

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 1 of 54

- 1- Herr on NDSU Dean's List
- 2- O'Neill is fourth runner-up at Miss South Dakota Pageant
- 3- Dr. Holm's Column: Listening for God
- 4- How to find Summer Food Service sites for kids in your community
- 5- May 2019: Wet and Cool
- 6- Truss Pros Ad
- 7- Today in Weather History
- 8- Weather Pages
- 11- Daily Devotional
- 12- 2019 Groton Events
- 13- News from the Associated Press

Chicken Soup  
for the Soul

Good friends help you to  
find important things when  
you have lost them...  
your smile, your hope,  
and your courage.

-Doe Zantamata

## 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.

#### 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.

7:00 p.m.: City Council Meeting at Groton Community Center

### Herr on NDSU Dean's List

Erika D. Herr, Bristol, majoring in exercise science, was named to the Dean's list at North Dakota State University. A student must earn a 3.50 grade point average or higher and be enrolled in at least 12 class credits to qualify for the spring list.



**Miss South Dakota and her court, back row: 1st runner-up Annie Woodmansey, 2nd runner-up Carly Goodhart; front row: 4th runner-up Kaitlin O'Neill, Miss South Dakota 2019 Amber Hulse, 3rd runner-up Hunter Widvey.** (Courtesy Photo)

## Amber Hulse Crowned Miss South Dakota 2019

Brookings, SD – Amber Hulse from Hot Springs was crowned Miss South Dakota 2019 Saturday night. In addition to her scholarship of \$9,500 for winning the competition, Hulse was a preliminary talent winner Friday evening (\$1,000), and on-stage interview winner on Thursday (\$500.) Hulse was also the overall interview winner (\$500) and took home the Miss America Community Service Award (\$1,000). Hulse was also named winner of the Sylvia Tannehill Kindness Award scholarship of \$1,000.

Amber's platform is "Operation Overload" and for her talent, she played "Inner Turmoil" on the piano. She is the daughter of Raymond and Kristina Hulse, and competed as Miss State Fair. She attends University of South Dakota and is a Political Science major.

First runner-up was Annie Woodmansey of Pierre. In addition to her scholarship award of \$4,500 for being first runner-up, she was a preliminary talent winner Thursday evening (\$1,000), and on-stage interview winner on Friday (\$500).

Second runner-up was Carly Goodhart of Sisseton, who took home a \$2,500 scholarship, in addition to a \$750 STEM scholarship.

Third runner-up was Hunter Widvey of Rapid City, garnering a \$1,500 scholarship. Widvey also won a \$750 STEM scholarship, as well as the Ray Peterson "Rookie of the Year" award of \$500 for being the top-placing first-time candidate.

Fourth runner-up and winner of a \$1,200 scholarship was Kaitlin O'Neill of Aberdeen. O'Neill is the daughter of Robin O'Neill, Aberdeen, and Steve O'Neill, Groton.

Rounding out the top eight semi-finalists were Evy Johnson of Firesteel, Sylvie Larson of Harrisburg, and Elizabeth Hofer of Bruce.

Courtney Remick of Prior Lake, MN, was voted "Fan Favorite" through online voting, and received \$500 cash.

Sarah Scott of Forest Lake, MN and Ria Gualano of Rapid City tied for Most Talented Non-Finalist (\$400 scholarship). Jackie Bossman of Humboldt was voted Miss Congeniality by her fellow contestants (\$500 scholarship).

Sixteen women from across the state competed for the title. All won scholarships.

Amber Hulse will compete at the Miss America Pageant which will be aired by NBC, date and location to be announced.

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 3 of 54

## Listening for God

How do any of us cope with the catastrophes of life? Years ago, a couple faced the tragedy of an accidental death of their only young child. Even though most marriages don't survive such an insult, this one did. Between the woman and man, there was love, forgiveness, and plenty of help from the people of their church. The people of the congregation, like the wings of a mother hen, surrounded the couple with support, comfort, and warmth.



By Richard P. Holm, MD ~ Prairie Doc® Perspectives

Researchers found that no society has survived more than three generations without a religious foundation including belief in prayer, afterlife, and ritual. One interpretation of this data argues that religion serves the function of helping a society continue, thus implying religion endures due to survival advantage. Some critics of organized religion argue just because we have the need for a spiritual connection doesn't mean that God exists. I contend that the opposite is true. Even though atrocities have been done in the name of religion, I am reassured of God's presence by the fact that societies do better with a faith-based underpinning. However, I think there are other more convincing reasons than this to believe in God.

I am reassured of God's presence when watching a religious based rehabilitation program successfully help men find their way back from drug or alcohol abuse. The leaders, who fill a mentor role, teach "It's not just about you. . . it's about loving others and loving God." I am reassured when studying the complexity of the human heart and the way the heart muscle, valves, and arteries interact while sending blood with oxygen and nutrition to every cell in the body. I am reassured when our Hopeful Spirit Chorale sings, bringing spiritual connection to the hearts, and tears to the eyes of those listening and singing. I am reassured when a church, mosque, or synagogue full of people saying a wisdom prayer such as the Lord's Prayer in unison, vibrates the souls of the congregation. I am reassured when watching a flock of birds or a school of fish move together and change direction as if one organism, in synchrony by some ancient and holy spirit.

I am reassured of God's presence when watching a religious based rehabilitation program successfully help men find their way back from drug or alcohol abuse. The leaders, who fill a mentor role, teach "It's not just about you. . . it's about loving others and loving God." I am reassured when studying the complexity of the human heart and the way the heart muscle, valves, and arteries interact while sending blood with oxygen and nutrition to every cell in the body. I am reassured when our Hopeful Spirit Chorale sings, bringing spiritual connection to the hearts, and tears to the eyes of those listening and singing. I am reassured when a church, mosque, or synagogue full of people saying a wisdom prayer such as the Lord's Prayer in unison, vibrates the souls of the congregation. I am reassured when watching a flock of birds or a school of fish move together and change direction as if one organism, in synchrony by some ancient and holy spirit.

As a medical doctor caring for people through the years, I have had to rely on science with which to help resolve health problems people face. Observing people, especially as they reach the end of their lives, I realized that often science is simply not enough. There is a deeper place where people need to go for help when the end is near. In my view, if we listen very carefully, the spiritual realm is all around. For many, this Divine Essence provides great help and meaning. We need to open our spiritual ears for that Holy Something that resides outside our scientific understanding.

In one famous interview of Mother Theresa the interviewer asked her how she prays. "I listen," was her response. "What does God say in return?" was the next question. "He listens," was the answer.

For free and easy access to the entire Prairie Doc® library, visit [www.prairiedoc.org](http://www.prairiedoc.org) and follow The Prairie Doc® on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter featuring On Call with the Prairie Doc® a medical Q&A show streaming on Facebook and broadcast on SDPTV most Thursdays at 7 p.m. central.

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 4 of 54

## How to find Summer Food Service sites for kids in your community

PIERRE, S.D. – Organizations across South Dakota are serving free meals to the state's youth this summer as a part of the Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer Option. Children age 18 and younger may receive a meal free of charge at participating sites, which include organizations such as nonprofits, schools, libraries and local governments.

Families have a variety of ways to access the most current information on free feeding locations and the dates and times of meal service throughout the summer. The USDA Summer Meal Site Finder tool is at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/summerfoodrocks>. This free, web-based application allows users to easily locate summer food sites throughout South Dakota and across the country. The information is also available by texting "Food" or "Comida" (Spanish) to 877-877 or by texting "Summer Meals" or "Verano" (Spanish) to 97779. Individuals may also find sites by calling 1-866-3-HUNGRY (1-866-348-6479), or 1-877-8-HAMBRE (Spanish) (1-877-842-6273).

Food service sites will be added to the Summer Meal Site Finder regularly; so, it is important to check back periodically.

The Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer Option are federally funded through the U.S. Department of Agriculture and administered by the South Dakota Department of Education. This agency is an equal opportunity provider. More information on the summer programs is available at <http://www.doe.sd.gov/cans/>.

### USDA Nondiscrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, religious creed, disability, age, political beliefs or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html) and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call 866-632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410
- (2) fax: 202-690-7442; or
- (3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 5 of 54

## May 2019: Wet and Cool

May 2019 featured predominantly cool temperatures, anywhere from 4 to 7 degrees below normal, thanks to a jet stream pattern that kept the area on the cold side of several storm systems. Several locations ranked in the top 10 coldest Mays on record: Kennebec 10th, Sisseton 8th, Timber Lake tied 6th, and Pierre 3rd. Record cold daily low temps were recorded at Aberdeen and Sisseton on the 7th (24° and 26° respectively), and numerous record cold daily max temps were recorded from the 18th through the 22nd: Pierre on the 20th, 21st and 22nd (49°, 47°, 53°), Aberdeen on the 19th (46°), Mobridge on the 22nd (53°), Sisseton on the 19th (44°), Wheaton on the 20th (48°), Kennebec on the 19th, 20th, 21st and 22nd (47°, 52°, 46° 52°), and Timber Lake on the 18th and 22nd (45° and 48°).

Very wet weather accompanied the cooler temperatures, and a couple days of accumulating snow resulted (not unheard of in South Dakota). Portions of central South Dakota picked up a couple inches on May 6th and portions of Deuel County followed suit on May 8th, where an estimated 4" fell at Astoria. Above average total precipitation for May was observed at all locations, but the greatest departure was across central South Dakota where an impressive 4 to 8 inches of surplus rain fell. This May will go down as the second wettest on record in Pierre (7.24" in 1982) and the wettest on record in Kennebec (9.54", surpassing the old record of 7.2" in 1942). This averages out to just over 0.30" per day. Year-to-date, Watertown has had 12.58" of moisture which ranks as the 4th wettest start to the year on record, Pierre has had 13.85" of moisture which ranks as the wettest start to the year on record, and Kennebec 15.28" which also ranks as the wettest. For perspective, Pierre averages 20.01" of total moisture each year, and Kennebec averages 19.63 inches. Daily record rainfalls this May occurred at: Pierre on the 21st (1.54"), Sisseton on the 18th (1.17") and Kennebec on the 27th (4.03").

Unfortunately, all this moisture exacerbated issues associated with already wet/nearly saturated soils which carried over from April. River flooding remained an issue throughout May as round after round of rain impacted the area, and numerous county roads were impassable at one point or another. While widespread 0.5" to 1" plus rainfall events took place on the 7-8th, 17/18th and 21/22nd, the climax rain event, at least for central South Dakota, took place on the evening of May 26th. Slow-moving thunderstorms dumped heavy rains in excess of 4" in some cases across Jones/Lyman counties, including 4.34" at Murdo. Kennebec in particular observed flooding in response as Medicine Creek swelled well past its banks. Pierre/Fort Pierre also observed street flooding on the 31st after about an inch of rain fell in an hour's time due to a passing thunderstorm.

Climatologically, May is an active month for severe weather across central/northeastern South Dakota and west central Minnesota, but there was a distinct lack of it this year. Only two Severe Thunderstorm Warnings have been issued by NWS Aberdeen this May (16th for Marshall/Roberts Counties and again on the 31st for Hamlin/Deuel Counties). Finally, of note, smoke from Canadian wildfires spread across the Northern Plains May 29-31st due to northwest winds aloft which transported the smoke southeastward. Hazy skies and red sunrises/sunsets resulted.

# NOW HIRING!

## Truss Pros

10954 424th Avenue | Britton, SD 57430

Looking for assemblers - both shifts

- \* New Starting Wage - \$15/hr day shift and \$16/hr night shift
- Overtime Available

### BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- Comprehensive Health, Dental & Vision insurance
- Life Insurance
- Short-term Disability and Long-term Disability
- 401k
- Holiday Pay
- Vacation Pay
- Paid Sick Leave
- Referral Bonuses

To apply visit [www.uslbm.com/careers](http://www.uslbm.com/careers) or call Diane at 605-448-2929.

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 7 of 54

## Today in Weather History

June 3, 1898: A violent windstorm passed over Aberdeen between 1 AM and 2 AM. Damage was confined to awnings, roofs of buildings, and plate glass windows.

June 3, 1933: This estimated F2 tornado moved ENE from 6 miles southwest of Wilmot, passing 3 miles south of town and dissipating at Big Stone Lake. A child was killed in a barn. Roof, barn, and church debris was scattered for miles, and over a dozen farms were heavily damaged. This tornado was estimated to be on the ground for about 15 miles.

June 3, 1975: Severe thunderstorms erupted across central sections of South Dakota. During the evening hours, the storms stretched from the southern border to the North Dakota state line and were packing high winds and large hail. In several areas, including Mobridge, hail as large as baseballs did damage to crops, homes, and vehicles and in some regions piled up to two feet deep. Strong thunderstorm winds also uprooted trees and damaged numerous farm buildings. Multiple funnels and small tornadoes were observed, including three in Charles Mix County.

June 3, 1997: Heavy rains of 2 to 4 inches through the early morning hours resulted in the flooding of some roads, fields, and creeks across parts of Jones and Lyman counties. In particular, the KOA campgrounds near Presho were heavily flooded. The KOA office and home had three and a half feet of water in them. Also, several homes near or in Presho received water and were heavily damaged. The Medicine and Stoney Butte creeks set record highs.

1860: Iowa's infamous Camanche Tornado, likely an F5 storm, kills 92 and injures 200. Every home and business were destroyed. It was one of the most damaging families of tornadoes ever to strike the US and resulted in more farm fatalities than any other tornado except for the Tri-State tornado.

1921 - A cloudburst near Pikes Peak CO killed 120 people. Pueblo CO was flooded by a twenty-five foot crest of the Arkansas River, killing 70 persons. Fourteen inches of rain was reported at Boggs Flat, where a hard surface road through nearly level country was washed out to a depth of seven feet. (The Weather Channel)

1959 - Thunderstorms in northwestern Kansas produced up to eighteen inches of hail near Salden during the early evening. Crops were completely destroyed, and total damage from the storm was about half a million dollars. Hail fell for a record eighty-five minutes. The temperature dropped from near 80 degrees prior to the storm to 38 degrees at the height of the storm. (David Ludlum)

1987 - Six days of flooding in South Texas culminated with five to six inch rains from Bexar County to Bandera County, and five to nine inches rains in Gonzalez and Wilson Counties. Total crop damage was estimated at 500 million dollars. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)


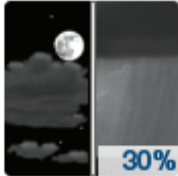



1988 - Early morning thunderstorms in southern Texas produced wind gusts to 86 mph at Port Isabel, and wind gusts to 83 mph at South Padre Island. Unseasonably hot weather prevailed from the Southern Plateau Region to the Northern High Plains. Fourteen cities reported record high temperatures for the date. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

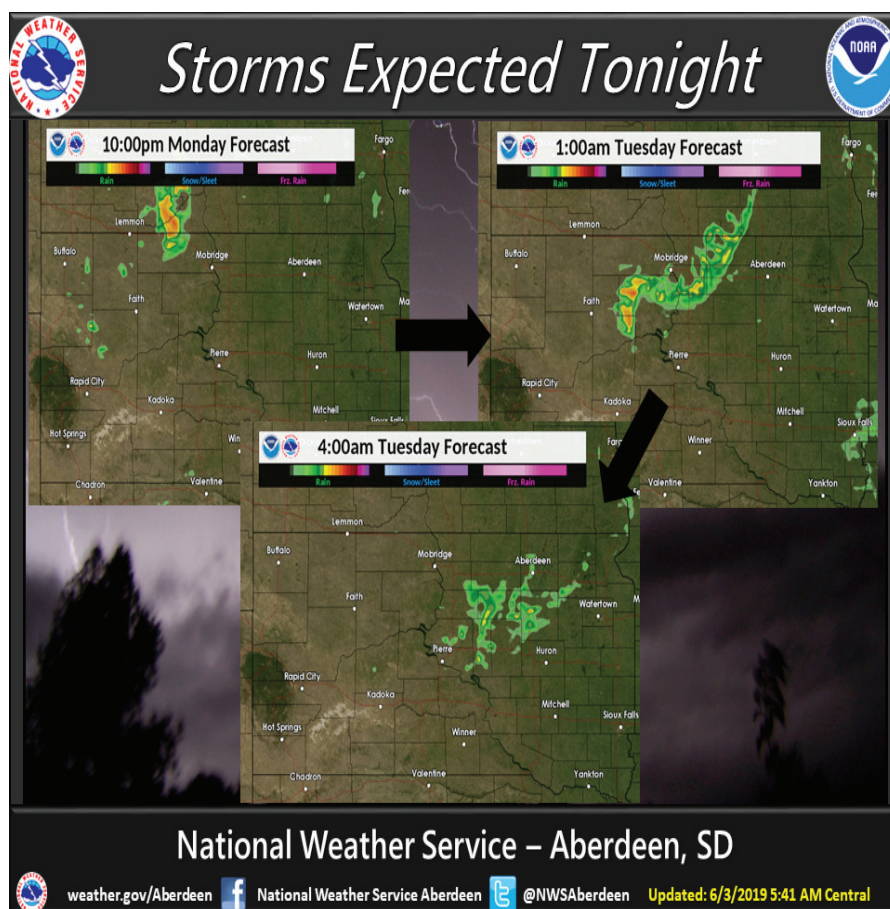
1989 - Thunderstorms developing over the Southern Plains Region during the afternoon hours produced severe weather into the night. Thunderstorms spawned eleven tornadoes, and there were 169 reports of large hail and damaging winds. Thunderstorm winds gusted to 80 mph at Newcastle, OK, and Wilson, OK. Softball size hail was reported at Monahans, Childress and Groesbeck TX. Monahans TX reported six million dollars damage. Five inches of rain deluged Geronimo OK. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data) 1993: Early morning severe thunderstorms dumped huge hailstones across northern Oklahoma. Hail, up to 6 inches in diameter in Enid, went through roofs of homes, damaged three jets at Vance Air Force Base, and did \$500,000 in damage at a car dealership. Winds gusts reached 70 mph at Vance Air Force Base as well. Hail damage to the wheat crop was estimated at 70 million dollars.

