

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, May 15, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 305 ~ 1 of 45

“Home is a shelter from storms—all sorts of storms.”

-William J. Bennett



Chicken Soup  
for the Soul

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**Open:** Recycling Trailer in Groton  
The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave. It takes cardboard, papers and aluminum cans.

## Lewandowski Bridal Shower

Come and Go Bridal Shower honoring Bride to Be, Sarah Lewandowski, Saturday, June 2, 2018 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church – Groton. Lance Dennert and Sarah are registered at Bed, Bath and Beyond and Target.

**Tuesday, May 15**

7 p.m.: All-School Play.

**We will NOT be Livestreaming the play tonight. We even made a phone call to the company in New York asking for permission to Livestream and they quickly told me that there were NO Video Rights to the production.**

**Thursday, May 18**

12:30 p.m.: Elementary Track and Field Day at Doney Field

**Sunday, May 20**

2 p.m.: Graduation

## 2018 S.D. Farmers Union Young Producer Event to be Held in Sioux Falls July 13-14

HURON, S.D. - Farmers, ranchers and their spouses are invited to the 2018 S.D. Farmers Union Young Producer Event to be held in Sioux Falls July 13 and 14 at no cost to members and \$50 to non-members.

"This event is one of the best programs we sponsor," says Chad Johnson, 45, a crop and cattle farmer and District 7 board member.

Johnson shares how the Young Producers Event he and his wife, Michelle, attended a few years back made a positive and lasting impact on their family farm. During the event, they listened to an expert discuss farm and ranch transition and estate planning. After the event, Johnson invited the speaker to his farm to visit with his dad and mom.

"Prior to the event, every time I brought up the topic of a transition plan with my parents, my dad would get uncomfortable and change the subject. It was kind of taboo," Johnson explains. "After we learned about the tax ramifications of not having a plan, we shared those with Dad and he was open to a discussion."

More discussions and official paperwork followed. "We had our succession plan set up and some wills drawn up in case something happened," Johnson says. "It was a good thing too, because my dad passed away this July of cancer. I'm glad we had those talks out of the way, and out in the open with the family ahead of time, so we didn't have to worry."

Each year, S.D. Farmers Union (SDFU) invites experts to discuss topics relevant to young farmers and ranchers. Some topics to be covered this year include: precision agriculture and new tax laws.

"Young producers don't have time to waste, so this event is designed to provide maximum impact with valuable information they can take home and apply on their farms and ranches," explains Rocky Forman, SDFU Member Services Coordinator and the event organizer.

He adds that the event is also designed to give young couples a fun weekend getaway where they can network with other South Dakota farmers and ranchers.

"It's nice to visit with other farmers who face similar challenges and learn how they deal with them. Over the years, Michelle and I have stayed in touch with friends we've made through this event," Johnson says.

To learn more about the 2018 SDFU Young Producer event and to sign up, visit [www.sdfu.org](http://www.sdfu.org) or contact Forman at [Rforman@sdfu.org](mailto:Rforman@sdfu.org) or call 605-350-3421.



**SDFU board member, Chad Johnson and his wife, Michelle say the S.D. Farmers Union Young Producers Event is a valuable opportunity. They are pictured here with their children, Porter and Brenna.** (Courtesy Photo)

## Out-of-State Visitors tour Trinity Episcopal Church



**Richard and Faye Jacobson from Franklin, North Carolina, outside Trinity Episcopal Church.** (Courtesy Photo)

Faye and Richard Jacobson of rural North Carolina were planning a trip to South Dakota this spring when they read a story in the national Episcopal News Service about Groton's historic Trinity Episcopal Church, so they contacted the Groton Community Historical Society ("GCHS") asking to visit and tour the church.

GCHS President Topper Tastad first told the visitors about the historical background of the church, then showed them the inside and outside damage to the roof since it was last roofed in 1975. Shingles are missing on the South roof, and there are several 4-inch holes in the North roof, which Tastad and another Board member temporarily fixed by working new shingles up under old shingles above the holes.

The Historical Society is in the process of raising enough money to match a \$25,000 grant from the Out of Deadwood Historical Preservation Fund, and greatly appreciates the donations the

Jacobsons and local citizens, businesses and civic organizations have made to the re-roofing fund. For those who have not yet donated, checks may be mailed to GCHS, PO Box 373, Groton, SD 57445, or dropped at City Hall.



**GCHS President "Topper" Tastad points to ceiling boards tacked over damaged roofing boards.** (Courtesy Photo)

## April Students of the Month

The student council is sponsoring Student of the Month. Each month the faculty select students who show outstanding academic achievement. These students receive certificates and have an end of the year lunch with the principal.

April Students of the Month are: 6th –Ashlyn Sperry , 7th – Brooke Gengerke, 8th – Madisen Bjerke, 9th – Sage Mortenson, 10th – Indigo Rogers, 11th – Cassandra Townsend, 12th – Alexandra Stange .



**Ashlyn Sperry**, sixth grader, is the daughter of Amanda and Ryan Sperry, Aberdeen. Owen Sperry is her brother. Ashlyn is involved in volleyball and dance and her accomplishments are making it on the honor roll every time, being named Student of the Month and improving while playing the clarinet. Her interests are hanging out with friends, riding horse and spending time with family. Math is her favorite subject and her role model is her mom. Ashlyn would like to be a horse trainer.



**Brooke Gengerke**, seventh grade, is the daughter of Collin and Deb Gengerke, Groton. Siblings are Trey and Patrick and her dog is Bo. Brooke's activities include basketball, track and volleyball and she has been on the honor roll every quarter since sixth grade. Her interests are playing sports, going to the lake, being outside, listening to music and hanging out with friends and family. Math is her favorite subject, especially with Jordan Kjellsen as the teacher. She plans to continue playing sports throughout high school, then to go to college at South Dakota State University for a major in business. Her role model is her father, Collin, who says, "If you work hard in life, you can have a good family, house, food and life to live!"



**Madison Bjerke**, eighth grader, is the daughter of Kathy and Jerry Bjerke, Groton. Siblings are Cameron Johnson, Jordan Bjerke, Breanne Bjerke, Becca Haisch, Tori Bjerke and Jessica Bjerke. Madison's activities include volleyball, basketball and track. Her accomplishment includes breaking the seventh grade school record in shot put. Madison's interests are sports, spending time with family and friends and watching Netflix. Math is her favorite subject and her role models are her grandmas. She plans to attend college at Northern State University, Aberdeen, for early childhood education or special education.



**Sage Mortenson**, freshman, is the daughter of Yvonne Lorenz and Jim Mortenson. Siblings are Austin Lorenz and Angel Feiock. Her activities include Destination Imagination, FCCLA, church youth group, school musical "Footloose," and has been involved in the Aberdeen Living Christmas Tree since third grade. Her accomplishments include being on the honor roll for four years, student of the month each year and first place at regions for DI. Sage's interests are books, visiting and helping on the farm, cooking, and spending time with family and friends. Her favorite subject is science and her role model is her grandma, Vivian Dobberpuhl. Sage's plans to attend Ridgewater College in Wilmar, Minn., for Veterinary Technician.



**Indigo Rogers**, sophomore, is the daughter of Jennifer and Dirk Rogers, Groton. Siblings are Sadie and Truitt. Her activities include volleyball, band and working. She has earned awards in band, debate and volleyball. Indigo's interests are traveling, spending time with family and friends and being in the sun. History and science are her favorite subjects and her role model is her mom. She plans to attend college and get a degree to use for her future.

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**Cassandra Townsend**, junior, is the daughter of Dean and Kellie Townsend, Andover. Travis is her brother. Her activities include track, FCCLA and FFA. She has been on the honor roll, student of the month and placing at FFA CDE's. Her interests are horses, art, photography and animals. Chemistry is her favorite subject and her role model is her dad. She plans to be a vet.



**Alexandra Stange**, senior, is the daughter of Doug and Vicci Stange, Groton. Her activities include FFA, FCCLA, FBLA, student council, 4-H, track and senior class president. Her accomplishment is graduation and her favorite subject is Biology II. She plans to get a business degree at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and her role model is Carrie Underwood.

## Rip 'N Ravel

The Rip 'N Ravel Extentions Club met May 7th at the home of Carol Dohman. Eight members were present. President Ella presided. Five club members attended the Area III meeting on April 12th in Aberdeen. Theme: Tea for You and me," a program on "Anxiety and Depression" was given and the entertainment was : The Fabulous Purse Lady," Linda Gengerke helped with the decorating of Tea Pots. The Spring Council and Recognition Tea of Brown County was on April 24th. Twenty two County members attended which included five club members. The date for Jim Lanes' October County program on "Robots" was set, time and place all to be coordinated by Carol Osterman. Ideas were given for the June Club outing. A decision will be made by the officers at a later date. Carol Osterman gave the lesson on ACT Tour of the Capital Theater in Aberdeen. Very interesting. Next meeting is September 4th next meeting-September 14th and 15th 2018 State CFEL Convention in Huron.



## President Calls For Flags At Half-Staff For Peace Officers Memorial Day

PIERRE, S.D. – President Donald Trump has proclaimed Tuesday, May 15, as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the period of May 13 through May 19 as Police Week.

In accordance with the President's proclamation, Gov. Dennis Daugaard is asking that flags be flown at half-staff on Tuesday until sunset in honor of peace officers' contributions and sacrifices.

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## Gas Prices on the Rise Following Sanctions on Iran

May 14, 2018 - At \$2.87, the national gas price average jumped six cents on the week in part due to the White House's decision to re-impose sanctions on Iran. As a result, 36 states are seeing gas prices that are a nickel or more expensive than last Monday.

"The Administration's move combined with the switchover to summer blends, growing global demand and shrinking supply continues to fuel pump prices as we approach the summer driving season," said Marilyn Buskohl, AAA spokesperson. "AAA predicts that the national average may reach \$3/gallon this summer, especially if crude oil prices continue to increase."

Motorists are seeing 19 percent of gas stations selling gas for \$3.01 or more. Today's gas price is 16-cents more expensive than one month ago and 53-cents more than one year ago.

### South Dakota Average Gas Prices:

Current Avg. \$2.738  
Yesterday Avg. \$2.737  
Week Ago Avg. \$2.686  
Month Ago Avg. \$2.609  
Year Ago Avg. \$2.360

### Quick Stats

The nation's top 10 most expensive markets are: California (\$3.69), Hawaii (\$3.67), Washington (\$3.38), Alaska (\$3.31), Nevada (\$3.30), Oregon (\$3.28), Utah (\$3.15), Idaho (\$3.14), Connecticut (\$3.04) and Pennsylvania (\$3.04).

The nation's top 10 states with the largest weekly increases are: Ohio (+15 cents), Missouri (+12 cents), Kentucky (+11 cents), Minnesota (+11 cents), Delaware (+10 cents), Florida (+10 cents), Colorado (+9 cents), Maryland (+8 cents), Oklahoma (+8 cents) and West Virginia (+8 cents).

### Central and Great Lakes Region

Following a week of decreases, gas prices are showing signs of volatility in the Great Lakes and Central states. On the week, Ohio gas prices jumped 15-cents when last Monday (May 7) gas prices had seen an 8 cent-decrease from the previous week. The region often sees this volatile pattern with increases and decreases from week to week. Ohio's jump is the largest of any state in the country on the week. Also seeing large price increases in the region on the week: Missouri (+12 cents), Kentucky (+11 cents), Minnesota (+11 cents), Wisconsin (+8 cents), Iowa (+8 cents), Nebraska (+8 cents), North Dakota (+8 cents), Illinois (+7 cents) and Michigan (+7 cents).

### Oil Market Dynamics

At the close of Friday's formal trading session on the NYMEX, WTI dropped 66 cents to settle at \$70.70. Oil prices climbed to new highs for 2018 last week, following President Trump's decision to re-impose economic sanctions on Iran and withdraw the U.S. from the Iran Nuclear Deal. Set in 2015 under the Obama Administration, the U.S. – along with the European Union, five permanent members of the UN Security Council, and Germany – entered into the deal that lifted economic sanctions on Tehran in exchange for the country downsizing its nuclear program. Some of the pre-2015 sanctions targeted the Iranian energy sector and impeded Iran's ability to sell oil. With those sanctions being re-imposed in the next 3-6 months, Iran's crude exports are forecasted to decrease, contributing to already declining global crude supplies amid growing global demand. Increased fears of instability in the region may push oil prices even higher this week.

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**It was a beautiful sunrise this morning.**

## Swisher, Kroll to retire this year

Over half a century of teaching experience will be gone next year as Jane Kroll and Renee Swisher both turned in their resignations with plans to retire. Kroll has been a second grade teacher for 35 years and Swisher has been the kindergarten teacher for 27 of her 41 years of teaching in Groton.

The board approved the negotiated teacher agreement on a 6-1 vote with Deb Gengerke voting no. The teachers will receive an \$800 raise plus a \$150 bonus that will be paid in November. The teacher base was raised from \$36,500 to \$38,500 for next year and will increase to \$40,000 the following year. The FFA director will receive 10 percent of stipend pay, up from 7 percent.

Melissa Hill was hired as the new middle/high school special education teacher, replacing Nicole Johnson. Hill comes from Simmons School in Aberdeen. The resignation of Pernel Graf as custodian was approved. The resignation of Don Donley as yearbook advisor was accepted upon suitable replacement.

Open enrollment applications for next year were approved for four kindergarten students from Aberdeen, one kindergarten from Britton-Hecla, one junior kindergarten from Northwestern and from Aberdeen, and a third and seventh grader from the Aberdeen.

Superintendent Joe Schwan proposed moving next year's prom to March 30 so it does not interfere with the ACT testing. The board took no action as other options are also being considered.

Schwan also reported that the state show choir competition will be going away after this school year.

The district's general fund is in good shape, but with the changes to the state aide in education, Business Manager Mike Weber suggested that the district sit on the excess \$1 million from the elementary project to see what will happen with the state aid. Officials said the state aid formula is a mess right. It also does not help for the district to plan with the ag property disputes going on in Brown County. The total valuation of the district is \$1,398,844,600. Weber said that he was surprised to learn that the tax levys will all go up next year (as set by the state), despite the increased valuation of the district. Ag property increased from .001507 to .001512. Owner occupied raised from .003372 to .003383. Non-ag and utilities were raised from .006978 to .007001.

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## Today in Weather History

May 15, 1964: A two-day rainfall event ended with 3.57 inches at Rapid City. Damage to roads and bridges was reported in the northern Black Hills.

1834 - The Northern Atlantic Coast States were in the midst of their greatest May snowstorm of record. The hills around Newbury, VT, were covered with two to three feet of snow. (David Ludlum)

1896: An estimated F5 tornado struck Sherman, Texas, killing 73 people; 60 of them in downtown. Tornado victims were found as far as 400 yards away from their original location. A trunk lid was carried 35 miles by the twister. Click [HERE](#) for more information from the History Channel.

1957: An F4 tornado killed 20 people in Silverton, Texas. A 5,000-pound gasoline storage tank was reportedly carried 1.5 miles and dropped into a lake. Residents said the tornado "looked like red sand, boiling and rumbling."

1968: Also, an F5 tornado moved through Butler, Chickasaw, Floyd, Franklin, and Howard Counties in northeast Iowa. The tornado touched down northeast from north of Hansell, passing east of Aredale and Marble Rock, before devastating Charles City. The tornado grew more massive and intense as it approached Charles City. The huge funnel passed directly through town, destroying 337 homes, and causing about \$30 million in damage. The tornado continued to the northeast hitting Elma. From there the tornado turned to the north and dissipated south of Chester, 4 miles south of the Minnesota border. Nearly 2000 homes were damaged or destroyed. All 13 deaths occurred in Floyd County. 450 injuries were reported in Floyd County and 12 injuries in Howard County. Another F5 tornado moved north-northeast from southwest of Oelwein to Maynard and east of Randalia in Fayette County, IA. Homes were leveled and swept away in both Oelwein and Maynard. The warning sirens had sounded for only 15 seconds before the power failed in Oelwein. Nearly 1000 homes were damaged or destroyed along the path, and 34 people had to be hospitalized. Almost 1,000 families were affected. In addition to these F5 tornadoes, an F2 tornado touched down 6 miles south of Cresco, IA and two weak F1 tornadoes touched down in Dodge County, MN. Also, baseball size hail fell in Fayette County, IA.

