a women's bathroom rocked one of the busiest shopping centers in Colombia's capital Saturday, killing three people, including a French woman, and wounding nine others.

Witnesses told of being evacuated from movie theaters and stores after the blast at the upscale Centro Andino in the heart of Bogota's tourist district. Ambulances and firetrucks rushed to the scene and the injured were taken to a hospital, where two later died.

Police said a potent explosive, possibly made of ammonium nitrate, had caused the destruction.

Mayor Enrique Penalosa called it a "cowardly terrorist bombing," and attention immediately focused on the National Liberation Army, which is the last rebel movement still active in Colombia. The group, known as the ELN, carried out a spate of recent attacks against mostly police targets in Bogota, but leaders denied involvement in the latest bombing.

President Juan Manuel Santos made a late-night visit to the shopping mall, where he strongly condemned the attack but declined to speculate on who was behind it. He said he would meet with top security advisers Sunday before heading out on a previously-scheduled tour of Europe that includes a planned visit to France.

"The best answer to cowardly terrorism is to not let it unnerve us," he said. "The French know perfectly how to respond to these terrorist attacks and we Colombians too have the will not to let ourselves be intimidated."

Penalosa said the 25-year-old French victim, identified as Julie Huynh, had been in Bogota the past six months volunteering at a school in a poor neighborhood. He said she was preparing to return to France in the coming days in the company of her mother, who was with her in Bogota.

In a cruel irony, Huynh worked with a French-backed charity helping people displaced by Colombia's long conflict gain the skills and expertise needed to rebuild. A member of the group, Proyectar Sin Fronteras, declined to comment when contacted by The Associated Press, but the group posted on its web page a black ribbon in memory of Huynh.

The ELN, which is engaged in long-running peace talks with the government, rejected accusations it was behind the attack.

"We ask for seriousness from people making unfounded and reckless accusations," ELN negotiators at peace talks taking place in neighboring Ecuador said on Twitter. "This is the way people are trying to tear up the peace process."

The ELN in February claimed responsibility for a bombing near Bogota's bullring that killed one police officer and injured 20 other people. But the group said it doesn't target civilians.

Penalosa urged residents of Bogota's wealthier districts to be on high alert but cautioned that there was no hint of other attacks being planned.

The government last year reached a peace deal with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, which was much bigger than the ELN. Some analysts attribute an uptick in violence in Colombian cities to the ELN's desire to wrest concessions from the government at the negotiating table.

Bogota has seen dramatic improvement in security over the past decade as the country's long-running

conflict has wound down. But the capital remains vulnerable to attacks as residents have let down their guard

Still, the Andino shopping center would seem a difficult target. All vehicles entering the parking garage are screened by bomb-sniffing dogs and security guards are present throughout the mall — a lasting legacy of the days more than two decades ago when drug-fueled violence was at its peak.

Goodman reported from Caracas, Venezuela.

Justin Thomas shoots 63, trails Brian Harman by 1 at US Open

By DOUG FERGUSON, AP Golf Writer

ERIN, Wis. (AP) — Justin Thomas managed to stand out in a U.S. Open where par is going out of style. All it took was a 9-under 63, the lowest round to par in a major long known as the toughest test in golf. Thomas capped off his record day on the 667-yard 18th hole at Erin Hills with the prettiest 3-wood he ever hit, stopping 8 feet away on a green where some players struggled to land a wedge.

He made the eagle to get his name in the record book Saturday.

The lead, however, belonged to Brian Harman.

Harman closed with two birdies and three tough pars for a 5-under 67 that gave him a one-shot lead at 12-under 204.

"Yeah, 12 under, I'd have about a 10-shot lead in most Opens," he said.

Not this one.

Not even close.

Erin Hills again lacked enough wind to be the stern test the U.S. Open wants, and it showed. There were 18 rounds in the 60s on Saturday. Going into the final round, 42 players were still under par.

"Usually when you shoot even in a U.S. Open and you're one off the lead, you're not six down afterward," J.B. Holmes said.

In the 116 previous U.S. Opens, only six players had ever reached 10-under par or better, never in the same tournament. By the end of a wild and wide-open Saturday, five players were double digits under par.

Brooks Koepka made three birdies over his last seven holes for a 68 and joined Thomas one shot out of the lead.