1997: It was a chilly day in the East. The high temperature at Philadelphia International Airport was only 59 degrees, tying a record-low maximum for the date set back in 1881. The temperature at Middletown, Pennsylvania rose to 58 degrees, breaking the record-low maximum for the date of 59 degrees set back in 1915. Washington, DC only reached 58 degrees, breaking the old record-low maximum of 59 set back in 1915. Central Park in New York City only reached 61 degrees.

# Broton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 8 of 54

Today	Tonight	Tuesday	Tuesday Night	Wednesday
				
Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy then Chance Showers	Partly Sunny then Slight Chance T-storms	Mostly Clear	Sunny
High: 84 °F	Low: 64 °F	High: 89 °F	Low: 57 °F	High: 84 °F



Published on: 06/03/2019 at 6:46AM

Another warm day expected today, with highs nearing 90 for most of the region. Storms are expected to develop this afternoon and move into north central SD by later this evening. The best chance of anything severe will be west river, with a possibility of larger hail and strong winds associated with these storms.



# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 9 of 54

## Yesterday's Groton Weather

High Temp: 78 °F at 4:27 PM

Low Temp: 48 °F at 6:03 AM

Wind: 15 mph at 5:08 PM

Day Rain: 0.00

## Today's Info

Record High: 100° in 1933

Record Low: 34° in 1964, 1950

Average High: 74°F

Average Low: 50°F

Average Precip in June.: 0.22

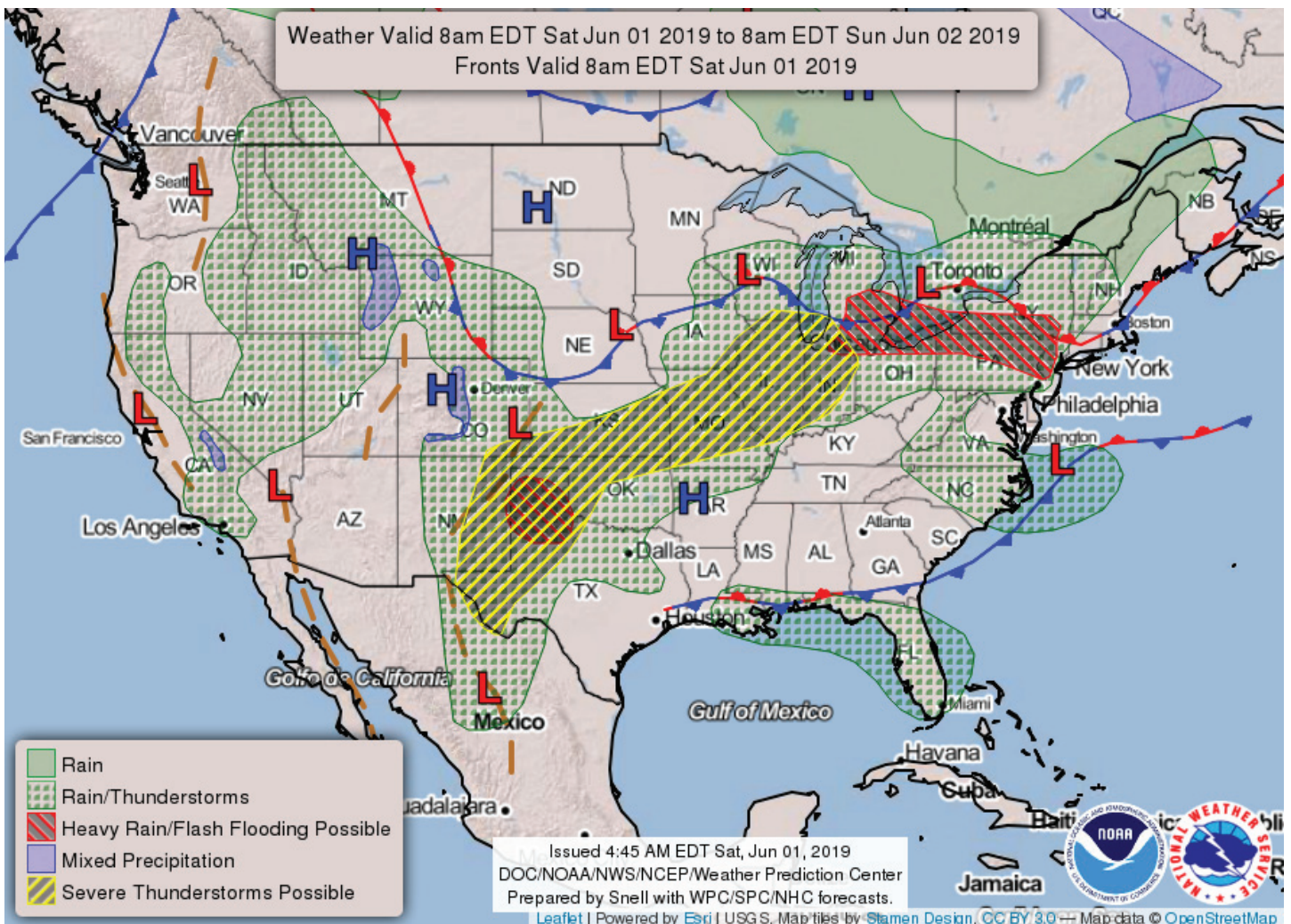
Precip to date in June.: 0.00

Average Precip to date: 7.36

Precip Year to Date: 7.97

Sunset Tonight: 9:17 p.m.

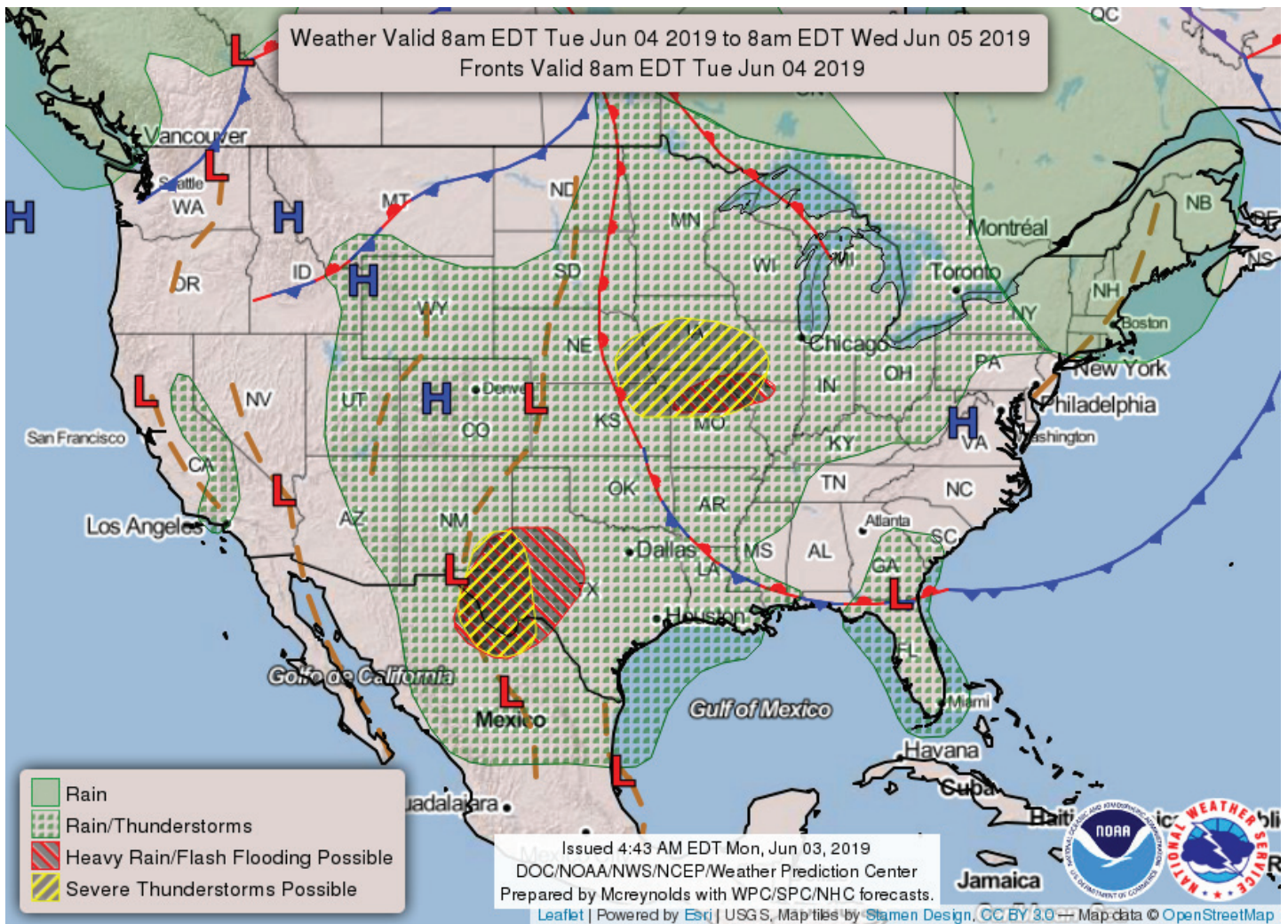
Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:47 a.m.



# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 10 of 54

## Tomorrow's Weather Map



# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 11 of 54



## WHATS IN IT FOR GOD?

Before you make a decision, make a plan or set a goal, ask these questions, said T.B. Matson, our ethics professor.

Can I ask God to bless what I am about to do?

Is what I am planning to do going to honor God?

Would I feel comfortable to ask others to join me in prayer for what I am asking God to do for me?

Would others agree with me that what I am about to do will be God-honoring?

We often act and react without pausing to pray about or even consider the consequences of our behavior. Sometimes when things seem to be getting out of control, we run to God and plead for Him to correct this terrible mess I've created for Your name is at stake. Others may say, Well, it looked good when I started but where is God now?

Because of our sinful nature, we often act without seeking God's approval before setting out on a project. We think, plan, work and then wonder what happened to my ideas? when things go wrong. We forget the need to go to God first because of our desire to act independent and self-sufficient. If we look to and depend on God, we automatically admit we are insufficient on our own and need His help. And who wants to think they need help?

Wisely Solomon wrote, Commit to the Lord whatever you do and your plans will succeed. The word used for commit literally means roll over. So if in prayer, we roll over our plans to God for His blessing, protection, and guidance, we can expect them to succeed.

Prayer: Father, we pray that You will remove all pride from our hearts and help us realize our need for Your guidance. May we realize our need for You at all times. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Proverbs 16:3 Commit to the Lord whatever you do and your plans will succeed.

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 12 of 54

## 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

### Survey suggests Midwest slowdown of economic growth

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — A new report says a May survey of business supply managers suggests economic growth will slow over the next three to six months in nine Midwest and Plains states.

The report issued Monday says the Mid-America Business Conditions Index dropped to 54.3 last month from 55.9 in April. The figure was 58.2 in March.

Creighton University economist Ernie Goss oversees the survey, and he says tariffs and flooding have harmed several states.

The survey results are compiled into a collection of indexes ranging from zero to 100. Survey organizers say any score above 50 suggests growth. A score below that suggests decline.

The survey covers Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma and South Dakota.

### South Dakota family navigates around child's food allergies

By KATHERINE GRANDSTRAND Aberdeen American News

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — There are many things that make parents scared for their children — climbing the top of the jungle gym, getting too close to a hot stove, other kids being mean — but for some families, something as simple as a snack can cause the fear.

That's the case for Elissa Dickey. Her youngest son, Ernie, is allergic to peanuts and dairy, meaning no peanut butter and jelly sandwiches washed down with a big glass of milk for this 7-year-old.

"Cooking from scratch became the norm for us," Dickey said to the Aberdeen American News. "Looking back now, we're used to it, it's not like it's easy, but we're used to it. Right away, it was really overwhelming."

Ernie was about 2 months old when Dickey said she realized he was having some issues, which is when his suspected dairy allergy was confirmed. It took a lot of searching to find a formula that he could digest without problems.

He also had eczema as a baby and toddler, which caused some food allergy issues, Dickey said. Once his skin issues were taken care of, Ernie still had a peanut and dairy allergy.

Ernie always has his EpiPen with him — it's in a tiny backpack, Dickey said. He can't come in contact with peanuts, let alone ingest them, and his dairy allergy goes beyond common lactose intolerance.

While she's well versed in it now, grocery shopping is still a little bit harder for Dickey. Ingredients have to be free of any trace of dairy or peanuts, not just devoid of them. She knows which brands meet their requirements, but also has to be constantly vigilant.

"Don't be afraid to contact companies," Dickey said. "It's hard to know how much is regulated and whether no information means it's fine or it means they didn't even think to talk about it."

Dickey and her husband Ted make sure Ernie gets included — on pizza night that means Ernie and Elissa get their own dairy-free pie to share while Dad and older brother Jack get Domino's or Pizza Hut, Elissa Dickey said. When they found out Wednesdays were chocolate milk day at school, Ernie got to take chocolate soy milk in his lunch box.

Because of Ernie's allergies, Dickey said she knows her grocery bill is much higher than it is for the average family of four.

"We're lucky that we can afford some of that stuff," she said. "I forgot how cheap regular chocolate chips are."

The brand she buys is around \$6 for a 10-ounce bag, while regular chocolate chips are around \$3 for a 12-ounce bag, Dickey said.

When they eat out, it's usually at chain restaurants, Dickey said. It's easier to verify the allergy protocols. As Ernie's gotten older, Dickey said the family has worked to make sure he advocates for himself. He

knows not to eat any food that wasn't either prepared or approved by Mom or Dad.

"I want to show that it's OK to ask. This is what you need," she said.

When the Dickey's travel, a big cooler full of "Ernie food" goes with, and if they're out at a coffee shop for an after-school treat, Ernie usually takes his own snack.

Dickey said the science around allergies has improved even in her youngest son's seven years. He might grow out of his allergies, or could possibly go through desensitization therapy. That's where the patient starts out with a minuscule dose of the allergen in a clinic, slowly building up tolerance for a substance that might have once killed him or her.

"If you accidentally eat something, you would still go to the doctor, but it's taking away that immediate danger of anaphylaxis," Dickey said.

Information from: Aberdeen American News, <http://www.aberdeennews.com>

## Polish sculptor crafting made-in-Sioux Falls medallions

By AUSTIN LAMMERS Sioux Falls Argus Leader

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Jurek Jakowicz loves the details. His work sculpting medallions requires their perfection. If the crevasses in his design are too deep, too light, or undercut, the hydraulic press stamping them into bronze won't capture their grooves, omitting the delicate features that signify his pieces.

Though Jakowicz says the medallion market in South Dakota isn't particularly booming, he stays busy with commissions from all over the country. Recent notables include the Boston Public Library, Southern Utah University and the Patton Museum in Fort Knox, Kentucky.

He's a three-time finalist for the President Inaugural Medal (to sculpt it, not receive it). When Baron Trump was born, a friend of Donald Trump's commissioned Jakowicz to sculpt a medallion of Melania holding the newborn in 24-carat gold as a gift to the family.

"I'm constantly busy," he told the Argus Leader. "I'm over here by myself doing stuff like this."

'Over here' meaning Sioux Falls, where Jakowicz started working for Medallion Art Company — the "oldest and largest private mint" in America — in 1990. It took a trip across the Atlantic for him to get here, however.

A native of Lodz, Poland, the country's second-largest city, Jakowicz was raised alongside art. His mother was a painter and sculptor. He went to schools that taught sculpting and photography and architecture. His art career didn't begin with medallions, but eventually led to it.

"I had a good background and caught onto this very quickly," he said. "Everything has to be so precise, so detailed. This was something different and I fell in love doing it."



**In a Tuesday, May 21, 2019 photo, Jurek Jakowicz poses with a few pieces from his collection of medallions in Sioux Falls, S.D. Though Jakowicz says the medallion market in South Dakota isn't particularly booming, he stays busy with commissions from all over the country.** (Austin Lammers/The

Argus Leader via AP)

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 15 of 54

He arrived in the U.S. in 1985 at 24 years old, working in New York and Chicago before landing in Sioux Falls five years later. When Medallion Art Company moved to Nevada in 1997, Jakowicz stayed.

"A friend of mine was over here in Sioux Falls and because I grew up in a big city I didn't want to spend my life stuck in traffic," Jakowicz said. "He said, 'why don't you come over here and take a look?' And I did, and started playing soccer and met a bunch of people, and here we are."

Naturally, Jakowicz grew ties locally. Several weeks ago, South Dakota State President Barry Dunn wore a 24-carat gold medallion etched by Jakowicz around his neck during graduation. Have you seen the bronze statue of Star Trek's Captain Kirk in Riverside, Iowa? He sculpted that, too.

He crafts on a variety of mediums both three-dimensional and two-dimensional (he's commissioned to sketch house pets for their owners, even), but if he had to choose one to do forever, it'd be medallion sculpting.

"I love to do this. Really I do," he said. "It's a little bit difficult because of the proportions and everything to capture the likeness. But I like challenge."

The medallion is more coveted on the coasts than in the middle of the country, Jakowicz said, partly due to cost. For a medallion 10-12 inches in diameter, the sculpture alone is \$1,600. That's before mold-making, cutting into steel, a heat treatment, production and cost of the bronze.

And what about demand? A medallion made once, which can go for "thousands of dollars," is much more expensive than a medallion made 100 times over, Jakowicz said.

"Most of my work is commissioned out of the state, because, you know, we are not there yet," he said. "I think people are kind of scared because it costs so much. The idea of giving medallions is not here yet."

But that's just medallions. Jakowicz said he has seen an uptick in the community's "hunger" for art since he arrived in Sioux Falls almost 30 years ago. He was one of Sculpture Walk's first participants in 2004, and has joined many local sculptors in providing the city with enticements of the eye.

