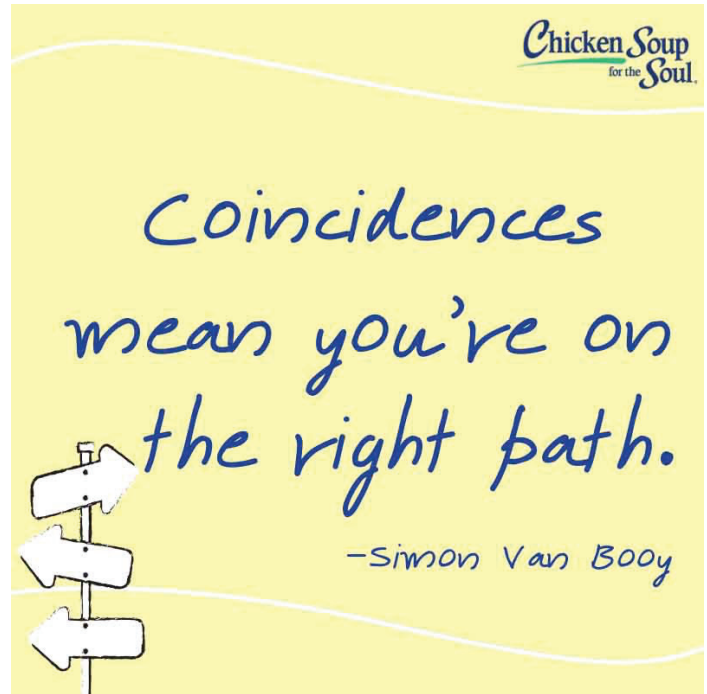


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## Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Swimming Pool Hours

**Open Swim Daily:** 1 p.m. to 4:50 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to 8:50 p.m.

**Fun Night** is every Friday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:50 p.m.

**Adult Water Aerobics:** Monday through Thursday: 8 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. to 6:15 pm

**Adult Lap Swim:** Monday through Friday: 7 a.m. to 8 a.m.; Monday through Thursday: 5:30 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.; Friday-Sunday: 4:50 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

**Swimming Lessons:** First Session: June 17-27

### **CLOSED:** Recycling Trailer in Groton

The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave. It takes cardboard, papers and aluminum cans.

#### **Sunday, June 2**

4:00 p.m.: Legion hosts Milbank, (DH)

4 p.m.: Locke Electric Amateurs at Redfield

#### **Monday, June 3**

5:30 p.m.: Junior Teeners host Webster, (DH)

6:00 p.m.: U12 Midgets at Webster, (DH)

6:00 p.m.: U10 Pee Wees at Webster, (DH) (R,B)

6:00 p.m.: U8 Pee Wees host Britton, (DH)s (R,B)

6:00 p.m.: T-Ball Practice at Soccer Field (both)

Softball at Ipswich (U8 at 6 p.m., U10 at 7 p.m.)

#### **Tuesday, June 4**

5:30 p.m.: U10 Pee Wees host Borge (R,W)

5:30 p.m.: U8 Pee Wees host Borge on Nelson Field, (DH) (B)

6:30 p.m.: U12 Midgets host Borge

Olive Grove Golf Course: Bridge at Noon, Ladies League at 6 p.m.

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## Half-Staff Flag Notification

Honoring the Victims of the Virginia Beach Shooting - Until June 4th, 2019

As a mark of solemn respect for the victims of the terrible act of violence perpetrated on May 31st, 2019, the President has proclaimed that the flag of the United States shall be flown at half-staff until sunset, June 4th, 2019.

Fly the U.S. flag at half-staff until sunset, June 4th, 2019. For U.S. flags displayed on a short staff or for indoor flags that cannot be lowered to half-staff, place a Black Mourning Ribbon above the full staffed U.S. flag.

With a telescoping pole it is acceptable to put the U.S. flag on the second set of rings instead of the top set. In this case the top set would be left empty.

When the United States flag is flown at half-staff, state & other flags should be removed or flown at half-staff as well.

## Carnival of Silver Skates committee needs one more person

We are still looking for at least one more person willing to serve on the Silver Skates board for this next skating year. Please consider giving some of your time and talents to support this worthwhile community activity. We will be meeting tomorrow (Sunday, June 2) at 7:00 p.m. at Dairy Queen. You may also contact Chairperson Lindsey Tietz or any other board members with questions. Thank you!

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**Karla Pasteur was watering the flowers at the pool Saturday evening.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)



**During their break from lifeguarding at the pool, Tanae Lipp and Alexis Hanten were busy studying for the WSI.**

**The WSI (Water Safety Instructor Course) course is available to students ages 16 and older. Learn to teach the American Red Cross Infant and Preschool Aquatics Program and the six levels of the Learn to Swim Program.**

(Photo by Paul Kosel)

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## Governor Noem's Statement on Year-Round E15 Announcement

PIERRE, S.D. – After years of pressure from Governor Kristi Noem and others, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) today announced the removal of regulatory burdens preventing the sale of E15 (15 percent ethanol blends) year-round.

"To stabilize the ag economy, we need to expand market access. This announcement is a step in the right direction," said Governor Noem. "South Dakota is a national leader in ethanol production, and this move by the EPA will remove unnecessary federal regulations and present further market opportunities for producers, bringing benefits directly to our farmers and local economies, easing the impact of high gas prices on our pocketbooks, and reducing our dependence on foreign oil. President Trump and I have had many conversations about the expansion of E15, and I'm grateful that his administration is further opening access to our homegrown fuels."

Noem currently serves as vice chair of the Governors' Biofuels Coalition. Formerly serving as co-chair of the Congressional Biofuels Caucus, Noem has been a leading ethanol advocate, putting immense pressure on the Trump administration to lift E15 restrictions and allow year-round usage. She has met on numerous occasions with President Trump and top administration officials on the topic and led more than 20 House members in urging the EPA to approve expanded ethanol opportunities.

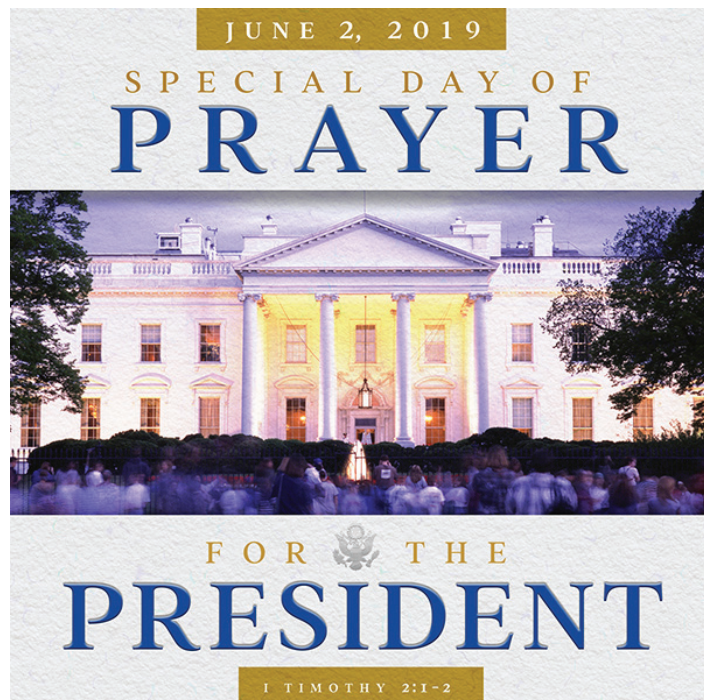
## Rounds Report: EPA Finalizes Rule Allowing for Year-Round Sales of E-15

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released its final rule allowing year-round sales of E-15. This is welcome news for South Dakotans, especially as the busy summer driving season begins.

Corn and corn ethanol production are critical to South Dakota's economy, and the corn ethanol industry supports thousands of jobs in our state. Year-round E-15 sales could result in approximately 700 million gallons of additional ethanol sold annually, or 280 million bushels of corn. E-15 also lowers evaporative and tailpipe emissions when compared to 10 percent ethanol fuel, so it's better for the environment. Securing the ability to sell E-15 year-round is great news for our agriculture industry.

E-15 is 15 percent ethanol blended with 85 percent gasoline. The EPA's final rule will now allow E-15 to be sold during all months of the year without additional Reid Vapor Pressure (RVP) control, rather than just eight months of the year.

I thank EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler and President Donald Trump for their support of year-round E-15 sales. I was happy to have had the opportunity to work with them on this issue over the past few years, and I'm glad to see this rule finalized.



Dear Friend,

Don't forget this Sunday, June 2, is a special day of prayer for the President, Donald J. Trump. Our nation is in trouble, and the President needs God's wisdom and guidance as he leads and makes decisions that impact all of our lives.

As you gather in church, Sunday school, small group, as a family, or even pray alone, remember this one truth: "The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working" (James 5:16, ESV). God hears the prayers of His people, and He answers them!

Would you add your name to the growing list of Christians across the nation who are praying for the President this Sunday? If we don't join together in prayer now, what will be left of America for our children and grandchildren?

Thank you for praying. May God richly bless you.

Sincerely,

Franklin Graham

President,

Billy Graham Evangelistic Association  
& Samaritan's Purse

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CONGRESSMAN  
**DUSTY JOHNSON**  
Representing **SOUTH DAKOTA** at large



## D.C. Needs to Know About Wet Conditions

Agriculture producers need relief. For months, South Dakota and our neighboring states faced record flooding and now we're seeing continued wet conditions from rainfall. For those of us who didn't grow up in Ag, rainstorms are equated with things like blankets, movies, and cancelled ball games. For South Dakota producers, more rain means delay. It means folks can't plant their crops — it means folks can't make a living.

The USDA crop progress report tells us that only 25% of our intended corn acres are planted, but that's not a surprise to South Dakota's farmers and ranchers.

South Dakota producers are resilient and survived one of the harshest winters on record, followed by devastating spring flooding and a delayed planting season. Last week, Ron from Marion contacted my office. Ron and his son are farmers and feed cattle. He let me know that almost nothing has been planted in his area and he won't be able to feed his cattle unless straw was shipped in from across the state.

Much of the national media doesn't view continual moisture as a flood — it doesn't make the front pages and the Speaker isn't demanding to bring to the issue to the floor for debate. But for those families praying for the sun to shine or for just one good day of dry fields, there is nothing more important.

As a nation we pride ourselves on our ability to help our neighbors in need and provide assistance where we can.

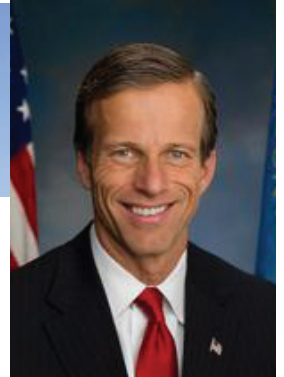
I appreciate the administration's recent announcement that it will provide \$16 billion in farm assistance to producers, but we need to find a solution for the long-term. This problem isn't new. The United States is in its fifth year of declining commodity prices and net farm income. Our producers need certainty when weather conditions stall their production, our producers need an open-market, and our producers need Congress to pass the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement.

To me, making crop insurance and prevent plant work, cutting red tape to make sure our livestock producers have enough feed to get through the year, and keeping our focus on market access are some things we absolutely can and should unite on to find common sense solutions. I'm glad to have two effective colleagues in the Senate to help me with this challenge as well as other members of the House facing similar problems from Arkansas to Illinois.

When Congress returns to work next work, passing a disaster package must be our top priority.

To do this, my colleagues need to understand what "wet conditions" truly mean. To South Dakotans, wet conditions can be the breaking point for family farms and rural communities. That's the message I plan to bring back to D.C. next week as we get to work for producers.

**John Thune**  
U.S. SENATOR - SOUTH DAKOTA



## Dialing in on Robocall Scammers

After the Senate recently passed my TRACED Act, bipartisan legislation that targets people who are behind illegal and abusive robocalls, I joked that if a Packers fan and a Patriots fan can work together (I teamed up with Sen. Ed Markey from Massachusetts), there's hope for the country. Tongue in cheek, yes, but there's a bit of truth to it, too. There are plenty of areas where members of Congress disagree, but there's not enough focus on the things we agree on, like ending illegal robocalls.

Saying the TRACED Act simply passed the Senate would be an understatement, though, since it was overwhelmingly approved by a vote of 97 to 1, something that doesn't happen every day in the Senate. In fact, the TRACED Act passed by a larger margin than any other bill that has been considered on the Senate floor for a roll call vote during this entire Congress. Why? Well, because it's about as commonsense and straightforward as it comes.

The TRACED Act has three main pillars. First, it lays the groundwork for putting some teeth into the law that would help punish and deter mass robocallers. I believe a credible threat of criminal prosecution – putting people behind bars – is both necessary and appropriate for someone who is willing, for example, to scam an elderly South Dakotan by telling them their grandchild is stranded overseas and needs a large sum of money to receive help. It's hard to believe someone would do something like that, but I've heard countless stories just like this one.

As a result, the bill would require people and entities who would be responsible for investigating and enforcing criminal violations, like experts from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), the law enforcement community, the telecommunications industry, and others, to come up with the appropriate framework to define how to most effectively go after these bad guys. It would then be up to Congress to make the law, but given that the TRACED Act passed with near unanimous support, I'm confident we'd be able to move the ball down the field.

The second pillar of my bill would increase the financial penalty for offenders and expand the window in which fines could be levied. Under current law, there is little, if anything, that can be done to penalize scammers more than one year after an illegal call is made. The TRACED Act would expand the timeframe from one year to three years and increase the financial penalty in the second and third years from zero dollars to up to \$10,000 per call.

Finally, my bill goes after spoofed calls – the kind of calls that come from a familiar number (sometimes even an identical known number) but is clearly a scammer who is targeting you or your family. The bill would require the FCC to adopt an industry-wide framework for call authentication to ensure the number that shows up on your phone is truly associated with the person making the call. It would also make it far easier for carriers – think Verizon, AT&T, Sprint, etc. – to block calls that aren't properly authenticated. In other words, it would help create a system where these scam or spoofed calls never reach your phone in the first place.

Collectively, while not a cure-all, the improvements in the TRACED Act would go a long way toward thwarting illegal robocalls. The bill is supported by all 50 state attorneys general, all current commissioners at the FCC and FTC, consumer and industry groups around the country, including AARP, and nearly the entire U.S. Senate. Even Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) said, "The TRACED Act is just what we need to hang up on these non-stop robocalls, and the House should follow the Senate's lead and pass it ASAP." I don't say it often, but I couldn't agree more with Sen. Schumer.

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## SOUTH DAKOTA GOVERNOR **KRISTI NOEM**



### **Connecting South Dakota**

We have it pretty good in South Dakota. From beautifully laid and intricate landscapes, to revitalized hometown main streets and top-ranked higher education, there is so much that makes South Dakota special. But as the saying goes, "there is so much more."

I've heard it said that 65 percent of children in elementary school today will work in jobs that don't even exist yet. Read that again. That's a significant percentage. These jobs will undoubtedly require access to technology, particularly the internet.

But today, widespread broadband access in South Dakota isn't as widespread as we may think. In fact, about 88,000 South Dakotans lack high-speed internet access. These people cannot launch an online business or take advanced classes that require extensive uploading or downloading. Producers in these areas may not be able to use cutting-edge technology that requires online components.

As businesspeople, a gap in broadband internet is a failure to remain competitive. A failure to remain competitive threatens a cut in profit. A cut in profit may force a business to close. And when a business closes, jobs, sales tax income, school enrollment, and community reinvestment suffers, too. The internet – or lack thereof – connects us to more than just what we see on the screen. It connects us to our neighbors locally and our business potential globally.

During my State of the State Address in January, I tasked the Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) with spearheading this broadband challenge. From research to implementation, GOED rose to the occasion, ensuring this major initiative wasn't something we just talked about—it was something that became a reality.

I'm grateful for the partnership of the Legislature as we approved \$5 million in grant money to launch our broadband development program, Connect South Dakota. And I'm proud of the private-public partnerships we forged through this process. The eight projects awarded grant money will be incredibly influential in bringing internet access to underserved parts of South Dakota.