1972: The worst ice jam flooding of memory for long-time residents took place along the Kuskokwim River and Yukon River in Alaska. It was the first time since 1890 that the two rivers "flowed as one." The towns of Oscarville and Napaskiak have been entirely inundated.

1987 - Unseasonably warm weather returned to the north central U.S. Seven cities reported record high temperatures for the date, including Janestown, ND, with a reading of 96 degrees. Thunderstorms in Utah produced five inches of rain south of Bicknell. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Thunderstorms in Oklahoma produced wind gusts to 80 mph in Oklahoma County, and baseball size hail at Pawnee. Hail piled up to a depth of 18 inches south of Pawnee. Hail damage in Oklahoma was estimated at close to 25 million dollars. Thunderstorms in the Upper Midwest produced golf ball size hail around Cleveland, OH, and wind gusts to 83 mph at Angola, IN. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)



**Sun Dial Manor in Bristol**  
**is accepting applications for**  
**full time and part time CNA's.**  
**12 hr. shifts- days and nights**  
**(SIGN ON BONUS OFFERED)**

**DIETARY OPENINGS**  
**Full time cook, 8 hr. shifts**  
**(WITH SIGN ON BONUS)**








**Part time Dietary Tech**

**For more information,**  
**call 605-492-3615**



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Tue May 15	Wed May 16	Thu May 17	Fri May 18	Sat May 19	Sun May 20	Mon May 21
						
81°F	85°F	81°F	72°F	65°F	70°F	74°F
53°F	58°F	57°F	48°F	42°F	46°F	54°F
N 11 MPH	S 9 MPH	SSE 16 MPH Precip 40%	SE 10 MPH Precip 50%	NNE 19 MPH Precip 40%	N 9 MPH	SSW 9 MPH

**Today** Sunny & Warm  
Highs: Upper 70s & Low 80s

**Tonight** Dry & Cool  
Lows: Low to Mid 50s

**Wednesday** Sunny & Hot  
Highs: Mid 80s



 National Weather Service  
Aberdeen, SD

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

Graphic created  
5/15/2018 4:10 AM

Published on: 05/15/2018 at 4:26AM

High pressure and drier air has moved in, yielding sunny and mild to hot conditions through Wednesday. Increasing humidity and opportunities for moisture come to the area for the latter half of the work week into the start of the weekend.

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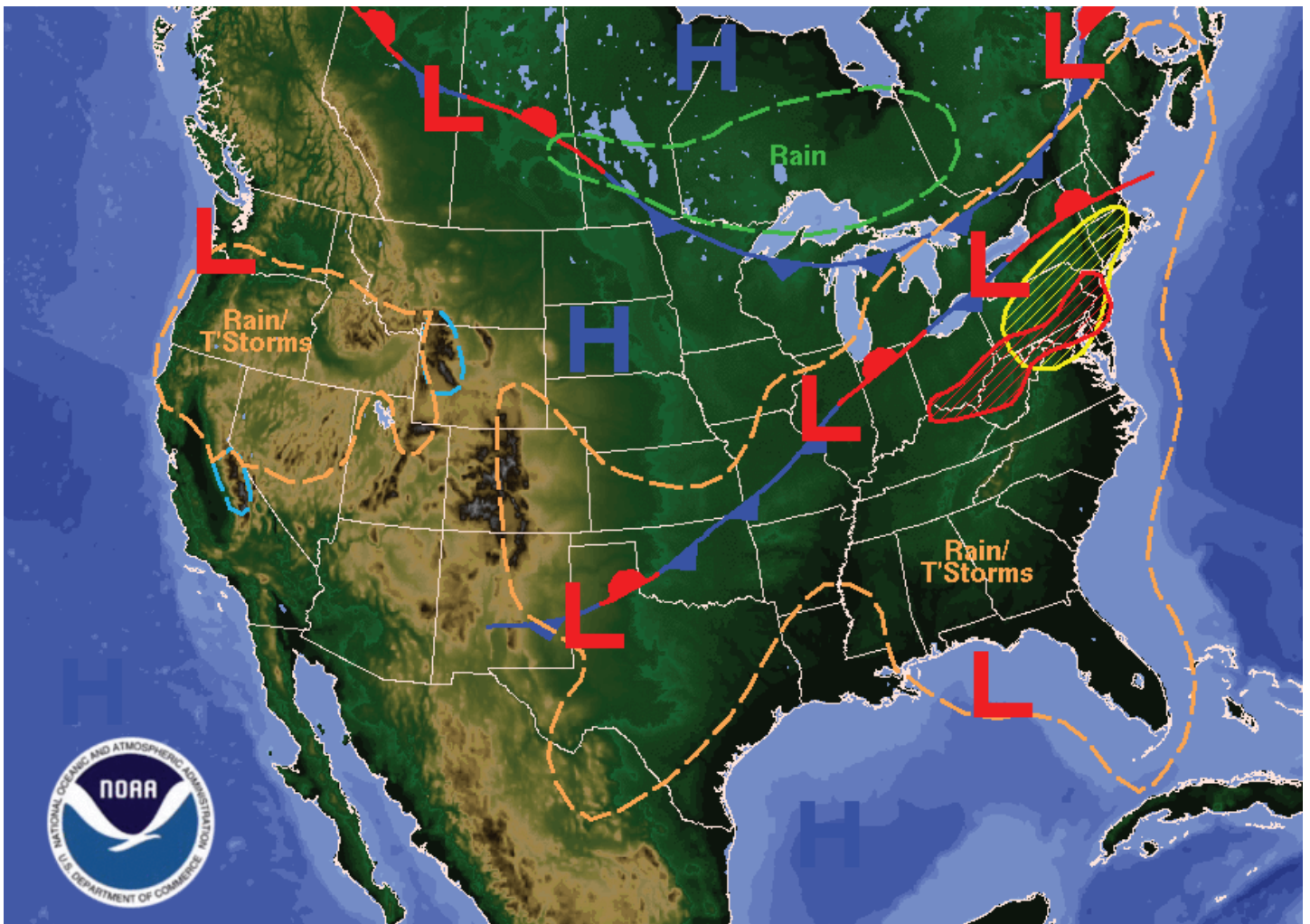
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## Yesterday's Weather

**High Outside Temp: 72.3 F at 5:07 PM**  
**Low Outside Temp: 53.6 F at 5:56 AM**  
**Wind Chill:**  
**High Gust: 11.0 Mph at 1:50 PM**  
**Precip: 0.59**

## Today's Info

**Record High: 103° in 1931**  
**Record Low: 23° in 2014**  
**Average High: 69°F**  
**Average Low: 44°F**  
**Average Precip in May: 1.53.**  
**Precip to date in May: 1.31**  
**Average Precip to date: 5.56**  
**Precip Year to Date: 3.99**  
**Sunset Tonight: 8:57 p.m.**  
**Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:02 a.m.**



### Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Tue, May 15, 2018, issued 4:40 AM EDT  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by McCreynolds 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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## SOMETHING TO "CROW" ABOUT!



Early each morning, often before the sun rises, a "rooster" who lives nearby sends a message announcing to his neighbors that "a new day has arrived - get up and go."

For some, this is unwelcomed news. But for others it is an announcement that a new day has dawned and there are new opportunities of the way to serve and honor God.

How "roosters" got their name is interesting. All birds - and chickens are considered birds - "roost" at night. So, the one that wakes up first and "leaves the roost" and begins to "crow" is considered "the" rooster. What makes a rooster crow is not known. But how a rooster crows is.

A rooster never crows with his neck bent and his head down. Whenever he crows he lifts up his head proudly as if he is thanking his Creator. Roosters never crow with their heads bent.

Psalm 111:1 reminds me of the cry of a rooster as a good way to begin each day. "Praise the Lord! I will extol the Lord with all my heart." Why? The Psalmist then gives thirteen reasons:

- "Great are the works of the Lord."
- "Glorious and majestic are His deeds."
- "His righteousness endures forever."
- "The Lord is gracious and compassionate."
- "He provides food for those who fear - stand in awe - of Him."
- "He has shown His people the power of His world."
- "The words of the hands are faithful - trustworthy - steadfast - upright - just - and He provides redemption."

Prayer: How great You are, Heavenly Father, for Your great gifts. May we shout of Your greatness every day! In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 111:1-2 Praise the Lord. I will extol the Lord with all my heart in the council of the upright and in the assembly. Great are the works of the Lord; they are pondered by all who delight in them.

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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
- 4/13/2019 Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
- 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

## News from the Associated Press

### **South Dakota gun range addresses safety, noise concerns**

STURGIS, S.D. (AP) — Developers are assuring residents that a proposed gun range in western South Dakota is safe amid concerns over noise and the facility's field of fire.

Sturgis Guns consultants addressed unease about the range's new facility at a Meade County Commission meeting last week, the Black Hills Pioneer reported .

The gun range announced plans last month to move to a new Sturgis location and build an indoor and outdoor facility. But many residents contacted county commissioners about the range's safety and impact on property values.

William Cudmore lives near the proposed site, and he's concerned about the noise.

"What it going to happen to our property values in that area with a gun range?" he asked.

City Councilor Mike Bachand has cautioned that the Black Hills National Cemetery and Interstate 90 may be in the gun range's field of fire.

Sturgis Guns owner Tammy Bohn hired experts to address the sound and safety concerns.

"We are going to use the natural terrain," said Stephen Powell of Patriot Outdoor of Clovis, New Mexico. "The huge hills that are available will insure that bullet impact is saturated into the ground."

Earthen side berms will be used to narrow the line of fire and contain gunshots, Powell said.

"We don't want to be a distraction. We don't want people complaining about us. We want this to be a positive," Bohn said.

Sturgis City Manager Daniel Ainslie asked commissioners to seek input from municipal officials when considering the gun range's building permits.

The gun range must move out of its current facility by May 31. The company hopes to start building by July.

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

### **Corn and soybean planting continues to lag in South Dakota**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Planting and corn of soybeans in South Dakota remains well behind the average pace.

The federal Agriculture Department says in its weekly crop report that 4 percent of soybeans is seeded, compared to 26 percent at this time last year, and 21 percent of corn in planted, well behind the 71 percent figure at this time in 2017.

Spring wheat planting, which was wrapping up at this time last year, was at 79 percent.

Topsoil moisture supplies are rated 88 percent adequate to surplus and subsoil moisture is 74 percent in those categories, a slight increase from last week.

Pasture and range conditions are rated 40 percent excellent and 43 percent fair.

### **S. Dakota sports betting would require constitutional change**

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota's constitution would have to be changed for legal sports betting to come to the state, Attorney General Marty Jackley said Monday.

Jackley's statement came after the U.S. Supreme Court struck down the federal law that bans gambling on sports in most states. In South Dakota, a constitutional amendment and further legislation regulating sports betting would be needed for it to occur, Jackley said.

A Deadwood gambling advocacy group is discussing trying to put a sports betting constitutional amendment on the ballot in 2020. Deadwood Gaming Association executive director Mike Rodman said his organization thinks it would be good for the historic mining town.

"We think that thousands of South Dakotans want to wager in sports betting, but they want to do it in a legal, safe environment, and so we'd like to give them that opportunity," Rodman said. "I think that whenever we can take illegal gaming and make it legal and ... regulated, it's good for the consumer."

Gov. Dennis Daugaard's office said in a statement that the state doesn't currently have any reliable estimates on the economic effect or revenue that sports betting could generate.

"I welcome this decision because it recognizes the right of states to regulate in this area," Daugaard said.

The Legislature can decide to place a constitutional change before voters or amendment supporters could collect thousands of signatures to put it on the ballot. South Dakota voters in 2014 enthusiastically approved an amendment authorizing lawmakers to allow keno, craps and roulette in Deadwood.

## **Rollover crash north of Yankton kills woman, injures man**

YANKTON, S.D. (AP) — A weekend rollover crash north of Yankton killed one person and injured another. The Highway Patrol says a sport utility vehicle crossed the centerline on U.S. Highway 81 shortly after 7 p.m. Sunday, made minor contact with another vehicle and swerved out of control, eventually rolling in the ditch.

A 21-year-old female passenger in the SUV was flown to a Sioux Falls hospital, where she was pronounced dead.

The 23-year-old male driver suffered injuries the patrol says are serious but not life-threatening. He was taken to a Yankton hospital.

Neither person was immediately identified.

## **75-year-old man killed in Morton County house fire**

BOWDLE, S.D. (AP) — Authorities believe a wood stove in the basement ignited the house fire that killed a Bowdle man.

KGFX reports the Walworth County Sheriff's Office says dispatchers got a call about the fire Friday night and learned a person was trapped in the basement.

Officials have identified the victim as 75-year-old Dennis Bieber, who died at the scene of the fire.

Information from: KGFX-AM, <http://www.drgnews.com/>

## **Authorities ID 92-year-old Springfield woman killed in crash**

TYNDALL, S.D. (AP) — The Highway Patrol has identified a 92-year-old Springfield woman who died in a two-vehicle crash in Bon Homme County.

Authorities say Lenora McCann failed to yield at a state Highway 50 intersection just west of Tyndall on Thursday morning, and her car crashed into a semitrailer.

McCann died at the scene. The 41-year-old semi driver wasn't injured.

## **2 motorcyclists killed in separate South Dakota crashes**

STURGIS, S.D. (AP) — Two motorcyclists have died in separate crashes in South Dakota.

Authorities say a biker was killed Sunday about 8 p.m. in a collision with a pickup truck in Rapid City. There were no other injuries.

Earlier Sunday, a 39-year-old man died after the motorcycle he was driving collided with a deer in Meade County.

The Highway Patrol says the crash happened about 3 p.m. on state Highway 79, 8 miles northeast of Sturgis.

The victims' names weren't immediately released.

## Eagle Butte man gets year of confinement for officer assault

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — An Eagle Butte man convicted of assaulting a law officer has been sentenced to a year of confinement.

Authorities say 54-year-old Pete Knight shoved Ziebach County Sheriff Gary Cudmore on June 14, 2017, when Cudmore intervened to stop Knight from assaulting a suspect handcuffed in the back of Cudmore's squad car.

Knight was convicted after a jury trial in Pierre earlier this year. U.S. Attorney Ron Parsons says he was recently sentenced to six months in custody and six months on home confinement. He'll be on supervised release for 1 ½ years after that.

## Europe, Iran seek to save nuclear deal after US pullout

By LORNE COOK and RAF CASERT, Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — Major European powers sought Tuesday to keep Iran in a landmark international nuclear agreement even after President Donald Trump pulled the U.S. out of the pact and promised tough economic sanctions against the Islamic Republic.

Foreign ministers from Britain, France and Germany — signatories of the 2015 deal to stop Iran developing nuclear weapons — held talks with Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif, amid concerns that the sanctions will also damage European business interests.

"The U.K. and our European partners continue to view the nuclear deal as vital for our shared security, and remain fully committed to upholding it," British Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson said ahead of the talks.

"We will look at potential options for supporting continued sanctions relief for Iran to ensure we meet our commitments under the deal, as well as calling on Iran to continue to abide by the restrictions the deal places upon their nuclear program," he said.

Johnson also called on Washington "to avoid any actions that could prevent the remaining parties to the agreement from meeting their commitments under the deal - including delivering sanctions relief through legitimate trade."

Earlier Tuesday, Zarif said he had a "very good and constructive" meeting with EU foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini, who helps to supervise the U.N. Security Council-endorsed agreement.

After an hour-long meeting at EU headquarters in Brussels, Zarif said he believed both sides were "on the right track" to make sure that the interests of the deal's "remaining participants, particularly Iran, will be preserved and guaranteed."

The EU's executive arm, the European Commission, has been examining measures to counter the introduction of any U.S. sanctions that might harm European businesses and is expected to unveil them to EU leaders at a meeting in Bulgaria on Wednesday.

Among them is the possible use of an EU "blocking regulation" which would, in essence, ban European companies from respecting American sanctions where those sanctions might damage EU interests, notably trade and the movement of capital.

The regulation, which has been brandished as a threat in the past but never actually used, was drawn up more than 20 years ago and would have to be revised.

It's unclear how well the measure could be enforced, given that big multinationals are likely to be doing more business in the U.S. than they are in Iran and may be unwilling to compromise that market access.