"Sioux Falls is starting to become a nice hub of expression," he said. "For people walking downtown, you see this. The optics are there. You see art is almost everywhere, almost every corner of the street. That's how it should be."

---

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

## Surveyor: Odakota Mountain's elevation lower than thought

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota's second-highest peak is a little lower than advertised, according to a Nebraska surveyor.

Jerry Penry, a 52-year-old professional surveyor from Lincoln, Nebraska, pegged Odakota Mountain's elevation at 7,197.7 feet above sea level. That's about 2 to 12 feet lower than previously published figures.

His new survey using modern equipment and GPS found the mountain in the Black Hills still high enough to rank No. 2 on the list of named South Dakota peaks.

"We have the technology to get stuff right," Penry told the Rapid City Journal.

South Dakota's topographical giant belongs to Black Elk Peak, which Penry surveyed in 2016 and found to be 7,231 feet, rather than the widely published 7,242 feet.

Penry visited Odakota Mountain last month. The peak is 45 miles west-southwest of Rapid City.

To get the elevation Penry set up a GPS receiver on a tripod and let it communicate with dozens of satellites in space for more than four hours. He ran the resulting data through the National Geodetic Survey's Online Positioning User Service to determine Odakota's true elevation.

A report from that service gave Penry a high degree of precision.

When Penry goes on vacation from his surveying job in Nebraska, he does more surveying. But he doesn't always survey peaks. On other adventures, he has tracked down historical surveying markers and boundary monuments, and places such as the "pole of inaccessibility," which is the farthest point from a coastline. In North America, it's in Bennett County, South Dakota.

"Odakota" is a Dakota Sioux word meaning friendship, alliance or a peaceful relationship, but the name

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 16 of 54

was not bestowed on the mountain by Native Americans. The late Loretta Bradfelt, who co-owned land near the mountain's base, proposed the name in 1968 and successfully petitioned the U.S. Board on Geographic Names to accept it.

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

## South Dakotans killed in crash southwest of Twin Cities

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Authorities say a South Dakota couple was killed after their motorcycle collided with a farm trailer that broke free from a tractor southwest of the Twin Cities.

The Star Tribune reports the crash occurred shortly after 4 p.m. Saturday in Arlington Township.

The State Patrol identified the couple killed as 60-year-old Marvin Fandrich and 61-year-old Kathy Fandrich of Aberdeen, South Dakota.

The patrol says the tractor was driven by 60-year-old Curtis Petzel of Arlington Township.

The newspaper reports it was the second fatal crash Petzel has caused in less than two years.

In 2017, Petzel drove his pickup truck into the back of a car and sent the vehicle into the path of a motorcycle coming the other way, killing the 59-year-old rider.

Information from: Star Tribune, <http://www.startribune.com>

## Rapid City could pass resolution for school bond issue

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Rapid City school officials may pass a resolution that would trigger a \$250 million bond issue to fund a massive overhaul of the district's facilities.

The Rapid City Journal reports a task force comprised of district administrators and Rapid City residents that studied and proposed a plan for school facilities will deliver its final set of recommendations to the school board on Monday.

A preliminary plan calls for the district to build three new elementary schools, close three others and rebuild a pair of middle schools.

School officials have discussed a bond structure that would mean an owner of a \$100,000 home could pay roughly \$100 more in property taxes.

District officials believe that projected growth in Rapid City will allow the bond to be paid off within 25 years.

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

## Sudan troops clear protest camp in assault, killing 13

By BASSAM HATOUM and SAMY MAGDY Associated Press

KHARTOUM, Sudan (AP) — Sudanese security forces attacked a protest camp in the capital Monday, opening fire, torching tents and killing at least 13 people, as they cleared away the months-old sit-in that was demanding the military yield power, witnesses and protest leaders said.

In videos posted online amid the early morning assault, civilians were seen running through streets lined with sit-in tents, heads down, as the sound of gunfire filled the air. Smoke rose from the area.

"Wounded people are lying on the ground the reception area as there are not enough beds," said Azza al-Kamel, a doctor at the Royal Care hospital near the sprawling sit-in area outside the military headquarters in the capital, Khartoum.

At least 13 people were killed and more than 200 wounded, according to the Forces for Declaration of Freedom and Change, which represents the protesters in negotiations.

By mid-day, security forces controlled almost the entire camp, pushing out protesters and sealing off the 2-square-kilometer (nearly 1 square mile) area, two protesters said. "We are out and cannot get in,"



# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 17 of 54

said Hisham Shalbi, a protest leader. They said only a few small pockets of protesters in the area remain.

The camp has been the epicenter of a protest movement that first succeeded in forcing the overthrow of Sudan's long-time strongman Omar al-Bashir in April.

After the military removed al-Bashir and seized power, tens of thousands of protesters remained in the camp and other protest sites, saying an end to his 30-year rule was not enough and demanding a speedy transition to civilian rule.

Protest leaders and military officials have been negotiating over the makeup of a transitional government, as protesters call for "limited military representation" in a sovereign council that would lead the country as it transitions to civilian rule over three years. The protest leadership announced after the assault that it was suspending the talks.

Both sides are split over the makeup and leadership of the council, with the ruling generals refusing to relinquish power.

Shams al-Deen al-Kabashi, a spokesman for the ruling military council, said in televised remarks that the military was targeting an area near the sit-in site, considered problematic by the authorities because of alleged criminal activity.

He said people from that area moved to the main protest site, leading to clashes. He did not say if the military's goal was to break up the entire sit-in camp.

Protest leaders urged supporters to rush to the site, and called for civil disobedience. The embassies of the United States and Britain expressed concern about reported attacks on civilians.

Monday's move by the military began in the early morning.

Dura Gambo, an activist, said large numbers of troops had besieged the sit-in area and arrested protesters trying to leave. "They have used the heavy rain yesterday and moved in the early morning to disperse people," she said.

Amal al-Zein, another activist, said security forces set fire to the tents in sit-in area. "They are surrounding the sit-in from all directions," she said.

The Sudan Doctors' Committee said medical personnel and injured people were trapped in clinics in the area, and demanded that they be allowed to leave.

An Associated Press journalist heard gunshots and explosions, and saw buses and soldiers on foot blocking roads leading to the protest site. Civilians were not allowed to walk in the streets, including women and children.

Videos circulating online appeared to show protesters standing at low brick barricades in the street, then being driven back by walls of blue-clad security forces carrying sticks.

Other videos showed protesters running through streets as gunshots were heard.

The Sudanese Professionals Association, which has been spearheading the protests, accused the military



**In this image made from video, Sudanese forces escort civilian in Khartoum, Sudan on Monday, June 3, 2019. Sudanese security forces moved against a protest sit-in camp in the capital Monday, witnesses and protest organizers said. Machine gun fire and explosions were heard and smoke rose from the area. Protest organizers said at least two people were killed.**(AP Photo via AP video)

of a “treacherous attempt to break up our sit-in.” The association called on supporters to engage in “total civil disobedience.”

The Forces for Declaration of Freedom and Change, which represents the protesters in transition negotiations with the ruling generals, called for toppling the military council and urged people to take to the streets in protest.

The U.S. Embassy in Sudan called on Sudanese security forces to stop what it said were “attacks against protesters and other civilians.” The embassy said via Facebook that apparent attempts to move against the protest camp in the capital are “wrong” and that it holds the country’s Transitional Military Council responsible for the attacks.

Ifran Siddiq, the British ambassador in Sudan, said he is “extremely concerned” by the heavy gunfire he had heard from his official residence in Khartoum and the reports that Sudanese security forces were attacking the protest sit-in site. “No excuse for any such attack,” he said on Twitter.

Magdy reported from Cairo

## Top North Korean official reappears days after purge report

By KIM TONG-HYUNG Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — A senior North Korean official who had been reported as being purged over the failed nuclear summit with Washington was shown in state media on Monday enjoying a concert near leader Kim Jong Un.

North Korean publications on Monday showed Kim Yong Chol sitting five seats away from a clapping Kim Jong Un in the same row along with other top officials during a musical performance by the wives of Korean People’s Army officers. A report by Pyongyang’s official Korean Central News Agency named Kim Yong Chol among the attendees of the event, which it said “impressively represented the ideological and mental features of KPA officers’ wives, who make every moment of their life honorable with ardent yearning for the leader.”

Kim Yong Chol has been North Korea’s top nuclear negotiator and the counterpart of U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo since Kim Jong Un entered nuclear talks with the U.S. early last year. He traveled to Washington and met President Donald Trump twice before Kim’s two summits with Trump.

Negotiations between Washington and Pyongyang have been at a standstill since February, when the second summit between Trump and Kim broke down over what the United States described as excessive



**This image made from video of a still image broadcasted Monday, June 3, 2019, by North Korea’s KRT shows senior North Korean official Kim Yong Chol, second from right, and a clapping Kim Jong Un, center, sitting in the same row along with other top officials during a musical performance by the wives of Korean People’s Army officers Sunday, June 2, 2019. The senior North Korean official who had been reported as purged over the failed nuclear summit with Washington was shown in state media on Monday enjoying a concert near leader Kim. (KRT via AP Video)**

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 19 of 54

North Korean demands for sanctions relief in exchange for only a partial surrender of its nuclear capabilities.

Last week, South Korean newspaper Chosun Ilbo cited an unidentified source in reporting that Kim Yong Chol had been sentenced to hard labor and ideological re-education over the failed summit in Hanoi, Vietnam's capital. The newspaper also reported that senior envoy Kim Hyok Chol, who was involved in pre-summit working-level talks with American officials, was executed with four other officials from the North's Foreign Ministry for betraying Kim Jong Un after being won over by the United States.

South Korea's government and media have a mixed record on tracking developments among North Korea's ruling elite, made difficult by Pyongyang's stringent control of information about them.

Lee Sang-min, spokesman for Seoul's Unification Ministry, which deals with inter-Korean affairs, said the ministry would not comment on a "specific internal event in North Korea or its participants" when asked about Kim Yong Chol's reappearance in public. Seoul's spy service has said it could not confirm Friday's report of a possible purge, while the presidential Blue House cautioned against "hasty judgments or comments."

Pompeo said after the report came out that he had seen it and the U.S. was "doing our best to check it out."

The report came at a delicate time for diplomacy as North Korea in past weeks has tested short-range missiles and issued belligerent rhetoric toward American and South Korean officials. Kim Jong Un declared in April that the Trump administration has until the end of the year to come up with mutually acceptable terms for a deal to salvage the nuclear negotiations. Experts say the North is playing measured brinkmanship aimed at increasing pressure on Washington without actually causing the negotiations to collapse.

North Korea has previously executed scapegoats to atone for high-profile political flops. But while many experts believe Kim Yong Chol was pushed to a back seat in negotiations with the United States, there were doubts about the report of a purge.

Cheong Seong-Chang, an analyst at South Korea's Sejong Institute, said Kim Yong Chol, who is also rumored to have health problems, wouldn't have appeared in public this quickly if he was undergoing political re-education. Cheong said it wouldn't make sense for Kim Jong Un to execute Kim Hyok Chol when Kim Yong Chol, the more senior official, would be seen as more responsible for the failure in Hanoi.

"If Kim Jong Un sentences senior officials to hard labor, executes them, or puts them in political prison camps over the collapse of meetings, then no official would be willing to step up in external negotiations," Cheong said. "It's unlikely that Kim would issue extreme punishment unless he's giving up on the talks with the United States."

Kim Yong Chol's rise during the nuclear negotiations had baffled many North Korea watchers because he handled South Korea ties, not international or U.S. relations. Previously, he was a military intelligence chief believed to be behind a slew of provocations, including two deadly attacks in 2010 that killed 50 South Koreans and an alleged 2014 cyberattack on Sony Pictures. Both Seoul and Washington imposed sanctions on him in recent years.

Many experts in South Korea believe experienced foreign ministry hands such as Foreign Minister Ri Yong Ho and First Vice Foreign Minister Choe Son Hui are likely to take the lead in North Korea's nuclear diplomacy as it prepares for the possibility of protracted and highly complicated negotiations with Washington.

## Mass shootings transform how America talks, prays, prepares

By SHARON COHEN and LINDSEY TANNER Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Pardeep Singh Kaleka has surveyed the landscape of an America scarred by mass shootings.

Seven years ago, a white supremacist invaded a Sikh temple in Wisconsin and killed six worshippers — among them Kaleka's father, who died clutching a butter knife he'd grabbed in a desperate attempt to stop the shooter. Now, whenever another gunman bloodies another town, Kaleka posts a supportive message on social media. Then later, either by invitation or on his own initiative, he'll journey to the community to shore up others who share his pain.

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 20 of 54

He's been to Newtown, Connecticut. Charleston, South Carolina. Pittsburgh. "We've become kind of a family," Kaleka says.

It's true. The unending litany of mass shootings in recent years — the latest, on Friday, leaving 12 dead in Virginia Beach, Virginia — has built an unacknowledged community of heartbreak, touching and warping the lives of untold thousands.

All the survivors, none of them unscathed. The loved ones of the living and dead. Their neighbors, relatives and colleagues. The first responders, the health care workers, the elected officials.

The attacks have changed how America talks, prays and prepares for trouble. Today, the phrases "active shooter" and "shelter in place" need no explanation. A house of worship will have a priest, a rabbi or an imam — and maybe, an armed guard. And more schools are holding "lockdown drills" to prepare students for the possibility of a shooter.

Post-traumatic stress disorder was once largely associated with combat-weary veterans; now some police and firefighters tormented by the memories of the carnage they've witnessed are seeking professional help. Healing centers have opened to offer survivors therapy and a place to gather. Support groups of survivors of mass shootings have formed.

Mayors, doctors, police and other leaders who've endured these crises are paying it forward — offering comfort, mentoring and guidance to the next town that has to wrestle with the nightmare.

Former Oak Creek Mayor Stephen Scaffidi, who'd been on the job just four months at the time of the 2012 Sikh temple attack, remembers a call that night from the mayor of Aurora, Colorado, where 12 people had been fatally shot at a movie theater less than three weeks earlier. "He gave me the best advice I could ever receive in that moment: 'Be calm. Reassure your community. And only speak to what you know. Don't speculate, don't pretend to be an expert on something that you're not,'" Scaffidi recalls.

Last year, two days after the fatal shooting of 17 students and staff at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, Christine Hunschofsky, mayor of Parkland, Florida, met the mother of a 6-year-old killed at Sandy Hook Elementary School who offered a road map into the future.

"She forewarned me of many of the things that we would encounter," Hunschofsky recalls. "She said at first it will seem like everyone comes together. Then it seems like a tsunami that hits the community. People become very divided. This is all normal after a mass trauma."

Three months later, it was Hunschofsky's turn. She sent a message to the incoming mayor of Santa Fe, Texas, where a school shooting left 10 dead. "She told me this is not going to be the hardest day and harder days are coming," recalls Mayor Jason Tabor. "Prepare for that." She was 100 percent right.

The two mayors have since become fast friends and Hunschofsky visited Santa Fe. "We're bonded for life," Tabor says.

Mass shootings account for a tiny percentage of homicides, but their scale sets them apart. In 1999, the Columbine shooting shocked the nation with its unforgettable images of teens running from the school with their hands up — scenes repeated in other similar attacks years later. Today, the public sees and



**FILE - In this Wednesday, Oct. 26, 2016 file photo, first responders hold a flag on the court as the national anthem is played during a tribute to the victims of the Pulse nightclub shooting prior to an NBA basketball game between the Orlando Magic and the Miami Heat in Orlando, Fla. The attack left 49 people dead; the shooter was killed after a three-hour standoff with police.** (AP Photo/John Raoux)

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 21 of 54

hears about these events as they unfold, through live-streamed video or tweets.

Each tragedy is horrifying, but the sense of it-can't-happen-here has worn off.

"We're a desensitized society," says Jaclyn Schildkraut, a criminologist at the State University of New York at Oswego.

"There is an element of mass shooting fatigue where we've gone from ONE MORE," she says, her voice rising with exasperation, "to add another one to the list. Everybody immediately goes for the gun argument ... and maybe throw a little mental health in there, but we really don't have a consistent, prolonged conversation about these events and how to prevent them."

Studies have offered some hints of their emotional wallop. The National Center for PTSD estimates 28 percent of people who have witnessed a mass shooting develop post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and about a third develop acute stress disorder.

Laura Wilson, an assistant professor of psychology at the University of Mary Washington in Virginia conducted a meta-analysis — an examination of data from 11 studies of PTSD symptoms among more than 8,000 participants who ranged from those who'd witnessed shootings to those who just lived in the communities in a 20-year period. She found the greater the exposure — someone who was at the scene or who lost a friend or family — the greatest risk of developing PTSD. But, in her work, Wilson has found other factors, too, including previous psychological symptoms and a lack of social support, also played a role in increasing the likelihood.

"Mass shootings are a different type of trauma," Wilson says. "People are confronted with the idea that bad things can happen to good people. ... Most people have a hard time reconciling the idea that a young, innocent person made the good decision to go to school, was sitting there, learning and was murdered. That does not make sense to us. ... It just rattles us to our core."

And yet, some people don't fully appreciate the lasting psychological wounds of those who escaped physical harm.

A study conducted by a University of Nevada-Las Vegas professor after the 2017 Route 91 Harvest Festival shooting that left 58 people dead found PTSD levels for those at the concert remained elevated at least a year later. Most of these people had a friend, family member or co-worker asking — as early as 1½ months after the event — why they were still troubled.

"Almost everyone had someone say, 'Get over it. Why are you letting this bother you?'" says Stephen Benning, a psychology professor who conducted the research. Those kinds of remarks were associated with increased levels of PTSD, which lasted longer than depression.

April Foreman, a psychologist and board member of the American Association of Suicidology, likens exposure to mass shootings to a flu epidemic that affects the entire community in different ways.

"When we have these mass casualty events it's like an outbreak of a virus," she says. "Some people might be immune or not susceptible to that strain. Some people are going to get a little sick, some people are going to be very sick. Some people might have compromised immune systems and if they're exposed they have a very high risk for life-threatening illness. Suicide is like the extreme outcome."