Like Ross Petrick, Alliance Communications General Manager said: "Many students in this area [north-east Minnehaha and southeastern Moody counties] struggle to complete homework at home due to the broadband gap, and one large dairy operation is struggling with no broadband capability. A fiber-optic broadband infrastructure will help farming and dairy operations run more efficiently and provide new educational opportunities and telecommuting employment options."

Collectively, these eight projects will connect about 4,800 unserved and underserved households and more than 100 South Dakota businesses by the end of 2019, and they're optimistic about the results they will produce.

"With higher speeds and more broadband capacity, the residents of Kranzburg and rural Codington County will no longer have to make do with sub-standard service," said Scott Bostrom, General Manager of RC Technologies. Mona Thompson, General Manager of Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Telephone Authority said that "bringing fast, reliable, high-capacity broadband service to Timber Lake will greatly enhance all aspects of community life."

This is only the beginning of our work to bring high-speed internet access to as many South Dakotans as possible. We can't connect everyone overnight, but I'm committed to doing everything I can to connect South Dakota to a better, brighter tomorrow. We owe it to our future: our children, the next generation.

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## Saving the People from Their Government

When you sent me to Washington 4 1/2 years ago, I pledged to work on your behalf to get government out of the way and stop interfering with your everyday lives. I've always believed Americans flourish best in an environment that values personal freedoms and encourages innovation. For too long, the federal government has operated with a "Washington knows best" mentality.

When we discuss ways to reduce government interference, I often look to President Ronald Reagan, who set the gold standard for limited government. Through the "Reagan Revolution," he sought to reduce Americans' reliance on the federal government. We continue to embrace this ideal in the United States Senate.

We already have too much government. With more than 1 million federal regulations on the books and laws such as Dodd-Frank and Obamacare enacted over the past decade, part of our focus when introducing legislation is how we can limit government and eliminate burdensome regulations. For example, last year we passed S. 2155, an effort to reduce burdensome regulations on community banks and credit unions. I was proud to offer seven provisions to that package, which was the first major rollback of Dodd-Frank. I've also introduced the RESPECT Act which would eliminate a number of offensive, outdated statutes that are still part of current law related to Native Americans. There is no reason laws should still be on the books today allowing for the forced removal of Native American children from their homes to be sent to boarding schools or the federal government to withhold rations or money owed to Native Americans.

President Reagan often said that government is not the solution, government is the problem. We see evidence of this regularly in our office. In fact, a significant part of our job is to help South Dakotans having trouble dealing with a federal agency. Our state staff is trained to help people navigate the federal bureaucracy, often when they have nowhere else to turn. We've helped veterans receive long overdue medals, helped families who aren't receiving social security and other benefits and helped people dealing with immigration issues, just to name a few.

My office has also spent a significant amount of time urging the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to do its job and fulfill its legal obligation to make certain that veterans with private health insurance are covered by the VA if their outside insurance does not cover the full amount of non-VA emergency care. Despite its unanimous support and clear congressional intent, the VA has continued its previous policy of denying veterans' eligible emergency room claims. Such instances of federal agencies failing to live up to their promises to the American people are unacceptable.

In South Dakota, we value our freedom. Freedom to choose our health care and our doctors. Freedom from high taxes that the government decides how to spend. Freedom to exercise our Second Amendment right to bear arms and protect our families. Our office continues to seek ways to get government out of the way so individuals can go about their lives freely and without worry of government intrusion. Visit my website, [www.rounds.senate.gov](http://www.rounds.senate.gov), to contact any of my offices if you ever need assistance. In South Dakota we just don't need more Washington over-regulation.



# NOW HIRING!

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## Today in Weather History

June 2, 1891: An estimated F3 tornado moved northeast, passing one mile south of Hazel in Hamlin County, where three people were killed in a barn. The farm home was entirely swept away. A horse was seen being carried in the air for 400 yards. The tornado was estimated to be on the ground for about 5 miles.

After touching down, an estimated F2 tornado moved northeast along the eastern edge of Watertown, where a barn was destroyed, and debris was scattered for a half mile. Two homes were leveled 5 miles northeast of Watertown. Near Waverly, one person was injured in the destruction of a flour mill. This tornado was estimated to be on the ground for about 15 miles.

June 2, 1964: Some bitter cold temperatures were observed during the early morning hours on the 2nd. Some low temperatures include; 27 degrees 12 miles SSW of Harrold; 28 degrees in Andover and 23 N of Highmore; 29 degrees 4 NW of Gann Valley, Redfield, and 2 NW of Stephan; 30 degrees in Castlewood and 1 W of Highmore; 31 degrees in Britton, 1 NW of Faulkton, and in Kennebec; and 32 degrees in McLaughlin.

June 2, 2008: Several supercell thunderstorms rolled southeast from northwest South Dakota into central South Dakota bringing large hail, damaging winds, and flash flooding during the late afternoon and evening hours. The large hail, up to baseball size, and high winds killed a large number of birds, pheasants, grouse, and rabbits. Thousands of acres of grassland and cropland along with many shelter belts received minor to major damage in Stanley and Hughes County. The large hail also knocked out many windows and damaged the siding of tens of buildings and homes in both Stanley and Hughes counties. Many roads and cropland were also affected by flash flooding throughout Hughes and Stanley counties. Very heavy rain of over 3 inches caused flash flooding in many parts of Pierre into the early morning hours. Many roads were reportedly flooded with 1 to 2 feet of water. Several homes in southeast Pierre received sewer backup. Also, several houses on Grey Goose Road received flood damage. A Federal Disaster Declaration was issued for Hughes and Stanley counties mainly for the flooding. Tennis ball hail broke most of the west side windows out of the house near Mission Ridge in Stanley County. Hail up to the size of baseballs fell in Pierre breaking some windows out of homes and vehicles. Very heavy rains of 2 to 4 inches fell across much of Stanley County causing extensive flash flooding. Seventeen roads also sustained some form of damage from the flooding.






1889: The same storm that caused the historic dam failure in Johnstown, PA, also affected Washington, D.C. The streets and reservations in the center of the city and all the wharves and streets along the riverfront were under water. Pennsylvania Avenue was flooded from 2nd to 10th Streets. The Potomac River crested at the Aqueduct Bridge at 19.5 feet on June 2. Additionally, damage occurred on Rock Creek, with the Woodley Lane Bridge washed away. Considerable damage occurred to machinery plants and material at the Navy Yard.

1917: The temperature at Tribune, Kansas dipped to 30 degrees to establish a state record for June.

1998: Frostburg, Maryland on June 2, 1998, at 9:45 PM - This was part of a killer outbreak of tornadoes that moved southeast from Pennsylvania. The storm entered Garrett County, Maryland striking the town of Finzel. It then moved up and over Big Savage Mountain in Allegany County and ripped through the northern portion of Frostburg. It reached its peak strength as it crossed the ridge. Winds were estimated between 210 and 250 mph (F4 on the Fujita Tornado Damage Scale). This was the first tornado to "officially" be rated an "F4" in the State of Maryland. The National Weather Service adopted the Fujita Damage Scale in 1973. The total damage path of the Frostburg tornado was over 25 miles long (8 miles in Allegany County) and up to a half-mile wide. Along most of its path, it was producing winds over 125 mph (F2 or stronger). The damage path was continuous as it moved up and down over 2000-foot mountain ridges. The fact that no one was killed in Maryland was attributed to 5 to 10 minutes warning that was well communicated to people in Frostburg over television, radio, scanners, telephones, and sirens. People took quick action to move to their basements. A mother and child rode out the storm as it destroyed their house hiding under a table in the basement. They were shaken but unharmed. A jacket from a Frostburg home was found 25 miles away. A diploma was found near Winchester, Virginia, 60 miles away and a bill was found near Sterling Virginia (about 100 miles away).

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Today	Tonight	Monday	Monday Night	Tuesday
				
Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Cloudy then Slight Chance T-storms	Partly Sunny then Chance T-storms
High: 75 °F	Low: 52 °F	High: 82 °F	Low: 60 °F	High: 84 °F

**Beat The Heat!**

- Highs in the **80s** several days this week
- Stay **hydrated** and stay **cool**



 **NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE**  
OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

Updated: 6/2/2019 4:06 AM Central

Published on: 06/02/2019 at 5:12AM

For early June, it's going to be warm, above normal warm, several days this week. Plan ahead, and make sure you've got a way to stay cool this week.

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## Yesterday's Groton Weather

High Temp: 72 °F at 6:39 PM

Low Temp: 50 °F at 6:07 AM

Wind: 19 mph at 2:16 AM

Day Rain: 0.00

## Today's Info

Record High: 100° in 2017

Record Low: 30° in 1946

Average High: 73°F

Average Low: 50°F

Average Precip in June.: 0.11

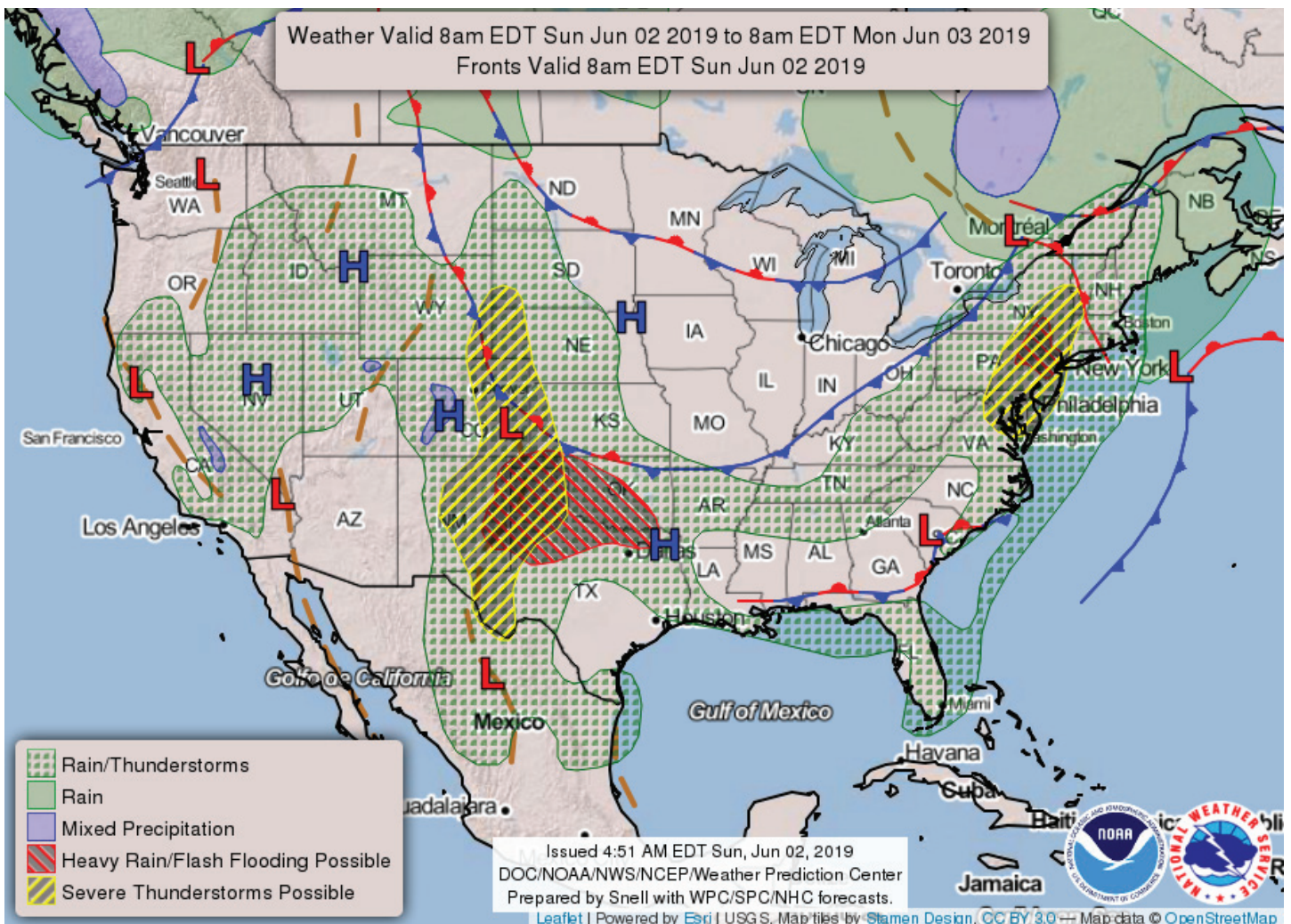
Precip to date in June.: 0.00

Average Precip to date: 7.14

Precip Year to Date: 7.97

Sunset Tonight: 9:16 p.m.

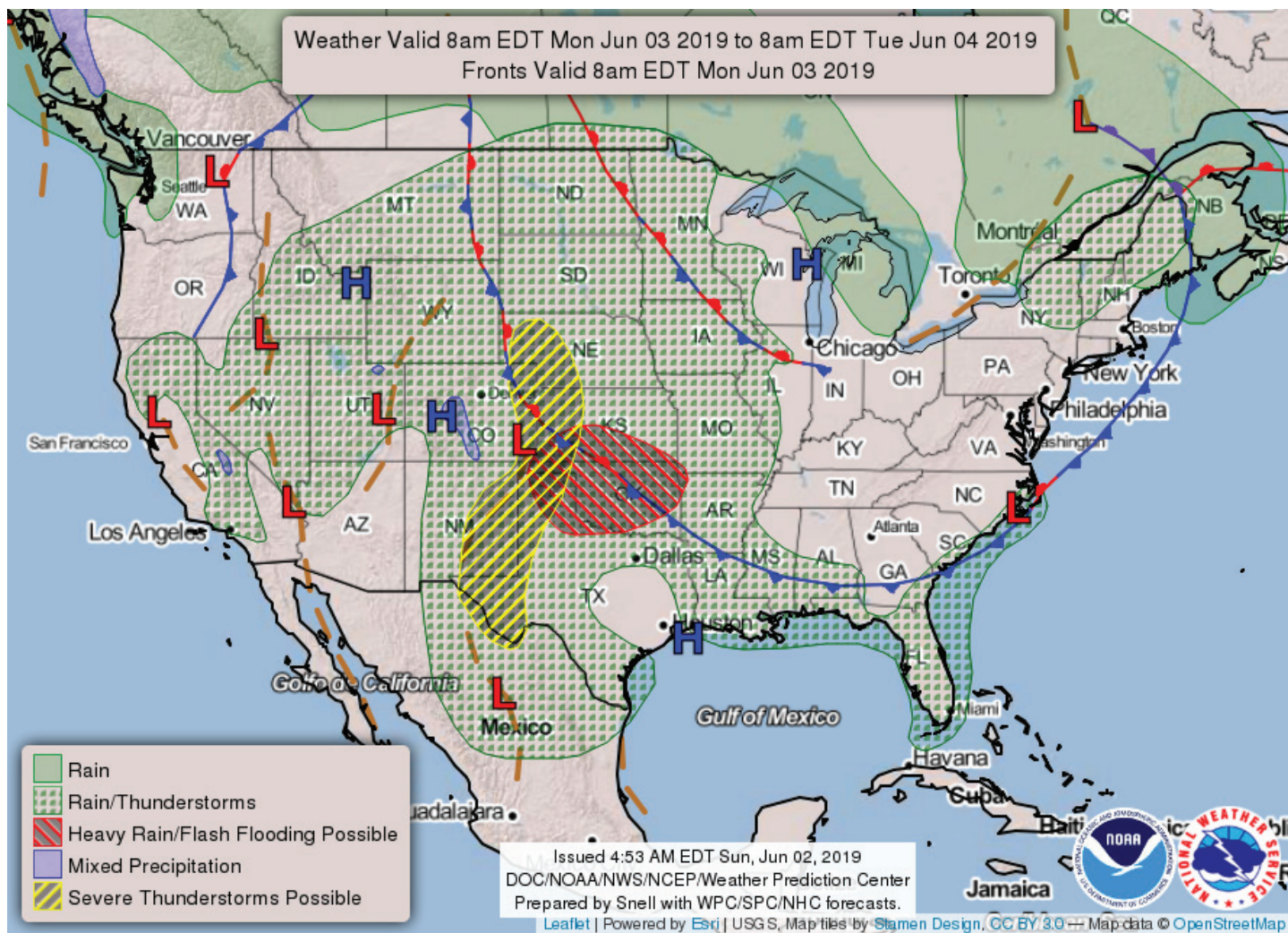
Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:48 a.m.



