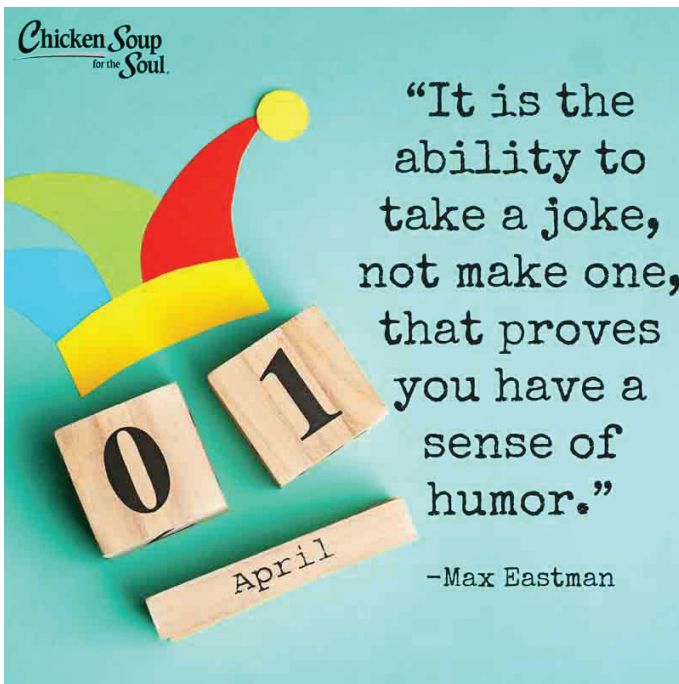


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- 1- Hanlon Brothers Ad
- 1- Chicken Soup for the Soul
- 2- Welcome to Dakota!
- 2- Doug Abeln Seed Company Easter Ad
- 2- Allied Climate Professionals Easter Ad
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- 3- Olson Development Easter Ad
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**Hanlon Brothers**  
**Gravel Hauling**

New & Cleaning of  
Stockdams with our  
60' reach trackhoe

**605/395-6531**

**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**

## Welcome to Dakota!

### Statehood proclamations claiming South Dakota and North Dakota statehood proclamations were rescinded

PIERRE, S.D. – Gov. Dennis Daugaard announced today the authentication of historical documents proving North Dakota and South Dakota are actually one state. Overlooked addendums to the statehood proclamations of both states indicate the existence of a single state, "Dakota."

"It's the most incredible discovery; this raises a number of interesting questions," said Gov. Daugaard, of the State Formerly Known as South Dakota. "We've got a lot of work to do to get this squared away, that's clear."

President Abraham Lincoln established Dakota Territory in 1861. Prior to the recent discovery, it was believed that the territory was divided into the states of North Dakota and South Dakota on Nov. 2, 1889, via a proclamation signed by then-President Benjamin Harrison.

A pair of historians conducting archival research in the Library of Congress uncovered identical addendums attached to both statehood proclamations that rescind the previously signed orders and establish a single, united state.

The addendum reads, in part, "I hereby affirm the creation of the state of Dakota; they were born together – they are one."


Gov. Daugaard is undertaking a comprehensive process to determine how to proceed. He indicates that a special joint session of both state legislatures may be needed to determine whether to stay as Dakota, or return to their previous status as separate states.



Let Us Rejoice  
Together!


We will not have this day to celebrate if Christ was not given to us by God. Let us start Easter with a smile and a deep appreciation of this new life for us. Happy Easter!

**Doug Abeln Seed Company**



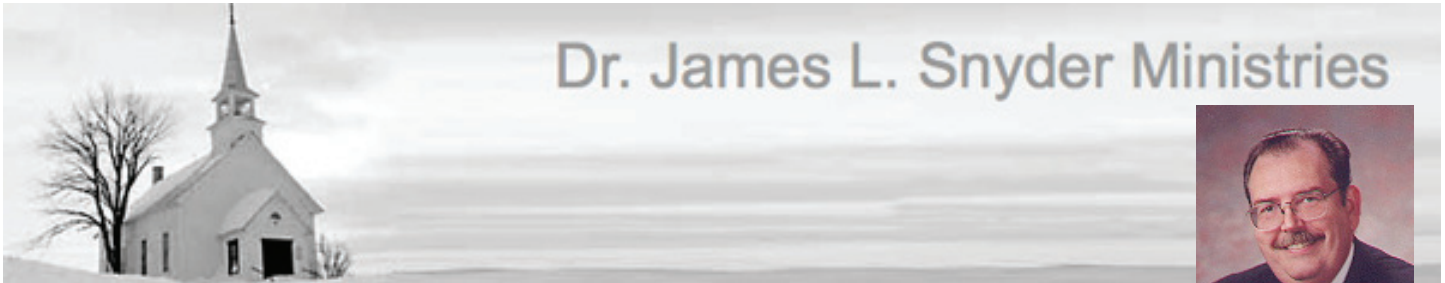
Our wishes for you this Easter. Love... Abundance... Peace... **Happy Easter!**

**Allied Climate Professionals**  
Heating & Cooling Installations & Services

Call Service Professional  
Kevin Nehls at **626-6522**  It's time to get comfortable.

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Dr. James L. Snyder Ministries



## The Easter Bunny That Got Away

After any holiday the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and myself enjoy taking a day or two off and just relax. We like to sit around and tell stories.

My wife usually starts by saying, "Hey, remember the time when..." And she goes on with a story that I had forgotten about. When she's done, we laugh together.

Then it's my turn and I begin, "Hey, do you remember the time when..." And I go on and tell a story that she may have forgotten about, I really don't know. When I'm finished, we laugh together as though it was the funniest thing we've heard all day.

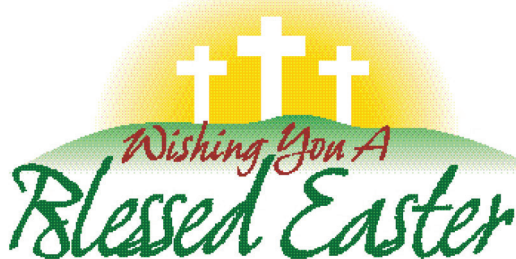
It's just our way of relaxing and unwinding after a holiday. Holidays are very busy times for us, we like them, but they do take a little bit out of us. It seems that the older we get, the more it takes out of us. I'm not exactly sure what that means. Just don't tell me what it means!

We usually go on with our stories until we're too tired to tell a story or to laugh.

This last holiday the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage came up with a story I had long ago forgotten. In fact, I'm not sure the details of her story matched the truth, but who am I to contradict her.

"Remember the time," she said rather soberly, "when the Easter Bunny got away?"

I had to stop and think a little bit because it was not in any of my memory files.



**Cast all your burdens to God. Let Him soothe your pain and calm your confused mind. Always remember that He loves you and will be there for you no matter what.**



**Lots for sale  
Olson Development**

Contact Deb at 605-216-4008 or 605-397-8262

**May Lord bless you on this great day of Easter, and May it be a new beginning of greater prosperity, health and happiness.**



*Happy Easter!*

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NEW CONSTRUCTION  
REMODELING  
HOOP BARNs

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Then she began to unwind the story.

As it goes, according to her recollection, I was going to do a little magic trick for the children before they were dismissed from the morning service. I was going to pull a little bunny out of a hat. I practiced for quite a bit and thought I had everything covered.

I should know by now that the time you know you got everything covered there's one little bit that defies your observation.

I had all of the children come up front so that they could see the wonderful magic trick I had in store for them. I began by telling them the story of the resurrection of Jesus.

According to my wife, I was in the middle of telling them the story when in the back of the congregation Mrs. Steward screamed, "There's a rat in the church." With that, she jumped on top of the pew and did her famous afraid dance. You don't want to see it. All the while she was screaming, "Rat, rat, rat."

It was enough to bring the whole congregation to their feet yelling, "Where's the rat?"

Having a rat in the church is not a good thing. I don't know how a rat could get into the church unless he is elected to the board.

There was such a rumpus in the church auditorium that we really couldn't go forward with the service. I didn't quite know what to do because we had not taken the offering yet. Whatever happens after the offering is okay.

At this point I couldn't get the attention of the children because they were standing on top of the pew looking backward, wonder-



All auto owners!

**Save \$2-\$4 /tank**

& grow your local economy  
by choosing low carbon

**Super Premium E30's**

94 octane, more power,

same mileage, fewer

carbon deposits, lower

maintenance costs,

slashed benzene & related  
genotoxic, carcinogenic

tailpipe emissions;

\*see sdfu.org's E30 tab for  
info, E30 prices\locations.

**\*Farmers Union's**

**PSA: Courtesy Merle**

**Anderson (Merle is 94**

**year old founder of Ace**

**and legendary ethanol**

**supporter... "because it is  
the right thing to do")**



*For God so loved the world,  
that he gave his only  
begotten Son, that  
whosoever believeth in him  
should not perish,  
but have everlasting life.*

*John 3:16*

**Hanlon Brothers**

Gravel and Manure  
Hauling

Now cleaning  
out dugouts!

**395-6531**

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ing where in the world the rat was or where it came from.

I got one of my elders to go back and try to take care of the situation. I never had a rat in the church before.

After a few minutes my elder found the "rat" and caught him. The "rat" turned out to be the little bunny I was supposed to have in the hat that I was going to surprise the children with.

How that Bunny got out of the box where I put him is still something that puzzles me to this day.

The elder held up the little white bunny and told everybody, "It's okay, it's not a rat, it's a little bunny. A little bunny can hurt nobody."

All of the congregation, including Mrs. Steward, sat down in their pew and laughed and laughed while clapping their hands for the elder who saved the day. I was even laughing and clapping myself.

I didn't know what to do now that my magic trick was out the window, it was hard to get the attention of the little ones. I finally dismissed them to their classes and try to bring the congregation back to some level of sanity.

I can't remember what my sermon was that day, but I do remember there was a lot of chuckling throughout my sermon. I'm not sure anybody was even listening to my sermon. I was tempted to preach the sermon the next Sunday, but it wasn't Easter Sunday. I could keep it until next year, which is probably what I did.

