

Latest Round of Iran Nuclear Talks Ends

LAUSANNE, Switzerland — The latest round of talks on limiting Iran's nuclear program ended Friday without an initial accord, diplomats involved in the talks said. The Iranian delegation is leaving for Tehran for the funeral of President Hassan Rouhani's mother. Saturday is also Nowruz, the Iranian New Year. Secretary of State John Kerry plans to travel on Saturday for a meeting in Europe to discuss the negotiations with his counterparts from Britain, France and Germany; the specific location has yet to be announced. Mr. Kerry will then fly to Washington so that he can meet early next week with President Ashraf Ghani of Afghanistan, who will make an official visit to the United States. But Mr. Kerry plans to return to Switzerland for the resumption of the talks with Iran next Wednesday, in what is expected to be the critical round. "We've had a series of intensive discussions with Iran this week, and given where we are in the negotiations, it's an important time for high-level consultations with our partners in these talks," Marie Harf, a State Department spokeswoman, said in a statement. "Given Secretary Kerry has meetings with Afghan President Ghani on March 22-24 in Washington, and given the timing of the Nowruz holiday, the negotiations will resume next week." American and Iranian negotiators have been trying to meet a March 31 deadline for drafting the outlines of a deal that would limit Iran's nuclear program. Once that is done, a detailed, comprehensive agreement is to be completed by the end of June.

In a Friday statement commemorating Nowruz, Mr. Kerry said that he hoped Iran's leadership would decide to bridge the gaps in the talks.

"It is my sincere hope that if Iran's leaders make the right choices, the necessary choices, in the ongoing nuclear talks, that this new year and this new spring will mark a better future both for the Iranian people and for the world," Mr. Kerry said.

But Mohammad Javad Zarif, Iran's foreign minister, said in a Twitter message that it was up to the United States and its negotiating partners to make the concessions necessary to seal an accord.

"Iranians have already made their choice: Engage with dignity," Mr. Zarif wrote. "It's high time for the U.S. and its allies to choose: pressure or agreement."

A number of difficult obstacles emerged during the latest round of talks here, including disagreements over what kinds of limits should be imposed on research and development of new types of centrifuges for uranium enrichment, and over how quickly economic sanctions against Iran should be removed.

Mr. Kerry's meeting with his European counterparts on Saturday will include Laurent Fabius of France, Philip Hammond of Britain and Frank-Walter Steinmeier of Germany. Mr. Kerry also spoke by telephone on Friday with the foreign ministers Sergey V. Lavrov of Russia and Wang Yi of China. Those five countries are partners with the United States in negotiating with Iran.

The talks here have been held in the same 19th-century luxury hotel where the Treaty of Lausanne was negotiated. That accord, signed in 1923, defined the boundaries of modern Turkey and formalized the end of the Ottoman Empire.

North Korea's Kim expected to visit Moscow in May, Russian official says

Official: North Korea's Kim expected to visit Moscow

- This would be Kim Jong Un's first official foreign trip as North Korea's leader
- The Soviet Union and North Korea enjoyed strong ties in the past

Moscow (CNN) Kim Jong Un is expected to attend World War II anniversary celebrations in Moscow at Russia's invitation, a Russian official speaking on condition of anonymity said Thursday. North Korea accepted Russia's invitation, but Russia is waiting on Pyongyang to make the official announcement about the May trip, the official said. This would mark Kim's first official foreign trip since inheriting the leadership in late 2011. "The invitation was sent to Kim Jong Un. North Korea accepted the invitation. The leadership of North Korea is expected to take part in Victory Day celebrations in Moscow," the Russian official said.

The official later clarified: "By leadership, we're talking about Kim." So far, North Korean state media has not issued any statement about the invitation. This year's Victory Day marks the 70th anniversary of the Soviet Union's victory over Nazi Germany in World War II. Chatter over whether Kim would make his first official overseas trip during the pivotal anniversary started in late December after Russian state media reported that Moscow had extended an invitation to Pyongyang. On December 22, Russian presidential aide Yuri Ushakov told Itar-Tass: "First signals are given from Pyongyang that the North Korean leader plans to come to Moscow and attend celebrations." Recently, Russia and North Korea have been fostering warmer relations. Anniversary celebrations if Kim appears in Russia along with other world leaders, he may look like a minor figure, said Dr. Leonid Petrov, an Asian studies professor who specializes in the political history of North Korea.

Concerns rising over Russia, North Korea alliance

"In a setting with a large crowd of state officials, in group pictures, he would look like a minor figure instead of what he's portrayed in North Korean media as supreme leader, invincible marshal, jack of all trades." So I think if Kim Jong Un decides to go to Moscow, he's going to look like a very lonely, lonely figure." The Kremlin has invited 68 world leaders to its Victory Day celebrations on May 9, said Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov as quoted on Russian network RT. He was quoted in Russian media as saying that Chinese President Xi Jinping will also attend.

Russia and North Korea In the last year, Russia and North Korea, two historical allies, have increasingly established stronger ties as Russian President Vladimir Putin faces international backlash over the war in Ukraine. The two countries declared 2015 their "Friendship Year." Both countries have been slapped with sanctions by the United States and are facing international isolation. "North Korea is a convenient friend for Moscow — it's anti-American and it's in a key place of Asia," Petrov said. "Russia lost many of its traditional allies — it needs friends, both economically, politically, strategically." Ties between North Korea and Russia date back to World War II, when Kim Jong Un's grandfather and founder of the country, Kim Il Sung, trained as a communist guerrilla leader in the Soviet Union. Throughout Kim's subsequent reign, the Soviet Union backed the nation. After the Soviet Union crumbled in the early 1990s, North Korea became increasingly reliant on China. Kim's

