

# Groton Daily Independent

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

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

## 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

### June 15-16

U12 Midgets at Mitchell Have Johnston Tournament  
U10 Pee Wees at Mitchell Tourney

### Saturday, June 15

1:00 p.m.: Junior Teeners at Aberdeen, (DH)  
2:00 p.m.: Junior Legion hosts Mobridge, (DH)  
U8 Pee Wees Tourney in Groton  
10 a.m.: Groton Blue vs. Aberdeen Hannigan, Falk Field; and Groton Red. vs. Watertown on Nelson Field.

11:15 a.m.: Sisseton vs. Britton Blue, Falk Field; and Aberdeen Borge vs. Britton Red on Nelson Field.  
Losers play at 12:45 p.m. and Winners play at 2 p.m.

Seventh Place Game: 3:15 p.m. on Falk Field

Fifth Place Game: 4:30 p.m. on Nelson Field

Third Place Game: 3:15 p.m. on Nelson Field

Championship Game: 4:30 p.m. on Falk Field

**Groton Triathlon is Postponed**

### Sunday, June 16

3:00 p.m.: Groton 2 Amateurs at Northville

4:00 p.m.: Locke Electric Amateurs host Redfield

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**AGENDA  
REGULAR MEETING  
BROWN COUNTY COMMISSION  
COMMISSIONER'S CHAMBERS, COURTHOUSE ANNEX  
25 MARKET STREET, ABERDEEN SD**

**TUESDAY  
JUNE 18th, 2019**

- 8:45a.m. - 8:50a.m. – First Reading of Ord. #137 – Hanson Rezone  
8:50a.m. – 8:55a.m. – Glenda Goens, Dept. of Legislative Audits – Opening Conference for 2018  
Financial Audit  
8:55a.m. – 9:00a.m. – Resolution #22-19 – P & Z Joint Resolution for County Adopting 3 Mile Zoning  
Jurisdiction  
9:00a.m. – 9:10a.m. – Rachel Kippley – Discuss JDAI/Diversion Coordinator Position  
9:10a.m. – 9:15a.m. – Ryan Smith, Riverside Cemetery – Discuss Riverside Plots  
9:15a.m. – 9:25a.m. – Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent – Extension of LIIP 17-1 Grant & Discuss  
Funding Agreement for Highway Infrastructure Program

- Approve General Meeting Minutes from June 11, 2019
- Claims
- HR Report
- Fair Contracts
- Lottery Permit
- Sheriff's Report for May 2019
- Meal Reimbursement Rates
- JDC Cooperative Agreement w/ Aberdeen School District
- Firework Permits
- Township Bonds
- Special Malt Beverage Permits
- Leases
- Claim Assignments
- Auditor's Report of Accounts

Any other matters to come before the Commission for discussion

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From the Editors of E - The Environmental Magazine  
**Acne Issues**

Dear EarthTalk: I suffer from occasional acne but am loathe to treat it with harsh chemicals. Do you know of all-natural ways to get rid of pimples or prevent them altogether? -- J. W., Miami, FL

Acne—when sebum from oil glands under the skin clogs pores causing small bacterial infections that lead to swelling and discomfort—isn't just a temporary annoyance during our teenage years; it plagues many of us throughout our adult lives as well. Some 85 percent of Americans are prone to at least occasional break-outs or worse. But common over-the-counter treatments—most contain either benzoyl peroxide or salicylic acid—can irritate the skin, eyes and lungs and are also linked to more serious health problems. The U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) warns that the use of these over-the-counter topicals "can cause rare but serious and potentially life-threatening allergic reactions or severe irritation."

Most of the top-selling brands incorporate benzoyl peroxide or salicylic acid in their acne treatments, but the only way to know for sure what's inside any given product is to consult its label. Even better, do some research online before you buy. The Environmental Working Group's free online Skin Deep database lists ingredients—and more important, the health and environmental threats—of over 120,000 personal care products, including more than 2,000 different acne treatments now or recently available on store shelves.

As far as alternative treatments go, tea tree oil, distilled from the leaves of Australia's *Melaleuca* plant, seems to be a favorite. Studies have shown it to be equally as effective as benzoyl peroxide in reducing both the number of acne lesions and their severity. Likewise, Witch Hazel has similarly positive effects for most who try it, although there hasn't been any scientific research to back that up yet.

According to National Geographic, dabbing a pasty mixture of powdered nutmeg and honey onto a problem pimple and leaving it there for 20 minutes can help unclog pores. Another trick is to soak a chamomile tea bag in cold water, squeeze it out, then hold it onto a pimple for 30 seconds. Icing a new pimple can also help reduce swelling and discomfort and shorten its lifespan. And smearing a little milk of magnesia on your face at bedtime can help prevent break-outs to begin with.

Healthline's Kayla McDonnell suggests dabbing zits with apple cider vinegar or witch hazel or applying a honey/cinnamon mask. Her other tips for pimple remediation include regular exfoliation, taking a zinc and/or fish oil supplement, eating a low glycemic load diet, cutting back on dairy, reducing stress and exercising regularly.

If your acne is more severe, it might be worth consulting a dermatologist who can recommend prescription-strength treatments that can work with your body chemistry to limit the production of sebum in the first place. But drying, irritation and/or other side effects can ensue from these doctor-prescribed treatments as well, so be sure to let your doctor know so he or she can adjust the dosage or treatment plan.

CONTACTS: Skin Deep, [www.ewg.org/skindeep](http://www.ewg.org/skindeep); FDA's "Topical Acne Products Can Cause Dangerous Side Effects," [bit.ly/acne-risks](http://bit.ly/acne-risks); "13 Powerful Home Remedies for Acne," [www.healthline.com/nutrition/13-acne-remedies](http://www.healthline.com/nutrition/13-acne-remedies); "The efficacy of 5% topical tea tree oil gel in mild to moderate acne vulgaris: a randomized, double-blind placebo-controlled study," [www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/17314442](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/17314442).

EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. To donate, visit [www.earthtalk.org](http://www.earthtalk.org). Send questions to: [question@earthtalk.org](mailto:question@earthtalk.org).



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## Full Pool

The capacity of the pool is 278, and yesterday afternoon, it did not quite reach capacity, but over 200 were in the pool area. In addition to Groton's OST being there and locals as well, three Aberdeen YMCA vans also showed up with an additional 42 swimmers. Karla Pasteur, one of the managers, was quick to call in reinforcements for lifeguards as six were on duty during the peak time. (Photos by Paul Kosel)





## Johnson's Office Accepting Fall Internship Applications

Washington, D.C. - Today U.S. Representative Dusty (R-S.D.) announced that his office is seeking internship applicants for Fall 2019 in his Washington, D.C., Rapid City, Aberdeen, and Sioux Falls offices.

Duties will include researching legislation, attending committee hearings and briefings, leading tours of the U.S. Capitol, handling constituent phone calls, sorting mail and providing support to the staff and the Congressman. Interns will work closely with constituents and staff while developing their research, writing, and communications skills. Most importantly, they will gain an in-depth understanding of the South Dakota At-Large Congressional office.

Interested applicants should complete the online internship application and submit a resume no later than July 19, 2019. More information about the internship program, along with the application, can be found online. Resumes should be submitted at [dustyjohnson.house.gov/services/internships](http://dustyjohnson.house.gov/services/internships).

## Work on 37 James River Bridge Replacement North of Huron

HURON, S.D. – Duninick Construction began construction earlier this week on replacing a bridge over the James River 13 miles north Huron or five miles south of Highway 28 on Highway 37.

Highway 37 is closed to traffic between 196th Street and 193rd Street.

During the road closure, a car only detour is being provided on 196th Street and 394th Avenue. Trucks will not be permitted on the detour and are directed to Highway 281 or Highway 25.

This work is part of a nearly \$5.3 million contract with Duninick Construction to reconstruct the structure over the James River along with half a mile of grading.

The expected completion date for the structure is November, with an overall completion date of Nov. 15, 2019.

For complete road construction information, visit [www.safetravelusa.com/sd](http://www.safetravelusa.com/sd) or dial 511.



**SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT  
OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**



**Greg Whitlock  
Secretary**

## **New Laws Impacting Veterans**

Each year South Dakota agencies, legislators, constituents, and lobbyists review, debate, and consider hundreds of legislative issues. During the 2019 legislative session 1,589 legislative bills and resolutions were introduced. Although, over 1,500 bills were considered, not all became law.

The South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs serves as an advocate for veterans and reviews all the bills introduced and identifies those that will impact our veterans.

State legislation that will impact veterans and their families after July 1 include the following:

- Exemptions from the twelve-month residency requirement for university students was modified to be in compliance with federal regulations. Simply put, this was a cleanup bill and does not change eligibility.
- Property tax exemption was increased from \$100,000 to \$150,000 of the full and true value of a dwelling that is owned and occupied by a veteran who is rated permanently and totally disabled from a service connected disability(ies).
  - Annual certification is no longer required for the property tax exemption for certain paraplegic or amputee veterans or their surviving spouses.
  - The number of days is unlimited for group pheasant hunts for disabled veterans and purple heart recipients.

Federal benefits are ever changing and can be very confusing. We encourage all veterans to visit their county or tribal veterans service officers (CTVSO's) and allow them to assist in filing claims. These men and women have worn the boots, walked the trenches, conducted maneuvers, commanded troops, sustained missions, and protected our freedoms. Who better to have on your team? To locate the CTVSO nearest you visit: <https://vetaffairs.sd.gov/veteransserviceofficers/locatevso.aspx>

Now, more than ever, we need to continue to deliver on our promise to take care of our veterans. We will keep our sleeves rolled up and work collectively to ensure our veterans have a successful journey after they return home.

Greg Whitlock, Secretary  
South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs



## Why drug expiration dates don't matter

Dr. Frank Shallenberger, MD

You should never take a medication that has passed its expiration date, right? After all, it's probably completely ineffective. And it might even be toxic.

Well, I have some news for you. Expiration dates mean little to nothing. And here's how we know:

Some folks at the Department of Defense noticed that they had large and expensive stockpiles of drugs that were past their expiration date. So they commissioned the FDA to test these expired drugs to see if they were still usable.

Now if you're a regular reader, you know that I often disagree with the FDA. But in this particular instance, the FDA did a great job.

They looked at over 100 common prescription and over-the-counter drugs. And what they found was astonishing: 90% of the drugs tested were still good 15 years after their expiration date! And some of them were still good 25 years after expiration!

At this point, you may be wondering why there's such a big gap between expiration dates and drug effectiveness.

One reason is that there are no rules about how long manufacturers have to test drugs for effectiveness. If they want to test for only 6 months, they can do that. If they want to test longer, they can do that, too. It's entirely up to them.

And here's the rub: It's not in the drug companies' best interest to have longer expiration periods.

Francis Flaherty was the director of the FDA drug-testing program for years. He told the Wall Street Journal that "manufacturers put expiration dates on for marketing, rather than scientific, reasons. It's not profitable for them to have products on a shelf for 10 years. They want turnover."

Unfortunately, hospitals, clinics, and pharmacies still go by the expiration dates set by the drug companies. That means you and I are expected to replace medications when the drug companies want us to, even if they're still perfectly good.

Joel Davis is a former FDA expiration-date compliance chief. He also spoke to the Wall Street Journal, and told them "most drugs degrade very slowly." And he went on to say, "in all likelihood, you can take a product you have at home and keep it for many years, especially if it's in the refrigerator."

So what should you do?

Well first of all, you should be aware of some important exceptions. Nitroglycerin, insulin, and liquid antibiotics are very sensitive to decay. So if you use these medications, you need to make sure they're up to date.

Second, if you have medications you use for life-threatening conditions, I recommend that you keep those up to date, too.

For everything else, you can use unopened medications for at least two years past their expiration date.

Yours for better health,  
Frank Shallenberger, MD

Sources:

[https://www.ghdonline.org/uploads/drugs-Stability\\_Profiles-vencimiento.pdf](https://www.ghdonline.org/uploads/drugs-Stability_Profiles-vencimiento.pdf)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1395800/>

Jay M Pomerantz, MD Recycling Expensive Medication: Why Not? MedGenMed. 20.

# NOW HIRING!

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- Overtime Available

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- Vacation Pay
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- Referral Bonuses

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## Today in Weather History

June 15, 1935: This estimated F3 tornado moved east from 17 miles southwest of Onida. There was near F4 damage to one farm about 9 miles SSW of Onida. The house was destroyed, 60 cattle were killed, and five people were injured. At another farm, the home shifted over the storm cellar, trapping a family.

June 15, 1977: There were thunderstorms with heavy rain and some hail which began on the 15th and continued into the 16th. At Watertown, almost 6.9 inches of rain fell during this two day period. In Deuel County, Gary received 6 inches, Altamont 5.5 and Brandt, 4.5 inches in Goodwin, and 3.70 inches in Clear Lake. Other amounts include; 4.85 inches at 3NE of Raymond; 4.57 inches in Clark; 4.21 at 1NE of Bryant; and 3.97 inches in Castlewood.

June 15, 1978: Numerous severe thunderstorms developed over all of central South Dakota. Tornadoes, funnel clouds, hail up to baseball size, and wind gusts to near 80 mph caused widespread destruction. Estimated loss was between 20-25 million dollars. The Governor declared some counties disaster areas. Six trailers were destroyed, and a home was unroofed northwest of Aberdeen. Fifteen people were injured from these storms.

June 15, 1978: Torrential rains began during the evening hours and continued into the morning hours on the 16th. Heavy rains were estimated between 5 to 6 inches, causing flash flooding south of Watertown. Some rainfall amounts include; 2.43 inches in Watertown; 2.07 in Castlewood; and 2.05 inches in Clear Lake. Hail caused severe crop damage in Hughes County.

1662 - A fast was held at Salem MA with prayers for rain, and the Lord gave a speedy answer. (David Ludlum)

1879 - McKinney ND received 7.7 inches of rain in 24 hours, a state record. (The Weather Channel)

1896 - The temperature at Fort Mojave, CA, soared to 127 degrees, the hottest reading of record for June for the U.S. The low that day was 97 degrees. Morning lows of 100 degrees were reported on the 12th, 14th and 16th of the month. (The Weather Channel)

1953 - Dust devils are usually rather benign weather phenomena, however, two boys were injured by one near Prescott AZ. One of the boys suffered a black eye, and the other boy had two vertebrae fractured by wind-blown debris. (The Weather Channel)

1957 - East Saint Louis was deluged with 16.54 inches of rain in 24 hours, a record for the state of Illinois. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Thunderstorms developing along a cold front produced severe weather in the northwestern U.S. A tornado damaged five homes and destroyed a barn near Salmon ID. It lifted a metal shed 100 feet into the air, and deposited it 100 yards away. Hail an inch and a half in diameter caused ten million dollars damage to automobiles at Nampa ID. (The National Weather Channel) (Storm Data)






1988 - Severe thunderstorms in the Central High Plains Region spawned five tornadoes around Denver, CO, in just one hour. A strong (F-3) tornado in southern Denver injured seven persons and caused ten million dollars damage. Twenty-six cities in the eastern U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date. The high of 97 degrees at Portland ME was a record for June. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather over the Southern and Middle Atlantic Coast States. The thunderstorms spawned eight tornadoes, including strong (F-3) tornadoes which injured three persons at Mountville PA and four persons at Columbia, PA. There were 111 reports of large hail and damaging winds, including wind gusts to 80 mph at Norfolk, VA, and Hogback Mountain, SC. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

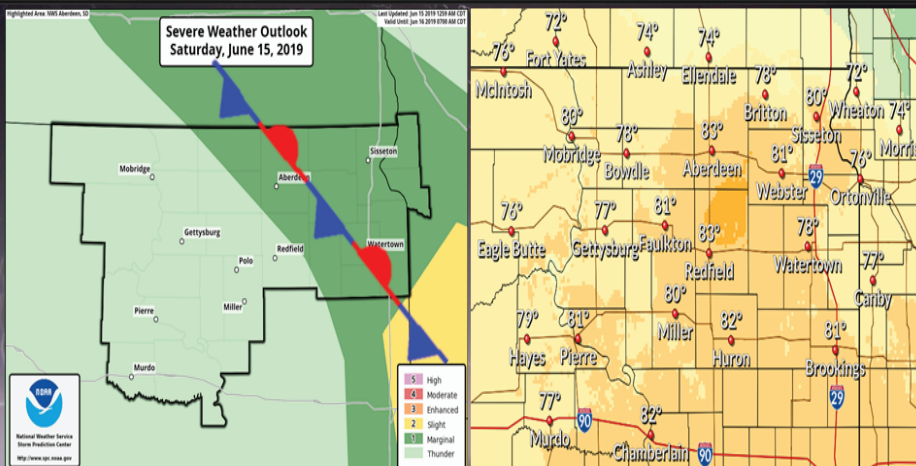
1991: The second largest volcanic eruption of the 20th Century began as Mt. Pinatubo injected 15 to 30 million tons of sulfur dioxide 100,000 feet into the atmosphere. 343 people were killed in the Philippines as a result of the eruptions, and 200,000 were left homeless. Material from the explosion would spread around the globe, leading to climate changes worldwide as the sun's energy was blocked out and global temperatures cooled by as much as one degree Fahrenheit. 1992 was globally one of the coldest since the 1970s.