Sometimes things are not always what they seem to be. The challenge is in the midst of turmoil to find what is really true.

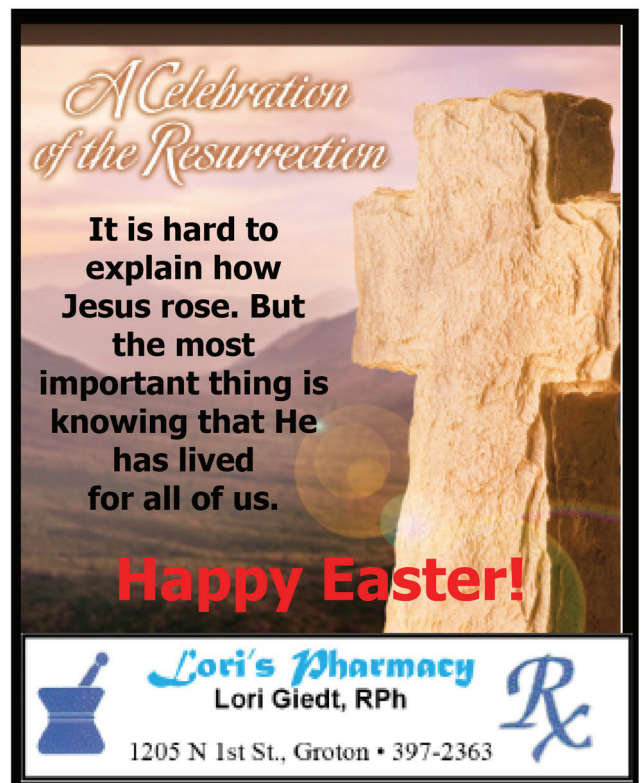
Perhaps this is what Solomon was thinking of when he said, "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Proverbs 14:12).

There's a big difference between a bunny and a rat. Sometimes we confuse the two and in that confusion, we cause alarm. I want to be able to differentiate between the Bunny element and the rat element in my life so that I can have peace and tranquility.



**At Easter...**  
...The celebration of holy love  
...The day of resurrection  
... The day that brings us new hope  
**Have a great and wonderful Easter!**



GROTON  
**DQ Dairy Queen**



*A Celebration of the Resurrection*

**It is hard to explain how Jesus rose. But the most important thing is knowing that He has lived for all of us.**

**Happy Easter!**

 **Lori's Pharmacy**  
Lori Giedt, RPh 

1205 N 1st St., Groton • 397-2363

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## Today in Weather History

April 1, 1960: Heavy snow of 4 to 10 inches fell in the eastern half of South Dakota. Some highways were closed mainly due to the difficulty of plowing the heavy, wet snow. Power and phone failures of short duration were caused by the snowfall in the Aberdeen area, which received 7.5 inches, setting the record for April 1st. Snow with high water content aggravated floods that were currently in progress on the James, Vermillion and Big Sioux Rivers.

April 1, 2011: Snowmelt flooding in March continued across much of central and northeast South Dakota as the rest of the snowpack melted into early April. Many roads along with many acres of crop and pastureland remained flooded. Roads, culverts, and bridges were damaged across the region. Several roads were washed out with many closed. Many homes were threatened with some surrounded by water. Rising lake levels in northeast South Dakota also threatened and flooded many homes. Many people had to use four-wheelers to get to their homes. A Presidential Disaster was declared for all counties due to the flooding damage. The total damage estimates, including March, were from 4.5 to 5 million dollars for the area. The flooding diminished across much of the area into May. The snowmelt flooding damaged many roads and highways, including U.S. Highway 81, throughout Hamlin County. Many roads were closed throughout the county. In the late evening of April 13th on U.S Highway 81, a car with four people inside went through a flooded area at a high rate of speed and ended up in the flooded ditch. They all got out with no injuries. The snowmelt runoff caused Lake Kampeska to rise to nearly 44 inches overfull. The lake flooded several roads and also threatened many homes. Sandbagging was done to hold off the rising lake. Waves and ice chunks did eventually do some damage to homes. Also, many boat lifts were damaged. Mud Creek near Rauville also went slightly above the flood stage of 9 feet to 9.64 feet for a couple of days in early April.

1875: The London Times published the first daily newspaper weather map. The first American newspaper weather map would be issued on 5/12/1876 in the New York Herald. Weather maps would first appear on a regular basis beginning on 5/9/1879 in the New York Daily Graphic.

1960: The first weather satellite, TIROS 1 (Television and Infra-Red Observation Satellite) began sending pictures back to Earth. The TIROS series would have little benefit to operational weather forecasters because the image quality was low and inconsistent. The most critical understanding achieved from the new technology was the discovery of the high degree of organization of large-scale weather systems, a fact never apparent from ground and aircraft observations.

1973: A tornado touches down near Brentsville, Virginia, then traveled to Fairfax hitting Woodson High School. This F2 tornado injured 37 and caused \$14 million in damage.

1912 - A tornado with incredible velocity ripped into downtown Houston, TX, breaking the water table and giving the city its first natural waterspout. (The Weather Channel)

1923 - Residents in the eastern U.S. awoke on "April Fool's Day" to bitterly cold temperatures. The mercury plunged to -34 degrees at Bergland MI and to 16 degrees in Georgia. (David Ludlum)

1987 - Forty-five cities across the southeastern U.S. reported record low temperatures for the date. Lows of 37 degrees at Apalachicola FL, 34 degrees at Jacksonville FL, 30 degrees at Macon GA, and 22 degrees at Knoxville TN, were records for April. (The National Weather Summary)

1987 - A tornado touched down briefly during a snow squall on the south shore of White Fish Bay (six miles northwest of Bay Mills WI). A mobile home was unroofed and insulation was sucked from its walls. (The Weather Channel)

1988 - A powerful spring storm produced 34 inches of snow at Rye CO, 22 inches at Timpas OK, 19 inches at Sharon Springs KS, and up to 35 inches in New Mexico. Severe thunderstorms associated with the same storm spawned a tornado which caused 2.5 million dollars damage at East Mountain TX. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Up to six inches of snow blanketed the Adirondacks of eastern New York State and the Saint Lawrence Valley of Vermont. Up to a foot of snow blanketed the Colorado Rockies. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

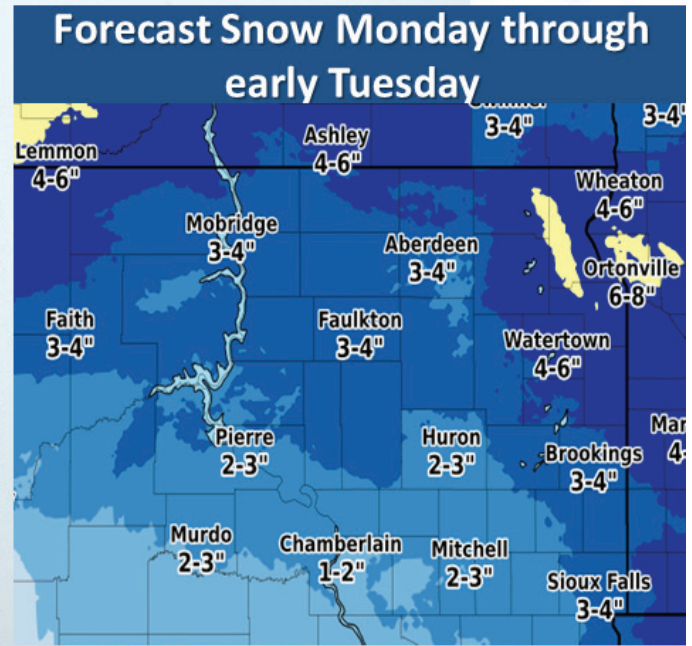
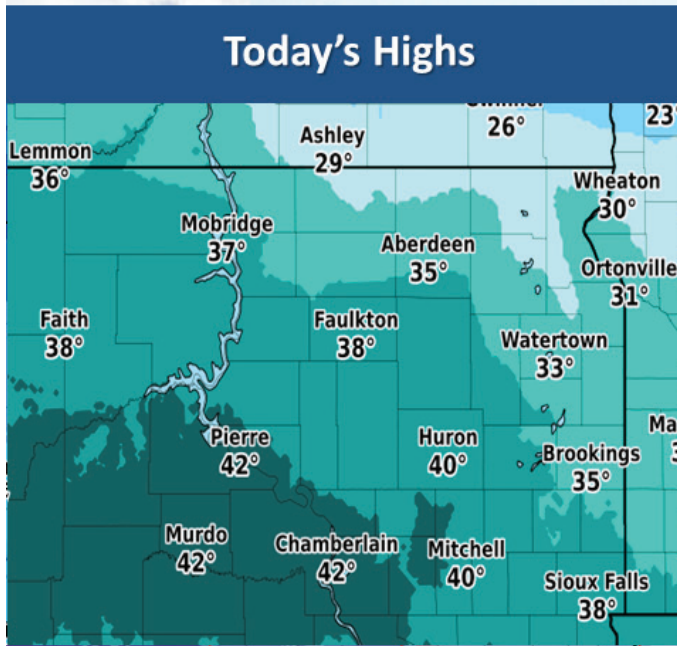


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| Sun<br>Apr 1 | Mon<br>Apr 2            | Tue<br>Apr 3           | Wed<br>Apr 4 | Thu<br>Apr 5 | Fri<br>Apr 6 | Sat<br>Apr 7 |
|--------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|              |                         |                        |              |              |              |              |
| 35°F         | 36°F                    | 21°F                   | 33°F         | 33°F         | 27°F         | 32°F         |
| 17°F         | 14°F                    | 3°F                    | 14°F         | 12°F         | 12°F         | 32°F         |
| W 9 MPH      | SE 13 MPH<br>Precip 50% | N 19 MPH<br>Precip 40% | SW 8 MPH     | NNE 11 MPH   | N 11 MPH     | ESE 12 MPH   |

## More Snow on the Way



[www.weather.gov/abr](http://www.weather.gov/abr)

Graphic Created  
4/1/2018 3:38 AM

Published on: 04/01/2018 at 3:43AM

Today will be a fairly quiet day, with high temperatures in the 30s to lower 40s. Precipitation will develop Monday morning, then will continue across the area through Tuesday morning. Some areas south of Highway 212 will see some rain Monday afternoon, but for the most part the precipitation will be snow. Accumulations are likely. Gusty winds Monday night into Tuesday morning are also possible.