father, Kim Jong Il, visited Moscow several times, with his last visit in 2011. The late Kim rode into Russia in an armored train (he disliked flying) and met with both Putin and Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev. "Moscow undertook a diplomatic offensive" with North Korea, said Petrov, of Australian National University. "It absolved \$10 billion of Soviet-era debts from the account books and started rebooting relationships between North Korea and Russia." Last year, Russia forgave 90% of North Korea's \$11 billion debt. (CNN) ISIS apparently claimed responsibility Thursday for the deadly terrorist attack at a landmark museum in the heart of that country's capital, a mass shooting that has shaken the birthplace of the Arab Spring and stirred questions about militants in the country. In an audio statement posted online Thursday, ISIS identified two men — Abu Zakariya al-Tunisi and Abu Anas al-Tunisi — it said used "automatic weapons and hand grenades" to kill and injure what it called "crusaders and apostates" in the Bardo Museum in Tunis. Tunisian Health Minister Said Aidi said 23 people are believed to have been killed, including at least one who died at a hospital overnight. And that bloodshed, the ISIS message warned, is "just the start." CNN cannot independently verify the legitimacy of the audio statement. A U.S. official told CNN there is no reason to doubt the claim's authenticity. That said, American officials are checking the platform that the statement went out on, including the extent to which it's tied to the group calling itself the Islamic State. Gunmen attack Tunisian museum 15 photos The current U.S. thinking is the attack may have been carried out by local "franchise" adherents to ISIS, rather than centrally directed by the Islamist extremist group's leadership, which is now thought to be in Syria. The two attackers were carrying explosives, Tunisian President Beji Caid Essebsi said in an interview Thursday with the French broadcaster TF1. He credited Tunisian security forces for responding so quickly to the attack to avoid a larger tragedy because "terrible explosives were found on these (attackers) and they didn't have time to use them." Tunisia has been viewed as the lone democratic success story in the Arab Spring. But the North African nation is not without its issues, including an uneven economy and the distinction of having more citizens — up to 3,000 Tunisians — thought to have gone to Iraq and Syria to fight as jihadists than any other country, according to the International Centre for the Study of Radicalization in London. **9 arrested; 2 attackers named** Authorities there have already arrested nine people in connection with Wednesday's attack, including four directly linked to the bloodshed, according to a statement from Essebsi. Earlier Thursday, Tunisian Prime Minister Habib Essid identified two suspects, Yassine Labidi and Saber Khachnaou, in an interview with French radio station RTL. It's not clear if those two men were the pair killed at the museum by Tunisian security forces, or if it's possible they're the same people as those identified — using new names — in ISIS' audio statement. Labidi was "known to the security services, he was flagged and monitored," Essid said. But he added the man wasn't known or being followed for anything special. The siege took place just days after a Tunisian jihadist tweeted that a pledge of allegiance to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, the leader of ISIS, was coming soon, according to the SITE Intelligence Group, which monitors terrorist propaganda.

LEON IRBY

3 OF 3

DATED: MARCH 20, 2015

Manhunt underway after 17 killed at Tunisia museum

In his message, the jihadist claimed to belong to Jund al-Khilafah in Tunisia, a group that in December pledged allegiance to ISIS, even though that vow hadn't seemed to have fully registered with the Islamist extremist group. His post comes after an ISIS fighter in the extremist group's stronghold of Raqqa in Syria recently appeared in a video questioning why militants in Tunisia had not pledged fealty. "This raises the possibility that the museum attack could be ISIS' debut on the Tunisian stage, timed to precede a pledge of allegiance from Tunisian jihadis for maximum impact," CNN terrorism analyst Paul Cruickshank said.

17 of those killed were on 2 cruise ships The attack may have been in and about Tunisia, but the vast majority of the victims were foreigners. They came from various backgrounds, from a Spanish couple to a Colombian mother and son. In addition to those pairs, the dead included three Italians, three Japanese, two French, two Poles, a Belgian, a Russian and a Briton, according to cruise ship companies and their respective governments. Three Tunisians, one of them a security officer and another a job applicant, also were killed, according to Aidi. Twelve of those killed had been aboard the MSC Splendida, a cruise ship with more than 3,700 passengers and nearly 1,300 crew that docked in Tunis hours before the bloodshed, its parent company said in a statement. Five more victims came from a similar vessel, the Costa Fascinosa, which was at port in the Tunisian capital at the same time, according to Costa Cruises. Another 36 people remain hospitalized, while eight others were treated and released. The Bardo had been a logical stop for these tourists, housed next to Tunisia's Parliament in a 19th century palace and cast as a "jewel of Tunisian heritage," with its exhibits showcasing the country's art, culture and history. Its prominent place in Tunisia's economy – which banks heavily on tourism, with millions visiting the country each year – also made it a logical target for terrorists. "They hit the heart of our livelihood," said Mohammed Ali Troudi, a taxi driver in Tunis. It's too early to tell how tourists will react to the attack. Both the MSC Splendida and the Costa Fascinosa have since left Tunis, even as the search continues for some of their missing passengers – at least four from the Splendida and two from the Fascinosa, according to their respective companies. The question is whether more passenger-packed cruise ships, as well as commercial airliners filled with tourists, will come to Tunisia in the future.

Tunisians say they are unified The economy and terrorism are linked in Tunisia, in the sense that high youth unemployment and sparse opportunities are thought to have contributed to the large numbers becoming jihadists – whether abroad or at home. Attacking what Tunisian lawmaker Sabrina Ghoubantini called "a symbol of sovereignty in Tunisia" likely won't help. "It's really sad," Ghoubantini told CNN from Tunis, "and I hope that it won't really affect our economy." The government has been battling a jihadist presence in the Chaambi Mountains. And in February, the country's Interior Ministry announced the arrests of about 100 alleged extremists and published a video allegedly showing that the group possessed a formula for making explosives and a photograph of ISIS leader al-Baghdadi. Mehrezia Labidi, another parliamentarian, says it's imperative that the message gets across to would-be jihadists that "life

in democracy is better than" what terrorist recruiters are telling them. "We have really to work on the culture, the level of ideas," she said. Meanwhile, she and others stressed that the vast majority of Tunisians – including secular-minded citizens and moderate Islamists – need to come together for their country and against these extremist views and tactics. "They are trying to terrify us. But the whole Tunisian people is unified – all the parties, all the civil society organizations, all the countries are unified," Ghoubantini said. "... I'm sure that we will fight terrorism and that we will really eradicate it from our country." **Madagascar marvel: Divers find fossils of extinct giant lemurs** (CNN) Around 5,000 years ago, the island of Madagascar would have resembled a Sci-Fi novel. Strange, prickly forests, gorilla-sized lemurs, pygmy hippopotamuses, horned crocodile and elephant birds whose eggs were 180 times the size of what you'd find in your fridge today, all called the African island home – that was until the humans arrived. "If you went to Madagascar just when human populations were beginning to grow, you'd have found a very different place than what you find today," says Laurie Godfrey, a palaeontologist at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Godfrey is part of an international team who recently uncovered one of the most incredible caches of fossils found on the island to date in three flooded caves. The find is being touted as Madagascar's largest underwater graveyard. **Adventure wonderland** An international team explored flooded caves in Madagascar, and uncovered the largest cache of fossils in the country to date. All three caves – Malaza Manga, Aven and Mitoho – are submerged underneath Tsimanampetsotsa National Park. Their paleontological potential was first uncovered by Australian diver Ryan Dart. When Dart saw what was down there, he contacted his colleague Phillip Lehman, a diver for the Dominican Republic Speleological Society. "I figured, worst case scenario, we'd find a great surf spot," recalls Lehman. What he found instead were the remnants of a lost world. "The formations are literally mind-blowing. There are crystallized geological formations coming out of the walls, coming out sideways looking like spaghetti. I've never seen anything like it." With funding and logistical help from the National Geographic Society, the National Science Foundation and Madagascar National Parks, the group that Lehman ultimately helped form made an initial exploration of the cave, and turned up gold. **Clean like chicken bones** Divers in Madagascar uncovered a treasure trove of fossils from extinct lemurs the size of gorillas. "The materials we found in the caves are almost pristine," marvels Alfred Rosenberger, a primate palaeontologist at Brooklyn College who Lehman first contacted after his initial dive. "Just imagine: the bones lying there on the surface and they get trampled by big animals or run over by trucks and crushed. These bones aren't damaged in any way. They look fresh like chicken bones on the table." It is also unusual to find the bones of individual animals so closely grouped together. Usually, says Rosenberger, bones will be separated by several feet, and piecing them together can be a bit of a jigsaw puzzle. In Mitoho cave, he says they even found two fossa – the catlike carnivore made popular by the "Madagascar" film franchise – on top of each other, surrounded by large deposits of smaller bones. Rosenberger estimates this was probably a lair. "We think these guys might have