The EU's energy commissioner is also traveling this week to Iran to discuss strengthening European energy support to the Islamic Republic.

Jill Lawless in London contributed to this report.

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## Voters cast ballots in 4 states; in Pa., redrawn map in play

By THOMAS BEAUMONT, Associated Press

Tuesday's primary elections will begin to settle swing state Pennsylvania's chaotic congressional landscape after a court fight ended with redrawn districts just three months ago.

Pennsylvania primary voters will also decide the fate of President Donald Trump's pick for U.S. Senate. Idaho voters are set to pick their Republican gubernatorial nominee, while heavily Republican Nebraska and Democratic-leaning Oregon are also holding primaries Tuesday.

A look at some of the key races:

### PENNSYLVANIA SCRAMBLE

Republicans outnumber Democrats in Pennsylvania's House delegation, though a new congressional map is making the state a focal point of Democrats' effort to reclaim House control in November.

Eighty-four candidates are running in 18 House districts in light of new court-ordered redrawn congressional district maps in February. That's more than any time since 1984, when Pennsylvania had 23 seats in the House.

Five of Pennsylvania's 13 GOP House members have quit or are not running again, helping create seven House vacancies, the most in Pennsylvania since 1976.

Moderate Charlie Dent is abandoning Pennsylvania's new 7th District, where Hillary Clinton received more votes than Trump, who carried Pennsylvania. Six Democrats are running in this district, which reunified Democratic-leaning cities in the east and cut out some of Republican-leaning central Pennsylvania.

Ten Democrats are running in suburban Philadelphia's 5th District, where Rep. Patrick Meehan resigned last month amid allegations he sexually harassed a former employee and where Clinton also beat Trump.

### BARLETTA, TRUMP'S PICK FOR SENATE

Rep. Lou Barletta is hoping Trump's recent run of successful election suggestions continues in the Pennsylvania Republican Senate primary.

Barletta is heavily favored over state Rep. Jim Christiana to become the Republican challenger for Democratic Sen. Bob Casey, who is seeking a third term in November.

Barletta was a Trump supporter before the 2016 presidential nomination was settled. The loyalty won Barletta Trump's early support in the Senate race, as well as recorded telephone calls last weekend featuring the president backing Barletta "fully, strongly and proudly."

Last week, Trump urged GOP Senate primary voters to support Rep. Jim Renacci in the Ohio Senate and oppose former coal company executive Don Blankenship in West Virginia. Renacci won and Blankenship lost.

Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia are all seen as key to the 2018 Senate election landscape as states where Trump won in 2016 and Democratic senators are seeking re-election this year.

### FIRST FOR NEBRASKA DEMOCRATS

Democrats seldom have the luxury of choice in Nebraska, where Republicans have dominated for 80 years. But, for the first time, Omaha-area Democrats have options for the state's lone urban House district.

Tuesday's Democratic primary in Nebraska's 2nd Congressional District, dominated by Omaha and its suburbs, features moderate former Rep. Brad Ashford fighting for his old seat and Kara Eastman, a children's nonprofit administrator, running to Ashford's left.

Ashford, a former Republican, served one term in Congress as a Democrat before Republican Don Bacon beat him for re-election in 2016. Ashford, 69, has the endorsement of the Democratic establishment, including the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, and is portraying himself as the one who can win in a swing-voting district in November.

Eastman, 46, is arguing that Democrats have lost by not offering voters a distinct choice and is campaigning on devoutly Democratic themes such as single-payer government-run health insurance, gun control and reducing climate change.

### LABRADOR AIMS TO DODGE ANTI-WASHINGTON MOOD



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It was a rough night for Republican members of Congress a week ago. Two lost in Indiana's Senate primary, while one fell in the West Virginia Senate primary. North Carolina Rep. Robert Pittenger lost the primary to keep his own seat.

Idaho Rep. Raul Labrador hopes the trend ends there.

The four-term Republican House member and founding member of the conservative House Republicans' Freedom Caucus is one of three GOP candidates for governor in Idaho, a state so heavily Republican that the primary goes a long way to determining the general election.

Republican Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter is not seeking re-election after three terms.

Lt. Gov. Brad Little is seeking the GOP nomination, with Otter's endorsement, while Tommy Ahlquist, an emergency room doctor turned developer, hopes his outsider status carries him as it did Indiana businessman Mike Braun in last week's GOP Senate primary.

## GOP GOVERNOR PRIMARY IN DEMOCRAT-HEAVY OREGON

Ten Republicans are vying for Oregon's nomination for governor — the most in more than a century. The interest among candidates belies the uphill climb for the party in the Democratic-leaning state.

Of the 10, businessman Sam Carpenter, state Rep. Knute Buehler and retired Navy pilot Greg Wooldridge have emerged as leaders in fundraising and GOP straw polls. However, Democratic Gov. Kate Brown remains the favorite to win in November. Brown became governor in 2015 upon the resignation of Gov. John Kitzhaber following an ethics scandal, and she won a special election in 2016.

Oregon is among eight states where Democrats control the governorship and both houses of the state legislature. Voters who identify as Democrats also outnumber their Republican counterparts by more than 9 percentage points.

## Gaza bloodshed spurs global worry about US Mideast policies

By JOSH LEDERMAN and MATTHEW LEE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump's prospects for brokering the Mideast peace "deal of the century" plunged ever deeper as the U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem opened amid bloodshed in Gaza. The day fueled global concern that U.S. policies are tipping the broader Middle East into deeper, intractable conflict.

At the same time, Trump is winning international support for his efforts to strike a deal with nuclear-armed North Korea. But his contentious decisions in the Middle East are roiling a region where U.S. administrations have traditionally sought perhaps their biggest diplomatic prize: an elusive peace agreement between Israel and the Palestinians.

The embassy move, which Trump hailed a "great day" for Israel even as dozens of Palestinians were killed in Gaza, damaged Washington's stature as a mediator between those parties. And it's but the latest in a series of U.S. decisions that may have set off a domino effect of unpredictable consequences.

"Traditionally we've tried to play a role of fireman in the Middle East. Now we're playing the role of arsonist," said Ilan Goldenberg, a former State Department and Pentagon official who runs the Mideast program at the Center for a New American Security.

Trump's withdrawal last week from the Iran nuclear deal, against the protestations of European allies, appears to have emboldened both Israel and Iran to move more forcefully toward full-on confrontation. In Syria, Trump's eagerness to pull out U.S. troops as soon as the Islamic State group is defeated has forced a reckoning by Iran's enemies about the possibility that Tehran will fill the void.

Dan Shapiro, a former U.S. ambassador to Israel, said Washington is not responsible for the fact that Iran acts as "the major source of tension and instability in the region." But he said the question is whether Trump's administration, having pulled out of the nuclear deal, has a strategy to deal with Iran in its absence.

Shapiro, who is now at the Institute for National Security Studies in Israel, said that while some U.S. allies like Israel and Saudi Arabia have celebrated the pullout, the reaction "will soon be followed by some degree of concern about whether the administration is sufficiently focused, prepared, staffed and able to devote the necessary attention when it's also managing another major foreign policy challenge in North

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Korea at the same time.”

U.S. officials insist the administration remains committed to restarting the stalled Israeli-Palestinian peace process. In a speech at the embassy opening, Trump’s son-in-law, senior adviser Jared Kushner, said the U.S. “is prepared to support a peace agreement in every way we can.”

Left unsaid was the fact that Kushner’s team has had to shelve Trump’s long-awaited peace plan indefinitely amid the Palestinian uproar over the embassy move, several U.S. officials have said. Since Trump in December recognized Jerusalem as Israel’s capital and announced the embassy would move, the Palestinians have effectively cut off all ties with the White House, a diplomatic chill that augurs poorly for the possibility that Trump can now introduce a plan the Palestinians would accept or deem fair.

“We’re going through a rough-patch,” U.S. Ambassador to Israel David Friedman said Monday on Fox News. “It’ll last as long as it lasts. I can’t predict, but we will be back in a position I’m confident where we’ll be discussing peace.”

White House spokesman Raj Shah said the peace plan will be released “at the appropriate time.”

That time, by all accounts, is not now. Responding to the embassy opening, chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat dismissed Washington as “no longer a partner and a broker.”

“We will not sit with them,” Erekat said. “They have become part of the problem not part of the solution, a big part of the problem. Trump’s administration is the biggest problem.”

The White House response to the deaths of dozens of Palestinians at the hands of Israeli troops on Monday during mass protests on the Israel-Gaza border won’t help. The administration called the deaths “tragic” but said they were the fault of Hamas, which controls Gaza and has fomented the protests. It voiced strong support for Israel’s right to self-defense.

The renewed Gaza violence has created the unsettling but real possibility that Israel — far from enjoying a new era of peace with its neighbors — could soon find itself fighting wars on two fronts: with the Hamas militants who run the coastal Gaza Strip, and with Iranian troops and Iran-backed Hezbollah fighters in Syria.

Already, fallout from the embassy opening has spread far beyond Jerusalem, illustrating how in the delicate Mideast, one point of conflict often begets another.

Jordan’s King Abdullah II took to Twitter to say the embassy move would have “dangerous implications” for security and “provoke Muslims and Christians.” Thousands gathered in Turkey to protest the move. Several nations said they were pulling their ambassadors from Israel to protest the deaths in Gaza. And Erekat announced Monday that Palestinian leadership in the West Bank had decided to file a war crimes complaint against Israel with the International Criminal Court.

“The U.S. has selected one of the most sensitive, one of the most difficult issues, to step in and put forward a position that it knows will be significantly damaging to its efforts,” said Khalil Shikaki, a Palestinian pollster and head of the Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research. He said Trump proceeded anyway “because of internal pressures and right-wing tendencies and evangelicals and others.”

“I cannot see the U.S. being an honest broker, whatsoever, as far as the Palestinian public is concerned,” he added.

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Associated Press writer Karin Laub in Amman, Jordan, contributed to this report.

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Follow AP’s coverage of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict at <https://apnews.com/tag/Israeli-PalestinianConflict>

## Worried Hawaii homeowners ask: Am I covered for volcanos?

By JENNIFER SINCO KELLEHER, Associated Press

HONOLULU (AP) — Patricia Deter moved from Oregon to Hawaii to be closer to her two daughters, but the Kilauea volcano burned down her home only a month after she bought it.

Now Deter and her family, along others who have recently lost homes to the lava-spewing mountain, are on an urgent quest for answers about insurance, desperate to learn whether their coverage will offer any help after molten rock wiped out most of what they owned.

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The eruption has destroyed about two dozen homes in the Leilani Estates subdivision on the Big Island. On Monday, another fissure spewing lava and toxic gas opened up, and a crack in the earth that emerged a day earlier was sending molten rock crawling toward the ocean, officials said. Nearly 20 fissures have opened since the Kilauea volcano started erupting 12 days ago, and officials warn it may soon blow its top with a massive steam eruption that would shoot boulders and ash miles into the sky.

Because the community sits in a zone deemed by the U.S. Geological Survey to have a high risk of lava, few insurance companies will issue policies there.

But homeowners are not without options. One possibility is the Hawaii Property Insurance Association, a nonprofit collection of insurance companies created by state lawmakers in 1991 to provide basic property insurance for people who are unable to buy coverage in the private market.

The horror of seeing houses turned to ash has motivated some people who went without insurance to scramble to purchase a policy. The association announced last week that it would issue policies to uninsured homeowners in the affected area — but they will have to wait six months.

Some homeowners believe fire coverage will suffice for homes burned by fire from the lava. And a list of frequently asked questions from the Hawaii Insurance Division supports that idea, saying that lava damage may be covered “as a fire peril.”

However, there are exceptions. Judy Moa, an insurance broker who specializes in catastrophic coverage for Hawaii, said if a policy specifically excludes lava damage, then a policy’s fire coverage would not apply.

“The cause of damage is lava at the end of the day,” she said. “If lava came down the hill, and they have lava exclusion and trees catch fire, which burn the house, that’s not covered.”

Some homeowners forgo policies that include lava coverage because they can cost more than \$3,000 per year, said Moa, who has fielded many calls from anxious homeowners.

The same insurance questions haunt people whose homes are standing but could still be torched by future lava flows.

Todd Corrigan and his wife left their Leilani Estates home on May 4 after a magnitude-6.9 earthquake knocked belongings off their shelves. That jolt convinced them it was time to evacuate.

Corrigan said the most stressful part of the experience might be the uncertainty about what insurance will cover. His policy will pay for damage from a fire but not from lava. His insurer also cautioned him that it will not cover damage if he has not been at home for 30 days. That requirement could be a problem if he is gone for a long time.

“You have to worry about that stress when you’re trying to deal with everything else,” Corrigan said.

Coverage details vary depending on policies and companies, said Insurance Division Commissioner Gordon Ito, who encouraged homeowners to contact their agents and find out what is covered.

State Farm stopped writing policies for homes in the two highest-risk lava zones in the 1990s, but the company grandfathered-in any existing policies, said Kim Silva, a State Farm sales executive in Hawaii.

The company’s policies do cover fire from volcanic activity, she said, “but every claim has to be handled on its own merit. Every claim has to be looked at individually and separately.”

Deter’s daughters live in the same area as their 88-year-old mother. They know the eruption risks, so they made sure their mother’s home was covered by a policy that included lava.

The family’s Hawaii-based insurance agent assured daughter Vickie Pruitt that her mother’s house was fully covered for lava. But a phone call from an adjuster on the U.S. mainland told them it looked like the damage was from an earthquake — not the lava — and that the home would not be covered.

“I’m like, ‘What?’” Pruitt said. “I’m laughing hysterically. But it’s not funny. It’s tragic.”

They were waiting for a follow-up call they hoped would provide more clarity.

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Associated Press Writer Audrey McCoy and Sophia Yan contributed to this report.

## Sanctuary cities could get boost from sports betting ruling

By MARK SHERMAN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — In President Donald Trump's former life as a casino owner, he might have cheered Monday's ruling from the Supreme Court that struck down a federal law that barred every state but Nevada from allowing betting on most sporting events.

But the Trump administration opposed the outcome reached by the high court at least in part because it could signal trouble in its legal fight against so-called sanctuary states and cities. Seven of the nine justices — five conservatives and two liberals — backed a robust reading of the Constitution's 10th Amendment and a limit on the federal government's power to force the states go along with Washington's wishes.

The federal anti-gambling law is unconstitutional because "it unequivocally dictates what a state legislature may and may not do," Justice Samuel Alito wrote in his majority opinion. "It's as if federal officers were installed in state legislative chambers and were armed with the authority to stop legislators from voting on any offending proposals."

There is a direct link between the court's decision in the sports betting case and the administration's effort to punish local governments that resist Trump's immigration enforcement policies, several legal commentators said.

"The court ruled definitively that the federal government can't force states to enforce federal law. In the immigration context, this means it can't require state or local officials to cooperate with federal immigration authorities," said Ilya Shapiro, a senior fellow in constitutional studies at the libertarian Cato Institute.

Omar Jadwat, director of the ACLU's immigrants' rights project, said the ruling reinforced decisions from the 1990s, including one that struck down part of a federal gun control law that required local police to determine if buyers were fit to own handguns.

"It reiterates that the real thrust of the 10th Amendment and the principles of law in this area is that the fed government can't tell the states or cities how to legislate," Jadwat said. The amendment says that powers not specifically given to the federal government belong to the states.

The gun law decision split the court's conservatives and liberals in 1997, in keeping with conservatives' complaints about the federal government's overreach and the importance of states' rights. But on Monday, Justices Stephen Breyer and Elena Kagan joined their more conservative colleagues.

The Justice Department declined to comment on the decision, but it had called on the court to uphold the federal law at issue — the department's usual practice when federal laws are challenged — by arguing that there was no constitutional violation.

In the most recent ruling about sanctuary cities, the federal appeals court in Chicago held last month that the federal government cannot withhold public safety grants from cities that won't go along with Trump's immigration enforcement policies.

In lawsuits challenging the administration, cities argue that turning local police authorities into immigration officers erodes trust with minority communities and discourages residents from reporting crime. The administration says sanctuary jurisdictions allow dangerous criminals back on the street.

