

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

Sunday, July 7

2:00 p.m.: Legion at Redfield, (DH)

2:00 p.m.: U12 Midgets vs. Backous & Pierre at Manor Park

Monday, July 8

5:00 p.m.: Junior Teeners host Sisseton, (DH)

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

6:00 p.m.: Junior Legion at Northville, (DH)

6:00 p.m.: T-Ball Scrimmage (both)

Softball at Mellette (U8 at 5 p.m. (1 game), U10 at 6 p.m. (1 game), U14 at 7 p.m. (2 games))

Tuesday, July 9

5:30 p.m.: Legion hosts Aberdeen, (DH)

5:30 p.m.: U8 Pee Wees vs. Borge at Manor Park (R)

6:30 p.m.: U12 Midgets vs. Borge at Manor Park
Softball U14 hosts Frankfort, (DH), 6 p.m.

Wednesday, July 10

5:30 p.m.: U8 Pee Wees host Warner, (DH) (R)

6:00 p.m.: U8 Pee Wees host Jacobson, (DH) (B)

6:00 p.m.: T-Ball at Columbia (Gold)



SOUTH DAKOTA GOVERNOR **KRISTI NOEM**



Combating Meth for a Safer South Dakota **By Governor Kristi Noem**

13 people. That's how many South Dakotans died last year because of meth. 3,366 people. That's how many people in our state were arrested last year on meth offenses. These numbers are more than statistics. These are missing faces in family photos. Empty chairs at dinner tables. They are victims of an epidemic that is dramatically impacting South Dakota.

As governor, I have the unique responsibility and obligation to address problems like this. July 1 marked a milestone where most bills I signed during the legislative session went into effect, and I'm proud of the ways we're making real headway on this issue.

In my budget, I allocated money for meth education and awareness. Right now, my team is accepting bids from media companies for a targeted meth awareness campaign. We need to be more active and intentional in teaching kids the danger of meth use and the affect it can have on their lives. We look forward to launching this campaign in the coming months.

On June 24, we added four additional meth troopers to our Highway Patrol ranks. At any given time, we will have about 20 troopers that focus on interdicting meth and other illegal drugs in our state. These troopers will work closely with two additional DCI agents to get more aggressive in enforcing our laws against meth and stopping those drugs from ever reaching our communities. Like Secretary Craig Price of the Department of Public Safety recently said, "We are dedicated 24/7 to making South Dakota a safer place to live."

And while we crack down on the use of drugs, we're also expanding opportunities for people caught in addiction who want to live in a sober and supportive environment and learn the skills necessary to continue a lifetime of sobriety. If you or someone you love is struggling with addiction, I encourage you to look at some of the places in your area that offer help. Programs like Teen Challenge of the Dakotas in Brookings or the RST Meth Rehabilitation center in Rosebud offer lifechanging programs that produce real results for people caught in addiction.

I believe this plan will have a dramatic impact on our state, but we have a lot more to do. The first week in July, I hosted 10 tribal leaders for a luncheon at the Governor's Residence to discuss ways we can work together to educate people on the dangers of meth and root out meth distributors on reservations. These discussions followed our first ever State-Tribal Meth Summit in May when we heard from several tribes who are interested in more active cooperation to help lock up meth dealers and expose their networks. I look forward to continuing these conversations in the coming days and working with tribes to put these discussions to action.

I'm grateful for the partnership of local, tribal, and federal leaders as we tackle this issue. Together, we will continue working to combat our meth epidemic and make South Dakota a safer, stronger state for the next generation.



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



Faces of Freedom

For families throughout the country, the Fourth of July is a time to relax with loved ones, enjoy fireworks shows, and grill some good old-fashioned burgers. The holiday also serves as a reminder of those who've guaranteed our freedoms, the sacrifices our founders made to ensure our independence, and the progress we have seen as a nation ever since.

Two hundred and forty-three years ago, fifty-six men sat around a table and signed the Declaration of Independence, parting ways with King George III to form a new nation. Our two hundred and forty-three-year journey has been far from perfect, but you can't look back at our nation's history and not feel a sense of pride about where we are today.

The first-ever recorded Fourth of July celebration in the Dakotas dates to 1825, decades prior to the statehood of South Dakota. Over a century later, Mount Rushmore became a staple of our state and a memorial to our nation's greatest leaders and our annual celebration of freedom. Since the completion of Mount Rushmore in 1941, millions of people have visited our state, and I would bet millions more will continue to visit, especially since the Mount Rushmore fireworks show will return next year.

The creation of Mount Rushmore serves as a strong parallel to the trials and tribulations our nation has faced. Much like the formation of the United States, Mount Rushmore took years of labor to come to fruition. The work wasn't easy – in fact, it was often dangerous and delayed. And despite their differences, hundreds of individuals joined together to create a memorial that would be regarded for centuries. Carving a mountain is arduous and sometimes it looks incomplete. The same can be said for our country – it's not perfect and the work is far from done, but we are making progress.

Despite the greatest differences in our communities, this is a holiday that unites our nation and reminds us of the hope and greatness that exists in America today. As I gear up to celebrate our nation's independence with my own family, I'm looking forward to spending much of the day with South Dakotans across the state as well. Whether you're celebrating in South Dakota or packing up the motorhome to head elsewhere, I hope you have a happy and safe Fourth of July.

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Northern State Women's Basketball Remains on Top of NCAA Attendance Figures in 2018-19

Indianapolis – Twelve Years. The recently released NCAA Women's Basketball Attendance Records confirmed Northern State women's basketball as the NCAA Division II National Attendance Leader for the 12th year in a row. The Wolves women brought in 33,917 total fans to Wachs Arena last year, averaging 2,609 fans per game.

"The devotion of our fans over the last 12 years is a true testament to the strong tradition of basketball here at Northern State," noted NSU Director of Athletics Josh Moon. "Continuing to lead the NCAA in attendance throughout my time here and over the last decade is an impressive feat. Our student-athletes, coaches, and recruits consistently reference the fan support here at Northern State, which is the best in the NSIC and the NCAA. Thank you to Wolves Nation, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back in 2019-20 with exciting changes for Wachs Arena and the fan experience."

In addition, NSU led the NSIC by over 700 fans per game, ahead of third ranked Augustana with 1,906. The league as a whole came in second behind the MIAA, averaging 797 fans per game, highlighting the NCAA Central Region as a national hotbed for women's basketball with two of the three conferences leading the nation.

"Our fans filled Wachs Arena nigh in and night out – cheering us on during our highs and picking us up during our lows," explained Paula Krueger, Head Women's Basketball Coach. "Their support is unwavering and unparalleled. We can't say thank you enough!"

The over decade long tradition for Northern State women's basketball has pegged the program as not only a place to play in the NSIC, but also the NCAA as a whole. Northern State lands in the top-10 all team of leaders by total attendance (2015, 2018, 2010) and leaders by average attendance (2009, 2018, 2017, 2010).

The 2019-20 Northern State women's basketball schedule will be released in the coming weeks, with the Wolves women opening the season from the friendly confines of Wachs Arena.



Position available for full-time Police Officer

"Position available for full-time Police Officer. Experience and SD Certification preferred. Salary negotiable DOE. Please send application and resume to the City of Groton, PO Box 587 Groton, SD 57445. This position is open until filled. Applications may be found at <https://city.grotonsd.gov/forms/ApplicationForCityEmployee.pdf> For more information, please call 605-397-8422 Equal opportunity employer."



2 bedroom apt
\$750/month plus utilities
attached garage
major appliances furnished

480-980-8513
or
605-397-7118

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Supporting our Troops and Strengthening the National Defense

It is because of the sacrifices made by the men and women who wear the uniform of the United States that we remain the greatest country in the world. It's important that our troops have all the tools and resources they need to successfully carry out their missions. That is why each year, we put aside political differences to pass a strong National Defense Authorization Act—or NDAA. The Senate recently voted to pass the NDAA, which included a number of provisions I offered to help our troops and strengthen South Dakota's role in national defense. While I was with Jean as she received treatment for cancer during the final vote on the bill, we put in many months of work on numerous pieces of legislation that were ultimately included in the Senate-passed NDAA.

Since I was sworn in to the Senate, I have served on the Senate Armed Services Committee. It's an honor to be able to focus on legislation that not only improves our nation's defense, but also makes life better for the men and women—and their families—who serve. The NDAA we passed this year continues the process of rebuilding our military, restoring our combat advantage and building a more efficient, effective force. We also passed provisions to support our all-volunteer force and their families. This includes providing them with the largest pay raise in a decade. The NDAA also corrects serious deficiencies in privatized military housing, so service members and their families can live in a safe, comfortable home.

Earlier this year, we were excited to share the news that Ellsworth Air Force Base in Box Elder will be the first base to receive the next-generation stealth bomber, the B-21 Raider. The NDAA we passed requires the Air Force to provide a briefing to Congress on the bomber force, including the legacy bombers, the acquisition of the B-21 and the integration of the B-21 to the bomber force. This will help us stay updated on the latest information regarding the future of Ellsworth, which is so important to our state. I particularly look forward to the Air Force's plan to sustain the B-1B bomber force stationed at Ellsworth.

Since 2017, I have served as chairman of the Armed Services Cybersecurity Subcommittee. Our subcommittee has spent a great deal of time working to protect Americans from a crippling cyber-attack in the newest warfare domain: cyberspace. In last year's NDAA, we secured legislation that allows the Department of Defense (DOD) to conduct more offensive cyber operations necessary to help keep Americans safe. In this year's bill, we built upon those successes by including provisions that will greatly strengthen our ability to defend against cyber-attacks as well as conduct offensive and defensive cyber operations. This included a provision requiring the DOD to create a framework for the cybersecurity of the defense industrial base—particularly regarding defense contractors and subcontractors who are vulnerable to cyber-attacks. Another provision requires DOD to develop readiness metrics for the cyber force and a requirement to give a quarterly readiness briefing, based upon these metrics, to the House and Senate Armed Services Committees.

South Dakotans may be interested in another provision that I was able to get included in the NDAA: we require DOD to establish a university consortia to advise and assist DOD on cybersecurity. The consortia will provide a single portal for DOD to access the expertise of universities designated as National Security Agency and Department of Homeland Security Centers of Academic Excellence. Dakota State University in Madison is one of these universities, and has been at the forefront of cyber-related research for years. The consortia will further strengthen the bond between schools like Dakota State University and the DOD, as well as help DOD solve complex cybersecurity problems and develop cybersecurity training.

I thank Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Jim Inhofe (R-Okla.) and Ranking Member Jack Reed (D-R.I.) for their leadership throughout this year's NDAA debate. They listened to members from both sides of the aisle and identified legislation we could all agree upon for the good of our armed forces. I look forward to the House-Senate NDAA conference committee finishing its work as soon as possible so President Trump can continue the long tradition of signing a strong, bipartisan NDAA into law. Our troops make incredible sacrifices on behalf of our country, and Congress needs to provide them all the tools to do their job. NDAA 2020 helps fulfill that obligation.