been in the cave on their own, chomping away on something, and something catastrophic, like a flood, took them at the same time," he muses. **Overlap with humans** Cave divers had to carry a minimum of two tanks a piece. Though extinct and unique, the animals uncovered in the caves died out incredibly recently, at least in paleontological terms. Certain signs point to their co-existence with humans – who first inhabited the island in 500 BC. "We know that we have some (fossils) that are in the region during the human period, because we have introduced species there, like rats and Indian civets, which are not native to Madagascar," explains Godfrey. Godfrey and her colleagues believe that human impact probably played a large role in wiping out Madagascar's indigenous species, though the exact cause can only be guessed at. "It could have been hunting or habitat modification – for instance after people introduced cattle to Madagascar and started burning areas for agriculture," she muses. Soon, though, she might have a clearer answer, as her team ultimately tests the recovered fossils and samples. "We now have ways for getting at the cause of extinction. For example, you can tell a lot about the fire history of an area by measuring the degree of charcoal micro-particles in sediment," she explains.

Silicon Valley to millennials: Drop dead

- David Wheeler: Silicon Valley doesn't create jobs; it's wiping out middle-class jobs
- Young college graduates are struggling with lack of jobs, yet many still idolize Silicon Valley

(CNN) We have no problem taking Wall Street executives to task for decisions that leave American families financially devastated, yet we give Silicon Valley billionaires a pass when they do the same thing. America needs to realize that instead of creating jobs, Silicon Valley is erasing them, leaving millennials financially stranded before their careers can get off the ground. Silicon Valley is tossing millennials aside like yesterday's laptop. The commonly held belief is that with hard work and a good education, a young person in America can get a good job. But despite falling unemployment, college grads age 22 to 27 are stuck in low-paying jobs that don't even require a college degree. The percentage of young people languishing in low-skill, low-paying jobs is 44%, a 20-year high. Only 36% of college grads have jobs that pay at least \$45,000, a sharp decline from the 1990s, after adjusting for inflation. Perhaps most depressingly, the percentage of young people making below \$25,000 has topped 20%, worse than in 1990. In other words, those with a bachelor's diploma were better off before the digital revolution. If this comes as a surprise, that's because images from popular culture push the idea that young college graduates are shrugging off bad employment prospects with their do-it-yourself attitude. In our collective imagination, millennials are saying, "No jobs? That's OK — I'll create my own!" And then they solve their own problems by heading to Silicon Valley with little more than an iPhone and an idea to create the next hip app that supposedly will turn them into overnight millionaires. A fictional example of this new breed of young idealistic entrepreneur would be Mike Bean, founder of Internet behemoth Gryzzl on the show "Parks and Recreation." Played by Blake Anderson, Bean might best be described as "barefoot and pregnant with ideas." The bumbling entrepreneur conquers the world practically by accident, armed

Saturday's harvest roughly 50 fish below average.

As for shanty counts, the DNR's aerial distribution survey indicated that shanties were fairly evenly distributed throughout the 6 areas of the lake today. A total of 4,436 were counted on Lake Winnebago in the morning, with an additional 379 shanties counted on the Upriver Lakes.

Koenigs anticipates the season to continue for "at least" another few days given the amount of females harvested on the day.

Menominee continue walk to Madison

WAUTOMA (AP) – Members of the Menominee Indian Tribe are about halfway through their journey from Keshena to Madison where they hope to meet with Gov. Scott Walker this week and change his mind about their plans for a casino in Kenosha. About a dozen tribal members left Keshena Friday on foot in the bitter cold. The number of marchers has dropped and risen depending on the day. Menominee Chairman Gary Besaw says the walkers left Wautoma early Monday headed for Portage.

Walker has refused to give the tribe final approval for the \$800 million Hard Rock casino project and hasn't indicated that he's open to reconsideration. The city of Zion, Illinois has approached the tribe about locating the casino in that community.

FOX 11's Andrew LaCombe is catching up with the tribe today. He'll have updates throughout the day on fox11online.com and a full report tonight on FOX 11 News.

Arizona dog now homeward bound after being found in Wisconsin

HOWARD – From Tucson, Arizona to Howard, Wisconsin, it's the tale of one Yorkshire terrier's journey and how he ended up a long way from home.

But sometimes the smallest decisions can make a big difference.

"I don't think we've quite had something like this happen before," Lori Nachtwey with the Bay Area Humane Society.

Members of the Bay Area Humane Society say the Yorkie's name is Nicholas and he was found last Friday.

If Nicholas could talk, he'd probably have a great story to tell. He might even say he took a very long walk.

"We don't know exactly what happened or how he ended up here," Nachtwey said.

The woman who found Nicholas didn't want to go on camera but she did tell FOX 11 that that he was running along Lenwood Avenue in Howard. She said when she found him, she let him in her car because she thought it was her grandson's dog.

Nicholas' rescuer quickly realized the Yorkie wasn't a part of her family and that's when Animal Control Officer Monica Hoff's phone rang.

"When I got there, cute little Yorkie dog just cute as a button and friendly. The first thing I do is I take my microchip reader and check because he didn't have any collar or tags on him," said Hoff.

Eventually Hoff tracked down the owner, thanks to a microchip in the back of Nicholas' neck.

"She's like, 'Where is this? Where is he?' because obviously Tucson, Arizona to Wisconsin is a pretty long trip," Hoff said. That's around 1,800 miles away from home. The Yorkie was taken to the Bay Area Humane Society and worker Lori Nachtwey called Nicholas' owner.

"As far as she was concerned, her dog was outside playing and when she went to go get him, he was gone," Nachtwey said.

Nachtwey says the owner had been looking for Nicholas for two months.

"She just couldn't believe we found her dog," Nachtwey said.

So after thousands of miles and two months of waiting, Nicholas is headed back home.

"She was more than willing to try to get a flight scheduled so that we could get the dog back," Nachtwey said.

But sometimes things don't always go as planned.

"It's too cold," Nachtwey said.

The airline said Nicholas couldn't travel as cargo because of cold temperatures.

Nachtwey says Nicholas' owner has decided to come get him to take him back home.

The Bay Area Humane Society says if it wasn't for the Nicholas' microchip, finding his owner would have been nearly impossible.

Ukraine Military Pulls Out of Besieged Town

Ukraine's president said most of his government's forces have pulled out of the contested eastern Ukrainian town of Debaltseve, which has been under siege by pro-Russian rebels and where fighting has continued despite a cease-fire.

Kyiv's forces carried out a "planned and organized withdrawal from Debaltseve," according to a video statement by President Petro Poroshenko, who plans to travel to the frontlines later Wednesday to meet with soldiers.

Poroshenko said so far 80 percent of Ukrainian units have left the city, adding another two columns are expected to soon withdraw.

Despite coming under "heavy artillery bombardments," he said only 30 troops were wounded in the pull-out operation.