The administration's efforts to crack down on places that don't comply with immigration authorities have taken several forms. Trump issued an executive order aimed at withholding federal money from recalcitrant jurisdictions. The administration also has sued California over three laws aimed at protecting immigrants in the country illegally.

## Palestinians bury dead after bloodiest Gaza day since 2014

By FARES AKRAM and KARIN LAUB, Associated Press

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — Palestinians observed a strike Tuesday to mourn dozens killed by Israeli troops in a mass protest on the Gaza border — the single deadliest day there since a 2014 war and part of a high-stakes campaign by Gaza's Hamas rulers to break a decade-long border blockade.

In Monday's protest, Israeli forces killed 58 Palestinians, most by gunfire, and injured more than 2,700, Gaza health officials said. In jarring contrast, the U.S. held a festive inauguration ceremony for a new U.S.

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Embassy in contested Jerusalem just a few miles away.

The juxtaposition of bloodshed on the Gaza border and festivities attended by a high-powered Trump administration delegation — captured on split screens in TV broadcasts around the world — briefly drew attention to the plight of Gaza and its 2 million people.

The high casualty toll also revived international criticism of Israel's use of lethal force against unarmed protesters. At the same time, the opening of the embassy, condemned by Palestinians as blatantly pro-Israel, further dimmed prospects of what President Donald Trump had once touted as plans to negotiate the Mideast "deal of the century."

The U.N. Security Council planned to meet Tuesday to discuss the violence, though it was not clear what might come out of the session.

Two U.N. diplomats said members couldn't reach unanimous agreement on issuing a proposed statement, circulated by Kuwait, that would have expressed "outrage and sorrow" over the killings and sought an independent investigation. The diplomats spoke on condition of anonymity because the discussions were supposed to be private.

For Hamas, the Islamic militant group that seized Gaza in 2007, Monday's border protest was the culmination of a weeks-long campaign to try to break the blockade. The group led weekly protests near the border with Israel since late March as part of this push.

On Tuesday, there were no signs that Hamas had made a breakthrough in shaking off the blockade that was imposed by Israel and Egypt in 2007. In a sign of an easing, Egypt extended the opening of its border crossing with Gaza, initially set to continue for four days, by two more days, until Thursday. Typically, the Rafah crossing is closed for most of the year.

In recent days, there had been negotiations between Egypt and Hamas, presumably on easing the blockade in exchange for ending the protests.

Hamas has said protests would continue in a weekly format, but it was not clear if it would be able to maintain momentum during the fasting month of Ramadan, which begins this week.

Protest organizers said Tuesday was set aside for funerals, in an apparent attempt to lower expectation of another mass protest later in the day.

Hamas had initially said mass border protests would continue Tuesday, which marks the 70th anniversary of what Palestinians call their "nakba," or catastrophe — the uprooting of hundreds of thousands in the Mideast war over Israel's 1948 creation.

The border marches are seen as Hamas' last hope of ending the blockade that has made it increasingly difficult for the group to govern. Other tactics, including three cross-border wars with Israel in a decade and reconciliation with Hamas' chief Palestinian rival, West Bank-based President Mahmoud Abbas, have failed.

Monday emerged as the deadliest single day in Gaza since the last Israel-Hamas war in 2014. The Gaza Health Ministry said 58 Palestinians were killed Monday, including 57 by Israeli fire and a baby who died from tear gas inhalation.

Six of those killed by gunfire were minors, the ministry said.

In addition, more than 2,700 people were hurt, among them 1,360 by gunshots. Of the wounded, 130 were in serious or critical condition, it said.

The new wave of injured placed a new burden on Gaza's already struggling hospitals where key medicines and surgical supplies were lacking even before the latest bloodshed, in part because of the border closures.

Hospitals and other key installations in Gaza, such as sewage treatment and water pumping stations, heavily rely on generators because of hours-long power cuts every day. Gaza's power crisis was further aggravated last week when vandals destroyed the fuel terminal at Israel's only cargo crossing into Gaza, halting the flow of fuel and gas.

Israel has defended its actions over the past few weeks, saying troops were defending its border. It also accused Hamas militants of trying to carry out attacks under the cover of the protests, including on Monday.

The Israeli military said its aircraft had struck 11 "terror targets" in a Hamas military compound Monday and that tanks targeted two Hamas posts. It said Gaza activists used 10 explosive devices and firebombs

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against troops and that shots were fired at soldiers positioned along the border.

Monday's protest also targeted the opening of the U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem, viewed as a major provocation by the Palestinians and the Arab world.

The Palestinian political camp led by Abbas seeks Israeli-annexed east Jerusalem as the capital of a future Palestinian state.

Trump's December recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital, followed by Monday's relocation of the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, was seen by Abbas as a betrayal. He reiterated Monday that he considers the U.S. unfit to continue as Mideast broker and that he would not accept any peace deal that might be presented by the Trump administration.

He also decided on a series of steps that are bound to anger the U.S. and Israel.

His foreign minister, Riad Malki, said Tuesday that the Palestinians would send a war crimes complaint against Israel to the International Criminal Court, in connection with Israel's ongoing settlement construction on war-won lands.

The Palestinians have had standing at the court since the U.N. General Assembly recognized a "state of Palestine" as a non-member observer in 2012.

Malki said "Palestine" would also join three international organizations, going against a long-standing U.S. request to avoid this.

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Laub reported from Amman, Jordan. Associated Press writer Mohammed Daraghmeh in Ramallah, West Bank, and Tia Goldenberg in Jerusalem contributed.

## 1st appeals court to weigh Trump's decision to end DACA

By SUDHIN THANAWALA, Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The Trump administration will try to convince a U.S. appeals court Tuesday that it was justified in ending an Obama-era immigration policy that shielded hundreds of thousands of young immigrants from deportation.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals will be the first federal appeals court to hear arguments about President Donald Trump's decision to phase out the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.

DACA has protected some 700,000 people who were brought to the U.S. illegally as children or came with families that overstayed visas.

A federal judge in San Francisco in January blocked the Trump administration's decision to end DACA, reinstating the program in a decision that applied nationwide.

U.S. District Judge William Alsup rejected the argument that President Barack Obama exceeded his power in implementing DACA and said the Trump administration failed to consider the disruption that ending the program would cause.

"This has become an important program for DACA recipients and their families, the employers who hire them, for our tax treasuries, and for our economy," the judge said.

The Trump administration said it was forced to act because Texas and other states threatened to sue, raising the prospect of a chaotic end to the program.

It wants the 9th Circuit to throw out Alsup's ruling along with the five lawsuits he considered, including one by the state of California and another by the University of California's governing body.

"The rescission of DACA is based on what appears to be an argument that DACA was illegal when it was enacted, but that's just wrong," Jeff Davidson, an attorney representing UC regents, said on a recent conference call with reporters.

Federal judges in New York and Washington, D.C., also have ruled against the Trump administration on DACA. The 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals is expected to hear arguments this summer on an appeal of the New York judge's ruling.

The DACA decision appears likely to end up before the U.S. Supreme Court eventually.

The administration has been critical of the 9th Circuit and took the unusual step of trying to sidestep the

appeals court and have the California DACA cases heard directly by the Supreme Court.

The high court in February declined to do so.

The 9th Circuit has ruled against Trump's travel bans and is also considering the president's executive order to cut off funding from so-called sanctuary cities that limit cooperation with federal immigration authorities. Trump has said he has considered breaking up the court, which is widely considered the most liberal of the U.S. appeals courts.

## Seattle OKs tax on companies like Amazon to help homeless

By PHUONG LE, Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — Seattle's largest businesses such as Amazon and Starbucks will have to pay a new tax to help fund homeless services and affordable housing under a measure approved by city leaders.

The City Council unanimously passed a compromise plan Monday that taxes businesses making at least \$20 million in gross revenues about \$275 per full-time worker each year — lower than the \$500 per worker initially proposed. The so-called "head tax" would raise roughly \$48 million a year to build new affordable housing units and provide emergency homeless services.

The debate over who should pay to solve a housing crisis exacerbated by Seattle's rapid economic growth comes after weeks of tense exchanges, raucous meetings and a threat by Amazon, the city's largest employer, to stop construction planning on a 17-story building near its hometown headquarters.

Amazon, Starbucks and business groups sharply criticized the council's decision after Monday's vote. They called it a tax on jobs and questioned whether city officials were spending current resources effectively. One state Republican leader said he would seek legislation next year to make clear that a city tax on employees, wages or hours is illegal.

Seattle-based Starbucks had harsh words for its hometown leaders. It accused the city of spending without accountability while ignoring that hundreds of children sleep outside.

"If they cannot provide a warm meal and safe bed to a 5-year-old child, no one believes they will be able to make housing affordable or address opiate addiction," Starbucks' John Kelly said in a statement.

But worker and church groups and others cheered the tax as a step toward building badly needed affordable housing in an affluent city where the income gap continues to widen and lower-income workers are being priced out.

"People are dying on the doorsteps of prosperity. This is the richest city in the state and in a state that has the most regressive tax system in the country," said councilmember Teresa Mosqueda, who wanted a larger tax but called the compromise plan "a down payment" to build housing the city needs.

For Seattle's liberal City Council, the discussion Monday centered not so much on whether there should be a head tax but how big it should be. Four bill sponsors initially pitched a tax of \$500 per full-time employee a year but a compromise proposal emerged over weekend after they couldn't muster the six votes needed to override a potential veto by Mayor Jenny Durkan.

Councilmember Lisa Herbold, a bill sponsor, said the revenue isn't enough to fully address the problem given the city's dire needs and human suffering but it was "the strongest proposal" they could put forward given the veto threat.

Proponents of the tax say too many people are suffering on the streets, and while city-funded programs found homes for 3,400 people last year, the problem deepens. The Seattle region had the third-highest number of homeless people in the U.S. and saw 169 homeless deaths last year. The city spent \$68 million on homelessness last year and plans to spend even more this year. The tax will provide additional revenue.

"This legislation will help us address our homelessness crisis without jeopardizing critical jobs," Durkan said in a statement.

Other cities have implemented similar taxes, but critics say Seattle's tax could threaten the booming local economy and drive away jobs.

Nearly 600 large employers — roughly 3 percent — would pay the tax starting in 2019. Amazon, the city's largest employer with 45,000 workers, would take the biggest hit.

Amazon Vice President Drew Herdener said in a statement Monday that the company was disappointed. While Amazon has resumed construction planning on the downtown building, he said "we remain apprehensive about the future created by the council's hostile approach and rhetoric toward larger businesses, which forces us to question our growth here."

He noted that city revenues have grown dramatically and that the city "does not have a revenue problem — it has a spending efficiency problem."

Councilmember Lorena Gonzalez shot back that she was "equally disappointed" in Amazon's reaction to the council's vote and said she thinks "their tone in this message that is clearly hostile toward the city council is not what I expect from a business who continues to tell us that they want to be a partner on these issues."

Before the vote, she said the city "has an obligation to take care of the people who are surviving and suffering on our city streets."

Shannon Brown, 55, who has been living a tiny home at a south Seattle homeless encampment, said there's simply not enough housing for the city's poorest people.

"I live in a little shed, but it's better than living in a tent or in a sleeping bag on the street," she said. "There's no way I can afford to live in Seattle. I don't understand why businesses think it's wrong to help."

John Boufford with the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades said he didn't understand the rhetoric against Amazon, which he noted provides good jobs for thousands of people.

"They're driving this economic engine," he said. "I'm confused about why the city of Seattle is fostering an adversarial relationship with businesses in this city."

## 10 kids removed from California home; mom, dad deny torture

By JONATHAN J. COOPER and JANIE HAR, Associated Press

FAIRFIELD, Calif. (AP) — A Northern California woman denied that she or her husband abused their 10 children after authorities said the kids suffered puncture wounds, burns, bruising and injuries consistent with being shot with a pellet gun.

The children, ages 4 months to 12 years, were removed from their home March 31 after Ina Rogers contacted authorities to report that her oldest child was missing, police in Fairfield said Monday.

Officers went to the home 46 miles (74 kilometers) northeast of San Francisco and found filthy conditions, Lt. Greg Hurlbut said.

"Officers located unsafe and unsanitary living conditions including garbage and spoiled food on the floor, animal and human feces and a large amount of debris making areas of the house unpassable," he said.

Authorities described injuries to the children, including some that appeared to have been caused by someone shooting a pellet gun.

The father, 29-year-old Jonathan Allen, was arrested Friday after the children were interviewed. He has pleaded not to seven counts of torture and nine counts of felony child abuse and was being held on \$5.2 million bail.

The children did not require medical attention when they were removed, but stories about abuse came out gradually over the past six weeks and eight of the children told professionals about incidents dating back several years, authorities said.

Sharon Henry, chief deputy district attorney for Solano County, said she was "horrified" by the statements from the children and that torture was carried out in the house "for sadistic purposes." She declined to elaborate.

"It literally breaks your heart, and you're outraged by how a parent or anyone could commit those acts," Henry said.

Rogers, 30, was arrested on suspicion of neglect last month and released after posting \$10,000 bail.

She denied Monday her husband had abused the children.

"There's no broken bones, there is no major scars, nothing," Rogers told reporters in front of her house. "My kids get bumped and bruised and scratched because they're kids but that's it."



Rogers gave journalists a tour of the house, a four-bedroom home with scuffed walls and animal feces in the bathroom.

Rogers said the children slept in one bedroom because they were close; cots were stored in a bedroom closet. The other rooms were used as a master bedroom, playroom and meditation room.

On the day the children were removed, the house was messy because she had just torn it apart looking for her missing son, who was angry because his parents had taken away his tablet computer, Rogers said.

Rogers said she feels the family is being judged for having so many children and choosing to home-school them.

She and her husband both came from broken homes and they wanted a large family, Rogers said.

Child protection officials made one prior visit to the home several years ago, Rogers said. She did not say why.

Rogers said she works the graveyard shift as an EKG technician at a heart monitoring company and her husband is a tattoo artist.

Aleida Quartman, 23, who described herself as Rogers' co-worker, said the mother spoiled her children. The messy house was just life with children, cats, a dog and fish, Quartman said.

"She told me she's never lived alone and now that her kids are gone and her husband is gone, she's just a mess," Quartman said.

Peggy Allen, the mother of Jonathan Allen, said she had talked to Rogers about the importance of keeping a clean house.

She is estranged from her son and he has kept his family away from the children, she said.

"We're a Christian family and Jonathan has not been raised that way," she said.

Neighbor Larry Magnaye said he had no idea there were 10 children living in the house across the street.

The parents would wave when leaving the driveway, but he never saw the children in the yard or heard them playing in the backyard pool.

"It's a pretty big house," Magnaye said. "But I don't know how you can keep it quiet when you have 10 kids. I can't keep it quiet with one, two you know?"

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Har reported from San Francisco.

## Amid conflict, Jews and Muslims in US seek solidarity

By JEFF KAROUB and DAVID CRARY, Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) — As turmoil spreads through the Middle East, American Jews and Muslims have been forming alliances to build trust and seek solidarity in more ambitious ways than in the past, a sharp contrast to the violence engulfing their homelands this week.

Muslims and Jews have dispatched members into mosques and synagogues to learn about each other's faiths, made a joint trip to tour civil rights sites in the South and formed partnerships involving CEOs of major corporations. Leaders of the groups said the challenging world events have provided impetus for the outreach efforts, including violence in Gaza, the Trump administration's moving of the U.S. embassy in Israel to Jerusalem, the travel ban from mostly Muslim countries and deepening concern about hate crimes.

"If there's ever a time to talk, it's now," said the executive director for the Los Angeles-based group NewGround, Aziza Hasan.

NewGround has provided leadership training programs for several hundred professionals from the two communities. One recent event was a backyard supper in Los Angeles at which guests discussed their religions' approach to death — what rituals are involved, how the grieving process unfolds. Participants were moved by similarities in the traditions of their two faiths.

"Some people were on the verge of tears as they dug into it," said Hasan.

Perhaps most high-powered of the outreach initiatives is the Muslim Jewish Advisory Council, which started out two years ago working to expand hate-crime legislation. Now, the council — an unprecedented interfaith team of business, political and religious leaders — is launching an initiative sending Jewish members into

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mosques and Muslims into synagogues to speak and listen in ways that break down walls between them.