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## Yesterday's Weather

**High Outside Temp: 28.9 F at Midnight**

**Low Outside Temp: 10.5 F at 8:54 AM**

**Wind Chill:**

**High Gust: 34.0 Mph at 2:10 AM**

**Precip: 0.00**

## Today's Info

**Record High: 80° in 1928**

**Record Low: 0° in 1899**

**Average High: 48°F**

**Average Low: 26°F**

**Average Precip in April: 0.04**

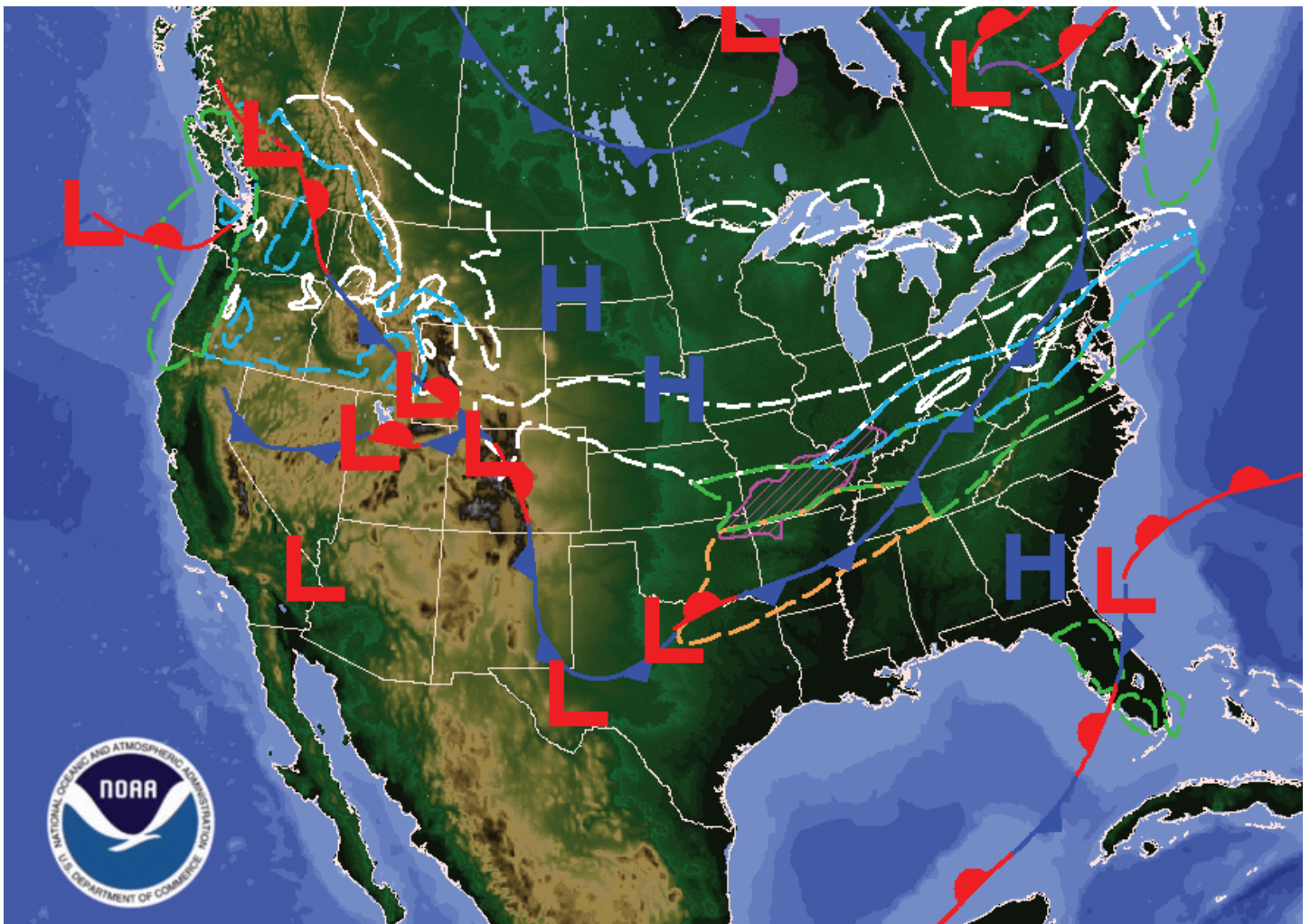
**Precip to date in April: 0.00**

**Average Precip to date: 2.22**

**Precip Year to Date: 2.07**

**Sunset Tonight: 8:01 p.m.**

**Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:11 a.m.**



### Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Sun, Apr 01, 2018, issued 4:48 AM EDT  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by Gallina 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)



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## THE RESURRECTION

Lo, there was a great earthquake, for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled away the stone and sat upon it; his appearance was as lightning and his clothes were as white as snow. For fear of him, the guards trembled and became as dead men.

And the angel said to the women, "Be not afraid I know that you seek Jesus of Nazareth who was crucified. He is risen. He is not here. Why seek the living among the dead? Remember how He spoke to you while He was still in Galilee, saying, 'The Son of Man must be delivered up into the hands of sinful man and be crucified and on the third day rise again.' Come now and see that place where He lay. (Then they remembered His words.)"

"Go quickly and tell His disciples and Peter that He is risen from the dead, and lo, He goes before you into Galilee. There, you will see Him as He told you."

Some went away with fear and trembling and said nothing because they were afraid. Others went away quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell the disciples.

Prayer: Father, how grateful we are for Your victory over death and the assurance of eternal life with You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Matthew 28, Mark 16, Luke 24

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## 2018 Groton SD Community Events

- Groton Lion's Club Bingo- Wednesday Nights 6:30pm at the Groton Legion (Year Round)
- 11/18/2017-3/31/2018 Groton Lion's Club Wheel of Meat- Saturday Nights 7pm at the Groton Legion (Fall/Winter Months)
- 1/27/2019 Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm
- 3/24/2018 Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
- 4/13/2018 Elementary School Carnival, 5 p.m.
- 5/5/2018 Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday in May)
- 5/27/2018 Historic Trinity Church Pump Organ Concert.
- 5/28/2018 Groton American Legion Post #39 Memorial Day Program at the Cemetery, Lunch to follow at the American Legion (Memorial Day)
- 6/14/2018 Transit Fundraiser (Middle Thursday in June)
- 6/15/2018 SDSU Golf at Olive Grove
- 6/16/2018 Triathlon (Saturday before Father's Day)
- 7/4/2018 Firecracker Golf Tourney (4th of July)
- 7/22/2018 Summer Fest (4th Sunday in July)
- 9/8/2018 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
- 10/6/2018 Pumpkin Fest (Saturday before Columbus Day)
- 10/12/2018 Band Festival (2nd Friday in October)
- 10/31/2018 Trunk or Treat (Halloween)
- 11/10/2018 Groton American Legion Post #39 Turkey Shoot (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)
- 12/01/2018 Olive Grove Golf Course 2018 Holiday Party
  
- Best Ball Golf Tourney
- SDSU Golf Tourney
- Sunflower Golf Tourney
- Santa Claus Day
- Fireman's Stag
- Tour of Homes
- Crazy Dayz/Open Houses
- School Events



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## News from the Associated Press

### SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Dakota Cash  
10-19-21-28-29  
(ten, nineteen, twenty-one, twenty-eight, twenty-nine)  
Estimated jackpot: \$42,000

Lotto America  
16-22-28-30-34, Star Ball: 2, ASB: 3  
(sixteen, twenty-two, twenty-eight, thirty, thirty-four; Star Ball: two; ASB: three)  
Estimated jackpot: \$2.64 million

Mega Millions  
Estimated jackpot: \$612 million

Powerball  
08-24-52-55-61, Powerball: 21, Power Play: 3  
(eight, twenty-four, fifty-two, fifty-five, sixty-one; Powerball: twenty-one; Power Play: three)  
Estimated jackpot: \$50 million

### Woman killed in rollover crash near Hill City

HILL CITY, S.D. (AP) — Authorities say a 48-year-old woman was killed in a rollover crash in western South Dakota.

The Rapid City Journal reports that the woman's pickup truck was northbound on U.S. Highway 385 on Saturday when she lost control of the vehicle about 20 miles north of Hill City.

The Highway Patrol says vehicle went off the road, down an embankment and rolled.  
The woman's name has not been released.

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

### South Dakota has 58K vehicles registered out of state

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Drivers from all over the United States are sporting South Dakota license plates after discovering how easy and cheap it is to register vehicles in the state.

South Dakota has more than 58,000 vehicles registered belonging to people with out-of-state addresses, possibly generating millions of dollars in revenue. It makes up 4 percent of the more than 1.5 million registered vehicles in South Dakota, the Rapid City Journal reported.

Some drivers have registered their cars in South Dakota to avoid their own state's higher fees or having to show up for emission tests or safety inspections, which are not required in South Dakota. Others may value the ease of registering online or through the mail.

In South Dakota, Pennington County has the most vehicle registrations from outside the state. More than 19,600 registrations from out of state comprise 11 percent of the total registered vehicles in the county. Clay County has the second highest number of out-of-state registrations, amounting to more than 7,000. It makes up 28 percent of the county's total registered vehicles.

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Pennington County Treasurer Janet Saylor suspects out-of-state drivers register in the county because it doesn't have a wheel tax, which adds up to \$60 additional cost.

She said her large staff's ability to handle and process large amounts of registrations from out of state could attract more drivers to the county, where others resist them because of their shortage of employees.