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Today	Tonight	Sunday	Sunday Night	Monday
				
40%	30%	20%		20%
Chance T-storms	Chance T-storms then Mostly Cloudy	Partly Sunny then Slight Chance T-storms	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny then Slight Chance T-storms
High: 82 °F	Low: 54 °F	High: 75 °F	Low: 52 °F	High: 76 °F

## Severe Threat Today (Saturday) & Temps



**WHAT – Marginal Risk**  
 Thunderstorm coverage increases mid-day. Strongest storms could produce large hail & strong winds. Not all storms will produce severe weather.

**WHERE**  
 Eastern South Dakota and western Minnesota.

**WHEN**  
 Early afternoon through early evening  
 2pm – 7pm.

**National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD**

[weather.gov/Aberdeen](http://weather.gov/Aberdeen)
National Weather Service Aberdeen
@NWSAberdeen
Updated: 6/15/2019 4:32 AM Central

Published on: 06/15/2019 at 5:39AM

A front has stalled across eastern South Dakota, and by the afternoon it will become the focus for storms. The risk will be for large hail and strong winds. The active pattern will continue through the next several days with a cooling trend to start the work week.



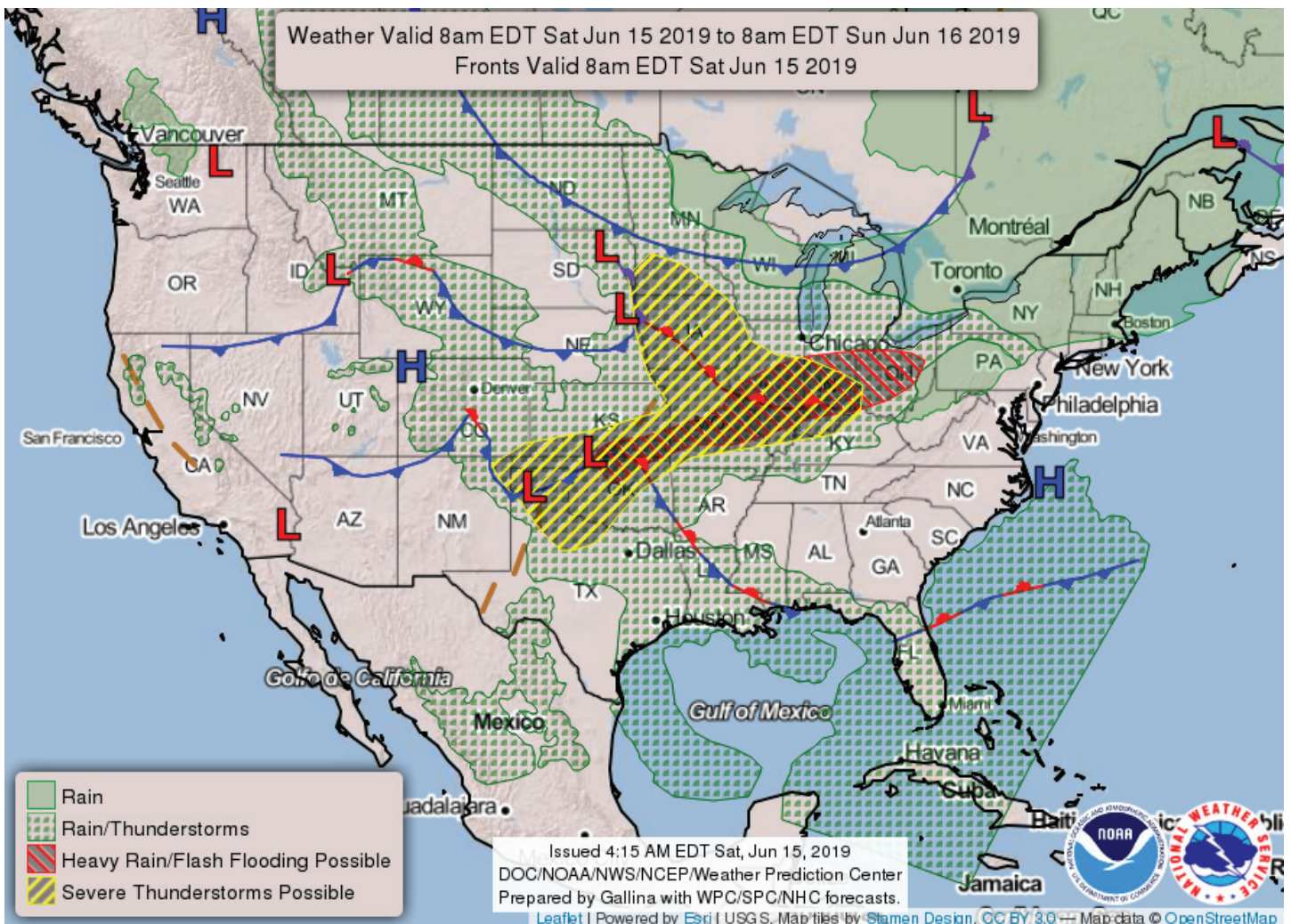
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## Yesterday's Groton Weather Today's Info

**High Temp: 88 °F at 6:03 PM**  
**Low Temp: 59 °F at 6:04 AM**  
**Wind: 7 mph at 16 mph at 3:10 AM**  
**Day Rain: 0.00**

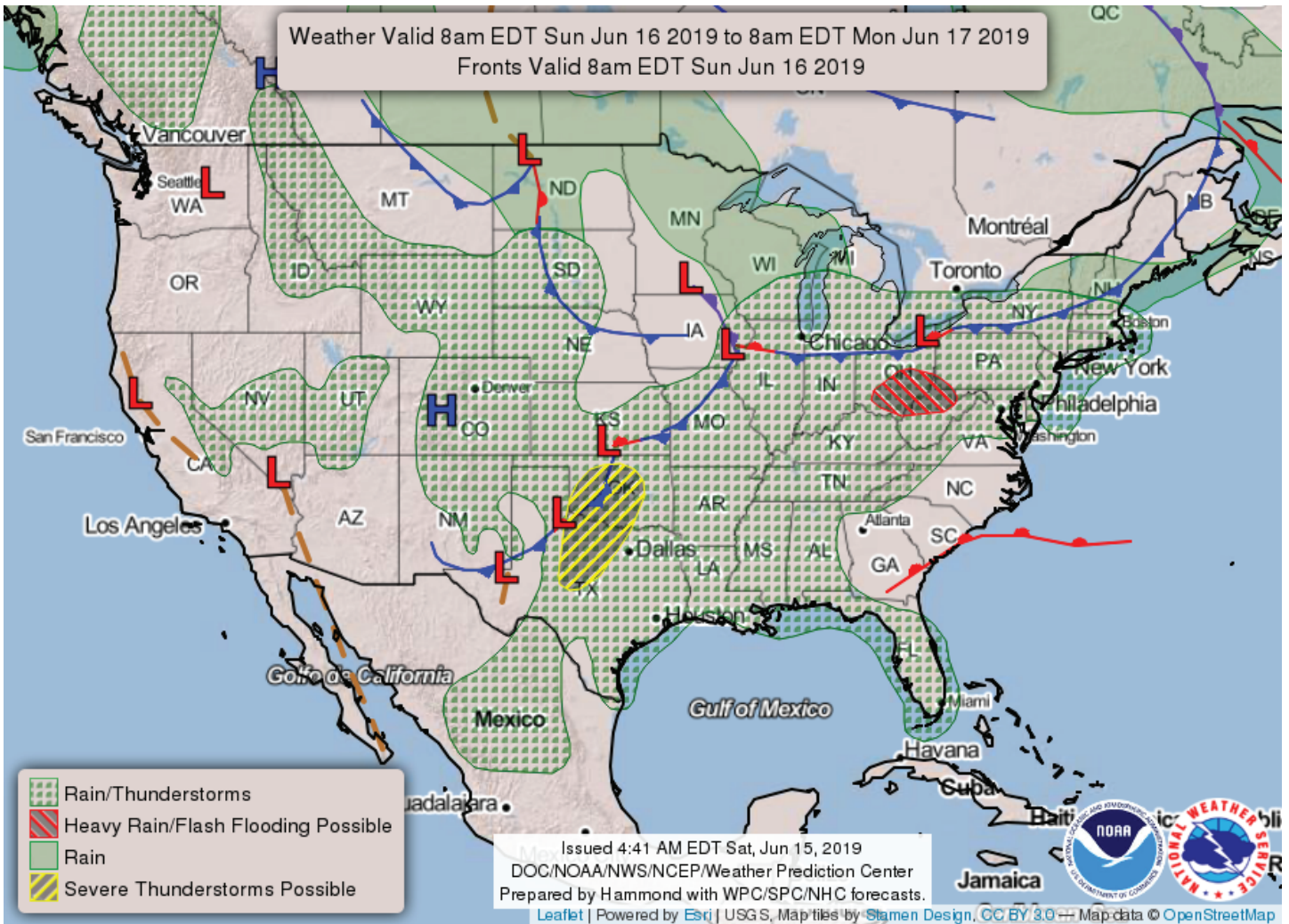
**Record High: 105° in 1933**  
**Record Low: 36° in 1968**  
**Average High: 77°F**  
**Average Low: 54°F**  
**Average Precip in June.: 1.68**  
**Precip to date in June.: 0.40**  
**Average Precip to date: 8.82**  
**Precip Year to Date: 8.19**  
**Sunset Tonight: 9:24 p.m.**  
**Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:45 a.m.**



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## Tomorrow's Weather Map





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## EQUALITY FOR ALL

One of the great ongoing debates in our nation today concerns unequal justice. If the person who committed an offense is on my side politically or socially, for example, it is almost a foregone conclusion that our side wants justice for that one as they interpret the law. It seems as though most are more than willing to overlook justice for the wrongdoer if it will not cause our side to lose in the race for prominence, prestige, position or political favor.

How very wrong in the eyes of God! Justice, in Gods eyes, is to be applied equally. He makes no apology or excuse for wrongdoing. One cannot read His Word without coming to the conclusion that justice must prevail! This concept is stressed in the Law and the Prophets and in other Old Testament writings. God will not bless or accept the behavior of those who attempt to justify the wrongdoing of anyone for any reason in any situation. In His Word and in His world, wrong is wrong and cannot be negotiated or resolved by getting the largest number of votes.

Injustice is always repulsive to God because it is a violation of His very nature and character. He is a just and holy God and to favor one side above another cannot exist in His creation, and should not exist within His Kingdom.

Acquitting the guilty and condemning the innocent - the Lord detests them both. One thing to note about this verse is the fact that the words Solomon chose to describe injustice is a word that describes the most intense outrage possible to a Holy God. To Him, inequity is repulsive - even if it involves the home team.

Prayer: Help us, Lord, to see right and wrong through Your eyes and in light of Your Word. May justice come to those wrongly condemned, and may justice prevail! In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Proverbs 17:15 Acquitting the guilty and condemning the innocent - the Lord detests them both.



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## 2019 Groton SD Community Events

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

## 2020 Groton SD Community Events

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

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## News from the Associated Press

### **Man sentenced to 20 years for Pine Ridge Reservation killing**

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota man has been sentenced for a 2016 homicide on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

A jury in 2017 found 46-year-old Marlin Iron Crow guilty of second degree murder. Authorities say Iron Crow killed a man in Porcupine by punching and kicking him in the head during an argument.

U.S. District Judge Jeffrey Viken sentenced Iron Crow to 20 years in prison, to be followed by three years of supervised release.

### **SD Lottery**

**By The Associated Press**

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

Mega Millions

19-40-47-57-65, Mega Ball: 6, Megaplier: 2

(nineteen, forty, forty-seven, fifty-seven, sixty-five; Mega Ball: six; Megaplier: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$45 million

Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$79 million

### **Rapid City schools updating students-at-risk policy**

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — After losing six students to suicide in the last several years, a South Dakota school district has reworked its strategy to better identify students at risk of taking their own lives.

The Board of Education at Rapid City Area Schools will vote on the new policy later this month that administrators say is less of a reactive approach and aimed more at prevention.

Work on the new policy began in early 2017 after three high school students died of suicide between July and September, according to Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services Matt Seebaum. Three more students have committed suicide since then, the Rapid City Journal reported.

More school employees, including social workers and resources officers, are to receive training on how to identify students who appear to be at risk for suicide under the new policy. Seebaum said parents and guardians will also be notified when their child exhibits risk factors sooner than is currently required.

School social workers, counselors or psychologists will screen a student's risk level with the widely-used diagnostic tool Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale. Results are provided to the student's parents or guardians who are given an acknowledgement form to sign. The school district will direct them to medical or mental health providers for further evaluation or treatment of the student if needed.

The school district had already been required to follow up with parents and guardians after they had been notified of their child's risk of suicide, but under the new policy they would have to do so within one week. Staff will work with families to develop a plan for re-entry if a student is taken out of school.

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

### **Day care provider enters Alford plea to abuse charges**

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The second of two women accused of abusing children at a Sioux Falls day care has pleaded guilty, but is maintaining her innocence.

Teresa Gallagher entered an Alford plea Thursday, in which she acknowledged there is enough evidence to convict. The 32-year-old woman, along with Kenedi Wendt, were indicted on 44 counts of abuse or

cruelty to a minor.

The Argus Leader reports prosecutors say surveillance video taken in February shows dozens of instances of abuse at Little Blessings Learning Center. In one incident a child told his mother that Gallagher banged his head on a mat while he was sleeping.

Gallagher entered the plea to two counts and will be sentenced in August. Wendt pleaded no contest to two charges and is scheduled to be sentenced in July.

## 2 women arrested in connection with Sioux Falls shooting

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Two women wanted in connection with a homicide in South Dakota have been arrested in Idaho.

The Argus Leader reports the Madison County Jail in Idaho is holding the two women, ages 22 and 30, as fugitives from justice. Warrants for their arrests as material witnesses were issued earlier this week. The 34-year-old brother of one of the women is wanted for fatally shooting 42-year-old Larry Carr Jr. and wounding two others outside a Sioux Falls apartment building Saturday.

Idaho State Police arrested the women late Wednesday on Interstate 15 in Clark County. They were traveling in a Salt Lake Express van.

Investigators say the shooting was the result of social media dispute.

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

## Recovery centers open in Pine Ridge, Yankton for storm aid

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Disaster recovery centers are open in Pine Ridge and Yankton to help South Dakotans and businesses hit by severe storms and flooding this spring.

The centers are the first to be opened. Additional locations around South Dakota will be announced later.

Representatives from the state of South Dakota, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the U.S. Small Business Administration and other organizations are at the centers to explain available programs and help people connect with recovery resources.

President Donald Trump approved a disaster declaration for South Dakota last week because of property damage caused by a snowstorm and flooding this spring. Gov. Kristi Noem had requested the declaration.

A preliminary damage assessment done by the state indicates about \$43 million in damage to infrastructure in 58 counties and on three reservations.

## Former student who reported rape says college betrayed her

By ANTHONY IZAGUIRRE Associated Press

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) — The warnings came in text messages from her friends: He's outside the dorm. He's at the student center. He's at Starbucks.

But for Alicia Gonzales, sometimes it didn't matter where he was. She would often hide away in her room on the campus of Marshall University, overcome with fear that she'd run into him — or be subjected to his ridicule — even after reporting that he raped her on school grounds, and even after he was convicted of battery. Months later, she left the school altogether.

"Every time I saw him, it was horrible for me," she told The Associated Press on Friday. "It was almost like I was in that same state of mind, reliving the assault itself and how fearful I was. I just felt like I was helpless."

The Associated Press does not typically identify sexual assault victims, but Gonzales has chosen to be identified.

Marshall has expelled 22-year-old Joseph Chase Hardin amid new rape accusations involving two additional women and renewed scrutiny of the West Virginia school's handling of Gonzales' February 2016 case. The expulsion caps a lengthy disciplinary process during which Hardin was allowed to be on campus,



according to Gonzales' ongoing federal lawsuit against the university.

A spokeswoman for the college said it followed state law and federal regulations in its handling of Gonzales' case, adding that it "took every legal measure available to it to protect the rights of all parties throughout the process."

In announcing Hardin's expulsion, University President Jerome A. Gilbert released a statement saying, "The safety of our students is our first obligation."

Hardin was indicted and jailed last week on second-degree sexual assault charges related to two alleged rapes in 2018. A judge ordered Hardin to remain jailed Wednesday at a court hearing for violating probation from the earlier case. He was led into the courtroom in an orange jumpsuit and turned his face away from TV news cameras trained on him from the gallery.

His lawyer, Kerry A. Nessel, said his client maintains his innocence.