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## Tomorrow's Weather Map



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## FEAR HUMILITY - WISDOM - HONOR

Everything has a beginning. Everything has an ending. But there are many things in between.

Lets return to a familiar theme in Proverbs: The fear of the Lord. But in this verse, we are told that The fear of the Lord teaches a man wisdom. Initially, the fear of the Lord was the beginning - the foundation of wisdom. It was presented as the most fundamental part of life. Here, it takes on a new meaning.

The fear of the Lord teaches a man wisdom. Humility precedes honor. It may not seem as though there is a large difference in the two phrases, but there certainly is. In this passage, we are taught that if we fear God it can bring us into a relationship with Him where He is able to let us know what we need to change in our lives if we become humble! Then we can make changes - whatever they are - and will come to a greater understanding of His wisdom, of ourselves, and what we need to do to grow to become more like His Son.

The key word in this verse is the word humility. Not only will fearing God enable us to begin the process of learning His wisdom - but by becoming humble we will receive honor that comes from Him, not others, as we willingly accept His teachings.

Others may recognize us, even respect us, for the wisdom we possess. They may even honor us in one way or another. But to be honored by Him is the greatest gift in life.

We will only receive this honor by being in His presence, kneeling before Him in awe, worship and praise, which begins with and can only come from a sense of deep humility.

Prayer: Father, we cannot understand Your holiness until we admit our sinfulness and repent in deep humility. May we realize our need to honor You with humility. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Proverbs 15:33 Wisdoms instruction is to fear the Lord, and humility comes before honor.

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## 2019 Groton SD Community Events

- 01/27/2019 Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm (Last Sunday of January)
- 03/17/2019 Legion Post #39 Spring Fundraiser (Sunday closest to St. Patrick's Day, every other year)
- 04/13/2019 Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
- 04/27/2019 Fireman's Stag (Same Saturday as GHS Prom)
- 05/04/2019 Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday in May)
- 05/27/2019 Legion Post #39 Memorial Day Program (Memorial Day)
- 06/13/2019 Transit Fundraiser (Thursday Mid-June)
- 06/14/2019 SDSU Golf Tournament at Olive Grove Golf Course
- 06/15/2019 Triathlon (Saturday before Father's Day)
- 06/21/2019 Best Ball Golf Tourney
- 06/22-23/2019 Groton Junior Legion Tournament
- 06/29/2019 Groton U10/U12 Round Robin Tournament
- 07/04/2019 Firecracker Golf Tourney (4th of July)
- 07/14/2019 Summer Fest/Car Show (Sunday Mid-July)
- 07/18/2019 Olive Grove Golf Course Pro Am Tournament
- 07/21/2019 Granary Ice Cream Social & Family Music Fest
- 08/02/2019 Olive Grove Golf Course Wine on Nine
- 08/09-11/2019 State Junior Legion Tournament in Groton
- 08/22/2019 First Day of School
- 09/07/2019 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
- 09/08/2019 Sunflower Classic at Olive Grove Golf Course
- 09/08/2019 Granary Living History Fall Festival
- 10/12/2019 Pumpkin Fest (Saturday before Columbus Day)
- 10/11/2019 Lake Region Marching Band Festival (2nd Friday in October)
- 10/31/2019 Trunk or Treat/Halloween on Main (Halloween)
- 11/09/2019 Legion Post #39 Turkey Shoot (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)
- 12/07/2019 Olive Grove Golf Course Holiday Party
- 12/07/2019 Santa Claus Day at Professional Management Services
- Bingo: every Wednesday at the Legion Post #39

## 2020 Groton SD Community Events

- 4/4/2020 Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
- 4/25/2020 Fireman's Stag (Same Saturday as GHS Prom)
- 5/2/2020 Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday in May)

## News from the Associated Press

### SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Dakota Cash

04-05-11-13-17

(four, five, eleven, thirteen, seventeen)

Estimated jackpot: \$462,000

Lotto America

05-11-23-32-36, Star Ball: 10, ASB: 2

(five, eleven, twenty-three, thirty-two, thirty-six; Star Ball: ten; ASB: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$20.44 million

Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: \$475 million

Powerball

06-15-34-45-52, Powerball: 8, Power Play: 2

(six, fifteen, thirty-four, forty-five, fifty-two; Powerball: eight; Power Play: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$350 million

### Motorists rescued from high water in Rapid City area

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Crews have been rescuing motorists stranded by flooding in the Rapid City area. A driver was extricated from a vehicle after getting stranded by flash flooding in Rapid City Friday evening. The driver called 911, and the Rapid City Fire Department responded with a 100-foot aerial platform. Emergency responders extended the ladder to the vehicle, and firefighters passed a life jacket through the car's window to the driver, who was taken to a hospital for evaluation.

The Rapid City Journal reports another motorist tried to drive through a flooded road and was swept away before being stopped by a tree. That driver also was rescued.

On Saturday, crews rescued a couple and their dog after their home in Box Elder was inundated with water and they needed help getting out.

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

### South Dakota planting season off to slowest start in decades

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota's planting season is off to its slowest start in decades. The wet spring has put corn and soybeans behind schedule. As of last Sunday, South Dakota farmers had planted only a quarter of the corn they intend to plant this year. That's well behind the 90 percent farmers have usually planted by now.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's weekly crop report, only 6 percent of soybeans were planted by Sunday. Normally, two-thirds of soybeans have been planted in South Dakota by then.

USDA state statistician Erik Gerlach told the Argus Leader this year has pushed 1995 out of the top spot for slowest planting season. That year, farmers had 43 percent of corn and 25 percent of soybeans planted by this time.

The percentages are a statewide overview of planting.

"Up north, they've got more of the crop in than around Sioux Falls and west of Sioux Falls," Gerlach said.

South Dakota Department of Agriculture spokeswoman Maggie Stensaas said department officials are hopeful that farmers will be able to get through this year's weather challenges.



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"The (South Dakota) Secretary of Agriculture Kim Vanneman always says that what she's learned in her experience is that agriculture is cyclical, and we're in a downside and we're going to get out of it," Stansaaas said. "They're strong, they're smart, and we will persevere. It's just a tough time to get through now."

President Doug Noem of the South Dakota Corn Growers Association says the wet spring has been "unprecedented" for corn producers.

"Last year, we raised about 800 million bushels of corn in the state, and this year we're at 25 percent planting," Noem said. "I don't know if we get to 50 percent plant, we'd have 400 million bushels available, we're not sure."

Typically, Noem has April 20 as a target to plant corn on his farm south of Watertown. But he began planting May 15 this year and only had three days of planting. He does not plan to plant any more corn, but said he may plant some soybeans and then take prevented plant insurance coverage.

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

## Crews filling in sinkhole that opened up in Rapid City

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Crews have started filling in a sinkhole that opened in a Rapid City neighborhood. City crews on Friday began backfilling the sinkhole, which was discovered Thursday in front of a home in the northwestern part of the city.

Public Works Director Dale Tech says a "void deep underground" gave way, causing the sinkhole.

The Rapid City Journal reports the pit grew to a depth of 31 feet (9 meters) and measured 29 feet (8.8 meters) from north to south.

Work on filling the sinkhole will continue into the coming week.

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

## South Dakota reservation declares emergency after flooding

EAGLE BUTTE, S.D. (AP) — Officials of the Cheyenne River Reservation in South Dakota have declared a state of emergency after flooding along the Cheyenne River.

Spring storms and flooding have forced several roads to close on the reservation.

KNBN-TV reports the road closures are forcing residents to drive miles out of their way. The closings also will disrupt summer school bus routes and force schools to dip into their budgets to add more service vehicles.

Officials say the road closures also will add time for emergency crews to respond to remote areas.

## China blames US for trade dispute, 'unacceptable demands'

By CHRISTOPHER BODEEN Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — China issued a report Sunday blaming the United States for a trade dispute and said it won't back down on "major issues of principle," but offered no clarification about what additional steps it will take to up the ante.

The statement from the Cabinet spokesman's office said that China has kept its word throughout 11 rounds of talks and will honor its commitments if a trade agreement is reached. It accused the U.S. of backtracking three times over the course of the talks by introducing new tariffs and other conditions beyond what was agreed on.

"But the more the U.S. government is offered, the more it wants," it said, accusing America's negotiators of "resorting to intimidation and coercion."

"A country's sovereignty and dignity must be respected, and any agreement reached by the two sides must be based on equality and mutual benefit," it said.

The U.S. has accused China of stealing trade secrets and forced technology transfers. The Trump admin-

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istration has imposed 25% tariffs on \$250 billion in Chinese imports and is planning to tax the \$300 billion in imports that have so far been spared. It also escalated the stakes this month by putting the Chinese telecom giant Huawei on a blacklist that effectively bars U.S. companies from supplying it with computer chips, software and other components without government approval.

Beijing responded by imposing tariffs on \$60 billion worth of U.S. products, which went into effect Saturday. It also retaliated against the U.S. blacklisting of Huawei by announcing Friday that it will establish its own list of "unreliable entities" consisting of foreign businesses, corporations and individuals.

Wang Shouwen, vice commerce minister and deputy international trade representative, said China would issue more detailed information on the unreliable entities list soon, but said it was aimed at enterprises that "violated market principles" and cut supplies of components to Chinese businesses for non-commercial reasons.

Such actions affected China's national security and the public interest, he said.

"So for these practices, those enterprises will be included in our list of unreliable entities," Wang said, adding that the significance of the list should not be "over-interpreted."

China's statement that it intends to publish such a list follows additional measures last week that deepened the bite of U.S. sanctions imposed on Chinese electronics giant Huawei in mid-May.

Several leading U.S.-based global technology standards-setting groups announced restrictions on Huawei's participation in their activities under the U.S. Commerce Department rules, which bar the sale and transfer of U.S. technology to Huawei without government approval.

Wang also repeated suggestions that China could restrict the export of exotic minerals known as rare earths that are widely used in electric cars and mobile phones. Foremost among them is lithium, the main component in modern batteries.

The threat to use China's rich supply of rare earths as leverage in the conflict has contributed to sharp losses in U.S. stocks and sliding long-term bond yields.

"If some countries use China's rare earth metals to produce products to contain China's development, this is unacceptable by standards of both minds and hearts," Wang said.

Being published in eight languages, Sunday's report lays out China's argument for blaming Washington for the frictions as well as the costs to both sides.

"Whatever the future might bring, China is confident of meeting challenges head on, turning risks into opportunities and opening new chapters," it said. "China remains committed to its own cause no matter how the external environment changes."

"We still have sufficient room for fiscal and monetary policy maneuver" to maintain health of the Chinese economy amid frictions, it said.

Wang said China had been forced to "take forceful measures in response" to U.S. actions and denied China had backtracked on its earlier commitments.

"It is irresponsible of the U.S. to accuse and smear China," Wang said.

In negotiations "nothing is agreed until everything is agreed," Wang said. He said the U.S. had made unacceptable demands, including on tariffs and compulsory requirements that infringed on Chinese sovereignty.

He said of the U.S. tactics: "You give them an inch, they take a yard."

President Donald Trump has touted the tariff increases as a way of reducing China's trade surplus with the U.S., which hit a staggering \$379 billion last year. However, Wang questioned how much China was actually benefiting from its surplus, saying a joint Chinese-U.S. study showed the U.S. figure could be inflated by as much as 20%.

He also said many of those exports were produced by foreign companies operating in China and that Chinese firms often pocketed only a relatively meager fee for assembling. Subtracting the U.S. surplus in the services trade with China, the actual surplus came to just \$152.6 billion last year, Wang said.

The U.S. deficit with China has actually been worsening since tariffs were first imposed, Wang said, pointing to a 50% decline in soy bean exports to China and a drop-off in U.S. auto sales in the country. The average U.S. family, meanwhile, will pay an additional \$831 for consumer items over the year due to

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the higher tariffs, he said, while the dispute's impact on businesses could end up costing 2.23 million U.S. jobs overall.

"That shows that the deepening trade restrictions hurt U.S. workers," Wang said.

## Did 'silencer' make a difference in Virginia Beach carnage?

By LISA MARIE PANE Associated Press

The shooter who killed 12 people in a government office building in Virginia Beach used a firearm equipped with a suppressor that muffles the sound of gunfire. It's the nightmare scenario that gun-control advocates have warned about amid efforts in recent years to ease restrictions on the devices, which they say can help shooters escape detection and inflict more carnage.

But gun-rights advocates and most law enforcement experts say DeWayne Craddock's use of a suppressor likely had no bearing on his ability to kill so many people in so little time Friday.

Virginia is among 42 states that allow residents to purchase and possess suppressors, though some cities and towns — including Virginia Beach — prohibit them.

Known colloquially as a "silencer," a suppressor was attached to the .45-caliber handgun that police say the shooter used to kill a dozen people on three floors of the building where he worked before police closed in and, after a protracted gunbattle, fatally shot him.

That could at least partially explain why survivors of the attack said they were caught off guard and initially puzzled by what was happening. One described hearing something that sounded like a nail gun.

"This is the concern we were talking about when Republicans were trying to deregulate silencers as 'ear protection,'" said David Chipman, a retired agent with the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and now the senior policy adviser with Giffords, a gun-control lobbying group.

"Especially on a handgun, a suppressor will distort the sound in such a way that it would not immediately be recognizable as gunfire to people who sort of know what that sound is."

Others say the shooter's use of a silencer was less of a factor in enabling him to carry out the rampage than was his familiarity with the building and even possibly his military background, both of which may have given him a tactical advantage.

"A suppressor does not alter the lethality of the weapon at all. All it does is just limit the noise it makes," said Gregory Shaffer, a retired FBI agent who was a member of the bureau's elite Hostage Response Team. "It doesn't increase the rate of fire. It doesn't do anything other than make it more comfortable to shoot because it's not so loud."

It's not immediately clear how long Friday's attack lasted, or how much time passed before the first police officers arrived. The police department is in the same complex as the building where the shooting took place.

It also wasn't yet known how Craddock got the suppressor he used on his handgun, though authorities have said he legally purchased multiple firearms recently.

Authorities have three days to conduct a background check when someone is buying a firearm. But suppressors are regulated by the National Firearms Act, which also governs the sale of machine guns, and the extensive background check can take upward of eight months or more before the sale can go through.

Despite the barriers, suppressors have gained in popularity. In 2008, when West Valley City, Utah-based SilencerCo was formed, about 18,000 of the devices were being sold each year. The company, which controls an estimated 70 percent of the market, sells roughly that many each month.

Nicknamed "cans," the devices were invented in the early 1900s by MIT-educated Hiram Percy Maxim, who also invented a muffler for gasoline engines. They were brought under NFA regulations after Depression-era game wardens expressed concern that hunters would use them to poach.

A suppressor does not eliminate the sound a gun makes but generally diminishes it by 20 to 35 decibels, leaving most guns still louder than your average ambulance siren.

"Clearly this was an individual who did understand and have experience with firearms and had given potentially some forethought into the advantage that using a suppressor would offer him, particularly the

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suppressor coupled with the caliber of weapon he was using," said Thor Eells, executive director of the National Tactical Officers Association and a retired law enforcement officer with the Colorado Springs Police Department, where he oversaw a SWAT division.

Some have questioned how secure the building was where police say the shooter and all but one of his victims worked. A government facility, the building is open to the public, but security passes are required to enter inner offices, conference rooms and other work areas, officials said.

As a current employee, the shooter would have had such a pass and would have known the floor plan, areas that were "easy to control," where the best places to hide were and how to move quickly from one area to another, Eells said.