Saylor said state and county officials appreciate the extra revenue and likely won't jeopardize it by changing the law.

She said, "You can go on vacation in any state and see a set of South Dakota plates, and they're people who've never even been here and have never driven on our roads."

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

## South Dakota city continues creek cleanup efforts

DEADWOOD, S.D. (AP) — A western South Dakota city has budgeted \$200,000 over the next two years for Whitewood Creek clean-up efforts.

The Deadwood project includes landscaping, garbage removal and erosion control work, the Black Hills Pioneer reported.

The creek is an asset to the community, said Bob Nelson, Jr., the city's planning and zoning administrator. "I think it's something that has been neglected for decades and it's time to bring it forward to people that it's an asset we have, here, and it needs to be taken care of," he said.

There are six planned rehabilitation phases, Nelson said.

City commissioners approved a more than \$26,000 contract with Aspen Ridge Lawn and Landscaping for the second phase of restoration efforts. They also approved a proposal for design services with Tallgrass Landscape AR for about \$21,000 for the third phase.

Tallgrass officials said they'll review existing conditions, design bank stabilization and erosion control, clean up dead plants and install new vegetation.

"There are pipes sticking out of the hillside," Nelson said. "We need to solve an erosion problem in this area. So, engineering for flood plain and storm water discharge. The work won't actually happen until 2019."

The schedule for clean-up efforts revolves around when the creek is low enough for work to take place.

Information from: Black Hills Pioneer, <http://www.bhpioneer.com>

## "Hope and dignity:" Pope calls for peace in Easter message

VATICAN CITY (AP) — On Christianity's most joyful day, Pope Francis in his Easter Sunday message called for peace in a world marked by war and conflict, "beginning with the beloved and long-suffering land of Syria," and extending to the entire Middle East, the Korean peninsula and parts of Africa affected by "hunger, endemic conflicts and terrorism."

Francis reflected on the power of Christianity's core belief — that Jesus rose from the dead following crucifixion — in his formal "Urbi et Orbi" Easter message delivered from the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica to a packed square below.

The pontiff said the message of the resurrection offers hope in a world "marked by so many acts of injustice and violence."

"It bears fruits of hope and dignity where there are deprivation and exclusion, hunger and unemployment; where there are migrants and refugees, so often rejected by today's culture of waste, and victims of the drug trade, human trafficking and contemporary forms of slavery," the pope said.

He called for a "swift end" to carnage in Syria, demanding that aid be delivered to the needy there and calling for "fitting conditions for the returned and the displaced." The pope also urged reconciliation in Israel and hoped that mutual respect would "prevail over divisions" in Yemen and the entire Middle East.

Turning to Asia, Francis hoped that talks underway could bring peace to the Korean peninsula, urging "those who are directly responsible act with wisdom and discernment to promote the good of the Korean



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people.”

For Ukraine, the pope urged more steps to bring harmony to that divided nation. He also called for peace in South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo, urging the world not to forget victims of conflict, especially children.

“May there be no lack of solidarity with all those forced to leave their native lands and lacking the bare essentials for living,” said the pope who has often championed the cause of migrants and refugees.

The church’s first pontiff from Latin America cited in particular the problems in Venezuela, voicing hope the country would “find a just, peaceful and humane way to surmount quickly the political and humanitarian crises that grip it.”

Earlier, tens of thousands of faithful underwent heavy security checks to enter St. Peter’s Square to participate in Easter Sunday Mass celebrated by the pope, followed by his “Urbi et Orbi” message (“to the city and the world”).

Security precautions included bag checks and metal detector wands for everyone entering the square, while the main avenue leading to the Vatican, as well as smaller adjoining streets, were closed to traffic.

Francis opened Easter festivities with a Tweet to his global flock: “Our faith is born on Easter morning: Jesus is alive! The experience is at the heart of the Christian message.”

Elsewhere, hundreds of Christians marked Easter by flocking to Jerusalem’s Church of the Holy Sepulchre, built on the site where they believe Jesus was crucified, buried and resurrected.

## Rally seeks justice for black man shot by police in backyard

By KATHLEEN RONAYNE, Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — The family of Stephon Clark joined hundreds at a rally Saturday, urging California’s capital city not to let his memory or calls for police reform fade nearly two weeks after the 22-year-old unarmed black man was killed by Sacramento officers.

Clark’s fiancée, Salena Manni, stood on stage with his two young sons, grandmother and uncle for the gathering organized by Sacramento native and former NBA player Matt Barnes, who pledged to create a scholarship fund for the children of black men killed by police.

“All he wanted to do was go see his sons again, and unfortunately he can’t,” Curtis Gordon, Clark’s uncle, said as he recalled seeing his nephew hours before the shooting. “So remember that — while we mourn, while we shout, while we cry — because it ain’t just our pain, it’s their pain.”

Barnes amplified calls for charges against the two officers who are on administrative leave.

“It’s more than color — it comes down to right and wrong,” he said. “You’re trying to tell me I can kill someone and get a paid vacation?”

The peaceful demonstration that drew between 200 and 300 people to a downtown park came a day after a private autopsy released by the family showed Clark was shot from behind.

Clark was killed March 18 by two police officers responding to a call of someone breaking into car windows. They yelled that he had a gun before shooting, but it was only a cellphone. The police department says it has not received an official autopsy report from the county coroner’s office.

Activists and faith leaders called for justice not just for Clark, but for all black men killed by police. Family members of Joseph Mann, who was killed by Sacramento police in 2016, also spoke. The chairman of a police oversight commission urged attendees to continue their activism by showing up to meetings and pushing for systemic change.

Community leaders urged the city to set a national example.

“This little small town can show this nation our great big heart,” the Rev. Kevin Ross said.

The night before, several hundred protesters marched through downtown streets for nearly four hours, with Black Lives Matter Sacramento leaders diffusing tensions on several occasions to keep the march peaceful.

About 150 people attended another vigil and protest Saturday night outside a sheriff’s department office. It was the latest disruptive but mostly peaceful demonstration since Clark was killed.

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Protesters have twice blocked fans from entering games involving the NBA's Sacramento Kings at a downtown arena, but there were no signs of trouble amid a big police presence at a game Saturday night against the Golden State Warriors.

The Friday release of the private autopsy commissioned by Clark's family has prompted fresh outrage. Pathologist Dr. Bennet Omalu, known for his study of a degenerative brain condition in football players, announced that Clark was hit by eight bullets — six in the back, one in the neck and one in the thigh — and took three to 10 minutes to die. Police waited about five minutes before rendering medical aid.

Omalu said the proposition that Clark was assailing the officers, meaning he was facing them, is "inconsistent with the prevailing forensic evidence." He said it was unclear if Clark would have survived had he gotten immediate medical attention.

A day after the shooting, police distributed a news release that said the officers who shot Clark "saw the suspect facing them, advance forward with his arms extended, and holding an object in his hands."

Police video of the shooting doesn't clearly capture all that happened after Clark ran into his grandmother's backyard. Clark initially moved toward the officers, who were peeking out from behind a corner of the house, but it's unclear if he was facing them or knew they were there when they opened fire after shouting "gun, gun, gun."

After 20 shots, officers called to him, apparently believing he might still be alive and armed. They eventually approached and found no gun, just a cellphone.

Gov. Jerry Brown, a Democrat, called Clark's death tragic and said it "raises a number of very serious questions." He said he supports the state attorney general's independent oversight of the investigation.

Associated Press reporters Sophia Bollag and Don Thompson in Sacramento and John Antczak in Los Angeles contributed to this story.

## Michigan D faces toughest test yet with 'Nova for NCAA title

By JOHN MARSHALL, AP Basketball Writer

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Michigan has shored up the deficiency that always held it back, becoming one of the nation's best defensive teams, not one of its worst. Out-shooting teams, no longer necessary.

This new-found stinginess has the Wolverines within reach of their first national title since Glen Rice and Rumeal Robinson rumbled through the bracket in 1989.

But their biggest test yet comes on college basketball's brightest stage: Villanova and its squadron of long-range shooters with a national title on the line.

Michigan is good on D, but if the Wildcats shot like they did against Kansas in Saturday night's Final Four nightcap, it may not matter what the Wolverines do.

"I feel bad for Kansas," Villanova coach Jay Wright said. "They're a great team, we just made every shot."

Michigan (33-7) reached the title game by taking away Cinderella's slipper, sending Loyola-Chicago and Sister Jean home a game short of completing their divine run.

Villanova bombed its way past a blueblood to get there.

The Wildcats (35-4) turned a Final Four showdown with fellow No. 1 seed Kansas into a laughter, dropping in 3-pointers like they were playing pop-a-shot in the 95-79 rout. Villanova made a Final Four-record 18 3s in a record-matching 40 attempts, its second trip to the title game in three seasons never in doubt.

That's an NCAA record 442 from the arc this season — and they're still counting.

"That's as good a team as we've played that I can remember," Kansas coach Bill Self said.

The third-seeded Wolverines (33-7) had a bit more trouble against the bracket's favorite underdogs, overcoming a frightful first half to send nun-turned-motivator Sister Jean Delores Schmidt headed to the exits early.

The Wolverines trailed the bracket-rambling Ramblers by seven at halftime, found the right gear in the second and have a title-game appearance no one outside of Ann Arbor saw coming when they were mid-dling in the Big Ten just a month ago.



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Now they're done playing the favorite for a night, it's back to the underdog role against Villanova.

"The whole villain thing, you guys love to write about it, talk about it, but at the end of the day it's just basketball, you know?" Michigan big man Moe Wagner said. "And we just try to win. That's all we do.

Their next task: Find some way to slow Villanova's 3-ball roll.

The Wildcats were one of the most proficient 3-point shooting teams during the regular season and upped the 3 ante in the NCAA Tournament, knocking down a record 65 and counting. Villanova broke the Final Four record with 13 in the first half and literally shot the lights out by the second, when some scoreboards and upper-level lights briefly went out and darkened the upper decks.

"It was one of those nights where we were able to make shots and that's what the lead looks like," said Villanova's Jalen Brunson, who had 18 points and six assists.