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Today



Mostly Sunny

High: 77 °F

Tonight



Partly Cloudy

Low: 58 °F

Sunday



Partly Sunny
then Slight
Chance
T-storms

High: 82 °F

Sunday
Night



Partly Cloudy

Low: 67 °F

Monday



Mostly Sunny
then Chance
T-storms

High: 85 °F



Weekend Forecast

Today



75-80°

Isolated Showers/Storms
Missouri River and West

Tonight



55-65°

Isolated Storms
Early Morning

Sunday



80-85°

Isolated Showers
& Thunderstorms

Active Weather Returns Monday Evening – Monday Night

Updated: 7/6/2019 5:38 AM Central

Published on: 07/06/2019 at 1:38AM

Locations along and west of the Missouri River could see isolated showers and thunderstorms today. Most areas will see dry conditions today. Additional isolated showers and thunderstorms will be possible, mainly during the morning hours on Sunday.

Today in Weather History

July 6, 1963: A farmer died near Waubay, in Day County, when the barn was destroyed while he was inside. Winds of 110 mph were recorded at FAA in Watertown before the roof and wind instruments were blown away.

July 6, 1982: A severe thunderstorm produced a series of five microbursts over Sioux Falls. The microbursts caused extensive damage. Winds were estimated to have reached 125 mph, and the Airport recorded a peak gust of 82 mph. Damage, which was heaviest in the south-central and northeast sections of the city, included thousands of trees uprooted or damaged. Several semi-trailers were blown over, critically injuring one man and slightly injuring two others. Several other minor injuries occurred mainly from flying glass. Five cars were rolled over by the high winds, and several others damaged flying debris. Damage at the airport included a portion of a hangar roof blown off and three light aircraft flipped over.

July 6, 1994: Widespread rainfall of over 6 inches fell in Dewey, Potter, and Faulk Counties, causing damage to roads and flooded basements and fields. A teenage girl escaped injury when her car was washed away by the waters of a swollen creek about 5 miles east of Gettysburg. Some total storm amounts include; 6.80 inches in Orient; 6.70 at Faulkton; 5.80 in Milbank; 5.48 in Big Stone City; 5.02 in Ipswich; 4.50 in Gettysburg; 4.17 in Webster; 4.12 near Onaka; 4.02 in Leola; and 3.97 in Britton.

1893: A violent tornado killed 71 persons on its forty-mile track across northwestern Iowa. Forty-nine persons were killed around Pomeroy, where eighty percent of the buildings were destroyed, with most leveled to the ground.

1928: A seven-inch hailstone weighing 1.5 pounds fell in Potter Nebraska. With a circumference of 17 inches, this appeared to be the largest hailstone in the world at that time.

1985 - Lightning struck a large transformer in Salt Lake County sending a 200 foot fireball into the air and blacking out almost the entire state for up to five hours. (The Weather Channel)

1986 - Thunderstorm rains during the mid morning hours, and again during the evening, produced major flash-flooding at Leavenworth, KS. The official rainfall total was 10.37 inches, but unofficial totals exceeded twelve inches. At nearby Kansas City, the rainfall total of 5.08 inches was a daily record for July. (Storm Data)

1987 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather in twenty-one states east of the Rockies, with severe weather reported in Kentucky and Indiana for the second day in a row. A thunderstorm produced more than five inches of rain in one hour near Reynolds, IL. Rochester, NY, was soaked with 3.25 inches, a record 24 hour total for the month of July. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Thirty-six cities in the north central and northeastern U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date. Afternoon highs of 98 degrees at International Falls, MN, and 101 degrees at Flint, MI, equalled all-time records. Highs of 96 degrees at Muskegon, MI, and 97 degrees at Buffalo, NY, were records for July. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Unseasonably hot weather prevailed in the southwestern U.S. Ten cities reported record high temperatures for the date, including Las Vegas, NV, with a reading of 115 degrees. Hanksville, UT, reached 112 degrees, Bullhead City, AZ, hit 120 degrees, and Death Valley, CA, soared to 126 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)

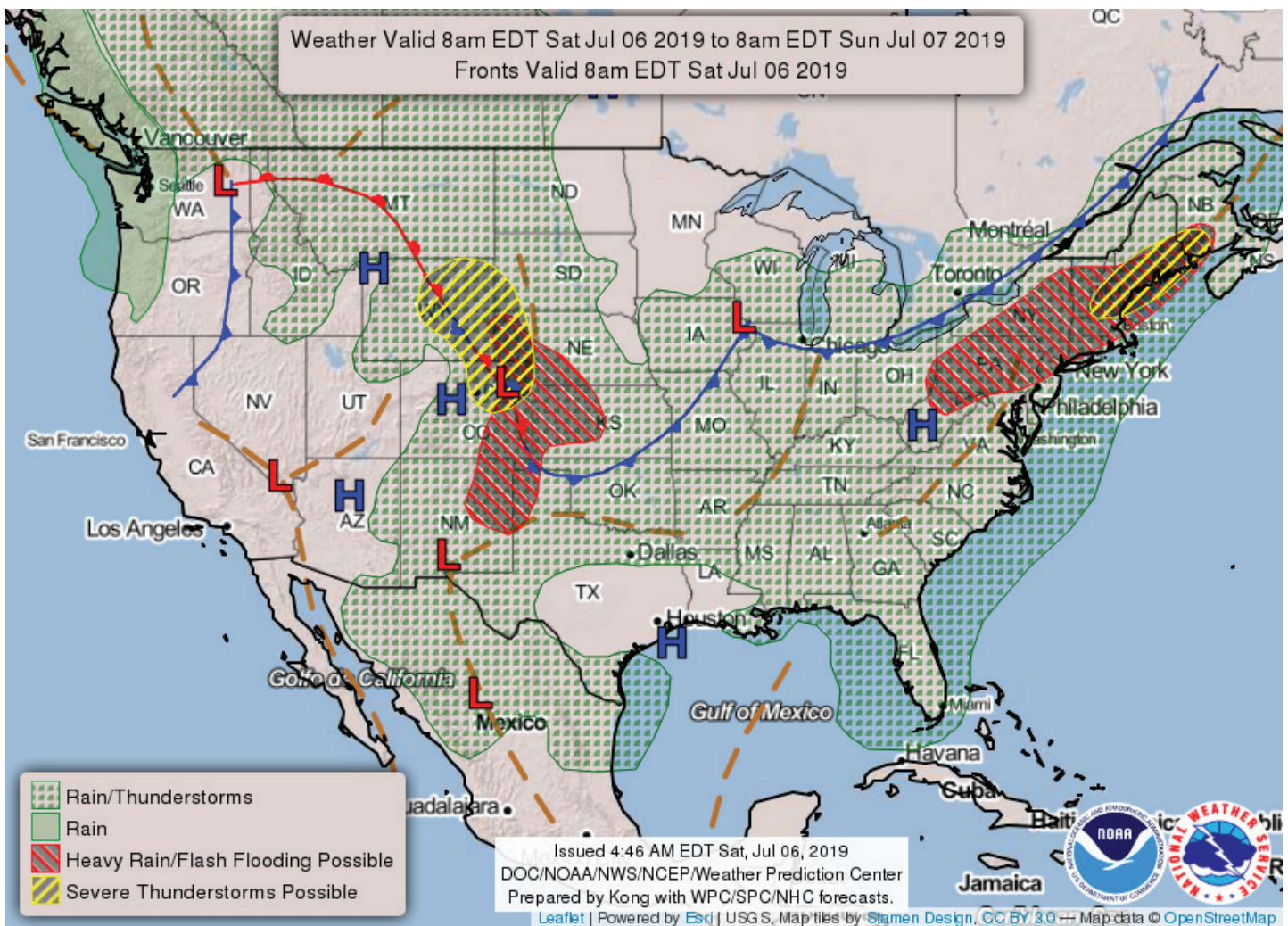
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Yesterday's Groton Weather Today's Info

High Temp: 71 °F at 2:19 PM
Low Temp: 65 °F at 7:26 AM
Wind: 20 mph at 2:25 PM
Day Rain: 0.08

Record High: 115° in 1936
Record Low: 42° in 1942
Average High: 83°F
Average Low: 58°F
Average Precip in July.: 0.53
Precip to date in July.: 0.90
Average Precip to date: 11.37
Precip Year to Date: 13.62
Sunset Tonight: 9:24 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:53 a.m.



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IT GOES IN A CIRCLE

Most of us who enjoy working and being productive avoid or have a certain amount of contempt for those who are lazy. It is very difficult for me to enjoy or be in their company. In fact, if possible, I'll do whatever is necessary to avoid any association with them. How or when this behavior began in me or others may be a mystery. However, it was also a problem for Solomon. There are twelve references in Proverbs that address the dangers of laziness. It's a familiar theme that runs throughout his writings. Perhaps it was a warning to his sons. Or, it may have troubled him when he saw his employees trying to get out of their responsibilities and take a nap.

Laziness brings on deep sleep, and the shiftless man goes hungry, he wrote. Notice how one contributes to the other because laziness is, according to Solomon, self-perpetuating. It actually does seem to go in a circle: A person does not do anything because he is lazy. And, if one is lazy and does nothing, the best option for that person is to sleep. So, laziness brings on sleep because of feelings that are the result of not doing anything. Sleep is a habit of those who are lazy and want to take the easy way out of living and working for a living.

Here's Solomon's circle: the choice to be lazy is a conscious one that arises from an attitude that one can't do anything or can't find anything to do. Either one comes from a choice that is self-centered and results in a state of powerlessness, self-pity and self-defeating behaviors. It is not what God intended when He created mankind. He intended mankind to work in His garden, and in turn, glorify Him for His gift: the ability and talents to work.

Note the word shiftless. A shiftless worker is one whose work is half-hearted and has a poor work ethic. The shiftless worker produces an inferior and unacceptable product. Neither head nor heart is involved - they are elsewhere. Soon, they'll be hungry.

Prayer: Lord, may we delight in work. May we seek it and do our work well, and honor You by being faithful, diligent, committed, and doing our work right. Bless us in Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Proverbs 19:15 Laziness brings on deep sleep, and the shiftless man goes hungry.

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2019 Groton SD Community Events

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

2020 Groton SD Community Events

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

News from the Associated Press

SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Mega Millions

06-38-47-57-63, Mega Ball: 12, Megaplier: 2

(six, thirty-eight, forty-seven, fifty-seven, sixty-three; Mega Ball: twelve; Megaplier: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$95 million

Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$165 million

Collision between car and semi kills 82-year-old man

HERREID, S.D. (AP) — Authorities say a man has died from injuries sustained in a crash in Campbell County.

The South Dakota Highway Patrol says the crash happened about 7 p.m. Tuesday on U.S. Highway 83 near Herreid. The patrol says a 36-year-old man driving a semitrailer tried to pass a vehicle and collided with a car driven by an 82-year-old man. The man driving the car died Thursday in a Bismarck, North Dakota hospital.

The patrol says charges are pending against the driver of the semi, who was not injured.

Names of the two men have not been released.

Man accused of having sex with 15-year-old faces rape charge

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — An 18-year-old Sioux Falls man faces a felony rape charge after he allegedly had sex with a 15-year-old girl in a Target parking lot.