Also at 11 under was Tommy Fleetwood, who was poised to take the lead until his pitch came up short, his next shot went 60 feet down a slope on the back of the 18th green and he turned potential birdie into bogey and settled for a 68.

Rickie Fowler, on the verge of being left behind, rallied with three straight birdies and shot 68. He was 10 under, only two shots behind.

"It's going to be a really cool day for someone tomorrow," Fowler said. "I'm looking forward to my shot at it. I've been there a handful of times and had some good finishes. But I'm looking forward to getting the job done."

Thomas finished in style, and it had nothing to do with his hot pink pants. He had 310 yards to the hole when he hit 3-wood that could have led to big trouble if he went too far long or left. "Oh gosh, Jimmy, be good," he said to caddie Jimmy Johnson when the ball was in the air, and it was close to perfect.

Thomas poured in the eagle to become the 29th player with a 63 in a major championship.

"The finish was awesome. I'd love to have another one of those," Thomas said.

He might need one at this rate. About all that save Erin Hills from another onslaught was a forecast for the strongest wind of the week. Regardless of the weather, it didn't take long for the 24-year-old Thomas to understand the significance of his record round.

"That means I'm a part of history," he said. "It means I have a lot better chance to win the tournament than I did when the day started. I felt like I've been playing pretty well all week, and didn't have quite the numbers to show for it. Obviously, today I definitely had something to show for it."

Thomas, a major away from joining the young elite in golf, only added to a year of low numbers. He

made an eagle on his final hole at the Sony Open in January to shoot 59, and he went on to break the PGA Tour's 72-hole scoring record.

The U.S. Open didn't seem to faze him, and he delivered a variety of big shots that led to his sensational finish.

He rolled in an 18-foot birdie putt on No. 5 from the edge of the green that broke so severely that he stood with his toes facing the hole and rapped the ball toward his left foot. It took a hard turn to the right and rolled in. In the hay left of the 12th fairway, he gouged it out with a 9-iron and watched it roll to 10 feet.

And with the tees moved up on the 15th hole to make it reachable, Thomas hit a 3-wood that rolled off the back slope of the green to 6 feet. He two-putted for birdie, and he rolled in a 25-foot birdie putt on the 17th.

"It doesn't matter how long, how whatever the course is," Thomas said about the longest course in major championship history. "When you give us soft greens, good greens and not much wind, you know there are going to be some good scores. I was just happy that I was the one that was able to take advantage of it today."

But the work is not done.

Of the five other players who shot a 63 in the third round at a major, none went on to win. Most of them had to come from far back going into the weekend, and it was difficult to put together two good rounds.

Then again, none of the top 16 on the leaderboard has ever won a major.

"Someone has a very good chance of ending up with their first major tomorrow," Fowler said.

Black gun owners worried by acquittal in Castile shooting

By JESSE J. HOLLAND, Associated Press

Gerry Martin isn't sure he will ever tell a police officer during a traffic stop that he has a concealed-weapon permit — and possibly a weapon — on him.

The acquittal of a Minnesota officer in the death of a licensed gun owner who volunteered that he had a gun seconds before being fatally shot during a traffic stop adds to the worries of African-American gun owners about how they are treated by police and society.

Acknowledging that they have a weapon, they said, can open them up to violence from police, who can then claim they feared for their lives simply because of the presence of a gun, even a legal one.

"As soon as you say, 'I'm a concealed carry holder. This is my license,' they automatically are reaching for their gun thinking you're going to draw your gun on them, once again not realizing you're a good guy," said Martin, who lives in Glenside, Pennsylvania.

Philando Castile was fatally shot by the officer July 6 in a St. Paul suburb seconds after he told the officer he was armed. Officer Jeronimo Yanez, who is Latino, was acquitted Friday of manslaughter and two lesser charges.

During the stop, Castile volunteered, "Sir, I have to tell you, I do have a firearm on me."

Yanez told Castile, "OK, don't reach for it then" and "Don't pull it out."

On the squad-car video, Castile can be heard saying, "I'm not pulling it out," as Yanez opened fire. Prosecutors said Castile's last words were, "I wasn't reaching for it."

The verdict "tells African-Americans across the country that they can be killed by police officers with impunity, even when they are following the law," said Rep. Cedric Richmond, a Louisiana Democrat who is chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus.