Michigan may have a better answer than the Jayhawks had.

Tired of watching victories fizzle away through defensive deficiencies, coach John Beilein made a philosophical change, putting an emphasis on that side of the ball.

It's worked out well.

Michigan had the nation's No. 3 defense efficiency-wise and put Loyola on lockdown in the second half, forcing the Ramblers into a rash of turnovers to race away.

"We always talk about getting the domino going," Loyola coach Porter Moser said. "They closed that gap of opportunity in a hurry."

Villanova has a way of doing that, too.

The Wolverines may have an answer in Wagner.

The German big man carried Michigan through its struggles in the first half by using his size advantage against the smaller Ramblers, snagging five offensive rebounds to notch a double-double by halftime.

Wagner finished with 24 points and 15 rebound to join Hakeem Olajuwon and Larry Bird as the only players to have at least 20 points and 15 rebounds in a national semifinal game.

"He's unbelievable. He's one of those dynamic scorers from the post, he's a great passer, made some unbelievable passers today with both hands," Villanova assistant coach Ashley Howard said. "He's a guy they can play through. We'll watch tape, try to figure out the best way to approach going into Monday night's game. It's going to be a challenge and we're looking forward to it."

More AP college basketball: <https://collegEBasketball.ap.org> ; [https://twitter.com/AP\\_Top25](https://twitter.com/AP_Top25) and <https://www.podcastone.com/ap-sports-special-events>

## New Asian-American, Brazilian apostles make Mormon history

By BRADY McCOMBS, Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The Mormon church made history and injected a bit of diversity into a previously all-white top leadership panel on Saturday by selecting the first-ever Latin-American apostle and the first-ever apostle of Asian ancestry.

The selections of Ulisses Soares of Brazil and Gerrit W. Gong, a Chinese-American, were announced during a twice-annual conference of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Salt Lake City. The choices triggered excitement among a contingent of Mormons who for years have been hoping for the faith's top leadership to be more representative of a religion that has more than half of its 16 million members outside the United States.

"It's a sign that the church is for everyone," said Guilherme De Castro, a 37-year-old Mormon from Brazil who was in attendance for the announcement. "It doesn't matter where you are from or the way you look."

The selections come during a two-day conference happening as the faith grapples with heightened scrutiny about its handling of sexual abuse reports and one-on-one interviews between local lay leaders and youth. Mormon leaders hadn't spoken about the topic as of Saturday afternoon, but a person in attendance yelled several times, "Stop protecting sexual predators," as new people were announced to second-tier leadership posts.

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The outburst came one day after about 1,000 current and former Mormons marched to the church's headquarters in Salt Lake City, delivering petitions demanding an end to closed door, one-on-one interviews between youth and lay leaders where sexual questions sometimes arise.

The church changed policy this week to now allow children to bring a parent or adult with them to the interviews, but protesters said that doesn't go far enough to keep children safe. The change came as part of more revisions to sexual abuse reporting guidelines following recent revelations that a former prominent missionary leader was accused of sexually assaulting two women in the 1980s. The ex-leader denied the allegations.

It was the first conference presided over by new church President Russell M. Nelson. His choices for the two open leadership spots sparked hope that the 93-year-old former heart surgeon will focus on the globalization of the faith during his tenure. He is set to embark on a trip in April to visit eight cities in Europe, Africa and Asia, including Hong Kong.

The last time there were openings on the quorum, in October 2015, the church chose three Utah men. Past church president Thomas S. Monson, who died in January, was leading the church at the time. The religion believes church presidents choose new Quorum members with the help of divine revelation.

The choices mark the strongest statement in favor of global diversity by senior church leadership since 1978 when the church lifted a ban on black men in the lay clergy, allowing the church to spread to Brazil, Africa and elsewhere, said Mormon scholar Patrick Mason, associate professor of religion at Claremont Graduate University in California. He said most people were hoping for at best one new non-white leader, so the double selection will be welcomed with enthusiasm throughout the religion.

The announcement sparked a wave of tweets and other social media posts, some by Mormons who said they never thought they would see the day.

Soares and Gong join a panel called the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles that, before Saturday, was made up entirely of white men from the U.S. with the exception of one German, Dieter Uchtdorf.

The all-male panel sits below President Nelson and his two counselors and helps set church policy and oversees the faith's business interests. The new appointees start as junior members, but they could someday become church president because the group's longest-tenured member ascends to president when the current one dies.

They join a quorum undergoing a substantial turnover following a string of deaths as previous leaders succumbed to the effects of aging. Five of the 12 panel members have been appointed in the past three years. Prior to 2015, it had been six years since a new quorum member was chosen, and more than a decade since the leadership council had two openings.

Like the previous 12 men chosen for the panel, Soares and Gong were serving in a lower-level leadership called Quorum of the Seventy that that has served as a farm system for the governing body.

The 59-year-old Soares was an accountant and auditor for multinational corporations in Brazil before joining church leadership, according to a church biography. He was born in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

The 64-year-old Gong worked for the U.S. State Department, the Washington, D.C.-based Center for Strategic and International Studies and Mormon-owned Brigham Young University before being selected for the lower-tier church leadership panel. He was born in Redwood City, California. His grandparents immigrated to the United States from China.

The new selections reflect the "rising focus of church leadership on the world outside the United States, where the church is growing most rapidly," said Mormon scholar Matthew Bowman, an associate professor of history at Henderson State University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas.

With 1.4 million members, Brazil has the second-most Mormon in the world along with Mexico, according to church figures. Both rank behind the United States, which has about 6.6 million members.

Nelson has long had a special interest in China, Bowman said. He speaks Mandarin and spent time there during his professional career. It's possible Nelson is hoping Gong's selection could help establish a stronger foothold in the Asian country that currently doesn't officially recognize the religion and only allows certain activities, Bowman said.

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It is estimated that there are at least 10,000 church members in mainland China, most of which are native Chinese members, though there are no official church estimates because the Chinese government does not recognize the religion, said Matt Martinich, an independent Mormon researcher.

Of the 116 highest-ranking church leaders serving in several tiers, 40 percent of them were born outside the U.S, said Dallin H. Oaks, first counselor to President Nelson, on Saturday.

The diversity in leadership should help broaden conversations about race and ethnicity and add new prisms through which the gospel is viewed, said Ignacio Garcia, a professor of Western and Latino history at Mormon-owned Brigham Young University.

Making a sports analogy, Garcia said the religion has many great minority leaders on the "bench" (mid-tier leadership councils) and now for first time, two in the "starting lineup" (Quorum of the Twelve).

It's likely an indication of the religion's future since indigenous members are who will help sustain the church going forward, Garcia said.

"Those are the ones that are growing: black and brown and Asian," he said. "That's the future of the church."

## Pope in Easter Vigil baptizes Nigerian migrant-hero

By NICOLE WINFIELD, Associated Press

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope Francis on Saturday urged Catholics to not remain paralyzed in the face of the injustices around them as he baptized eight adults, including a Nigerian beggar who became a hero in Italy for having disarmed a thief with his bare hands.

In an Easter Vigil homily, Francis challenged Catholics to not remain silent, as Jesus' disciples were after his crucifixion. Rather, he urged Catholics to "break out" of their routines and let God in.

It wasn't clear if he had a particular reference in mind, but John Ogah certainly didn't stand by speechless as he witnessed a supermarket robbery on Sept. 26.

According to Italian news reports, Ogah had been begging for spare change outside the Carrefour market in Rome's Centocelle neighborhood when a masked thief, armed with a meat cleaver, tried to make off with 400 euros (\$493) he had stolen from the cashiers.

Security cameras captured Ogah's courageous next steps: With nothing more than his bare hands, he confronted the thief, wrested the cleaver away and held him by the collar until police arrived, after the man fell from his attempted getaway motorcycle.

Ogah then disappeared, fearing he would be deported because he didn't have his papers in order. But Rome police authorities sought to reward his courage and within a month had given him a coveted Italian residency permit that had been denied him when his asylum bid failed.

According to the ANSA news agency, he now has a job with the Italian Red Cross and a place to call home. In preparing for his baptism, he reportedly asked the Rome police captain who handled his case to be his godfather.

In an interview soon after the theft, Ogah told La Repubblica newspaper that his dream was to be legally resident in Italy and have a job so he wouldn't have to beg to support his child back home in Nigeria. Ogah had left Nigeria and, after a stay in Libya, set off for Italy on a migrant smuggler's boat in May 2014.

"If Pope Francis or the president of the republic could do something for me I would be the happiest man in the world," he was quoted as saying. "I don't want to be a hero. I just want to be legal, work and have a dignified life in Italy."

On Saturday, Francis baptized him during the solemn pomp of one of the holiest nights in the Catholic liturgical calendar.

Ogah chose as his baptismal name "Francesco."



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## Spy case: Russia, US envoys leave Washington, St. Petersburg

By JIM HEINTZ and GREGORY KATZ, Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — Russian diplomats and their families climbed aboard buses and left their embassy in Washington on Saturday while across the Atlantic, American envoys took down the flag from outside the U.S. Consulate in St. Petersburg, loaded up boxes, closed the office down and headed home.

The moves were the latest in a spy poisoning case that has escalated East-West tensions, with both sides expelling more than 150 of each other's diplomats from two dozen countries.

Britain has insisted that the Russian government was behind the nerve agent poisoning of a former Russian spy and his daughter March 4 in the English city of Salisbury, a charge the Russians vehemently deny.

The Tass news agency says all of the 60 Russian diplomats ordered out of the United States were heading for a homebound flight on Saturday night.

In St. Petersburg, workers at the US consulate hurried to meet the Saturday deadline to close the consulate, imposed by Russia just two days earlier. In brief comments to reporters, U.S. Consul-General Thomas Leary said "we are ready to leave."

A truck with bags and boxes left the consulate in the late afternoon, its driver waving and honking his horn several times. Outside the elegant 19th-century building, someone had placed four yellow tulips and a card from neighbors reading "hope to see you again."