"He denies everything," Nessel said. "To me, it's just a he said/she said situation."

Gonzales described a pattern of harassment by Hardin and his friends after the alleged rape. She said they mocked her on social media and once waited for her outside her on-campus job and sneered as she emerged. Hardin even wore one of her headbands at a basketball game to taunt her, she said.

"I felt completely betrayed by the university and I felt like I had absolutely no protection throughout it," she said.

Gonzales said the attack occurred in the middle of a school day in a dormitory room on campus. When she first reported the attack, the college expelled Hardin, but he was able to remain on campus during an appeal process, according to Gonzales' suit. The school didn't implement restrictions to prevent her from encountering Hardin, it added.

Marshall then assembled a student conduct panel, before which she was aggressively cross-examined by Hardin's private attorneys, the suit says. She had no lawyer present. After the panel cleared Hardin, he winked at her and threw his fist into the air in celebration, Gonzales said.

College administrators then reviewed the hearing process and suspended Hardin from campus grounds until his criminal case was resolved. He unsuccessfully appealed that decision but was allowed to return after he entered what's called a Kennedy plea to a battery charge and was given three years' probation after having originally been charged with sexual assault.

In a Kennedy plea, which is similar to what's called an Alford plea in other states, a defendant maintains his or her innocence but acknowledges there's evidence that might lead a judge or jury to reach a guilty verdict. Court paperwork says that upon entering the plea, he was judged guilty.

The whole process took about a year.

The newer charges of sexual assault against Hardin involve alleged rapes of two women last year in the county where Marshall University is located, according to an indictment. Marshall spokeswoman Leah Payne said the more recent charges didn't occur on campus and didn't involve the school's police department.

Gonzales, 22, now attends a college in Pennsylvania, where she studies psychology. She said she hopes to become a victims advocate after graduation. She was relieved to hear Hardin was expelled.

"That makes me feel like at least some part of the community is now protected," she said.

## Shooting inside California Costco kills 1, injures 3

CORONA, Calif. (AP) — A gunman opened fire inside a Southern California Costco during an argument Friday night, killing a man, wounding two other people and sparking a stampede of terrified shoppers before he was taken into custody, police said.

Police swarmed the Costco after shots were reported at the huge warehouse store about 50 miles (80.5 kilometers) east of Los Angeles.

Witnesses told KCAL-TV that a man with a Mohawk haircut was arguing with someone near a freezer section when he pulled a gun and fired at least six shots.

The man involved in the argument was killed and two other people were wounded, Corona police Lt. Jeff Edwards said. In a release issued after 1 a.m. Saturday, Corona police said their conditions were unknown.

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The suspected gunman said he was injured and was taken to the hospital, Edwards said.

No identities were immediately released. One of those hospitalized was an off-duty officer from another agency. Police said the name of the deceased won't be released until the Riverside County coroner notifies family.

Shoppers and employees described terror and chaos as the shots rang out.

Christina Colis told the Riverside Press-Enterprise that she was in the produce area when she heard six to seven shots and hid with other shoppers in a refrigerated produce room. She said her mother saw people injured on the floor.

Corona resident Will Lungo, 45, said he and his wife were near the produce and alcohol sections when he heard gunshots.

"I thought maybe someone dropped a bottle of wine, but then I kept hearing shots," Lungo told the Press-Enterprise. "An employee came in and helped us out through the emergency exit."

Witnesses told KCAL-TV that shoppers and employees rushed to the exits. The station reported that, at one point, more than 100 people were outside the store.

Corona police say numerous personal items, such as purses, cellphones and backpacks, were left behind by panicked shoppers. The warehouse store is holding shopping bags and other items abandoned by shoppers.

## Ugandan medics now tackling Ebola say they lack supplies

By **RODNEY MUHUMUZA** Associated Press

BWERA, Uganda (AP) — The isolation ward for Ebola patients is a tent erected in the garden of the local hospital. Gloves are given out sparingly to health workers. And when the second person in this Uganda border town died after the virus outbreak spread from neighboring Congo, the hospital for several hours couldn't find a vehicle to take away the body.

"We don't really have an isolation ward," the Bwera Hospital's administrator, Pedson Buthalha, told The Associated Press. "It's just a tent. To be honest, we can't accommodate more than five people."

Medical workers leading Uganda's effort against Ebola lament what they call limited support in the days since infected members of a Congolese-Ugandan family showed up, one vomiting blood. Three have since died.

While Ugandan authorities praise the health workers as "heroes" and say they are prepared to contain the virus, some workers disagree, wondering where the millions of dollars spent on preparing for Ebola have gone if a hospital on the front line lacks basic supplies.

"Even the gloves are not enough," the hospital administrator said Thursday. "I give them out small small." A nurse nodded in agreement.

The World Health Organization on Friday said the Ebola outbreak is an "extraordinary event" of deep concern but does not yet merit being declared a global emergency. Such a declaration typically triggers more funding, resources and political attention. WHO said \$54 million is needed to stop the outbreak.

And yet both Congo and Uganda appeared to lobby against a declaration, with Congo counting the Uganda-related Ebola cases as its own, saying Congo was where the family members began developing symptoms. Ugandan authorities on Friday said they had only one suspected Ebola case remaining in the country.

More than 1,400 people have died since this outbreak was declared in August in eastern Congo, one of the world's most turbulent regions, where rebel attacks and community resistance have hurt Ebola response work. The virus can spread quickly via close contact with bodily fluids of those infected and can be fatal in up to 90% of cases, and identifying people who might have been exposed is crucial.

While Ugandan health workers aren't facing the violent attacks that have killed several Ebola responders in Congo, they remain at risk as they seek to isolate, test and treat for the virus. Basic equipment such as gloves is essential.

At least two nurses at Bwera Hospital might have been exposed as they offered first aid to the infected

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family. They and some other contacts have since been quarantined in their homes. WHO says at least 112 such contacts have been identified in Uganda since the outbreak crossed the nearby border.

A nurse, who spoke on condition of anonymity to avoid possible retribution, questioned why some people who might have been exposed to Ebola are allowed to stay at home.

"I wish we could coordinate," the hospital administrator said of the apparent confusion over how to manage the outbreak.

Ugandan Health Minister Jane Aceng told the AP on Saturday that district officials in Kasese were to blame for limited medical supplies after delaying in submitting their budget.

"It is clearly the responsibility of the district to order supplies," she said. "If they haven't done the orders we can't supply because we don't know how much they need." As for upgrading the makeshift isolation ward in the hospital garden, she said "it is not economical. It is not cost-effective" to build permanent structures.

Uganda has faced multiple Ebola outbreaks and is a regional leader in battling Ebola, even if this part of the country has never experienced an outbreak. Some Ugandan physicians were deployed to the West African outbreak of 2013-2016, the deadliest in history.

Health workers in this outbreak now have the benefit of an experimental but effective Ebola vaccine that is being widely used, with more than 130,000 doses distributed. Uganda has vaccinated nearly 4,700 health workers, with more vaccinations beginning on Saturday.

Still, corruption is rampant, and many local people are scornful of government officials seen as out of touch.

As Bwera Hospital tried to arrange a safe burial on Thursday for one of Uganda's first Ebola victims, officials quickly realized there was no vehicle. The burial took place hours later and in darkness, which some residents called a sign of the government's shortcomings.

"This should have been done by the health office, the district health office," said Moses Mugisa, clerk of the border town of Mpondwe-Lhubiriha, who eventually found transport for the corpse.

In addition, he said, voluntary health teams screening for Ebola on the border have gone unpaid for about four months. He criticized the decision of government officials from Kampala, the capital, to visit only briefly after Uganda's first Ebola case was announced.

"We have a lot of work to do," he said.

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## **Weld takes GOP bid to oust Trump to NH. Voters are confused.**

**By HUNTER WOODALL Associated Press**

DOVER, N.H. (AP) — Bill Weld jokes about not kissing the back of a child's head because he doesn't want to be accused, like Joe Biden, of making people uncomfortable. He tells voters they wouldn't know how obese Americans truly are until they go to county fairs, where "those overalls are working overtime." And he believes his opponent's policies are trending in the direction of Adolf Hitler.

For now, Weld is the most prominent Republican in revolt, mounting a primary challenge to President Donald Trump.

But in places like New Hampshire, where there's a healthy contingent of Republicans uneasy with Trump, Weld is still a hard sell. As he's toured the state in recent months, the 73-year-old's eccentricities have left Republicans and independents who are cold on the president scratching their head.

"(I'm) still looking for my white knight," said Fergus Cullen, a former state Republican Party chairman who opposes Trump.

To say Weld, a former governor of Massachusetts, faces an uphill battle would be a dramatic understatement.

The long odds are why other Republicans who have criticized Trump, including Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan and former Ohio Gov. John Kasich, haven't jumped at overtures to challenge a president who remains



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popular inside his party.

"I don't know how successful the campaign is going to be, but I admire him for being willing to step up," Hogan said.

The people who see Weld speak want to like him, or at least like him more than the man in the White House. But he's still a novelty rather than a viable contender, they say.

"It's an exercise in futility," said Wayne Chick, a longtime GOP supporter who says he's "sick and tired" of Trump's negative rhetoric.

Those loyal to Trump don't spare him their scorn.

"It's just going to be a joke," said Dan Chicoine, a 73-year-old Vietnam veteran. "He's not going anywhere."

The heart of Weld's campaign depends on New Hampshire because of the ability of independents to vote in the GOP primary. Still, he has fewer resources in New Hampshire than even the longshot Democratic contenders.

As of late May, Weld estimated that only eight staffers work for his campaign. He says his job is to raise money, appear on national TV and campaign in New Hampshire and a handful of other states.

"I don't need 25 people as an entourage to do what I'm doing these days," Weld said.

He tries to comfort voters by telling stories of his 1990s tenure as governor of Massachusetts. He speaks less about running in the election that sent his opponent to the White House in the first place.

Weld doesn't regret his involvement in the 2016 race as former New Mexico Gov. Gary Johnson's running mate on the Libertarian presidential ticket and dismisses any blame for Trump getting elected.

Johnson, who has ruled out running for president again in 2020, doesn't begrudge his former running mate's presidential run and return to the GOP.

"Hey, by proxy I get to debate Trump through Weld," Johnson said.

Weld's sporadic New Hampshire campaign has taken him to a house party of fewer than 30 people where he rested his weight on a creaky banister as his wife gently prodded him from the back of the room about topics he may be forgetting. And it's taken him in front of baseball fans where he turned a troubling shade of red shaking hands outside a minor league game.

But the voters Weld needs, the independents who he thinks give him a path to victory, aren't going to see him speak. They're watching the 2020 Democratic presidential candidates instead.

Mary Tanzer, a 60-year-old doctor and independent voter, voted for Kasich in the 2016 GOP primary and isn't moved by Weld's attempt.

"I'm not really crazy about him," she said, leaving a Democratic event. "If I thought there was a chance (Weld) could win, I would probably vote in the Republican primary and vote against Donald Trump."

Former small-business owner Jay Buckley, 66, has held out hope for Kasich, the man he voted for in the 2016 GOP primary. He voted for Hillary Clinton over Trump in the general election and spent a recent Sunday watching Democratic presidential candidate Julian Castro speak.

"I'm not crazy about Bill Weld," Buckley said. "I wish somebody really good would challenge Trump."

## Hong Kong leader delays unpopular bill; activists want more

By ELAINE KURTENBACH and CHRISTOPHER BODEEN Associated Press

HONG KONG (AP) — Embattled Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam sought to quell public anger Saturday by shelving an unpopular extradition bill that has highlighted apprehension about relations with mainland China, but opponents of the measure said it was not enough.

Activists said they were still planning a mass protest for Sunday, a week after hundreds of thousands marched to demand Lam drop the legislation, which many fear would undermine freedoms enjoyed by this former British colony but not elsewhere in China.

The battle over the proposal to amend the Fugitive Offenders Ordinance to allow some suspects to face trial in mainland Chinese courts has evolved into Hong Kong's most severe political test since the Communist Party-ruled mainland took control in 1997 with a promise not to interfere with the city's civil liberties and courts.

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Critics said Lam should withdraw the plan for good, resign and apologize for police use of potentially lethal force during clashes with protesters on Wednesday.

"Democrats in Hong Kong simply cannot accept this suspension decision," said lawmaker Claudia Mo. "Because the suspension is temporary. The pain is still there."

The decision was "too little, too late," she said.

"Hong Kong people have been lied to so many times," said Bonny Leung, a leader of the Civil Human Rights Front, one of the groups that has helped organize the demonstrations.

Lam has said the legislation is needed if Hong Kong to uphold justice, meet its international obligations and not become a magnet for fugitives. The proposed bill would expand the scope of criminal suspect transfers to include Taiwan, Macau and mainland China.

China has been excluded from Hong Kong's extradition agreements because of concerns over its judicial independence and human rights record.

Speaking to reporters after announcing her decision Saturday, Lam sidestepped questions over whether she should quit. She insisted she was not withdrawing the proposed amendment and defended the police.

But she said she was suspending the bill indefinitely. It was time, she said, "for responsible government to restore as quickly as possible this calmness in society."

"I want to stress that the government is adopting an open mind," she said. "We have no intention to set a deadline for this work."

She emphasized that a chief concern was to avoid further injuries both for the public and for police. About 80 people were hurt in the clashes earlier in the week, more than 20 of them police.

"It's possible there might be even worse confrontations that might be replaced by very serious injuries to my police colleagues and the public," she said. "I don't want any of those injuries to happen."

Lam apologized for what she said were failures in her government's work to win public support for the bill, which is opposed by a wide range of sectors in Hong Kong, including many teachers, students, lawyers and trade unions.

But she insisted the bill was still needed.

"Give us another chance," she said.

Beijing-appointed Lam said she had the central government's backing for her decision to yield to the protests. A Foreign Ministry spokesman, Geng Shuang, said in a statement Saturday that the Chinese government "expresses support, respect and understanding" for Lam's decision.

Many analysts believe that given deep public frustration over expanding control from Beijing under President Xi Jinping, China's strongest leader in decades, Lam might eventually have to abandon the plan altogether.

"If there's more mass action this week that doesn't degenerate into smashing, they will have to," said Ken Courtis, an investment banker who has worked in Hong Kong off and on for many years.

The anger seen in the streets has been directed squarely at Lam and the Hong Kong government, not Beijing, he notes.

"Young people continue to be very dissatisfied," said Courtis, chairman of Starfort Investment Holdings. "The economy's not growing like people thought it would grow."

Lam acknowledged that the government needed to tackle other issues, especially a dire lack of affordable housing. She also cited the economy as a concern.

The extradition bill has drawn criticism from U.S. and British lawmakers and human rights groups, prompting Beijing to lash back with warnings against "interference" in its internal affairs.

But analysts say China also has to weigh the risk of seeing Hong Kong, a vital port and financial center of 7 million people, possibly losing its special economic status.

Under the 1992 U.S.-Hong Kong Policy Act, Beijing needs to abide by its "one country, two systems" promises to respect the territory's legal autonomy for 50 years as promised under the agreement signed with Britain for the 1997 handover.

Already, many here believe the territory's legal autonomy has been significantly diminished despite Bei-

jing's insistence that it is still honoring those promises.

Prosecutions of activists, detentions without trial of five Hong Kong book publishers and the illegal seizure in Hong Kong by mainland agents of at least one mainland businessman are among the moves in recent years that have undermined that

In may well be in China's interest to help Hong Kong's role as a financial center to grow in importance given the current extreme trade tensions with the U.S.

Much hinges on whether protests persist or again turn violent, Curtis said.

"That is a limit, a brake of common sense of how far Beijing would push these things," he said. "The last thing Beijing wants, with all this trouble with Washington, is that Hong Kong boils over."

## Hong Kong's first female leader fights for political life

By CHRISTOPHER BODEEN Associated Press

HONG KONG (AP) — Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam steadily climbed her way up bureaucratic ranks to capture the top position in the former British colony, relying on sheer intelligence, ambition, canny networking and an astute deference to authority.

Yet the ground has shifted considerably since she began her civil service career in the 1980s. On Saturday, she appeared to be fighting for her political life as she sought to explain her decision to push through unpopular legislation that would make it easier to extradite suspects to communist-ruled mainland China, which took control of the territory in a 1997 handover.

A key reason for Lam's vulnerability is that she was not directly elected by the territory's people, but rather ushered into office in 2017 by the vote of a 1,194-member committee dominated by pro-Beijing elites, despite being far less popular than her main rival.

She now finds herself caught between a public that never truly backed her, and leaders in Beijing who want her to push through unpopular measures seen to be eroding Western-style economic, social and cultural freedoms that Beijing promised to respect for at least 50 years after it took back control from Britain.

Lam, 62, has a reputation as an efficient and pragmatic administrator. But she was unpopular with Hong Kongers even before she took office because she was seen as a proxy for Beijing who was out of touch with ordinary people.