The Argus Leader reports that a Minnehaha County grand jury indicted George Zimmer Jr. last week on one count of rape in the fourth degree.

According to court documents, Zimmer met the girl over the dating app Tinder. He told her to meet him with drugs or he would come after her.

The girl met Zimmer in the parking lot of a Sioux Falls Target in September 2018. Zimmer and the girl had sex in her car. They then drove to a gas station, where Zimmer left with LSD, crack cocaine and MDMA the girl had supplied.

Zimmer's arraignment is set for July 9.

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

Sioux Falls father, son arrested in apartment burglary

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Police in Sioux Falls say they've arrested a father and son suspected of breaking into an apartment and getting into a fight with the occupant.

The Argus Leader reports 49-year-old Joseph Todd Bear Heels Sr. and 19-year-old Dante Blue Bear Heels were both arrested June 29.

Police say Joseph Bear Heels broke into an apartment in the same building where he lives. The 51-year-old occupant stabbed him in self-defense. Dante Bear Heels and his father allegedly began beating the man up before Dante broke several windows in the apartment with a baseball bat.

Police spokesman Sam Clemens says the Bear Heels and the occupant knew each other.

Joseph Bear Heels was charged with first-degree burglary. His son was charged with aggravated assault, property damage and obstructing police.

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

Top official says Iran ready for higher uranium enrichment

By JON GAMBRELL Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — A top aide to Iran's supreme leader says the Islamic Republic is ready to enrich uranium beyond the level set by Tehran's 2015 nuclear deal, just ahead of a deadline it set Sunday for Europe to offer new terms to the accord.

A video message by Ali Akbar Velayati included him saying that "Americans directly and Europeans indirectly violated the deal," part of Tehran's hardening tone with Europe. European parties to the deal have yet to offer a way for Iran to avoid the sweeping economic sanctions imposed by President Donald Trump since he pulled the U.S. out of the accord a year ago, especially those targeting its crucial oil sales.

All this comes as America has rushed thousands of troops, an aircraft carrier, nuclear-capable B-52 bombers and advanced fighter jets to the Mideast. Mysterious oil tanker attacks near the Strait of Hormuz, attacks by Iranian-backed rebels in Yemen on Saudi Arabia and Iran shooting down a U.S. military drone have raised fears of a wider conflict engulfing the region.

In the video, available Saturday on a website for Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, Velayati said that increasing enrichment closer to weapons-grade levels was "unanimously agreed upon by every component of the establishment."

"We will show reaction exponentially as much as they violate it. We reduce our commitments as much as they reduce it," said Velayati, Khamenei's adviser on international affairs. "If they go back to fulfilling their commitments, we will do so as well."

Under the atomic accord, Iran agreed to enrich uranium to no more than 3.67%, which is enough for peaceful pursuits but is far below weapons-grade levels of 90%. Iran denies it seeks nuclear weapons, but the nuclear deal sought to prevent that as a possibility by limiting enrichment and Iran's stockpile of uranium to 300 kilograms (661 pounds).

On Monday, Iran and United Nations inspectors acknowledged it had broken the stockpile limit. Combining that with increasing its enrichment levels narrows the one-year window experts believe Iran would need to have enough material to build a nuclear weapon, if it chose to do so.

"This would be a very worrisome step that could substantially shorten the time Iran would need to



FILE - In this Aug. 18, 2013, file photo, Ali Akbar Velayati, a top adviser to Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, gives an interview to The Associated Press at his office in Tehran, Iran. Velayati said in a video online Saturday, July 6, 2019, that the Islamic Republic is ready to begin enriching uranium beyond the level set by Tehran's 2015 nuclear deal with world powers. (AP Photo/Ebrahim Noroozi, File)

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produce the material needed for nuclear weapons," said Miles Pomper, a senior fellow at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies' James Marin Center for Nonproliferation Studies. "Both Iran and the Trump administration should be looking for ways to de-escalate the crisis, rather than exacerbate it."

It remains unclear to what level Iran will choose to up its uranium enrichment. However, Velayati in his remarks made reference to 5% enrichment.

"For Bushehr nuclear reactor we need 5% of enrichment and it is a completely peaceful goal," he said. Bushehr, Iran's only nuclear power plant, is now running on imported fuel from Russia that's closely monitored by the U.N. International Atomic Energy Agency.

Iran stopped producing uranium enriched above 5% in January 2014 amid negotiations for the nuclear deal.

Outside of Bushehr, higher-enriched uranium could be used for naval ships and submarines, something Iran has said it would want to pursue. Iran's nuclear chief Ali Akbar Salehi said in 2016 that nuclear power plants for naval vessels need uranium enriched to at least 5%.

The U.S. said its ambassador to international organizations in Vienna, Jackie Wolcott, had requested a special meeting of the IAEA to discuss its "latest, concerning report on the Iran regime's nuclear program." That meeting is planned for Wednesday.

Iran's diplomatic mission to Vienna, where the IAEA is based, called the U.S. move "a sad irony" as America had unilaterally withdrawn from the deal a year ago.

Meanwhile Saturday, the hard-line Kayhan newspaper demanded revenge over the seizure of an Iranian oil tanker off Gibraltar that had been heading to Syria.

Authorities in Gibraltar said they seized the Grace 1, believed to be carrying over 2 million barrels of oil, over European Union sanctions on Syria — though Spain said the seizure came at the request of the U.S.

"Seizure of U.K. oil tanker is the only way to confront pirates of the Queen," Kayhan blared in a front-page headline, echoing a suggestion Friday by a former Revolutionary Guard chief.

Associated Press writer Nasser Karimi and producer Mohammad Nasiri contributed to this report.

Follow Jon Gambrell on Twitter at www.twitter.com/jongambrellAP .

Southern California reels from magnitude 7.1 quake

By JOHN ANTCZAK Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A quake with a magnitude of 7.1 jolted much of California, cracking buildings, setting fires, breaking roads and causing several injuries while seismologists warned that large aftershocks were expected to continue for days, if not weeks.

The Friday night quake — preceded by Thursday's 6.4-magnitude temblor in the Mojave Desert — was the largest Southern California quake in at least 20 years and was followed by a series of large and small aftershocks, including a few above magnitude 5.0.

There is about a 1-in-10 chance that another 7.0 quake could hit within the next week, said Lucy Jones, a seismologist at the California Institute of Technology and a former science adviser at the U.S. Geological Survey.

The chance of a 5.0-magnitude quake "is approaching certainty," she added.

Aftershocks from the new main quake could occur for years, Jones said.

However, the quake was unlikely to affect fault lines outside of the area, she said, noting that the gigantic San Andreas Fault was far away.

The quake struck at 8:19 p.m. and was centered 11 miles (18 kilometers) from Ridgecrest in the same areas where the previous quake hit.

"These earthquakes are related," Jones said, adding that the new quake probably ruptured along about 25 miles (40 kilometers) of fault line and was part of a continuing sequence.

Gov. Gavin Newsom activated the state Office of Emergency Services operations center "to its highest

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level" and announced he had requested that President Donald Trump issue an emergency declaration so the state could receive federal aid.

The quake was felt as far north as Sacramento, as far east as Las Vegas and as far south as Mexico.

The area in and around Ridgecrest, already trying to recover from the previous temblor, took the brunt of damage. Several thousand people were without power, and there were reports of cracked buildings.

"There are significant reports of structure fires, mostly as a result of gas leaks or gas line breaks throughout the city" and daybreak Saturday could show even more serious damage, said Mark Ghilarducci, director of California Office of Emergency Services.

Local fire and police officials said they were initially swamped by calls for medical and ambulance service. But there was "nothing but minor injuries such as cuts and bruises, by the grace of God," Ridgecrest Police Chief Jed McLaughlin said.

Two building fires — one involving a mobile home — were quickly doused, and there were several reports of natural gas leaks, but the lines were shut off, McLaughlin said.

For the second time in as many days, Ridgecrest Regional Hospital wheeled patients out of the building, some still hooked to IVs, CNN reported.

Nearby, the tiny town of Trona, with about 2,000 residents, was reported to have at least one collapsed building. Roads were buckled or blocked, and police put out a call for bottled water for residents.

State Route 178 in Kern County was closed by a rockslide and had severe cracking.

Several homes were knocked off their foundations. Buildings were cracked, but there were only minor injuries, authorities said.

In downtown Los Angeles, 150 miles away, offices in skyscrapers rolled and rocked for at least 30 seconds.

Andrew Lippman, who lives in suburban South Pasadena, was sitting outside and reading the paper when Friday's quake hit and calculated it lasted 45 seconds.

"I could see power lines swaying," he said.

Disneyland in Orange County and Six Flags Magic Mountain in Santa Clarita closed their rides.

An NBA Summer League game in Las Vegas was stopped after the quake. Speakers over the court at the Thomas & Mack Center continued swaying more than 10 minutes after the quake.

In Los Angeles, the quake rattled Dodger Stadium in the fourth inning of the team's game against the San Diego Padres. But the game went on, and the Padres won, 3-2.

"Not many people can say they threw a strike during an earthquake," Eric Lauer, who was on the mound at the time, said later. "My ball, my pitch, started an earthquake."

"Everyone was jumping over us to leave," said Daniel Earle, 52, of Playa del Rey, who was sitting with his wife in the stadium's reserve level. "My wife was holding us, like squeezing. I'm surprised my arm is still here."

Earlier Friday, Los Angeles had revealed plans to lower slightly the threshold for public alerts from its



Food that fell from the shelves litters the floor of an aisle at a Walmart following an earthquake in Yucca Valley, Calif., on Friday, July 5, 2019. (Chad Mayes via AP)

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earthquake early warning app. But officials said the change was in the works before the Thursday quake, which gave scientists at the California Institute of Technology's seismology lab 48 seconds of warning but did not trigger a public notification.

"Our goal is to alert people who might experience potentially damaging shaking, not just feel the shaking," said Robert de Groot, a spokesman for the USGS's ShakeAlert system, which is being developed for California, Oregon and Washington.

The West Coast ShakeAlert system has provided non-public earthquake notifications on a daily basis to many test users, including emergency agencies, industries, transportation systems and schools.

Construction of a network of seismic-monitoring stations for the West Coast is just over half complete, with most coverage in Southern California, San Francisco Bay Area and the Seattle-Tacoma area. Eventually, the system will send out alerts over the same system used for Amber Alerts to defined areas that are expected to be affected by a quake, de Groot said.

California is partnering with the federal government to build the statewide earthquake warning system, with the goal of turning it on by June 2021. The state has already spent at least \$25 million building it, including installing hundreds of seismic stations throughout the state.

This year, Newsom said the state needed \$16.3 million to finish the project, which included money for stations to monitor seismic activity, plus nearly \$7 million for "outreach and education." The state Legislature approved the funding last month, and Newsom signed it into law.

Associated Press writers Brady McCombs in Salt Lake City, Juliet Williams in San Francisco, Adam Beam in Sacramento, Stefanie Dazio and Robert Jablon in Los Angeles, Tarek Hamada in Phoenix, Sports Writer Beth Harris in Los Angeles and Associated Press freelancer Jolene Latimer in Los Angeles contributed to this report.