City workers came to inspect the building late Saturday, but it was not clear if all the staff had departed.

Russians watching the activity expressed mixed views on the consulate's closure.

"The American side always knows that we can strike back if we are attacked," said Valentina Petrova, 77. But 24-year-old Artem Zykov saw it differently.

"Russia should have found different mechanisms to respond without such radical measures," Zykov said.

British officials, meanwhile, said Saturday the government is considering Russia's request for access to the daughter of the former Russian double agent. Russian officials insist they have a legal right to see 33-year-old Yulia Skripal, who lived in Moscow and was visiting her father, Sergei Skripal, in Salisbury when they were attacked with a nerve agent that apparently came through his front door.

The Foreign Office said it was reviewing the Russian request "in line with our obligations under international and domestic law," adding that the government's consideration will include "the rights and wishes of Yulia Skripal."

British officials say she is recovering in the hospital while her 66-year-old father remains in critical condition.

The Russian Embassy in London called her recovery "good news" in a tweet Friday and said Russian diplomats had a right to see her under the 1968 Consular Convention.

The Russian Foreign Ministry on Saturday also issued lists of questions it wants Britain and France to answer in the case, including to what extent French investigators have been involved in probing the poisoning and why.

Russia contends that Britain is exploiting "Russophobia" to undermine Moscow. On Saturday, its London embassy issued a statement warning Russians travelling to the U.K. that they could be subject to "provocations" including having various items planted in their luggage.

In another illustration of the deteriorating relations, the Russian Embassy in Britain complained about the alleged search of a Russian airliner at London's Heathrow Airport.

The embassy said British Border Forces and Customs officers searched an Aeroflot flight from Moscow on Friday in violation of international rules. In a tweet, the embassy called it "another blatant provocation by the British authorities."

British officials responded Saturday that it's routine to search some incoming flights. Russia has sent a diplomatic note demanding an explanation of the search, which delayed the flight to Moscow.

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Katz reported from London. Lynn Berry in Washington and Irina Titova in St. Petersburg contributed.

## Melania Trump escapes glare of affair headlines in Florida

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE, Associated Press

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Spring break couldn't have come at a better time for Melania Trump.

With fresh details spilling into the headlines daily about how Donald Trump allegedly cheated on her early in their marriage, the former model escaped the intense glare by spending the past week at the family's estate in Palm Beach, Florida, with their 12-year-old son, Barron.

But even then, there was no perfect refuge from the attention to recent legal activity related to the president's past conduct with women.

On Mrs. Trump's first full day away, when the president also was at their Mar-a-Lago estate, Trump had dinner not with her but with attorney Michael Cohen — who paid porn actress Stormy Daniels \$130,000 in 2016 to keep her from going public with her story of a 2006 tryst with Trump. The Trumps did dine together on Thursday night after the president returned to Florida, with boxing promoter Don King stopping by to chat.

Some say the first lady should exit her 13-year union with Trump, much like Hillary Clinton was urged to do after President Bill Clinton's affair with White House intern Monica Lewinsky became public in the late 1990s.

"Melania should do for this generation of girls what Hillary Clinton did not do for mine and leave her jerk of a husband," conservative commentator S.E. Cupp wrote in an opinion piece that recently was splashed across the front page of the New York Daily News — one of Trump's hometown newspapers — with the headline "Dump Trump!"

Trump himself recently joked about the possibility of his wife leaving him. She was seated at the head table at a Washington dinner last month where the president, in a speech that traditionally pokes at friends and adversaries, addressed the heavy staff churn at the White House.

"Now the question everyone keeps asking is, 'Who's going to be the next to leave? Steve Miller or Melania?'" he said, referring to policy adviser Stephen Miller. "That is terrible, honey, but you love me, right?"

A Marist-McClatchy Poll in February found the public divided on the issue. Forty-three percent said the first lady should stay married to Trump, 34 percent said she should leave her husband and 23 percent weren't sure what she should do.

Through it all, Mrs. Trump has kept a steely silence on claims by Daniels and former Playboy model Karen McDougal that they had sexual relationships with Trump that began in 2006 just after the future first lady gave birth.

Stephanie Grisham, a spokeswoman for Mrs. Trump, responded to questions about Daniels and McDougal by saying the first lady is "focused on being a mom" and spent the break working on future projects, including Monday's annual White House Easter Egg Roll and the coming state visit of French President Emmanuel Macron on April 24.

Mrs. Trump kept up an everything's-normal Twitter feed during the week, posting about her recent participation in the State Department's courage awards, a White House discussion she had convened on cyberbullying, an upcoming opioids exhibit near the White House, White House garden tours and her surprise visit to a Florida hospital Thursday to deliver Easter baskets to young patients.

She is silent now on her husband's dealings with other women, but has traversed this awkward terrain before.

"People think and talk about me like, 'Oh Melania, Oh poor Melania,'" she told CNN in a 2016 interview. "Don't feel sorry for me. I can handle everything."

She gave that interview after Trump was heard on a decade-old audiotape describing how he had grabbed women by their genitals and kissed them without permission. Trump at the time also faced accusations of sexual misconduct from more than a dozen women. He has called the women's charges false, and said he was engaging in "locker-room talk" on the tape.

Some fault Mrs. Trump for making the "politically freighted choice" of going ahead with what the White House said is her traditional spring break getaway.

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Iowa State University history professor Stacy Cordery said most people will forgive an erring man when his wife stands by him. But "we don't see any evidence of her standing by him in that way. Even though she's an extremely private person, she could still appear at his side, but she's choosing not to," added Cordery, a first lady scholar.

The allegations don't appear to have hurt Trump politically. The White House often notes that Trump was elected even though voters knew about sexual misconduct allegations against him. Trump's approval rating, meanwhile, is up 7 points since last month to 42 percent, according to a new poll by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

Friends say the first lady, who met Trump while his divorce from his second wife was being finalized, can handle what's coming at her.

"The first lady is very strong. She's, unfortunately, used to attacks of fake news," said Paolo Zampolli, her friend and former modeling agent.

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Associated Press writer Jill Colvin in Washington contributed to this report.

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Follow Darlene Superville on Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/dsupervilleap>

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This story has been corrected to show that the first lady met, not married, Trump while his divorce was being finalized.

## Israel says it will expand response if Gaza clashes go on

By **FARES AKRAM** and **ARON HELLER**, Associated Press

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — Israel will target militant groups inside Gaza if violence along the territory's border with Israel drags on, the chief military spokesman warned on Saturday, a day after 15 Palestinians were killed by Israeli fire in the area's deadliest violence in four years.

The violence significantly petered down Saturday as just small groups of Palestinians threw stones in several areas near the border fence, drawing Israeli fire that injured 25 people, the Gaza Health Ministry said.

Friday's mass marches were largely led by Gaza's ruling Hamas group and touted as the launch of a six-week-long protest campaign against a stifling decade-old blockade of the territory.

Protests are aiming to culminate in a large border march on May 15, the 70th anniversary of Israel founding. The date is mourned by Palestinians as their "nakba," or catastrophe, when hundreds of thousands were uprooted in the 1948 Mideast war over Israel's creation.

Organizers set up five tent encampments, each several hundred meters from the border to serve as launch points for protest.

Some young men broke away Saturday, throwing stones at Israeli soldiers on the other side of the fence, drawing live rounds and tear gas.

In two separate incidents, an Associated Press reporter saw two men who walked close to the fence get shot in the legs by soldiers.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu congratulated the soldiers Saturday for allowing the rest of the country to celebrate the Passover holiday safely.

"Israel is acting determinedly and decisively to protect its sovereignty and the security of its citizens," he said.

Palestinian health officials said 15 Palestinians were killed by Israeli fire and more than 750 hit by live rounds Friday, making it the bloodiest day in Gaza since the 2014 cross-border war between Israel and Hamas.

It appears unlikely protests will continue at such a scale, with larger turnouts only expected after Friday noon prayers, the highlight of the Muslim religious week.

In Friday's confrontations, large crowds had gathered near the fence, with smaller groups of protesters rushing forward, throwing stones and burning tires.



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Israeli troops responded with live fire and rubber-coated steel pellets, while drones dropped tear gas from above. Soldiers with rifles were perched on high earthen embankments overlooking the scene.

Israel's military initially claimed Friday that "thousands of Palestinians are rioting in six locations throughout the Gaza Strip, rolling burning tires and hurling stones." Video released by the army appeared to show fewer actually engaged in direct violence.

On Saturday, the chief army spokesman, Brig. Gen. Ronen Manelis, said that while thousands of Palestinians approached the border Friday, those engaged in stone-throwing were in the hundreds.

Manelis denied soldiers used excessive force, saying those killed by Israeli troops were men between the ages of 18 and 30 who were involved in violence and belonged to militant factions. The army later released the names and ages of 10 of the dead, including eight members of Hamas and two from other militant groups.

Manelis alleged Gaza health officials exaggerated the number of wounded, and that several dozen at most were injured by live fire, with others suffering from tear gas inhalation or other types of injuries.

Manelis said soldiers knew who they were shooting at and how many people were hit by live fire.

The Gaza Health Ministry did not provide names and ages of those killed.

Four of the 15 dead were members of the Hamas military wing, the group said Saturday. The group said a fifth member who was not on the Health Ministry list was killed near the border, and that Israel has the body. It said another man is also missing in the border area.

Gaza City's Shifa Hospital received 284 injured people Friday, the majority with bullet injuries, said spokesman Ayman Sahbani. He said 70 were under the age of 18 and 11 were women.

He said 40 surgeries were performed Friday and that 50 were planned Saturday. "These are all from live bullets that broke limbs or caused deep, open wounds with damage to nerves and veins," he said.

Among those recovering from surgery was 16-year-old Marwan Yassin who said he had thrown stones with a slingshot at the fence Friday and was shot in both legs. One leg was wrapped in bandages and the other had a cast and metal fixtures.

Yassin said he would not return to the border because of the risks. His mother said at his bedside that she would forbid him from participating in future protests.