She said Saturday that she was shelving the extradition bill to avoid further social turmoil following a protest march that drew hundreds of thousands of people on June 9 and violent clashes on Wednesday where police used tear gas, rubber bullets and other tactics, angering the public further.

Lam's insistence that she had the full backing of China's central government in taking her decision likely rang as tone-deaf given skepticism over the communist leadership's motives, especially after a deadly crackdown on student-led pro-democracy demonstrations in Beijing's Tiananmen Square three decades ago.

"They understand, they have confidence in my judgment and they support me," Lam told reporters, while also saying the legislation was still needed.

Hours later, Bonny Leung, a leader with a pro-democracy alliance, accused Lam of "ignorance and arrogance." She and other activists urged Hong Kong citizens to turn out en-masse for a march Sunday to demand the full withdrawal of the extradition bill, an apology for the aggressive police tactics and Lam's resignation as chief executive.

Few anticipated that Lam would become embroiled in such friction when she took over from her predecessor Leung Chun-ying, a highly polarizing former policeman who stepped down as chief executive in 2017, citing family reasons.

Lam may eventually, after a face-saving interval, also end up stepping aside, analysts said. That would allow time for Beijing to decide upon a successor that the leadership considers both competent and politically reliable.

"They may not fire her immediately, but her chances for a second term are totally gone now and they may find a reason to let her go without losing much face because now she is hated by everybody in Hong Kong and her administration has become quite ungovernable," said Willy Lam, a veteran political observer.



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Carrie Lam is Hong Kong's first female leader and its fourth since Britain ended its colonial rule in 1997. While the Chinese government in Beijing has condemned foreign criticism of the protests over the extradition bill as meddling in the country's internal affairs, they've largely remained aloof from the controversy in Hong Kong, preferring to let Lam take the heat or even make her a scapegoat, according to some analysts.

China's ambassador to Britain told the BBC the push to fast-track the extradition bill was entirely Lam's idea.

Unlike many in the top ranks of Hong Kong's leadership, Lam comes from a humble background. She grew up in the downtown Wanchai district, the fourth of five children. She attended a Catholic girls school, the University of Hong Kong and later Cambridge University.

She is married to a mathematician and has two sons. They are British citizens, but Lam is not.

Much of the unhappiness with Lam and her administration predates her appointment as chief executive. Protests in 2014 over rules Beijing imposed for choosing members of the election committee that helps select the chief executive paralyzed parts of the city for weeks.

The protests, dubbed the Umbrella Movement, highlighted Hong Kong aspirations for greater, rather than less democracy.

On taking office, Lam pledged to focus on issues such as housing, education and health care. In pushing for the extradition bill, she ignited public frustrations over increasing control by Beijing.

In speaking to reporters on Saturday, Lam insisted she only wants what's good for Hong Kong.

"We have not done a good enough job to convince the people of Hong Kong," she said.

"Give us another chance."

## 'We are trapped': Zimbabwe's economic crunch hits passports

By FARAI MUTSAKA Associated Press

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) — With Zimbabwe's economy in shambles and political tensions rising, leaving the country seems the best option for many who are desperate for jobs. But those dreams often end at the passport office, which doesn't have enough foreign currency to import proper paper and ink.

A passport now takes no less than a year to be issued. An emergency passport can take months amid a backlog of 280,000 applications, never mind recent ones.

Zimbabweans at the main office in the capital, Harare, have taken to sleeping in line for any chance at being served the following day — and that's just to submit an application.

Several million Zimbabweans already left for neighboring South Africa and other countries during years of economic turmoil under former leader Robert Mugabe. The hardships have only deepened under current President Emmerson Mnangagwa, who took over after Mugabe's forced resignation in late 2017.

The new government's slogan "austerity for prosperity" now has a bitter ring.

Unemployment is rampant and inflation is at 75%, the highest since 2009, when Zimbabwe's currency collapsed under the weight of hyperinflation. Rapid devaluation of the local currency against the U.S. dollar — also used as official currency — has seen basic items such as cooking oil changing prices several times a day. The health sector is collapsing, forcing those who can afford it to seek treatment abroad.

At the passport office, the desperation to escape is all too clear.

"Guys, it's either we jump the queue or we will have to jump the border," one teenager told a group of friends plotting to sneak to the front of the line.

Another teen, 19-year-old Brian Ndlovu, said coming to the office makes him "feel like there is really no way out of this country. We are trapped."

The teens' plot to jump the queue failed, in large part because those at the front had camped there for days and knew each other by name.

Emma Chirwa said she only reached the front of the line because she had been sleeping outside the office since June 5.

"I was No. 34 on Friday. They served no one. On Thursday, they served 12 people," she said, huddled

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in a blanket on Sunday night.

In the biting cold of the Southern Hemisphere's winter, dozens of people, including women with toddlers, slept on cardboard boxes or in the dust, holding their places. Around midnight, one man parked his motorbike and joined his wife in blankets on the line. People laughed.

Some huddled around a fire of scrap wood taken from the grounds of an adjacent school. A small enterprise has emerged, with some young men holding places in the line for a fee. Others sell pens, food items and foreign currency while a generator powered a photocopy machine.

By daylight, the line snaked for more than a kilometer and included school children in uniform.

A preacher holding a Bible took advantage of the crowd to deliver sermons about resilience and hope. But for many, the spirit is slipping.

For those seeking an emergency passport, the task requires multiple lines and a week of sleeping outside the office. One applies for an ordinary passport, then waits for a chance to upgrade the application to an emergency passport. Those who are booked for a date in 2020 have to join another line to plead for an earlier date.

The delays are due to a lack of foreign currency to import special paper, ink and other materials, as well as machine breakdowns, according to the national passport agency's registrar-general, Clemence Masango.

The Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission, a government body, has described the passport crisis as "a major human rights challenge" and launched an investigation.

In response, officials are promising change.

"We have sourced the foreign currency, and the machine is now working, so the backlog will be cleared soon. We have to bring dignity to our people," Home Affairs Minister Cain Mathema told The Associated Press on Wednesday, vowing "a return to normalcy" in a month.

But for those badly in need of a legal way out of Zimbabwe, such official statements count for little without action.

In a busy, cramped corridor, people clutching envelopes waited in yet another line outside what they mockingly called the "mercy office." It is where they plead with senior officials that their situations are dire enough for their emergency passport applications to be processed in days, not months.

One woman said the date she can upgrade her passport application to an emergency one is May 2020.

"My mother needs an urgent medical operation in India," she said. "She will be dead by then."

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## Zero elephants poached in a year in top Africa wildlife park

By CARA ANNA Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — One of Africa's largest wildlife preserves is marking a year without a single elephant found killed by poachers, which experts call an extraordinary development in an area larger than Switzerland where thousands of the animals have been slaughtered in recent years.

The apparent turnaround in Niassa reserve in a remote region of northern Mozambique comes after the introduction of a rapid intervention police force and more assertive patrolling and response by air, according to the New York-based Wildlife Conservation Society, which manages the reserve with Mozambique's government and several other partners.

Monitoring of the vast reserve with aerial surveys and foot patrols remains incomplete and relies on sampling, however. And despite the sign of progress, it could take many years for Niassa's elephant population to rebuild to its former levels even if poaching is kept under control.

Aggressive poaching over the years had cut the number of Niassa's elephants from about 12,000 to little over 3,600 in 2016, according to an aerial survey. Anti-poaching strategies from 2015 to 2017 reduced the number killed but the conservation group called the rate still far too high.

The new interventions, with Mozambican President Felipe Nyusi personally authorizing the rapid intervention force, have led partners to hope that Niassa's elephants "stand a genuine chance for recovery,"

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the conservation group said.

"It is a remarkable achievement," James Bampton, country director with the Wildlife Conservation Society, told The Associated Press. He said he discovered the year free of poaching deaths while going through data.

The last time an elephant in the Niassa reserve was recorded killed by a poacher was May 17, 2018, he said.

Political will is a key reason for the success, Bampton said, with Mozambique's president keen to see poaching reduced.

Bampton acknowledged that the low number of remaining elephants is also a factor in the decline in poaching. A year ago, he estimated that fewer than 2,000 elephants remained in Niassa, though he now says preliminary analysis of data from a survey conducted in October and not yet published indicated that about 4,000 elephants are in the reserve.

Still, a year that appears to be free of elephant poaching in the sprawling reserve drew exclamations from some wildlife experts.

"It is a major and very important development that poaching has ceased. This represents a major success," George Wittemyer, who chairs the scientific board for the Kenya-based organization Save the Elephants, told the AP.

The new rapid intervention police force is an elite unit that is better-armed than the reserve's normal rangers and has "a bit of a reputation of being quite hard," Bampton said, adding that no "bad incidents" have been reported in Niassa.

Members of the force are empowered to arrest suspected poachers, put together a case within 72 hours and submit it to the local prosecutor, Bampton said. "Just being caught with a firearm is considered intent to illegal hunting," with a maximum prison sentence of 16 years.

Wildlife experts have seen gains elsewhere in Africa against elephant poaching. Tanzania's Selous Game Reserve, widely acknowledged as "Ground Zero" for poaching and linked to the Niassa reserve by a wildlife corridor, also has seen a recent decline in the killings.

African elephant poaching has declined to pre-2008 levels after reaching a peak in 2011, according to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species.

But experts say the rate of annual elephant losses still exceeds the birth rate, and the encroachment of human settlements is reducing the animals' range. Africa's elephant population has plummeted from an estimated several million around 1900 to at least 415,000, according to surveys in recent years.

Collaboration and "huge effort" among the Niassa reserve's partners has been crucial but data show that issues remain with other iconic species such as lions, said Rob Harris, country manager for Fauna & Flora International, which supports one of the operators in the reserve. "So the combination of national-level support and on-the-ground effort must be maintained to improve the situation for all wildlife."

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Associated Press writer Christopher Torchia contributed.

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## AP FACT CHECK: Trump's misfires on Iran, trade and that wall

By HOPE YEN and CALVIN WOODWARD Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — In President Donald Trump's reckoning, an Iran tamed by him no longer cries "death to America," the border wall with Mexico is proceeding apace, the estate tax has been lifted off the backs of farmers, the remains of U.S. soldiers from North Korea are coming home and China is opening its wallet to the U.S. treasury for the first time in history.

These statements range from flatly false to mostly so.

Here's a week of political rhetoric in review:

IRAN:

TRUMP, speaking about Iranians "screaming 'death to America'" when Barack Obama was in the White

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House: "They haven't screamed 'death to America' lately." — Fox News interview Friday.

THE FACTS: Yes they have. The death-to-America chant is heard routinely.

The chant, "marg bar Amreeka" in Farsi, dates back even before Iran's 1979 Islamic Revolution. Once used by communists, it was popularized by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, the revolution's figurehead and Iran's first supreme leader after the U.S. Embassy takeover by militants.

It remains a staple of hard-line demonstrations, meetings with current Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, official ceremonies, parliamentary sessions and main Friday prayer services in Tehran and across the country. Some masters of ceremonies ask audiences to tone it down. But it was heard, for example, from the crowd this month when Khamenei exhorted thousands to stand up against U.S. "bullying."

In one variation, a demonstrator at Tehran's Quds rally last month held a sign with three versions of the slogan: "Death to America" in Farsi, "Death to America" in Arabic, "Down with U.S.A." in English.

## WAGES and TAXES

TRUMP: "Wages are growing, and they are growing at the fastest rate for — this is something so wonderful — for blue-collar workers. The biggest percentage increase — blue-collar workers." — remarks Tuesday in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

THE FACTS: He's claiming credit for a trend of rising wages for lower-income blue-collar workers that predates his presidency.

Some of the gains also reflect higher minimum wages passed at the state and local level; the Trump administration opposes an increase to the federal minimum wage.

With the unemployment rate at 3.6%, the lowest since December 1969, employers are struggling to fill jobs. Despite all the talk of robots and automation, thousands of restaurants, warehouses, and retail stores still need workers.

They are offering higher wages and have pushed up pay for the lowest-paid one-quarter of workers more quickly than for everyone else since 2015. In April, the poorest 25% saw their paychecks increase 4.4% from a year earlier, compared with 3.1% for the richest one-quarter.

Those gains are not necessarily flowing to the "blue collar" workers Trump cited. Instead, when measured by industry, wages are rising more quickly for lower-paid service workers. Hourly pay for retail workers has risen 4.1% in the past year and 3.8% for hotel and restaurant employees. Manufacturing workers — the blue collars — have seen pay rise just 2.2% and construction workers, 3.2%.

TRUMP: "And to keep your family farms and ranches in the family, we eliminated the estate tax, also known as the 'death tax,' on the small farms and ranches and other businesses. That was a big one. ... People were having a farm, they loved their children, and they want to leave it to their children. ... And the estate tax was so much, the children would have to go out and borrow a lot of money from unfriendly bankers, in many cases. And they'd end up losing the farm, and it was a horrible situation." — remarks in Council Bluffs.

THE FACTS: There still is an estate tax. More small farms may be off the hook for it as a result of changes by the Republican-controlled Congress in 2017 but very few farms or small businesses were subject to the tax even before that happened.

Congress increased the tax exemption — temporarily — so fewer people will be subject to those taxes.

Previously, any assets from estates valued at more than \$5.49 million, or nearly \$11 million for couples, were subject to the estate tax in 2017. The new law doubled that minimum for 2018 to \$11.2 million, or \$22.4 million for couples. For 2019, the minimums rose to \$11.4 million, or \$22.8 million for couples. Those increased minimums will expire at the end of 2025.

According to an analysis by the nonpartisan Tax Policy Center, only about 80 small farms and closely held businesses were subject to the estate tax in 2017. Those estates represent about 1 percent of all taxable estate tax returns.



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## NORTH KOREA

TRUMP: "I think we're going to do very well with North Korea over a period of time. I'm in no rush. ... Our remains are coming back; you saw the beautiful ceremony in Hawaii with Mike Pence. We're getting the remains back." — joint news conference Wednesday with Poland's president.

THE FACTS: The U.S. is not currently getting additional remains of American service members killed during the Korean War.

With U.S.-North Korea relations souring, the Pentagon said last month it had suspended its efforts to arrange negotiations this year on recovering additional remains of American service members. The Pentagon said it hoped to 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 North Korean leader Kim Jong Un in February. That meeting focused on the North's 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.

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.

U.S. officials have said the North has suggested in recent years that it holds perhaps 200 sets of American war remains. Thousands more are unrecovered from battlefields and former POW camps.

The Pentagon estimates that about 5,300 Americans were lost in North Korea.

## BORDER WALL

TRUMP: "We're building a wall ... And by next year, at the end of the year, we're going to have close to 500 miles of wall." — remarks Tuesday at the Republican Party of Iowa annual dinner.

TRUMP: "We're going to have close to 500 miles of wall built by the end of next year. That's a lot. And we're moving along very rapidly. We won the big court case, as you know, the other day. And that was a big victory for us." — remarks Monday with Indianapolis 500 champions.

THE FACTS: He's being overly optimistic. It's unclear how Trump arrives at 500 miles (800 km), but he would have to prevail in legal challenges to his declaration of a national emergency or get Congress to cough up more money to get anywhere close. Those are big assumptions. And by far the majority of the wall he's talking about is replacement barrier, not new miles of construction.

So far, the administration has awarded contracts for 247 miles (395 km) of wall construction, but more than half comes from Defense Department money available under Trump's Feb. 15 emergency declaration. On May 24, a federal judge in California who was appointed by Obama blocked Trump from building key sections of the wall with that money. In a separate case, a federal judge in the nation's capital who was appointed by Trump sided with the administration, but that ruling has no effect while the California injunction is in place.

Even if Trump prevails in court, all but 17 miles (27 km) of his awarded contracts replace existing barriers.

The White House says it has identified up to \$8.1 billion in potential money under the national emergency, mostly from the Defense Department.

Customs and Border Protection officials say the administration wants Congress to finance 206 miles (330 km) next year. The chances of the Democratic-controlled House backing that are between slim and none.

## TRADE

TRUMP: "Right now, we're getting 25% on \$250 billion worth of goods. That's a lot of money that's pouring into our treasury. We've never gotten 10 cents from China. Now we're getting a lot of money from China." — remarks Monday.

TRUMP: "We're taking in, right now, billions and billions of dollars in tariffs, and they're subsidizing prod-

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uct.” — remarks Tuesday in Council Bluffs.

THE FACTS: He’s incorrect. The tariffs he’s raised on imports from China are primarily if not entirely a tax on U.S. consumers and businesses, not a source of significant revenue coming into the country.

A study in March by economists from the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Columbia University and Princeton University, before the latest escalation, found that the public and U.S. companies were paying \$3 billion a month in higher taxes from the trade dispute with China, suffering \$1.4 billion a month in lost efficiency and absorbing the entire impact.

It’s also false that the U.S. never collected a dime in tariffs before he took action. Tariffs on goods from China are not remotely new. They are simply higher in some cases than they were before. Tariffs go back to the beginning of the U.S. and were once a leading source of revenue for the government. Not in modern times. They equate to less than 1% of federal spending.