In one week in March, two student survivors of the Parkland school shooting killed themselves. Around the same time, the father of a 6-year-old killed girl in Newtown died of an apparent suicide. He had created a foundation in his daughter's name to support research on violence prevention.

Austin Eubanks, a Columbine student who was shot and watched his best friend die in the school massacre, died last month, possibly of an overdose. He struggled with opioid use after the attack and later became an addiction recovery speaker. A memorial fund established in his name is seeking funds for a trauma-informed program for families and victims of mass violence.

After the Parkland suicides, Hunschofsky says, many people sought mental health help for the first time. "They just told me, 'I thought I was OK, but after this happened, maybe I'm not. Maybe I do need to talk to someone.'" The community's wellness center, established after the Parkland shooting, extended its hours.

A similar program, the Resiliency Center of Newtown, is an informal gathering place for those grappling with anxiety, depression and PTSD. Though the school attack occurred 6½ years ago, the center still gets

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 22 of 54

new clients and after every mass shooting, more people stop by.

"Your heart hurts every time a new tragedy happens because you know what those people who are impacted are going to have to go through and what the community is going to go through, and that's hard," says Stephanie Cinque, the center's founder and executive director. "You don't just get over it and move on."

In Florida, Orange County Sheriff John Mina, Orlando's police chief during the 2016 massacre at the Pulse nightclub, realized that when he reached out to law enforcement peers — former chiefs of Aurora and Newtown — afterward. "What do you think I should be doing six months, a year from now?" he asked. "They said, 'John, you're not going to be dealing with this a year. You're going to be dealing with this five or 10 years. That was like a punch in the gut.'"

There were some immediate lessons learned, he says. Among them: improved communications with the fire department and better equipment. After the Pulse shooting, officers were given Kevlar helmets and an extra layer of body armor that will stop rifle rounds.

Mental health debriefings were held six months and a year after the shooting rampage for Orlando officers who went to the nightclub that morning.

Some have reached beyond the department to UCF RESTORES, a clinic at the University of Central Florida that helps trauma victims. It was originally designed to serve the military, but has expanded to include first responders and sexual assault victims, among others.

Deborah Beidel, the clinic's director, says first responders called to mass shootings face trauma similar to those in combat. About 50 firefighters, police and paramedics who were at Parkland and Pulse have been treated, most in a three-week outpatient program that exposes them to the sounds, smells and sights they encountered that caused their PTSD.

For those inside the Pulse, Beidel says, "the sound of cellphones ringing and ringing and ringing and no one answering them became a trigger for many people. Afterward, any time they heard a cellphone, particularly that Marimba ring on the iPhone, they would have a flashback."

Beidel says the goal isn't to make workers forget but to "put that memory in a file where it no longer affects every other aspect of their life, so that they no longer are restricted in what they can do because ... of flashbacks or panic or whatever they might be experiencing."

Jimmy Reyes, a 35-year-old Orlando firefighter, enrolled in the program about five months after Pulse. He'd been haunted by the memory of tending to more than two dozen bloody, wounded people carried from the club, sprawled over a parking lot, screaming in agony.

After more than four stressful hours caring for the wounded, not knowing who'd live or die, he returned home. As he and his wife watched the TV news, he began sobbing. She held him. "We did the best that we could," he told her.

Less than a week later, Reyes had a panic attack while working a second job — he was on a safety team in a jet ski race. "I couldn't breathe," he says. "I kept telling myself, 'You'll be fine. It'll pass.'" It didn't. He dreaded another big call at work.

Firefighters, he says, "kind of bury a lot of stuff. It gets put in a file in the back of your head. That's what I thought this was going to be."

But it didn't stay there. He was short-tempered with his family. He had little interest in doing anything but sitting at home. Finally, Reyes decided to seek help.

For three weeks, he relived his experiences, answering questions from a therapist as he told his Pulse story over and over, recalling everything he saw, including one man talking on his cellphone who'd been shot in the head and another critically wounded who asked, "Am I going to die?" At certain points, the therapist would cue up sounds he'd heard — gunshots from inside the club, the wail of the sirens, an explosion.

At first, he says, he cried. By the end of the sessions, he was dry-eyed and calm.

Reyes is better now and remains a firefighter. He never considered quitting. But he's changed.

"I felt like I was normal before Pulse," he says. "I was a very happy guy, no problems, no issues with mental health. Now I still deal with depression. I still deal with anxiety. ... I look back at those days. ... June 11th, I was normal. Then June 12th happened. I'm a completely different person."

So is Las Vegas trauma surgeon Dave MacIntyre.

He talks in a rapid-fire, breathless way about the chaos 19 months after the Route 91 shooting. More than 90 severely injured patients in 113 minutes. He repeats that phrase as if it still hasn't completely sunk in. After 20 years, he's now a part-time trauma surgeon looking to get out of the operating room completely. MacIntyre enrolled in January in an executive MBA program for doctors, with plans on becoming a consultant for helping hospitals deal with similar challenges. He's trying meditation, too.

MacIntyre didn't realize he had PTSD until an MBA program coach picked up on his symptoms — anxiety, stress, short temper, avoidance. His marriage has suffered. His work, too. "I find it very hard to talk to family members and give them bad news ... much more so than before," he says.

After the shootings, his hospital brought in therapy dogs and counselors for the staff but not everyone participated. "As physicians we're not going to want to show weakness. We're not going to want to go into an auditorium full of people or get on the floor and pet dogs," he says. "A lot of physicians internalize. You get to the point where it's unbearable."

It was different for Brian Murphy. He says he didn't have any psychological trauma after the shootings at the Sikh temple.

Murphy, the first officer on the scene, was shot 15 times. His face, hands, arms and legs were riddled with bullets. One bullet remains lodged in his skull; another in his throat after slicing one vocal cord and paralyzing the other, leaving him with a permanent rasp.

Medically retired from the Oak Creek police department, Murphy completed the master's degree in criminal justice administration he'd started before he was injured.

He now works for the company that makes the bulletproof vest that stopped three rounds that struck him that August day. He counsels other wounded officers, talking about something deep in his DNA — resiliency.

Murphy gets injections in his throat every three months to stop scar tissue from tightening and has some trouble swallowing, but he has no complaints, noting he was first told he'd never talk or eat on his own. "Once I knew I wasn't going to die, everything else was butter," he says.

He credits his family's support for rebounding. And he refuses to let the shooting dominate his thoughts.

"It's not like I wake up and say, 'I can't believe this happened.' It's just life now. I don't think there's a tremendous amount of good that comes from looking behind."

---

Sharon Cohen, a Chicago-based national writer, can be reached at [scohen@ap.org](mailto:scohen@ap.org) or on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/scohenAP>. Follow AP Medical Writer Lindsey Tanner: <https://twitter.com/LindseyTanner>

## 10 Things to Know for Today

By The Associated Press

Your daily look at late breaking news, upcoming events and the stories that will be talked about today:

### 1. TRUMP ARRIVES IN UK DURING POLITICAL TURMOIL

The U.S. president has arrived in Britain for a largely ceremonial visit meant to strengthen ties between the two nations, but the trip was immediately at risk of being overshadowed by the Brexit crisis and a political feud with London's mayor.

### 2. VIRGINIA GOVERNOR FACES FIRST TEST SINCE BLACK FACE SCANDAL

Gov. Ralph Northam, embattled after a black face scandal, has leadership tested after a gunman killed a dozen people in a Virginia Beach city office building.

### 3. 5 REPORTEDLY KILLED AT PROTEST SIT-IN CAMP IN SUDAN CAPITAL

Witnesses say an unspecified but high number of people also were wounded as Sudanese security forces moved against the site in Khartoum.

### 4. 'PURGED' NORTH KOREAN OFFICIAL REAPPEARS

The top nuclear negotiator was blamed for the failed nuclear summit with Washington and was reportedly purged, but it appears all is well according to state media as he was shown enjoying a concert alongside Kim Jong Un.

## 5. WHERE PROSPERITY AND REPRESSION REIGN

In the 30 years since Tiananmen, China's political clampdown is harsher than ever and the level of control exceeds what many thought possible, even after the army's bloody crack-down on the protesters.

## 6. CALIFORNIA'S ELECTORAL BUZZ SAW HAMSTRINGS 2020 DEMOCRATS

Campaigns in the state are won and lost through hugely expensive advertising and free media that reach the state's diverse, far-flung population.

## 7. AP WAS THERE: ALLIED TROOPS LAND IN NORMANDY ON D-DAY

The AP is republishing Don Whitehead's original report to mark the 75th anniversary of the assault that began the liberation of France and Europe from German occupation, leading to the end World War II.

## 8. WHERE CLASS SIZES HAVE SWELLED

With money dried up and widespread austerity measures in place, the U.N. agency for Palestinian refugees says it can no longer accommodate a natural influx of students, recruit new teachers or expand to larger facilities.

## 9. KEVIN SPACEY'S LAWYERS RETURN TO COURT IN GROPING CASE

A pretrial hearing is scheduled in the case accusing the former star of the indecent assault and battery of a then 18-year-old at a Nantucket bar.

## 10. NBA FINALS EVEN AS WARRIORS TOP RAPTORS 109-104

Stephen Curry and Klay Thompson scored 48 points combined to put the series at one game apiece.



**President Donald Trump is greeted by an honor guard as he and first lady Melania Trump arrive at Stansted Airport in England, Monday, June 3, 2019 at the start of a three day state visit to Britain.** (AP Photo/Kirsty Wigglesworth)

## Shooting poses Virginia governor's first test since scandal

By ALAN SUDERMAN Associated Press

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (AP) — Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam wasted little time getting to Virginia Beach after a gunman killed a dozen people in a city office building, the first major test of his leadership since a blackface scandal almost forced him from office four months ago.

The governor, who is also a pediatric neurologist, worked to comfort victims of Friday's shooting and their families, while helping coordinate the massive government response. He discussed the shooting with President Donald Trump in a private phone call, stood shoulder to shoulder with other elected officials at a news conference and later pressed the case for tighter gun control to national audiences.

The subject of widespread mockery after the racist photo from his medical school yearbook surfaced, the Democratic governor appears determined to project that he's up to the task.

"Actions speak a lot louder than words. And I will have the leadership that's needed," Northam said in an interview with NPR after the shooting, while discussing potential plans to push for increased gun regulations.

Twelve people were killed and several others injured when DeWayne Craddock, an engineer with the city's utilities department, opened fire inside a municipal building Friday afternoon, according to police.



# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 25 of 54

Northam quickly left Richmond after the shooting and drove to Virginia Beach, speaking to local, state and other officials on the way down to coordinate responses and share information. After a news conference Friday evening, Northam took a call from Trump to discuss the shooting, with the president offering the federal government's full support.

Michael Berlucchi, a Virginia Beach City Council member, praised the governor and other officials for their work to address the shooting's aftermath from the city's emergency operations center.

"Nobody carried their baggage into that room," Berlucchi said Sunday. "The only thing I saw was public servants coming together to address the worst tragedy in the history of our city."

On Saturday, Northam attended a vigil at a church where he told those gathered that "God is in control." He visited a hospital to meet with survivors and thank doctors and staff.

In broadcast interviews with national media, Northam stressed the need for action to prevent deadly similar shootings.

"We lost 12 lives yesterday. If you look at the commonwealth of Virginia, we lost over 900 lives over the past two years to gun violence, gun-related accidents," Northam said on CNN. "So I will make decisions in the upcoming days but we need to look at our laws: are they safe, do they keep people protected in the Commonwealth of Virginia?"

The governor has long been an advocate for stricter gun control. He made the issue a top priority of his 2017 gubernatorial campaign, drawing from his experience as a pedestrian and Army doctor who has treated children and soldiers wounded by firearms.

But a package of bills Northam pushed this year, including legislation to limit gun magazine size and give local governments broader authority to ban guns in city buildings, went nowhere in a staunchly pro-gun Republican-controlled Virginia General Assembly. Northam hinted Saturday in media interviews that he may be considering some kind of executive action related to gun control efforts that would bypass the legislature, but his office declined to say what specific actions he may take.

Any dramatic moves by the governor would face stiff resistance from his political opponents. Philip Van Cleave, president of the Virginia Citizens Defense League, said Northam doesn't have any real power to impose new gun limits and any efforts to do so would be an attempt to deflect attention away his scandal.

"He'd be very happy to try and change the focus away from the blackface stuff," Van Cleave said.

Northam has been battling for months to regain a sense of normalcy in office after a picture surfaced in February of man in blackface and another person wearing a Ku Klux Klan outfit on his medical school yearbook page. Northam has denied being in the picture, and investigators recently said they can't conclusively establish the identities of either person in the 35-year-old photo.



**Virginia Gov/ Ralph Northam, left, listens during a news conference in Virginia Beach, Va. Friday, May 31, 2019. A longtime city employee opened fire in a municipal building in Virginia Beach on Friday, killing several people on three floors and sending terrified co-workers scrambling for cover before police shot and killed him following a "long gun-battle," authorities said.** (AP Photo/Vicki Cronis-Nohe)

The governor withstood widespread pressure for him to resign, which weakened after scandal soon enveloped his potential successors .

Two women publicly accused Lt. Gov. Justin Fairfax of sexual assault, which he denies, and Attorney General Mark Herring announced he'd also worn blackface in college, just days after calling on Northam to resign. Both Fairfax and Herring have also resisted calls to resign.

Fairfax was also in Virginia Beach after the shooting. He attended a church service Sunday where and pledged to take "serious action" to prevent future mass shootings.

"I think that thoughts and prayers from politicians are not enough," Fairfax said. "We've had too many thoughts and prayers over the years and we've not acted in the ways to prevent these mass shootings in the future."

Associated Press writer Ben Finley contributed to this report.

## Trump, first lady meet with queen at Buckingham Palace

By JONATHAN LEMIRE and KEVIN FREKING Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — President Donald Trump met with Queen Elizabeth II Monday during two-day visit to Britain that's meant to strengthen ties between the two nations, although the trip was immediately at risk of being overshadowed by Brexit turmoil and a political feud with London's mayor.

Trump and first lady Melania Trump flew to Buckingham Palace in Marine One, landing on a lawn where they were greeted by Prince Charles and his wife Camilla. They received a royal gun salute as they walked to the palace where the queen greeted the president with a smile.

Even before Air Force One touched down north of London, Trump unleashed a Twitter tirade against London Mayor Sadiq Khan, leader of the world city where Trump will stay for two nights while partaking in a state visit full of pomp and circumstance.

The move came after a newspaper column in which Khan said Trump did not deserve red-carpet treatment in Britain and was "one of the most egregious examples of a growing global threat" from the far-right to liberal democracy.

"@SadiqKhan, who by all accounts has done a terrible job as Mayor of London, has been foolishly "nasty" to the visiting President of the United States, by far the most important ally of the United Kingdom," Trump wrote just before landing. "He is a stone cold loser who should focus on crime in London, not me.

The president added that Kahn reminded of the "terrible" mayor of his hometown, New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio though "only half his height." De Blasio, a Democrat, is a longshot candidate in the 2020 presidential race. Khan supporters have previously accused Trump of being racist against London's first Muslim mayor.

The president then added a few warm words for his hosts, tweeting that he was looking forward "to being a great friend to the United Kingdom, and am looking very much forward to my visit."

The Trumps then boarded Marine One, the presidential helicopter, for the trip from Stansted Airport to



**President Donald Trump walks with Prince Charles and first lady Melania Trump walks with Camilla, the Duchess of Cornwall, after arriving at Buckingham Palace, Monday, June 3, 2019, in London.** (AP Photo/Alex Brandon)

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 27 of 54

the center of Britain's capital.

The agenda for Trump's weeklong journey is mostly ceremonial: a state visit and the audience with the queen, D-Day commemoration ceremonies on both sides of the English Channel and his first presidential visit to Ireland, which will include a stay at his coastal golf club.

But the U.S. president will arrive at a precarious moment, as he faces a fresh round of impeachment fervor back home and uncertainty on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean. British Prime Minister Theresa May has faced months of political turmoil over Brexit and French President Emmanuel Macron is expected to use the 75th anniversary of the World War II battle that turned the tide on the Western Front to call for strengthening the multinational ties the U.S. president has frayed.

A sense of déjà vu quickly spread around London as Trump blasted British leaders.

A year ago, Trump also took aim at his hosts before landing on English soil, blasting May in an interview just hours she hosted him for dinner. Though he has spared May so far this time, he has praised her rival, prime ministerial hopeful Boris Johnson, just days before May steps down as Conservative leader on Friday for failing to secure a Brexit deal.

"I think Boris would do a very good job. I think he would be excellent," Trump told The Sun. "I like him. I have always liked him. I don't know that he is going to be chosen, but I think he is a very good guy, a very talented person."

It was not clear if the Trump endorsement would hurt or help Johnson's chances of becoming Britain's next leader.

He also told the Sunday Times that Britain should "walk away" from Brexit talks and refuse to pay a 39 billion pound (\$49 billion) divorce bill if it doesn't get better terms from the European Union. He said he might meet with another pro-Brexit politician, Nigel Farage, and claimed Farage should be given a role in the Brexit negotiations.

After lunch with the queen, Trump will be honored at extravagant state dinner at Buckingham Palace. Demonstrators are expected, including the possible return of an inflatable balloon depicting the president as a baby.

And even some of the pageantry could have awkward moments. The formal tea hosted by Prince Charles brings together a future king who has warned repeatedly about the perils of climate change with a president who is actively dismantling U.S. policies designed to slow global warming.

In an interview with The Sun, Trump weighed in on the American-born Duchess of Sussex. The former Meghan Markle, who gave birth to a son in May and will not attend the week's events, was critical of Trump in the past, prompting the president to tell the tabloid, "I didn't know that she was nasty."

Trump said later that he thought Markle would be "very good" as a royal and claimed that he only meant her comments were "nasty."