While responding police might have had some familiarity with the building, it's very possible the shooter knew it a lot better after working there for years.

His protracted gunfight with law enforcement officers would indicate that he "was in a place that was difficult for officers to access or engage," Eells said.

"Whether that was happenstance or intentional, it's too early to tell."

Virginia Beach shines light on victims, not mass shooter

By BEN FINLEY Associated Press

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (AP) — The victims of America's latest mass shooting had been dead for less than a day when police and city officials released a detailed presentation with their names, photos, job titles and the cities or towns in which they lived.

In all, 12 people — 11 of them city employees — were killed by the shooter who opened fire inside a municipal building.

Far less was revealed Saturday about the man who authorities say carried out the shootings. There was no photo. And authorities promised to utter his name only once: "DeWayne Craddock," a 40-year-old engineer who worked in the city's utilities department.

"We wanted to control that narrative," Steve Cover, Virginia Beach's deputy city manager of public safety, said of the news conference officials held the day after Friday's shooting. "We didn't want it to leak out piece by piece through family and friends and so forth through the media. We felt it was kind of our obligation to get that message out."

This sprawling city on Virginia's coast is employing an increasingly common public information strategy: Release more details about the victims of mass shootings than of the killers — at least initially — to limit the criminals' exposure and prevent copycat shootings.

A similar tack was taken in March after a mass shooting in New Zealand. Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern promised to deny a platform for the white supremacist who authorities said gunned down 50 people at two mosques.

"The goal is to kind of interrupt the cycle of new mass shooters citing previous ones, and the new mass shooters who are becoming role models for even more attackers," said Adam Lankford, a criminologist at the University of Alabama.

Lankford has studied the influence of publicity on future shooters and has urged the news media to not name or release photos of the perpetrators.

"What the guy's face looks like is not the sort of information that will help stop the next mass shooting," he said.

But James Alan Fox, a professor at Northeastern University who has studied mass shootings, said it's appropriate for law enforcement officials to release basic facts.

"It is news," Fox said. "We provide basic details on other types of offenders."

It is the "act — not the actor" that influences others, he said. "The Columbine massacre, for example, inspired copycats, not the assailants' names and faces."

But there is a limit to how much should be reported, Fox said. Too much about a killer's background can "humanize" him or her and cross the line from news reporting to "celebrity watch."

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Virginia Beach officials said more information about Friday's shooting will come out.

"And we will share our lessons learned," said Cover, the deputy city manager.

But first, officials want everyone to know the profound loss the city has suffered: four engineers who worked to maintain streets and protect wetlands; three right-of-way agents who reviewed property lines; an account clerk, a technician, an administrative assistant and a special projects coordinator. In all, they had served the city of Virginia Beach for more than 150 years. The 12th victim was a contractor who was in the building to seek a permit.

"They leave a void that we will never be able to fill," said City Manager Dave Hansen, who had worked for years with many of the slain

Sandra McDonald, 54, an event planner and nanny who lives in Virginia Beach, said she supports the city's strong focus on the victims.

"I think sometimes these people think going out in a blaze of glory is the way they are going to have their moment of fame," McDonald said, referring to the mass shooters. "I just think if we don't give them that moment of fame anymore, maybe they won't take innocent people with them."

Alice Scott, whose husband, Joseph Scott, worked with Craddock in the Public Utilities Department, said she can understand why people don't want to hear the shooter's name.

But she said maybe after some time has passed, "we can discuss why this happened."

"Maybe he needed someone to talk to," she said. "Maybe he needed to (talk) out his troubles like everybody else."

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Associated Press writer Denise Lavoie contributed to this report.

## D-Day's 24 hours changed 20th century, and Europe, forever

By RAF CASERT Associated Press

ON OMAHA BEACH, France (AP) — All at once, Charles Shay tried to stanch the bleeding from a ripped-open stomach, dull the pain with morphine and soothe the mind of a dying fellow American army medic. It was a tall order for a 19-year-old who had just set foot on the European mainland for the first time.

But nothing could have prepared him for what happened on June 6, 1944, on five cold, forbidding beaches in northern France. It was D-Day, one of the most significant 24-hour periods of the 20th century, the horrifying tipping point in World War II that defined the future of Europe.

That morning, Shay could not yet fathom what the event would ultimately mean. He was more concerned with the bleeding soldiers, body parts and corpses strewn around him, and the machine-gun fire and shells that filled the air.

"You have to realize my vision of the beach was very small. I could only experience what I could see," he told The Associated Press, speaking from the now-glimmering Omaha Beach, where he landed 75 years ago.

International leaders will gather again this week to honor the dwindling number of D-Day veterans. U.S. President Donald Trump is set to join a commemoration Wednesday on the southern English coast in Portsmouth before traveling to Normandy and the U.S. cemetery at Colleville-sur-Mer, which stands on a bluff overlooking the English Channel where some 160,000 made the perilous D-Day crossing.

There, Shay plans to be among the crowd Thursday to welcome Trump as he pays homage to 9,388 dead Americans, most of whom lost their lives on D-Day or in the aftermath of the Normandy offensive.

After World War II, Shay continued to witness history — fighting the Chinese during the Korean War, participating in U.S. atomic tests in the Marshall Islands and later working at the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna. With all the wisdom gathered in his 94 years, he knows another war can never be discounted.

"Some men cannot get enough of power," Shay said. "And it still continues today."

These days, crimson wild roses bloom where blood seeped into the Normandy dunes, and American flags whip in the westerly winds, many flown by locals still grateful to the U.S. soldiers who liberated the first French soil from four years of Nazi occupation.

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Omaha and adjacent Utah Beach were America's to take, but similar acts of sacrifice and heroism happened on three other beachheads to the east where Britain and Canadian troops sought to break Hitler's stranglehold on the continent. In all, the invasion covered 80 kilometers (50 miles) of French shoreline.

Shay survived, but he did not talk about the experience for well over half a century.

"So many dead. So many young men, young boys, killed on the spot," he said. "It was difficult to see and absorb."

## 'DIDN'T KNOW WHAT I WAS GETTING INTO'

When Shay, a Penobscot native American from Indian Island, Maine, was born in 1924, the world was only starting to recover from World War I, which had been a coming-of-age moment for the United States. U.S. intervention proved decisive in beating Germany and heralded the century ahead.

Shay was barely 5 when the Great Depression hit. As a child, nicknamed Little Muskrat, he and his family performed in ceremonial native garb and sold traditional goods.

"My aunt employed me as a young Indian dancer," he said. Times were tough.

Across the ocean, Germany also faced economic misery that, together with lingering bitterness over its defeat in the war, paved the way for Adolf Hitler's rise.

When containment failed, war in Europe erupted again in 1939, and Hitler's Nazis swarmed over much of the continent. They took Paris and were quickly at the Normandy coastline. Britain, across the English Channel, remained out of reach.

The United States, which had slumbered into isolationism after its victory in 1918, entered World War II after the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. Germany declared war on the U.S. in support of its ally.

The rumble of war was quickly closing on Shay. He was trained to be a machinist but could not get a job because he was expected to be drafted into the Army.

So before he knew what life was really about, Shay found himself in a hammock in the hold of the RMS Queen Elizabeth. He was sailing from New York to England, his final destination unknown.

"I never had a sense of fear because I didn't know what I was getting in to," Shay said.

To ease pressure on his homeland, Soviet leader Joseph Stalin had increasingly leaned on the United States and Britain to open a second front on Germany. In November 1943, he was promised as much for the upcoming spring. Soon, Shay found himself training for the biggest amphibious operation in history.

The Germans knew an invasion was coming but had no idea when or where, and the most likely options were 400 kilometers (250 miles) apart. Hitler prepared an Atlantic Wall of defenses.

England and Normandy's notoriously fickle weather thwarted possible attacks as April passed into May and June. Then, finally, it was time for Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower to distribute the orders that he had honed for months.

"The eyes of the world are upon you," he told his men. "You will bring about the destruction of the German war machine, the elimination of Nazi tyranny." The death toll was sure to be enormous.

On the two American beachheads, the United States suffered 2,501 killed in action on June 6, 1944. In all, an estimated 4,414 men died on that single day, according to the latest figures.

"However, it was absolutely necessary," said Scott Desjardins, the superintendent of the American cemetery off Omaha Beach.

## 'NOT TOO WORRIED' UNTIL THE RAMPS WENT DOWN

Few soldiers in the first wave fully realized the risks.

That night before D-Day, the men of Fox Company, 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment of the 1st Infantry Division, aka the Big Red One, had more immediate problems — sea sickness, finger-numbing cold and a dangerous descent into landing crafts using rope nets slung over the side of transports that were rolling in heavy seas.

"If you landed in the water between the boat and the troop transport ship, you were dead," Shay re-

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membered.

The roar of planes dropping paratroopers and the boom of bombs trying to blunt the German defenses told them the fateful hour was near.

Shay can still recount that day as if it just happened.

It started at dawn when a Navy man shouted, "I am dropping the ramp." But they were nowhere near close enough to the beach.

"I wasn't too worried about it — until the ramps went down," Shay recalled.

He landed in water up to his chest. Many soldiers who were overloaded with equipment "sank immediately and a lot of men drowned," he said.

Those who stayed afloat had to face withering German gunfire. Many of the men standing in front "were hit immediately and killed on the spot," he said.

The Germans had built a barricade of metal tripods to stave off the landings. Shay moved from one tripod to another in the water. Once on dry land, he sought cover behind the "high portions" of the beach and started treating the wounded.

"While I was doing that, I happened to look back out to the water, to the ocean," he said. There, he saw many wounded men who were lying on the beach as the tide began rising. Without help, they would drown.

"So I dropped what I was doing, and I returned to the water," Shay said. Germans were still shooting at any American who moved under their protected Widerstandsnest 62, a bunker that still stands above Omaha Beach.

With bullets hitting the sand, he started pulling men — he doesn't know how many — out of the water. Many of the soldiers were much bigger and heavier than he was.

"In such a situation, the adrenaline starts to flow," Shay said. "It gives you strength that you did not know that you had." He received the Silver Star for his bravery.

"I have always said that my mother's prayers protected me," he said, the medal sparkling in the afternoon sun.

## 'SURROUNDED BY DEAD PEOPLE'

When the shooting on the beach slowed, he found fellow F Company medic Edward Morozewicz, who had "an open stomach." Shay administered morphine and applied bandages. It was to no avail.

"I stayed with him until he died. I tried to converse with him a little bit. I tried to comfort him," he said.

He left the bloodied beach late that afternoon, completely separated from his company, which had lost all officers and many non-commissioned officers.

Wandering around in a daze of fatigue, "I fell down in a field someplace and I went to sleep. When I woke up in the morning, I saw that I was surrounded by dead people — American and German."

From that moment on, the war moved inexorably in the Allies' favor. D-Day was also the starting gun in a race with the Soviets to control as much territory as possible by the time Germany surrendered on May 7, 1945.

The competition between the Allies and the Soviets effectively set the stage for the Cold War lines that defined Europe for the next five decades and possibly right up to this day.

"This was democracy's beachhead," former President Barack Obama said in 2014. "And our victory in that war decided not just a century, but shaped the security and well-being of all posterity."

Such words would have been lost on Shay as he advanced into Germany, living from day to day. He was briefly taken prisoner after crossing the Rhine, but was soon liberated by U.S. troops and heading home.

All these decades later, he is back at the same shores, walking across the immaculate lawns covered with white gravestones and pondering the sacrifice.

"Oh, yes. Definitely it was worth it," he said. "It was a rogue regime that was trying to take over the world, and the people had to be stopped."

Associated Press photographer Virginia Mayo and video journalist Mark Carlson contributed to this report.

Follow all the AP's coverage of D-Day at <https://apnews.com/WorldWarII>

## Virginia victims had 150 years of combined service with city

By **BEN FINLEY** and **DENISE LAVOIE** Associated Press

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (AP) — Four were engineers who worked to maintain streets and protect wetlands. Three were right-of-way agents who reviewed property lines. The others included an account clerk, a technician, an administrative assistant and a special projects coordinator. In all, they had served the city of Virginia Beach for more than 150 years.

These 11 city employees and one contractor were wiped out Friday when a fellow city worker opened fire inside a municipal building. A day after the shooting, city officials sought to honor them by sharing their job titles and years of service in a somber slideshow.

"They leave a void that we will never be able to fill," said City Manager Dave Hansen, who had worked for years with many of the dead.

Police Chief James Cervera identified the assailant as DeWayne Craddock, who had been employed for 15 years as an engineer with the city's utilities department. He declined to comment on a motive for the rampage, which ended with the shooter's death in a gun battle with officers. City officials uttered his name just once and said they would not mention it again.

Joseph Scott, an engineering technician with the utilities department, said he had worked with Craddock and had a brief interaction with him Friday, passing him in the men's restroom about five minutes before the shooting.

"He was in there brushing his teeth, which he always did after he ate," Scott said. "I said 'Hey, how you doing? What are you doing this weekend?' It was just a brief conversation."

Scott said he left for the day right after and learned of the shooting when a co-worker and then his son called him asking if he was OK.

"I couldn't believe that it happened," he said.

One of the dead employees had worked for the city for 41 years. Six worked in the same department as the suspect, though authorities have declined to say if anyone was specifically targeted or if the suspect had issued threats before. The victims were found throughout the building, on three floors, police said.

The municipal building was open to the public, but security passes were required to enter inner offices, conference rooms and other work areas. As a current employee, Craddock would have had the pass to enter the inner offices, Hansen said.

In response to a reporter's question, Cervera said the gunman had not been fired.

One of the dead, Christopher Kelly Rapp of Powhatan, enjoyed Scottish music and joined a pipe band last fall. He played with the group in October during a Celtic festival in Virginia and marched with bandmates on St. Patrick's Day.

"Chris was reserved but very friendly, quietly engaging members one-on-one after our weekly practices," the band, Tidewater Pipes & Drums, said in a statement.

Another victim, Mary Louise Gayle of Virginia Beach, was described as a "super sweet lady" who always had a big smile. "She would always be out there in the yard, working on something and talking to my daughters," John Cushman, Gayle's next-door neighbor, told The New York Times.

The other employees who were killed were identified as Tara Welch Gallagher, Alexander Mikhail Gusev, Katherine A. Nixon, Ryan Keith Cox, Joshua O. Hardy and Michelle "Missy" Langer, all of Virginia Beach; Laquita C. Brown and Robert "Bobby" Williams, both of Chesapeake; and Richard H. Nettleton of Norfolk. The 12th victim, Herbert "Bert" Snelling of Virginia Beach, was a contractor who was in the building to seek a permit.

The police and fire departments were to assign members of their honor guards to help each victim's family.

Authorities have said the shooter fired indiscriminately. At least three other people who were wounded remained hospitalized Saturday.



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Craddock appeared to have had no felony record, making him eligible to purchase guns.

Government investigators identified two .45-caliber pistols used in the attack, said Ashan Benedict, the regional special agent for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

All indications were that the shooter purchased the weapons legally, one in 2016 and one in 2018, Benedict said. The police chief said at least one had a noise suppressor.

Craddock, 40, graduated from Denbigh High School in nearby Newport News in 1996 and joined the Army National Guard, according to a newspaper clip from the time. He received basic military training and advanced individual training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. He later graduated from Old Dominion University with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering.

Scott said he worked in a different division from Craddock, whom he described as quiet, polite and a "nice guy." Scott said he thought Craddock was in good standing at work and had never heard negative reports about him.

A handwritten note was posted Saturday at the suspect's home expressing condolences to the shooting victims on behalf of his family.

Hundreds of people attended Saturday prayer vigils for the dead. Scott said he, his wife and several others prayed for the shooter too.

"He was a human too, and his family is hurting too," Scott said. "He's not evil ... he was just another guy who had problems."

Neighbors described Craddock as a car enthusiast and bodybuilder.

Amanda Archer, 22, and Cassetty Howerin, 23, lived in a Virginia Beach townhome beneath Craddock for the past year and only got to know him in passing, exchanging the occasional greeting.