Germany condemned on Wednesday the pro-Russian separatists' offensive at Debaltseve, calling it a clear violation of a cease-fire agreed last week, but said it was too early to call the broader Minsk peace deal dead.

Chancellor Angela Merkel's spokesman Steffen Seibert said Europe stood ready to introduce new sanctions against Russia, but made clear that action would depend on further developments on the ground in Ukraine.

The four leaders from Ukraine, Russia, Germany and France who hammered out the peace deal last week will discuss the Ukraine crisis in a telephone call Wednesday evening,

French government spokesman Stephane Le Foll said.

"The leaders want to push ahead with support and implementation of this accord," Le Foll told a regular news briefing earlier Wednesday.

'Full-scale street fighting'

Debaltseve, which links the two major separatist cities of Donetsk and Luhansk, has been the epicenter of fighting in recent weeks, even after an internationally brokered cease-fire that went into place Sunday.

A deputy regional police chief in the besieged city told reporters earlier Wednesday that "full-scale street fighting" continued, even as Ukrainian troops were pulling out.

The separatists insisted they surrounded the town before the cease-fire began, making it an internal part of the rebel-held region rather than part of the frontlines where envoys agreed the fighting would stop.

Poroshenko denied those claims Wednesday.

"Debaltseve was under our control, it was never encircled," he said, adding that Ukrainian troops left the city with their weapons.

The withdrawal attracted fierce criticism from Ukrainian nationalist politicians as well as from the commanders of volunteer battalions fighting alongside government troops. Semyon Semenchenko, a battalion commander and a member of parliament, on Facebook accused the military command of betraying the country's interests in Debaltseve, The Associated Press reported.

The United States, which says it is still considering supplying Kyiv with arms to put down the rebellion, blamed the rebels for violating the terms of the cease-fire.

U.S. Vice President Joe Biden blamed the violence on "separatist forces acting in concert with Russian forces," according to a White House statement, which also said Biden and Poroshenko discussed the matter in a phone call.

"If Russia continues to violate the Minsk agreements, including the most recent agreement signed on February 12, the costs to Russia will rise," the White House statement added.

EU, NATO reaction

Also stepping up Western criticism of the rebel offensive on Debaltseve, European Union foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini said in Brussels, "The actions by the Russia-backed separatists in Debaltseve are a clear violation of the cease-fire."

"The EU stands ready to take appropriate action in case the fighting and other negative developments in violation of the Minsk agreements continue," she said, making an apparent threat of further economic sanctions on Moscow.

Voicing his concerns about fighting at Debaltseve, NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said the refusal of pro-Russian separatists to respect the cease-fire threatened the Minsk accord.

"The refusal of the separatists to respect the cease-fire threatens the agreement, as does their denial of access to the area for the OSCE

BY: MR. LEON IRBY

2 of 2

DATED: MARCH 20, 2015

seeing it. (In November, a 4-year-old boy survived a 230-foot plunge down a cliff.)

Arachnids on a plane: Woman stung by scorpion on flight

A Portland-bound Alaska Airlines flight out of Los Angeles was delayed Saturday night after a passenger was stung on the hand by a scorpion and crew members had to search the plane for other unwanted arachnids.

Alaska Airlines spokesman Cole Cosgrove said Flight 567 was preparing to depart when the incident occurred.

The female passenger was checked out by medics at the gate and declined further medical attention -- but did not take the flight, Cosgrove said.

The scorpion was killed by the crew, which then searched the plane before takeoff, Cosgrove said. The flight was delayed less than an hour.

It was not clear how the scorpion got on the plane, which had arrived in Los Angeles from Los Cabos, Mexico, he said.

The Oregon State University men's and the University of Portland's women's basketball teams were aboard the flight. As expected, the incident did not go unnoticed on Twitter.

SportsCenter anchor Sara Walsh tweeted: "thought I had plane problems today until I read this- Oregon state's plane delayed bc a woman on it bit by scorpion."

A glum Oregon State Hoops twitter account tweeted this: "Tough week for Beavs just got tougher. A scorpion just bit woman two rows in front of @waynetinkle. Plane had to go back to LAX. True story."

But the team and its Twitter account apparently cheered up later. After arriving in Portland, Oregon State Hoops tweeted: "Just landed safely at PDX. Hope the woman who was stung by the scorpion is okay. Great to be back in the Beaver State. #gobeavs"

All scorpions possess venom, though not all are damaging to humans. Some scorpions carry a valuable venom being tested for treatment of cancer and other diseases. A scorpion can carry a valuable sting -- a gallon of venom from some species can be worth millions of dollars.

Frozen' Niagara Falls drawing tourists to winter spectacle

NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y. (AP) — The winter's deep freeze has transformed Niagara Falls into an icy spectacle, encasing the trees around it into crystal shells and drawing tourists who are braving below-zero temperatures.

The Niagara River keeps flowing below the ice cover, so the falls aren't completely frozen over. But the massive ice buildup near the rink has become a tourist magnet for the second straight year after several relatively mild winters.

Visitors have been flocking to Niagara Falls State Park, next to the American Falls, one of three waterfalls that make up the natural attraction. Days of subzero temperatures have created a thick coating of ice and snow on every surface near the falls, including railings, trees and boulders.

Assembly Republicans introduce prevailing wage bill

Under current Wisconsin statutes, laborers, workers, mechanics and truck drivers who work on state or local public works projects or on highway projects involving the state must be paid wages equivalent to wages paid for similar projects. The statutes are designed to prevent employers from manipulating their workers' wages enough that they could underbid competitors for government work. The bill would eliminate the laws but leave intact statutes prohibiting local governments from enacting their own prevailing wage laws or ordinances.

The measure has a host of Republican sponsors in the Assembly. Assembly leaders have referred the bill to the chamber's labor committee.

Bill aimed at increasing speed limit gains traction

Rep. Paul Tittl, a Manitowoc Republican, says the bill allows the Department of Transportation to increase speed limits to 70 miles per hour in approved areas. The top speed limit in the state is currently 65 miles per hour.

The bill faced little opposition at an Assembly transportation committee hearing Tuesday. DOT representatives say they would likely raise the speed limit on rural freeways and expressways. They would test individual roads to determine which sections could accommodate increased limits.

Rep. John Spiros, a Marshfield Republican, proposed an amendment that would allow the DOT to set a lower speed limit for commercial vehicles.

The committee is expected to vote on the bill next month.

Walker budget would ax tax funds from Wisconsin parks

MADISON (AP) — Gov. Scott Walker is proposing that Wisconsin cut state tax funding for its parks system and make up for it by raising campsite and park entrance fees. Walker's spending plan would remove \$4.6 million in tax funding from the budget for the state's parks, trails and recreation areas, the Wisconsin State Journal reports.

Tax revenue makes up about a quarter of the current \$16.7 million parks budget, which would decrease to \$15.6 million under Walker's spending plan, with more funding coming from fees.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is reviewing Walker's proposal, according to agency spokesman Bill Cosh. "The governor's budget recognizes the potential of Wisconsin state parks as a user-supported state resource that will allow Wisconsin state parks to stay healthy and visitor-focused," Cosh said.