Farooq Kathwari, the council co-chair and CEO of Ethan Allen Interiors, said the violence along Gaza's border with Israel — where dozens of Palestinians were killed by Israeli troops' gunfire on Monday — poses a test for the outreach project.

"We have to double our efforts to stay together," said Kathwari. "I hope and pray that this crisis does turn into an opportunity for peace."

Another ambitious national group is the Sisterhood of Salaam Shalom, which brings together Jewish and Muslim women interested in learning about one another. Founded in 2010, it now has more than 2,700 members in roughly 150 chapters spanning 27 states. Seeking new insights into combatting bigotry, several dozen of the women traveled to Georgia, Alabama and Tennessee in April, visiting sites commemorating the Civil Rights movement.

"We want to learn how to speak out against hate," said co-founder Sheryl Olitzky, who is Jewish.

The other co-founder, Atiya Aftab, is an attorney who teaches Islamic law at Rutgers University. She described the bloodshed in Gaza as heartbreaking, yet said it would motivate the group's efforts.

"As people of faith we pray that we continue to see God's love and humanity in each other," she said.

For those seeking to build bridges, there have been some inspiring examples. In Germany, more than 2,000 people — Jews and Muslims among them — donned Jewish skullcaps and took to the streets recently to protest an anti-Semitic attack in Berlin in which a Syrian asylum-seeker is a suspect. In the U.S., Muslim communities in Philadelphia and St. Louis raised funds last year to help restore vandalized Jewish cemeteries.

The Muslim Jewish Advisory Council hopes its new outreach efforts will benefit from goodwill generated by its support for federal legislation that would boost penalties for threats of violence against religious institutions. The measure passed the House in December by a vote of 402-2, and council officials expect it to pass the Senate by a similar margin.

The council hopes to expand its influence with a growing number of regional affiliates, including Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Dallas, Miami and, soon, Detroit. Stanley Bergman, the CEO of Henry Schein Inc. and the council's other co-chair along with Kathwari, said those groups can help defuse "prejudice on both sides" through events and conversations specific to local concerns.

The council took shape in 2016; Bergman believes a key factor was that numerous corporate executives overcame wariness about engaging in such an interfaith effort. Now, he said, "you're finding a lot more leaders of business talking about respect and choosing civil words."

The joint efforts come as many Muslims say President Donald Trump's words and policies, such as the travel ban, lead to increased threats and attacks. The Council on American-Islamic Relations said last month that "Trump's xenophobic rhetoric" has "provided a veneer of legitimacy to bigotry," and contributed to a 15 percent jump last year in reported anti-Muslim hate crimes and other acts of bias.

The advisory council's leaders avoid direct criticism of Trump, arguing that instances of bias crimes have been rising for a while and polarization precedes him.

"Our president has his way, which at times works, but a negative impact can be that it also divides people. What we have to do is ... move forward, but also unite people," Kathwari said.

The Sisterhood of Salaam Shalom also approaches politically charged issues with caution.

Aware that some attempts at interfaith engagement have floundered over differences on Israeli-Palestinian politics, the Sisterhood's manual advises its chapters to avoid dialogue on that subject "until trust and respect has been established within the chapter members." Last week, with worsening tensions in the Mideast, the Sisterhood convened a special meeting last of its chapter leaders to provide training on how to address the conflict.

Both co-founders say the Sisterhood's mission has taken on extra urgency during Trump's presidency.

Since the election, Olitzky contends, there has been a "demonstrable increase in anti-Jewish and anti-Muslim acts of hate" that has served to bring the Jewish and Muslim communities together in new ways.

Muqtedar Khan, a professor of political science and international relations at the University of Delaware, believes social and political conditions are conducive to greater solidarity between the two faiths.

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Politically, he expects both communities will play increasingly vital roles in the Democratic Party while viewing the Trump-led Republican Party as hostile to minorities. Socially, he sees the younger generation of American Jews and Muslims as more likely than their elders to be allies.

One example: IfNotNow, a group of youthful Jewish activists opposed to Israel's treatment of Palestinians, has been coordinating some of its protest activity with American Muslims for Palestine.

"They have common ground in seeking social justice in America," Khan said.

Crary reported from New York.

## Trump defends decision to revisit action on Chinese company

By JILL COLVIN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump on Monday defended his efforts to help a Chinese telecommunications company that violated U.S. sanctions "get back into business, fast," despite criticism from Democrats and Republicans that the company poses a national security risk.

"ZTE, the large Chinese phone company, buys a big percentage of individual parts from U.S. companies," Trump tweeted Monday. "This is also reflective of the larger trade deal we are negotiating with China and my personal relationship with President Xi."

Trump over the weekend unexpectedly tweeted that he and Chinese President Xi Jinping were "working together" to give ZTE "a way to get back into business, fast," saying too many jobs in China were at stake after the U.S. government cut off access to its American suppliers.

The surprising overture to China marked a dramatic departure from Trump's rhetoric toward China during the campaign, when he said he would no longer allow China of "rape our country" and steal U.S. jobs.

The U.S. Commerce Department last month blocked ZTE Corp., a major supplier of telecom networks and smartphones based in southern China, from importing American components for seven years. The U.S. accused ZTE of misleading American regulators over sanctions against North Korea and Iran.

Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross said during an appearance at the National Press Club in Washington Monday that "ZTE did do some inappropriate things. They've admitted to that."

But he added: "The question is: Are there alternative remedies to the one that we had originally put forward? And that's the area we will be exploring very, very promptly." He did not say what other options were being discussed.

Trump's unexpected announcement Sunday came as the two countries prepared for additional trade talks in Washington this week. Given past vows to stop the flow of U.S. jobs to China and what he's called unfair trade practices, Trump's seeming concern about Chinese jobs was something of a backflip.

"A reversal of the ZTE decision could temporarily tamp down trade tensions by allowing the Chinese to make concessions to the U.S. without losing face," said Eswar Prasad, a professor of trade policy at Cornell University. "Trump may have recognized that backing off on ZTE clears the path for him to claim at least a partial victory in the US-China trade dispute based on the concessions the Chinese seem prepared to offer."

But the move was panned by lawmakers on both sides of the aisle. Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., tweeted Sunday that it would be "crazy" to allow ZTE to operate in the U.S. without tighter restrictions.

"Problem with ZTE isn't jobs & trade, it's national security & espionage," he wrote.

Top Senate Democrat Chuck Schumer accused Trump of "backing off" and "doing a 180 on China."

"What about jobs in America, Mr. President? What about the millions of jobs that are lost because of what China has done?" he asked, adding: "Why on earth would President Trump promise to help a Chinese telecom company that has flouted U.S. sanctions and whose practices are a risk to our national security?"

At the White House, spokesman Raj Shah said Trump's request for Ross to re-examine the issue was part of a "give and take" with the Chinese.

"It's a significant issue of concern to the Chinese government, you know, and in our bilateral relationship there's a give and take and we discuss these issues," he said. "Obviously this is part of a very complex relationship between the United States and China that involves economic issues, national security issues

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and the like.”

Shah also pushed back on the idea that Trump was retreating from his campaign promise to be tough on China.

“This president has taken China to task for its unfair trade practices,” he said.

ZTE, a company with more than 70,000 employees that has supplied some of the world’s biggest telecom companies, said in early May that it had halted its main operations as a result of U.S. action.

“I’ve never seen a president step in and reverse an agency decision like this. It’s not clear, of course, if he’s planning to really reverse it or think of a solution in a larger context, but it is something that is just out of the norm,” said Amanda DeBusk, the chair of the international trade and government regulations practice at the firm Dechert LLP.

The widening trade dispute between the world’s two biggest economies has taken a toll on both sides. U.S. companies that export to China have had goods held up in China’s ports. The block on ZTE was a heavy blow for the company but also hurt the U.S. companies it buys from. According to IDC data, ZTE sources more than 40 percent of its components from the U.S., creating a multibillion-dollar revenue stream for suppliers like Qualcomm and Intel.

China objected to ZTE’s punishment at trade talks in Beijing this month, and the American delegation agreed to report them to Trump. ZTE has asked the department to suspend the seven-year ban on doing business with U.S. exporters. By cutting off access to U.S. suppliers of essential components such as microchips, the ban threatens ZTE’s existence, the company has said.

China on Monday welcomed Trump’s comments.

“We think highly of the U.S. statement regarding ZTE’s case,” said Lu Kang, a spokesman for China’s foreign ministry. “We are currently in close communication over details of the implementation.”

The foreign ministry said Vice Premier Liu He will visit the U.S. from Tuesday to Saturday for consultations with U.S. Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin.

The U.S. imposed the penalty on Shenzhen-based ZTE after finding that the company, which had already paid a \$1.2 billion fine, not only failed to discipline employees that were involved, but paid them bonuses.

Ross last month accused ZTE of misleading the department and warned, “This egregious behavior cannot be ignored.”

## Hawaii volcano eruption costs tourism industry millions

By **CALEB JONES and SOPHIA YAN, Associated Press**

PAHOA, Hawaii (AP) — People nixing vacations to Hawaii’s Big island has cost the tourism industry millions of dollars as the top attraction, Kilauea volcano, keeps spewing lava.

Cancellations from May through July have hit at least \$5 million, said Ross Birch, executive director of the island’s tourism board.

The booking pace for hotels and other activities, such as tours for lava viewing, zip lines and glass bottom boats have fallen 50 percent. A handful of cruise ships have also decided not to come into port even in Kona on the west side of the island, about 80 miles (129 kilometers) away from the volcano.

This is the “first leak we’re seeing out of the bucket,” Birch said.

Tourism is one of Hawaii’s biggest industries and a big part of the local economy. The industry grew the fastest on the Big Island last year compared to other islands in the archipelago, pulling in about \$2.5 billion in visitor spending.

Most of the Hawaii Volcanoes National Park remains closed to visitors due to ongoing seismic activity and the possibility of an explosion at the summit.

On Monday, another fissure spewing lava and unhealthy gas opened up, and a crack in the Earth that emerged a day earlier was sending molten rock on a slow run for the ocean, officials said.

Civil defense officials warned vents in the southeast section of the Lanipuna Gardens neighborhood were releasing levels of sulfur dioxide that pose an immediate danger to anyone nearby. The gas may cause choking and make people unable to breathe, the county said as it warned people in the area to leave.

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The National Weather Service has warned residents of "light ashfall" throughout the day in Kau, the island's southernmost district, after a burst of volcanic emissions around 9 a.m.

Nearly 20 fissures have opened since the Kilauea volcano started erupting 12 days ago, and officials warn it may soon blow its top with a massive steam eruption that would shoot boulders and ash miles into the sky.

A fissure that opened Sunday led authorities to order 10 people to flee their homes, Hawaii County Managing Director Wil Okabe said. Overall, nearly 2,000 people have been told to evacuate since May 3, and lava has destroyed more than two dozen homes.

The U.S. Geological Survey's Hawaiian Volcano Observatory said the flow from the crack that emerged Sunday was heading on a path that would take it to the ocean, about 2 miles (3 kilometers) away. No homes or roads were threatened by the flow.

Lava on Sunday spread across hundreds of yards of private land and loud explosions rocked the neighborhood not far from the Leilani Estates subdivision, where more than a dozen other active vents opened over the past week.

Nearby resident Richard Schott, 34, watched from a police checkpoint as the eruption churned just over a ridgeline and behind some trees.

"I've actually seen rocks fly over the tree line, and I can feel it in my body," Schott said. "It's like a nuclear reaction or something."

Few fissures, ground deformation and abundant volcanic gases indicate eruptions on the eastern flank of Kilauea are likely to persist, the Hawaiian Volcano Observatory said.

"The appearance of the fissures in the past couple of days does not change the overall picture or concern," Geological Survey scientist Steve Brantley said.

Christian and Maritza Ricks, who moved to the area from California in April, stopped at the side of the road to watch and listen to the latest eruption.

"I guess it's just part of living on the island," Ricks said.

He said he wasn't really afraid of the destruction happening around him.

"In a way, it's kind of exciting to see what's going on and be this close to it," Christian Ricks said.

The Hawaiian Volcano Observatory reported a fissure opened Saturday just east of the Puna Geothermal Venture energy conversion plant, where steam and hot liquid are brought up through underground wells and the steam feeds a turbine generator to produce electricity.

As a precaution, plant workers last week removed 50,000 gallons (189,265 liters) of a flammable liquid stored at the site.

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Associated Press writer Jennifer Sinco Kelleher contributed to this report.

## Melania Trump expected to remain hospitalized through week

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — First lady Melania Trump was expected to remain hospitalized for the rest of the week following a "long-planned" procedure to treat a benign kidney condition, White House officials said.

Mrs. Trump, 48, had an embolization procedure Monday morning at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center outside Washington, her staff said. President Donald Trump visited her later Monday and tweeted that the procedure was "successful" and that his wife was in "good spirits."

The White House did not offer any additional details on Mrs. Trump's condition, though Vice President Mike Pence described the procedure as "long planned" as he opened a speech at a Monday evening event celebrating Israel's independence. "Melania is already on the mend," Pence said.

In the Senate, Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., sent well wishes for "a speedy recovery to the first lady."

She was last seen in public on Wednesday at a White House event where she and the president honored military mothers and spouses for Mother's Day.

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Two urologists who have no personal knowledge of Mrs. Trump's condition said the most likely explanation for the procedure is a kind of noncancerous kidney tumor called an angiomyolipoma.

They're not common but tend to occur in middle-aged women and can cause problematic bleeding if they become large enough, said Dr. Keith Kowalczyk of MedStar Georgetown University Hospital.

"The treatment of choice" is to cut off the blood supply so the growth shrinks, added Dr. Lambros Stamatakis of MedStar Washington Hospital Center. Doctors do that with an embolization, meaning a catheter is snaked into the blood vessels of the kidney to find the right one and block it.

Most of the time, these benign tumors are found when people undergo medical scans for another reason, but sometimes people have pain or other symptoms, Kowalczyk said. Many times, embolization patients go home the same day or the next.

The Slovenia-born former model married Trump in 2005. They have a 12-year-old son named Barron.

Mrs. Trump, who has been gradually raising her profile as first lady, recently hosted her first state dinner and launched a public awareness campaign to help children.

With the president watching, Mrs. Trump last week unveiled the "Be Best" campaign, which she said will focus on childhood well-being, social media use and opioid abuse.

Mrs. Trump joined her husband last month to host the prime minister of Japan for a two-day summit at the Trumps' Florida estate, and the Trumps hosted the president of France at the White House on a three-day state visit, including a lavish state dinner. Mrs. Trump also represented the administration at the April funeral of former first lady Barbara Bush.

The Trumps and their marriage have been under scrutiny in recent months after revelations that a porn actress was paid \$130,000 in hush money to keep quiet about claims she had sex with Trump in 2006. Trump has acknowledged reimbursing his lawyer for the payment to porn star Stormy Daniels but denies her allegations. Separately, a former Playboy model has revived her allegations of a 10-month affair with Trump in 2006. Trump also denies the allegations from Karen McDougal.

Mrs. Trump has, at times, been noticeably absent from her husband's side. But both made a point of displaying affection during last week's Rose Garden event where she announced the "Be Best" initiative.

The first lady lived full time in New York during the administration's opening months so Barron would not have to change schools midyear. She and Barron moved to the White House last June.

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AP Medical Writer Luran Neergaard and AP writer Jill Colvin contributed to this report.

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

## Indonesian family that bombed churches well off, friendly

By **NINIEK KARMINI, Associated Press**

SURABAYA, Indonesia (AP) — The Muslim family that carried out suicide attacks on three churches in Indonesia's second-largest city, killing a dozen people as well as its two young daughters, lived comfortably in an upper-middle class suburb and was on friendly terms with a Christian neighbor.

The coordinated bombings on Sunday, followed on Monday by a suicide attack by another family on police headquarters in Surabaya, have horrified Indonesians who typically see their Muslim-majority country as diverse and tolerant.

Neighbors said there were no signs members of the family were planning the acts of violence that President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo condemned as "barbaric" and "beyond humanity." They had lived in the leafy Wonorejo Asri residential community since 2010 and had a good income from the father's business selling herbal medicines, the neighbors said.