Trump will also make his first presidential visit to Ireland on Wednesday. Trump will spend two nights at his golf club in Doonbeg, which sits above the Atlantic. After Dublin balked at holding a meeting there, a deal was struck for Trump to meet Irish Prime Minister Leo Varadkar at Shannon Airport.

The centerpiece of the president's visit will be two days to mark the 75th anniversary of the June 6, 1944, D-Day anniversary, likely the last significant commemoration most veterans of the battle will see. The anniversary events will begin in Portsmouth, England, where the invasion was launched, and then move to Normandy, France, where Allied forces began to recapture Western Europe from the Nazis.

The day is normally a heartfelt tribute to unity and sacrifice, outweighing any national or political skirmish. But some on both sides of the Atlantic are nervous about Trump, who has shown a willingness to inject partisanship into such moments.

"My greatest hope is this: the president and all the leaders stay focused on the extraordinary heroism of that of D-Day and focusing on what brought allies to that position," said Heather Conley, senior vice president of the Center for Strategic and International Studies. "Dark clouds are forming once again in Europe, and rather than encourage those forces, we need to find much better tools to defeat them."

On his most recent European visit, last November in France, Trump was heavily criticized for skipping

a ceremony at an American military cemetery to mark the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I when rain grounded his helicopter. European leaders, meanwhile, stood in the rain to honor the dead.

Follow Lemire on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/@JonLemire> and Freking at <http://twitter.com/@APkfreking>

## Prosperity, repression mark China 30 years after Tiananmen

By CHRISTOPHER BODEEN Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — Thirty years since the Tiananmen Square protests, China's economy has catapulted up the world rankings, yet political repression is harsher than ever.

Hundreds of thousands of Muslims are held in re-education camps without charge, student activists face relentless harassment and leaders in the beleaguered dissident community have been locked up or simply vanished.

Religious groups face ever greater pressure to conform, and a web of mass surveillance is bolstering a system many call totalitarian. It's a far cry from the hopes of the idealistic student demonstrators, and a level of control far beyond what many imagined possible, even after the army's bloody crushing of the protests on the night of June 3-4, 1989.

Critics say the Tiananmen crackdown, which left hundreds, possibly thousands, dead, set the ruling Communist Party on its present course of ruthless suppression, summary

incarceration and the frequent use of violence against opponents in the name of "stability maintenance."

"The June 4 incident changed the direction of Chinese history," said Zhang Lifan, who in 1989 was a scholar at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. "The narrative that China would grow strong and normal, become a stable country through a process of political reform, was destroyed."

Chinese officials routinely respond to questions about the suppression by pointing to the economic progress China has made. In the three decades since the protests, China has risen to become the world's second-largest economy and is forging ahead in areas from high-speed rail to artificial intelligence and 5G mobile communications.

China's navy now sails around the globe, its space program has launched half a dozen crewed missions and its sprawling cross-border infrastructure projects are extending its influence from Nairobi to the Netherlands.

Politically, however, the state has never been more repressive. Restrictions on freedom of speech have been extended from publishing into social media, and the slightest act of perceived defiance can prompt a near instantaneous response from the authorities. The sprawling domestic security apparatus operates with impunity, coerced confessions are broadcast on state television and prison sentences are handed out



**FILE - In this June 10, 1989 file photo, People's Liberation Army (PLA) troops stand guard with tanks in front of Tiananmen Square after crushing the students pro-democracy demonstrations in Beijing. Thirty years since the Tiananmen Square protests, China's economy has catapulted up the world rankings, yet political repression is harsher than ever.** (AP Photo/Sadayuki Mikami, File)

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 29 of 54

on the flimsiest of charges, including "picking quarrels" and "incitement to subversion."

Calls for even moderate reforms have been attacked or just ignored. An attempt to introduce grass-roots democracy at the village level years ago foundered after the Communist Party refused to concede even a modicum of control. Deliberative bodies at all levels are filled with party appointees who vote how they're told, and the national legislature is a mere rubber stamp body, re-electing president and party head Xi Jinping last year by a margin of 2,970 to 0.

Regarded as China's most powerful leader in a generation, Xi took the opportunity to amend the constitution and remove presidential term limits, making him president-for-life if he so chooses. While the party is believed to be rife with power struggles, Xi's ongoing anti-corruption campaign and the threat of heavy prison sentences keep his opponents in check.

In the wake of the Tiananmen crackdown, efforts to supervise the party's workings and control corruption through the media and public oversight were lost, Zhang said. While it ushered in the era of new party leader Jiang Zemin under which the economy grew, graft also became endemic, faith in communism was exhausted and interpersonal relationships revolved around sheer personal gain, essentially finishing off what the violent, radical Cultural Revolution had begun almost 20 years earlier, he said.

"The moment the government ordered its army to fire on its own people, it lost its legitimacy," said Rowena Xiaoqing He, a former protester who created a course on Tiananmen at Harvard and is a current member of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton.

"Of course, those in power can easily manipulate history and twist our memory. But that kind of manipulation and suppression of history is always followed by distortions of all kinds — social, political, psychological," He said. "It is indeed impossible to understand today's China without understanding the spring of 1989."

Speaking at a regional defense forum in Singapore on Sunday, Chinese Defense Minister Wei Fenghe defended the government's response to the protests, drawing the stock link to China's post-1989 development.

"How can we say that China didn't handle that Tiananmen incident appropriately? There is a conclusion of that incident, that incident was political turbulence and the central government took measures to stop the turbulence, which is a correct policy," Feng said.

An editorial Monday in the official Communist Party newspaper Global Times' English edition said the 1989 "riot" had "immunized China against turmoil" and blamed veteran student leaders and foreign politicians of using the anniversary to attack China. The editorial made no mention of the military crackdown or subsequent repression.

Given that unbending official line, hopes for a re-evaluation of the crushing of the 1989 protests seem incredibly distant, despite the lack of any direct personal connection to that decision among the current ranks of leaders. Revisiting the episode, meanwhile, could undermine party prestige and authority among a younger generation who know only relative prosperity and little or nothing of the events of 1989.

While China has sought to rally the public with appeals to patriotism and the ideals of the communist revolution that swept the Communist Party to power in 1949, their belief system seems hollow at the core.

In an ironic twist, the Communist Party seems truly disconcerted by young people who remain true believers in Marxism for China.

A harsh crackdown on members of the Marxist student society at prestigious Peking University is one of the most extreme examples of the regime's insecurity and willingness to trample basic human rights. The school, whose Communist Party secretary — its top leader — was recently replaced by a former head of the national spy agency's branch in Beijing, has stood by as security agents have beaten, harassed and forcibly removed students who joined in the club's activities, including seeking solidarity with workers by joining them on the assembly line.

"I think the government has been very concerned about another round of student activists staging mass demonstrations. That's why they are being so nervous about students getting involved in protest," said Patrick Poon, China researcher for Amnesty International in Hong Kong.

China's domestic security spending now outstrips its defense budget, constituting an ever-growing strain on finances as the economy slows — from double digits to just 6.6% last year, a three-decade low. In addition, 20% of the defense budget is spent on the People's Armed Police, the internal security force.

Yet more initiatives are in the works, in particular the "social credit" system of mass data collection that monitors every citizen's digital, economic and social behavior and can limit access to everything from job offers to train tickets. Still, China ranks far down in global rankings for political stability and absence of violence, below countries such as Sri Lanka, Greece and Moldova in 2017. Numbers of protests listed as "mass incidents" run into the tens of thousands each year.

With the party having shut off all channels for organized opposition or even calls for inner-party reform, Zhang, the scholar, says he sees only two scenarios under which China might be able to "overturn the verdict" on Tiananmen. One would be during a time of supreme economic and political confidence, offering a chance to "pay off this historical debt," he said. The other would be in the case of an existential crisis, when the regime was "grasping at straws."

The opportunity for the first option has already passed because of constant infighting for political influence and the economy on decline, partly because of the trade war with the U.S., Zhang said. The second scenario "has yet to come to pass."

Despite the setback it dealt to Chinese political reform, the crackdown may have had a salutary effect on events elsewhere, hurrying the peaceful fall of the Berlin Wall the same year and the dissolution of the Soviet Union soon after, Zhang said.

"So even though the Chinese people didn't benefit from it, the rest of the world felt the impact," he said.

Associated Press videojournalists Alice Fung in Hong Kong and Emily Wang in Beijing contributed to this report.

## AP Was There: Allied troops land in Normandy on D-Day

By DON WHITEHEAD Associated Press Foreign Staff

WITH AMERICAN FORCES IN FRANCE (AP) — This story was first published on June 8, 1944, after AP journalist Don Whitehead, who became known by his colleagues as "Beachhead Don," landed on Omaha Beach in Normandy on D-Day with the 1st Infantry Division. His story was delayed by more than a day as the Army's communication system for the war correspondents broke down, and journalists weren't able to get the news out for more than 28 hours. The AP is republishing Whitehead's original report to mark the 75th anniversary of the assault that began the liberation of France and Europe from German occupation, leading to the end World War II.



Fighting as American troops did in Tunisia, Sicily and Italy, doughboys have smashed through the outer crust of Hitler's fortress in a gallant display of courage and skill.

Never before has an army at-

**FILE - In this June 8, 1944, file photo, under heavy German machine gun fire, American infantrymen wade ashore off the ramp of a Coast Guard landing craft during the invasion of the French coast of Normandy in World War II. June 6, 2019, marks the 75th anniversary of D-Day, the assault that began the liberation of France and Europe from German occupation, leading to the end World War II.** (U.S. Coast Guard via AP, File)

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 31 of 54

tempted to land such vast numbers of men and materials in such a short time, but the job is being done after a shaky start.

When we landed behind the assault troops the enemy still was pouring a heavy machine-gun mortar and artillery fire into the boats as they drove ashore and had our troops pinned behind a gravel bank just above the water's edge.

## Supplies Pile Up

Troops, supplies and vehicles began to pile up on the beach at an alarming rate. The enemy controlled the exits with accurate fire and the time schedule was being disrupted.

One unforeseen difficulty here was that three fresh regiments of German infantry moved onto the beach area just before the landing for anti-invasion maneuvers. They were sitting in their positions when the armada arrived offshore.

But under the urging of a soft-spoken brigadier general the organized enemy positions were silenced and the great surge inland began.

In the matter of a few hours the engineers had roads built from the beach and heavy equipment was pouring across.

Along the beaches were underwater barriers, barbed wire, emplacements, concrete houses with 88-mm. guns covering the beach approaches. The walls of houses were of reinforced concrete four to six feet thick,

Two hundred yards from the beach on the side of a steep bank the Germans had built one strong-point and had another under construction. This blockhouse was about 15 feet square with one opening through which was poked the snout of an 88-mm. gun.

Behind the thick walls were cases of ammunition, Behind the blockhouse the gun crew had tunneled into the side of the hill and installed living quarters.

Two young Germans were supposed to man the weapon but they were in quarters when the naval bombardment began and a shell ripped squarely through the gun port.

They ran out of their tunnel and hid under a bridge where Lieut. Carl W. Oelze, Cleveland, found them and took them prisoner. One was 17 years old and the other 18 and both said they were glad the invasion had come and that they were prisoners as they did not want to fight anyway.

On the other side of the draw was a similar position and further inland above the exit from the beach was another concrete blockhouse with its 88-gun pointing down the approach.

The prisoners coming back to the rear looked rather small and scrawny. They looked with wonder at the bigger and stronger American boys and their fine equipment.

During the night German snipers infiltrated our lines and made life uncomfortable. The troops were wet from wading through the surf and the bedding of most troops was lost in vehicles swamped on the beach.

## General is Calm

Big guns of our warships are standing offshore and belching flame and smoke. Small craft are shuttling troops and guns to the strip of beach. Big bulldozers are gouging out a road.

Along the beach are still the khaki-clad bodies of boys who gave their lives in the United Nations bid to crush German's armed might. But there were not so many as I had expected to see, and I patrolled this strip from end to end.

Canadians reported that German parachute troops were being dropped on a small scale behind Allied lines. American parachutists took one village.

In my books much credit goes to the tall lean brigadier general who showed absolute disregard for his own safety in organizing his troops and getting them moving inland.

I cannot name him. But I can name the cool calm lieutenant who stayed by his side during the whole time. He was Robert J. Riekse of Battle Creek, Mich.

Eight hours after landing, not a single enemy plane made an appearance over our beach.

## Wounded Man Topples Over

We had waded ashore to the rattle of machine guns and the bursting of shells.

A soldier riding on the rear of a "duck" at the water edge behind me suddenly gave a startled cry and

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 32 of 54

topped into the water. A medic dragged him to the beach and treated a wound in his thigh.

Wounded men, drenched by cold water, lay in gravel, some with water washing over their legs, shivering and waiting for stretcher bearers to take them aboard returning small craft.

"Oh, God, let me aboard a boat," whimpered one youth in semi-delirium. Near him a shivering youth dug with bare fingers into gravel.

Shells Burst all Around

Shells burst on all sides of us, some so close they threw black water and dirt over us in showers. They smacked into water around the boats, but in all the shelling I saw only one boat hit and she pulled out under her own power.

An A. E. F. sergeant, William McFadden, Olean, N.Y., said, "I was damned glad to get onto the beach, and I'll be glad to get off."

A runner came from an advance unit bearing a message for the general. He was John P. Foley, Trenton, N.J.

Although nicked by a bullet over one eye, Foley came through enemy fire to carry an important message which resulted in the general sending reinforcements to a certain sector.

"You've done a fine job, lieutenant," said the general, "and shown great initiative and good judgment."

Then the general began working to get troops off the beach. It was jammed with men and vehicles. He sent a group to the right flank to help clean out the enemy firing directly on the beach. Quietly he talked to the men, suggesting the next move.

The Army's communication system for correspondents accompanying American troops broke down completely and for more than 28 hours we were unable to get news out. The public relations officer brought a radio ashore early among the assault waves, but it was put aboard a jeep which he was unable to find until the next day.

There was supposed to be a system of couriers to take correspondents' dispatches from the beach to ships, but there were no couriers.

My first article was handed to a litter bearer who said he would try to get it to a control ship which has a courier service.

We were even more bitterly disappointed when we turned on the radio and heard a B.B.C. report from British correspondents accompanying British troops. Their communications apparently functioned well.

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

## Mexicans launch friendly defensive to deflect US tariffs

By **AMY GUTHRIE** Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexican officials have copied a page from President Donald Trump's playbook in recent days, taking to Twitter to communicate that they are working flat-out to de-escalate tensions over immigration and avoid punitive tariffs on all Mexican exports to the U.S.

Announcements of meetings in Washington, selfies and carefully crafted messages of optimism for cool-headed discussions are some of the tactics on display in social media to respond to an economic and diplomatic emergency that few anticipated. Trump's threat on Thursday to impose tariffs to pressure Mexico to do more to curb the flow of migrants came the same day that Mexico declared it would begin the process of ratifying the new United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement on trade.

Many are questioning the legality of mixing immigration policy goals with trade retaliation, and U.S. business groups are already considering legal action against the proposed tariff, arguing that the countries both produce for each other and together.

"Almost everyone was caught flat-footed," said Antonio Ortiz-Mena, an international trade consultant based in Washington with the Albright Stonebridge Group who represented Mexico as part of the team that negotiated the North American Free Trade Agreement in the early 1990s.



# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 33 of 54

Ortiz-Mena said he spent much of the weekend on phone calls and crafting strategies to advise clients in the U.S.-Mexico supply chain on how to navigate the situation. His advice to Mexican officials would be to stay calm and show good faith by ratifying the USMCA trade deal.

"We're neighbors. We're not going anywhere," Ortiz-Mena said.

Mexico overtook Canada to become the top trade partner for the U.S. in April.

And Mexico's message has been consistently friendly. President Andrés Manuel López Obrador said Mexico won't panic, signing off on a Thursday letter to Trump as "your friend" and repeating that his country doesn't want this confrontation, much less a trade war.

There has also been some expert trolling. Foreign Minister Marcelo Ebrard posted a picture of himself at a Mexican airport Friday waiting to depart for Washington via Houston, with a Huawei-branded cellphone charging station behind him. The subtle implication: If the U.S. pushes Mexico away, China, a geopolitical and economic adversary, could move in to fill that space.

Mexican Economy Minister Graciela Marquez said she will meet with Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross in Washington on Monday. Ebrard said a delegation he is leading will hold talks Wednesday with one headed by Secretary of State Mike Pompeo.

Ebrard said Mexican Agriculture Minister Victor Manuel Villalobos also is to meet with his U.S. counterpart, Sonny Perdue, as tariffs would "severely" affect the U.S. agricultural sector. The objective is for the U.S. to avoid "shooting itself in the foot," Ebrard said.

Mexico is the top export market for U.S. corn and pork, and Mexico supplies one out of three fresh fruits and vegetables consumed in the United States. Tariffs on Mexican agricultural exports are seen raising the cost of avocados, tomatoes and berries for U.S. consumers.

Over the weekend, Mexico's economy minister joined what Mexican Twitter users have dubbed the "Ebrard Selfie Challenge," posting pictures of herself smiling next to the U.S. commerce secretary at the inauguration of El Salvador President Nayib Bukele.

The Mexican strategy of killing with kindness has been met with skepticism and increasingly harsh words from Trump.

"Mexico is sending a big delegation to talk about the Border," Trump tweeted Sunday. "Problem is, they've been 'talking' for 25 years. We want action, not talk."

That followed an earlier tweet in which Trump labelled Mexico an "abuser" that takes but never gives to the U.S. He threatened to lure U.S. companies and jobs back via tariffs unless Mexico stops what he called an "invasion" of drug dealers, cartels, human traffickers, people smugglers and immigrants.

The addition of drugs to the complaint adds another layer of complication to negotiations.