The price of an annual state park pass would go up by \$3 to \$28, and nightly campsite fees would rise \$2. The group Friends of Wisconsin State Parks backs the "modest" fee increase, group president Bill Zager said.

State tax funding for Wisconsin parks has gone down since the state legislature voted in 1995 to get rid of a requirement that the system be equally funded by fees and the general fund. The National Conference of State Legislatures reported in 2012 that state parks generally have not been able to support themselves. Philip McKnelly, the former head of the National Association of State Park Directors, said Wisconsin's proposed changes "would have a significant impact on the system." Wisconsin's state parks system includes 46 parks, 14 state trails, four recreational areas and two national scenic trails. The parks account for about \$1 billion in economic activity each year, according to a study by the state Department of Natural Resources and University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Sturgeon spearing on day 1 yields nearly 600 fish

WINNEBAGO SYSTEM — Freezing temperatures and strong winds couldn't keep fishermen off the ice for opening day of the 2015 sturgeon spearing season. According to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, 467 sturgeon were harvested on Lake Winnebago, while 126 were harvested on the Upriver Lakes Saturday. Spearers harvested 93 juvenile females, 245 adult females and 255 males. That adds up to total of 593 fish harvested.

The stations with the largest volume of fish registered were Stockbridge, Payne's Point, Wendt's, Quinney, and Calumet Harbor. The north shore stations of Waverly Beach and Harrison Town Hall combined for 37 fish. On Lake Winnebago, 13 fish at 100 pounds or larger were harvested by the end of day one. The largest was a 127.3 pound, 76.4" female sturgeon speared by Gregory Harma. That fish was registered at Payne's Point.

The Upriver Lakes fishery had a total of 126 sturgeon, with three larger than 100 pounds. Winneconne's Mark Tegelman speared the largest fish at 103.8 pounds, 68.5". Senior Fisheries Biologist Ryan Koenigs says a clear trend was observed at every registration station Saturday. Overall, the fish were in poorer condition (leaner) than observed during recent seasons.

Koenigs adds he anticipated that this would be the case given the lack of gizzard shad in the system over the past year. Gizzard shad have become a staple food source for lake sturgeon over the past couple of decades. How does this year's opening day harvest compare to past years? Koenigs says the opening day harvest of 467 fish on Lake Winnebago ranks 5th highest since the season moved to the shortened six hour spearing day in 2002.

The average opening day harvest over this 14 year period has been 374 fish, so Saturday's number actually eclipses that by more than 100 fish. In comparison, this year's opening day harvest of 126 sturgeon on the Upriver Lakes was the 2nd lowest opening day harvest since the current lottery structure was implemented in 2007. The average opening day harvest over this 9 day period was 178 fish, making

The new bill's name, the Promoting Job Creation and Reducing Small Business Burdens Act, fails to hint at what's tucked inside: a chipping away of the regulatory environment. The bill would allow banks to keep their CLOs until July 2019, two years later than the Volcker Rule currently requires. It also proposes loosening other regulatory reforms, such as the requirement that some private equity firms register as brokers with the SEC, and it allows looser regulations on derivatives.

Better Markets, which advocates for financial regulation, says banks don't need an additional two years, given that the Volcker Law already provides ample time for banks to come into compliance with the rule.

Still, supporters argue that the bill would give banks only more time to divest their holdings and that a stronger regulatory environment will remain.

"The recent hyperbole on banking reform might score political points, but the reality is the core of Dodd-Frank is going nowhere," Tony Fratto, a partner at consulting firm Hamilton Place Strategies, said in a statement.

According to research published by Hamilton Place Strategies, the cumulative 20-year default rate of CLOs is 0.41 percent. The Volcker Rule would also hurt smaller bank holding companies given that many hold CLOs, the group said.

While it's true that some smaller banks do hold CLOs, four large banks account for 72 percent of U.S. bank-held CLOs, according to Better Markets. JPMorganChase alone owns more than one-third of all bank-held CLOs in the country.

So what will happen next? While the bill will likely pass the House, it's unclear what will happen in the Senate. The White House, however, has vowed to veto the legislation. Given President Obama's stance, it may seem as if the efforts to weaken Dodd-Frank won't get very far, but Better Markets argues that the issue is much larger than this one bill: Republican Party leaders have made it a top priority to revamp Dodd-Frank and financial regulatory reform.

"It's part of the relentless war by Wall Street to repeal financial reform, which will dramatically increase the likelihood of another crash," Kelleher noted. "Everyone in America has a personal stake in making sure we never have another financial crisis."

Church's decision to stop funeral for gay woman angers family

LAKESWOOD, CO (KDVR/CNN) - Friends and family protested a church Tuesday after its senior pastor forced a funeral to be moved. New Hope Ministries was upset about a video that included images of Vanessa Collier and her wife, Christina Higley, kissing.

Collier's funeral service was abruptly moved 15 minutes after it began.

Pastor Raymond Chavez offered the family an apology for their hurt feelings, but critics

say his actions Saturday morning speak louder.

The family chose the church for the service because it's across the street from the funeral home.

After family members refused the church's last-minute request to edit a video, 150 people and the casket moved across the street for a service inside the funeral home.

The video was meant to be a celebration of the 33-year old, a wife and mother of two, who died in December.

Family members said Chavez did not approve of what was called Collier's "alternative lifestyle."

"This is about not being able to have dignity in death of one of God's children. No matter what the circumstances, if you're black, white, brown, gay, lesbian, transgendered, we all deserve that, and the church did not afford that to us," said Jose Silva, a family friend. Silva helped organize the protest outside New Hope Ministries. He said the church committed intolerance discrimination at the most disrespectful time possible.

"Imagine this. There's the casket and the pall bearers are trying to shut everything in, close the casket and move it, and move her body. That is not dignified," he said.

Collier's wife, Christina Higley, is too emotional to speak on camera, but by email said, "Vanessa and I were together for three beautiful years. Our daughters are 12 and 7. Having to explain to them why we had to leave was completely heartbreaking." Chavez won't speak on camera, but the chaplain who performed the service said Chavez was willing for the funeral to proceed if the video could be edited, an offer that insulted family members refused.

The church's website says, "New Hope Ministries in Lakewood, Colorado is a place where those bound by drugs, alcohol, gangs and violence can find an 'Ounce of Hope.'" Protesters say the church wasn't willing to show an ounce of compassion for Collier or her loved ones.

"Vanessa added a host of value as a loving wife, loving daughter, mother, sister, friend. That's who she was. and that's what she should be judged upon," Silva said.

Deadly subway malfunction leaves many unanswered questions

WASHINGTON (AP) — Commuters are demanding information after an electrical malfunction filled a Washington subway tunnel with smoke, forcing hundreds to evacuate and sending dozens to the hospital. Was the train's evacuation Monday afternoon unnecessarily delayed? Were passengers given the right information? And what caused the death of a female passenger? Authorities in the nation's capital had no immediate answers Tuesday.