"He wasn't much of a talker," Archer recalled. "He's a mystery to us. He's a mystery to everybody, apparently."

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Associated Press writers Regina Garcia Cano, Michael Biesecker, Michael Balsamo and Eric Tucker in Washington, D.C.; Michael Kunzelman in Virginia Beach; and Jonathan Drew in Durham, North Carolina, contributed to this report.

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This story has been updated to correct Hardy's middle initial.

## Singer missing as China cracks down on Tiananmen anniversary

By YANAN WANG Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — It has been three months since Chinese rock musician Li Zhi disappeared from public view. First, an upcoming tour was canceled and his social media accounts were taken down. Then his music was removed from all of China's major streaming sites — as if his career had never existed at all.

Li is an outspoken artist who performs folk rock. He sang pensive ballads about social ills, and unlike most entertainers in China, dared to broach the taboo subject of the Tiananmen Square pro-democracy protests that ended in bloodshed on June 4, 1989.

"Now this square is my grave," Li sang. "Everything is just a dream."

China's ruling Communist Party has pushed people like Li into the shadows as it braces for Tuesday's 30th anniversary of the military crackdown. Hundreds, if not thousands, are estimated to have died on the night of June 3 and in the early hours of June 4.

The party's effort to scrub any mention of the movement has been consistent through the decades since then and ramps up before major anniversaries every five years. This year, the trade war with the U.S. has added to government skittishness about instability.

"They are certainly nervous," said Jean-Pierre Cabestan, a political science professor at Hong Kong Baptist University. "Under (President) Xi Jinping, no stone will be left unturned."

Many of the actions appear aimed at eliminating any risk of individuals speaking out, however small their platforms. Bilibili, a Chinese video streaming site, announced last week that its popular real-time comments

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feature will be disabled until June 6 for "system upgrades."

Chinese Human Rights Defenders, an advocacy group, said 13 people have either been detained or taken away from their homes in connection with the anniversary. Among them are several artists who recently embarked on a "national conscience exhibit tour" and a filmmaker who was detained after tweeting images of a liquor bottle commemorating June 4.

The bottle's label featured a play on words using "baijiu," China's signature grain alcohol, and the Chinese words for 89, or "bajiu." A court convicted four people involved in designing the bottle in April.

Foreign companies are not immune. Apple Music has removed from its Chinese streaming service a song by Hong Kong singer Jackie Cheung that references the Tiananmen crackdown. Tat Ming Pair, a Hong Kong duo, have been deleted entirely from the app. They released a song this month called "Remembering is a Crime" in memory of the protests.

Wikipedia also announced this month that the online encyclopedia is no longer accessible in China. While the Chinese-language version has been blocked since 2015, most other languages could previously be viewed, Wikipedia said.

The disappearance of Li, the musician, has left fans searching for answers.

On Feb. 20, the official Weibo social media account for the 40-year-old's concert tour posted a photograph of its team in front of a truck about to embark on scheduled performances in Sichuan province in China's southwest.

Just two days later, however, the account posted an image of a hand wearing what appeared to be a hospital wrist band and the words: "Very sorry." The next post, published the same day, announced without explanation that the tour was canceled and that ticket purchasers would shortly receive a refund. Fans flooded the comment section with wishes for a speedy recovery.

But the suggestion that a health issue was behind the cancellations was later thrown into doubt.

A statement published in April by Sichuan's culture department said it had "urgently halted" concert plans for a "well-known singer with improper conduct" who was previously slated for 23 performances — the same number of concerts which Li had scheduled in the province. It said 18,000 tickets were fully refunded.

Authorities in China regularly use "improper conduct" to describe political transgressions.

Around the same time, Li's presence on the Chinese internet was completely erased. An April 21 central government directive ordered all websites to delete any audio or video content relating to five of Li's songs, according to China Digital Times, an organization that publishes leaked censorship instructions.

The Associated Press could not independently verify the authenticity of the directive.

"There's pretty much a consensus" among those working in the industry that Li's disappearance from public view is due to the sensitive anniversary, said a music industry professional who spoke on condition of anonymity because of fear of government retribution.

"He did a number of songs that were considered politically risky, making references to June 4, 1989, and so he's been out of the picture," the industry professional said.

The AP could not confirm Li's current whereabouts. His company and record label did not respond to repeated interview requests.

Li's songs alluding to the Tiananmen Square protests — "The Square," "The Spring of 1990" and "The Goddess," in honor of the Goddess of Democracy that students erected — were part of his earlier works. In recent years, the bespectacled singer has avoided making public political statements, focusing more on promoting his performances.

In 2015, the state-run China Daily newspaper published a profile of Li, describing him as a performer who easily sells out concerts. After years of working as an independent artist, he signed last fall with Taihe Music Group, a major Chinese record label.

Fans who knew Li as a largely apolitical entertainer expressed bewilderment online about his disappearance. Others made veiled references to China's internet censorship.

On Zhihu, a question-and-answer website similar to Quora, one user wrote that people posed questions every day about what might have happened to Li, but these posts always disappeared the next morning

"as if nothing had happened at all."

Another user said, "I don't dare to say it, nor do I dare to ask."

A fan who has been sharing Li's music on his personal account spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because he feared his employers would punish him for discussing the subject.

"Everyone knows the reason for Li Zhi's disappearance," the fan said. "But I'm sorry, I can't tell you, because I follow China's laws and also hope that Li Zhi can return." Quoting one of Li's lyrics, the fan added, "The world will be all right."

Fans continue to circulate videos of Li's performances online. His complete discography has been uploaded onto file-sharing websites, with back-up links in case the original ones are shuttered. Some users shared tribute art, including a black T-shirt with the words "improper conduct."

A few years ago, in a performance in Taiwan, Li bounced around on stage, strumming his guitar and repeating a chorus in apparent tribute to the spirit of Chinese propaganda.

"The people don't need freedom," he sang energetically.

"This is the best era!" the crowd roared back.

"The people don't need freedom."

"This is the best era!"

## **Biden declares LGBTQ rights his No. 1 legislative priority**

**By BILL BARROW Associated Press**

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden declared Saturday that the Equality Act would be his top legislative priority, an effort to enshrine LGBTQ protections into the nation's labor and civil rights laws.

The former vice president shared his hopes of signing the legislation as part of a keynote address to hundreds of activists at the Human Rights Campaign's annual Ohio gala on the first day of Pride Month. In a half-hour at the lectern, his remarks ranged from emotional tributes to his audience and their personal endurance to condemnations of President Donald Trump.

"It's wrong and it is immoral what they're doing," Biden said of the Trump administration. Among other Trump policies, he cited attempts to bar transgender troops in the U.S. military, allow individuals in the medical field to refuse to treat LGBTQ individuals, and allow homeless shelters to refuse transgender occupants.

"Just like with racial justice and women's rights, we are seeing pushback against all the progress we've made toward equality," Biden said.

The Equality Act would address many such discriminatory practices. It recently passed the Democratic-run House, but will not become law under Trump and the Republican Senate. That means LGBTQ residents in dozens of states are still subject to various forms of discrimination that are either specifically allowed or not barred by state law.

"It will be the first thing I ask to be done," Biden said.

Biden spoke in Ohio, a political battleground he was visiting for the first time since beginning his bid, on the same day that more than a dozen of his rivals were in San Francisco for the California Democratic Convention and a massive MoveOn.org conference. By the end of the weekend, 14 candidates will have addressed thousands of activists in California, which has more than 400 delegates to the 2020 convention, about a fifth of what it will take to win the nomination.

Among them, Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren and Mayor Pete Buttigieg of South Bend, Indiana, nodded to Biden's absence with subtle jabs.

"Some Democrats in Washington believe the only changes we can get are tweaks and nudges. ... Some say if we all just calm down, the Republicans will come to their senses," Warren said, an allusion to Biden's recent prediction that Republicans will have "an epiphany" once Trump leaves office.

Biden made no mention of his rivals, with his go-it-alone itinerary and his message signifying his burgeoning confidence at his position atop the pack of 24 presidential hopefuls.

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Campaigning in a Midwest battleground is no surprise for Biden. One of the prevailing arguments for his candidacy is that his moderate, deal-making, "Middle Class Joe" brand offers Democrats their best shot to win back the industrial belt that Trump wrested from the party in 2016.

Yet the HRC event offered both Biden and his audience a chance to go beyond that simplified framing of the 2020 landscape.

"The thing that gets overlooked when the story is written about Ohio and the Midwest is that we're incredibly diverse," said Shawn Copeland, HRC's Ohio director.

Copeland said HRC has identified about 1.8 million "equality voters" in Ohio, including 400,000 LGBTQ citizens, plus their family members, friends and other allies. Trump got 2.84 million Ohio votes to Hillary Clinton's 2.4 million in 2016.

Biden, meanwhile, used the forum to underscore his long alliance with HRC and LGBTQ activists — a key to Biden's contention that he's more progressive than the party's left flank acknowledges.

The former vice president visibly enjoyed recalling the 2012 presidential campaign when he announced his support for same-sex marriage before his boss, President Barack Obama, had done so.

Biden recalled that most political observers "thought I had just committed this gigantic blunder." He said he'd let Obama know beforehand what might be coming. "I told the president if asked, I was not going to be quiet."

The rest of his remarks were less jovial, as Biden lamented the widespread discrimination that still exists in the U.S. and abroad. Noting recent killings of black transgender women, he roared: "It's outrageous. It must, it must, it must end. The fastest way to end it is to end the Trump administration."

He lowered his voice as he listed the percentage of LGBTQ children and teens who attempt or consider suicide. "I don't have to tell you how hard it is for these kids, because many of you were these kids," he said, "the terror in your heart as you spoke your truth."

Several Democratic hopefuls have addressed HRC state dinners this year. National officials with the organizations say they've worked with the campaigns and the state organizations to schedule the occasions.

A Biden campaign statement issued before the speech said the choice to go to Ohio proves Biden wants to have conversations about LGBTQ rights "not just on the coasts of this country, but in the heartland and with any and all Americans."

The venue also allowed him to push back, at least indirectly, at some of the jabs from California. He reminded the audience that he campaigned for many of the freshman House Democrats who helped the party to a net gain of 41 seats — mostly by winning swing or GOP-leaning districts.

"We didn't have to be radical about anything," he said. "They talked about basic, fundamental rights."

With the resulting House majority, Biden noted, the Equality Act has gotten further than ever before.

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Follow Barrow on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/BillBarrowAP>

## Bruins rout Blues 7-2, take 2-1 lead in Stanley Cup Final

By **STEPHEN WHYNO AP Hockey Writer**

ST. LOUIS (AP) — David Pastrnak flashed a wry smile, brimming with confidence.

No even-strength points through the first two games of the Stanley Cup Final for the first line put plenty of pressure on Boston's best players to produce. Pastrnak shrugged it off, saying on scale of 1 to 10 they felt the pressure level was something around a 2.

Then they got on the ice and delivered.

The stars led Boston to a 7-2 rout of the St. Louis Blues on Saturday night to take a 2-1 lead in the best-of-seven series. Defenseman Torey Krug scored a goal and had three assists, top-line center Patrice Bergeron had a goal and two assists, Pastrnak and Brad Marchand got on the scoresheet and the top power-play unit was a perfect 4 for 4 — on four shots.

"It's about time we get going," said Pastrnak, who scored his first goal in the final. "I still think we haven't played our best. But we are up 2-1 and we need to meet tomorrow, look at the video and get even better."

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That's our focus in this group, and we've got a lot of good players, so we know we can even elevate more." Game 4 is Monday night in St. Louis.

Boston chased Blues goaltender Jordan Binnington, silenced actor and Blues super fan Jon Hamm and a raucous crowd that was fired up for the first Cup Final game in St. Louis in 49 years. The Bruins survived an initial onslaught and then simply took it to the home team.

"We've been through so much together this year that we just rely on one another in uncomfortable situations," said Marchand, who assisted on Krug's goal. "When we get through it, we get through it together."

Nothing was more important to get the Bruins through this than Marchand, Bergeron and Pastrnak getting on track. The line combined for five points in a decidedly better effort at 5-on-5 and on the power play.

"We spent less time in our zone," Bergeron said moments after the win. "When we do that we have more energy on offense."

Tuukka Rask was solid as usual in goal with 27 saves, and the Bruins continued to get contributions all over their lineup. Trade deadline pickup Charlie Coyle continued his hot run with his eighth goal of the playoffs, fourth-liner Sean Kuraly scored his second in three games and Marcus Johansson added goal No. 7 in the final minutes.

"It's fun to see everyone contribute," Johansson said. "I don't think anyone cares who scores or what, but it's fun to see everyone contribute."

The Bruins are two victories away from their first Stanley Cup since 2011 and Boston's third in a row in the four major North American professional sports.

The Blues came out flat and continued a troubling trend of parading to the penalty box. After being the least-penalized team through the first three rounds, the Blues took seven more minors Saturday to give them 17 in the final.

"We do have to limit the penalties for sure," Blues coach Craig Berube said. "We know they have a dangerous power play and we've been flirting with danger here the whole series and it burnt us tonight."

Staying disciplined was Berube's focus given the charged atmosphere that delivered on all the hype. His players didn't practice what he preached, and Berube's staff even got a penalty for unsuccessfully challenging Kuraly's goal for offside with 7.8 seconds left in the first period. Berube believed it was a 50/50 call and took a chance that cost his team when Pastrnak scored on the ensuing power play.

Just about everything went wrong for the Blues, who were forced to put backup Jake Allen into the game. He gave up one goal on four shots.

Binnington allowed five goals on 19 shots before getting the hook for the first time in his young NHL career but will be back in net for Game 4.

"I've got to be better," Binnington said. "I got to do a better job giving my team a chance to win. They scored three goals in the first. That's never good. They're a good hockey team. We have to get back to our game."

One silver lining for the Blues is they scored their first power-play goal of the series and ended Boston's streak of 19 consecutive penalties killed. St. Louis couldn't kill off a single Bruins power play, which paved the way for the first blowout of the series.

NOTES: Bruins D John Moore made his series debut in place of concussed teammate Matt Grzelcyk. ... The Blues were without suspended forward Oskar Sundqvist. Zac Sanford saw his first playoff action since April 14 in replacing Sundqvist. ... Allen hadn't played since late in the regular season, April 3 at Chicago. ... Mad Men" actor Jon Hamm, "The Office" actress Jenna Fischer, ex-St. Louis Rams players Isaac Bruce and Chris Long, current Kansas City Chiefs players Patrick Mahomes and Travis Kelce, NASCAR's Richard Petty and Bubba Wallace and retired track and field star Jackie Joyner-Kersey were among the celebrities in attendance.

## UP NEXT

Sundqvist returns to the lineup for Game 4 on Monday night to give the Blues back an important grinder.

\_\_\_ Follow AP Hockey Writer Stephen Whyno on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/SWhyno>

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## Partisan control determines how states act on voting rights

By **CHRISTINA A. CASSIDY** Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — New York voters for years have experienced some of the longest wait times in the nation on Election Day. Attempts to fix the problem routinely became casualties of the divided politics of the state Legislature.

That dynamic changed last November, when Democrats won majorities in both legislative chambers, and it didn't take them long to act.

Just weeks into this year's legislative session, they passed a bill to allow early voting, and Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo promptly signed it.

"Early voting is going to make a significant difference for countless numbers of New Yorkers by making polling places so much more accessible and allow voters to determine when it is most convenient for them," said Susan Lerner, executive director of Common Cause New York.

New York is among a small number of states where Democrats made big gains in last year's election and have used that power to pass laws to make it easier to register and to vote. They have introduced early voting, all-mail voting or automatic registration.

A few Republican-led states — some of which saw high turnout for Democratic candidates — are going in the opposite direction, advancing bills to tighten voter registration and early voting.

"Some of this seems like a fairly direct response to things that happened in the midterms," said Max Feldman, who tracks voting laws at the Brennan Center for Justice at New York University's School of Law.