TRUMP: “Look, without tariffs, we would be captive to every country, and we have been for many years. That’s why we have an \$800 billion trading deficit for years. We lose a fortune with virtually every country. They take advantage of us in every way possible.” — CNBC interview Monday.

THE FACTS: Trump isn’t telling the whole story about trade deficits.

When he refers to \$800 billion trade gaps, he’s only talking about the deficit in goods such as cars and aircraft. He leaves out services — such as banking, tourism and education — in which the U.S. runs substantial trade surpluses that partially offset persistent deficits in goods. The goods and services deficit peaked at \$762 billion in 2006. Last year, the United States ran a record \$887 billion deficit in goods and a \$260 billion surplus in services, which added up to an overall deficit of more than \$627 billion.

The U.S. does tend to run trade deficits with most other major economies. But there are exceptions, such as Canada (a nearly \$4 billion surplus last year), Singapore (\$18 billion) and Britain (\$19 billion).

Mainstream economists reject Trump’s argument that the deficits arise from other countries taking advantage of the United States. They see the trade gaps as the result of an economic reality that probably won’t bend to tariffs and other changes in trade policy: Americans buy more than they produce, and imports fill the gap.

U.S. exports are also hurt by the American dollar’s status as the world’s currency. The dollar is usually in high demand because it is used in so many global transactions. That means the dollar is persistently strong, raising prices of U.S. products and putting American companies at a disadvantage in foreign markets.

TRUMP: “You know, France charges us a lot for the wine and yet we charge them little for French wine. So the wineries come to me and they say — the California guys, they come to me: ‘Sir, we are paying a lot of money to put our products into France and you’re letting - meaning, this country is allowing this French wine which is great, we have great wine, too, allowing it to come in for nothing. It is not fair.’” — interview Monday with CNBC.

THE FACTS: Trump, who’s been in the wine business, is technically wrong about France applying tariffs. The European Union does.

He’s right about a disparity in wine duties.

Tariffs vary by alcohol content and other factors. A bottle of white American wine with 13 percent alcohol content imported into the EU carries a customs duty of 10 euro cents (just over 11 U.S. cents). A bottle of white wine from the EU exported to the United States has a customs duty of 5 U.S. cents.

The gap in duties is narrower for red wine with an alcohol content of 14.5 percent.

Bulk wines are another story. The U.S. tariff is double the EU one, a break for American producers because bulk wine represents 25% of the volume of U.S. wine coming into the EU, according to the French wine exporter federation.

The value of wine imported by France has jumped 200% over a decade. Americans are the top consumers of French wine exports.

RUSSIA INVESTIGATION

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TRUMP, on special counsel Robert Mueller's report: "The Mueller report spoke. ... It said, 'No collusion and no obstruction and no nothing.' And, in fact, it said we actually rebuffed your friends from Russia; that we actually pushed them back — we rebuffed them." — remarks Wednesday in Oval Office.

THE FACTS: He's wrong to repeat the claim that the Mueller report found no collusion between Russia and the Trump campaign; it's also false that his campaign in 2016 denied all access to Russians. Nor did the special counsel's report exonerate Trump on the question of whether he obstructed justice.

Mueller's two-year investigation and other scrutiny revealed a multitude of meetings with Russians. Among them: Donald Trump Jr.'s meeting with a Russian lawyer who had promised dirt on Clinton.

On collusion, Mueller said he did not assess whether that occurred because it is not a legal term.

He looked into a potential criminal conspiracy between Russia and the Trump campaign and said the investigation did not collect sufficient evidence to establish criminal charges on that front.

Mueller noted some Trump campaign officials had declined to testify under the Fifth Amendment or had provided false or incomplete testimony, making it difficult to get a complete picture of what happened during the 2016 campaign. The special counsel wrote that he "cannot rule out the possibility" that unavailable information could have cast a different light on the investigation's findings.

In an interview broadcast Wednesday with ABC News, Trump said if a foreign power offered dirt on his 2020 opponent, he'd be open to accepting it and that he'd have no obligation to call in the FBI. "I think I'd want to hear it," Trump said. "There's nothing wrong with listening."

REPUBLICAN SEN. LINDSEY GRAHAM, Judiciary Committee chairman, in response to Trump's comments that he'd be open to accepting political dirt from foreign adversaries like Russia: "The outrage some of my Democratic colleagues are raising about President Trump's comments will hopefully be met with equal outrage that their own party hired a foreign national to do opposition research on President Trump's campaign." — tweet Thursday.

THE FACTS: Graham is making an unequal comparison.

He seeks to turn the tables on Democrats by pointing to their use of a dossier of anti-Trump research produced by Christopher Steele, a former British intelligence officer, that was financed by the Democratic Party and Hillary Clinton's campaign. Graham also insists on "equal outrage" over Democrats using that information from a former intelligence officer of Britain, an ally with a history of shared intelligence with the U.S. That's a different story from a foreign adversary such as Russia, which the Mueller report concluded had engaged in "sweeping and systematic" interference in the 2016 presidential election.

Moreover, Steele was hired as a private citizen, though one with intelligence contacts.

The Mueller report found multiple contacts between the Trump campaign and Russia, and the report said it established that "the Russian government perceived it would benefit from a Trump presidency and worked to secure that outcome, and that the Campaign expected it would benefit electorally from information stolen and released through Russian efforts."

Trump and his GOP allies typically point to the Steele dossier as the basis for the Russia probe. But the FBI's investigation began months before it received the dossier.

TRUMP: "The Democrats were very unhappy with the Mueller report. So now they're trying to do a do-over or a redo. And we're not doing that. We gave them everything. We were the most transparent presidency in history." — Oval Office remarks Wednesday.

THE FACTS: It's highly dubious to say Trump was fully cooperative in the Russia investigation.

Trump declined to sit for an interview with Mueller's team, gave written answers that investigators described as "inadequate" and "incomplete," said more than 30 times that he could not remember something he was asked about in writing, and — according to the report — tried to get aides to fire Mueller or otherwise shut or limit the inquiry.

In the end, the Mueller report found no criminal conspiracy between the Trump campaign and Russia but left open the question of whether Trump obstructed justice.

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According to the report, Mueller's team declined to make a prosecutorial judgment on whether to charge partly because of a Justice Department legal opinion that said sitting presidents shouldn't be indicted. The report instead factually laid out instances in which Trump might have obstructed justice, specifically leaving it open for Congress to take up the matter.

## FEDERAL RESERVE

TRUMP: "We have people on the Fed that really weren't, you know, they're not my people, but they certainly didn't listen to me because they made a big mistake." — CNBC interview.

THE FACTS: Actually, most of the members on the Fed's Board of Governors owe their jobs to Trump.

In addition to choosing Jerome Powell, a Republican whom Obama had named to the Fed board, to be chairman, Trump has filled three other vacancies on the board in his first two years in office. Lael Brainard is the only Democrat on the board.

There are still two vacancies on the seven-member board. Trump had earlier intended to nominate two political allies — Herman Cain and Stephen Moore — but both later withdrew in the face of sharp opposition from critics.

## AUTOMAKERS

TRUMP: "Tariffs are a great negotiating tool, a great revenue producer and, most importantly, a powerful way to get ... companies to come to the U.S.A., and to get companies that have left us for other lands to come back home. We stupidly lost 30% of our auto business to Mexico." — tweets Tuesday.

TRUMP: "They took 30% of our automobile companies. They moved into Mexico. All of the people got fired." — interview Monday with CNBC.

THE FACTS: He's incorrect that Mexico took 30% of the U.S. automobile business in the years since the North American Free Trade Agreement took effect in 1994.

In 2017, 14% of the vehicles sold in the U.S. were imported from Mexico, according to the Center for Automotive Research, a think tank in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Parts imported from Mexico exceed 30%.

TRUMP: "If the Tariffs went on at the higher level, they would all come back." — tweet Tuesday.

TRUMP: "What will happen is the companies will move into the United States, back where they came from. ... They would all move back if they had to pay a 25% tax or tariff." — interview Monday with CNBC.

THE FACTS: He's wrong to assume that auto companies in Mexico would immediately move back to the U.S. if there were a 25% tariff on Mexican-made vehicles and parts.

It takes three years or four years minimum to plan, equip and build an auto assembly plant, so there would be little immediate impact on production or jobs. Auto and parts makers are global companies, and they would also look to countries without tariffs as a place to move their factories. The companies could also just wait until after the 2020 election, hoping that if Trump is defeated, the next president would get rid of the tariffs.

"They're not going to invest in duplicative capacity in response to short-term policy incentives," said Kristen Dzikczek, a vice president at the Center for Automotive Research.

It is possible that some production could be shifted back to the United States. General Motors, for instance, makes about 39% of its full-size pickup trucks at a factory in Silao, Mexico, mainly light-duty versions, according to analysts at Morningstar. If the U.S. imposed a 25% tariff on assembled automobiles, GM could shift some production to a factory in Fort Wayne, Indiana, that also makes light-duty pickups. But there are limits. That plant already is running on three shifts and is almost near its maximum capacity.

Tariffs on Mexico probably would cost auto jobs in the U.S., too, because Mexico would almost certainly retaliate with tariffs of its own. Tariffs on both sides would raise prices of vehicles, because automakers probably would pass the charges onto their customers.

Industry experts say higher prices would cause more buyers to shift into the used-vehicle market, cutting into new-vehicle sales. Tariffs could be higher than 25% because parts go back and forth across the



border multiple times in a highly integrated supply chain.

Vehicles built in Mexico get 20% to 30% of their parts from the U.S., so the tariffs would drive up prices there. That would hit lower-income people hard because automakers produce many lower-priced new vehicles in Mexico to take advantage of cheaper labor. About 62% of U.S. vehicle and parts exports go to Canada and Mexico, according to the Center for Automotive Research.

Tariffs would add \$1,300 to \$4,500 to the price of vehicles based just on the cost of parts, the center estimated.

Associated Press writers Eric Tucker, Christopher Rugaber, Martin Crutsinger and Paul Wiseman in Washington, Elliot Spagat in San Diego, Tom Krisher in Detroit and Jon Gambrell in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, contributed to this report.

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## Trump blames Iran for tanker attacks but calls for talks

By **ROBERT BURNS** and **LOLITA C. BALDOR** Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump has blamed Iran for attacks on oil tankers near the strategic Strait of Hormuz, but he also held out hope that implicit U.S. threats to use force will yield talks with the Islamic Republic as the Pentagon considers beefing up defenses in the Persian Gulf area.

A day after explosions blew holes in two oil tankers just outside Iran's territorial waters, rattling international oil markets, the administration seemed caught between pressure to punish Iran and reassure Washington's Gulf Arab allies without drawing the U.S. closer to war.

"Iran did it," Trump said Friday on Fox News Channel's "Fox & Friends." He didn't offer evidence, but the U.S. military released video it said showed Iran's Revolutionary Guard removing an unexploded mine from one of the oil tankers targeted near the Strait of Hormuz, suggesting Tehran wanted to cover its tracks.

By pointing the finger at Iran, Trump was keeping a public spotlight on an adversary he accuses of terrorism but also has invited to negotiate. The approach is similar to his diplomacy with North Korea, which has quieted talk of war but not yet achieved his goal of nuclear disarmament. Iran has shown little sign of backing down, creating uncertainty about how far the Trump administration can go with its campaign of increasing pressure through sanctions.

Iran denied any involvement in the attacks and accused Washington of waging an "Iranophobic campaign" of economic warfare.

A U.S. Navy team on Friday was aboard one of the tankers, the Japanese-owned Kokuka Courageous, collecting forensic evidence, according to a U.S. official who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss a sensitive operation.

Apparently alluding to the U.S. video, Trump said Iran's culpability had been "exposed." He did not say what he intended to do about it but suggested "very tough" U.S. sanctions, including efforts to strangle Iranian oil revenues, would have the desired effect.

"They've been told in very strong terms we want to get them back to the table," Trump said. Just a day earlier, the president took the opposite view, tweeting that it was "too soon to even think about making a deal" with Iran's leaders. "They are not ready, and neither are we!"

Trump last year withdrew the United States from an international agreement to limit Iran's nuclear program that was signed in 2015 under his predecessor, President Barack Obama. He has since then reinstated economic sanctions aimed at compelling the Iranians to return to the negotiating table. Just last month the U.S. ended waivers that allowed some countries to continue buying Iranian oil, a move that is starving Iran of oil income and that coincided with what U.S. officials called a surge in intelligence pointing to Iranian preparations for attacks against U.S. forces and interests in the Gulf region.

In response to those intelligence warnings, the U.S. on May 5 announced it was accelerating the de-

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ployment of the USS Abraham Lincoln aircraft carrier battle group to the Gulf region. It also sent four nuclear-capable B-52 bombers to Qatar and has beefed up its defenses in the region by deploying more Patriot air defense systems.

Officials said that Pentagon deliberations about possibly sending more military resources to the region, including more Patriot missile batteries, could be accelerated by Thursday's dramatic attack on the oil tankers.

At the Pentagon, acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan said Iran is not just a U.S. problem. He said the U.S. goal is to "build international consensus to this international problem," and to ensure that U.S. military commanders in the region get the resources and support they need.

In remarks to reporters later, Shanahan noted the commercial and strategic importance of the Strait of Hormuz, through which passes about 20 percent of the world's oil.

"So, we obviously need to make contingency plans should the situation deteriorate," he said.

Other administration officials said the U.S. is re-evaluating its presence in the region and will discuss the matter with allies before making decisions. The officials, who briefed reporters on condition of anonymity, said Thursday the U.S. is looking at all options to ensure that maritime traffic in the region is safe and that international commerce, particularly through the Strait of Hormuz, is not disrupted. One option, they said, is for U.S. and allied ships to accompany vessels through the strait, noting that this tactic has been used in the past. They said there is no timeline for any decisions.

Rep. Elissa Slotkin, D-Mich., said that providing naval escorts through the Strait of Hormuz is an option, but, "I don't think it's a sustainable option because of the amount of traffic." She said tanker warfare in the Persian Gulf has historically been a problem, and she wouldn't be opposed to the U.S. having a more visible presence in the region.

Slotkin, a former senior policy adviser at the Pentagon, said she is concerned that the Trump administration does not have a clear strategy on Iran. She said it's difficult to deter Iran without provoking additional violence, adding, "I don't believe this administration is capable of walking such a deft, fine line."

In ticking off a list of Iranian acts of "unprovoked aggression," including Thursday's oil tanker attacks, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo added a surprise accusation. He asserted on Thursday that a late May car bombing of a U.S. convoy in Kabul, Afghanistan, was among a series of threats or attacks by Iran and its proxies against American and allies interests. At the time, the Taliban claimed credit for the attack, with no public word of Iranian involvement.

Pompeo's inclusion of the Afghanistan attack in his list of six Iranian incidents has raised eyebrows in Congress, where he and other U.S. officials have suggested that the administration would be legally justified in taking military action against Iran under the 2001 Authorization of Military Force, or AUMF. In that law, Congress gave then-President George W. Bush authority to retaliate against al-Qaida and the Taliban for the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. It has subsequently been used to allow military force against extremists elsewhere, from the Philippines to Syria.

As the world awaited Washington's next move, analysts said it was difficult to sort out the conflicting claims.

"There are few actors in the world that have less credibility than Donald Trump and the Iranian regime, so even U.S. allies at the moment are confused about what happened," said Karim Sadjadpour, an Iran expert at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. He said the "tremendous mistrust" of both Trump and Iran has made "the biggest priority for most countries to simply avoid conflict or further escalation."

At the same time, Iranian Ayatollah Ali Khamenei is in a difficult position, Sadjadpour said. "If he didn't respond to Trump's provocations, he would risk looking like a paper tiger and projecting weakness. But if he responds overly aggressive to Trump he potentially destabilizes his own rule and his own regime. That's why we've seen Iran calibrate its escalation."

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AP writers Zeke Miller and Matthew Lee contributed to this report.

## Migrants complain of poor conditions at US holding centers

By CEDAR ATTANASIO Associated Press

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — The Trump administration is facing growing complaints from migrants about severe overcrowding, meager food and other hardships at border holding centers, with some people at an encampment in El Paso being forced to sleep on the bare ground during dust storms.

The Border Network for Human Rights issued a report Friday based on dozens of testimonials of immigrants over the past month and a half, providing a snapshot of cramped conditions and prolonged stays in detention amid a record surge of migrant families coming into the U.S. from Central America.

The report comes a day after an advocate described finding a teenage mother cradling a premature baby inside a Border Patrol processing center in Texas. The advocate said the baby should have been in a hospital, not a facility where adults are kept in large fenced-in sections that critics describe as cages.

"The state of human rights in the U.S.-Mexico borderlands is grave and is only getting worse," the immigrant rights group said in its report. "People are dying because of what is happening."