At a news conference, DC Mayor Muriel Bowser declined to give details on how quickly the fire department responded, beyond saying firefighters got to the scene in their "customary" timeframe. City officials also declined to make the fire chief or the

head of the city's 911 center available to answer questions.

Bowser said her administration is reviewing the response and will release its findings next week.

"We will find out what happened, get to the bottom of what happened and commit to fixing it," said Bowser, who took office a week-and-a-half ago.

Metro board chairman Tom Downs apologized to riders who were injured, frightened or inconvenienced. He said the investigation "will be a thorough process that often takes time." Metro service, which had been affected Tuesday by the incident, was expected to operate normally Wednesday. The malfunction happened about 3:30 p.m. Monday near L'Enfant Plaza, one of the subway's busiest stations. The stop is near the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum and many federal office buildings, including the headquarters of the National Transportation Safety Board, which is leading the investigation.

A six-car subway train had just pulled out from the station when it ground to a halt and foul-smelling smoke began filling the tunnel and the cars. NTSB investigator Michael Flanigan said the smoke started when something came into contact with the high-voltage third rail and caused an electrical arc. In the fear and chaos that followed, riders prayed but also helped one another, performing CPR on an unconscious woman and offering an inhaler to a man curled in a fetal position on the train's floor. Some waited for rescuers as instructed; others opened the doors of the train and made their way to safety through the darkness on their own.

Andrew Litwin, 21, a University of Texas student visiting the Washington area, said some passengers yelled, "We're going to die here!"

The woman who died was identified Tuesday as 61-year-old Carol Glover of Alexandria, Virginia. She was the first fatality on Washington's Metro system since a 2009 crash killed nine people. Glover was an analyst for DKW Communications, an IT company that does work for the government, and was working on a contract with the U.S. Department of Agriculture at the time of her death, said her supervisor Cliff Andrews. The Metrorail system, which connects Washington with the Maryland and Virginia suburbs, carries an average of 721,000 passengers each weekday. Smoke and fire are not unusual on the subway system, which opened in 1976 and still uses some original rail cars. Metro's most recent safety reports showed 86 incidents of smoke or fire in 2013 and 85 through the first eight months of 2014.

Seattle dog takes solo trips to the park via city bus

Seattle: A black Labrador named Eclipse has been riding city buses without her owner to a local dog park, local transportation officials said on Tuesday.

BY: LEON IRBY DATED: 2 of 2 MARCH 20, 2015

Seattle is a pet-friendly city, and dogs are allowed on public transportation, with few restrictions, though normally they are accompanied by a human, a spokesman with King County Metro Transit said.

The transit agency confirmed the unusual tale, saying Eclipse's journeys have been documented by both customers and drivers. "There's no reason to doubt the veracity of it," spokesman Jeff Switzer said.

Over the past few weeks, Eclipse has boarded a bus alone near her home in the Seattle neighborhood of Belltown, riding about four stops to a nearby dog park, both commuters and transit employees said.

Miles Montgomery, a radio show host on Seattle station KISW, was riding the bus last week when he noticed a black Lab in the aisle, eyeing the empty seat next to him. "She jumps up and sits down, and I start petting her and the guy beside me says 'oh yeah, that's that dog that rides the bus to the dog park every day, by herself,'" Montgomery said.

As the bus rolled on, Montgomery realized Eclipse was indeed alone and staring intently out the window.

"She started to wag her tail when she saw her stop. Then she jumped down from the seat and she just ran off the bus, and she ran to the dog park," he said.

Montgomery was the first to report seeing the solo-riding pup on his radio show, and the story garnered a lot of attention and disbelief, he said.

"It was really difficult to convince people that I actually just saw this happen," he said. Eclipse's owner told local broadcaster KOMO he is OK with her independent activities.

"We get separated. She gets on the bus without me, and I catch up with her at the dog park," owner Jeff Young told KOMO. "Probably once a week I get a phone call. 'Hi, I have your dog Eclipse here ...' I have to tell them, 'No, she's fine.'"

Transportation officials said the story was odd but not a huge cause for concern.

North Korea blasts U.S. for sanctions over Sony attack

North Korea on Sunday criticized the United States for slapping sanctions on Pyongyang officials and organizations for a cyberattack on Sony Pictures — the latest fallout from a Hollywood movie depicting the fictional assassination of North Korea's leader.

An unnamed spokesman for North Korea's Foreign Ministry, in rhetoric that closely mirrors past statements, denied any role in the breach of tens of thousands of confidential Sony emails and business files and accused the United States of "groundlessly" stirring up hostility toward Pyongyang. The spokesman said the new sanctions would not weaken the country's 1.2-million-strong military.

The spokesman told the North's official media mouthpiece, the Korean Central News Agency, that the sanctions show America's

"inveterate repugnancy and hostility toward the DPRK," referring to the North's official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

"The policy persistently pursued by the U.S. to stifle the DPRK, groundlessly stirring up bad blood toward it, would only harden its will and resolution to defend the sovereignty of the country," the spokesman said.

The United States on Friday sanctioned 10 North Korean government officials and three organizations, including Pyongyang's primary intelligence agency and state-run arms dealer, in what the White House described as an opening move in the response toward the Sony cyberattack.

The sanctions might have only a limited effect, as North Korea already is under tough U.S. and international sanctions over its nuclear and missile programs. U.S. President Barack Obama also warned Pyongyang that the United States was considering whether to put North Korea back on its list of state sponsors of terrorism, which could jeopardize aid to the country on a global scale.

1st U.S. sanctions over a cyberattack

American officials portrayed the sanctions as a swift, decisive response to North Korean behaviour that they said had gone far over the line. Never before has the U.S. imposed sanctions on another nation in direct retaliation for a cyberattack on an American company.

There have been doubts in the cyber community, however, about the extent of North Korea's involvement. Many experts have said it's possible that hackers or even Sony insiders could be the culprits, and questioned how the FBI can point the finger so conclusively.

The 10 North Koreans singled out for sanctions didn't necessarily have anything to do with the attack on Sony, senior U.S. officials said. Anyone who works for or helps North Korea's government is now fair game, especially North Korea's defence sector and spying operations, they said.

North Korea has expressed fury over *The Interview*, an anti-Pyongyang Sony comedy. It has denied hacking Sony, but called the act a "righteous deed."

Sony initially decided to call off the film's release after movie theatres decided not to show the film. After Obama criticized that decision, Sony released the movie in limited theatres and online.

Questions remain about who was behind a nearly 10-hour recent shutdown of North Korean websites. The United States never said whether it was responsible, but North Korea's powerful National Defence Commission blamed the U.S. and hurled racial slurs at Obama, calling him a reckless "monkey in a tropical forest."

Such hateful comments are not new: Pyongyang has similarly attacked other U.S. officials and called South Korea's female president a prostitute.

Harley to become official motorcycle of Sturgis rally

Harley-Davidson says it's finalizing an agreement to make its motorcycle the official bike of the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally in South Dakota.

Harley plans to build a permanent plaza in downtown Sturgis that will be a venue for concerts and other special events. Harley hopes to have the plaza complete by this year's rally the first week of August. The motorcycle company has used the rally to promote its products and connect with its customers.