In New Mexico, Democrats not only expanded their majority in the state House but also claimed the governor's mansion after eight years of GOP control. By March, Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham had signed a law to allow people to register and vote on the same day beginning in 2021. Previously, registration ended 28 days before an election.

Hawaii lawmakers approved legislation replacing the in-person voting system with one made up entirely of mailed ballots. If the measure is signed into law, the state will join Colorado, Oregon and Washington with mail-only voting. Delaware approved in-person, early voting beginning in 2022.

While bills increasing voter access this year far outnumbered those seeking to impose restrictions, many of the expansion bills were put forward by Democratic lawmakers in states led by Republicans. That means they are unlikely pass.

In the 2018 elections, Democrats nearly doubled to 14 the number of states in which they control the governor's office and both legislative chambers, but Republicans remain in charge in more states — 22.

While some voting reforms such as automatic registration have drawn bipartisan support, Republicans generally have opposed same-day registration, mail-only voting and other changes, saying they increase the potential for fraud.

In Connecticut, Republicans recently thwarted a push by Democrats to do as New York did and add in-person, early voting. Democrats have a legislative majority there, but a constitutional amendment is required to make the change, and they fell short of garnering the votes necessary to put the issue on the ballot.

Republicans had expressed concern that early voters might come to regret their selections if a race's dynamics shifted after they had turned in their ballot.

GOP lawmakers in some states also have targeted groups that register voters. They say such groups can create a burden for local election officials if they turn in large numbers of forms that are incomplete or contain false information.

In Tennessee, Republican Gov. Bill Lee signed a law that allows for fines against groups turning in 100 or more incomplete registration forms in a year.

"This bill was presented because of actual circumstances that were meant to confuse the integrity, or to create a lack of integrity, in the voting process," Lee said.

Critics say Tennessee's Republicans feel threatened by an increase in voter participation last year. In 2018, turnout in the state was 51 percent higher than in the previous midterm election. About 259,500 new voters registered in the six months before Election Day.

"What politicians should be doing is making sure that local election officials have the adequate resources to do their jobs," ACLU attorney Sophia Lakin said in announcing a federal lawsuit challenging the new law. "Silencing civic groups' voices is not the solution."

In Texas, where Democrats picked up two congressional seats last year, lawmakers have been considering a bill that would make it a felony rather than a misdemeanor to knowingly put false information on a voter registration form. It would also increase scrutiny of those who provide transportation for voters headed to the polls.

The legislation passed the state Senate but stalled in the House.

Voter-suppression claims also have been made against Republicans in Florida, over a constitutional amendment voters approved last year that would make it easier for convicted felons to regain the right to vote.

Republican lawmakers, in drafting legislation to implement the amendment, said its language about felons having to complete "all terms of their sentence including parole or probation" also meant paying all court fees, fines and restitution before being eligible to vote.

"This measure is nothing but a poll tax that would effectively disenfranchise those who are unable to pay," Rep. Marcia L. Fudge, an Ohio Democrat, said during a recent congressional hearing in Florida.

The bill's sponsor, GOP state Sen. Jeff Brandes, defended it, saying: "Our goal was to follow the constitution, and the constitution is clear — 'all terms of the sentence.'"

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Associated Press writer Jonathan Mattise in Nashville, Tennessee, contributed to this report.

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Follow Christina Almeida Cassidy on Twitter at [http://twitter.com/AP\\_Christina](http://twitter.com/AP_Christina)

## 'Picture perfect neighbor' among the slain in mass shooting

By MICHAEL KUNZELMAN Associated Press

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (AP) — Joshua Hardy was a neighbor who would mow the lawn next door as a favor. One of his grieving neighbors returned that favor Saturday as a posthumous tribute after Hardy became one of the 12 people killed in a mass shooting at a city building in Virginia Beach.

"In the Josh fashion, I dropped my mower down a little extra lower because that's what he would have done today," said Clay Rosser, 44. "He cut his grass kinda like clockwork. He was a very meticulous guy."

Rosser also fashioned a wooden cross and planted it in the front yard of Hardy's home, where the 52-year-old city engineer lived alone. Neighbors described Hardy as a deeply religious man.

"He was the picture perfect neighbor," said Damion Houston, 48. "God fearing man. Always trying to keep people's heads in the right place and give you hope."

Houston said Hardy's brother stopped by the house Friday night, looking for him, when he got a call to go over to a school where people were learning the fate of loved ones. Neighbors' worst fears were confirmed when the names were released Saturday morning.

During a Saturday news conference, city officials identified the 12 killed in the shooting Friday at a Virginia Beach municipal building, showing their photos, and giving details of their lives. Eleven of the twelve were city employees; one was a contractor.

The other victims are:

Laquita C. Brown of Chesapeake: A right of way agent with more than four years in public works.

Tara Welch Gallagher of Virginia Beach: An engineer with six years in public works.

Mary Louise Gayle of Virginia Beach: A right of way agent with 24 years in public works.

Alexander Mikhail Gusev of Virginia Beach: A right of way agent with nine years in public works.

Katherine A. Nixon of Virginia Beach: An engineer with 10 years in public utilities.

Richard H. Nettleton of Norfolk: An engineer with 28 years in public utilities.

Christopher Kelly Rapp of Powhatan: An engineer with 11 months in public works.

Ryan Keith Cox of Virginia Beach: An account clerk with more than 12 years in public utilities.

Michelle "Missy" Langer of Virginia Beach: An administrative assistant with 12 years in public utilities.

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Robert "Bobby" Williams of Chesapeake: Special projects coordinator with 41 years in public utilities.  
Herbert "Bert" Snelling of Virginia Beach: A contractor there to fill a permit.

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## Trump turbulence slows momentum for North America trade deal

By KEVIN FREKING Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The momentum that supporters have tried to build for a new North American trade deal has run into some Trump turbulence.

The Trump administration had taken steps in recent weeks to work with Democratic and Republican lawmakers to address concerns about the proposed United States-Mexico-Canada agreement.

Then President Donald Trump made his threat this past week of a 5% tariff on Mexican imports unless America's southern neighbor cracked down on Central American migrants trying to cross the U.S. border.

His recent decision to remove U.S. tariffs on steel and aluminum imports from Canada and Mexico had appeased mostly Republicans who were using their trade vote as leverage to do away with those penalties.

The administration also had committed to meeting with a group of House Democrats to allay their concerns. That gesture created good will, and as House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., described it, put Democrats "on a path to yes."

Now it's unclear where that path may lead.

Influential business groups fear that Trump's threat against Mexico could derail the proposed trade agreement.

"The last thing we want to do is put that landmark deal — and the 2 million manufacturing jobs that depend on North American trade — in jeopardy," said Jay Timmons, president and CEO of the National Association of Manufacturers.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce said it was considering legal action to block the tariffs from going into effect.

Some GOP senators are rankled, too, most notably Charles Grassley of Iowa, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee.

"This is a misuse of presidential tariff authority and counter to congressional intent," Grassley said.

Congressional aides from both parties said that it's too soon to say whether Trump's proposal will derail the agreement. But it does make it harder for lawmakers to assess how the agreement would improve the economic landscape if the tariffs on Mexico go into place.

Democrats seem mostly concerned with other breaking developments.

Hours before Trump announced his tariff plan, his administration tried to set up the agreement for a possible congressional vote before the August recess. The administration completed the formal steps necessary to start the clock for submitting legislation to Congress.

Pelosi said that was "not a positive step" and "indicates a lack of knowledge on the part of the administration on the policy and process to pass a trade agreement."

Democrats want to strengthen enforcement of labor and environmental standards in Mexico. They have pushed for Mexico to change labor laws that have encouraged wages as low as \$1 or \$2 per hour at some plants, giving U.S. companies a strong incentive to move operations south of the U.S.-Mexico border.

Mexico lawmakers have approved a law that requires secret-ballot union votes and proof of workers' consent for contracts. Democrats in Washington want to ensure follow-through, and Pelosi still holds the final say in determining when, or if, the agreement comes up for a vote.

Pelosi also joined several Republican senators in slamming Trump's tariff threat, saying it is "not rooted in wise trade policy but has more to do with bad immigration policy on his part."

"Yet again, the president is sowing chaos over the border instead of delivering solutions for American workers and for American consumers," Pelosi said.

White House counselor Kellyanne Conway said the tariffs should not jeopardize passage of the trade pact and that the president simply wants Mexico to do more to stem the flow of migrants.



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She said the White House is confident it would pass the Democratic-run House, if Pelosi put it to a vote. Trump said he had the authority to impose a 5 percent levy on all goods imported from Mexico and pledged to increase those duties to as high as 25 percent if Mexico did not dramatically to reduce the number of migrants crossing the border.

He claimed in a tweet Saturday that companies that have located in Mexico "will move back to the United States once the Tariff reaches the higher levels."

Investors have responded negatively, with the Dow Jones industrial average closing Friday down roughly 355 points, or 1.4%.

Still, Conway told reporters that "tariffs are a good way to get a trading partner's attention, and apparently it did."

Mexico's foreign relations secretary, Marcelo Ebrard, announced that he and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo would lead talks Wednesday in Washington, a move seen as potentially easing tensions and avoiding retaliatory tariffs.

Both Mexico and Canada are moving ahead with steps toward ratifying the trade agreement.

Canada's foreign minister, Chrystia Freeland, indicated that it's up to the U.S. and Mexico to work out their dispute. "This is a bilateral issue," she said.

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Associated Press writers Rob Gillies in Toronto and Deb Riechmann contributed to this report.

## **In central US, levee breaches flood some communities**

**By HANNAH GRABENSTEIN Associated Press**

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) — Crews were making a "last ditch effort" on Saturday to save low-lying parts of a small Arkansas city from floodwaters pouring through a breached levee, and authorities downstream were warning people to leave a neighborhood that sits across the swollen river from the state capital.

Further north in Iowa, a flood barrier along the swollen Mississippi River failed Saturday, flooding four to six blocks of downtown Burlington, a city of about 25,000 people that is 170 miles (274 kilometers) southeast of Des Moines.

On Friday, the Arkansas River, which has been flooding communities for more than a week, tore a 40-foot (12-meter) hole in a levee in Dardanelle, a city of about 4,700 people roughly 100 miles (160 kilometers) upstream from Little Rock.

Mayor Jimmy Witt said Saturday that officials don't believe a temporary levee being constructed will stop the water from flooding the south side of Dardanelle, but he hopes it will buy time for residents of up to 800 threatened homes to prepare.

"We have started a last ditch effort to try and protect the southern borders of the city," he said at a news conference.

The river has been widening the levee breach and floodwaters have been slowly approaching homes, officials said. Water from some creeks and tributaries has already flooded some houses, they said. Yell County Judge Mark Thone said flooding has surrounded about 25 people in a rural community a few miles south of Dardanelle, and several roads have closed due to high water.

Meanwhile in North Little Rock, which is just across the Arkansas River from Little Rock, officials were going door-to-door Saturday to tell people in the Dixie Addition neighborhood to consider leaving.

The river isn't expected to crest in the Little Rock area until Tuesday, but North Little Rock officials said on Facebook that they believe the river will back up storm drainage areas and cause roads to become inaccessible in and around Dixie Addition, possibly for more than a week.

City spokesman Nathan Hamilton said there are about 150 homes covered by the evacuation recommendation. He said other homes also could be affected by flooding, but officials were currently focusing on only the most pressing neighborhood.

The evacuation recommendation followed a false alarm overnight that a nearby levee had breached and that flash flooding was possible. Officials quickly reversed themselves, though, and said that it hadn't

failed and wasn't in danger of doing so.

Gov. Asa Hutchinson said Friday that officials were working to identify higher-risk spots in the Arkansas River's levee system.

"Obviously the breach in Dardanelle is a sign that there could be more of these breaches that will happen as the pressure continues to mount in the coming days," Hutchinson said.

Record-breaking flood levels in Fort Smith, Arkansas' second-largest city, remained steady through the morning, with the National Weather Service predicting the water would begin to recede Saturday night into Sunday morning.

The Arkansas River isn't the only one causing problems in the region.

In Burlington, Iowa, officials confirmed that a large, sand-filled barrier failed Saturday afternoon, forcing some businesses in the downtown area to evacuate. The National Weather Service issued a flash flood warning for the area until 10 p.m. Saturday.

Parts of the tiny northwestern Missouri town of Levasy were under water Saturday after a levee breach along the Missouri River. Officials there were conducting water rescues by boat, but no injuries were reported.

Officials in Illinois issued an "urgent plea" to residents of river communities to prepare for potential evacuations. The state's Emergency Management Agency director, Alicia Tate-Nadeau, called flooding a "life-safety issue," and the agency said levees along the Illinois River were in critical condition.

Flooding along the Missouri River in central Missouri prompted officials to issue a mandatory evacuation order Friday for some residents of Howard County, where the river had topped a levee. A topped levee along the Mississippi River, in northeastern Missouri, flooded several thousand acres of farmland Thursday.

In Oklahoma, water levels continued to drop as residents who were forced from their homes made plans to return. The weather service reported that the Arkansas River in Tulsa dipped below flood stage for the first time since flooding began.

Follow Hannah Grabenstein on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/hgrabenstein>

## **Bet responsibly? A struggle for some as sportsbook ads widen**

**By WAYNE PARRY Associated Press**

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP) — The tagline makes the solution sound so simple: "Gamble responsibly."

It's anything but for those who struggle with compulsive gambling. Instead, the footnote caps a powerful new temptation as ads for sports betting emerge in states that have recently legalized an activity once banned in most of the United States.

Sharon, a 39-year-old homemaker, decided with her husband to move from New Jersey to New York specifically to get away from legalized sports betting, but still sees ads frequently that remind her of the tens of thousands of dollars in debt she racked up on a wagering app.

Charlie, an information technology professional from suburban Philadelphia, says the advertisements and easy access makes wagering "tempting as hell," even as his losses mounted to \$400,000 as he bet online while traveling on service calls.

They've complicated addiction recovery for Gary, a real estate agent from New Jersey who attends support group meetings and has lost nearly \$2 million over a lifetime of gambling.

"It seems like every fourth commercial, there's one telling you how easy it is to bet on sports and make money," said Gary, who like other gamblers spoke to The Associated Press on condition that his full name not be used because of stigmas some people associate with unhealthy gambling.

"It's right in front of my eyes, and even though I've been in recovery for years and go regularly to Gamblers Anonymous meetings, it's starting to bother me," he said. "I can feel it."

Advertising supporting the nascent sports betting industry has not drawn the same level of scrutiny from regulators and lawmakers in the U.S. as counterparts in Europe, where several countries strictly regulate or even ban gambling ads, including those for sports betting.

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One year after the U.S. Supreme Court ended an effective monopoly in Nevada, eight states have begun taking legal sports wagers. Three states and the District of Columbia have passed laws to create new markets and a handful of legislatures are still considering bills. None of the laws passed has significant restrictions for sports betting ads.

The commercial casino industry wants to keep it that way.

The American Gaming Association, the gambling industry's main trade group and lobbying arm, recently issued voluntary guidelines for sports betting advertising in a bid to stay ahead of possible government regulation, drawing on the experience of the liquor industry to develop self-regulations.

"We want to get in front of this in a way that is meaningful," said Sara Slane, the group's senior vice president of public affairs. "We view the opportunity to offer sports betting on a state-by-state level as a privilege, and there needs to be responsible advertising that's tied to that."

Indeed, those who struggle with gambling find ads touting Super Bowl or March Madness wagers similar to beer ads tempting those with alcoholism or fast food ads enticing those with unhealthy eating habits. Though a hurdle for some, the ads are an understandable facet of expanded betting with sportsbooks chasing new customers to bet legally and leisurely, just like millions of people who visit casinos, buy lottery tickets or drink and eat without harmful consequences.

"There's not one commercial break it seems where you don't see one of these ads. As much as I tried to stop, there are all these incentives: a \$500 free bet, we'll refund your first bet even if you lose. They're everywhere I look," said Sharon, who lives in a New York TV market that's a key target for advertisers of New Jersey sportsbooks. "It's a constant reminder of my problem. It brings an incredible amount of guilt and shame for me, and yet there's still this incredible temptation that these ads make worse."