"It's asking the impossible," said Maureen Meyer, director for Mexico and migrant rights at the Washington



**FILE - In this May 31, 2019 file photo, =a worker stacks a box of freshly harvested Chiquita bananas to be exported, at a farm in Ciudad Hidalgo, Chiapas state, Mexico. President Donald Trump plans to impose 5% tariffs on Mexican imports starting June 10 and to ratchet them up to 25% by Oct. 1 if the Mexicans don't do more to stop the surge of Central American migrants across the southern U.S. border.** (AP Photo/Marco Ugarte, File)

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 34 of 54

Office on Latin America, a group that researches and advocates for human rights. "It certainly overlooks how much Mexico is trying to cooperate with the U.S."

Mexican authorities have raided migrant caravans traveling through the country's southern states of Chiapas and Oaxaca this year. They have deported thousands of migrants and frustrated thousands more who wait endlessly for permits that would allow them to travel legally through Mexico.

Meyer expects U.S. officials will again push this week for Mexico to sign onto a "Safe Third Country" agreement, which would designate Mexico as an adequate waiting spot for migrants wishing to claim asylum in the U.S. She said Mexico should stand firm and resist because it lacks the financial and human resources to process thousands of refugee cases, even if it were willing to do so.

A complete militarization of Mexican borders is also a very tall order. Just as the Mexican border with the U.S. has proven porous, Mexico's southern border with Guatemala features dense jungle and a river that makes it difficult to patrol.

Over the weekend, The Associated Press witnessed migrants arrive in small batches by raft at Tapachula, a border town in Chiapas. Federal helicopters, boats and police were not patrolling the Suchiate River as they have in the past to halt caravans.

But the AP also has seen a migrant woman and two children pulled from a bus in recent days to be transported to a detention center. Residents of Tapachula are routinely asked to show ID while riding public transportation as officials search for migrants without permission to be in Mexico. There were few migrants in the streets or camping in the public parks of Tapachula.

Those passing through Mexico without transit visas have opted to maintain a low-profile over the past weeks as Mexico seeks to detain and deport more migrants — and to draw attention to those efforts.

The National Migration Institute tweeted a picture Saturday of a plane transporting 64 Cubans back to their country from the Gulf state of Veracruz.

Trump says he will impose a 5% tariff on Mexican goods beginning June 10 as a way to force the government of Mexico to keep mostly Central American migrants from crossing into the U.S. He says that until he is satisfied with Mexico's results, the import tax will be increased five percentage points every month through October, topping out at a total tariff of 25%.

Yet there are no concrete benchmarks for Mexico to prove that it is stemming immigration flows.

Mick Mulvaney, acting White House chief of staff, said on "Fox News Sunday" that Trump is "deadly serious" about imposing tariffs on imports, adding that "there's no specific target, there's no specific percentage" that Mexico needs to hit.

"They have to get dramatically better and they have to get better quickly," Mulvaney said.

López Obrador said Mexican officials will try to better communicate their immigration efforts in Washington this week. He issued a memo to "the people" of the U.S. on Sunday saying he wishes to remain Trump's friend and professing that Mexicans are their friends, too.

He closed the letter by saying: "Let nothing and nobody separate our beautiful and sacred friendship."

---

Associated Press photo journalist Marco Ugarte in Tapachula, Mexico, contributed to this report.

## Warriors beat Raptors 109-104 to even NBA Finals

By BRIAN MAHONEY AP Basketball Writer

TORONTO (AP) — The Golden State Warriors relied on a champion's heart to overcome their weary bodies. Klay Thompson scored 25 points before leaving with a hamstring injury, Stephen Curry had 23 and the Warriors ran off the first 18 points of the second half on the way to a 109-104 victory over the Toronto Raptors on Sunday night that tied the NBA Finals at one game apiece.

With Kevin Durant already out and Thompson eventually joining him in the fourth quarter, the Warriors don't feel great — but they would've felt a whole lot worse flying home in a 2-0 hole.

"I think that when you get to this stage, our DNA shows up," Curry said.

Andre Iguodala, himself slow to get up after a hard fall in the first half, made the clinching 3-pointer

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 35 of 54

with 5.9 seconds left after the Raptors scored 10 straight points to cut it to 106-104.

Kawhi Leonard had 34 points and 14 rebounds for the Raptors. They had won five straight since falling behind 2-0 in the Eastern Conference finals.

Curry appeared to be laboring as well in the first half, returning to the locker room in the midst of six straight misses to start the game.

But the Warriors cobbled together a good enough finish to the second quarter to keep it close, then stormed out of the locker room with one of their vintage third-quarter charges that have been so frequent during their run to five straight NBA Finals.

"Third quarter we didn't play well enough. We missed too many shots," Raptors guard Kyle Lowry said. "They got out in transition and got a little confidence going. We lost the game there."

DeMarcus Cousins was inserted into the starting lineup and delivered 11 points, 10 rebounds and six assists, and Draymond Green had 17 points, 10 rebounds and nine assists — missing by one assist a fourth straight triple-double.

The series moves to their Oracle Arena for Games 3 and 4, with the first NBA Finals to be played outside the U.S. assured of returning to Canada for Game 5.

The Warriors will hope to have enough healthy bodies to get through it. Thompson landed awkwardly after a 3-point attempt early in the fourth quarter and limped off soon after, with backup center Kevon Looney already missing the second half with a chest or shoulder injury.

And Golden State is still without Durant, who missed his seventh straight game with a strained right calf but hopes to return during the series.

For now, they got key contributions from Quinn Cook, who hit three 3-pointers, and veteran center Andrew Bogut, who wasn't even part of the roster most of the season but came off the bench for three baskets.

"It was a great win. We got to go home and protect our home floor and we'll see about all the injuries," coach Steve Kerr said. "But I'm very proud of our team and in particular all the guys off the bench."

Kerr said Thompson told him that he thought his injury was minor and he'd be fine, but added that "Klay could be half dead and he would say he would be fine." Kerr was unsure the nature of Looney's injury.

Fred VanVleet scored 17 points for the Raptors, who had red T-shirts with their slogan "We The North" hanging on seats around the arena.

The Warriors sure were seeing red, especially Curry, during a mostly miserable first half when they missed 20 of their first 28 shots.

He hung his head and didn't even attempt to run back when VanVleet stole the ball from him and made a layup to give Toronto an 11-point lead with a little more than 2 minutes remaining in the half.

But Curry made two free throws for the final points of the half to cut it to 59-54, then the Warriors came back and pitched a shutout until nearly the midpoint of the third quarter during a series-changing — per-



**Toronto Raptors forward Kawhi Leonard (2) stretches to keep the ball from Golden State Warriors center Andrew Bogut (12) as he drives to the net during the second half of Game 2 of basketball's NBA Finals, Sunday, June 2, 2019, in Toronto.** (Frank Gunn/The Canadian Press via AP)

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 36 of 54

haps season-changing — swing.

Iguodala had five quick points including a 3-pointer that moved Golden State into the lead at 61-59. The surge continued with three straight baskets from Thompson and three more from Green, whose last one capped the 18-0 run that Elias said was the longest to start a half in NBA Finals history and made it 72-59 before Toronto finally got on the board with a 3-pointer with VanVleet with 6:20 remaining in the period.

"They moved the ball really well and were running freely," Raptors center Marc Gasol said. "Once they run freely, everything opens up for them."

The Warriors had won 12 straight Game 1s and this was their first time playing from behind in the finals since they were down 2-1 to Cleveland in 2015. They showed no signs of concern during the off days, and Thompson suggested part of the problem during their 118-109 loss Thursday was rust after they had nine days off in between series.

Their bigger problem early in Game 2 was the defense of the Raptors. But Toronto — which had a 23-0 advantage in second-chance points — missed a chance to take a comfortable lead into the half and couldn't overcome its 37 percent shooting, with Pascal Siakam going 5 for 18 for 12 points after scoring 32 in the opener.

TIP-INS

Warriors: Curry had his streak of 30-point games snapped at six. Wilt Chamberlain and Rick Barry share the Warriors' postseason record with seven straight. ... Kerr earned his 76th postseason victory, moving past Chuck Daly and Don Nelson.

Raptors: Siakam missed his first three shots, as many as he missed in Game 1 while going 14 for 17. ... OG Anunoby was active for the first time in the playoffs after having an emergency appendectomy April 11, but didn't play.

FAMOUS FAN

President Barack Obama sat next to NBA Commissioner Adam Silver across the court from the Toronto bench, getting a loud ovation and "MVP! MVP!" chants when shown on the overhead video screen and introduced in the second quarter.

UP NEXT

Golden State hosts Game 3 on Wednesday night.

---

Follow Brian Mahoney on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/briancmahoney>

---

More AP NBA: <https://apnews.com/NBA> and [https://twitter.com/AP\\_Sports](https://twitter.com/AP_Sports)

## AP FACT CHECK: Trump's dig at McCain skews facts on vet care

By HOPE YEN and ERIC TUCKER Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump is making up facts about a veterans' health care program in his latest dig at late Sen. John McCain.

He says he's no fan of McCain, a Vietnam War veteran and tortured prisoner of war, faulting him for failing to pass a program that gave veterans the option to see a private doctor at public expense.

"He was never able to get Choice. I got Choice," Trump said Thursday to reporters. His jab at the late senator came as he defended a Trump administration order to keep a Navy ship named for McCain hidden from view during his recent trip to Japan as likely "well-meaning," though Trump said he knew nothing about the request.

But McCain did get it done on vets' care.

Trump routinely takes full credit for enacting the Veterans Choice program, ignoring the fact that it was signed into law by President Barack Obama in 2014. McCain was a co-sponsor of the legislation to overhaul the Department of Veterans Affairs. What Trump did was expand eligibility for the program.

Meanwhile, Trump is also claiming exoneration and a possible case against him "closed" in the Russia investigation. But special counsel Robert Mueller, who announced this past week the end to his work

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 37 of 54

, specifically declined to vindicate Trump on obstruction charges. Mueller indicated it was up to Congress to decide whether to take up continued investigations and bring charges of wrongdoing against a sitting president.

A look at the claims, also covering his comments on Duchess Meghan, trade, the economy, North Korea and more:

## DUCHESS MEGHAN

TRUMP: "I never called Meghan Markle 'nasty.' Made up by the Fake News Media, and they got caught cold!" — tweet Sunday.

THE FACTS: Trump, in fact, did use the word "nasty" to describe Meghan, the Duchess of Sussex.

Trump was referring to an interview Friday with the British tabloid *The Sun* in which he was asked about comments the former American actress made in 2016, where she threatened to move to Canada if Trump won the White House.

According to a recording of the interview released by *The Sun*, Trump responded: "I didn't know that. What can I say? I didn't know that she was nasty."

It's unclear, however, whether Trump's use of "nasty" referred to the duchess herself or the negative things she said about him in 2016. Trump also spoke positively about Meghan in the interview.

When asked whether it was good for an American to be a member of the British royal family, Trump said: "I think it's nice. I'm sure she will do excellently. She'll be very good."

The former Meghan Markle married Prince Harry, the Duke of Sussex, in 2018 and gave birth to their first child, Archie, in May.

## VETERANS

TRUMP: "I disagree with John McCain on the way he handled the vets, because I said you got get to Choice. He was never able to get Choice. I got Choice." — remarks Thursday to reporters, according to a transcript released by the White House .

TRUMP: "We passed VA Choice and VA Accountability to give our veterans the care that they deserve and they have been trying to pass these things for 45 years." — Montoursville, Pennsylvania, rally on May 20.

TRUMP: "Another one they said could never get passed, they have been trying to do it for 40 years, we passed VA Choice. Veterans Choice." — El Paso rally on Feb. 11.

THE FACTS: Trump was not the first president in four decades to pass the Veterans Choice program. What Trump got done was an expansion of the Choice program achieved by McCain and Sen. Bernie Sanders, the main lawmakers who advanced the legislation signed by Obama.

McCain, an Arizona Republican, co-sponsored the legislation following a 2014 scandal at VA's medical center in Phoenix, where some veterans died while waiting months for medical appointments. Sanders was then chairman of the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee.

After helping pass the program, McCain also fought to expand it in his last months before dying of brain cancer last August. Trump signed the legislation last June, which is named after three veterans. The



**President Donald Trump arrives at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., Thursday, May 30, 2019, for a short trip to the White House after attending the 2019 United States Air Force Academy Graduation Ceremony in Colorado Springs, Colo.** (AP Photo/Andrew Harnik)

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 38 of 54

legislation's full name is the John S. McCain III, Daniel K. Akaka, and Samuel R. Johnson VA Maintaining Internal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks Act of 2018, or MISSION Act.

The Choice program currently allows veterans to see doctors outside the VA system if they must wait more than 30 days for an appointment or drive more than 40 miles (65 kilometers) to a VA facility. Under the expansion, starting Thursday, veterans are to have that option for a private doctor if their VA wait is only 20 days (28 for specialty care) or their drive is only 30 minutes.

Still, the VA says it does not expect a major increase in veterans seeking care outside the VA under Trump's expanded program, partly because wait times in the private sector are typically longer than at VA. "The care in the private sector, nine times out of 10, is probably not as good as care in VA," VA Secretary Robert Wilkie told Congress in March.

## RUSSIA INVESTIGATION

TRUMP: "NO COLLUSION, NO OBSTRUCTION, NO NOTHING!" — tweet Sunday.

TRUMP: "There was no crime." — remarks Thursday to reporters.

TRUMP, on Mueller's statement on finishing his work as special counsel: "There was insufficient evidence and therefore, in our Country, a person is innocent. The case is closed! Thank you." — tweet Wednesday.

SARAH SANDERS, White House press secretary: "The Special Counsel has completed the investigation, closed his office, and has closed the case. ... The report was clear there was no collusion, no conspiracy and the Department of Justice confirmed there was no obstruction. ...After two years, the Special Counsel is moving on with his life, and everyone else should do the same." — statement Wednesday.

THE FACTS: Mueller did not fully exonerate Trump or declare that a possible case against Trump to be "closed." While announcing his work was now finished, Mueller specifically left it open for Congress to decide on possible charges of wrongdoing. Mueller also did not say there was "insufficient evidence" as to possible crimes of obstruction, making clear that his report did not draw a conclusion.

Mueller said his team declined to make a prosecutorial judgment on whether to charge Trump, partly because of a Justice Department legal opinion that said sitting presidents shouldn't be indicted.

As a result, his detailed report factually laid out instances in which Trump might have obstructed justice, leaving it up to Congress to take up the matter.

"If we had had confidence that the president clearly did not commit a crime, we would have said so," Mueller said Wednesday. Based on that department's legal opinion, Mueller said, "the Constitution requires a process other than the criminal justice system to formally accuse a sitting president of wrongdoing."

Attorney General William Barr wrote in a March 24 letter that ultimately he was deciding that the evidence developed by Mueller was "not sufficient" to establish, for the purposes of prosecution, that Trump committed obstruction of justice. But Mueller explicitly declined to say that.

It's true the Mueller report did not find a criminal conspiracy between the Trump campaign and Russia, saying it had not collected sufficient evidence "to establish" or sustain criminal charges. However, the report did not assess whether "collusion" occurred.

TRUMP, on Mueller's relationship with former FBI Director James Comey, who was fired by Trump: "He loves Comey. You look at the relationship with those two. So whether it's love or deep like, but he was conflicted." — remarks Thursday to reporters.

THE FACTS: Though Comey succeeded Mueller as FBI director and though they served together in the Bush administration, the men are not known to be social friends. There is certainly no evidence, as Trump has repeatedly suggested, that they are "best friends" or have a relationship that is "love or deep like."

TRUMP: "I think he's totally conflicted. ...Robert Mueller should've never been chosen because he wanted the FBI job and he didn't get it. And the next day, he was picked as Special Counsel. So you tell somebody, 'I'm sorry, you can't have the job.' And then, after you say that, he's going to make a ruling on you? It doesn't work that way. Plus, we had a business dispute." — remarks Thursday to reporters.

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 39 of 54

THE FACTS: Trump makes a groundless charge that Mueller was "totally conflicted." Mueller, a longtime Republican, was cleared by the Justice Department's ethics experts to lead the Russia investigation.

According to the special counsel's report, when Trump previously complained privately to aides that Mueller would not be objective, the advisers, including then-White House chief strategist Steve Bannon, then-White House counsel Don McGahn and Reince Priebus, chief of staff at the time, rejected his complaints of an alleged business dispute and possible bad feelings over the FBI job as not representing "true conflicts." Bannon called the claims "ridiculous."

Bannon told Mueller's investigators that while the White House had invited Mueller to speak to the president about the FBI and thought about asking him to become director again, Mueller did not come in looking for a job. Mueller was previously FBI director from 2001 to 2013.

TRUMP: "They don't talk about Russia anymore because it turned out to be a hoax. It was all a hoax." — remarks Thursday to reporters.

TRUMP: "There's no nothing. It's nothing but a witch hunt." — remarks Thursday.

THE FACTS: A two-year investigation that produced guilty pleas, convictions and criminal charges against Russian intelligence officers and others with ties to the Kremlin, as well as Trump associates, is not a hoax. Mueller's report concluded there was "sweeping and systematic" Russian interference in the 2016 election.

Mueller charged 34 people, including the president's former campaign chairman, Paul Manafort, his first national security adviser, Michael Flynn, and three Russian companies. Twenty-five Russians were indicted on charges related to election interference, accused either of hacking Democratic email accounts during the campaign or of orchestrating a social media campaign that spread disinformation on the internet.

Five Trump aides pleaded guilty and agreed to cooperate with Mueller, and a sixth, longtime confidant Roger Stone, is awaiting trial on charges he lied to Congress and engaged in witness tampering.

## ECONOMY

TRUMP: "Employment numbers are the best. We have close to 160 million people working today, which is more than we've ever had before." — remarks Thursday to reporters.

THE FACTS: It's true that more people are working now, but that is driven by population growth. A more relevant measure is the proportion of Americans with jobs, and that is still far below record highs.

According to Labor Department data, 60.6 percent of people in the United States 16 years and older were working in April. That's below the all-time high of 64.7 percent in April 2000, though higher than the 59.9 percent when Trump was inaugurated in January 2017.