Protest organizers have said mass marches would continue until the day of the "nakba," an anniversary with particular resonance in Gaza where the vast majority of 2 million residents are descendants of refugees. The day, May 15, will this year also coincide with the start of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

Manelis reiterated Saturday that Israel "will not allow a massive breach of the fence into Israeli territory."

He said that Hamas and other Gaza militant groups are using protests as a cover for staging attacks. If violence continues, "we will not be able to continue limiting our activity to the fence area and will act against these terror organizations in other places too," he said.

The border protests were seen as a new attempt by Hamas to break the border blockade, imposed by Israel and Egypt after the Islamic militant group seized Gaza in 2007 from forces loyal to its rival, Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas. The continued closure has made it increasingly difficult for Hamas to govern.

Life in the coastal strip has deteriorated further in recent months, with rising unemployment, grinding poverty and daily blackouts that last for hours.

The prospect of more protests and Palestinian casualties in coming weeks could also place Israel on the defensive.

At the United Nations, Secretary-General Antonio Guterres called for an independent investigation, while Security Council members urged restraint on both sides. The council didn't decide on any action or joint message after an emergency meeting Friday evening.

Abbas, the West Bank-based leader, renewed a call for international protection of Palestinians.

In the West Bank, shopkeepers observed a commercial strike called by political activists Saturday to protest Israel's response to the Gaza marches.

Heller reported from Tel Aviv, Israel. Associated Press writer Karin Laub in Ramallah, West Bank, con-

tributed to this report.

## **Court: Government can't block immigrant teens from abortion**

**By JESSICA GRESKO, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — A federal court in Washington has told the Trump administration that the government can't interfere with the ability of pregnant immigrant teens being held in federal custody to obtain abortions.

A judge issued an order Friday evening barring the government from "interfering with or obstructing" pregnant minors' access to abortion counseling or abortions, among other things, while a lawsuit proceeds. The order covers pregnant minors being held in federal custody after entering the country illegally.

Lawyers for the Department of Health and Human Services, which is responsible for sheltering children who illegally enter the country unaccompanied by a parent, have said the department has a policy of "refusing to facilitate" abortions. And the director of the office that oversees the shelters has said he believes teens in his agency's care have no constitutional right to abortion.

The American Civil Liberties Union brought a lawsuit on behalf of the minors, which the judge overseeing the case also Friday allowed to go forward as a class action lawsuit.

"We have been able to secure justice for these young pregnant women in government custody who will no longer be subject to the government's policy of coercion and obstruction while the case continues," said ACLU attorney Brigitte Amiri after the judge's order became public.

The government can appeal the judge's order. A Department of Justice spokesman didn't immediately respond to an emailed request for comment Friday evening.

The health department said in a statement Saturday that it "strongly maintains that taxpayers are not responsible for facilitating the abortion of unaccompanied minors who entered the country illegally and are currently in the government's care." It said it is "working closely with the Justice Department to review the court's order and determine next steps."

The ACLU and Trump administration have been sparring for months over the government's policy. In a high-profile case last year, the ACLU represented a teen who entered the U.S. illegally in September and learned while in federal custody in Texas that she was pregnant.

The teen, referred to in court paperwork as Jane Doe, obtained a state court order permitting her to have an abortion and secured private funding to pay for it, but federal officials refused to transport her or temporarily release her so that others could take her to get the procedure.

The teen was ultimately able to get an abortion in October as a result of the lawsuit, but the Trump administration has accused the ACLU of misleading the government during the case, a charge the ACLU has denied.

The ACLU has since represented several other teens who have sought abortions while in custody, but the organization doesn't know of any others actively seeking abortions, Amiri said Friday night. The judge's order now covers any teens currently in custody or who come in to custody while the lawsuit goes forward.

In a deposition taken in December as part of the litigation, Scott Lloyd, the director of the Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Refugee Resettlement, which oversees shelters for unaccompanied immigrant minors, said pregnant teens in his agency's care have no right to abortion under the Constitution. Lloyd, who has written about his own opposition to abortion, said he had not approved any abortions since becoming director in March 2017. That included refusing the abortion request of a teen who had been impregnated as a result of rape.

U.S. District Judge Tanya Chutkan said in the ruling Friday that Lloyd and his office are "certainly entitled to maintain an interest in fetal life" and even to prefer that pregnant minors in their custody "choose one course over the other," but the government can't create or implement a policy that strips minors "of their right to make their own reproductive choices." Chutkan was appointed by President Barack Obama.

## Hundreds line Cambridge streets to honor Stephen Hawking

By GREGORY KATZ, Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — The life of renowned physicist and author Stephen Hawking was celebrated Saturday in English city of Cambridge, with hundreds of well-wishers lining the streets for a glimpse of the hearse carrying his remains to a private funeral.

There was a spontaneous burst of applause outside St. Mary the Great church when the hearse arrived. The bells of the church tolled 76 times, one for each year of Hawking's remarkable life.

Hawking was remembered as a brave man who triumphed over motor neurone disease by continuing his research into space and time even after paralysis set in and his muscles faded.

Some 500 invited guests attended the funeral for Hawking, who died on March 14.

Actor Eddie Redmayne, who portrayed the scientist in the 2014 biographical film "The Theory of Everything," gave a reading from Ecclesiastes during the service. There was also a reading by Astronomer Royal Martin Reese and eulogies by one of Hawking's children and a former student.

Hawking's family released a statement saying they chose to hold the funeral "in the city that he loved so much and which loved him."

Flags were lowered to half-mast in many parts of Cambridge to pay tribute to Hawking. The service was officiated by the Rev. Cally Hammond, Dean of Cambridge University's Gonville and Caius College, where Hawking was a fellow for 52 years.

A private reception was held afterward at Trinity College.

Hawking was known for his groundbreaking research into black holes and other phenomena. He was also the best-selling author of "A Brief History of Time" and other books and a pop culture figure known for, among other things, his appearance on "The Simpsons" TV series.

Hawking will be cremated at a later date and his ashes are to be interred at London's Westminster Abbey near the remains of fellow scientist Isaac Newton.

## Nobel Prize winner Malala visits her Pakistan hometown

By SHERIN ZADA and MUNIR AHMED, Associated Press

MINGORA, Pakistan (AP) — Pakistan's Nobel Peace Prize winner Malala Yousafzai returned to her hometown Saturday for the first time since receiving a gunshot wound to the head there in 2012 for her work as an advocate for young women's education.

Yousafzai and her family arrived in a helicopter provided by the Pakistani military, which took her to the town of Mingora in the Swat Valley from Islamabad. She had arrived in the capital before dawn on Thursday flanked by heavy security and plans to return to Britain on Monday.

Yousafzai, 20, won international renown after she was shot by the Taliban in Mingora. She received initial treatment in Pakistan and later was taken to England for further care. She stayed on in the United Kingdom to continue her education and became the youngest person to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2014.

Yousafzai entered her childhood home Saturday accompanied by her father, mother and brother. She sobbed upon entering the home where relatives, former classmates and friends had been anxiously waiting since morning to welcome her with flowers and hugs.

Yousafzai said she waited for the moment for more than five years and said she often looked at Pakistan on the map, hoping one day to return. She said she plans to permanently return to Pakistan after completing her studies in Britain.

"It is still like a dream for me, am I among you? Is it a dream or reality," she said.

Yousafzai later returned to Islamabad, where she met with human rights activists.

Arooj Bibi, a neighbor, said she was happy to meet with Yousafzai, but was sad because her visit was so brief. Bibi said Yousafzai "lit the candle of education. God willing, there will be thousands of girls like Malala getting an education" in Swat.



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Yousafzai also attended a gathering at the army's Cadet College in Swat, where the Pakistani Taliban led by Mullah Fazlullah had taken over the scenic valley in 2007, marking the height of their strength there. The Pakistani military would later evict militants from the valley.

Security had been visibly beefed up in Mingora the previous day. The Pakistani Taliban had warned after the attack on the then-14-year-old that they would target her again if they got the chance.

Yousafzai had asked authorities to allow her to go to Mingora and Shangla village in the Swat Valley, where a school has been built by her Malala Fund.

In October 2012, Yousafzai was shot in the head by a Taliban militant who jumped inside her school van and yelled, "Who is Malala?" She was targeted for speaking out on education for young women. The Taliban at the time claimed responsibility for the shooting, saying she was promoting "Western thinking," adding that they had warned her family three times before deciding to kill her.

Since her attack and recovery, Yousafzai has led the Malala Fund in which she said has invested \$6 million for schools and books and uniforms for schoolchildren.

Yousafzai has delighted in telling the Taliban that instead of silencing her, they have amplified her voice. She has also written a book, spoken at the United Nations and met with refugees.

On Friday, Yousafzai praised the Pakistan army in an interview on the independent Geo news channel for providing her timely medical treatment, saying her surgery was done by an army surgeon at the "right time."

Yousafzai has won praise from across Pakistan on her return home, but some critics on social media have tried to undermine her efforts to promote girls' education. Yousafzai told media outlets Friday that she expected criticism from militants, who had a particular mindset, but doesn't understand why some educated Pakistanis oppose her.

"Those who do criticize have an absurd kind of criticism that doesn't make any sense," she said in an interview with Pakistan's The News English-language newspaper published Saturday.

"What I want is for people to support my purpose of education and think about the daughters of Pakistan who need an education," she told the newspaper. "Don't think about me. I don't want any favor or I don't want everyone to accept me. All I care about is that they accept education as an issue."

In the interview, she said she was sitting in her classroom when news broke about her Nobel Prize and that she was not aware of it as she was not using her mobile phone at the time.

"My teacher came into my classroom and called me outside. I was worried that I might have done something wrong and I am in trouble. But she told me that I had won the Peace Prize. I said thank you. You don't know how to respond. For me, it was for the cause of education," she told the paper.

Ahmed reported from Islamabad.

## Lawyer on familiar ground in Sacramento police shooting

By COREY WILLIAMS, Associated Press

It's familiar ground for attorney Benjamin Crump — addressing reporters alongside grieving relatives of unarmed black men killed by police.