From Libya to Texas, tragedies illustrate plight of migrants

By LORI HINNANT and JAMEY KEATEN Associated Press

GENEVA (AP) — They are trapped in squalid detention centers on Libya's front lines. They wash up on the banks of the Rio Grande. They sink without a trace — in the Mediterranean, in the Pacific or in waterways they can't even name. A handful fall out of airplanes' landing gear.

As their choices narrow on land and at sea, migrants are often seen as a political headache in the countries they hope to reach and ignored in the countries they flee. Most live in limbo, but recent tragedies have focused attention on the risks they face and the political constraints at the root of them.

A record 71 million people were forcibly displaced around the world in 2018, according to a report last month by the U.N. refugee agency, in places as diverse as Turkey, Uganda, Bangladesh and Peru. Many are still on the move in 2019, or trapped like thousands in detention in Libya, where an airstrike on Tuesday killed at least 44 migrants and refugees locked away in the Tripoli suburb of Tajoura.

Most of those in Tajoura and other Libyan detention centers have been intercepted by the Libyan coast guard, which has become the go-to border force for the European Union, which can't get 28 governments to agree about migration. Despite the rhetoric about migration crises in Europe and the U.S., the top three countries taking in refugees are Turkey, Pakistan and Uganda. Germany comes in a distant fifth.

A 20-year-old who fled war in his homeland in sub-Saharan Africa two years ago survived the airstrikes, gunfire from militia members trying to keep migrants inside the compound, torture for ransom by traffickers and a sinking boat in the Mediterranean. He is now sleeping outside the Tajoura detention center along with hundreds of other migrants and awaiting a second chance to go to sea.

"I faced death in Libya many times before. I am ready to die again. I already lost my brothers in the war in my country," he told The Associated Press. He didn't want his name used because the militia fighters who shot at him are still guarding the compound.

Libya's interior minister, Fathi Bashagha, pleaded Friday for Europe "to address the problem in a radical way — not to prevent migrants, but to provide jobs and investment in the migrants' places of origin, as

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well as in southern Libya ... so as to absorb these huge numbers willing and eager to migrate to Europe."

Within days of the airstrike, at least two boats filled with migrants sank off Libya's coast, leaving around 140 people missing. Another group was picked up by a rescue ship and then barred from docking on the Italian island of Lampedusa, touching off the 21st standoff between Italy's populist government and humanitarian groups. A pregnant woman watching a shipboard ultrasound of her baby smiled broadly, seemingly oblivious to the political furor on land and at sea.

A similar disconnect played out recently when the body of a stowaway on an inbound flight from Nairobi crashed to earth next to a man sunbathing on a Sunday afternoon in his London garden. The next day, mourners held a lavish burial in El Salvador for a man and his young daughter who drowned trying to cross the Rio Grande into Texas.

Like during a 2015 wave of Syrians, Iraqis and Afghanis pouring into Europe, daily reminders of migrants' plights are back on front pages.

The U.S.-Mexico border has become a flashpoint amid President Donald Trump's ambitions to build a wall to keep out migrants. Many children caught crossing are stuck in squalid, unsanitary detention centers. Children have also been separated from parents in custody. Critics call such policies inhumane, heartless and "un-American."

More broadly, advocates for the huddled masses on the move say not enough is being done in the migrants' home, transit or destination countries. Only international cooperation can help resolve the agonies, they say — a tough sell at a time of rising go-it-alone, populist and nationalist sentiment in many places.

Filippo Grandi, head of U.N. refugee agency UNHCR, said his office has a "dialogue" going with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and "if there is any help that we can provide to the U.S. administration in dealing with this matter, we're ready to do it."

But he called for a regional discussion among countries like the United States — the destination for many — as well as transit country Mexico, and the troubled home countries for migrants and refugees such as El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala, where gang killings and lawlessness are rife.

"I have been to Honduras, to Guatemala, to El Salvador," he told reporters recently in Geneva. "The violence perpetrated by gangs, the inability of these governments to protect their own citizenship, cause part of these flows. So this needs to be addressed in the proper manner — without stigmatizing these people."



FILE - In this early Monday, June 10, 2019 file photo, Central American migrants stand on a raft to cross the Suchiate River from Guatemala to Mexico, with the Tacana volcano in the background, near Ciudad Hidalgo, Mexico. A record 71 million people were forcibly displaced around the world in 2018, according to a report last month by the United Nations refugee agency, in places as diverse as Turkey, Uganda, Bangladesh and Peru. (AP Photo/Marco Ugarte)

Lori Hinnant reported from Paris. Maggie Michael in Cairo contributed to this report.

Justice pursuing route to citizenship question on census

By MARK SHERMAN and JILL COLVIN Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department says it will press its search for legal grounds to force the inclusion of a citizenship question on the 2020 Census, hours after President Donald Trump said he is “very seriously” considering an executive order to get the question on the form.

Trump said Friday his administration is exploring a number of legal options, but the Justice Department did not say exactly what options remain now that the Supreme Court has barred the question at least temporarily.

The government has already begun the process of printing the census questionnaire without that question.

The administration’s focus on asking broadly about citizenship for the first time since 1950 reflects the enormous political stakes and potential costs in the once-a-decade population count that determines the allocation of seats in the House of Representatives for

the next 10 years and the distribution of some \$675 billion in federal spending. It also reflects Trump’s interest in reshaping how congressional districts are drawn.

“You need it for Congress, for districting,” he said Friday. “How many people are there? Are they citizens? Are they not citizens? You need it for many reasons.”

Districts now are based on the total population. Some Republicans want them based on the population of eligible voters, a change that could disadvantage Democrats by excluding immigrants. The Supreme Court has left open the issue of whether districts based only on the population of eligible voters is constitutional.

The Census Bureau’s own experts have said a citizenship question would discourage immigrants from participating in the survey and result in a less accurate census that would redistribute money and political power away from Democratic-led cities where immigrants tend to cluster to whiter, rural areas where Republicans do well.

Trump, speaking as he departed the White House for a weekend in New Jersey, said he might take executive action.

“It’s one of the ways that we’re thinking about doing it, very seriously,” he said.

An executive order would not, by itself, override court rulings blocking the inclusion of the citizenship question. But such an action from Trump would perhaps give administration lawyers a new basis to try to convince federal courts that the question could be included.

“Executive orders do not override decisions of the Supreme Court,” Thomas Saenz, president and general counsel of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, said in a statement Friday. The organization is representing plaintiffs in the census lawsuit in Maryland.

Later Friday, Justice Department lawyers formally told U.S. District Judge George Hazel in Maryland the administration is not giving up the legal fight to add the citizenship question to the next census. But they also said it’s unclear how they will proceed, according to a court filing.



President Donald Trump and first lady Melania Trump, walk on the tarmac upon arrival at Morristown Municipal Airport, in Morristown, N.J., Friday, July 5, 2019. (AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta)

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"They still say they don't have clear instructions on what to do," said Saenz, who took part in a conference call with the judge and lawyers for both sides in one of three lawsuits seeking to keep the question off the census. The other two are in New York and California.

Hazel had expressed mounting frustration with the mixed signals the administration was sending, first telling him on Tuesday that the question was off only to have Trump tweet the next day that the administration was "absolutely moving forward" with efforts to include the question.

Friday evening, the American Civil Liberties Union asked a federal judge in New York to permanently block the administration from adding the citizenship question to the 2020 census.

"The Trump administration repeatedly argued the census forms could not be altered after June 30. They've now changed their tune because the Supreme Court ruled against them. They can't have it both ways," said Dale Ho, director of the ACLU's voting rights project.

Trump's administration has faced numerous roadblocks to adding the question, like last week's Supreme Court ruling that blocked its inclusion, at least for now. Both the Justice and Commerce departments indicated on Tuesday that they were moving forward with the census, minus the citizenship question.

But Trump has insisted otherwise, pushing his administration to come up with a way to include the controversial query. He suggested Friday officials might be able to add an addendum to the questionnaire with the question after it's already printed.

In the Supreme Court's decision last week, Chief Justice John Roberts joined the court's four more liberal members in saying the administration's current justification for the question "seems to have been contrived."

The administration had pushed the Supreme Court to decide the case quickly, citing a July 1 deadline to begin printing the forms. The court made the rare move of taking up the case directly from a trial court in New York before an appeals court had weighed in. As recently as June 20, Solicitor General Noel Francisco reminded the justices of the need for a quick decision, writing that "for all practical purposes, the Census Bureau needs to finalize the 2020 questionnaire by June of this year."

The Trump administration had said the question was being added to aid in enforcement of the Voting Rights Act, which protects minority voters' access to the ballot box.

But the question's opponents say recently discovered evidence from the computer files of a Republican redistricting consultant who died last year shows that, far from helping minority voters, discrimination against Hispanics was behind the push for the citizenship question.

Hazel on Friday gave the plaintiffs in the Maryland claim until Aug. 19 to gather more evidence and take testimony from administration officials. If Hazel finds discrimination, that could be a separate basis for blocking the citizenship question.

Preparations for the \$15.6 billion 2020 Census are intricately choreographed. More than 425,000 people have already started applying for the half million positions needed for the 2020 Census. The bureau also is in the middle of a test run, with 480,000 households sent questionnaire information, according to the bureau's monthly status report from May.

The ongoing legal wrangling itself could hurt the census, said John Yang, president and executive director of Asian Americans Advancing Justice. The group is a plaintiff in the Maryland case. "The government is trying to sow seeds of confusion in the public," Yang said.

Associated Press writers Michael Kunzelman in College Park, Maryland, and Michael Schneider in Orlando, Florida, contributed to this report.

W.Va. coal billionaire Cline killed in helicopter crash

By ANTHONY IZAGUIRRE Associated Press

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) — Coal tycoon Chris Cline, who worked his way out of West Virginia's underground mines to amass a fortune and become a major Republican donor, has died in a helicopter crash outside a string of islands he owned in the Bahamas.

Cline and his 22-year-old daughter Kameron were on board the aircraft with five others when it went down Thursday, a spokesman for his attorney Brian Glasser said Friday.

The death of the 60-year-old magnate led to eulogies from industry leaders, government officials and academics, who described Cline as a visionary who was generous with his \$1.8 billion fortune.

"He was a very farsighted entrepreneur," said Bill Raney, president of the West Virginia Coal Association. "Chris was just one of those folks who had the Midas touch."

Raney said Cline began toiling in the mines of southern West Virginia at a young age, rising through the ranks of his father's company quickly with a reserved demeanor and savvy business moves.

He formed his own energy development business, the Cline Group, which grew into one of the country's top coal producers.

When he thought mining in the Appalachian region was drying up, he started buying reserves in the Illinois Basin in what turned out to be a smart investment in high sulfur coal, according to the website of Missouri-based Foresight Energy, a company he formed.

Cline sold most of his interest in Foresight for \$1.4 billion and then dropped \$150 million into a metallurgical coal mine in Nova Scotia, according to a 2017 Forbes article titled, "Chris Cline Could Be The Last Coal Tycoon Standing."