The Labor Department reported that the unemployment rate dropped in April to 3.6% from 3.8%. That drop reflected a healthy economy for sure, but also an increase in the number of Americans who stopped looking for work.

## NORTH KOREA

TRUMP, on limited progress by North Korean leader Kim Jong Un to "denuclearize": "So I think that he is — he is going to try, at some point. I'm in no rush at all. ...We, as you know, are getting the remains — continuing to get the remains. A lot of good things are happening." — news conference on May 27 with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

THE FACTS: U.S. efforts to recover additional remains of American service members have stalled amid souring relations with North Korea.

As tensions between the U.S. and North Korea spiked again, the Pentagon said last month it had suspended its efforts to arrange negotiations this year on recovering additional remains of American service members killed in the North during the Korean War. The Pentagon said it remained hopeful they can reach agreement for recovery operations in 2020.

The Defense POW-MIA Accounting Agency said it has had no communication with North Korean authorities since the Vietnam summit between Trump and Kim last February. That meeting focused on the North's

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 40 of 54

nuclear weapons and followed a June 2018 summit where Kim committed to permitting a resumption of U.S. remains recovery; that effort had been suspended by the U.S. in 2005.

The agency said it had "reached the point where we can no longer effectively plan, coordinate, and conduct field operations" with the North during this budget year, which ends Sept. 30. The North, it said, never agreed to face-to-face negotiations to work out details for the recovery operations, such as payments required for the provision of support services by the North Korean army.

Last summer, in line with the first Trump-Kim summit in June, the North turned over 55 boxes of what it said were the remains of an undetermined number of U.S. service members killed in the North during the 1950-53 war. So far, six Americans have been identified from the 55 boxes.

## TRADE

TRUMP: "We're taking in billions of dollars in tariffs. China is subsidizing products. So the United States' taxpayers are paying for very little of it." — remarks Thursday to reporters.

TRUMP: "You know, foolishly, some people said that the American taxpayer is paying the tariffs of China. No, no, no — it's not that way. They're paying a small percentage, but our country is taking in billions and billions of dollars." — news conference on May 27.

THE FACTS: That's not true. U.S. consumers and the public are primarily if not entirely paying the costs of the tariffs, as his chief economic adviser, Larry Kudlow, has acknowledged. That's how tariffs work: Importers pay the taxes and often pass on the cost to consumers. The U.S. is not "taking in" billions from China as a result.

A sustained trade dispute is not painless for China, either. Its goods become pricier and therefore less competitive. But China is not paying a tab to the U.S. treasury in this matter.

As Kudlow said, accurately: "Both sides will suffer on this." But in his view, "this is a risk we should and can take."

## MARS

TRUMP: "Prime Minister Abe and I have agreed to dramatically expand our nations' cooperation in human space exploration. Japan will join our mission to send U.S. astronauts to space. We'll be going to the moon. We'll be going to Mars very soon." — news conference on May 27.

THE FACTS: Not very soon. The U.S. will almost certainly not be sending humans to Mars in his presidency, even if he wins a second term.

The Trump administration has placed a priority on the moon over Mars for human exploration (President Barack Obama favored Mars) and hopes to accelerate NASA's plan for returning people to the lunar surface. It has asked Congress to approve enough money to make a moon mission possible by 2024, instead 2028. But even if that happens, Mars would come years after that. International space agencies have made aspirational statements about possibly landing humans on Mars during the 2030s.

## IRAN

TRUMP: "If you look at the deal that (Vice President Joe) Biden and President Obama signed, they would have access — free access — to nuclear weapons, where they wouldn't even be in violation, in just a very short period of time. What kind of a deal is that?" — news conference on May 27.

THE FACTS: That's a misrepresentation of what the deal required. Iran would not have access to nuclear weapons capability in a "very short period" without violating the terms of the 2015 accord. The U.S. withdrew from the multinational agreement last year.

During the 15-year life of most provisions of the deal, Iran's capabilities were limited to a level where it could not produce a nuclear bomb. Iran was thought to be only months away from a bomb when the deal came into effect.

After 15 years, Iran could have an array of advanced centrifuges ready to work, the limits on its stockpile would be gone and, in theory, it could then throw itself into producing highly enriched uranium. But



nothing in the deal prevented the West from trying to rein Iran in again with sanctions. The deal included a pledge by Iran never to seek a nuclear weapon. In return, partners in the deal eased sanctions on Iran.

Associated Press writers Darlene Superville, Cal Woodward, Christopher Rugaber, Robert Burns, Lolita C. Baldor and Michael Balsamo contributed to this report.

Find AP Fact Checks at <http://apne.ws/2kbx8bd>

Follow @APFactCheck on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/APFactCheck>

## Pentagon tells White House to stop politicizing military

By LOLITA C. BALDOR Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — The Pentagon has told the White House to stop politicizing the military, amid a furor over a Trump administration order to have the Navy ship named for the late U.S. Sen. John McCain hidden from view during President Donald Trump's recent visit to Japan.

Trump's top aide scoffed at the idea that anyone working for the White House might be punished. "We think it's much ado about nothing."

A U.S. defense official said Patrick Shanahan, Trump's acting defense chief, is also considering sending out formal guidance to military units in order to avoid similar problems in the future.

Shanahan confirmed details about a Navy email that said the White House military office wanted the USS John McCain kept "out of sight" when Trump was in Japan about a week ago. The internal Navy email came to light last week, triggering a storm of outrage.

Trump, who long feuded with McCain, has said he knew nothing about the request, but added that "somebody did it because they thought I didn't like him, OK? And they were well-meaning, I will say."

Shanahan told reporters traveling with him to South Korea on Sunday that he is not planning to seek an investigation by the Pentagon's internal watchdog into the matter "because there was nothing carried out" by the Navy. He added that he still needs to gather more information about exactly what happened and what service members did.

"How did the people receiving the information — how did they treat it," Shanahan said. "That would give me an understanding on the next steps" to take.

Shanahan did not detail what those steps could be, but a defense official said Shanahan is considering a clearer directive to the military about avoiding political situations. The goal would be to ensure there is less ambiguity about how the military should support VIP events and how service members should respond to such political requests, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss internal deliberations.



**Acting U.S. Secretary of Defense Patrick Shanahan, left, arrives for the opening dinner of the 18th International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) Shangri-la Dialogue, an annual defense and security forum in Asia, in Singapore, Friday, May 31, 2019.** (AP Photo/Yong Teck Lim)

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 42 of 54

Shanahan also said that he spoke with McCain's wife, Cindy, a few days ago. He declined to provide any details.

The order to keep the Navy destroyer out of sight reflected what appeared to be an extraordinary White House effort to avoid offending an unpredictable president known for holding a grudge, including a particularly bitter one against McCain.

Trump's acting chief of staff, in appearances on two Sunday news shows in the U.S., said he did not expect anyone working for the White House to face discipline. "To think that you're going to get fired over this is silly," said Mick Mulvaney, making the comparison to someone who tries to sit bickering colleagues apart from each other at an office meeting.

"The fact that some 23- or 24-year-old person on the advance team went to that site and said 'Oh my goodness, there's the John McCain, we all know how the president feels about the former senator, maybe that's not the best backdrop, can somebody look into moving it?' That's not an unreasonable thing to ask," Mulvaney said.

The McCain incident has dogged Shanahan throughout his weeklong trip to Asia, even as he tried to deal with critical national security issues involving the eroding U.S. relationship with China and the continuing threat from North Korea.

Shanahan, who has been serving in an acting capacity since the first of the year, has yet to be formally nominated by Trump as permanent defense chief. His speech to a major national security conference in Singapore on Saturday was a chance to audition for the job on the international stage.

A formal nomination has been expected, and Congress members have said they believe there will be a hearing on his nomination in the next month or so. The McCain issue is sure to come up, but it's not clear how it may affect either his nomination or confirmation by the Senate. It may well depend on what steps he takes to respond to the matter in the coming days.

According to Shanahan spokesman Lt. Col. Joseph Buccino, Shanahan told his chief of staff on Friday to speak with the White House military office "and reaffirm his mandate that the department of defense will not be politicized." Buccino said the chief of staff reported back that he delivered the message.

Asked what he has learned about the incident so far, Shanahan said he was told that despite the White House request, the Navy did not move the ship and that a barge that was in front of it was moved before Trump arrived. He said that a tarp that had been draped over the ship's name was removed, but that it was put there for maintenance, not to obscure its identity.

Asked directly if members of his senior staff were aware of the White House request before the president's visit, Shanahan said he's been told they did not know. He also has said he was not aware of the request and that he would never have authorized it.

What is still unclear, however, is who at the Pentagon may have known about the request and either agreed with it or chose not to discourage it. It's also not clear whether Navy leaders deliberately chose the McCain crew as one of the ships to be on holiday leave during Trump's visit, or if other measures were taken to ensure that the McCain was not visible from where the president stood when he arrived on the USS Wasp to make remarks.

The warship, commissioned in 1994, was originally named for the senator's father and grandfather, both Navy admirals named John Sidney McCain. Last year, the Navy rededicated the ship to honor the senator as well.

## Oklahomans clean up after flood; Arkansans brace for crest

By ADAM KEALOHA CAUSEY and HANNAH GRABENSTEIN Associated Press

SAND SPRINGS, Okla. (AP) — Storm-weary residents in Oklahoma were gutting waterlogged homes Sunday as the Arkansas River continued its slow crest rolling hundreds of miles downstream, even as many kept a cautious eye on this week's weather forecasts showing more rain.

In the Tulsa suburb of Sand Springs — among the first communities inundated when the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers started releasing more water from a dam upriver to control more severe flooding elsewhere

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 43 of 54

— soggy couches and recliners and dumpsters full of carpet, drywall and insulation lined residential streets covered in silt deposited by floodwaters.

Jamie Casto was helping clean up the house where her 65-year-old uncle has lived for 14 years.

Though Casto, 35, said her uncle didn't have flood insurance because he was told he lived in a 500-year floodplain, a rust-colored line 4 feet from the concrete floor of the garage clearly marked how high water had gotten before they were able to get into the house Friday.

Casto is trying to help her uncle fill out paperwork to apply for emergency loans to help get the house back in order.

She gave Democratic presidential candidate Beto O'Rourke a tour of the home while he was in historically red Oklahoma to see damage firsthand. The former Texas congressman said

that if he is elected, his plan would include federal grants to invest in communities before disasters strike because the planet is warming and fires, storms and floods are expected to get worse.

"We know there's going to be more of this — more severe, more devastating," O'Rourke said. "We need to invest in communities now."

Cleanup won't be fast or easy. The Tulsa Area Emergency Management Agency put out a call for volunteers last week, with caveats that volunteers must bring their own gloves and boots. The Tulsa Health Department also gave free tetanus vaccinations to volunteers.

The National Weather Service said that in Tulsa, the river was at just over 13 feet (4 meters) Sunday morning, 10 feet (3 meters) lower than its high point on Wednesday.

On Saturday, President Donald Trump declared a major disaster in Oklahoma and made federal funding available to Muskogee, Tulsa and Wagoner counties, which have been hit by flooding, tornadoes and other storms. Across the state, officials said six people died and 118 were injured from the severe weather this spring.

As the high waters travel southeast, officials in Dardanelle, Arkansas, where a levee breached, said the risk of widespread flooding has abated, though communities further downstream aren't out of danger yet.

Dardanelle Mayor Jimmy Witt said in a Facebook post Saturday night that he thought the city of about 4,700 people "will be ok" after the flow of water toward the community began to slow.

Witt had previously warned the city could be inundated after the river on Friday made a 40-foot (12-meter) hole in a levee in Dardanelle, which is roughly 100 miles (160 kilometers) upstream from Little Rock.

Officials said Saturday that they were constructing a temporary levee, calling it a "last ditch effort" to shore up the city's southern border and predicting that up to 800 homes could be affected by creeping floodwaters. The threat decreased hours later as the flow of water slowed.

By Sunday morning, Dardanelle appeared to be safe. Yell County Office of Emergency Management Director Jeff Gilkey said the river never reached the temporary levee. But Gilkey and Witt warned that more rain could reverse the city's fortunes.



**Democratic presidential candidate Beto O'Rourke talks with the Casto family as they take a break from helping clean out their uncles home that was flooded in the Town and Country neighborhood in Sand Springs, Okla., Sunday, June 2, 2019.** (Joseph Rushmore)

National Weather Service meteorologist Dennis Cavanaugh said possible rain in Oklahoma would likely prolong flooding along the Arkansas River, though it probably wouldn't raise water levels higher than where they crested. Most areas will see the threat of major flooding subside within a few weeks, although the river will likely stay very high through June, Cavanaugh said.

Arkansas is expected to get more rain later in the week, which would increase the likelihood of flash-flooding.

"Normally, the waters would drain pretty quickly into the Arkansas River," he said, but with the river flooded, water will have nowhere to go.

Downriver communities were preparing Sunday for record-breaking crests. Officials ordered mandatory evacuations for about 500 homes that sit within the levee system in Jefferson County, just southwest of Little Rock. The county's emergency management director, Karen Blevins, said the evacuation was precautionary and officials have no concerns about the levees.

In North Little Rock, which sits across the river from the capital city, officials went door-to-door Saturday to urge residents in about 150 homes near the river to consider leaving.

Grabenstein reported from Little Rock, Arkansas.

Follow Adam Kealoha Causey at <https://twitter.com/akcausey> and Hannah Grabenstein at <https://twitter.com/hgrabenstein>

## Artists who've dared to broach Tiananmen pushed into shadows

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 men-



**In this May 30, 2019, photo, a computer screen shows web content from outside China including a clip of Chinese singer Li Zhi singing his song "The Square" with the lyrics "Now this square is my grave" and his social media site in Beijing on. Li is an outspoken artist who performs "folk-rock." He sang pensive ballads about social ills, and unlike most entertainers in China, he dared to broach the taboo subject of the Tiananmen Square pro-democracy protests that ended in bloodshed on June 4, 1989.** (AP Photo/Ng Han Guan)

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 45 of 54

tion 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 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.

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 46 of 54

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!"

## Trump heads to Europe at a time of remembrance, turmoil

By JONATHAN LEMIRE and KEVIN FREKING Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Like a bull who keeps returning to the china shop, President Donald Trump is headed back to Europe, where on previous visits he has strained historic friendships and insulted his hosts. This time, he faces an ally in turmoil and a global call to renew democratic pacts.

The agenda for Trump's weeklong journey is both ceremonial and official: a state visit and an audience with Queen Elizabeth II in London, D-Day commemoration ceremonies on both sides of the English Channel and his first presidential visit to Ireland, which will include a stay at his coastal golf club.

But the president will arrive at a precarious moment, as he faces a fresh round of impeachment fervor back home and uncertainty on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean.

British Prime Minister Theresa May will step down days after Trump visits and French President Emmanuel Macron is expected to use the 75th anniversary of the World War II battle that turned the tide in Europe to call for strengthening the multinational ties the U.S. president has frayed.

"My greatest hope is this: the president and all the leaders stay focused on the extraordinary heroism of that of D-Day and focusing on what brought allies to that position," said Heather Conley, senior vice president of the Center for Strategic and International Studies. "Dark clouds are forming once again in Europe, and rather than encourage those forces we need to find much better tools to defeat them."

Trump is to arrive in London on Monday for a two-day whirlwind of pomp, circumstance and protests, including meetings with the royal family and an extravagant state dinner at Buckingham Palace. He is likely to be shadowed by demonstrators, who during his visit to England last summer flooded the streets and flew an inflatable balloon depicting the president as a baby.

A year ago, Trump played the ungracious guest, blasting May in an interview just hours before Air Force One touched down in England. He has done it again, this time sparing May but praising her rival, prime ministerial hopeful Boris Johnson, just before she steps down as head of the Conservative Party on Friday for failing to secure a Brexit deal.

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 47 of 54

"I think Boris would do a very good job. I think he would be excellent," Trump told The Sun, the same publication to which he gave an interview last summer. "I like him. I have always liked him. I don't know that he is going to be chosen, but I think he is a very good guy, a very talented person."

Before departing the White House Sunday evening, Trump waded in again to his hosts' domestic affairs. He said he might meet with another pro-Brexit politician, Nigel Farage, during his visit, and brushed back concerns that he was being discourteous.

"Don't ask me the question if you don't want me to talk about it," he said.

Trump also fired back at London Mayor Sadiq Khan, who called the U.S. leader a "global threat" ahead of his trip. Trump said he has no interest in meeting Khan and that "I don't think much of him." Trump added that "he's the twin" of New York Mayor Bill de Blasio, "except shorter."

In the interview with The Sun, Trump weighed in on the American-born Duchess of Sussex. The former Meghan Markle, who gave birth in May and will not attend the week's events, was critical of Trump in the past, prompting the president to tell the tabloid, "I didn't know that she was nasty." He said later in the interview that he thought Markle would be "very good" as a royal.

Trump pushed back Sunday against reports that he had described Markle as "nasty," tweeting: "I never called Meghan Markle 'nasty.' Made up by the Fake News Media, and they got caught cold!" The newspaper posted the audio of the interview on its website.

Trump will make his first presidential visit to Ireland on Wednesday. But what should have been a routine visit with the prime minister grew complicated due to the president's unprecedented blending of government duties and business promotion. Trump will spend two nights at his club in Doonbeg, which sits above the Atlantic, and the White House originally insisted that he and his Irish counterpart meet there.

After Dublin balked, a deal was struck for Trump to meet Prime Minister Leo Varadkar at Shannon's airport. The centerpiece of the president's visit will be two days to mark the D-Day anniversary, likely the last significant commemoration most veterans of the battle will see. The anniversary events will begin in Portsmouth, England, where the invasion was launched, and then move to Normandy, France, where Allied forces began to recapture Western Europe from the Nazis.

The day is normally a heartfelt tribute to unity and sacrifice, outweighing any national or political skirmish of the moment. But some on both sides of the Atlantic are nervous about Trump, who has shown a willingness to inject partisanship into such moments. Trump also has been embroiled in simmering disputes over trade and military spending with fellow Western democracies.