Keith Whyte, executive director of the National Council on Problem Gambling, thinks the details of gambling ads haven't been explored enough.

"In the U.S., if you say, 'Gamble responsibly,' you've now met the responsible gambling standard," Whyte said. "It's going to be a big issue. There's heightened concern for people struggling with gambling addiction and relapse. And I don't see a lot of discussion about this."

Major sportsbooks all say they train their workers to spot people with potential gambling problems, offering various solutions including self-imposed betting "timeouts" for those who want them. In New Jersey, some money from licensing fees for sports betting fund compulsive gambling treatment programs, and ads are required by state law to mention a 1-800-GAMBLER telephone help line. Regulations in other states are relatively similar.

"We're always mindful of the tone and content in our advertisements," said Joe Asher, CEO of William Hill US. "We are committed to doing what we can to help lead the industry in seeking to minimize the harm gambling can cause to the vulnerable."

European regulators haven't left that up to casinos.

In 2018, Italy banned all gambling advertising — including on TV, radio and internet — as part of a "dignity decree" aimed in part at fighting gambling addiction.

Sweden is considering similar restrictions. Under new regulations in Belgium, online casinos will be banned from advertising on television. Sports betting ads will air only after 8 p.m. and no such ads will be allowed during live sports broadcasts.

England plans to ban all gambling-related ads and promotions during live sports starting in August.

European gambling giant GVC Holdings said UK laws show go even further and ban ads during replays and some other sports programming. GVC, which operates several huge brands including bwin, Ladbrokes, Sportingbet and partypoker, signed a \$200 million deal last year to offer sports betting and online gambling in the U.S. with MGM Resorts International.

"The (European) market has become swamped with these advertisements," said Martin Lycka, the company's director of regulatory affairs.

Lycka said ideally, governments would set acceptable guidelines and individual companies would go farther than the minimums in policing their own ads.

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"A balance needs to be struck," he said.

In the U.S., leagues have generally had a hand in the content of their advertising; not long ago the NFL even stopped ads for Las Vegas casinos from airing nationally during the Super Bowl, a move that seems well antiquated now given the pending move of the Raiders to Sin City and a marketing and data deal between the league and Caesars Entertainment, one of the biggest gambling operators in the world.

Scott Kaufman-Ross, head of fantasy and gaming for the NBA, said advertising for sports betting is OK "if a fan is interested in betting and they want to bet. But if they're not interested if they're a problem gambler, they should not have it thrown in their face."

Bill Ordower, executive vice president of Major League Soccer, said restraint for leagues makes sense after a backlash several years ago to daily fantasy sports ads.

"Any game you watched you were inundated with that advertising," he said.

Fantasy sports ads became such an annoyance that they even drew attention from law enforcement, with DraftKings and FanDuel settling a dispute in New York for a combined \$12 million.

For Gary, a 63-year-old real estate agent who has lost nearly \$2 million gambling since his first bad bet on the Dallas Cowboys beating the Giants when he was 13, the struggle to resist advertising is made more difficult by the ease of betting online, a relatively new option in the legal gambling world outside Nevada.

"They make it so tempting. It's the perfect drug for compulsive gamblers," he said. "They can close the bathroom door, make all their bets, not talk to a live person, and walk back out into the living room in a minute, with no one knowing."

John Sweeney, a professor at the University of North Carolina with backgrounds in advertising and sports communication, said questions about advertising point to a common question for gambling: Should states regulate this or is a single national standard necessary as sports betting grows?

Sweeney said he recently received mail offers for casinos in 14 states, many with their own responsible gambling programs and policies.

"This is the time when all these gambling issues will be given regulatory structure," he said. "There's an enormous amount at stake."

Whyte, from the national problem gambling council, suggests that U.S. casinos dedicate 1% of their advertising budget to messages promoting responsible gambling and help for those with problems. The French lottery plans to allocate 10% of its TV ad budget to such messages, but in most other places, there is no requirement to fund responsible gambling ads.

The trajectory of sports betting in the U.S., once mainly an underground activity, makes it unclear whether the ads themselves are making people with gambling problems bet more on sports.

Neva Pryor, executive director of the Council on Compulsive Gambling of New Jersey, said calls to the state's hotline that involve sports betting are up 21% since it started last year. But most of those callers say they had been betting on sports long before it became legal.

"Some people are having difficulty with the ads," she said. "The good thing is they all have the 800-GAMBLER number at the end. You don't see that with beer ads."

Charlie, the IT professional, said gambling is often easier than drinking alcohol when he finds himself alone in hotels with nothing to do.

"Imagine being an alcoholic sitting home on your couch and there's no beer in the house, and then there's this app that you can press and magically a beer appears," he said. "That's the kind of access that's out there now and it's tempting as hell. It's really, really hard to maintain your recovery and not bet again. Everywhere you look, someone's urging you to gamble."

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## Serena bids early adieu at French, like Osaka before her

By HOWARD FENDRICH AP Tennis Writer

PARIS (AP) — Maybe it was the daunting deficit Serena Williams faced in the French Open's third round. Maybe it was the way her 20-year-old American opponent, Sofia Kenin, was questioning line calls.

Either way, as Williams attempted to start a comeback Saturday with a three-ace game, she followed those big serves with some serious staredowns.

Whether it was meant to get herself going or intimidate Kenin, it didn't work. Outplayed from start to finish, Williams lost 6-2, 7-5 to the 35th-ranked Kenin, ending her latest bid for a 24th Grand Slam title with her earliest loss at a major tournament in five years.

"In that first set in particular, she hit pretty much inches from the line, and I haven't played anyone like that in a long time," the 37-year-old Williams said. "I just saw a player that was playing unbelievable."

It was the second significant surprise in a matter of hours: Earlier in the day, No. 1 seed Naomi Osaka was eliminated 6-4, 6-2 by 42nd-ranked Katerina Siniakova of the Czech Republic. That ended Osaka's 16-match Grand Slam winning streak, which included titles at the U.S. Open final in September — when she beat Williams in the final — and at the Australian Open in January.

Osaka was trying to become the first woman to win three consecutive major trophies since Williams grabbed four in a row in 2014-15, a run that was preceded by a second-round loss at Roland Garros and a third-round loss at Wimbledon.

Since those early-for-her defeats, Williams had won six of the 14 majors she entered to surpass Steffi Graf's professional-era record of 22 Grand Slam singles championships. With 23, Williams stands one away from Margaret Court's mark for the most in tennis history; Court played in both the professional and amateur eras.

"Serena is such a tough player. I'm still trying to process what just happened," Kenin said, about an hour after the match ended with her covering her face with both hands. "She's a true champion and an inspiration."

Kenin was born in Moscow and is fluent in Russian. Her family moved to New York when she was a baby, and she now is based in Florida.

"I'm proud to be an American," said Kenin, who wore a blue U.S. Fed Cup cap to her news conference. "I think it's great we moved to America for a better life for me."

She is appearing in the ninth major of her career and now is headed to her initial trip to the round of 16, where she'll meet No. 8 seed Ash Barty. Other women's fourth-round matchups established Saturday: defending champion Simona Halep vs. 18-year-old Iga Swiatek of Poland; No. 14 Madison Keys of the U.S. vs. Sinikiakova; 17-year-old Amanda Anisimova of the U.S. vs. qualifier Aliona Bolsova of Spain.

Williams sat out four Slams in 2017-18 while she was off the tour to have a baby. Her first major back was last year's French Open, where she withdrew before a fourth-round match because of a chest muscle injury. She went on to reach the finals of Wimbledon and the U.S. Open before wasting match points during a quarterfinal loss at the Australian Open this January.

Williams came to Paris having played only four matches since then — she withdrew from two tournaments because of an injured left knee and another because of illness.

And she had said she considered not entering the French Open at all.

"I'm glad I came, at the end of the day," she said, "but it's been a really grueling season for me."

Asked whether a third-round appearance was satisfactory, given her issues, Williams not surprisingly said it was not.

"I wouldn't expect to have gotten only to the third round," she replied.

Said her coach, Patrick Mouratoglou: "All I know is, she was not ready. And it was obvious, I think."

Williams couldn't control her shots, compiling 34 unforced errors, twice as many as Kenin's 17. Another key statistic: Kenin won four of Williams' 10 service games.

Kenin also was composed as can be, never getting rattled by Williams or by a Court Philippe Chatrier crowd that whistled and jeered her for repeatedly eyeing ball marks to see whether calls were correct.

"I didn't care at that point," Kenin said. "I was like, 'I'm going to check the mark.'"

After Williams showed fight by going from 3-1 down to 4-3 ahead in the second set, Kenin hung in there. At 5-all, she got the last break she'd need with a forehand return winner off a 102 mph (164 kph) serve. She ran to her sideline seat and pressed a towel against her face.

There was one last pivotal moment: Serving for the victory, Kenin faced a break point, but Williams' miscue let it go by. One last error by Williams — a backhand that sailed long — ended things.

Kenin dealt so well with the stakes, the scene, the setting.

She'd never shared a court with Williams before, although Kenin did try to set up a practice session during the offseason by texting Mouratoglou.

Didn't work out.

"Yeah, I tried to hit with her. It wasn't possible, but I'll take that," Kenin said with a smile. "I'll take the win over the hitting."

More AP tennis coverage: <https://www.apnews.com/apf-Tennis> and [https://twitter.com/AP\\_Sports](https://twitter.com/AP_Sports)

## Turkey, Russia face conflicts over Syria's push into Idlib

By ZEYNEP BILGINSOY Associated Press

ISTANBUL (AP) — Ankara and Moscow are again facing an escalation of violence in Syria's last rebel-held territory, a development that puts their cooperation to the test even as they support opposing sides in the eight-year war that has devastated Syria.

An all-out offensive by Syrian government forces to capture Idlib in northwestern Syria from insurgents could unleash an unprecedented humanitarian crisis, for the area is home to 3 million people.

Turkey, which is already hosting more than 3.6 million Syrian refugees, is facing strong pressure from Syria, Iran and Russia to deliver on its pledge to control the armed rebel factions in Idlib.

But Turkey also needs Russia to rein in Syrian President Bashar Assad to prevent a massive outflow of refugees and to keep Turkish soldiers on the ground safe.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Russian President Vladimir Putin "have an incentive to cooperate and ensure that nobody's interests are totally trampled," says Aaron Stein, the director of the Middle East program in American think-tank Foreign Policy Research Institute.

In September, the two leaders brokered a cease-fire for Idlib in the Russian resort of Sochi, preventing a bloody onslaught, despite the fact that Russia has firmly backed Assad and Turkey supports opposition forces. Nine months later, the truce has failed.

The agreement called for a 15-to-20 kilometer (9-to-12 mile) demilitarized zone free of insurgents and heavy weaponry and for two key highways crossing through Idlib to be reopened. The demilitarized zone has been breached and the highways are at the center of the current government offensive.

Syrian ground forces have been advancing from the south of the rebel stronghold under the cover of Syrian and Russian airstrikes.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said more than 291 civilians and 369 fighters have been killed since April 30 in the rebel stronghold. In the same period, 269 government troops and 22 civilians were killed in government areas by rebel fire. The U.N.'s children's agency said more than 130 children have reportedly been killed.

Already, more than 200,000 people from the stronghold have been displaced, according to the U.N., with some seeking safety near the border with Turkey while others crammed into crowded camps in Syria.

Turkey has accused the Syrian government of violating the cease-fire and Turkish Defense Minister Hulusi Akar said the country has told Russia "the regime must be controlled."

Russia has launched airstrikes in Idlib and is providing air cover in the Syrian government offensive. It has complained that the militants have increasingly been targeting its military base in the nearby coastal province of Latakia.

But for now, Moscow is unlikely to support an all-out Syrian operation in Idlib because the benefits of a

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long-term alliance with Turkey outweigh one military battle.

"Russia doesn't want to ruin its relationship with Turkey because of Idlib," says Kirill Semenov, a Moscow-based Middle East analyst and expert at the Russian International Affairs Council.

In late April, Putin said he would not rule out a large-scale assault but "together with our Syrian friends, we believe that this would not be advisable" due to humanitarian issues.

Still, Russia's patience is wearing thin with the Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, or HTS, which it accuses of targeting its military base. HTS is considered a terrorist organization by the United States, Russia and Turkey, despite its claims it has disassociated from al-Qaida.

Top Russian officials have often called Idlib a "breeding ground for terrorists."

Despite the cease-fire deal, Turkey has been unable to neutralize the extremists. Much of Idlib has come under the control of HTS, which has defeated Turkey-backed armed groups.

Emre Ersan, an associate professor of international relations and political science at Istanbul's Marmara University, believes Turkey may have overestimated its influence over HTS. He says Turkey's plan to split the group and absorb its more moderate members has not worked.

Instead, HTS has used Turkey as leverage against Russia and Assad-supporter Iran, according to Ersan.

Adding to the risks, Turkish troops are in the line of fire. Two Turkish soldiers were wounded in early May in a Syrian government artillery attack on an observation post. Three other attacks have been cited by Turkey's official Anadolu Agency, raising questions if the attacks were accidental or designed to pressure Ankara with Russia's knowledge.

"The Turkish Armed Forces will not take a single step back from where it is," Akar, Turkey's defense minister, said last week.

Erdogan and Putin have talked on the phone, agreeing to continue working along the lines of the cease-fire agreement to prevent civilian deaths and a refugee flow. They also agreed to meet on the sidelines of next month's Group of 20 conference in Japan.

"Apart from this dialogue and cooperation, there is nothing on the ground that can prevent a catastrophe in Idlib," Ersan says.

The presidents have become close since 2016, rebuilding their relations after a dramatic crisis in 2015 when Turkey shot down a Russian jet near the Syrian border. Their rapport comes amid Turkey's fragile relations with NATO ally United States, especially over Washington's support of Syrian Kurdish-led forces who control large swaths in eastern Syria. Ankara considers them an extension of a Kurdish insurgency operating inside Turkey.

Erdogan is so far sticking to his promise to buy Russian-made S-400 missiles despite U.S. warnings the system would jeopardize Turkey's participation in the F-35 fighter jet program and compromise its safety. Stein calls this "a big win for Russia." Turkey is angling for a way to have both the S-400s and the F-35s.

Turkey is also talking with the U.S. about a safe zone in northeastern Syria and has repeatedly asked for the U.S. to end its military support for Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces, or SDF. Erdogan will meet U.S. President Donald Trump at the G-20 as well.

Ersan believes Russia may allow Turkey to grab the northern town of Tel Rifaat from the Kurdish fighters, the last town they control in western Syria. Russian support could help Turkey put pressure on the SDF, widen Turkish influence and strengthen its hand in ongoing negotiations with the U.S.

In exchange, he argues, Turkey could be open to some limited Syrian operation toward Idlib.

Associated Press writers Nataliya Vasilyeva contributed from Moscow and Sarah El Deeb contributed from Beirut.

## UK volunteers still honor US airmen, 75 years after D-Day

By DANICA KIRKA Associated Press

TOPCROFT, England (AP) — David Woodrow, 95, raises the American flag beside a memorial on his farm in eastern England every morning, weather permitting.

He makes sure that memorial is tip-top, too. Dedicated to the U.S. Army Air Force's 93rd Bombardment Group (Heavy), it is surrounded by irises and geraniums Woodrow planted himself. The grass is trimmed to the millimeter. The granite gleams.

"There's one thing for certain: If Americans hadn't come over here and went to Normandy with us in '44 and the Germans had pushed us back into the sea, we couldn't have gone back again for another two or three years," Woodrow, a D-Day veteran himself, said when asked why he put it there. "By that time, Germany would have had the bomb first and they would have won the war. They would have won the war then — if Normandy had failed."

As the wartime allies prepare to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the D-Day landings, people around Britain are also remembering the Americans who paved the way for the invasion, including sailors who helped keep supplies flowing across the North Atlantic and air crews that flew bombing missions over occupied Europe.