Five immigrant children have died since late last year after being detained by the Border Patrol, including a flu-stricken teenager who was found dead in a facility migrants refer to as the "icebox" because of the temperatures inside.

Customs and Border Protection responded to the complaints by saying: "Allegations are not facts. If there is an issue it is best to contact CBP directly. In many cases the matter can be resolved immediately."

The agency also cited its response to a critical inspector general's report last month, in which it said the government is devoted to treating migrants in its custody "with the utmost dignity and respect."

The Trump administration has blamed the worsening crisis on inaction by Congress.

Many of the complaints center on El Paso, where the inspector general found severe overcrowding inside a processing center. A cell designed for a dozen people was crammed with 76, and migrants had to stand on the toilets.

With indoor facilities overcrowded, the Border Patrol has kept some immigrants outside and in tents near a bridge in El Paso with nothing but a Mylar foil blanket. Others have been kept in an empty parking lot, where migrants huddled underneath tarps and foil blankets repurposed as shade covers against the sweltering heat.

A professor who visited two weeks ago said it resembled a "human dog pound." The Border Patrol responded by adding additional shade structures, but migrants are still kept outside in temperatures approaching 100 degrees.

Migrants in El Paso and elsewhere also complained of inadequate food such as a single burrito and a cup of water per day. Women said they were denied feminine hygiene products.

Another complaint is that migrants are kept in detention beyond the 72-hour limit set by Customs and Border Protection. Some reported being held for 30 days or more, and one told The Associated Press she had been in detention for around 45 days.

The teenage mother with the premature baby, for example, spent nine days in Border Patrol custody after crossing the Rio Grande with her newborn, according to a legal advocate who visited the girl in a McAllen, Texas, processing center.

An exodus of people fleeing poverty, drought and violence in Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador has led to a record number of migrant families being apprehended at the U.S.-Mexico border in recent months. Agents made 132,887 apprehensions in May, including a record 84,542 adults and children traveling together. Those apprehended also included 11,507 children traveling alone.

President Donald Trump's \$4.5 billion border request for things such as an expansion of detention, medical care, food and shelter has languished on Capitol Hill since he sent it over six weeks ago, with House Democrats at odds with the White House. Congress is set to go on a break in two weeks.

Lawmakers are becoming increasingly agitated.

"In the first five months of this year, the number of apprehensions at the border has already exceeded the population of Atlanta, Georgia," said Republican Rep. Kay Granger of Texas.

Associated Press Writer Astrid Galvan in Phoenix and Andrew Taylor in Washington contributed to this report.

## Doctors will conduct health checks at facility with preemie

By **ASTRID GALVAN** and **GARANACE BURKE** Associated Press

The teenage girl with pigtail braids was hunched over in a wheelchair and holding a bunched sweatshirt when an immigrant advocate met her at a crowded Border Patrol facility in Texas.

She opened the sweatshirt and the advocate gasped. It was a tiny baby, born premature and held in detention instead of where the advocate believes the baby should have been — at a hospital neonatal unit.

“You look at this baby and there is no question that this baby should be in a tube with a heart monitor,” said Hope Frye, a volunteer with an immigrant advocacy group who travels the country visiting immigration facilities with children to make sure the facilities comply with federal guidelines.

Frye and other advocates said the case highlights the poor conditions immigrants are held in after crossing the U.S.-Mexico border as the government deals with an unprecedented number of families and children arriving daily. They announced Friday that doctors would be able to do health assessments at that facility starting Saturday.

The mother, a 17-year-old from Guatemala, had an emergency cesarean section in Mexico in early May and crossed the border with the baby June 4, Frye said.

She was in a wheelchair in extreme pain when legal advocates found her this week. The girl told advocates she crossed the border through the Rio Grande but needed people to carry her, and that she also needed help getting into a Border Patrol car when she was apprehended.

The mother and daughter were expected to be transferred to a privately run facility for underage immigrants without parents on Thursday after outcry on social media.

They were held in an overcrowded McAllen processing facility that holds hundreds of parents and children in large, fenced-in areas and gained international attention last year when it detained children separated from their parents. Advocates describe them as cages and say they are extremely cold. The converted warehouse is the same place where a flu outbreak caused authorities to shut down the facility last month.

The Trump administration has faced daily criticism over conditions in migrant detention facilities.

Five children have died since late last year after being detained by the Border Patrol. Immigrants have been kept outside for extended periods near a bridge in El Paso in conditions that a professor who recently visited the location told the Texas Monthly magazine was like a “human dog pound.”

And an Inspector General report last month found severe overcrowding inside an El Paso processing center, with 76 migrants packed into a tiny cell designed for 12 people. Investigators saw immigrants standing on top of toilets to make room and find space to breathe because the cell was so cramped.

In a letter to Congress this week, the Department of Homeland Security’s acting secretary, Kevin K. McAleenan, and Alex Azar, who heads the Health and Human Services Department, pleaded for emergency supplemental funding.

“We continue to experience a humanitarian and security crisis at the southern border of the United States, and the situation becomes more dire each day,” they wrote.

Customs and Border Protection said its agents are overwhelmed and don’t have the funding or resources to handle the influx. Health and Human Services, the governmental agency in charge of caring for unaccompanied children after they’re released from Border Patrol custody, said it is past capacity with over 13,000 kids in its care at the moment. The agency plans to add new facilities for children in New Mexico, Texas and a military base in Oklahoma.

Families and underage migrants who cross the border are held in Border Patrol facilities meant to be temporary and designed primarily for single adult men — not mothers, newborns and sick toddlers. Families are regularly kept in them for much longer than the allowed maximum of 72 hours.



Frye first met the teenage girl at the McAllen facility on Tuesday. The girl said border authorities made her throw away a backpack with the baby's clothing and had not given her anything else, so the baby was in a dirty onesie bundled in a sweatshirt that another migrant mother gave her.

The teenage girl was sent to the hospital on Wednesday night but was released.

At one point, the baby got sick and was listless and unresponsive, Frye said. Frye said that as far as she knew, the baby hadn't been hospitalized.

Frye said the baby and her mother should never have been kept there. She said she was not sure how premature the baby was born but described the baby as "minuscule," with a head "the size of my fist or smaller than my fist."

Customs and Border Protection, which runs the facility the girl and baby were held in, has not commented.

This story has been corrected to show that mother and daughter were being transferred on Thursday, not Friday.

Burke contributed to this report from San Francisco. Associated Press writer Amy Taxin contributed to this report.

## Middle East attack jolts oil-import dependent Asia

By FOSTER KLUG Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — The blasts detonated far from the bustling megacities of Asia, but the attack this week on two tankers in the strategic Strait of Hormuz hits at the heart of the region's oil import-dependent economies.

While the violence only directly jolted two countries in the region — one of the targeted ships was operated by a Tokyo-based company, a nearby South Korean-operated vessel helped rescue sailors — it will unnerve major economies throughout Asia.

Officials, analysts and media commentators on Friday hammered home the importance of the Strait of Hormuz for Asia, calling it a crucial lifeline, and there was deep interest in more details about the still-s sketchy attack and what the United States and Iran would do in the aftermath.

In the end, whether Asia shrugs it off, as some analysts predict, or its economies shudder as a result, the attack highlights the widespread worries over an extreme reliance on a single strip of water for the oil that fuels much of the region's shared progress.

Here is a look at how Asia is handling rising tensions in a faraway but economically crucial area, compiled by AP reporters from around the world:

### WHY ASIA WORRIES

The oil, of course.

Japan, South Korea and China don't have enough of it; the Middle East does, and much of it flows through the narrow Strait of Hormuz.

This could make Asia vulnerable to supply disruptions from U.S.-Iran tensions or violence in the strait.

The attack comes months after Iran threatened to shut down the strait to retaliate against U.S. economic sanctions, which tightened in April when the Trump administration decided to end sanctions exemptions for the five biggest importers of Iranian oil, which included China and U.S. allies South Korea and Japan.

Japan is the world's fourth-largest consumer of oil — after the United States, China and India — and relies on the Middle East for 80% of its crude oil supply. The 2011 Fukushima nuclear disaster led to a dramatic reduction in Japanese nuclear power generation and increased imports of natural gas, crude oil, fuel oil and coal.

In an effort to comply with Washington, Japan says it no longer imports oil from Iran. Officials also say Japanese oil companies are abiding by the embargo because they don't want to be sanctioned. But Japan still gets oil from other Middle East nations using the Strait of Hormuz for transport.

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South Korea, the world's fifth largest importer of crude oil, also depends on the Middle East for the vast majority of its supplies.

Last month, South Korea halted its Iranian oil imports as its waivers from U.S. sanctions on Teheran expired, and it has reportedly tried to increase oil imports from other countries such as Qatar and the United States.

China, the world's largest importer of Iranian oil, "understands its growth model is vulnerable to a lack of energy sovereignty," according to market analyst Kyle Rodda of IG, an online trading provider, and has been working over the last several years to diversify its suppliers. That includes looking to Southeast Asia and, increasingly, some oil-producing nations in Africa.

## THE GEOGRAPHY AND THE POLITICS

Asia and the Middle East are linked by a flow of oil, much of it coming by sea and dependent on the Strait of Hormuz, which is the passage between the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman.

Iran threatened to close the strait in April. It also appears poised to break a 2015 nuclear deal with world powers, an accord that U.S. President Donald Trump withdrew from last year. The deal saw Tehran agree to limit its enrichment of uranium in exchange for the lifting of crippling sanctions.

For both Japan and South Korea, there is extreme political unease to go along with the economic worries stirred by the violence in the strait.

Both nations want to nurture their relationship with Washington, a major trading partner and military protector. But they also need to keep their economies humming, which requires an easing of tension between Washington and Tehran.

Japan's conservative prime minister, Shinzo Abe, was in Tehran, looking to do just that, when the attack happened.

His limitations in settling the simmering animosity, however, were highlighted by both the timing of the attack and a comment by Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who told Abe that he had nothing to say to Trump.

In Japan, the world's third largest economy, the tanker attack was front-page news.

The Nikkei newspaper, Japan's major business daily, said that if mines are planted in the Strait of Hormuz, "oil trade will be paralyzed." The Tokyo Shimbun newspaper called the Strait of Hormuz Japan's "lifeline."

Although the Japanese economy and industry minister has said there will be no immediate effect on stable energy supplies, the Tokyo Shimbun noted "a possibility that Japanese people's lives will be affected."

South Korea, worried about Middle East instability, has worked to diversify its crude sources since the energy crises of the 1970s and 1980s.

## THE FUTURE

Analysts said it's highly unlikely that Iran would follow through on its threat to close the strait. That's because a closure could also disrupt Iran's exports to China, which has been working with Russia to build pipelines and other infrastructure that would transport oil and gas into China.

For Japan, the attack in the Strait of Hormuz does not represent an imminent threat to Tokyo's oil supply, said Paul Sheldon, chief geopolitical adviser at S&P Global Platts Analytics.

"Our sense is that it's not a crisis yet," he said of the tensions.

Seoul, meanwhile, will likely be able to withstand a modest jump in oil prices unless there's a full-blown military confrontation, Seo Sang-young, an analyst from Seoul-based Kiwoom Securities, said.

"The rise in crude prices could hurt areas like the airlines, chemicals and shipping, but it could also actually benefit some businesses, such as energy companies (including refineries) that produce and export fuel products like gasoline," said Seo, pointing to the diversity of South Korea's industrial lineup. South Korea's shipbuilding industry could also benefit as the rise in oil prices could further boost the growing demand for liquefied natural gas, or LNG, which means more orders for giant tankers that transport such gas.

Associated Press writers Yuri Kageyama in Tokyo, Kim Tong-hyung and Hyung-jin Kim in Seoul, South

Korea, Yanan Wang in Beijing, Annabelle Liang in Singapore and Alexandra Olson in New York contributed to this report.

## **O'Rourke: White Americans don't know full story of slavery**

By **MEG KINNARD** Associated Press

BEAUFORT, S.C. (AP) — Beto O'Rourke took a path somewhat less traveled on Friday, meeting with a small group representing a community of slave descendants in South Carolina as he strives to make connections with the black voters who will play a dominant role in next year's Southern presidential primaries.

In a Baptist church in Beaufort, the Democratic presidential candidate and former Texas congressman met with leaders of the Gullah/Geechee Nation, a culture of coastal slave descendants whose separation from the mainland allowed them to retain much of their African heritage, including a unique dialect and skills such as cast-net fishing and basket weaving.

O'Rourke, addressing questions on topics including health care, housing affordability and education, acknowledged what he identified as his own struggle with not knowing enough about the history of slavery in the United States and its ongoing ramifications.

"White Americans do not know this story," O'Rourke said, noting that until a tour of the church's grounds, he hadn't known anti-slavery activist Harriet Tubman had lived in the area.

O'Rourke has addressed issues concerning white privilege before, telling a crowd at a historically black college in South Carolina earlier this year that he might not know their struggles but wanted to try to help them. In Iowa, he said he didn't think being a white man in a historically diverse field of candidates put him at a disadvantage because his sex and race have given him inherent advantages for years.

On Friday, asked if he supported reparations, O'Rourke said that he did, though he still supports the creation of a commission to further study the issue and how to ameliorate it.

"The answer is yes. We must repair this country from its very founding, kidnapping peoples from West Africa, bringing them here in bondage to literally build the wealth of the United States," he said. "The path there, though, has to come through learning and telling this American story with everyone. Then, I think, we define what reparations look like."

The stop was the first of 10 events O'Rourke has planned in the state over the next three days, centered around an appearance at a forum in Charleston on Saturday sponsored by the Black Economic Alliance. Pete Buttigieg, mayor of South Bend, Indiana, and Sens. Cory Booker and Elizabeth Warren are also slated to speak at the event in the state that's home to the first Southern primary and where most of the Democratic primary electorate is nonwhite.

— Meg Kinnard can be reached at <http://twitter.com/MegKinnardAP>

## **AP FACT CHECK: 'Death to America' chants live on in Iran**

By **CALVIN WOODWARD** and **JON GAMBRELL** Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — They still cry "death to America" in Iran.

President Donald Trump claimed otherwise in a Fox News interview as he took credit for a taming of Iran that is not apparent in its actions or rhetoric.

TRUMP, speaking about Iranians "screaming death to America" when Barack Obama was U.S. president: "They haven't screamed 'death to America' lately." — Fox News interview Friday.

THE FACTS: Not true. The death-to-America chant is heard routinely.

The chant, "marg bar Amreeka" in Farsi, dates back even before Iran's 1979 Islamic Revolution. Once used by communists, it was popularized by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, the revolution's figurehead and Iran's first supreme leader after the U.S. Embassy takeover by militants.

It remains a staple of hard-line demonstrations, meetings with current Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, official ceremonies, parliamentary sessions and main Friday prayer services in Tehran and

across the country.

Some masters of ceremonies ask audiences to tone it down. But it was heard, for example, from the crowd this month when Khamenei exhorted thousands to stand up against U.S. "bullying."

In one variation, a demonstrator at a Quds rally in Tehran last month held a sign with three versions of the slogan: "Death to America" in Farsi, "Death to America" in Arabic, "Down with U.S.A." in English.

Gambrell reported from Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

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## **Rash of child killings angers, frustrates St. Louis leaders**

**By JIM SALTER Associated Press**

ST. LOUIS (AP) — The gunfire that has long haunted St. Louis streets has taken an even more disturbing turn, with a rash of shootings involving children that has left the city's police chief angered and frustrated by the lack of cooperation of witnesses.

Four children died from gunfire over the past week and two others were injured. Those killed included girls ages 3 and 11, along with a 16-year-old boy and a 16-year-old girl. The injured were girls ages 5 and 6. All six victims were black.

Police Chief John Hayden told The Associated Press Friday that it appears that some of the children were hit by gunfire intended for adults who were near the kids.

"What we're learning in our investigations is that there have been previous confrontations and other things that led to the incidents where the children are injured," Hayden said.

Making matters worse, the chief said, was the lack of cooperation from the targeted adults. No arrests have been made in any of the recent shootings.

"The common denominator, the thing that frustrates me the most, is the fact that the adults and others of age are less than fully cooperative with our investigators," Hayden said.

FBI statistics released in September showed St. Louis had a murder rate of 66.1 per 100,000 people in 2017, the worst rate in the nation. Hayden said about half the shootings — fatal and non-fatal — in St. Louis are drug-related and another 35 percent "are based on personal vendettas and disputes."

The city has seen 80 confirmed homicides so far this year, up slightly from the same time a year ago. Only 23 of the crimes have been solved, in part due to lack of cooperation from victims. All but eight of the 80 victims were black in a city that is nearly equally split between blacks and whites.

The shootings involving children in St. Louis appear to be part of a national trend in recent years. A study in December in the New England Journal of Medicine found that death by gunshot was the second-highest cause of death in the U.S. in 2016 among people ages 1-19. The study looked at death certificates from 57 jurisdictions and found a 28 percent increase in the rate of firearm deaths from 2013.