On a trip to Brussels last summer, he upbraided NATO leaders on their defense budgets and caused near-panic when rumors spread that he was considering pulling out of the alliance formed in the aftermath of World War II. Just days later, in Helsinki, Trump rattled European capitals by publicly siding with Russian



**FILE - In this July 13, 2018, file photo, Britain's Queen Elizabeth II and President Donald Trump inspect the Guard of Honour, at Windsor Castle, in Windsor, England. Like a bull who keeps going back to the china shop, Trump is returning to Europe.** (Ben Stansall/Pool Photo via AP)

President Vladimir Putin over his own intelligence agencies.

On his most recent European visit, last November in France, Trump skipped a ceremony at an American military cemetery to mark the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I when rain grounded his helicopter.

Lemire reported from New York. Associated Press writer Zeke Miller in Washington contributed to this report.

Follow Lemire on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/@JonLemire> and Freking at <http://twitter.com/@APkfreking>

## Virginia Beach attacker notified boss of plans to leave job

By BEN FINLEY and MICHAEL KUNZELMAN Associated Press

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (AP) — The gunman who attacked his colleagues at a Virginia Beach government office building resigned by email hours before the shooting, a city official said Sunday as authorities sought a motive in the assault that killed 12 people.

Officials gave no indication why 40-year-old DeWayne Craddock had notified a superior of his intention to leave his job as a civil engineer in the utilities department. He was an employee "in good standing" and showed "satisfactory" job performance, City Manager Dave Hansen said.

Police Chief James Cervera described a chaotic scene as officers entered the building and pursued the assailant through a tightly packed warren of offices that the chief likened to a maze or a honeycomb. They exchanged fire in a protracted gunbattle. Cervera did not know how many rounds were fired but said it was "well into the double digits."

"In the police world, anything more than three to five shots is a long gunbattle," he said.

At one point, the suspect fired at officers through a door and a wall and hit one officer, who was saved by a bulletproof vest. Then the firing stopped, and police realized the gunman was holed up in an office.

When they got into the office, they took the wounded shooter into custody and gave him first aid, Cervera said. He was taken from the scene by ambulance 36 minutes after officers arrived and died at a hospital. A medical examiner will determine whether he was killed by an officer's bullet or his own, the chief said.

There was no indication he targeted anyone specifically. Cervera said investigators are retracing the gunman's activities on the day of the attack, using his electronic keycard to track his movements through secure areas of the building. They are also reviewing his personal and professional lives trying to find a motive.

"Right now we do not have anything glaring," he said. "There's nothing that hits you right between the eyes. But we are working on it."



**A woman who did not wish to be identified writes a note on the back of a cross for Michelle Langer, a victim of a mass shooting at a municipal building in Virginia Beach, Va., at a nearby makeshift memorial, Sunday, June 2, 2019.** (AP Photo/

Patrick Semansky)



# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 49 of 54

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, and all indicators were that he purchased them legally in 2016 and 2018, said Ashan Benedict, the regional special agent for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. The police chief said at least one had a noise suppressor.

City officials uttered the gunman's name just once and said they would not mention it again.

Officers found victims throughout the building, on three floors. Among the dead were four other engineers who worked to maintain streets and protect wetlands and three right-of-way agents who reviewed property lines. 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.

The 12th fatality was a contractor who was in the building seeking a permit.

At least four other people who were wounded remained hospitalized in critical condition Sunday.

A handwritten note was posted Saturday at the suspect's home expressing condolences to the shooting victims on behalf of his family. Co-workers described him as quiet, nice and polite, and neighbors said he was into cars and bodybuilding.

Two city workers said Sunday that they are lucky to be alive after coming face-to-face with the gunman during his rampage.

Terry Inman, an account clerk in the city's public utilities department, said he turned around and saw Craddock standing there with a gun. Inman said he told him, "DeWayne, stop!"

"He turned and looked straight at me, but he didn't see me. He looked straight in my face, and he did not see me standing there because he didn't raise the gun. He didn't even make an indication that he saw anyone there," Inman told The Associated Press. "To me, that was the Holy Spirit inflecting something on that man to the point where he didn't see Terry Inman standing there."

Inman's colleague, Ned Carlstrom, crossed paths with the gunman three times and made eye contact twice. He can only guess that Craddock spared him because they parked near each other and often had lighthearted conversations during the morning walk to the building.

"He had the gun down at his side. He was so close to me. He swung his arm out. He damn near hit me with the gun. That's how close we were," Carlstrom said. "But he never raised the gun at me. He looked up at me briefly."

Inman said he did not know of any turmoil in Craddock's life.

"It's so cotton-picking cliché you almost hate to say it, but he has always been rock-solid kind of positive guy. He always had a smile on his face," Inman said. "Nothing in (his) character would cause you to think, 'This guy is going to come in and kill 11 of my colleagues ... 12 people that work in the same building.'"

Kunzelman reported from Chesapeake, Virginia. Associated Press writers Regina Garcia Cano, Michael Biesecker, Michael Balsamo and Eric Tucker in Washington, D.C., also contributed to this report.

## China blames US for trade dispute, but doesn't escalate

By CHRISTOPHER BODEEN Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — China fired back at the U.S. Sunday over the two nations' trade dispute, issuing a report that blamed the conflict on the Trump administration but refrained from escalating the trade war.

The report from the Cabinet spokesman's office said China won't back down on "major issues of principle," but offered no sense of whether or how the world's second largest economy might retaliate against U.S. tariffs on goods manufactured in China.

The report said 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," the report said.

The report, delivered at a Sunday morning news conference, appears to be a bid to shore up China's arguments and justify its position in the face of what looks to be a protracted dispute. Over recent days, China has been mobilizing its representatives abroad to sell its position with foreign audiences, while the domestic propaganda apparatus has been working overtime to convince the public of the righteousness of the government's stance.

Linda Lim, a professor at Ross School of Business at the University of Michigan, said the report does not represent an escalation on China's part, but rather reiterates the government's position in a clear and measured way that leaves the door open for negotiations.

"They threw the ball back into the U.S. court," she said.

She said the report is a public relations win for China's government at a time when U.S. President Donald Trump's trade policy is antagonizing other U.S. trading partners, most recently Mexico. Trump announced last week that he would impose 5% tariffs on Mexican imports starting June 10 if the Mexicans don't do more to stop the surge of Central American migrants across the southern U.S. border.

The U.S. has accused China of stealing trade secrets and forced technology transfers. The Trump administration 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 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, China's vice commerce minister and deputy international trade representative, said China would issue more detailed information on the unreliable entities list soon, but that it was aimed at enterprises that "violated market principles" and cut supplies of components to Chinese businesses for non-commercial reasons.

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 Huawei in mid-May.

Several leading U.S.-based global technology standards-setting groups announced restrictions on Huawei's participation in their activities under U.S. Commerce Department rules that 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 cellphones. Foremost among them is lithium, the main component in modern batteries.



**Chinese Vice Minister of Commerce Wang Shouwen speaks during a press conference about China-U.S. Trade issues at the State Council Information Office in Beijing, Sunday, June 2, 2019. China issued a report blaming the United States for a trade dispute and says it won't back down on "major issues of principle."** (AP Photo/Andy Wong)

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.

Sunday's report lays out China's argument for blaming Washington for the frictions as well as the costs to both sides, and said China has room for fiscal policy changes to maintain the health of its economy amid the dispute.

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.

He said the U.S. had made unacceptable demands, including on tariffs and compulsory requirements that infringed on Chinese sovereignty. "You give them an inch, they take a yard," he said.

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 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.

## **Pompeo says US ready to talk to Iran with 'no preconditions'**

**By MATTHEW LEE AP Diplomatic Writer**

BELLINZONA, Switzerland (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said Sunday that the Trump administration is ready for unconditional discussions with Iran in an effort to ease rising tensions that have sparked fears of conflict. But the United States will not relent in trying to pressure the Islamic Republic to change its behavior in the Middle East, America's top diplomat said.

Pompeo repeated long-standing U.S. accusations that Iran is bent on destabilizing the region, but he also held out the possibility of talks as President Donald Trump has suggested. Trump himself had raised the idea of talks "without preconditions" in July 2018, although that was well before tensions had reached their current point.

In the 11 months since then, the U.S. has imposed crippling sanctions



**U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo attends a press conference with Swiss foreign minister Ignazio Cassis at the CastelGrande as part of Pompeo's visit in Bellinzona, Switzerland, Sunday, 2 June 2019.** (Samuel Golay/Keystone via AP)

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 52 of 54

on Iran, first in November and then again last month, targeting the most lucrative sectors of its economy. The action has drawn Iran's ire and strong words of threatened retaliation.

Iran's president, Hassan Rouhani, said the U.S. must return to the historic 2015 nuclear deal, which Trump withdrew from in May 2018. He was quoted by Iran's state-run IRNA news agency as saying that if the U.S. "realizes that the way it chose was incorrect, then we can sit at the negotiating table and solve any problem." Otherwise, he said, Iran has no choice but resistance.

While the latest offer may not pan out, Pompeo made it during a visit to Switzerland, the country that long has represented American interests in Iran, as part of a European trip aimed at assuring wary leaders that the U.S. is not eager for war.

"We're prepared to engage in a conversation with no preconditions," Pompeo told reporters at a news conference with his Swiss counterpart. "We're ready to sit down with them, but the American effort to fundamentally reverse the malign activity of this Islamic Republic, this revolutionary force, is going to continue."

Iran's foreign minister dismissed Trump's invitation for Iranian officials to contact him about possible talks. "It's not very likely because talking is the continuation of the process of pressure. He is imposing pressure. This may work in a real estate market. It does not work in dealing with Iran," Javad Zarif told ABC's "This Week."

Separate from Pompeo's remarks about Iran, The Washington Post reported Sunday that the American secretary of state recently told a private gathering of Jewish leaders in New York that the administration's long-awaited Mideast peace plan might be argued to be "unexecutable" and might not "gain traction." Citing an audio recording of the remarks delivered Tuesday, the Post reported that Pompeo expressed his hope that the peace deal isn't simply dismissed out of hand.

The plan that Trump has called "the deal of the century" has been delayed several times, as Pompeo noted to the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. Downplaying expectations for finding the key to an agreement ending the conflict, he told the group there are "no guarantees that we're the ones that unlock it."

In Switzerland, Pompeo's meeting with Foreign Minister Ignazio Cassis in the southern Swiss town of Bellinzona came amid concerns about the potential for escalation and miscalculation with Iran — a situation that has many in Europe and the Middle East on edge.

Cassis, whose country has been an intermediary between the two before, made no secret of that nervousness.

"The situation is very tense. We are fully aware, both parties are fully aware, of this tension. Switzerland, of course, wishes there is no escalation, no escalation to violence," he said. "Both parties are now increasing the pressure, and for the rest this is a matter of worry, but we cannot do anything unless we get a mandate from both parties."

Cassis said Switzerland would be pleased to serve as an intermediary, but not a "mediator," between the United States and Iran. To do so, however, would require requests from both sides, he said.

Neither he nor Pompeo would say if such requests had been made of the Swiss.

Pompeo thanked Switzerland, which serves as the "protecting power" for the United States in Iran, for looking after Americans detained there. Trump administration officials have suggested they would look positively at any move to release at least five American citizens and at least two permanent U.S. residents currently imprisoned in Iran.

Pompeo declined to comment on whether he had made a specific request to the Swiss about the detainees. But, he said the release of unjustly jailed Americans in Iran and elsewhere is a U.S. priority.

Pompeo was in Switzerland on the second leg after Germany of a four-nation tour of Europe in which he is both trying to calm nerves and stressing that the U.S. will defend itself and not relent in raising pressure on Iran with economic sanctions.

Despite the firm stance, Trump has signaled a willingness to talk with Iran's leadership. Iranian officials have hinted at the possibility but also insisted they will not be bullied.

"If they want to talk, I'm available," Trump said last week, even as Pompeo and the White House national

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 53 of 54

security adviser, John Bolton, were stepping up warnings that any attack on American interests by Iran or its proxies would draw a rapid and significant U.S. response.

The U.S. is sending hundreds of additional troops to the region after blaming Iran and Iranian proxies for recent sabotage to tankers in the Persian Gulf and drone attacks on Saudi Arabia's oil infrastructure.

Some analysts believe Iran is acting to restore leverage it has lost since Trump withdrew from the nuclear deal and the U.S. reimposed sanctions that have hobbled Iran's economy.

Last month, the administration ended sanctions waivers that had allowed certain countries to continue to import Iranian oil, the country's main source of revenue, without U.S. penalties. The U.S. also designated Iran's Revolutionary Guards a "foreign terrorist organization," adding new layers of sanctions to foreigners that might do business with it or its affiliates.

Despite the U.S. withdrawal, Iran has remained a party to the nuclear deal that involves the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, Germany and the European Union. Iran has continued to broadly comply with the terms, which called for it to curb its nuclear work in exchange for sanctions relief. On Friday, however, the United Nations' nuclear watchdog reported that Iran may be in violation of limits on the number of advanced centrifuges it can use.

Pompeo declined to comment on the findings of the International Atomic Energy Agency other than to say the U.S. is "watching closely" what is going on in Iran.

"The world should be mindful of how we are watching closely how Iran is complying with the requirements that were set out," he said.

## Today in History

By The Associated Press undefined

Today in History

Today is Monday, June 3, the 154th day of 2019. There are 211 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On June 3, 1989, Iran's spiritual leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, died. On the same day, Chinese army troops began their sweep of Beijing to crush student-led pro-democracy demonstrations.

On this date:

In 1781, Capt. Jack Jouett began riding his horse some 40 miles from Louisa County, Virginia, to Charlottesville, where Gov. Thomas Jefferson and other politicians were located, to warn of approaching British troops who intended to take them prisoner.

In 1861, Illinois Sen. Stephen A. Douglas, the Democratic presidential nominee in the 1860 election, died in Chicago of typhoid fever; he was 48.

In 1935, the French liner Normandie set a record on its maiden voyage, arriving in New York after crossing the Atlantic in just four days.

In 1948, the 200-inch reflecting Hale Telescope at the Palomar Mountain Observatory in California was dedicated.

In 1962, Air France Flight 007, a U.S.-bound Boeing 707, crashed while attempting to take off from Orly Airport near Paris; all but two of the 132 people aboard were killed.

In 1965, astronaut Edward H. White became the first American to "walk" in space during the flight of Gemini 4.

In 1968, pop artist Andy Warhol was shot and critically wounded at his New York film studio, known as "The Factory," by Valerie Solanas, an actress and self-styled militant feminist who ended up serving three years in prison for assault.

In 1977, the United States and Cuba agreed to set up diplomatic interests sections in each other's countries; Cuba also announced the immediate release of 10 Americans jailed on drug charges.

In 2008, Barack Obama claimed the Democratic presidential nomination, speaking in the same St. Paul, Minnesota, arena where Republicans would be holding their national convention in September 2008.

In 2016, heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali died at a hospital in Scottsdale, Arizona, at age 74.

# Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 03, 2019 ~ Vol. 27 - No. 328 ~ 54 of 54

In 2017, a white van slammed into pedestrians on London Bridge, killing eight people; the three attackers were shot and killed by police.

Ten years ago: New Hampshire became the sixth state to legalize same-sex marriage. The Organization of American States cleared the way for Cuba's possible return to the group by lifting a 47-year ban on the country. Death claimed Koko Taylor, 80, the "Queen of the Blues," in Chicago and Las Vegas saxophonist Sam Butera, 81.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama arrived in Warsaw, Poland, at the start of a three-country swing, pledging to boost U.S. military deployments and exercises throughout Europe. Tens of thousands of Syrians in government-controlled cities voted to give President Bashar Assad a new seven-year mandate; the opposition and its Western allies denounced the election as a farce, with U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry calling it a "great big zero."

One year ago: President Donald Trump's attorney, Rudy Giuliani, stressed that Trump's legal team would fight any effort to force Trump to testify in front of a grand jury during the special counsel's Russia probe; Giuliani also downplayed the idea that Trump could pardon himself. Graduating seniors at the Florida high school where a gunman killed 17 people in February received diplomas and heard from a surprise commencement speaker, "Tonight Show" host Jimmy Fallon, who urged them to move forward and "don't let anything stop you;" four families received diplomas on behalf of loved ones slain in the attack. Guatemala's Volcano of Fire, one of the most active volcanos in Central America, erupted in fiery explosions of ash and molten rock, killing more than 100 people and leaving scores of others missing.

Today's Birthdays: The former president of Cuba, Raul Castro, is 88. Actress Irma P. Hall is 84. Author Larry McMurtry is 83. Rock singer Ian Hunter (Mott The Hoople) is 80. World Golf Hall of Famer Hale Irwin is 74. Actress Penelope Wilton is 73. Singer Eddie Holman is 73. Actor Tristan Rogers is 73. Musician Too Slim (Riders in the Sky) is 71. Singer Suzi Quatro is 69. Singer Deneice Williams is 69. Singer Dan Hill is 65. Actress Suzie Plakson is 61. Actor Scott Valentine is 61. Rock musician Kerry King (Slayer) is 55. Actor James Purefoy is 55. Rock singer-musician Mike Gordon is 54. TV host Anderson Cooper is 52. Country singer Jamie O'Neal is 51. Writer-director Tate Taylor is 40. Singers Gabriel and Ariel Hernandez (No Mercy) are 48. Actor Vik Sahay is 48. Rhythm and blues singer Lyfe Jennings is 46. Actress Arianne Zucker is 45. Actress Nikki M. James is 38. Tennis player Rafael Nadal is 33. Actor Josh Segarra is 33. Actress-singer Lalaine is 32. Actor Sean Berdy is 26. Actress Anne Winters is 25.

Thought for Today: "It is best to act with confidence, no matter how little right you have to it." — Lillian Hellman, American playwright (1905-1984).