The annual six-day event draws hundreds of thousands of people from all over the world. The Journal Sentinel reported the agreement cements the partnership for 75 years

Gas prices fall to 6-year low in Wisconsin
Drivers battling cold and winter weather do have a reason to be happy: gas prices have dropped to their lowest levels in Wisconsin since March of 2009.

According to the AAA's Fuel Gauge Report, the average price for regular unleaded gas in Wisconsin is below \$2 per gallon for the first time in nearly 6 years.

Most gas prices in Madison dropped below \$2.00 per gallon on Monday.

AAA said decreased driving and lower crude oil prices deserve the credit for the drop.

"Gas prices typically decline in the second half of the year due to decreased driving and the switchover to winter-blend gasoline," said Nick Jarmusz, director of Public Affairs for AAA Wisconsin. "But prices have fallen faster than many expected during this fall and winter due to sharply lower crude oil prices." Gas prices nationwide have dropped for more than 110 consecutive days, which is an all-time record. AAA estimates Americans saved about \$14 billion on gasoline last year compared to 2013, and it's possible consumers could save \$50-75 billion on gasoline in 2015.

AAA said the global price of crude has lost more than half of its value since mid-2014. Oil prices worldwide are expected to remain low through the first half of 2015.

State of the State focuses on school bill, merging state agencies

Gov. Scott Walker delivered his 2015 State of the State Address Tuesday night and focused on passing a school bill and merging several state agencies.

In his 24 minute address to lawmakers, he made the case that Wisconsin's economy had turned around.

"I am proud to report the state of our state is strong," Walker said. "If you remember nothing else, remember this: More people are working while fewer are unemployed." He touted the unemployment rate and new jobs created in the state, and said that property taxes were lower than in 2010.

"My pledge to you is that property taxes four years from now will be lower than they were in 2014," Walker said.

SCHOOL BILL

WANT A ONE WAY TRIP TO MARS?

NASA and a non-profit Dutch Organization "Mars One", are seeking some "Scatter-Brained" volunteers for a one way trip to populate the planet Mars with in the next six or seven years. Are you willing?

Don't let the "scatter-Brained" requirement scare you as you will be supplied with a radical new memory pill that will repair your focus and concentration--"clearing up years of foggy thinking."

According to these two organizations, they would prefer young unemployed folks that understand that they will not be returning to earth. This is referred to as a "search for astronauts and wannabe Martians."

I asked myself why use "scatter-Braineds" from our free society when there are many prisoners and ex-offenders--lifers and death row inmates that society wants to ostracize--that I am sure would be more than ready to go since prisons are hell on fire--let's reduce the "mass incarceration."

I put this question to the Departments of Corrections: They said "NO! Hell NO! if we keep one lifer prisoner-- locked up for forty years at forty thousand a year, our total earnings comes to one million six hundred thousand dollars. Now, give us one good reason why we should let one prisoner go to Mars?"

In conclusion, I am convinced that there is no cost in sending young unemployed "scatter-brained" volunteers--astronauts-- to Mars.

Read the February 18, 2015 issue of the Lansing State Journal. section B, bottom of the page and page 8A. and remember that laughter is good for the soul.

By Ernesto R Rodriguez

02/22/15



- ADVERTISEMENT -

New Pill Stops You From Being "Scatter-Brained"

NASA Scientist Inspires Radical New Memory Pill Repairs Focus & Concentration. Clears Years of Foggy Thinking.



JOURNAL
ison.

ge
k
IG

in
and
v
re

Pass-
3,000
oe:

ney:

ridge
nors,

A recent study reports adults over 40 fear memory-loss worse than death! That's a staggering statistic. Especially when doctors usually tell us that "cloudy thinking" is just a normal part of aging. Although memory does decrease with age, it doesn't have to be something you accept...

Now, based on the discovery of research conducted by leading brain expert Dr. Sam Walters, a small Georgia company has created what was once deemed impossible. A radical new formula that helps provide laser focus... brings back your recall... and restores your memory power to that of your youth. Best of all, it starts working immediately.

The Brain Discovery Of A Lifetime

Dr. Walter's world-famous brain research

1-in-3 Polled Fear Memory Loss Worse than Death.

A recent poll taken by an independent research group uncovered shocking news about people's fears. When asked to check off a list of common fears in order — from smallest fear to biggest fear. One in three study participants revealed they feared memory loss more than even death. And for good reason....

tribe to memorize 9,000 pages of text — without making a single mistake!

In a recent 12-week study of over 100 older adults, scientists suggested Bacopa gives you "significantly improved verbal learning and improved memory acquisition". To put it simply, you will learn easily and remember more.

Zen Health Nutritionals also packs a full clinical dose of Vinpocetine into their formula. The compound naturally widens your blood vessels so precious oxygen can get to your brain. It's truly revolutionary. Research shows, with the right dose of Vinpocetine, facts and figures will stick in your head like glue.

Who wants to live (or die) on Mars? 100 waiting in line

One starry-eyed man wants 'one-way ticket'

Mary Bowerman
@MaryBowerman
USA TODAY Network

One hundred people are one step closer to making a giant leap for mankind: winning a trip to Mars. But there's a big catch. The "winners" won't be coming back.

Mars One has reduced 200,000 applicants to 100 finalists who could leave Earth in 2024, the group said in a statement.

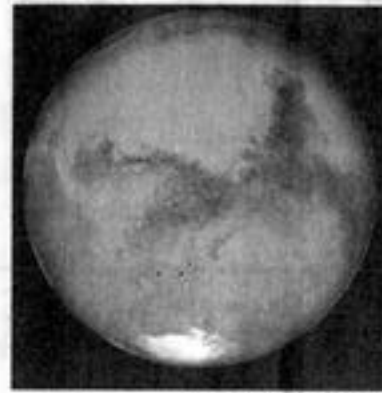
For finalists like Peter Felgentreff, 50, the chance to visit Mars is worth the risk.

"I've always had a curiosity for all things science, especially when it comes to space exploration," said Felgentreff, an entrepreneur and vice president of a start-up organization outside San Francisco.

Felgentreff is married and would be leaving his wife behind for the quest.

"It's a one-way ticket to anywhere. I would probably die on Earth if I stayed here, too," Felgentreff says.

He says his wife shares his curiosity of combining "humans with an element of risk and using



NASA VIA AP/GETTY IMAGES
A non-profit Dutch group plans on sending 24 people to live on Mars.

technology to overcome those risks."

The desire to put a man on Mars isn't new. NASA plans to develop capabilities to send astronauts to Mars by the 2030s, but those going will return to Earth.

In comparison, the Dutch not-for-profit organization began its own "search for astronauts" in April 2013. It plans on sending an initial crew to Mars by 2024, and the wannabe Martians range from doctors to people without jobs in their mid-20s.

Bas Lansdorp, CEO and co-founder of Mars One, said they look for candidates who can psychologically handle living on a

planet with just a few other people and accept that they cannot return to Earth.

"We can teach people engineering, farming and medical skills, but finding people and teams that can actually pull off the mission is our biggest challenge," Lansdorp told USA TODAY Network.