Police statistics show that four homicide victims in St. Louis this year were age 16 or younger, equaling the number of child victims in 2018, when there were 187 total killings. The four victims do not include two girls killed in separate instances this week, shootings that are still under investigation and not yet characterized as homicides, accidents or suicides.

Police have released few details about any of the recent shootings. Hayden declined to discuss specific details, citing the ongoing investigations.

The spate of violence involving children began Saturday when 16-year-old Jashon Johnson was killed near Fairground Park. Police said he was shot several times.

A 3-year-old girl, Kenndei Powell, was killed Sunday night in a drive-by shooting. She and four other children were with two men on a sidewalk, preparing to eat pizza, when a vehicle drove by and opened fire. Kenndei was shot in the chest. A 6-year-old girl was critically wounded and remains hospitalized.

Mayor Lyda Krewson, on Twitter, called the shootings "outrageous, abhorrent, unthinkable. Unbearable



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pain for these families." Her tweet suggested the possibility that the shooting was part of a feud. "No dispute/retaliation is worth this," she wrote.

Two other child deaths this week are being called "suspicious."

Charnija Keys, 11, was shot in the head Monday night while inside the home she shared with her mother and older sister. Police say only that homicide detectives and child-abuse investigators are handling the case. Hayden declined to elaborate.

The family wants answers, said Arnita Norman, Charnija's grandmother. She believes her granddaughter was murdered.

"It's very frustrating because we just don't know what happened," Norman said.

Police were called just before 1:30 a.m. Wednesday to a report of a shooting at another home. Myiesha Cannon, 16, was shot in the head. She was pronounced dead at the scene.

Latrice Cannon told the St. Louis Post-Dispatch that her daughter, who just finished ninth grade, was at the house next door. Latrice Cannon heard the gunshot and ran outside, where a man in the yard shouted, "They killed her." He never said who "they" were.

"Who killed my daughter and why?" Latrice Cannon asked.

The most recent shooting involving a child happened Thursday night when a 5-year-old girl was shot in the arm as the car she was in was stopped at a red light. She is hospitalized in stable condition.

## Debate lineups: Biden, Sanders on 2nd night, Warren on 1st

By DAVID BAUDER AP Media Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — NBC set the lineup for its two-night debate of 2020 presidential contenders later this month, with a top-heavy second session that will pit former Vice President Joe Biden onstage against 2016 Democratic runner-up, Bernie Sanders, the youthful Mayor Pete Buttigieg and California Sen. Kamala Harris.

The first night, June 26 in Miami, is headlined by Sens. Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts and Cory Booker of New Jersey, along with former Texas Rep. Beto O'Rourke.

Representatives of 20 campaigns gathered in a conference room at NBC headquarters Friday to watch slips of paper with candidates' names picked out of two boxes. There were separate boxes with the names of candidates polling at above or below 2 percent — an attempt to make sure most of the lesser-known candidates were not grouped together and given the stigma of a minor-league debate.

Still, when four of the six top-polling candidates landed on June 27, including the clear front-runner in Biden, that night was quickly seen as the one with the biggest stakes.

Being paired with Biden, 76, and Sanders, 77, gives Buttigieg an opportunity to emphasize the "next generation" theme that the South Bend, Indiana, mayor has been touting. At 37, Buttigieg is the youngest of the leading contenders.

The six female contenders will be evenly divided between the two nights. The two African American candidates, Booker and Harris, will also be on separate nights. Ideologically, two favorites of the party's liberal wing, Sanders and Warren, won't be going head-to-head, either.

Among the rest of the field, Washington Gov. Jay Inslee could find benefits in drawing the first night with fewer front-runners to emphasize his climate change-oriented effort. Former Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper, who has been among the most aggressive critics of Sanders' democratic socialism, will have a chance to make those points to him face-to-face.

NBC will face its own test, to see if it makes compelling programming out of crowded, fractious stages on the opening nights of debate season. The debate will be shown both nights in prime time, 9 p.m. to 11 p.m., on the broadcast network, as well as on MSNBC and Telemundo, and it will be streamed on various platforms. NBC personalities Lester Holt, Savannah Guthrie, Chuck Todd, Rachel Maddow and Jose Diaz-Balart will all be featured.

Featured on June 26 in Miami will be Warren, Booker, O'Rourke, Inslee, Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar, former Housing and Urban Development Secretary Julian Castro, New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio, former

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Rep. John Delaney of Maryland, Rep. Tulsi Gabbard of Hawaii and Rep. Tim Ryan of Ohio.

The next night's lineup has Biden, Sanders, Harris, Buttigieg, Hickenlooper, New York Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, Colorado Sen. Michael Bennet, author Marianne Williamson, entrepreneur Andrew Yang and Rep. Eric Swalwell of California.

"This is a terrific lineup because there will be a real debate over the key set of choices in this Democratic primary," said Sanders' campaign manager Faiz Shakir.

Already some campaigns began fundraising off the debate lineups. Biden's, Booker's, Klobuchar's and O'Rourke's campaigns are each hosting a drawing offering a trip for two to Miami, including flights, a night in a hotel and tickets to the debate, for a lucky donor.

Buttigieg's campaign sent out an email saying that appearing in "the first Democratic primary debate will allow many new people to hear Pete for the first time."

"Please consider making a donation today to make sure we're as strong as we can be heading into the debate," the Buttigieg email said.

Delaney's campaign said he was "pleased to be sharing the debate stage with many strong candidates, particularly Senator Warren who, like me, is talking about new ideas. I look forward to a debate on issues and solutions, not personality and politics."

Advisers of several leading campaigns have argued that debates are, for their candidates, as much about avoiding bad moments as they are about making any gains in the race. For the rest of the field, the national stage is a chance for that rare viral moment that elevates a struggling campaign.

At least one Republican veteran of crowded primary fights warned Democrats against putting too much stock in debates with so many candidates. "I've talked to some campaigns who say, 'Our plan is to do well on the debate stage,' but that's like saying you plan to get struck by lightning," said John Weaver, a Republican adviser to John McCain's presidential runs and more recently to then-Ohio Gov. John Kasich's 2016 effort.

Debates become more important, Weaver said, "as this gets whittled down."

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Associated Press writers Bill Barrow and Steve Peoples contributed to this report.

## Growers hope standards bring order to hemp industry 'mess'

By GILLIAN FLACCUS Associated Press

AURORA, Ore. (AP) — A unit of wheat is called a bushel, and a standard weight of potatoes is called a century. But hemp as a fully legal U.S. agricultural commodity is so new that a unit of hemp seed doesn't yet have a universal name or an agreed-upon quantity.

That's one example of the startling lack of uniformity — and accountability — in an industry that's sprung up almost overnight since the U.S. late last year removed hemp from the controlled substances list.

A global hemp research lab announced Thursday in Oregon, coupled with a nascent national review board for hemp varieties and a handful of seed certification programs nationwide, are the first stabs at addressing those concerns — and at creating accountability by standardizing U.S. hemp for a global market.

"If you look at a lot of financial markets, they're all saying, 'People are investing in this, and we have no idea what to divide it by,'" said Jay Noller, head of Oregon State University's new Global Hemp Innovation Center. "We have hemp fiber. What is it? What's the standard length?"

Oregon State's research hub will be the United States' largest and will offer a certification for hemp seed that guarantees farmers the seed they're buying is legitimate and legal. That's a critical need when individual hemp seeds are selling for \$1.20 to \$1.40 each — and an acre of crop takes up to 2,000 seeds, Noller said.

Licensed hemp acreage in Oregon, which has an ideal climate for growing the crop, has increased six-fold since last year, earning Oregon the No. 3 spot for hemp cultivation after Montana and Colorado, according to Vote Hemp, which advocates for and tracks the industry in the U.S.

Four other states — North Dakota, Colorado, Tennessee and North Carolina — also have hemp seed

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certification programs. Other U.S. universities, such as Cornell in Ithaca, New York, have hemp research programs, but Oregon State's will be the largest, built on years of hemp research done in test fields in China, Bosnia and Serbia and now at 10 research stations sprinkled across the state. On Thursday, Oregon State researchers began to sow their third crop in a field in Aurora.

The new center dovetails with a greater movement to create a national infrastructure around hemp as the market explodes. Globally, the supply of hemp is less than 10% of the demand, and that's driving states like Oregon to rush to stake a claim in the international marketplace, Noller said.

Across the U.S., the number of licensed acres of hemp jumped 204% from 2017 to 2018, according to Vote Hemp. And the market for a hemp-derived extract called cannabidiol, or CBD, is expected to grow from \$618 million in 2018 to \$22 billion in 2022 as its popularity as a health aide skyrockets.

The U.S. National Review Board for Hemp Varieties will start taking applications in the fall from growers who want to claim credit for specific genetic varieties of hemp. Once growers have secured a unique designation from the board, they can apply for a plant patent with the U.S. government so no other grower can produce that type of hemp.

A meeting in Harbin, China, in early July will bring together members of the global hemp industry to start to hash out critical details such as what to call a unit of hemp seed or the standard length of hemp fiber, Noller said. Other countries, such as China, have been growing hemp for years, but the industry lacks a universal standard countries can apply to trade, he said.

"This is the first time in U.S. history where we have a new crop that's suddenly gone from prohibited to no longer prohibited," Noller said. "We have never had something like this."

Hemp growers like Trey Willison applauded the move toward greater transparency in a booming market.

Some novice farmers are falling prey to seed sellers who secretly, or even unwittingly, market seed that grows into "hot" cannabis plants, with THC levels too high to market legally as hemp, he said.

Hemp and marijuana are both cannabis plants but have different THC levels. Marijuana, illegal under federal law, refers to plants with more than a trace of THC. Hemp has almost no THC — 0.3% or less under U.S. government standards.

States with hemp programs test for THC in the crops, but do so after the plants are grown and close to harvest. Crops that test over the THC limit for hemp must be destroyed — and farmers with bad seed might not know until it's too late, Willison said.

In one case last year, an Oregon seed seller marketed seeds on Craigslist as having a 3-to-1 CBD to THC ratio — but unbeknownst to farmers, the THC levels were still too high to be legal, he said. Several farms in Wisconsin, where agricultural hemp was just getting underway, bought the seeds and then went under when the resulting plants tested "hot," Willison said.

The seeds "look identical, and you can't tell them apart until four months into the year, when you know something's wrong," he said. "A bunch of farms failed, and it originated in Oregon."

Other sellers are marking up the cost of what he called "garbage seed" as much as 1,000 times, said Willison, who started Unique Botanicals in Springfield, about 100 miles (160 kilometers) south of Portland, after leaving his marijuana-growing business due to a glut of weed in the Oregon market.

"A lot of people say, 'Is your seed certified?' and there's no such thing as certified seed right now. There's no test, there's no oversight. ... There's no proof of where the seed is coming from," he said.

"They're trying. It's at the very beginning, for sure, but they are trying to do something about this mess."

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Flaccus is a member of AP's marijuana beat team. Follow her on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/gflaccus>. Follow AP's complete marijuana coverage: <https://apnews.com/Marijuana>

## Family: Baby cut from slain Chicago woman's womb dies

By **DON BABWIN** and **RICK CALLAHAN** Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — An infant boy who was cut from a Chicago woman's womb with a butcher knife died Friday at a hospital where he had been in grave condition since the April attack that killed his mother,

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family spokeswomen said.

Yovanny Jadiel (yoh-VAH'-nee YAH'-dee-el) Lopez died at Christ Medical Center in suburban Oak Lawn from a severe brain injury, according to a statement posted on Facebook by family spokeswoman Julie Contreras, who expressed "great sadness" in announcing the baby's death. Family spokeswoman Cecilia Garcia confirmed the statement.

The baby had been on life support since being brought to the hospital on April 23. Prosecutors say Clarisa Figueroa, 46, claimed she had given birth to the baby. She and her 24-year-old daughter, Desiree Figueroa, are charged with murder in the death of the baby's mother, 19-year-old Marlen Ochoa-Lopez, and Chicago police spokesman Anthony Guglielmi said Friday that he expects both women will now be charged with murder in the infant's death.

Prosecutors will "make a determination on additional charges" after police and the county's medical examiner's office complete their investigations, Cook County State's Attorney's Office spokeswoman Tandra Simonton said in a written statement. An attorney for the family, Frank Avila, demanded that the office charge the two women with murder, and charge the Figueroa's boyfriend, Piotr Bobak, with murder as well. Bobak has been charged with concealing a homicide.

"The baby was murdered and we demand justice," he said.

Garcia said the family had been weighing whether to remove the baby from life support when the child died. And Avila told reporters that he was notified overnight that the baby's condition had deteriorated, prompting him to call a Catholic priest, who came to the hospital to administer last rites at about 1 a.m. Four hours later, he said, the child died as a result of brain injuries caused by a loss of oxygen when he was cut from his mother's body.

Christ Medical Center said in a statement that its "hearts and prayers" were with the baby's family, and that their "courage and grace have drawn the admiration of our entire organization."

Authorities contend that not long after Clarisa Figueroa's adult son died of natural causes, she told her family she was pregnant. They say she plotted for months to acquire a newborn, and that she posted an ultrasound and photos of a room decorated for a baby on her Facebook page. In March, she and Ochoa-Lopez connected on a Facebook page for pregnant women.

The two first met in person around April 1, when Ochoa-Lopez went to the Figueroas' house and left unharmed, prosecutors allege. The teen returned on April 23 to accept Clarisa Figueroa's offer of free baby clothes, and as Desiree Figueroa was showing Ochoa-Lopez a photo album of her late brother to distract her, Clarisa Figueroa sneaked up behind her and strangled her with a cord.

Once Ochoa-Lopez stopped showing signs of life, Clarisa Figueroa cut the baby from her womb and she and her daughter wrapped the teen's body in a blanket, put it in a plastic bag and dragged it outside to a garbage can, according to prosecutors.

Later that day, Clarisa Figueroa called 911 claiming that her newborn baby was not breathing. When first responders arrived, the child was blue. They tried to resuscitate the infant and took him to Christ Medical Center, where he remained until his death.

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This version of the story corrects the spelling of rites in the sixth paragraph.

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Callahan reported from Indianapolis.

## 20 years after Columbine, a debate on bulldozing the school

By KATHLEEN FOODY Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — Two decades after the name "Columbine" became synonymous with a school shooting, the suburban Denver community surrounding the school is debating whether it's time to tear down a building that also became a beacon for people obsessed with the killings.

School officials said the number of people trying to get close to or even inside the school reached record levels this year, the 20th anniversary of the 1999 attack that killed 13 people. People try to peek into the



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windows of the school library, mistaking it for the long-demolished room where most of the victims died, or ask people on campus how to take a tour.

The buses full of tourists have mostly stopped over the years, but not the visitors. This year alone, security staff contacted more than 2,400 "unauthorized" people on Columbine's campus.

Then, a few days before the anniversary, a young woman described as obsessed with the attack flew to Colorado and bought a shotgun, killing only herself yet sparking lockdowns and new fears. School security has intercepted others with a similar infatuation with the crime and its teen perpetrators -- so-called Columbiners.

District security chief John McDonald can rattle off some of the most frightening instances of people who came to the campus: An Ohio couple later charged with planning a domestic terror attack; a Utah teen later arrested for a bombing plot against his school; and a Texas man apprehended at the school after he said he was filled by one of shooter's spirits and intended to "complete his mission."

"These people, they want the building," McDonald said. "They want to experience it, to walk the halls ... The only way we can stop that interest in the building is to move it. Otherwise they're not going to stop coming."

But Columbine, named after Colorado's state flower, represents more than one day to this suburban area southeast of Denver. Boisterous call-and-response chants of "We are Columbine" dominate school pep rallies and more solemn occasions including an April ceremony marking the anniversary. At the nearby memorial just over a crest named "Rebel Hill" for the school's mascot, a plaque quotes an unnamed student: "You're a Columbine Rebel for life and no one can ever take that away from you."

"It's not just a building, it's like a second home to us," said Jenn Thompson, who as a 15-year-old huddled inside a science classroom during the attack. "It's still standing 20 years later. It represents us, still standing 20 years later." She hopes her own daughter, now 8 years old, can attend the school, home to about 1,700 students.

The fates of mass shooting sites around the United States are varied.

In Newtown, Connecticut, voters authorized the demolition of the Sandy Hook Elementary School building where 26 students and teachers were killed in 2012 and construction of a new school with the same name near the original site. The building where 17 people were killed in a shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida in 2018 is also expected to be razed; there has been no public discussion about the school's name.

After a shooter killed 12 people inside an Aurora, Colorado, movie theater in 2012, the building reopened with a new name and auditoriums identified with letters rather than numbers. In Orlando, the owner of the Pulse nightclub plans to make the site into a museum and a memorial to the 49 people gunned down there in 2016.

The discussion of Columbine's future is likely to take months. An initial proposal would keep the school's new library, which was built after the attack, and construct a new school on the existing campus but further from nearby streets to give security more room to intercept intruders.