The verdict also tells blacks that "the Second Amendment does not apply to them" because Castile "was honest with the officer about having a weapon in the car, and there is no evidence that he attempted to or intended to use the weapon against the officer," the Louisiana Democrat said.

Outside the courthouse, Castile's mother said Yanez got away with murder. Her son was wearing a seatbelt and in a car with his girlfriend and her then-4-year-old daughter when he was shot.

"I am so very, very, very ... disappointed in the system here in the state of Minnesota," Valerie Castile said.

Licensed gun owner and open-carry advocate Rick Ector of Detroit said stereotypes can cloud the minds

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, June 18, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 339 ~ 23 of 27

of some officers when dealing with black gun owners. Officers may have had previous encounters with people carrying guns illegally — especially young black men. And that experience can carry over, Ector said.

Once they find out that a black American has a gun permit, “they are not necessarily going to relax, but they now have an idea about your character,” Ector said.

Phillip Smith, head of the National African American Gun Association, said police need additional training to remind them that Second Amendment rights apply to black gun owners as much as anyone else.

Like several similar cases, Castile’s death was shared worldwide on social media. His girlfriend, Diamond Reynolds, livestreamed the aftermath of the shooting on Facebook because, she said, she wanted to make sure the truth was known.

But videos of black people dying at the hands of police have led to few convictions.

“I’m sure people of color are going to say, and rightfully so, what is the burden of proof for an officer to be” convicted? asked Dwayne Crawford, the executive director of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives.

Eric Garner died in July 2014 in New York City after a white officer placed him in a chokehold during an arrest for selling loose cigarettes. Garner complained that he couldn’t breathe on video captured by onlookers. A grand jury declined to indict that officer or any others involved in the arrest.

Tamir Rice, a 12-year-old boy with a pellet gun tucked into his waistband, was fatally shot by a white Cleveland police officer in November 2014. But a grand jury declined to indict patrolman Timothy Loehmann, who fired the fatal shot, or training officer Frank Garmback. The city settled Rice’s family’s lawsuit for \$6 million.

Michael Brown, an unarmed 18-year-old, was fatally shot by a white officer, Darren Wilson, in August 2014 in Ferguson, Missouri. Their confrontation was not captured on video. A grand jury declined to indict Wilson, and the Justice Department opted against civil rights charges. Wilson later resigned.

Only one police officer in recent publicized cases is facing jail time.

South Carolina officer Michael Slager, who is white, shot black motorist Walter Scott in the back as he fled from a traffic stop. Slager pleaded guilty in May to a federal charge of violating Scott’s civil rights, and a judge will determine his sentence, which could range from probation to life in prison without parole.

Scott’s shooting in April 2015 was captured on cellphone video seen worldwide. It contradicted Slager’s original statement that Scott had attempted to grab his Taser.

“This was a clear-cut case of unnecessary, fatal police violence,” Rashad Robinson, executive director of Color Of Change, said of the Castile case. “District attorneys around the country, from Tulsa to Cleveland to now St. Paul, must be held accountable for their failures to secure justice for victims of police violence.”

Associated Press Writer Corey Williams in Detroit contributed to this story.

Jesse J. Holland covers race and ethnicity for The Associated Press in Washington. Contact him at jholland@ap.org, on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/jessejholland> or on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/jessejholland> . You can find his work at AP at <http://bit.ly/jessejholland> .

Tougher Trump line toward Cuba delights hardliners on island

By MICHAEL WEISSENSTEIN and ANDREA RODRIGUEZ, Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — President Donald Trump’s announcement of a tougher line toward Cuba has delighted hardliners on the island, who say it reveals the long-held U.S. aim of imposing American will on Cuba and justifies their wariness toward Washington.

The president’s speech to Cuban exiles in Miami has also dismayed moderates who were working with pro-engagement Americans but now fear association with a policy of open hostility toward the communist system could make them targets for repression.

Trump and the Cuban-American Congress members who helped design the new policy pledged on Friday that it would block the flow of U.S. cash toward military-linked enterprises and direct it toward independent businesses, with the long-term aim of overturning President Raul Castro’s government.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, June 18, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 339 ~ 24 of 27

Members of Cuba's small but vibrant independent civil society say they fear the new policy will do more harm than good.