With each death, the Tallahassee, Florida, attorney has helped lead community demands against a legal system that some believe is blind and deaf to blacks seeking justice.

With Crump leading the way, Trayvon Martin's parents settled a wrongful death lawsuit against a homeowners association in Florida, where Martin was killed by a white neighborhood watch captain.

The lawyer also helped Michael Brown's family reach a financial settlement with the city of Ferguson, Missouri, after Brown was slain by a white police officer.

Now, he is in Sacramento with the family of 22-year-old Stephon Clark, who was shot eight times by police in the backyard of his grandparents' home.

The officers were responding to a report of someone breaking car windows and opened fire because they thought the 22-year-old Clark was pointing a handgun at them. Only a cellphone was found nearby.

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"No family should have to endure this pain and suffering as they try to seek answers for an execution of their loved one who was only holding a cellphone," Crump, flanked by members of Clark's family, said at a news conference. Mostly peaceful protests have followed the shooting.

Police have said officers who shot Clark "saw the suspect facing them, advance forward with his arms extended, and holding an object in his hands."

Crump was not available for an interview with The Associated Press but said during the March 26 news conference that Clark's death "is reminiscent of so many police shootings of unarmed black and brown people."

"We will fight for Stephon until we get justice for Stephon," he said.

By taking on police and communities in wrongful death and brutality cases, Crump has become a "voice for the voiceless," according to Sean Walton, a Columbus, Ohio-based attorney who also represents families in lawsuits involving police.

"Ben Crump has been a pioneer for his ability to generate attention to matters that normally get swept under the rug," Walton said. "We're actually doing what we can to convince local prosecutors to bring charges against police officers."

Crump is best known for representing the families of Martin and Brown.

Martin, 17, was shot to death in 2012 in Sanford, Florida, by white neighborhood watch captain George Zimmerman, who was later acquitted of all charges.

Brown, 18, was killed by white Ferguson officer Darren Wilson, who was cleared of wrongdoing and later resigned.

Both Martin and Brown were unarmed. Crump said Brown "was executed in broad daylight."

Crump also represents the family of Terence Crutcher, 40, who was shot to death by white Tulsa, Oklahoma, police officer Betty Jo Shelby. Police video showed Crutcher, who was unarmed, walking away from officers and toward his SUV with his hands up when he was shot. A jury found Shelby not guilty of first-degree manslaughter.

Crutcher's estate has filed a civil rights lawsuit against Tulsa, Shelby and other police officers.

"I applaud his tenacity," Crutcher's father, the Rev. Joey Crutcher, said of Crump. "We needed to have a hard-hitting blow from somebody."

Some attorneys who take high-profile cases walk a tight line between representing clients and adhering to ethics, according to Michael Downey of the Downey Law Group in St. Louis, Missouri.

Most states have rules to ensure lawyers don't do things outside the courtroom that harms the process inside court, said Downey who teaches courses on legal ethics.

"It has certainly become more common for lawyers to be engaged in aggressive behavior," he said. "The vast majority of them are trying to do civil things — trying to increase the recovery by settlement or judgment."

A 2016 survey of police officers by the Washington-based Pew Research Center shows a significant number of departments have taken steps to reform policies involving interactions between citizens and police, said Rich Morin, Pew senior editor.

"We do know police behavior has changed — some good. Some, depending on the interpretation, not so good," he said.

Morin said nine out of 10 officers reported being concerned about their safety, but three-quarters were reluctant to use force. About three-quarters of people in a separate survey said interactions with police and black residents have become more tense.

"Many said police now are less willing to stop and question people who seem suspicious," he said. "On one hand, you can say 'great! Police aren't rousting folks just for sport.' On the other hand, some will say the police are reluctant to do their jobs these days."

Under former President Barack Obama, the Justice Department opened investigations into the slayings of Martin, Brown and Crutcher. However, President Donald Trump's administration has said Clark's death is a local issue.

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"It is a clear signal to the base, which Trump has been careful about, that he is going to take the side of police in these kinds of matters and is not going to criticize them or hold them to great scrutiny," said Nicholas Valentino, an associate professor of communication studies and political science at the University of Michigan.

## Winning ticket for Mega Millions jackpot sold in New Jersey

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — A winning ticket for a giant lottery jackpot estimated at \$521 million has been sold in New Jersey.

Mega Millions says one winning ticket was sold in Friday night's drawing. The winning numbers were 11, 28, 31, 46, 59 and Mega Ball 1.

The New Jersey Lottery said Saturday on Twitter that the winning ticket was sold at a Riverdale, Morris County, Lukoil station. Riverdale is in northeastern New Jersey, about 30 miles (48 kilometers) outside of New York City.

"I woke up to that news and it's great," owner Ameer Karass said. "I'm really happy for the winners."

Karass, who has owned the station for five years, said a lot of people have been calling and stopping by to congratulate station personnel since the news was announced.

"It's a celebration. It's Christmas coming in Easter," he said.

Station manager Nash Riad said no one has come forward to say they bought the ticket, and he has no idea who the winner is.

"The last couple of days we sold a lot of tickets ... so I don't know if it's a guy, a woman, or who it is," he said. "We sell tickets all the time, all day."

It's the nation's 10th-largest lottery jackpot. No one had matched all six numbers since January.

The \$521 million is the annuity option, in which payments are made over 29 years. The cash option would pay \$317 million.

Mega Millions is played in 44 states plus Washington, D.C., and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

## Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Easter Sunday, April 1, the 91st day of 2018. There are 274 days left in the year. This is April Fool's Day.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 1, 1918, Britain's Royal Air Force came into being toward the end of World War I as the Royal Flying Corps and the Royal Naval Air Service were merged into a single, independent entity.

On this date:

In 1789, the U.S. House of Representatives held its first full meeting in New York; Frederick Muhlenberg of Pennsylvania was elected the first House speaker.

In 1865, during the Civil War, Union forces routed Confederate soldiers in the Battle of Five Forks in Virginia.

In 1933, Nazi Germany staged a daylong national boycott of Jewish-owned businesses.

In 1945, American forces launched the amphibious invasion of Okinawa during World War II. (U.S. forces succeeded in capturing the Japanese island on June 22.)

In 1954, the United States Air Force Academy was established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

In 1962, the Katherine Anne Porter novel "Ship of Fools," an allegory about the rise of Nazism in Germany, was published by Little, Brown & Co.

In 1972, the first Major League Baseball players' strike began; it lasted 12 days.

In 1983, tens of thousands of anti-nuclear demonstrators linked arms in a 14-mile human chain spanning three defense installations in rural England, including the Greenham Common U.S. Air Base.

In 1984, recording star Marvin Gaye was shot to death by his father, Marvin Gay (cq), Sr. in Los Angeles,

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the day before his 45th birthday. (The elder Gay pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter, and received probation.)

In 1988, the scientific bestseller "A Brief History of Time: From the Big Bang to Black Holes" by British physicist Stephen Hawking was first published in the United Kingdom and the United States by Bantam Books.

In 1992, the National Hockey League Players' Association went on its first-ever strike, which lasted 10 days.

In 2003, American troops entered a hospital in Nasiriyah (nah-sih-REE'-uh), Iraq, and rescued Army Pfc. Jessica Lynch, who had been held prisoner since her unit was ambushed on March 23.

Ten years ago: The Pentagon made public a legal memo dated March 14, 2003 that approved the use of harsh interrogation techniques against terror suspects, saying that President George W. Bush's wartime authority trumped any international ban on torture. (The memo was rescinded in December 2003.) Top executives of the country's five biggest oil companies told a skeptical Congress they knew record fuel prices were hurting people, but argued it wasn't their fault and that their huge profits were in line with other industries.

Five years ago: Prosecutors announced they would seek the death penalty for James Holmes should he be convicted in the July 2012 Colorado movie theater attack that killed 12 people. (Holmes, found guilty of murder, ended up being sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole.) A cast member of the MTV reality show "BUCKWILD," Shain Gandee, 21, was found dead in a sport utility vehicle in a West Virginia ditch along with his uncle and a friend; the cause was accidental carbon monoxide poisoning.

One year ago: An avalanche of water from three overflowing rivers swept through a small city in Colombia, leaving more than 300 dead. Bob Dylan finally received his Nobel Literature diploma and medal during a small gathering in Stockholm, where he was performing a concert. Acclaimed Russian poet Yevgeny A. Yevtushenko died at a Tulsa, Oklahoma, hospital. Japan's Yuzuru Hanyu produced a remarkable comeback to win the men's world figure skating title in Helsinki. Two-time NBA scoring champion Tracy McGrady, Kansas coach Bill Self, former Chicago Bulls executive Jerry Krause and former UConn star Rebecca Lobo were among 11 people named to the Basketball Hall of Fame.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Jane Powell is 89. Actor Don Hastings is 84. Baseball Hall of Famer Phil Niekro is 79. Actress Ali MacGraw is 79. Rhythm-and-blues singer Rudolph Isley is 79. Reggae singer Jimmy Cliff is 70. Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito is 68. Rock musician Billy Currie (Ultravox) is 68. Actress Annette O'Toole is 66. Movie director Barry Sonnenfeld is 65. Singer Susan Boyle is 57. Actor Jose Zuniga is 56. Country singer Woody Lee is 50. Actress Jessica Collins is 47. Rapper-actor Method Man is 47. Movie directors Albert and Allen Hughes are 46. Political commentator Rachel Maddow is 45. Tennis player Magdalena Maleeva is 43. Actor David Oyelowo (oh-YEHLOH'-oh) is 42. Actor JJ Field is 40. Singer Bijou Phillips is 38. Actor Sam Huntington is 36. Comedian-actor Taran Killam is 36. Actor Matt Lanter is 35. Actor Josh Zuckerman is 33. Country singer Hillary Scott (Lady Antebellum) is 32. Actor Asa Butterfield is 21.

Thought for Today: "Life would be tragic if it weren't funny." — Stephen Hawking (1942-2018).