An online survey gauging community support will close this week. District officials will spend the summer reviewing and summarizing responses. If they decide to present a plan to the school board in August, its members will determine whether to put the estimated \$60 or \$70 million expense on November ballots.

Conversations with victims' families, survivors and current staff convinced district officials that changing the school's name was a non-starter, said Jefferson County Public Schools Superintendent Jason Glass.

"Until you've heard those thousands of people yelling 'We are Columbine' together, you don't really get it," he said. "The sense of pride is real."

Some of those closest to the shooting have changed their minds over the years on the best course of action.

After the attack, Frank DeAngelis, then the school's principal, met with the families of those killed, students and staff about their scarred building's future. He said the majority felt demolishing it meant "the two killers had won."

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So construction crews repaired the bullet holes, replaced broken glass and covered bloodstains and burns with fresh paint and flooring before classes resumed in the fall. The library was closed off and later torn down. Its former location became an airy atrium in the school's cafeteria with a ceiling mural of an aspen tree canopy and 13 clouds — representing the dead.

But after years of coping with unwanted visitors, DeAngelis, who retired in 2014, said he now supports the proposal to demolish and rebuild the school.

"I think if we would have known or projected what was going to happen, we may have had a different discussion about going back into the building," DeAngelis said.

Retired English teacher Paula Reed said she initially balked at the idea of demolishing the building she worked in for 32 years. Her opinion shifted a few days later.

"I never loved that building," Reed said. "I loved the community, my kids, my colleagues. And their needs simply matter more than my sentimentality."

## Stocks post small losses; investors look ahead to Fed

By DAMIAN J. TROISE AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks ended a choppy week of trading with modest losses Friday as investors look forward to getting more clues about the direction of interest rates.

Technology shares drove the declines, and energy stocks also fell a day after leading the market. Some late-day gains in banks and insurers helped temper the market's losses.

Investors dealt with fresh concerns about the impact on businesses of the U.S. trade dispute with China. The chipmaker Broadcom warned that demand for chips has slowed because of U.S. restrictions on sales to Chinese technology firms and hesitation among customers to place new orders. It shaved \$2 billion from its annual revenue forecast.

Trading this week was uneven as investors swung between safe-play holdings and riskier bets. Stocks rose Monday but then seesawed as investors saw signs that the U.S. and China won't settle their differences on trade anytime soon. There is concern that a protracted dispute could further hurt global economic growth and corporate profits. A suspected attack on two oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz added more uncertainty.

The S&P 500 index fell 4.66 points, or 0.2%, to 2,886.98 Friday and ended the week with a slim gain of 0.5%. The Dow Jones Industrial Average dropped 17.16 points, or 0.1%, to 26,089.61. The Nasdaq composite slid 40.47 points, or 0.5%, to 7,796.66. The Russell 2000 index of small company stocks dropped 13.30 points, or 0.9%, to 1,522.50.

The major indexes are still showing strong gains for June — the Dow is up 5.1% and the S&P 500 is up 4.9%. Last week, Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell set off a market rally after he signaled that the central bank is willing to cut interest rates to help stabilize the economy if the trade war between Washington and Beijing starts to slow economic growth.

The Fed holds its next meeting of policyholders next week. No action on rates is expected, but the futures market indicates that investors are almost certain the Fed will cut rates at its July meeting, so they'll carefully parse a statement from the central bank and comments from Powell on Wednesday.

Economists Ethan Harris and Aditya Bhave of Bank of America Merrill Lynch wrote in a note to clients that Fed officials probably haven't decided yet whether to cut rates in July and won't try to sway investors one way or another at next week's meeting. They say that Powell will have to "tap dance" during his press conference and expect him to "keep options open with the possibility of a cut in July but not a pre-commitment."

The economists expect Fed officials to wait until the second week of July to indicate whether they intend to cut rates, after seeing the next government report on the jobs market and other economic data. They'll also know the results of an important meeting of the G-20 in late June, where President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping could meet and try to negotiate a deal on trade.

Harris and Bhave say the Fed is likely to cut rates in September.

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Chipmakers were the big decliners on Friday. Broadcom, which gets about half its revenue from China, fell 5.6%. Texas Instruments also gets nearly half its revenue from China, according to markets research company FactSet, and it shed 3.5%.

Energy stocks fell, giving back some of the strong gains from Thursday. Oil rig operator Noble Energy dropped 5%.

Banks and insurers posted gains late in the day to boost the financial sector. Regional bank PNC rose 1.1% and Allstate gained 1%.

Facebook rose 2.2%. The social media company has reportedly enlisted some key backers for its upcoming cryptocurrency.

Utility stocks were among the biggest gainers. That's typically a sign that investors are worried about economic growth and shifting money into safer holdings. Consumer staples, also considered less risky, swayed between small gains and losses.

Friday closed out another good week for initial public offerings.

PetSmart removed the leash from its online pet products company Chewy, which surged 59% in its debut. The 8-year-old company garnered high demand. It priced at \$22 per share and is now valued at \$8 billion.

Other recent strong IPOs include cloud-computing security company CrowdStrike, which jumped about 70% on its first day of trading Wednesday. Plant-based meat alternative company Beyond Meat nearly tripled in value on its first day of trading in May and at Friday's close of \$150.13 is six times higher than its initial offering price.

Renaissance Capital, a provider of institutional research and IPO ETFs, has seen a 34% gain in its IPO ETF so far this year. That's outpacing the 15% gain in the broader S&P 500.

"That's an indicator that investors in these new companies are making money and are more inclined to go into new ones," said Kathleen Smith, principal at Renaissance Capital.

In other trading, benchmark crude oil rose 0.4% to settle at \$52.51 a barrel. Brent crude oil, the international standard, added 1.1% to close at \$62.01 a barrel. Wholesale gasoline rose 0.7% to \$1.733 per gallon. Heating oil added 1.3% to \$1.83 per gallon. Natural gas rose 2.7% to \$2.387 per 1,000 cubic feet.

Gold edged up 0.1% to \$1,344.50 per ounce, silver lost 0.6% to \$14.80 per ounce and copper fell 1% to \$2.63 per pound.

The dollar rose to 108.55 Japanese yen from 108.34 yen on Thursday. The euro weakened to \$1.1207 from \$1.1279.

## Grounding of Boeing plane hovers over big air show in Paris

By DAVID KOENIG AP Airlines Writer

Uncertainty over a Boeing jet and apprehension about the global economy hover over the aircraft industry as it prepares for next week's Paris Air Show.

That show and its alternating-years companion, the Farnborough International Airshow near London, are usually upbeat celebrations of the latest and greatest in aviation technology. In recent boom years, they have become a stage for huge aircraft orders.

This year, however, the mood could be different.

The Boeing 737 Max has been grounded worldwide for three months after new flight software played a role in two deadly plane crashes. There is no clear date for when it might fly again.

There are other troubling signs for the industry. After several years of surging growth, passenger traffic in March grew at the weakest rate in nine years, although April was slightly better. The chief of the International Air Transport Association, a global airline trade group, blamed a slowing global economy and damage from tariffs and trade fights.

Air cargo shipments — considered a leading economic indicator — fell 4.7% in April, continuing a slump that began in January and could dent demand for air freighters.

And airlines have committed to buy so many planes that Boeing now has a backlog of 5,500 orders and Airbus has 7,200 — far higher than usual. Airlines might not have much appetite for more.

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"There is a lot to be concerned about," said Richard Aboulafia, an aerospace analyst with Teal Group. "It might make for kind of a grim Paris."

Heading into the show, Boeing and Airbus have reported much weaker orders this year. Boeing received no orders in May after getting just one in April. Deliveries of completed jets tumbled 56% last month as it stopped shipping new Max jets. Airbus saw an increase in deliveries, but it reported just one new order last month.

Airlines have placed so many orders for the Boeing 737 and Airbus A320 family already that analysts expect few new sales for those so-called narrowbody planes during the air show.

Credit Suisse analysts predicted that no airline will order any more Max jets until the grounding is lifted.

"I do believe that that aircraft will get back in the air and commercially minded airlines will buy it, but just not next week," said Samuel Engel, a senior executive at the airline and aircraft-finance consultant ICF. He said public doubt and fear about flying on the plane is too great right now but — and this is a view widely shared in the industry — will diminish over time.

With so many of its airline customers and suppliers at the air show, Boeing will be under pressure to provide an update on the Max's expected return to flying, and how quickly after that Boeing can increase production. The company cut Max production in mid-April from a rate of 52 planes a month to 42.

The Max, the newest version of Boeing's best-selling plane, is critical to the company's future. The Max was a direct response to Airbus' fuel-efficient A320neo. Airbus has taken 6,500 orders for various neo models, outpacing the Max with its nearly 5,000 orders.

Boeing has struggled to get a handle on the Max controversy. Its fix for software implicated in crashes that killed 346 people has taken months longer than expected, and it is unclear how long it will take the Federal Aviation Administration and other regulators to approve Boeing's work.

The acting head of the FAA has faulted the company for not telling regulators for more than year that a safety indicator in the Max cockpit didn't work. Pilots were furious that the company didn't tell them about the new software on the plane.

Boeing's public-relations strategy has been "measured and passed through lawyers," said Engel, who believes its leaders need to be more forthcoming. "Information that seemed to be important to the discussion came from outside Boeing. The company should be putting that information out there ahead of bloggers."

The company plans to hold briefings on the Max and its business strategy during the air show. "The air show is an important event for us to meet with customers, partners and suppliers and engage with them on our path forward on the 737 MAX and reinforce our unrelenting commitment to safety," Boeing spokesman Peter Pedraza said in a statement.

Airbus executives said the Max crashes didn't affect their own strategy for the air show.

"What has happened with the Max ... doesn't change the way to talk to customers," Airbus CEO Guillaume Faury said.

Press coverage of the air shows often boils down to who logs the most sales, Boeing or Airbus.

"Airbus tends to stockpile or hold on to orders to announce at the air show, so I would certainly expect more activity out of Airbus than Boeing" in Paris, said Ken Herbert, an aerospace analyst for Canaccord Genuity. "I don't think that will surprise anybody, considering the Max and everything else."

Herbert said if Boeing can just make "a decent to good showing" in orders for its bigger "widebody" planes, the 777 and 787, the event will be deemed a success for the Chicago-based company.

There is widespread expectation in aviation circles that Airbus will use the air show to officially launch a new plane, the A321XLR, a long-range version of its popular A320 family, which could set off several plot twists in the competition between Boeing and Airbus.

American Airlines is considering the plane as a replacement for its fleet of aging Boeing 757 jets, according to Bloomberg. A spokeswoman for American declined to comment.

If a U.S. airline like American — the biggest carrier in the world — steps forward as an early buyer of a plane from Boeing's European rival, it will make a big splash.

Airbus executives strongly hinted on Friday that they will unveil the A321XLR next week, but they wouldn't



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comment on American or other potential customers.

An Airbus announcement about a new plane could send ripples into the board room at Boeing headquarters. Boeing is considering whether to build a new jet — the concept is dubbed New Midsize Airplane, or NMA — that would be close in size to the A321XLR. It would fill a gap in the Boeing lineup between the smaller 737 and the larger 777 and 787.

Some analysts believe that if American orders the A321XLR, it will give Boeing more incentive to push ahead with the NMA rather than surrender a portion of the market to Airbus.

The long boom for aircraft manufacturers has already lasted longer than expected. The Paris show could tell whether airlines are optimistic enough about the economy and travel demand to keep buying, even though new orders so far in 2019 have been anemic.

"If people are going to trot out orders, it's here," Aboulafia said. But, he added, "We are in year 15 of a seven-year cycle."

AP Staff Writer Angela Charlton in Paris contributed to this report.  
David Koenig can be reached at <http://twitter.com/airlinewriter>

## Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Saturday, June 22, the 173rd day of 2019. There are 192 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 22, 1977, John N. Mitchell became the first former U.S. Attorney General to go to prison as he began serving a sentence for his role in the Watergate cover-up. (He was released 19 months later.)

On this date:

In 1911, Britain's King George V was crowned at Westminster Abbey.

In 1918, a train carrying members of the Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus and their families was rear-ended during an emergency stop by another train near Hammond, Indiana, killing at least 86 people aboard the circus train.

In 1937, Joe Louis began his reign as world heavyweight boxing champion by knocking out Jim Braddock in the eighth round of their fight in Chicago. (A year later on this date, Louis knocked out Max Schmeling in the first round of their rematch at Yankee Stadium.)

In 1940, during World War II, Adolf Hitler gained a stunning victory as France was forced to sign an armistice eight days after German forces overran Paris.

In 1944, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, more popularly known as the "GI Bill of Rights."

In 1945, the World War II battle for Okinawa ended with an Allied victory.

In 1969, singer-actress Judy Garland died in London at age 47.

In 1970, President Richard Nixon signed an extension of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that lowered the minimum voting age to 18.

In 1981, Mark David Chapman pleaded guilty to killing rock star John Lennon. Abolhassan Bani-Sadr was deposed as president of Iran.

In 1992, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *R.A.V. v. City of St. Paul*, unanimously ruled that "hate crime" laws that banned cross burning and similar expressions of racial bias violated free-speech rights.

In 2012, ex-Penn State assistant coach Jerry Sandusky was convicted by a jury in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, on 45 counts of sexually assaulting 10 boys over 15 years. (Sandusky is appealing a 30- to 60-year state prison sentence.)

In 2008, acerbic standup comedian and satirist George Carlin died in Santa Monica, California, at age 71.

Ten years ago: Nine people were killed when a Washington, D.C., commuter train crashed into the rear of another during afternoon rush hour. President Barack Obama signed the nation's toughest anti-smoking

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law, aiming to keep thousands of teens from getting hooked. Chris Brown pleaded guilty to felony assault of ex-girlfriend Rihanna (he was later sentenced to probation and community labor). Lucas Glover won the U.S. Open at Bethpage Black with a 3-over 73 for a two-shot victory.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama, in a recorded interview aired on CBS' "Face the Nation," said that al-Qaida-inspired militants who had violently seized territory in Iraq could grow in power and destabilize other countries in the region. Michelle Wie closed with an even-par 70 for a two-shot victory over Stacy Lewis, the No. 1 player in women's golf, in the U.S. Women's Open; it was Wie's first major championship. "The Ellen DeGeneres Show" received its eighth trophy as outstanding entertainment talk show at the Daytime Emmy awards ceremony in Beverly Hills. Steve Rossi, 82, one half of the comic duo of Allen & Rossi, died in Las Vegas.

One year ago: White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders was asked to leave a Virginia restaurant; the co-owner said the move came at the request of gay employees who objected to Sanders' defense of President Donald Trump's effort to bar transgender people from the military. Trump accused Democrats of telling "phony stories of sadness and grief" about children separated from their parents while crossing the border; he met with parents of children who'd been killed by immigrants in the country illegally. The European Union began enforcing tariffs on American imports including bourbon, peanut butter and orange juice, in retaliation for duties the Trump administration imposed on European steel and aluminum.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Prunella Scales (TV: "Fawlty Towers") is 87. Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., is 86. Singer-actor Kris Kristofferson is 83. Movie director John Korty is 83. Actor Michael Lerner is 78. Actor Klaus Maria Brandauer is 76. Fox News analyst Brit Hume is 76. Singer Peter Asher (Peter and Gordon) is 75. Actor David L. Lander is 72. Singer Howard "Eddie" Kaylan is 72. Singer-musician Todd Rundgren is 71. Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., is 70. Actress Meryl Streep is 70. Actress Lindsay Wagner is 70. Singer Alan Osmond is 70. Actor Murphy Cross is 69. Actor Graham Greene is 67. Pop singer Cyndi Lauper is 66. Actor Chris Lemmon is 65. Rock musician Derek Forbes is 63. Actor Tim Russ is 63. Rock musician Garry Beers (INXS) is 62. Actor-producer-writer Bruce Campbell is 61. Rock musician Alan Anton (Cowboy Junkies) is 60. Actress Tracy Pollan is 59. Environmental activist Erin Brockovich is 59. Rock singer-musician Jimmy Somerville is 58. Basketball Hall of Famer Clyde Drexler is 57. Actress Amy Brenneman is 55. Author Dan Brown is 55. Rock singer-musician Mike Edwards (Jesus Jones) is 55. Rock singer Steven Page is 49. Actor Michael Trucco is 49. Actress Mary Lynn Rajskub is 48. TV personality Carson Daly is 46. Rock musician Chris Traynor is 46. Country musician Jimmy Wallace is 46. Actor Donald Faison is 45. Actress Alicia Goranson is 45. Actor-comedian Mike O'Brien (TV: "Saturday Night Live") is 43. TV personality/actor Jai Rodriguez is 40. Americana singer-songwriter John Moreland is 34. Actress Lindsay Ridgeway is 34. Pop singer Dina Hansen (Fifth Harmony) (TV: "The X Factor") is 22.

Thought for Today: "If you look at life one way, there is always cause for alarm." — Elizabeth Bowen, Irish author (1899-1973).