From 1942 to 1945, more than 2 million U.S. military personnel were stationed in Britain. People across the country still commemorate that friendly invasion, which bolstered the nation's defenses and gave many their first taste of America. From Portpatrick on the west coast of Scotland, where a plaque marks the site of a plane crash that killed 22 American airmen, to the Norfolk farm where Woodrow raises Old Glory, Britain is dotted with memorials to U.S. servicemen.

Some are formal affairs funded by public money, like the Cambridge American Cemetery, which houses the remains of 3,811 war dead, and the American Air Museum a few miles away, where the silhouettes of 7,031 lost aircraft are etched into a curving wall of glass.

But most are impromptu shrines built and tended by local people to honor those who died and to remember the thousands of others they drank and danced and fought with.

There was no government master plan to make this happen. The memorials just sprang up organically, particularly in southeastern England, where most of the U.S. air bases were located because of the proximity to occupied Europe.

Volunteers look after memorials in village squares, on corners of former airfields, at crash sites. Museums have been placed in former control towers. World War II memorabilia collections are preserved in pubs.

One of these personal monuments made headlines earlier this year, when 82-year-old Tony Foulds persuaded the U.S. Air Force to stage a fly-past to honor 10 American airmen who died in a crash in the northern city of Sheffield in 1944. Foulds, who believes the pilot saved his life by steering away from a field where he was playing with other children, has tended a memorial to the airmen since 1969.

Thousands rose at dawn in February to gaze at the fly-past.

No surprise there, said Briton Mike Warner, who serves as informal liaison between the U.S. Air Force and local communities.

"These individuals fought alongside our own forces," he said.

One place that decided to pay tribute is Redlingfield, a village 100 miles (160 kilometers) northeast of London, which built a black granite memorial to 2nd Lt. Kenneth Rongstad and the crew of a B-17 bomber that crashed into a farmhouse on Nov. 19, 1943.

Janet Norman-Philips, 66, and other locals make sure it is scrubbed and bordered with bright pansies.

"People wanted to remember them," said Norman-Philips, who worked with American veterans to erect the monument. "They were adopted, almost."

There's a reason the Americans made such an impression. Tiny rural communities, some with no running water, electricity or indoor plumbing, woke up to find construction crews pouring concrete on the flat farmland within striking distance of occupied Europe. Little Redlingfield soon had 3,000 servicemen from the Eighth Air Force as neighbors.

The Americans brought not just bombers but stuff the locals couldn't get their hands on after years of



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war, like clothing, tinned fruit and candy. Local girls danced to swing music with American servicemen and the bases held Christmas parties for local children.

It wasn't all songs and roses, though. The British were shocked by segregation in the U.S. military, and American manners — or the lack of them — sometimes clashed with the more traditional local culture.

But once they got over the shock, the Brits and the Americans generally got along.

James Clarey became fascinated with the story of the Americans in England as a teenager, when he found an airman's ID bracelet at a crash site near his home. He began collecting artifacts and eventually set up the 453rd Bomb Group Museum and 8th Air Force Heritage Gallery at the Old Buckenham Airfield.

It's the sort of place where a pilot can still land a small plane, park it on the grass and sit on picnic tables out front of the cafe. Actor Jimmy Stewart was stationed here during the war, as was Walter Matthau.

Here, surrounded by memorabilia and personal stories, one is reminded of the sheer poignancy of this D-Day, because the people who were there, the living links to a horrific conflict, are slipping away.

"This is kind of the twilight years for them," Clarey said. "You must remember what these people did 75 years ago."

Woodrow, who served in the Royal Air Force during the war, landed at Normandy to scout out locations for landing zones in northern France. Soon after leaving the RAF in the early 1950s, he bought the Hardwick Airfield and built his farm on it. The sergeant's mess now houses his pigs and other wartime buildings hold a greenhouse and community hall.

Veterans of the 93rd started trickling past in the 1960s, anxious to revisit the place they had served. By the 1970s, the flow of unannounced visitors had become a steady stream, but Woodrow always invited them in.

When the memorial was dedicated in 1987, some 500 people came from the United States. There was, of course, a big party afterward.

One of Woodrow's proudest possessions is a plaque that the bombers' group gave him in 1995 "in gratitude" to him and his wife, Jean, for providing the staging post for men who wanted to remember.

Fewer veterans visit the memorial these days. There aren't many left. But their children do, and their grandchildren as well.

Woodrow and his family still do what they have always done for the Americans: They open the door and say "Welcome!"

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Follow all the AP's coverage of D-Day at <https://apnews.com/WorldWarII>

## Reports: Justice Dept. preparing antitrust probe of Google

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. Justice Department is readying an investigation of Google's business practices and whether they violate antitrust law, according to news reports.

The search giant was fined a record \$2.72 billion by European regulators in 2017 for abusing its dominance of the online search market. In the U.S., the Federal Trade Commission made an antitrust investigation of Google but closed it in 2013 without taking action.

Now the Justice Department has undertaken an antitrust probe of the company's search and other businesses, according to reports by The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times and Bloomberg News. They cited unnamed people familiar with the matter.

Justice Department spokesman Jeremy Edwards declined to comment Saturday. Google declined any comment.

Google, owned by Alphabet Inc., has faced mounting scrutiny as regulators around the world have focused on tech companies' business practices over the past year. In addition to the 2017 record fine, European regulators also slapped a \$1.7 billion penalty on the company in March for barring websites from selling ads from rivals alongside some Google-served ads near search results.

Google says it has now ended that practice.

The company made changes voluntarily when the FTC shut down its investigation, including letting ad-

vertisers use information from their Google ad campaigns to create campaigns with rivals.

But an FTC staff report that was released years later showed that the agency staff had urged the presidentially-appointed commissioners to bring a lawsuit against Google. That never happened.

Google commands the lead in digital ad revenue by a wide margin, controlling 31.1% of global digital ad dollars, according to eMarketer's 2019 estimates. Facebook is a distant second with 20.2%.

Politicians and outside antitrust analysts have expressed concern in recent years that Google controls too much of the digital ad process. It makes the technology, hosts the largest search site where ads appear and collects data from all ad campaigns that it runs.

## Wide range of emotions on impeachment underscores challenge

By **LISA MASCARO, MARC LEVY, ADRIAN SAINZ and AMY TAXIN Associated Press**

YORKTOWN, Va. (AP) — In suburban Philadelphia, it took a little more than eight minutes into the question-and-answer session at freshman Rep. Madeleine Dean's town hall before someone asked about impeachment.

The topic was broached in Southern California as Rep. Katie Porter fielded other questions on health care, homelessness, border security and the minimum wage.

In military heavy Yorktown, along coastal Virginia, another newly elected Democrat, Rep. Elaine Luria, never got asked about it at all.

Since House Democrats swept to power last November, the seams of their big tent majority are being stretched over the difficult issues surrounding whether to start impeachment proceedings against President Donald Trump.

For those lawmakers and others, the town hall sessions in their districts revealed how much or how little impeachment is on voters' minds. Lawmakers were at home the same week that special counsel Robert Mueller delivered his first and potentially last public statement on the matter.

The differing opinions expressed to lawmakers offer a snapshot of the challenges facing House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and the many conversations to come.

"I actually wondered whether anybody would bring it up," Dean told the crowd of about 150 in a Montgomery County Community College auditorium.

It was Wednesday, the night after Mueller's rare public remarks. Dean drew applause and whistles and hoots of support as she laced into Trump, calling him "the most indecent president of our lifetime."

Dean serves on the House Judiciary Committee, which is steeped in the impeachment debate, and she is among those calling for an impeachment inquiry. But the new congresswoman also acknowledged that in other conversations with voters around the district recently, they did not raise the subject.

The night before Mueller's spoke at the Justice Department, Luria said she, too, was only asked about impeachment at one of her three stops Tuesday, during a visit with seniors at a retirement community.

The former Naval officer, who is also new to Congress, said it came up as more of a question, asking what she makes of it all.

"I talked about how I think Congress has an important duty, oversight, and we have a big responsibility to get to the bottom of the facts," she recalled in an interview later that evening after the town hall in Yorktown.

Luria said she also brought the question back to the seniors for their advice. "I wasn't alive when Watergate happened ... I understand it was very divisive as a country," she recalled telling them, "and kind of asked them, 'How do you feel about it?'"

The seniors nodded in agreement, she said, responding, "Yes, it's something that would be very divisive."

These are the considerations Pelosi is taking into account as she considers the House's next moves. Despite increasingly vocal voices among her colleagues for the start of an impeachment inquiry, Pelosi has made it clear she's in no rush to impeach. Such proceedings would start in the House before the case would shift to the Senate for a trial.

Pelosi prefers a more measured approach, saying she wants to have the country's support, whatever

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the House's ultimate decision.

Democrats last year won the majority in so many districts that had voted for Trump in 2016, basing their campaigns on promises of lowering health care costs, creating jobs with infrastructure investment and cleaning up the government. So Pelosi is wary of taking on an impeachment inquiry that would overpower that agenda.

Pelosi worries impeachment would split the country. She remembers how the proceedings against President Bill Clinton helped propel Democrats, and warns it could help Trump's re-election in 2020.

But that might not be enough for some voters.

About 15 people waited at a library in Memphis to meet with Rep. Steve Cohen, a Democrat who was one of the earliest House proponents of impeachment.

One constituent, Lloyd Brown, 62, told The Associated Press that he is watching the impeachment process closely.

"I do think that Congress should proceed with impeachment hearings, because I believe that will bring out some of the facts that haven't become public yet," Brown said.

Cohen, also a member of the House Judiciary Committee, discussed the possibility of impeachment, expressing his hope that Mueller will testify before the House. The congressman said that even if Trump is impeached, he does not think that the president will be convicted in the Republican-controlled Senate.

"But I do think he should have his day of reckoning," Cohen said, adding later that Trump "makes Richard Nixon look honest."

At a town hall in western Michigan on Tuesday, a woman told Rep. Justin Amash, the only Republican to accuse Trump of impeachable conduct, that she has been calling Pelosi's office nearly every day because "we need to change her mind" about an impeachment inquiry.

Amash agreed it's time to start an inquiry. But Amash, who has drawn criticism from his party, said Pelosi's "sort of playing it both ways."

On Thursday, about 100 people packed into a small room at a library in Tustin, California, as Porter spoke briefly then drew from random questions attendants had written down on cards.

They covered various topics including one about what should happen to those who refuse to appear for testimony before a congressional committee, leading Porter to briefly address the issue of impeachment.

The new congresswoman from what had been a Republican-held district told the crowd her goal is to do her job, not stoke a crisis. But she said the refusal to comply with the subpoenas was a turning point, in her view.

"You didn't hear me ever talk about impeachment. It's not why I went to Washington," she said. "But I will not shirk my duty if the time comes, and the time is nigh."

After the event, Barbara Colter, 66, said the last time she saw Porter speak the congresswoman didn't seem to want to move in that direction. But her comments on Thursday made Colter think that's changed. And she agrees.

"After yesterday, I think that we need to move in that direction," Colter said.

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Mascaro reported from Yorktown, Virginia, Levy from Blue Bell, Pennsylvania, Sainz from Memphis, Tennessee, and Taxin from Tustin, California. Associated Press writer David Eggert contributed from Grand Rapids, Michigan.

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## Today in History

By The Associated Press undefined

Today in History

Today is Sunday, June 2, the 153rd day of 2019. There are 212 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 2, 1979, Pope John Paul II arrived in his native Poland on the first visit by a pope to a Communist country.

On this date:

In 1886, President Grover Cleveland, 49, married Frances Folsom, 21, in the Blue Room of the White House. (To date, Cleveland is the only president to marry in the executive mansion.)

In 1897, Mark Twain was quoted by the New York Journal as saying from London that "the report of my death was an exaggeration." (Twain was responding to a report in the New York Herald that he was "grievously ill" and "possibly dying.")

In 1924, Congress passed, and President Calvin Coolidge signed, a measure guaranteeing full American citizenship for all Native Americans born within U.S. territorial limits.

In 1941, baseball's "Iron Horse," Lou Gehrig, died in New York of a degenerative disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; he was 37.

In 1953, the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II took place in London's Westminster Abbey, 16 months after the death of her father, King George VI.

In 1961, playwright and director George S. Kaufman, 71, died in New York.

In 1966, U.S. space probe Surveyor 1 landed on the moon and began transmitting detailed photographs of the lunar surface.

In 1976, Arizona Republic investigative reporter Don Bolles (boh-lz) was mortally wounded by a bomb planted underneath his car; he died 11 days later. (Prosecutors believed Bolles was targeted because he had written stories that upset a liquor wholesaler; three men were convicted of the killing.)

In 1983, half of the 46 people aboard an Air Canada DC-9 were killed after fire broke out on board, forcing the jetliner to make an emergency landing at Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport.

In 1986, for the first time, the public could watch the proceedings of the U.S. Senate on television as a six-week experiment began.

In 1997, Timothy McVeigh was convicted of murder and conspiracy in the 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City that killed 168 people. (McVeigh was executed in June 2001.)

In 2004, the syndicated TV game show "Jeopardy!" began airing contestant Ken Jennings' 74-game winning streak.

Ten years ago: Scott Roeder, an anti-abortion activist, was charged with first-degree murder in the shooting death of late-term abortion provider Dr. George Tiller in Wichita, Kansas. (Roeder was later convicted and sentenced to life in prison with no possibility of parole for 50 years.) Chicago police officer Anthony Abbate (ah-BAHT'-ee) was convicted of committing aggravated battery against Karolina Obrycka (ob-RY'-kah), a bartender half his size, after she'd refused to serve him more drinks; Abbate received probation.

Five years ago: Spain's King Juan Carlos, who'd led the transition from dictatorship to democracy but faced damaging scandals amid a financial meltdown, announced he would abdicate in favor of his more popular son Felipe.

One year ago: Bare-knuckle boxing matches took place in front of 2,000 rowdy fans at a hockey rink in Cheyenne, Wyoming; the event, promoted as the first legal, regulated and sanctioned bare-knuckle fight event in U.S. history, featured 10 bouts and was viewed by tens of thousands via pay-per-view.

Today's Birthdays: Actress-singer Sally Kellerman is 82. Actor Ron Ely is 81. Filmmaker and movie historian Kevin Brownlow is 81. Actor Stacy Keach is 78. Rock musician Charlie Watts is 78. Actor Charles Haid is 76. Rhythm and blues singer Chubby Tavares (Tavares) is 75. Movie director Lasse (LAH'-suh) Hallstrom is 73. Actor Jerry Mathers is 71. Actress Joanna Gleason is 69. NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman is 67. Actor Dennis Haysbert is 65. Comedian Dana Carvey is 64. Actor Gary Grimes is 64. Pop musician Michael

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Steele is 64. Rock singer Tony Hadley (Spandau Ballet) is 59. Actor Liam Cunningham is 58. Actor Navid Negahban is 55. Singer Merrill Bainbridge is 51. TV personality-producer Andy Cohen ("The Real Housewives" TV franchise) is 51. Rapper B-Real (Cypress Hill) is 49. Actress Paula Cale is 49. Actor Anthony Montgomery is 48. Actor-comedian Wayne Brady is 47. Actor Wentworth Miller is 47. Rock musician Tim Rice-Oxley (Keane) is 43. Actor Zachary Quinto is 42. Actor Dominic Cooper is 41. Actress Nikki Cox is 41. Actor Justin Long is 41. Actor Deon Richmond is 41. Actress Morena Baccarin is 40. Rhythm and blues singer Irish Grinstead (702) is 39. Rock musician Fabrizio Moretti (The Strokes) is 39. Olympic gold medal soccer player Abby Wambach is 39. Country singer Dan Cahoon (Marshall Dyllon) is 36. Singer-songwriter ZZ Ward is 33. Rapper/actress Awkwafina is 31. Actress Brittany Curran is 29. Actor Sterling Beaumon is 24.

Thought for Today: "Heroism is not only in the man, but in the occasion." — Calvin Coolidge, American president (1872-1933).