"Trump's become the independent business people's new enemy because — even though he's said he wants to help entrepreneurs — this new policy alienates entrepreneurs from the government," said Angel Rodriguez, a 27-year-old sociologist who works with the Catholic Church in entrepreneurship-training programs. "That could bring them under fire now, and they could find themselves much weaker."

Trump's new policy retains key aspects of Obama's reforms, leaving full embassies in Washington and Havana and letting U.S. cruise and airlines continue service to Cuba, although it will make travel harder by requiring most Americans to come in groups and banning payments to military-linked businesses.

Former President Barack Obama's 2014 declaration of detente with Cuba prompted hundreds of islanders to launch media, entrepreneurship and cultural projects that were outside control of the state but within the bounds of law, unlike the directly confrontational tactics of Cuba's small dissident groups.

Some of those new groups came under intense pressure during detente, particularly after Obama's May 2016 visit to the island. Despite bitter criticism and personal attacks, most have continued to operate, many with a degree of support from U.S. individuals and foundations that would have been impossible before the reestablishment of diplomatic relations.

Many government officials and their supporters saw the Obama policy as an attempt to lull Cuba into complacency and undermine the foundations of a communist system based in part of near-total control of virtually every aspect of society, from animal-rights groups to the film industry.

Trump's hostile language toward the Castro government and his literal onstage embrace of Cuban-American exiles and Cuban dissidents has unmasked the United States' true intentions toward Cuba and made it easier for the government to instill unity across Cuban society, pro-government figures said Saturday.

"Faced with your words, the Cuban people stand up and, their flag held high, sing their war anthem!" said a Facebook post by Jennifer Bello Martinez, the head of Cuba's official Federation of University Students and, at 25, the youngest member of the powerful Council of State.

"If I were the Cuban government I'd put Trump's speech up in schools. I'd transcribe it in the history books. I'd print a copy for every Cuban," said Iroel Sanchez, a pro-government columnist and blogger who was fiercely critical of Obama. "In less than an hour he showed Cubans how U.S. policy works ... The effect of this new policy will be strengthening the revolutionary leadership and seeing that it's right. This will galvanize things."

Among the few Cubans on the island who praised Trump was Berta Soler, a leader of the dissident group Ladies in White who said she was prevented by the government from flying to Miami to attend the speech in person.

"The Cuban regime will always find an excuse to blame the U.S. government," she said. "After detente the people felt hopeful but there were no changes. The relationship must have conditions."

One of the most criticized, though tolerated, projects that have flourished since the declaration of detente is Cuba Posible, a think tank and online magazine dedicated to creating space for amicable dialogue about the future of Cuba. Its founders frequently travel overseas, including to conferences in the U.S.

"President Trump's policy makes itself, once again, part of the old policy of pressure and strangulation of the Cuban people," founders Lenier Gonzalez and Roberto Veiga wrote Saturday. "It's a continuation of old dynamics of confrontation that are immoral, unjust and illegitimate."

The Cuban government has given Trump's speech extensive coverage on official media. A young state journalist who described himself as loyal to the government but eager to see faster, broader reforms told The Associated Press that the government saw the speech as "the best course in anti-imperialism that could be given."

"This is the dream of the hard-line here," the journalist said on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak with the foreign press. "It's managed to unite the left and the center in Cuba."

Andrea Rodriguez on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ARodriguezAP>

Trump goes from regal to rustic this weekend at Camp David

By CATHERINE LUCEY, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump chose simple over swanky this weekend.

Nearly five months into his presidency, Trump flew for the first time Saturday to Camp David, the government-owned retreat in Maryland's Catoctin Mountains. A frequent weekend traveler, Trump has favored his palatial residences in Florida and New Jersey over the wooded hideaway used by many presidents for a break from Washington.

Few expect the luxury-loving leader to make this a regular thing. After all, Trump told foreign newspapers earlier this year that Camp David was "very rustic" and "you know how long you'd like it? For about 30 minutes."

Trump's wife, Melania; their son, Barron, and the first lady's parents, Viktor and Amalija Knavs, joined the president for the overnight at Camp David. Trump was scheduled to return to the White House on Sunday.