The piece captured his opulence: A mansion in West Virginia with a manmade lake big enough to water-ski on and a pasture that included a white stallion stud name Fabio. A gun collection so deep that federal officials would take stock once a month. A 200-foot (61-meter) yacht called Mine Games.

His deep pockets eventually opened to politics: He donated heavily to President Donald Trump and other Republicans. Cline gave the president's inaugural committee \$1 million in 2017 and shared thousands more with conservative groups as well as committees representing GOP bigwigs such as Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, according to federal records.

Trump tweeted his condolences to the friends and family of those killed in the crash, calling Cline a "great



In this Sept. 6, 2014 photo, Chris Cline speaks as Marshall University dedicates the new indoor practice facility as the Chris Cline Athletic Complex in Huntington, W.Va. Police in the Bahamas say a helicopter flying from Big Grand Cay island to Fort Lauderdale has crashed, killing seven Americans on board. None of the bodies recovered from the downed helicopter have been identified, but police Supt. Shanta Knowles told The Associated Press on Friday, July 5, 2019, that the missing-aircraft report from Florida said billionaire Chris Cline was on board. (Sholten Singer/

The Herald-Dispatch via AP)

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businessman and energy expert" late Friday night.

Cline also gave to academia, bestowing at least \$8.5 million on Marshall University in West Virginia.

"Our hearts are heavy," said Marshall University President Jerome A. Gilbert. "Chris's generosity to our research and athletics programs has made a mark on Marshall University and our students for many years to come."

Authorities began searching for the copter after police received a report from Florida that Cline's helicopter failed to arrive in Fort Lauderdale as expected on Thursday, Bahamas Police Supt. Shanta Knowles told The Associated Press.

The bodies of the four women and three men were recovered Thursday and taken to the Bahamian capital of Nassau to be officially identified, said Delvin Major, chief investigator for the Bahamas' Air Accident Investigation Department. The Augusta AW139 helicopter was still in the water on Friday, and based on preliminary information, she did not believe there had been a distress call before the helicopter when down. The cause of the crash is still undetermined, officials said.

A Royal Bahamas Police Force statement said authorities and locals found the site 2 miles (3 kilometers) off Big Grand Cay, a group of private islands Cline bought in 2014 for less than the \$11.5 million asking price.

Bahamas real-estate agent John Christie, who sold the land, said Big Grand Cay was developed by the late Robert Abplanalp, inventor of the modern aerosol spray valve and a friend of President Richard Nixon. The property became known as an escape for Nixon in the 1970s.

Big Grand Cay comprises about 213 acres (86 hectares) distributed over about half a dozen narrow islands. At the time of its sale, the property's mansion sat on a bluff overlooking the ocean and had five bedrooms and four bathrooms.

West Virginia Gov. Jim Justice mourned Cline's loss, first in a tweet he sent out Thursday in which he noted that his and Cline's families had been very close for years.

"Today we lost a WV superstar and I lost a very close friend," Justice wrote in the tweet. "Chris Cline built an empire and on every occasion was always there to give. What a wonderful, loving, and giving man."

Cline, in his Forbes profile, defended coal and waved off some of the scientific evidence of climate change when he wasn't posing for photos in front of tall pyramids of the black stuff.

"People deserve the cheapest energy they can get," he said. "Tell the poor in India and China that they don't deserve to have reliable, affordable electricity."

And to that effect, he also spoke about solar panels, wind turbines and Tesla batteries on Big Grand Cay, saying "Where it makes sense, I'm absolutely for it."

Associated Press writer Michael Weissenstein in Havana contributed to this report.

Rich father-in-law has helped, complicated O'Rourke's career

By WILL WEISSERT and RYAN J. FOLEY Associated Press

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — Beto O'Rourke was running for the El Paso City Council in 2005 when he asked to meet with the illustrious real estate investor William Sanders.

Sanders had earned a fortune and a reputation as a brilliant businessman in Chicago before returning to his remote hometown on the West Texas-Mexico border. He thought the aspiring politician was there to solicit a donation. But O'Rourke was seeking permission to marry Sanders' daughter Amy, whom he'd met less than three months before.

"I sat down with him in his office and he was kind of an imposing figure and I was very nervous," O'Rourke said in a phone interview. After he asked for Sanders's blessing, it got worse: His future father-in-law spent "a lot of time talking about her previous boyfriend, whom he liked a lot."

"It was a very awkward — very, very awkward — conversation."

Thus began a complicated relationship that would color the personal and political life of O'Rourke, now seeking the 2020 Democratic presidential nomination.

Worth at least \$500 million according to a conservative Forbes estimate, Sanders has helped make

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Beto and Amy O'Rourke millionaires. O'Rourke won his city council race and briefly supported an ambitious, though controversial and ultimately unsuccessful, plan to redevelop downtown El Paso that Sanders was leading.

Later, Sanders' timely donation helped transform his son-in-law from longshot primary challenger to congressman, setting him up to nearly upset U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz last year and catapult him into the presidential race.

The two are both advocates for virtually open U.S. southern borders. While O'Rourke argues it's a cultural and humanitarian imperative, though, Sanders approaches the issue more as an economic opportunity.

O'Rourke's campaign says Sanders plays no role — either formal or otherwise — in their candidate's 2020 bid. Still, O'Rourke, known as a down-to-earth champion of little-guy values, might never have made it on the national stage without the help of an intensely private tycoon who embodies the kind of figure top Democrats now rail against.

"I think Bill has always helped in the background," said Mike Dipp Jr., an El Paso businessman who has known Sanders for years.

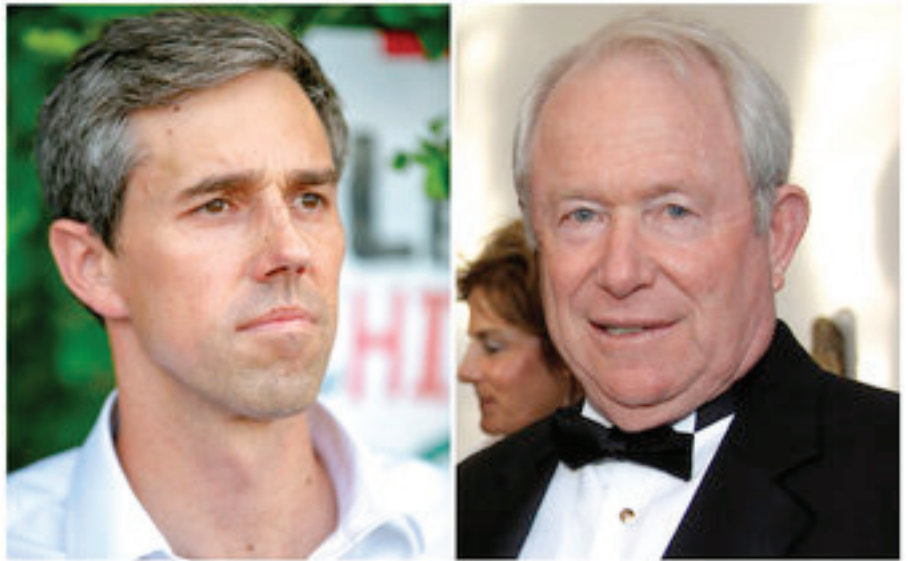
The same year O'Rourke won his city council seat, he married Amy on the sprawling Sanders family ranch near Santa Fe, New Mexico. The former punk rocker said he and Sanders didn't get along well at first but that he eventually became close to his hard-charging father-in-law, viewing him as a father figure after his own dad died in a 2001 bicycle accident.

By the time O'Rourke came into his life, Sanders had already spent decades at the top of America's real estate industry, a visionary who spotted trends before others, developed strategies to capitalize on them and built top-notch management teams to execute his plans. He was focused then on industrial developments on both sides of the border, which he believed was the future of manufacturing.

Sanders founded Verde Realty in 2003 to focus on investments in the Southwest, where he believed cheap labor costs and a booming population would make the region thrive. He fostered business relationships in Mexico that envisioned the free flow of goods, people and capital in the most seamless way possible, where the border was little hindrance rather than walled-off.

Journalist Steve Bergsman, who wrote about Sanders in a 2006 book on real estate financing, described him as a workaholic whose vision of making El Paso an industrial powerhouse "really laid the groundwork for Beto's rise, even before he had probably met or heard of him."

In the 1990s, Sanders had been dubbed the "Warren Buffett of real estate" for acquisitions and invest-



This combination of file photos shows Democratic presidential candidate Beto O'Rourke, left, at the Homestead Detention Center in Homestead, Fla., on Thursday, June 27, 2019, and O'Rourke's father-in-law William Sanders attending the Bedazzled Gala in El Paso, Texas on April 17, 2010. Sanders, is a wealthy real estate investor and has helped make O'Rourke and his wife millionaires. He also contributed to the former Texas congressman bids for El Paso City Council, Congress, Senate and now the presidency. O'Rourke's campaign says Sanders plays no role. Still, O'Rourke, known as a champion of little-guy values, might never have made it on the national stage without the help of his father-in-law. (Daniel A. Varela/Miami Herald, photo at left,

Stacy Kendrick, El Paso Inc., photo at right, via AP)

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ments that put him in control of a massive portfolio of money-making commercial, industrial and residential properties and made him one of America's largest landlords.

Investment partnerships tied to Sanders generated more than \$780,000 in interest and dividend income for Beto and Amy O'Rourke over the last decade, tax returns show.

Sanders' wealth has supported virtually all of O'Rourke's political campaigns — starting with a \$250 check for his city council reelection race in 2006. In 2012, a Sanders-owned trust gave \$37,500 to a super PAC that worked to help O'Rourke win his congressional seat in an upset. Sanders has given an additional \$27,600 to O'Rourke's congressional, Senate and presidential campaigns starting with that race, while his children and business associates have given O'Rourke tens of thousands more, disclosure filings show.

Still, his presidential campaign is keeping a public distance from Sanders, who donated the maximum \$5,600 this election cycle and attended the kickoff rally in El Paso in late March. A spokesman says O'Rourke doesn't seek Sanders' advice and that the pair's interactions are limited to family events.

Sanders now maintains a low public profile and didn't return phone messages seeking comment. O'Rourke's presidential campaign didn't make him available. Many in El Paso's business community who still have regular contact with Sanders said he wouldn't want to comment for this story, with some of them agreeing only to speak on background because they feared jeopardizing future working relationships — illustrating just how much Sanders shuns the spotlight while remaining influential.

O'Rourke held a June 10 fundraiser in Chicago, where his father-in-law was one of the most powerful businessmen during the 1980s. The campaign said it had not asked Sanders to help raise money from his contacts in the city, where O'Rourke also raked in cash during last year's run against Cruz.

After growing up in El Paso and attending Cornell University, Sanders, now 77, founded and built the company that became the renowned La Salle Partners in Chicago. It was a one-stop shop for some of America's largest corporations for acquiring and managing buildings, land and property. He sold his stake in La Salle in 1989 and left for New Mexico, where his daughter Amy spent most of her childhood.