According to police, on Sunday morning the two sons, aged 16 and 18, rode a motorcycle into a church courtyard and detonated their explosives. Puji Kuswati, the mother, attacked worshippers at another church with her daughters, aged 8 and 12, who police said were all wearing suicide vests. The father, Dita Oepriarto, detonated a car bomb outside a third church. Police initially gave his name as Dita Futrianto

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but corrected that based on his national identity card. All six died.

Raith Yunanto, who lives two houses from the family, said they were always welcoming to her, a minority Christian. She said she went shopping with Kuswati at the local market and they often exchanged different types of food and fruit.

"There was nothing strange about the family, they were like other devout Muslim families," she said. "Their attitude and manner of dress were just like common Muslim people."

"It's difficult for us to accept how they can commit such a barbaric act against Christians," Yunanto said. "The couple visited me when I gave birth and when my children were sick."

She said she last saw members of the family when the daughters were riding bicycles with other children in front of her house on Saturday afternoon, the day before the bombings.

The eldest son, she said, was seen coming home from school activities wearing a colourful batik shirt that's symbolic of diversity in Indonesia, a country of more than 260 million with dozens of ethnic groups and languages.

Dendri Oemiarti, Oepriarto's younger sister, was wracked with grief when she spoke to The Associated Press on Monday and said her elderly parents were in a state of shock.

"What he has done has hurt us so deeply," she said as tears flowed down her cheeks.

"What thoughts have influenced him? I do not understand. I do not know what changed my good brother to be so sadistic."

Oemiarti said she was very angry when she first heard about the church attacks and that children had been used to carry them out.

"I fainted when my sister, Dina, told me that the attack was done by our own brother," she said.

The last time she met her brother and his family was during Ramadan in 2017. She said their lives were busy and they only met about once a year and didn't talk about religion.

Police initially said the family went to Syria to join the Islamic State group but later retracted that statement.

Oepriarto, they said, was the leader of the Surabaya cell of Jemaah Anshorut Daulah, an Indonesian network of extremist groups that is affiliated with IS.

According to police, Oepriarto was friends with the family that carried out Monday's police headquarters bombing and a third family, three members of which died when homemade bombs exploded in their apartment on Sunday night.

The family's nextdoor neighbor, Abi Akbar, said Oepriarto and his sons, Yusuf and Firman, like nearly all Muslim men in the neighborhood, usually attended dawn prayers at an unremarkable local mosque.

But Akbar, 23, also said he had heard older men in the community comment that Oepriarto wasn't a mainstream Indonesian Muslim and objected to secular rituals such as raising the national flag or singing the Indonesian national anthem.

In retrospect, Akbar said, one thing was different at dawn prayers on Sunday. Instead of customarily kissing their father's hand after prayers, the boys and father hugged for a long time.

"They hugged like they were going to be separated," Akbar said. "But at that time we were not suspicious of anything because they are a family that is well known and normal."

Just a few hours later Oepriarto and his family and 12 other people were dead. More than 40 were injured.

Kenzi Tapy Gani, a 21-year-old university student who lived near the family, described Oepriarto as a

"friendly and nice guy."

"We really didn't see it coming," he said.

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This story has been corrected to reflect new police information that youngest daughter's age was 8 not 9.

## Sex-related charge dropped against Missouri governor

By JIM SALTER and DAVID A. LIEB, Associated Press

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Missouri Gov. Eric Greitens declared victory Monday as prosecutors abruptly dropped a felony invasion-of-privacy charge alleging he had taken a revealing photo of a woman with whom he has acknowledged having an affair.

The St. Louis circuit attorney's office said it still plans to pursue the case, either through a special prosecutor or an appointed assistant. But Greitens' attorneys said the case was crumbling under a lack of evidence and doubted any charge would ever be refiled.

The first-term Republican governor still faces plenty of other problems. Missouri's Republican legislative leaders renewed calls for Greitens to resign and confirmed they still will convene Friday in a monthlong special session to consider whether to impeach Greitens in an attempt to remove him from office.

Greitens also remains charged with a second felony in St. Louis for allegedly disclosing a donor list from a St. Louis-based veterans' charity he founded for use in his political campaign. No trial date has been set for that case.

Greitens, who has long denied any criminal wrongdoing, walked out of the courthouse Monday with at least a momentary vindication.

"Today the prosecutor has dropped the false charges against me. This is a great victory and it has been a long time coming," Greitens told reporters outside the St. Louis circuit courthouse. "This experience has been humbling and I have emerged from it a changed man."

The prosecutor's surprise move, announced after the third day of jury selection, came after a court ruled that St. Louis Circuit Attorney Kim Gardner had to provide a statement under oath Monday at the request of Greitens' attorneys, who had repeatedly criticized her handling of the case. Greitens' defense team had accused Gardner of allowing private investigator William Tisaby, whom she hired, to commit perjury and withhold evidence from defense attorneys.

Missouri's rules of professional conduct prohibit attorneys from litigating a case in which they've been called as a witness, though those rules don't normally require the disqualification of the entire office or firm, said University of Missouri associate law professor Ben Trachtenberg.

Nationally, it's "super, super rare" for a judge to allow a prosecutor to be called as a witness, said Hadar Aviram, a professor at the University of California Hastings College of Law.

Gardner spokeswoman Susan Ryan said in a statement that Greitens' lawyers' tactic of making the circuit attorney a witness in their case was "part of their ongoing effort to distract people" from Greitens' actions. She said it put Gardner "in the impossible position of choosing between her professional obligations and the pursuit of justice."

"We will move forward on this," Ryan told The Associated Press. "We will refile charges or ask a special prosecutor to do so."

Some legal experts said prosecutors would have about a month to decide whether to file charges, because that's about how much time was left in the three-year statute of limitations when the original charge was filed.

Greitens, 44, was charged with felony invasion of privacy for allegedly taking and transmitting a photo of an at least partially nude woman without her permission on March 21, 2015. If convicted, Greitens could have faced up to four years in prison. Greitens has declined to directly answer questions about whether he took the photo.

Earlier Monday, Greitens' attorneys said in court that prosecutors had stopped searching for evidence of the photo after failing to find it on Greitens' cellphone or in cloud storage.

"The case was going nowhere. There was no evidence to support any of the elements," Greitens' attorney Jim Bennett told reporters after the charge was dropped.

Defense attorneys have cited a litany of concerns about Gardner's handling of the case. Among other things, they accused Tisaby, a former FBI agent, of lying when he said he did not take notes when he and Gardner on Jan. 29 interviewed the woman involved in the affair. A video of the interview belatedly



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provided to defense lawyers appears to show Tisaby taking notes.

Greitens has rejected calls to resign from both Republicans and Democrats since he first admitted in January that he had an affair before he was elected governor in 2016.

The woman, who has been identified only as K.S. in court filings, has testified that Greitens bound her hands to exercise equipment in the basement of his St. Louis home, blindfolded her and removed her clothes before she saw a flash and heard what sounded like the click of a cellphone camera. She has said Greitens threatened to disseminate the photo if she spoke of their encounter but later told her he had deleted it.

Greitens' indictment in February prompted the Missouri House to launch its own investigation. It released a report in April containing more testimony from the woman that Greitens had restrained, slapped, shoved, threatened and belittled her during a series of sexual encounters that at times left her crying and afraid. Greitens didn't testify to the committee.

The committee released a second report May 2 with testimony about how Greitens' gubernatorial campaign had used a donor list from The Mission Continues without the charity's permission. Legislative leaders vowed Monday to continue their investigation.

"Without the pending trial this week, it allows the Governor to take advantage of our open offer to share his side of the facts," House Speaker Todd Richardson said in a joint statement with other top House Republicans.

Lieb reported from Jefferson City. Associated Press reporters Summer Ballentine in Jefferson City and John Hanna in Topeka, Kansas, contributed.

## Long odds for peace as Trump roils Mideast with embassy move

By JOSH LEDERMAN and MATTHEW LEE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump's prospects for brokering the Mideast peace "deal of the century" plunged ever deeper Monday as the U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem opened amid bloodshed in Gaza. The day fueled global concern that U.S. policies are tipping the broader Middle East into deeper, intractable conflict.

At the same time, Trump is winning international support for his efforts to strike a deal with nuclear-armed North Korea. But his contentious decisions in the Middle East are roiling a region where U.S. administrations have traditionally sought perhaps their biggest diplomatic prize: an elusive peace agreement between Israel and the Palestinians.

The embassy move, which Trump hailed a "great day" for Israel even as dozens of Palestinians were killed in Gaza, damaged Washington's stature as a mediator between those parties. And it's but the latest in a series of U.S. decisions that may have set off a domino effect of unpredictable consequences.

"Traditionally we've tried to play a role of fireman in the Middle East. Now we're playing the role of arsonist," said Ilan Goldenberg, a former State Department and Pentagon official who runs the Mideast program at the Center for a New American Security.

Trump's withdrawal last week from the Iran nuclear deal, against the protestations of European allies, appears to have emboldened both Israel and Iran to move more forcefully toward full-on confrontation. In Syria, Trump's eagerness to pull out U.S. troops as soon as the Islamic State group is defeated has forced a reckoning by Iran's enemies about the possibility that Tehran will fill the void.

Dan Shapiro, a former U.S. ambassador to Israel, said Washington is not responsible for the fact that Iran acts as "the major source of tension and instability in the region." But he said the question is whether Trump's administration, having pulled out of the nuclear deal, has a strategy to deal with Iran in its absence.

Shapiro, who is now at the Institute for National Security Studies in Israel, said that while some U.S. allies like Israel and Saudi Arabia have celebrated the pullout, the reaction "will soon be followed by some degree of concern about whether the administration is sufficiently focused, prepared, staffed and able to devote the necessary attention when it's also managing another major foreign policy challenge in North

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Korea at the same time.”

U.S. officials insist the administration remains committed to restarting the stalled Israeli-Palestinian peace process. In a speech at the embassy opening, Trump’s son-in-law, senior adviser Jared Kushner, said the U.S. “is prepared to support a peace agreement in every way we can.”

Left unsaid was the fact that Kushner’s team has had to shelve Trump’s long-awaited peace plan indefinitely amid the Palestinian uproar over the embassy move, several U.S. officials have said. Since Trump in December recognized Jerusalem as Israel’s capital and announced the embassy would move, the Palestinians have effectively cut off all ties with the White House, a diplomatic chill that augurs poorly for the possibility that Trump can now introduce a plan the Palestinians would accept or deem fair.

“We’re going through a rough-patch,” U.S. Ambassador to Israel David Friedman said Monday on Fox News. “It’ll last as long as it lasts. I can’t predict, but we will be back in a position I’m confident where we’ll be discussing peace.”

White House spokesman Raj Shah said the peace plan will be released “at the appropriate time.”

That time, by all accounts, is not now. Responding to the embassy opening, chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat dismissed Washington as “no longer a partner and a broker.”

“We will not sit with them,” Erekat said. “They have become part of the problem not part of the solution, a big part of the problem. Trump’s administration is the biggest problem.”

The White House response to the deaths of dozens of Palestinians at the hands of Israeli troops on Monday during mass protests on the Israel-Gaza border won’t help. The administration called the deaths “tragic” but said they were the fault of Hamas, which controls Gaza and has fomented the protests. It voiced strong support for Israel’s right to self-defense.

The renewed Gaza violence has created the unsettling but real possibility that Israel — far from enjoying a new era of peace with its neighbors — could soon find itself fighting wars on two fronts: with the Hamas militants who run the coastal Gaza Strip, and with Iranian troops and Iran-backed Hezbollah fighters in Syria.

Already, fallout from the embassy opening has spread far beyond Jerusalem, illustrating how in the delicate Mideast, one point of conflict often begets another.

Jordan’s King Abdullah II took to Twitter to say the embassy move would have “dangerous implications” for security and “provoke Muslims and Christians.” Thousands gathered in Turkey to protest the move. Several nations said they were pulling their ambassadors from Israel to protest the deaths in Gaza. And Erekat announced Monday that Palestinian leadership in the West Bank had decided to file a war crimes complaint against Israel with the International Criminal Court.

“The U.S. has selected one of the most sensitive, one of the most difficult issues, to step in and put forward a position that it knows will be significantly damaging to its efforts,” said Khalil Shikaki, a Palestinian pollster and head of the Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research. He said Trump proceeded anyway “because of internal pressures and right-wing tendencies and evangelicals and others.”

“I cannot see the U.S. being an honest broker, whatsoever, as far as the Palestinian public is concerned,” he added.

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Associated Press writer Karin Laub in Amman, Jordan, contributed to this report.

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Follow AP’s coverage of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict at <https://apnews.com/tag/Israeli-PalestinianConflict>

## Margot Kidder, Lois Lane in the ‘Superman’ franchise, dies

By ANDREW DALTON, AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Margot Kidder, the Canadian actress who starred as a salty and cynical Lois Lane opposite Christopher Reeve in the “Superman” film franchise of the 1970s and 1980s, has died. She was 69.

Kidder’s manager Camilla Fluxman Pines said she died peacefully in her sleep on Sunday. Police in Livingston, Montana, said in a statement that officers were called to Kidder’s home, where they found her dead. An autopsy will be performed to determine the cause, but no foul play is suspected.

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"Superman," directed by Richard Donner and released in 1978, was a superhero blockbuster two decades before comic book movies became the norm at the top of the box office. Makers of today's Marvel and D.C. films cite "Superman" as an essential inspiration.

Kidder, as ace reporter Lane, was a salty, sexually savvy adult who played off of the boyish, farm-raised charm of Reeve's Clark Kent, though her dogged journalism constantly got her into dangerous scrapes that required old-fashioned rescues.

Kidder had many of the movies' most memorable lines, including "You've got me?! Who's got you?!" when she first encountered the costumed hero as she and a helicopter plunged from the top of a Metropolis building.

Marvel Studios President Kevin Feige called the moment "the best cinematic superhero save in the history of film" at an Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences event honoring Donner last year.

Kidder and Reeve were relative unknowns when they got their leading parts in the first of the films in 1978, which also included big names Gene Hackman and Marlon Brando.

Kidder and Reeve went on to star in three more "Superman" movies, the fourth and last in 1987.

She said she and Reeve, who was paralyzed in 1995 by a horsing accident, were like brother and sister, both in their affection and animosity for each other.

"We quarreled all the time," Kidder said May 9 in an interview on radio station WWJ in Detroit, where she had been scheduled to appear at Motor City Comic Con later this month. "The crew would be embarrassed. They would look away. Then we'd play chess or something because we were also really good friends."

Both would remain known almost entirely for their "Superman" roles and struggled to find other major parts. Reeve died in 2004.

Kidder also had a small part in 1975's "The Great Waldo Pepper" with Robert Redford, and starred as conjoined twins in Brian De Palma's 1973 "Sisters," and as the mother of a terrorized family opposite James Brolin in 1979's "The Amityville Horror."

Mark Hamill was among those tweeting tributes to Kidder on Monday.

"On-screen she was magic," the "Star Wars" actor said. "Off-screen she was one of the kindest, sweetest, most caring woman I've ever known."

B-movie buffs say 1974's "Black Christmas," with Kidder as a sorority sister, is a must-watch.

"It introduced some elements that are now genre tropes and she's fantastic in it," comedian and actor Kumail Nanjiani said on Twitter Monday.

Kidder had a debilitating car accident in 1990 that left her badly in debt, confined her to a wheelchair for most of two years and worsened the mental illness she had struggled with for much of her life.

That struggle became public in 1996 when she was found dazed and filthy in a yard not far from the studio where she once filmed parts of "Superman."

She fought through her illness and continued working, however, appearing in small films and television shows and amassing credits until 2017, most notably "R.L. Stine's the Haunting Hour," which earned her a Daytime Emmy Award as outstanding performer in a kids' series in 2015.

"I don't act much anymore unless I'm broke, and then I'll take a job," she told the Detroit radio station with a laugh.

She spent the last decades of her life living in Montana and engaging in political activism, including protesting the U.S. military action in Iraq.

Kidder was born in Yellowknife, Canada, and graduated from a Toronto boarding school before pursuing acting.

She dated then-Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau in the 1980s, calling him the "love of my life, my true love" in her radio interview last week.

Kidder was married and divorced three times, including a brief marriage to actor John Heard, and is survived by a daughter, Maggie McGuane.

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Associated Press Writer Ed White contributed to this report from Detroit.

Follow Andrew Dalton on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/andyjamesdalton>.