Presidents have been going to the refuge about 70 miles from the White House for seven decades, and not always just for a rest. Franklin D. Roosevelt met with British Prime Minister Winston Churchill there in 1943, reviewing plans for the invasion of Normandy. Jimmy Carter used it for peace talks between Egypt and Israel. George H.W. Bush's daughter Dorothy, or "Doro," got married there.

"Everything that a president needs in the White House is built in there," says Anita McBride, who was first lady Laura Bush's chief of staff. "You have military support. You have a place to house your staff if you chose to use it. It is immediately available. ... Within 20 minutes you can be there."

A short drive from the town of Thurmont, Maryland, Camp David covers more than 125 acres, with a cabin for the president and about a dozen cabins for guests. Guests can use tennis courts, a heated swimming pool, a bowling alley and a movie theater. For the golf-loving Trump, there is a single golf hole with multiple tees.

Protected by the Marines as part of the Navy budget, Camp David has been utilized more by some presidents than others. By this point in their presidencies, Barack Obama had visited four times, George W. Bush 11 times and Bill Clinton twice, according to CBS News' Mark Knoller, who tracks presidential travel.

Locals haven't seemed too concerned about when Trump might show up. As lifelong resident Donna Bollinger, 63, put it, Thurmont often barely knows when presidents are nearby, given the secluded nature of the retreat.

Now the manager of the Bollinger Family Restaurant, she recalls as a child seeing presidents come to the town's Episcopal church. "I remember Mr. Eisenhower. I remember Mr. Johnson being there, and Mr. Nixon," she said.

So far, Trump has preferred his own properties. He regularly headed to his private club Mar-a-Lago in Palm Beach, Florida, during the early days of his administration, embracing it as the "winter White House" and using it to host the leaders of Japan and China. More recently he has favored his golf club in Bedminster, New Jersey, where he has a home.

Going to his properties incurs additional security expenses, unlike a trip to Camp David, which is protected year-round as a military installation.

Ken Walsh, chief White House correspondent for U.S. News & World Report, wrote about presidential getaways in his book "From Mount Vernon to Crawford: A History of the Presidents and Their Retreats." He said many presidents have liked the freedom and security offered by Camp David, where they can spend time outdoors and with their families out of the public eye.

But he said of Trump: "I don't think it is his style. I'd be surprised if he went up there very much."

The first president to use the retreat was Roosevelt in 1942. He was looking for an escape from Washington's summer heat, while still remaining nearby during World War II. He dubbed the site Shangri-La, but Dwight Eisenhower, a regular visitor, later renamed it after his grandson.

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, June 18, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 339 ~ 26 of 27

John F. Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson were infrequent visitors, though they did use the camp to meet with advisers from time to time. Richard Nixon was a fan of getting away there as was Ronald Reagan.

McBride said George W. Bush loved to ride his bike around the trails, while wife Laura liked to go hiking. "It was a place that really refreshed them," she said.

If Trump doesn't make it to Camp David much, Bollinger said she'd love to go in his place.

"I would like to visit, too. They have a bowling alley," she said. "It would be a great tourist attraction."

Today in History By The Associated Press.

Today in History

Today is Sunday, June 18, the 169th day of 2017. There are 196 days left in the year. This is Father's Day.

Today's Highlights in History:

On June 18, 1940, during World War II, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill urged his countrymen to conduct themselves in a manner that would prompt future generations to say, "This was their finest hour." Charles de Gaulle delivered a speech on the BBC in which he rallied his countrymen after the fall of France to Nazi Germany.

On this date:

In 1778, American forces entered Philadelphia as the British withdrew during the Revolutionary War.

In 1812, the War of 1812 began as the United States Congress approved, and President James Madison signed, a declaration of war against Britain.

In 1815, Napoleon Bonaparte met his Waterloo as British and Prussian troops defeated the French in Belgium.

In 1817, London's original Waterloo Bridge, commemorating Britain's victory over France two years earlier, was opened by the Prince Regent (the future King George IV) and the Duke of Wellington.

In 1873, suffragist Susan B. Anthony was found guilty by a judge in Canandaigua, New York, of breaking the law by casting a vote in the 1872 presidential election. (The judge fined Anthony \$100, but she never paid the penalty.)