In the 1990s, Sanders founded the Security Capital Group and built companies that owned warehouses, storage units, office buildings and parking garages. In addition to differing with President Donald Trump's beliefs about the border, Sanders took a dim view of real estate moguls like Trump who moved from one splashy deal to the next. Sanders purposely avoided skyscrapers in favor of less risky and lower maintenance properties that he considered more lucrative for shareholders.

"I don't give a darn what a building looks like; I want to be very confident that it is a strategic asset," he said in a rare 2006 interview published in an industry magazine. "For example, hotels are fabulous, they look good, you walk in and everybody greets you, you are a big shot, but look at the money you have to spend to keep it fresh. It's a very, very expensive investment. On the other hand, self-storage, you sweep it out, paint it and that is it."

Sanders, who sold Security Capital for \$2.1 billion in 2001, usually relished the low profile such ventures afforded him. That changed less than a year after O'Rourke joined the city council and Sanders led a group of businesspeople who released a plan to redevelop downtown by demolishing old homes and storefronts in favor of new condos, restaurants and a revamped arts district.

Becoming the public face of the project, Sanders modeled his consortium after the powerful Commercial Club of Chicago. O'Rourke supported the plan and initially voted to move it forward. But many low-income, immigrant residents were opposed, saying the redevelopment could displace more than 500 people. It raised the ugly specter of El Paso using eminent domain to displace some of its most marginalized residents while benefiting developers who were part of Sanders' group.

Critics say O'Rourke had a conflict because of his relationship with Sanders, who promised to donate any of his own profits from his interest in the development to charity. The plan ultimately stalled, and ethics complaints against O'Rourke were dismissed.

Still, the episode has lingered. The conservative Club for Growth Action PAC welcomed O'Rourke to the presidential race in March by releasing an online video accusing him of "doing his father-in-law's bidding" by supporting "a downtown redevelopment scheme to bulldoze a poor, Hispanic neighborhood while en-

riching developers.”

O’Rourke has repeatedly denied those charges and noted that he has worked hard to cultivate many supporters in the neighborhoods that would have been most affected. Today, though, even some Democrats question whether O’Rourke is a progressive fighter for the common person as his image would suggest or a tool of powerful business interests.

El Paso attorney Stephanie Townsend Allala once filed a lawsuit accusing the city council of violating state open records laws when discussing the redevelopment plan with private entities. She said O’Rourke consistently backed his father-in-law’s interests and “not once has he supported the grassroots side.”

“It’s a symbiotic relationship. Beto’s standing was aided by his billionaire father-in-law and the billionaire father-in-law was aided by Beto’s standing,” Townsend Allala said. “He’s dancing with the one that brung him, as we say in Texas.”

Sanders started building his fortune as a boy. By 10, he was selling Coca-Cola to golfers on the El Paso Country Club’s 13th hole. “I always wanted both — respect and wealth,” Sanders said, according to the book “The Richest Man in Town: The Twelve Commandments of Wealth.”

Sanders once took the woman who would become O’Rourke’s mom, Melissa Martha Williams, on a double date in 1970 with another couple. Williams instead hit it off with the other man on the date, Pat O’Rourke, and married him less than 12 months later. A year later, the couple’s first child, Beto, was born.

When O’Rourke began a primary challenge to veteran U.S. Democratic Rep. Silvestre Reyes in 2012, Sanders was again there to help. A super PAC, the Campaign for Primary Accountability, was co-founded by a Houston businessman and GOP donor that election cycle to target incumbents from both parties and try to send new faces to Congress. An investment trust controlled by Sanders gave \$37,500 to the PAC in the months before the primary. The trust, which owned corporate stocks and a hedge fund, produced \$87,000 in income that year for Beto and Amy O’Rourke.

The donations were “probably 10 percent of what we spent” helping O’Rourke and attacking Reyes, PAC strategist Jeff Hewitt said. Others in El Paso donated more than \$45,000.

“What happened was, they got a bunch of people in a room in El Paso, it was all Sanders’ buddies and people like that,” said Hewitt, a Democratic operative now based in Ohio. “They knew what we were doing ... and they sent some money.”

The group worked to increase Reyes’ unfavorable ratings through digital advertising and other efforts. O’Rourke says he won by simply out-hustling Reyes, noting he knocked on more than 15,000 doors. He prevailed by fewer than 3,000 votes — a feat Hewitt says would have been impossible if not for outside help.

“He’s the quintessential, ‘Woke up on third and thought he hit a triple’ guy,” Hewitt said of O’Rourke.

China locks down Xinjiang a decade after deadly ethnic riots

By **DAKE KANG** Associated Press

ISTANBUL (AP) — A decade after deadly riots tore through his hometown, Kamilane Abudushalamu still vividly recalls the violence that left him an exile.

On July 5, 2009, Abudushalamu was hiding with his father on the 10th floor of an office tower in Urumqi, the capital of China’s Xinjiang region that is home to the Turkic Uighur ethnic minority. By a park, he spotted a bus on fire. Then he heard a crack as a motorcycle nearby exploded.

Hours later, when he and his father stepped out to sprint home, he saw crowds of Uighurs stabbing Han Chinese in front of a middle school. The bodies of half a dozen people lay scattered on the streets — just a fraction of the estimated 200 killed that night.

Abudushalamu and tens of thousands of other Uighurs now live in Turkey, cut off from friends and family back home. Analysts say the Urumqi riots set in motion the harsh security measures now in place across Xinjiang, where about 1 million Uighurs, Kazakhs and other Muslims are estimated to be held in heavily guarded internment camps. Former detainees have told The Associated Press that within, they are subject to indoctrination and psychological torture.

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Abudushalamu was just 9 years old when the riots took place. At the time, he knew he was witnessing something terrible, but he never imagined where the following years would lead.

"I thought Han and Uighur people could be at peace," he said. "The camps? I never thought that would happen."

DECADES OF RESENTMENT

The riots started as a peaceful protest.

Weeks before, Han workers killed at least two Uighur migrants in a brawl at a toy factory in Shaoguan, an industrial city in China's coastal Guangdong province. The Han workers were angry about the alleged rapes of Han women by Uighur men, though a government investigation later concluded there was no evidence such an assault had taken place.

Images and videos of the brawl quickly circulated among Uighurs back in Xinjiang, including gory scenes of what appeared to be a Han Chinese man dragging a dead Uighur by his hair.

The videos enraged many Uighurs long upset with the Han-dominated government that took control of their region following the Communist revolution in 1949.

The litany of complaints was long: heavy restrictions on religious education, discrimination against college-educated Uighurs looking for jobs, subsidies and benefits for Han migrants to settle on lands once owned by Uighurs.

Among the most odious were threats from state officials of fines or even jail time if parents didn't send their young, unmarried daughters to work in factories in inner China. "Hashar," a program that forced farmers to pave roads, dig ditches, and clear land for crops for the government for no pay fueled further resentment.

The killed Uighur workers had been on a state employment program, sent more than 1,000 miles (1,600 kilometers) from home. For many, their deaths crystallized everything that was wrong about Beijing's heavy-handed interventionist policies — and the belittling racism they felt they were subjected to by the Han Chinese.

The images spurred Urumqi students to organize a protest on July 5 demanding a government investigation. Demonstrators were stopped by police in the late afternoon, and tensions mounted until officers opened fire, Uighur witnesses say.

Two students present at the protests told AP that they were shot at. One recalled that as he turned and ran, bullets whizzed by his head and others around him dropped to the ground.

Furious Uighurs attacked Han civilians on the streets. An estimated 200 people were killed — stabbed, beaten or burned alive in the melees that followed. Uighurs smashed storefronts, overturned cars and



FILE - In this Monday, July 13, 2009, file photo, paramilitary police officers patrol in the aftermath of riots as Uighur men walk by in Urumqi, western China's Xinjiang province. Analysts say the Urumqi riots in 2009 set in motion the harsh security measures now in place across Xinjiang, where about 1 million Uighurs, Kazakhs and other Muslims are estimated to be held in heavily-guarded internment camps _ also called "re-education" camps _ which the Chinese government describes as vocational training centers.

(AP Photo/Eugene Hoshiko, File)

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buses and set some ablaze.

THE CRACKDOWN DESCENDS

Abudushalamu hid with his family for days as mobs of Uighurs and Han killed each other in cycles of bloody revenge.

When they stepped outside a few days later, the streets were eerily empty, Abudushalamu said. Then the police arrived and started shooting.

"Two maybe SWAT team (members) came after me and shot at me," said Abudushalamu, now 19. "The bullet went through right behind my right ear. I'm lucky I'm still alive."

In the days after the violence on July 5, 2009, Beijing had sent in thousands of troops to restore order. For weeks, they fired tear gas, raided businesses and swept through Uighur neighborhoods to arrest hundreds, many of whom were punished with decades in prison. The entire region of 20 million people was cut off from the internet for months in an attempt to curtail use of social media.

Normality had returned, but Xinjiang was never quite the same. Ethnic divisions hardened. Han Chinese avoided Uighur neighborhoods, and vice versa. Many Han Chinese steered clear of the whole of the region's south, home to most of Xinjiang's Uighurs, because they believed it was too dangerous.

Experts say that July 5 and the subsequent crackdown was a "turning point."

"From that moment on, China took a very hard-line position toward the control of religion and the control of minority ethnic groups in the region," said Nicholas Bequelin, Amnesty International's regional director for East and Southeast Asia. "It increased dramatically its security operation. That really is what led to the situation today."

UNITED "LIKE POMEGRANATE SEEDS"

In the following years, a series of violent terror attacks rocked Xinjiang and elsewhere. Dozens of civilians were hacked to death at a busy train station in China's south. A Uighur drove a car into crowds at Beijing's Tiananmen Square. Forty-three died when men threw bombs from two sports utility vehicles plowing through a busy market street in Urumqi.

When newly appointed Chinese President Xi Jinping visited Xinjiang in 2014, bombs tore through an Urumqi train station, killing three and injuring 79. In a Xinjiang work conference shortly afterward, Xi called on the state to integrate different ethnicities and remold religion to ward off extremism.

"The more separatists attempt to sabotage our ethnic unity, the more we should try to reinforce it," state media quoted Xi as saying. China's ethnicities, Xi said, could and should be united like "the seeds of a pomegranate."

Already tight limits on religion, culture, education and dress tightened even further, with restrictions on long beards and headscarves and the detentions of prominent Uighur academics and literary figures who were widely considered moderate advocates of traditional Uighur culture.

After a new party secretary was appointed to take control of Xinjiang in 2016, thousands began to vanish into a vast network of prison-like camps. Beijing calls them "vocational training centers" designed to ward off terrorism and root out extremist thoughts, but former detainees describe them as indoctrination centers which arbitrarily confine their inmates and subject them to torture and food deprivation.

That same year, Abudushalamu's father had taken him to Turkey to study at a boarding school and then returned to China. The following June, he stopped responding to messages, and Abudushalamu never heard from his father again.

Abudushalamu finally discovered his father's fate last year when an acquaintance in Turkey told him he saw his father in an internment camp. He says he has now heard of more than 50 family members that have been detained in Xinjiang. Researchers estimate the camps now hold 1 million or more Uighurs and other members of Xinjiang's ethnic minorities.