## Republicans celebrate opening of US embassy in Jerusalem

By **STEVE PEOPLES** and **ARON HELLER**, Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — The opening of the U.S. embassy in Jerusalem attracted more than a dozen Republican members of Congress, two billionaire GOP fundraisers and the president's eldest daughter, putting on a display of political muscle and Republican unity rare for the Trump era.

Even as it sparked deadly protests in the Mideast, President Donald Trump's decision to relocate the embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem united a cross-section of the GOP. It injected new energy into the evangelical movement, which has long wanted the embassy moved because of the deep religious significance of the area. And it pleased big donors and allowed Trump to claim another campaign promise kept.

"Above all else, we've shown that the United States of America will do what's right. And so we have," declared Trump's chief Mideast adviser, son-in-law Jared Kushner.

The celebration underscored the power of the evangelical wing of the party, which has set aside early skepticism of Trump to deliver some of the president's most loyal — and rewarded — backers. The outpouring of support Tuesday, initiated by a president who isn't steeped in the complex issues, even surprised some of the movement leaders.

"This is one thing that's most visible, tangible, recognizable by the evangelical community," said Tony Perkins, who leads the social conservative Family Research Council. "It's actually taken me aback a bit to see just how strongly this is received."

At an Israeli Independence Day celebration in Washington, Vice President Mike Pence said Trump had done more to bring the U.S. and Israel "closer together in a year than any president in the past 70 years," and called him "the greatest defender the Jewish state has ever had."

"President Trump made history now," he said.

Top officials with the Republican National Committee, along with a delegation of four Republican senators, 10 Republican congressmen and one Republican governor, cheered Kushner from the gallery. The RNC's new finance chair Tom Ricketts attended. The GOP's most powerful political donor, casino magnate Sheldon Adelson, watched from the front row minutes earlier as Ivanka Trump and Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin unveiled the embassy's new facade.

"I did it for my constituents — their love and affection for the people of Israel," said Rep. Joe Wilson, R-S.C., who organized the U.S. delegation's visit. He was also pleased by the Adelson family's reaction.

"Just to see their joy was a moment of happiness for me," Wilson said of Adelson, who in recent days donated \$30 million to a super PAC focused on helping the House GOP retain its majority this fall.

Amid this week's parades and receptions across Israel, however, partisan divisions back home were rising to the surface.

Not a single elected Democrat attended the celebration in Israel. Most were silent Monday as the ceremony unfolded on television. A few, including Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, issued written statements of support.

"Every nation should have the right to choose its capital. I sponsored legislation to do this two decades ago, and I applaud President Trump for doing it," the top Senate Democrat said in a rare moment of agreement with the Republican president.

Wilson said he personally invited "a significant number" of Democrats to attend the festivities in person, but many cited scheduling conflicts.

The politics on the left are far more complicated.

Liberal groups such as Indivisible have opposed moving the embassy, warning it would provoke violence and demolish trust with the Palestinians, who want East Jerusalem as a future capital.

Violence broke out along the Israel-Gaza border Monday, leaving more than 50 Palestinians dead. The move appeared to end — at least for now — America's chances of becoming a neutral peace broker in

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the Middle East.

Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., called the deadly protests in Gaza "just heartbreaking." She called on the administration to state its "unequivocal support" for a two-state solution and restart negotiations.

"The location of the embassy is a final-status issue that should have been resolved as part of peace negotiations where both sides benefit, not just one side," Feinstein said.

Ralph Reed, chairman of the Faith and Freedom Coalition, was among the evangelical leaders invited to the ceremony. He called the absence of Democrats "sad."

Reed had little to say on Pastor Robert Jeffress, the leader of a Dallas-area Baptist church, who delivered the opening blessing at Monday's ceremony. Jeffress has previously called Islam a cult, called Mormonism "a heresy from the pit of hell" and declared Jews "can't be saved."

His participation drew criticism from one prominent Republican, Utah GOP Senate candidate Mitt Romney, who called the pastor a "religious bigot."

Jeffress told The Associated Press he believed his comments were taken out of context.

"I think it's sad that Mitt feels the need to lash out in anger on such a historic day, but it's not going to overshadow what is happening here," he said.

White House spokesman Raj Shah said he couldn't explain how Jeffress became involved with the event. But he said those views, "if they're accurate reflections of what was said, wouldn't be embraced by this White House."

Despite the spat, Monday undoubtedly marked a new high-point for the Christian conservatives, already pleased with Trump's choice for the Supreme Court. Trump, who rarely speaks about his faith and used to support abortion rights, had not been an obvious ally.

Perkins noted that Trump himself was initially confused by the connection between America's evangelicals and Israel. The issue came up during a recent meeting at the White House.

"He made the comment that in New York, he didn't think that Christians and Jews got along that well," Perkins recalled. "But he saw that the evangelicals have a deep appreciation for the Jewish people and for Israel and stand strongly with them. So it's been kind of an educational process for him to understand how important this is to the evangelical community."

The impact of the embassy rippled across Iowa, where some religious conservatives have struggled to accept Trump's comments about women and his three marriages, said Bob Vander Plaats, who leads the Iowa-based Family Leader.

"People are high-fiving. What a historic day," he said. The historic move overshadows "any flaws or baggage that Trump may carry that evangelicals are uncomfortable with."

In a video address shown at the ceremony's opening, Trump said the U.S. still remains "fully committed" to pursuing a Mideast peace deal.

"It's been a long time coming," Trump said of his decision.

He continued. "May there be peace, may God bless this embassy, may God bless all who serve there, and may God bless the United States of America."

Peoples reported in New York. AP writers Anne Flaherty, Catherine Lucey, Zeke Miller, Josh Lederman and Jill Colvin in Washington contributed to this report.

## Teen who died in van could not communicate properly with 911

By **ANDREW WELSH-HUGGINS, Associated Press**

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — A 16-year-old Ohio boy who got pinned in the back seat of his minivan and died despite voice-dialing 911 was unable to communicate properly with dispatchers because his phone was in his pocket, according to an initial police investigation.

Cincinnati police chief Eliot Isaac presented the results of an internal investigation into the death of Kyle Plush Monday before the City Council's law and safety committee, providing details of the 911 call and the police response.

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Among the information released Monday:

—The city's computer-assisted dispatching system experienced difficulties throughout the call.

—Kyle's phone was in his pocket as he called, and he was using "Siri" caller technology to call 911. Kyle was not able to give back and forth answers to a dispatcher, and the phone disconnected his call.

—The first dispatcher didn't hear Kyle's initial comments that he was "going to die here" because he spoke during an automated "What is your emergency" response message.

—Officers initially believed they were searching for an elderly woman locked in her vehicle needing help.

—Officers weren't given information from the initial 911 call that someone was banging and screaming for help.

Isaac said officers determined they could search a bigger area and see more by staying in their cruiser.

Kyle's father, Ron Plush, said Monday he still had multiple questions about what happened despite a police investigation into his son's death.

"I was expecting that by hearing the police report today many of my questions would be answered," Plush said, appearing at a Cincinnati City Council meeting on the police response to the April 10 death of his son. "This is not the case."

Plush found the body of his son, Kyle Plush, on April 10 inside the 2004 Honda Odyssey in a parking lot near his school nearly six hours after Kyle's first 911 call. A coroner says the teen died of asphyxiation from his chest being compressed. It is suspected that the foldaway rear seat flipped over as he reached for tennis gear in the back.

Ron Plush asked authorities why officers weren't notified that his son was screaming for help in a 911 call, and whether exact GPS coordinates existed for his son's location and if so, why weren't those given to police officers.

Ron Plush promised to help improve the city 911 system but also said he would be asking difficult questions along the way.

"Kyle will give us the strength and guidance to get the job done," Ron Plush said.

Mayor John Cranley told Plush he would receive written responses to every question and called the police report on the case incomplete.

Cranley opened Monday's meeting by saying the city failed in its response to the 911 call.

"In all cases we can do better, we should do better, we must do better," Cranley said.

The boy's aunt, also attending Monday's meeting, noted that Kyle Plush's voicemail included his name, and was not a generic message.

If authorities knew the name "Kyle" and that the call was from someone near a school, they had enough to do a proper search minutes after the call was received, said Jodi Schwind.

Council members also questioned why officers didn't just search all the vans in the parking lot that day.

"Kyle did everything he should have done, everything a mom, a dad, would tell their child to do, he did," said Councilwoman Amy Murray. "And he was failed horribly."

City Council on Monday approved a resolution calling on the mayor to pay for an independent investigation of the incident. The Hamilton County sheriff's office, which also dispatched a deputy that day, is also investigating, as is the county Prosecutor's Office.

Council members scheduled a meeting May 29 for police to provide answers to questions raised Monday.

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Andrew Welsh-Huggins can be reached on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/awhcolumbus>.

## Early results in Iraq election favor populist cleric al-Sadr

By PHILIP ISSA, Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP) — A populist coalition organized by influential Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr emerged as the front-runner Monday with more than half the vote counted in Iraq's national elections.

Partial returns from Saturday's balloting — the first since Iraq declared victory over the Islamic State militant group — were announced by the country's electoral commission and put al-Sadr's political alliance

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in the lead in six provinces, including Baghdad.

Remembered for leading an insurgency against U.S. forces and inciting sectarian bloodshed against the Sunni population, al-Sadr has in recent years sought to recast himself as a populist, railing against corruption and failing services and striking a political alliance with Iraq's secularists and Communist Party.

None of the competing blocs appears on track to win a majority in parliament and name a prime minister. As the results stand, al-Sadr's bloc will be able to take a leading role in the political horse-trading to find a compromise candidate. Because al-Sadr did not run for a seat, he cannot become prime minister, but his deputies in parliament are expected to follow his directives.

Al-Sadr commands the devotion of millions of Iraqis who have sent their sons and husbands to fight for his militia from the early days of the U.S. occupation.

"We are joyous," said Jaafar Abdeljaleed, 28, who added that his father was killed fighting U.S.-led forces in 2003. "Sayyid Muqtada loves the nation, and so do I."

The election came as Iraq is struggling to bring down soaring unemployment and reintegrate its disenfranchised Sunni minority. More than 2 million people are displaced by war, most of them Sunnis.

Also at issue is how to integrate the country's vast and predominantly Shiite militia structure into the security forces. The militias, known collectively as the Hashd Shaabi, are key conduit of influence for Iran into Iraq and Syria, where Tehran has sent many of them to fight.

An electoral alliance of Hashd-linked candidates, headed by militia commander Hadi al-Amiri, is currently in second place in the election returns.

Al-Amiri maintains close ties to Iran. He also has said he is open to U.S. training of Iraq's military and regularly meets with U.S. diplomats in Baghdad.

Al-Sadr commands his own militia that fought against IS militants, but he has disavowed any Iranian and U.S. influence in Iraq, and he has called for the full withdrawal of U.S. troops. His former Mahdi Army fought American forces for years. In 2014, he reorganized his fighters under the name the Peace Brigades — Saraya Salam.

Prime Minister Haidar al-Abadi came in first in Iraq's second largest province, Nineveh, but he has performed poorly in the rest of the country, coming in third and fourth place in most provinces and fifth in Baghdad.

Al-Abadi's signature achievement was expelling Islamic State militants from Mosul, a Nineveh city, in 2017. The liberation came at a tremendous cost to the city, parts of which has been laid waste by the U.S. and Iran-backed campaign, but the province appears to have rewarded al-Abadi for his leadership.

In a national address Monday, al-Abadi vowed to keep the country safe under his command until a new government is formed.

"I call on Iraqis to respect the results of the elections," he said.

Al-Sadr said in Tweet that he was open to forming a coalition with al-Abadi to form a new government for Iraq.

The electoral commission released results from 10 of 19 provinces Sunday night, including tallies from Baghdad and Basra provinces. It released the results of six more provinces late Monday.

Iraq is still waiting to hear the results from foreign and security forces balloting, which could add close to 1 million votes to the national tally. The country is also waiting to hear results from Kirkuk, an oil-rich city disputed by Baghdad and Iraq's northern, autonomous Kurdish administration.

Al-Abadi directed Iraqi forces to retake the city late last year after the Kurdish regional administration organized a referendum on independence that controversially included Kirkuk; federal forces moved in with little bloodshed as Kurdish forces withdrew.

The electoral commission said it would release the remainder of the results on Tuesday.

Members of the election commission read out vote tallies for each candidate list in 10 provinces on national TV. By the end of the announcement, al-Sadr's list had the highest popular vote, followed by al-Amiri's.

Seats in parliament will be allocated proportionally to coalitions once all votes are counted.

Celebrations erupted in Baghdad's Sadr City, an impoverished quarter that is home to about 3 million

people and is named after the cleric's father, Ayatollah Mohammed Sadeq al-Sadr, who was killed by suspected agents of Saddam Hussein in 1999.

Only 44 percent of voters turned out — the lowest in the four elections held since Saddam's ouster in 2003. Despite that, al-Sadr's sophisticated political machine mobilized his loyal base of followers to go to the polls.

Any political party or alliance must gain a majority of the 329 seats in parliament to be able to choose a prime minister and form a government. Dozens of alliances ran for office, and months of negotiations are expected before any one alliance can pull together the 165 required seats.

Political power in Iraq is traditionally divided along sectarian lines among the offices of prime minister, president and parliament speaker. Since the first elections following Saddam's ouster, the Shiite majority has held the position of prime minister, while the Kurds have held the presidency and the Sunnis have held the post of parliament speaker.

The constitution sets a quota for female representation, stating that no less than one-fourth of parliament members must be women. Nearly 2,600 women ran for office this year.

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Associated Press writer Qassim Abdul-Zahra contributed to this report.(backslash)

## UN health agency aims to wipe out trans fats worldwide

By **MIKE STOBBE, AP Medical Writer**

NEW YORK (AP) — The World Health Organization has released a plan to help countries wipe out artery-clogging trans fats from the global food supply in the next five years.

The United Nations agency has in the past pushed to exterminate infectious diseases, but now it's aiming to erase a hazard linked to chronic illness.

In a statement Monday, the U.N. health agency said eliminating trans fats is critical to preventing deaths worldwide. WHO estimates that eating trans fats — commonly found in baked and processed foods — leads to the deaths of more than 500,000 people from heart disease every year.

"It's a crisis level, and it's major front in our fight now," WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said at a news conference in Geneva on Monday.

Officials think it can be done in five years because the work is well underway in many countries. Denmark did it 15 years ago, and since then the United States and more than 40 other higher-income countries have been working on getting the additives out of their food supplies.

The WHO is now pushing middle- and lower-income countries to pick up the fight, said Dr. Francesco Branca, director of the WHO's Department of Nutrition for Health and Development.

Artificial trans fats are unhealthy substances that are created when hydrogen is added to vegetable oil to make it solid, like in the creation of margarine or shortening. Health experts say they can be replaced with canola oil or other products. There are also naturally occurring trans fats in some meats and dairy products.

The WHO recommends that no more than 1 percent of a person's calories come from trans fats.

"Trans fats are a harmful compound that can be removed easily without major cost and without any impact on the quality of the foods," Branca said.

Countries will likely have to use regulation or legislation to get food makers to make the switch, experts said.

At the WHO news conference Monday, a representative from a leading food industry trade group said companies are working to reduce trans fats in their products.

"We call on food producers in our sector to take prompt action and we stand ready to support effective measures to work toward the elimination of industrially produced trans fats and ensure a level playing field in this area," said Rocco Rinaldi, secretary-general of the International Food and Beverage Alliance.

Dr. Tom Frieden, a former director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention who worked with WHO officials on the call to action, called its move unprecedented.



"The world is now setting its sights on today's leading killers — particularly heart disease, which kills more people than any other cause in almost every country," said Frieden, president of Resolve to Save Lives, a New-York-based project of an organization called Vital Strategies.

In the U.S., the first trans fatty food to hit the market was Crisco shortening, which went on sale in 1911. Trans fatty foods became increasingly popular beginning in the 1950s, partly because experts at the time thought they were healthier than cooking with butter or lard.

Food makers liked artificial trans fats because they prolonged product shelf life. They used them in doughnuts, cookies and deep-fried foods.

But studies gradually revealed that trans fats wreck cholesterol levels in the blood and drive up the risk of heart disease. Health advocates say trans fats are the most harmful fat in the food supply.