In 1908, William Howard Taft was nominated for president by the Republican National Convention in Chicago.

In 1953, a U.S. Air Force Douglas C-124 Globemaster II crashed near Tokyo, killing all 129 people on board. Egypt's 148-year-old Muhammad Ali Dynasty came to an end with the overthrow of the monarchy and the proclamation of a republic.

In 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson and Japanese Prime Minister Hayato Ikeda spoke to each other by telephone as they inaugurated the first trans-Pacific cable completed by AT&T between Japan and Hawaii.

In 1979, President Jimmy Carter and Soviet President Leonid I. Brezhnev signed the SALT II strategic arms limitation treaty in Vienna.

In 1983, astronaut Sally K. Ride became America's first woman in space as she and four colleagues blasted off aboard the space shuttle Challenger on a six-day mission.

In 1986, 25 people were killed when a twin-engine plane and helicopter carrying sightseers collided over the Grand Canyon.

In 1992, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *Georgia v. McCollum*, ruled that criminal defendants could not use race as a basis for excluding potential jurors from their trials. Entertainer Peter Allen died in San Diego County, California, at age 48.

Ten years ago: Nine firefighters died in a fire at a furniture store and warehouse in Charleston, South Carolina. Yahoo Inc. Chairman Terry Semel ended his 6-year tenure as chief executive officer, handing over the reins to co-founder Jerry Yang. Vilma Espin Guillouis, wife of acting President Raul Castro and a former rebel fighter, died in Havana, Cuba, at age 77. Hank Medress, lead singer for The Tokens and their hit "The Lion Sleeps Tonight," died in New York at 68.

Five years ago: In a scene captured on cellphone video, Karen Klein, a school bus monitor from Roch-

Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, June 18, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 339 ~ 27 of 27

ester, New York, was verbally abused by seventh-graders, prompting outrage as well as donations to the 68-year-old grandmother. Former baseball star Roger Clemens was acquitted in Washington, D.C. on all charges that he'd obstructed and lied to Congress when he denied using performance-enhancing drugs. R.A. Dickey became the first major league pitcher in 24 years to throw consecutive one-hitters in the New York Mets' 5-0 victory over the Baltimore Orioles. (The previous pitcher to throw consecutive one-hitters was Dave Stieb for Toronto in Sept. 1988.) Actor Victor Spinetti, 82, died in Monmouth, Monmouthshire, Wales.

One year ago: With California's Yosemite Falls as a backdrop, President Barack Obama said that climate change was already damaging America's national parks, with rising temperatures causing Yosemite's meadows to dry out and raising the prospect of a glacier preserve without its glaciers someday. During an appearance in Las Vegas, Donald Trump railed against efforts by some frustrated Republicans planning a last-ditch effort to try to thwart him from becoming the party's nominee, threatening at one point to stop fundraising if Republicans didn't rally around him.

Today's Birthdays: Former Sen. Jay Rockefeller, D-W.Va., is 80. Baseball Hall of Famer Lou Brock is 78. Rock singer-composer-musician Sir Paul McCartney is 75. Actress Constance McCashin is 70. Actress Linda Thorson is 70. Rock musician John Evans is 69. Former Sen. Mike Johanns, R-Neb., is 67. Actress Isabella Rossellini is 65. Actress Carol Kane is 65. Actor Brian Benben is 61. Actress Andrea Evans is 60. Rock singer Alison Moyet is 56. Rock musician Dizzy Reed (Guns N' Roses) is 54. Figure skater Kurt Browning is 51. Country singer-musician Tim Hunt is 50. Rock singer-musician Sice (The Boo Radleys) is 48. Rhythm-and-blues singer Nathan Morris (Boyz II Men) is 46. Actress Mara Hobel is 46. Singer-songwriter Ray LaMontagne is 44. Rapper Silkk the Shocker is 42. Actress Alana de la Garza is 41. Country singer Blake Shelton is 41. Rock musician Steven Chen (Airborne Toxic Event) is 39. Actor David Giuntoli is 37. Drummer Josh Dun (Twenty One Pilots) is 29. Actress Renee Olstead is 28. Actor Jacob Anderson is 27. Actress Willa Holland is 26.

Thought for Today: "Every great dream begins with a dreamer." — Harriet Tubman, American abolitionist (1820-1913).