Abudushalamu says there is no reason for authorities to "train" his father, a successful businessman who speaks nine languages.

"It's delusional," he said. "Why does he still need to be 'educated?'"

Associated Press journalists Kiko Rosario in Bangkok and Yanan Wang in Beijing contributed to this report.

This report has been corrected to show that Abudushalamu stepped out of his father's office the night of July 5, not a few days later.

Maduro shows military might in Independence Day celebration

By SCOTT SMITH Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Venezuela's President Nicolás Maduro oversaw a grand military parade to mark the country's independence day Friday, reveling in his might as commander in chief as the embattled socialist leader comes under mounting criticism for using brutal tactics to crush his opponents.

Maduro applauded and pumped his fist as soldiers marched past, tanks rolled by and fighter jets streaked overhead at a Caracas military base. A unit of camouflaged special forces, guns drawn, shouted their loyalty as they paraded by the presidential reviewing stand.

"We look to the heavens, asking for peace," Maduro said. "All the while our military exercises play out. We plead to God with our missiles pointed."

The parade served as a demonstration of Maduro's continuing support from the military amid a political standoff with opposition leader Juan Guaidó, who is trying to oust Maduro and has the backing of more than 50 nations, including the United States.

Guaidó, who led a rival march across town Friday, claimed presidential powers in January, at the time drawing throngs of supporters for demonstrations against Maduro, who has overseen the oil-rich nation's historic collapse. More than 4 million Venezuelans have left the country amid food and medicine shortages and crushing inflation.

As head of the opposition-controlled National Assembly, Guaidó claims that Maduro's election in 2018 to a second, six-year term is illegitimate because the most popular political figures and parties were barred from running.

Maduro refuses to step aside, blaming Venezuela's woes on an economic war against the country led by the Trump administration, and Guaidó has not been able to lure a critical mass of soldiers to back him.

In his brief address, Maduro renewed his call for a dialogue with the opposition. As he spoke, members of Venezuela's militia each held a cardboard box of the type used to distribute government-subsidized food.

Despite the splashy military parade, Maduro has had some defectors. Colombian authorities say a few hundred soldiers have abandoned Maduro in recent months.

Most notably, Maduro's spy chief Gen. Manuel Cristopher Figuera fled after a failed military uprising



Soldiers march during a military parade marking Independence Day in Caracas, Venezuela, Friday July 5, 2019. Venezuela is marking 208 years of their declaration of independence from Spain. (AP Photos/Ariana Cubillos)

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staged April 30 with Guaidó and another popular opposition leader, Leopoldo López. Now in the United States, Cristopher Figuera says his mission is to "seek help to free my country from disgrace."

In a sign of increasing international repudiation of Maduro, the U.N. high commissioner for human rights, Michelle Bachelet, issued a scathing report Thursday accusing Venezuela's security forces of nearly 5,300 killings last year.

Venezuelans interviewed by the human rights workers referred to a particular security unit, FAES, as a "death squad" or "extermination group."

Maduro's government has also undermined the rule of law and dismantled democratic institutions, the U.N. reported.

"These measures are aimed at neutralizing, repressing and criminalizing political opponents and people critical of the Government," the report said.

Deputy Foreign Minister William Castillo blasted the report, saying it failed to reflect "the reality in our country." He demanded the report be corrected and said the government would heed "constructive" and "balanced" recommendations.

Security forces turned out at just 15 percent of 89 anti-Maduro demonstrations nationwide Friday, a dramatic departure from the government's zero-tolerance stance, according to figures Guaido's team provided to The Associated Press, which could not independently confirm them.

National Assembly lawmaker Marco Quinones said that shows the government's fear of international repercussions following the U.N. report, or it is proof of eroding support for Maduro among soldiers, who no longer want to repress their fellow citizens with tear gas and shotguns.

Across town, Guaidó called on Venezuelans to take to the streets with him Friday for demonstrations marking 208 years since Venezuela won its freedom from Spain.

A few thousand joined him, far fewer than the number who turned out at demonstrations earlier this year. They marched toward the headquarters of a military intelligence agency in Caracas, where days earlier a navy captain opposed to Maduro was tortured to death, according to his wife and attorney.

Grasping a microphone with his shirt sleeves rolled up, Guaidó urged the military to join his movement, saying that anyone in Venezuela who continues to support this "dictatorship" is an accomplice to human rights abuses.

"We're marching for freedom," Guaido said. "We're turning our outrage into a movement, and we'll be on the streets until we achieve freedom."

The marchers included families, students and members of the clergy. No immediate violence was reported. Previous opposition marches erupted in deadly clashes with police.

Among the demonstrators backing Guaidó was Melquiades Rosales, whose small business selling shower doors is failing. As a symbol of the country's mourning, Rosales waved a Venezuelan flag made with shades of gray instead of the original vibrant yellow, blue and red.

"So many of us are filled with hopelessness," Rosales said, adding that he hasn't given up. "But we're in this for a long-term fight. This dictatorship is so well-rooted in all the institutions."

Associated Press writers Joshua Goodman and Fabiola Sanchez contributed to this report.

Police: Security officer's gunshot warning caused stampede

CHICAGO (AP) — A stampede at a Fourth of July fireworks display that injured more than a dozen people at Chicago's Navy Pier started when a private security officer shouted for bystanders to take cover, police said Friday.

Chicago police spokeswoman Kellie Bartoli said "approximately 13" people who fell or were trampled during the ruckus were hospitalized with minor injuries. The rush of people occurred shortly after a brawl that resulted in at least two stabbings.

The incidents happened just after 10 p.m. as thousands crowded Navy Pier on Lake Michigan's shoreline. Police said they were searching Friday for two male suspects in the stabbings.

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Authorities speculate that shortly after the stabbings, someone exploded a firecracker near a group of people, prompting shouts of "gun" or "shots fired." Chief of Patrol Fred Waller told a news conference Friday that the ensuring panic was fueled by warnings to bystanders to take cover shouted by a member of a private security firm employed by Navy Pier.

Police Superintendent Eddie Johnson said that despite the fracas, the officer's warning was appropriate.

"If you're going to make an error in judgment, we want to err on the side of caution," Johnson said. "Suppose there had been an active shooter, and he had said nothing?"

Chicago police tactical and SWAT teams that provided the main security for the fireworks show, backed by covert state and federal law enforcement officers, responded by searching the area but found no gunman.

The private security firm was not identified and Navy Pier officials did not respond to a request for comment, but issued a statement that said Thursday's "unfortunate isolated incident" was quickly managed by security teams and law enforcement officers.

"We are continuing to work with the Chicago Police Department on this matter and to ensure that we are doing all that we can to keep people safe while they are visiting the pier," the statement said.

In the earlier incident, authorities said teens allegedly flashing gang signs began fighting, with a 14-year-old boy being stabbed in the arm and rib area and a 15-year-old boy stabbed in the armpit. Both were transported to Lurie Children's Hospital and were reported in stable condition.

A 30-year-old man not involved in that altercation suffered stab wounds to the face and arm but said he did not see the offender nor did he remember any details about the incident, Bartoli said. He was at Northwestern University Hospital in stable condition.

Also, police said a 16-year-old boy, initially thought to have been stabbed, sustained a puncture wound to his leg after running into a table.

Those who were injured while running or falling in the commotion were taken to hospitals with non-life-threatening injuries, said another police spokesman, Rocco Alioto.

Rachel Schar, who's a server at the waterfront restaurant Harry Caray's Tavern, said that during the ensuing panic, crowds of visitors swarmed the restaurant for at least 10 minutes to escape what they believed was an active shooter.

"It was pure chaos," the 22-year-old told the Chicago Tribune. "I literally thought I was going to die."

Schar said she was collecting credit cards from a party table when she heard screaming, shoes rapidly pounding the pavement, and shouts about a gun and people stabbed outside. She said she was tackled during that pandemonium and then sprinted upstairs into an office.

Elsewhere in the city, the typically violent July Fourth holiday had already seen 35 people shot, five fatally, with three days to go in the weekend. Mayor Lori Lightfoot, who took office in May and has made curbing gun violence a priority, followed recent years' practice by adding an extra 1,500 police officers onto the



In this Thursday, July 4, 2019 photo, Chicago Police Department (CPD) officers stand guard while a woman relieves her son who had panicked after reports of stabbings and threatening injuries after the 4th of July celebrations at Chicago's Navy Pier. Police said a false report of gunfire set off a stampede that trampled more than a dozen people. (AP Photo/Amr Alfiky)

streets. Messages left with her press office Friday were not immediately returned.

In 2017, when Independence Day fell on a Tuesday, more than 100 people were shot and at least 15 died. In 2014, when the holiday was a Friday, 82 were shot and at least 14 died.

Johnson said his staff monitors crime statistics hourly and said this year's numbers "are up a little bit, but let's let the rest of the weekend play out."

Armed Utah teachers practice responding to school shootings

By MORGAN SMITH Associated Press

SPANISH FORK, Utah (AP) — Nancy Miramontes had 30 seconds to find the gunman.

The Utah school psychologist weaved through a maze of dusty halls before spotting him in the corner of a classroom, holding a gun to a student's head. She took a deep breath and fired three shots, the first time she's ever used a gun. One bullet pierced the shooter's forehead.

"Nice work," a police officer told her as they exchanged high-fives in front of cardboard props representing the gunman and student.

Miramontes recently joined 30 other Utah teachers at a series of trainings where police instructed them on how to respond to an active shooter. Teachers went through the shooting drill inside a warehouse set up to look like a school, then moved outside to a shooting range.

Active shooter training for educators is becoming more common nation-

wide, and Utah is one of several states that generally allow permit holders to carry guns in public schools. Other states, including Florida and Texas, have programs that allow certain teachers to be armed if they are approved under a set of stipulations.

Utah County Sheriff Mike Smith said the popularity of concealed carry permits in Utah makes such trainings even more important. About half the teachers brought their own handguns to the shooting range.

"If teachers are going to be bringing firearms into schools, let's make sure they know how to handle them safely," Smith said.

At least 39 states require lockdown, active-shooter or similar safety drills, according to the Education Commission of the States. Other states have less explicit requirements or leave it to districts. Utah requires its elementary schools to conduct at least one safety drill each month, and its secondary schools to have detailed emergency response plans. The firearm training is voluntary, but the Utah County Sheriff's Teachers Academy already has a waiting list for its next four-week program.

Despite increasing prevalence, some school safety experts aren't in favor of firearms training and worry that such lessons could cause undue stress or harm.

"Are police tasking teachers to perform a law enforcement responsibility by arming them to protect others? We have to be cautious of what we ask people to do in these traumatic, stressful situations," said



In this Saturday, June 29, 2019, photo, Cindy Bullock, Timpanogos Academy secretary, participates in shooting drills at the Utah County Sheriff's Office shooting range during the teacher's academy training, in Spanish Fork Canyon, Utah. About 30 teachers in Utah are spending their summer learning how to stuff wounds and shoot guns as part of a training held by police to prepare educators for an active shooter scenario in their schools. (AP Photo/ Rick Bowmer)

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Ken Trump, a school safety expert with the National School Safety and Security Services consulting firm. Miramontes said her teacher friends in Utah and other states debated about it on Facebook. But after the training, she said she felt empowered.