In the U.S., New York City in 2006 banned restaurants from serving food with trans fats. The same year the FDA required manufacturers to list trans fat content information on food labels.

Many manufacturers cut back, and studies showed trans fat levels in the blood of middle-aged U.S. adults fell by nearly 60 percent by the end of the decade.

In 2015, the FDA took steps to finish the job of eliminating trans fats, calling for manufacturers to stop selling trans fatty foods by June 18, 2018 — a deadline that arrives next month. FDA officials have not said how much progress has been made or how they will enforce their rule against food makers that don't comply.

"The removal of trans fats from the food supply as an additive counts as one of the major public health victories of the last decade," said Laura MacCleery, policy director for the Washington, D.C.-based advocacy group, Center for Science in the Public Interest.

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The Associated Press Health & Science Department receives support from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Department of Science Education. The AP is solely responsible for all content.

## Race is on to set up Europe's electric car charging network

By DAVID McHUGH, AP Business Writer

MUNICH (AP) — Charging an electric car away from home can be an exercise in uncertainty — hunting for that one lonely station at the back of a rest-area parking lot and hoping it's working.

In Europe, some of the biggest automakers are out to remove such anxieties from the battery-only driving experience and encourage electric-vehicle sales by building a highway network of fast charging stations. The idea is to let drivers plug in, charge in minutes instead of hours, and speed off on their way — from Norway to southern Italy and Portugal to Poland.

Much is at stake for the automakers, which include Volkswagen, BMW, Daimler and Ford. Their joint venture, Munich-based Ionity, is pushing to roll out its network in time to service the next generation of battery-only cars coming on the market starting next year. They're aiming to win back some of the market share for electric luxury car sales lost to Tesla, which has its own, proprietary fast-charging network.

Despite a slower-than-expected start, Ionity CEO Michael Hajesch told The Associated Press in an interview he's "confident" the company will reach its goal of 400 ultra-fast charging stations averaging six charging places each by 2020.

The idea is "to be able to drive long distances with battery electric vehicles, across Europe and to have the same experience at each station, meaning a very easy and comfortable customer journey," Hajesch said, speaking at the company's Munich headquarters near the 1972 Olympic stadium.

The idea is to break electric cars out of the early adopter niche, in which they are charged slowly overnight at home and used for short commutes.

"The sites we are looking for are really the A-sites," he said, "directly at the autobahn. Not down the road, not driving five kilometers into the next industrial area and finding a charging station somewhere, without light, or any amenities around, but right at the autobahn."

"If you're going from Hamburg to Munich, because it's a weekend trip to friends, typically you do not

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have much time," he said. So what counts will be "the speed of recharging your vehicles, and at the same time finding maybe some amenities: maybe a coffee, getting a newspaper or whatever."

Ionity opened its first station April 17 at a rest stop off the A61 highway near the small town of Niederzissen, 50 kilometers (30 miles) south of Bonn in western Germany. The six high-speed chargers are operating in "welcome mode," meaning they're free until May 31. After that, Ionity plans to charge for the power, which it seeks to obtain from renewable sources.

Ionity has agreements for some 300 sites, working with fueling station and rest stop landlords. The average distance between stations will be 120 kilometers (75 miles).

More charging availability is what it will take to get an environmentally aware car buyer like Rainer Hoedt to choose a battery-only vehicle. The 58-year-old Berlin geography teacher is a proud owner of a Mitsubishi Outlander, a plug-in hybrid that combines internal combustion with a battery he can charge overnight. The battery-only range of 50 kilometers (30 miles) lets him drive emissions free for daily trips at home.

But a family vacation of more than 200 kilometers (120 miles) to the Baltic Sea was a different story. Hoedt had to drive on internal combustion before finding a lone charging station as he approached his destination, using the [goingelectric.de](http://goingelectric.de) website.

"It was right next to the highway, there was one charging station and we were lucky that it was free," he said. But he couldn't find a charging station he could use by the seashore.

On the way back, he was able to charge at a rest stop, but only by asking a non-electric car owner to move his vehicle away from the lone charging pole. A battery-only car might never have made it home.

And he couldn't use one to visit his cousin 650 kilometers (400 miles) away in Rosenheim.

"I looked at the option... The infrastructure is still so bad, I just don't want to risk that I get stranded," he said. "Once the infrastructure gets better, that might be my next car."

Tesla has shown how charging infrastructure can drive vehicle sales. It has 1,229 stations with 9,623 fast chargers in Europe alone, where it has cut into Mercedes and BMW's sales of luxury cars. But it has its own proprietary plug. Ionity is using the CCS plug backed by the European Union as a common standard for all.

In both the U.S. and Europe, the situation is roughly similar: More chargers available in jurisdictions where government strongly backs electric vehicles, such as California, Norway or the Netherlands. Elsewhere, chargers get can harder to find for long stretches along rural highways.

Volkswagen, which agreed to invest in low-emission driving to settle charges it cheated on diesel emissions, is building 300 highway charging sites in the U.S. by June 2019 through its Electrify America unit. Japan has 40,000 charging points, exceeding its 34,000 gas stations, according to Nissan — but many of those are private garages.

Ionity is counting on the large 350-kilowatt capacity of its publicly available chargers — almost three times the 120 kilowatts per vehicle of Tesla's Superchargers. No car currently on the market can make full use of 350 kilowatt charging capacity. But they're coming: in 2019 Porsche plans to introduce the Mission E. Porsche says that the sleek, low-slung sports car will take 15 minutes to charge for 400 kilometers (250 miles) more driving.

Tesla and its founder, Elon Musk, "showed it's not enough to just build electric cars" without also building charging infrastructure, said Ferdinand Dudenhofer, director of the CAR Center Automotive Research at the University of Duisberg-Essen.

The automakers "are late, but it's better than it was... it remains the case that without Elon Musk the carmakers would not have realized this," he said.

## European spy chiefs warn of hybrid threats from Russia, IS

By FRANK JORDANS, Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — European intelligence chiefs warned Monday that Russia is actively seeking to undermine their democracies by disinformation, cyberattacks and more traditional means of espionage.

The heads of Britain and Germany's domestic intelligence agencies, as well as the European Union and NATO's top security officials, pinpointed Moscow as the prime source of hybrid threats to Europe, citing

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attempts to manipulate elections, steal sensitive data and spark a coup in Montenegro. They also cited the nerve agent attack against a former Russian spy in Britain this year that Britain has blamed on Russia.

"Our respect for Russia's people (...) cannot and must not stop us from calling out and pushing back on the Kremlin's flagrant breaches of international rules," the head of Britain's MI5 spy agency, Andrew Parker, told an intelligence gathering in Berlin.

Parker said the March 4 attack on Sergei Skripal and his daughter in Salisbury was swiftly followed by Russian attempts to divert blame. That resulted in at least 30 alternative theories about the attack being spread by Russian authorities and media.

"Whatever nonsense they conjure up, the case is clear," said Parker.

He later told reporters that since allied governments were first briefed on Russia's involvement in the attack by the British government, "the case, if anything, has got stronger since then."

Germany's domestic intelligence chief, Hans-Georg Maassen, said his agency, known as BfV, blames Russian authorities for orchestrating a persistent cyberattack aimed at stealing sensitive data so it can be used in future intelligence campaigns, such as what happened with the Democratic National Committee emails leaked during the 2016 U.S. presidential election campaign.

Maassen said authorities are particularly concerned about the possible funding of extremist groups aiming to divide European societies, and he called for greater awareness of hybrid attacks to counter such threats.

Sir Julian King, the EU's security commissioner, warned that social media had "turbocharged" state actors' ability to spread disinformation, citing the recent revelations about Cambridge Analytica's gathering of personal data from Facebook users to help manipulate elections.

King warned of future threats posed by sophisticated fake videos that are undiscernible from real footage, calling it an example of a "deadly weapon of mass disinformation" that societies need to find ways of becoming resilient to.

He also said the European Commission is working with social media companies such as Facebook and Twitter to better inform users about why they are seeing certain posts and who is paying for them, to help protect against disinformation campaigns by groups or governments outside the country.

NATO's assistant secretary general for intelligence and security, Arndt Freytag von Loringhoven, said the price of launching hybrid attacks needs to increase, citing the expulsion of 150 undeclared spies by Britain and its allies in the wake of the Salisbury attack.

Intelligence chiefs also noted the continued threat posed by Islamist extremism and the need to cooperate closely among European agencies, despite Britain's departure from the EU next year.

Parker, whose speech in Berlin was the first by a serving MI5 director outside Britain, said security agencies had thwarted 12 terrorist plots in the U.K. since Parliament was attacked in March 2017.

"We remain unwaveringly and absolutely committed to working together with European partners," he said, calling for security cooperation to be enshrined in future treaties between Britain and the EU.

Asked about whether disinformation played a role in Britain's Brexit referendum two years ago, Parker said: "I'm not aware of any information that suggests that the outcome was determined by any sort of interference."

He declined to say whether MI5 had registered any attempts at influencing the outcome.

Maassen, his German counterpart, said the Brexit referendum likely prompted spy chief in some countries "to nearly laugh their heads off" because it suited their interests.

On the question of foreign funding for political parties in Germany — an issue that has been repeatedly raised in connection with the rise of the far-right Alternative for Germany party — Maassen said: "There is no information I can give to you."

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Greg Katz in London contributed to this report.

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## Global stocks most lower amid trade uncertainty

By YURI KAGEYAMA, AP Business Writer

TOKYO (AP) — Global shares were mixed in muted trading Tuesday amid continuing uncertainty over trade tensions between China and the U.S. Investors were watching for U.S. retail sales data due out later in the day.

KEEPING SCORE: France's CAC 40 inched up less than 0.1 percent in early trading to 5,543.88, while Britain's FTSE 100 added 0.2 percent to 7,724.36. Germany's DAX slipped 0.2 percent to 12,957.66. U.S. shares were set to drift lower with Dow futures down 0.2 percent at 24,827. S&P 500 futures were also lower, down nearly 0.3 percent at 2,724.

ASIA'S DAY: Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 edged 0.2 percent lower to 22,818.02. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 lost 0.6 percent to 6,097.80. South Korea's Kospi slipped 0.7 percent to 2,458.54 while Hong Kong's Hang Seng dropped 1.2 percent to 31,152.03. The Shanghai Composite climbed 0.6 percent to 3,192.12.

CHINA FACTOR: President Donald Trump tweeted Sunday that he was working with President Xi Jinping of China to put Chinese telecom ZTE "back into business, fast" after U.S. sanctions threatened ZTE's existence and 70,000 Chinese jobs. Trade talks were due to resume in Washington on Tuesday. Trump has proposed imposing tariffs on up to \$150 billion in Chinese products. In retaliation, Beijing is threatening tariffs on \$50 billion in U.S. products.

WALL STREET: The S&P 500 index added 2.41 points, or 0.1 percent, to 2,730.13 on Monday. The Dow Jones industrial average climbed 68.24 points, or 0.3 percent, to 24,899.41. The Nasdaq composite rose 8.43 points, or 0.1 percent, to 7,411.32. Small-company stocks fell. The Russell 2000 index lost its early gains, sliding 6.45 points, or 0.4 percent, to 1,600.34.

THE QUOTE: "There's a number of data releases that will grab traders' attention today and could determine whether we see an early rebound in stock markets. The most notable of these is the retail sales data for April, which is expected to be relatively good for a second consecutive month following a few poor numbers that were a little worrying," Craig Erlam, a senior market analyst for Oanda, said in a commentary.

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude oil gained 13 cents to \$71.09 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. It rose 26 cents to \$70.96 a barrel in New York on Monday. Brent crude, used to price international oil, gained 40 cents to \$78.63 a barrel in London.

CURRENCIES: The dollar rose to 109.90 yen from 109.53 yen late Monday. The euro weakened to \$1.1927 from \$1.1974.

## Today in History By The Associated Press

### Today in History

Today is Tuesday, May 15, the 135th day of 2018. There are 230 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On May 15, 1968, two days of tornado outbreaks began in 10 Midwestern and Southern states; twisters were blamed for 72 deaths, including 45 in Arkansas and 18 in Iowa.

### On this date:

In 1567, Mary, Queen of Scots, married her third husband, James Hepburn, the Earl of Bothwell, who had been implicated in (but acquitted of) the death of Mary's second husband, Lord Darnley.

In 1776, Virginia authorized its delegation to the Continental Congress to support independence from Britain.

In 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed an act establishing the Department of Agriculture.

In 1918, U.S. airmail began service between Washington, D.C., Philadelphia and New York.

In 1928, the Walt Disney cartoon character Mickey Mouse made his debut in the silent animated short "Plane Crazy."

In 1930, registered nurse Ellen Church, the first airline stewardess, went on duty aboard an Oakland-to-Chicago flight operated by Boeing Air Transport, a forerunner of United Airlines.

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In 1948, hours after declaring its independence, the new state of Israel was attacked by Transjordan, Egypt, Syria, Iraq and Lebanon.

In 1958, Vice President Richard Nixon received a hero's welcome from President Dwight D. Eisenhower and other well-wishers on his return to Washington from a violence-marred tour of Latin America. The MGM movie musical "Gigi," starring Leslie Caron as a young French courtesan-in-training, was released.

In 1972, Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace was shot and left paralyzed while campaigning for president in Laurel, Maryland, by Arthur H. Bremer, who served 35 years for attempted murder.

In 1975, U.S. forces invaded the Cambodian island of Koh Tang and captured the American merchant ship Mayaguez, which had been seized by the Khmer Rouge. (All 39 crew members had already been released safely by Cambodia; some 40 U.S. servicemen were killed in connection with the operation.)

In 1988, the Soviet Union began the process of withdrawing its troops from Afghanistan, more than eight years after Soviet forces entered the country.

In 1998, hundreds of looters died inside a burning shopping mall in rioting that laid smoking waste to Indonesia's capital, Jakarta.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush, addressing the Israeli Knesset, gently urged Mideast leaders to "make the hard choices necessary for peace" and condemned what he called "the false comfort of appeasement." California's Supreme Court declared same-sex couples in the state could marry — a victory for the gay rights movement that was overturned the following November by the passage of Proposition 8, which was ultimately struck down by the courts. Emmy-winning composer Alexander "Sandy" Courage, who created the otherworldly theme for the original "Star Trek" TV series, died in Pacific Palisades, California, at age 88.

Five years ago: Under mounting pressure, President Barack Obama released a trove of documents related to the Benghazi attack and forced out the top official at the Internal Revenue Service following revelations the agency had targeted conservative political groups.

One year ago: The United States accused Syria of executing thousands of imprisoned political opponents and burning their bodies in a crematorium to hide the evidence. The Supreme Court shut the door on North Carolina Republicans' effort to revive a state law that mandated voter identification and scaled back early voting, provisions that a lower court said improperly targeted minority voters.

Today's Birthdays: Actress-singer Anna Maria Alberghetti is 82. Counterculture icon Wavy Gravy is 82. Former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright is 81. Singer Trini Lopez is 81. Singer Lenny Welch is 80. Actress-singer Lainie Kazan is 76. Actress Gunilla Hutton is 76. Country singer K.T. Oslin is 76. Actor Chazz Palminteri is 72. Former Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius is 70. Singer-songwriter Brian Eno is 70. Actor Nicholas Hammond (Film: "The Sound of Music") is 68. Baseball Hall of Famer George Brett is 65. Musician-composer Mike Oldfield is 65. Actor Lee Horsley is 63. TV personality Giselle Fernandez is 57. Actress Brenda Bakke is 55. Football Hall of Famer Emmitt Smith is 49. Actor Brad Rowe is 48. Actor David Charvet (shahr-VAY') is 46. Actor Russell Hornsby is 44. Rock musician Ahmet Zappa is 44. Olympic gold medal gymnast Amy Chow is 40. Actor David Krumholtz is 40. Rock musician David Hartley (The War on Drugs) is 38. Actress Jamie-Lynn Sigler is 37. Actress Alexandra Breckenridge is 36. Rock musician Brad Shultz (Cage the Elephant) is 36. Rock musician Nick Perri is 34. Tennis player Andy Murray is 31.

Thought for Today: "History is a better guide than good intentions." — Jeane J. Kirkpatrick, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations (1926-2006).