"I know how to protect myself and my students now; I know what to expect if the worst happens," she said.

At the recent session, officers showed teachers how to disarm a gunman, where to shoot on the body, how to properly aim and unload a firearm. They also went over de-escalation techniques, self-defense and medical responses such as how to pack a wound and tie a tourniquet on a child.

Officers spent months designing the course and local businesses donated money and equipment. Attendees paid \$20 to participate.

Between bites of pastries, teachers relayed their fears:

"Will the gunman leave after I shoot them?"

"How do I protect the children when they come?"

The sun stretched over the mountains as teachers put down their coffee and strapped into bulletproof vests, goggles and protective head gear. Above the ringing of gunshots, some teachers discussed summer vacation plans and classroom supply lists.

Sandy Grow, a special needs educator at a Lehi middle school, said the massacres at Parkland and Sandy Hook left her feeling unsafe at work. A gunman killed 17 people at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, last year. In 2012, 20 children and six educators were killed in a shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut.

"The idea of being trapped in a classroom with my students and not being able to protect them bothered me," she said. "I want to defend them and keep them safe, not be a sitting duck."

Mike Ericksen thinks a lot about how to keep students safe at Mountain View High School, where he's the principal and his son is a student. In 2016, before he began working there, five students were stabbed in the boys' locker room.

Reloading his handgun for target practice, Ericksen said the training has left him better prepared to fight back if someone threatens his school.

"I'm more confident in my skills and what to do if something happens," he said. "I'm not as nervous now. I can help."

US adds solid 224,000 jobs, making Fed rate cut less certain

By JOSH BOAK AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. employers sharply stepped up their hiring in June, adding a robust 224,000 jobs, an indication of the economy's durability after more than a decade of expansion.

The strength of the jobs report the government issued Friday could complicate a decision for the Federal Reserve late this month on whether to cut interest rates to help support the economy. Most investors have anticipated a rate cut in July and perhaps one or two additional Fed cuts later in the year. That scenario may be less likely now.

Stocks sold off early Friday before paring their losses later. The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed down a modest 43 points. But the yield on the 10-year U.S. Treasury note climbed to 2.04% from just under 2% before the jobs report was released, reflecting a view that the Fed might now be less inclined to cut rates multiple times.

June's solid job growth followed a tepid gain of 72,000 jobs in May, a result that had fueled concerns about the economy's health. But with June's pace of hiring, employers have now added, on average, a solid 171,000 jobs for the past three months. Last month's burst of hiring suggests that many employers have shrugged off concerns about weaker growth, President Donald Trump's trade wars and the waning benefits from U.S. tax cuts.

"Although there are drags on the economy in 2019, the expansion should continue through this year,"

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said Gus Faucher, chief economist at PNC Financial Services. "The doom and gloom was overblown."

The unemployment rate ticked up to 3.7% in June from 3.6% for the previous two months, reflecting an influx of people seeking jobs who were initially counted as unemployed. Average hourly wages rose 3.1% from a year ago.

Trump responded to Friday's jobs report by tweeting, "JOBS, JOBS, JOBS!" But the strong hiring gains have lessened the case, at least for now, for the Fed to slash rates as Trump has repeatedly and aggressively pressed the central bank to do.

"If we had a Fed that would lower interest rates, we'd be like a rocket ship," the president asserted to reporters in an appearance Friday. "But we're paying a lot of interest, and it's unnecessary. But we don't have a Fed that knows what they're doing."

Last year, Fed officials raised rates four times, in part to stave off the risk of high inflation and in part to try to ensure that they would have room to cut rates if the economy stumbled.

On Friday, the Fed reiterated that it would act as necessary sustain the economic expansion, while noting that most Fed officials have lowered their expectations for the course of rates. The Fed's statement came in its semiannual report on monetary policy.

In Friday's jobs report for June, the hiring gains were broad. Construction companies added 21,000 workers after having increased their payrolls by only 5,000 in May. Manufacturers hired 17,000, up from just 3,000 in May. Health care and social assistance added 50,500 jobs. Hiring by transportation and warehousing companies increased 23,900.

The government sector was a major source of hiring, adding 33,000 jobs in June. Nearly all those gains were at the local level.

For Todd Leff, CEO of Hand & Stone Massage and Facial Spa, the resilience of the U.S. job market has provided both an opportunity and a challenge. With more Americans earning steady paychecks, demand for massages and facials has increased, and the company plans to add 60 locations this year and roughly 1,800 jobs. But the low unemployment rate has also made it hard to find and retain workers.

"We could hire 1,000 more employees today — if they were available," said Leff, whose company has about 430 locations and is based in Trevoze, Pennsylvania.

Investors have been turning their attention to the Fed, which has expressed concern about threats to the economy, especially the uncertainties from Trump's trade wars, and about inflation remaining persistently below its 2% target level. A Fed rate cut, whenever it happens, would be its first in more than a decade.

Joshua Shapiro, chief U.S. economist for the consultancy MFR, said the likelihood of a Fed rate cut late this month is now slightly lower, though he still estimates that the federal funds rate — what banks charge each other — will be sharply lower by the end of next year.

Ryan Wang, U.S. economist at HSBC Bank, suggested that the solid jobs report might create a communications challenge for Fed Chairman Jerome Powell when he testifies Wednesday and Thursday to congressional committees.

The financial markets still foresee a rate cut of 25 points this month, Wang said, adding, "It will be important to see if Chair Powell lays out on a strong case for near-term monetary easing in his testimony next week."

The sluggish pace of hiring in May had signaled that employers might have grown more cautious because of global economic weakness and, perhaps, some difficulty in finding enough qualified workers at the wages that companies are willing to pay.

The pace of the overall economy is widely thought to be slowing from annual growth that neared a healthy 3% last year. Consumer spending has solidified. Home sales are rebounding. But America's manufacturing sector is weakening along with construction spending. Growth in the services sector, which includes such varied industries as restaurants, finance and recreation, slowed in June.

Overall, though, employers have been adding jobs faster than new workers are flowing into the economy. That suggests that the unemployment rate will remain near its five-decade low and that the economy will keep growing, even if only modestly.

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Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Saturday, July 6, the 187th day of 2019. There are 178 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On July 6, 1885, French scientist Louis Pasteur tested an anti-rabies vaccine on 9-year-old Joseph Meister, who had been bitten by an infected dog; the boy did not develop rabies.

On this date:

In 1535, Sir Thomas More was executed in England for high treason.

In 1777, during the American Revolution, British forces captured Fort Ticonderoga.

In 1942, Anne Frank, her parents and sister entered a "secret annex" in an Amsterdam building where they were later joined by four other people; they hid from Nazi occupiers for two years before being discovered and arrested.

In 1944, an estimated 168 people died in a fire that broke out during a performance in the main tent of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus in Hartford, Connecticut.

In 1945, President Harry S. Truman signed an executive order establishing the Medal of Freedom. Nicaragua became the first nation to ratify the United Nations Charter.

In 1957, Althea Gibson became the first black tennis player to win a Wimbledon singles title as she defeated fellow American Darlene Hard 6-3, 6-2. Sixteen-year-old John Lennon first met 15-year-old Paul McCartney when Lennon's band, the Quarrymen skiffle group, performed a gig at St. Peter's Church in Woolton, Liverpool.

In 1962, Nobel Prize-winning author William Faulkner, one of the giants of Southern literature, died in Byhalia, Mississippi, at age 64.

In 1964, the movie "A Hard Day's Night," starring The Beatles, had its world premiere in London.

In 1971, jazz trumpeter and singer Louis Armstrong died in New York at age 69.

In 1988, 167 North Sea oil workers were killed when explosions and fires destroyed a drilling platform. Medical waste and other debris began washing up on New York City-area seashores, forcing the closing of several popular beaches.

In 1994, 14 firefighters were killed while battling a several-days-old blaze on Storm King Mountain in Colorado.

In 1997, the rover Sojourner rolled down a ramp from the Mars Pathfinder lander onto the Martian landscape to begin inspecting the soil and rocks of the red planet.

Ten years ago: Robert McNamara, the Pentagon chief who'd directed the escalation of the Vietnam War despite private doubts, died in Washington, D.C., at 93. President Barack Obama opened a two-day Moscow summit with Russian President Dmitry Medvedev. Doctors at four hospitals in four states (Maryland, Missouri, Oklahoma and Michigan) finished transplanting eight kidneys over three weeks.

Five years ago: Israel arrested six Jewish suspects in the slaying of a Palestinian teenager who was abducted and burned alive, apparently in retaliation for the killings of three Israeli teenagers. Novak Djokovic won his second Wimbledon title and denied Roger Federer his record eighth by holding off the Swiss star in five sets, 6-7 (7), 6-4, 7-6 (4), 5-7, 6-4.

One year ago: The United States and China imposed tariffs on billions of dollars of each other's goods in what Beijing called the "biggest trade war in economic history." Japan's Justice Ministry confirmed that six followers of the Aum Shinrikyo doomsday cult had been hanged along with its leader, Shoko Asahara; they had been convicted of crimes including a 1995 sarin gas attack that killed 13 people and sickened thousands of others on the Tokyo subway system. A former Thai navy SEAL died while diving in flooded cave passageways to deliver supplies to 12 schoolboys and their soccer coach who'd been trapped for nearly two weeks.

Today's Birthdays: The 14th Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso, is 84. Actor Ned Beatty is 82. Singer Gene Chandler is 79. Country singer Jeannie Seely is 79. Actor Burt Ward is 74. Former President George W. Bush

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is 73. Actor-director Sylvester Stallone is 73. Actor Fred Dryer is 73. Actress Shelley Hack is 72. Actress Nathalie Baye is 71. Actor Geoffrey Rush is 68. Actress Allyce Beasley is 68. Rock musician John Bazz (The Blasters) is 67. Actor Grant Goodeve is 67. Country singer Nanci Griffith is 66. Retired MLB All-Star Willie Randolph is 65. Jazz musician Rick Braun is 64. Actor Casey Sander is 64. Country musician John Jorgenson is 63. Former first daughter Susan Ford Bales is 62. Hockey player and coach Ron Duguay is 62. Actress-writer Jennifer Saunders is 61. Rock musician John Keeble (Spandau Ballet) is 60. Actor Pip Torrens is 59. Actor Brian Posehn is 53. Actor Robb Derringer is 52. Political reporter/moderator John Dickerson is 51. Actor Brian Van Holt is 50. Rapper Inspectah Deck (Wu-Tang Clan) is 49. TV host Josh Elliott is 48. Rapper 50 Cent is 44. Actress Tia Mowry is 41. Comedian-actor Kevin Hart is 40. Actress Eva Green is 39. Actor Gregory Smith is 36. Rock musician Chris "Woody" Wood (Bastille) is 34. Rock singer Kate Nash is 32. Actor Jeremy Suarez is 29. Baseball star Manny Machado is 27.

Thought for Today: "Freedom is always and exclusively freedom for the one who thinks differently." — Rosa Luxemburg, Polish-German revolutionary (1871-1919).