Of the 100 finalists, only 24 people will be chosen to actually go to space. Lansdorp said four people will make the initial planned trip to Mars in 2024, followed by new crews every two years. The group estimates that putting the first four people on Mars will cost \$6 billion.

► Stories and photos as over 300 NFL hopefuls vie to be 2015 **draft picks**



Kevin Johnson and Kevin McCoy
USA TODAY

BY: LEON IRBY

3 of 3

DATED: MARCH 22, 2015

Affirmations

I am thankful for each day that I am blessed to live upon Mother Earth.

I reap the harvest of wisdom from each season of my life.

I appreciate my life, both the chaff and the grain.

I rest and replenish with silence and solitude.

To the best of my ability, I reflect the face of God to others His Thoughts on Growing Older...

I have angels waiting in the wings.



**"God is looking for people to use,
and if you can get usable, he will
wear you out."**

Pastor **RICK WARREN**

First ~ Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.

Second ~ The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for.

Third ~ Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me; I want people to know 'why' I look this way. I've traveled a long way, and some of the roads weren't paved.

Fourth ~ When you are dissatisfied and would like to go back to youth, think of Algebra.

Fifth ~ You know you are getting old when everything either dries up or leaks.

Sixth ~ I don't know how I got over the hill without getting to the top.

Seventh ~ One of the many things no one tells you about aging is that it's such a nice change from being young.

Eighth ~ One must wait until evening to see how splendid the day has been.

Ninth ~ Being young is beautiful, but being old is comfortable and relaxed.

Tenth ~ Long ago when men cursed and beat the ground with sticks, it was called witchcraft. Today, it's called golf.

And finally ~ if you don't learn to laugh at trouble, you won't have anything to laugh at when you're old.

**"What I thought was
an end turned out to
be a middle."**

TONY HOAGLAND, winner of
the Mark Twain award for poetry,
from his poem "A Color of the Sky"

**"If someone says: 'That's
impossible,' you should
understand it as:
'According to my very
limited experience and
narrow understanding
of reality, that's very
unlikely.'"**

PAUL BUCHHEIT, creator and lead
developer of Gmail

**"Being a good dad is
all about moments—
moments to teach,
moments to treasure.
It's about the hard mo-
ments when we think
we haven't gotten
through to our kids,
and the wonderful
moments when we
realize we have."**

JIM DALY, from his book *The Good
Dad: Becoming the Father You Were
Meant to Be*

BY: LEON IRBY DATED: MARCH 24, 2015



Daily Devotion to the Holy Spirit

Holy Spirit, I ask of you the gift of **wisdom** for a better understanding of you and of your divine perfection.

I ask of you the gift of **intellect** for a better understanding of the essence of the mysteries of the Holy Faith.

Give me the gift of **knowledge** so that I may know how to orient my life in accordance with the principles of faith.

Give me the gift of **counsel** so that in all things I can seek counsel from you and can always find it in you.

Give me the gift of **strength** so that no fear or earthly motivations can take me away from you.

Give me the gift of **piety** so that I can always serve your majesty with filial love.

Give me the gift of the **fear of God** so that no fear or earthly motivations can take me away from you.

Amen.

A GIVING
ATTITUDE IS
THE SECRET
TO
SUCCESSFUL
LIVING.



WHEN IT
RAINS, LOOK
FOR THE
RAINBOW.



This prayer to the Holy Spirit was given to St. John Paul II by his father as a child. St. John Paul II remained faithful to his father's prayer until the last days of his life, praying it each day.

GOP SENATE LEADERS ~ PRESIDENT OBAMA

officer Darren Wilson. Now the juror is suing to lift a lifetime gag order that prevents members of the grand jury from speaking publicly about the case. The federal suit filed today names St. Louis County Prosecutor Robert McCulloch as the defendant, because he would be the person to bring charges against a grand jury member who violated the gag order. The member is being represented by the American Civil Liberties Union of Missouri, which says the juror wants to weigh in on the national conversation on race.

Flu widespread in 43 states

The flu slipped just below epidemic levels over the holidays but spread even farther across the USA and took the lives of six more children.

Twenty-one children have been killed by the flu this season, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Almost all flu cases this season have been a strain known as Influenza A (H3N2). H3N2 seasons are generally worse than others, and this year's flu vaccine is not a good match, so it will provide less protection than in other years, though CDC officials still encourage people to get vaccinated.

After officially becoming an epidemic during the week of Dec. 20, the flu slipped slightly below the threshold the next week, though it is widespread in 43 states, up from 36 the week before, the CDC reported. The CDC defines an epidemic using a complex formula based on the rate of deaths from flu compared with previous years.

The government has confirmed with lab tests 3,441 flu-related hospitalizations in 13 sample states since Oct. 1. Actual numbers are far higher across the country.

Young children and older adults are most likely to require hospitalization and have life-threatening cases of the disease.

For the week ending Dec. 27, nearly 6% of doctors' office visits were for flu-like illness, compared with a normal baseline of 2%. It was the sixth week in a row above the baseline; on average, flu seasons top the baseline for about 13 weeks, the CDC said, suggesting the season is not halfway through. That's why, although the vaccine generally takes two weeks to take full effect, CDC officials still recommend vaccination. Even when it is not a perfect match for the year's main strain, the vaccine can reduce the infection's severity, says Michael Jung, medical officer at the CDC's influenza division.

Jung says the CDC urges people, especially seniors, young children and people with underlying medical conditions such as asthma or diabetes, to take antiviral medication at the first sign of the flu's symptoms. Medications such as Tamiflu and Relenza, available only by prescription, have been shown to reduce flu symptoms, especially when taken within the first day or two. "If you can do it under 24 hours, it's going to be better for the patient," Jung says.

GOP Senate leaders say they are willing to work with Obama in new Congress, but he must 'play ball'

Senate Republicans on Sunday, just hours from taking control of the chamber, suggested a willingness to work with President Obama on job growth and other key issues but also said he must meet them halfway.

"There are a lot of areas where we can work together right out of the gate," South Dakota GOP Sen. John Thune told "Fox News Sunday." "You always enter a new session of Congress with high hopes... We want to see solutions for the American people. And we hope the president will meet us there."

Thune, the incoming chairman of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation, said Republican leadership has set an early goal of trying to pass legislation with bipartisan support, such as a bill to complete the Keystone XL pipeline. Though Senate Republicans seem optimistic about passing Keystone swiftly to perhaps set the tone for the entire session, Thune hinted that Obama and fellow Democrats might define the direction in Washington if the legislation doesn't pass with a veto-proof majority and if the president fails to sign the bill.

"We're going to get an indication of how this president wants to govern in the last two years and how he wants to work with Republicans in Congress," Thune said.

"We're going to find out very early, I think, whether or not the president wants to play ball."

Thune also made clear that Senate Republicans will not shut down the Department of Homeland Security, whose funding expires in February, over differences with Obama about immigration reform, particularly his use of executive action to delay deportation for millions of immigrants now living illegally in the United States. However, he said congressional Republicans would use "the power of the purse to challenge the president."

Incoming Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell also on Sunday appeared to strike a more compromising tone.

He told CNN's "State of the Union" that voters continue to elect candidates from both parties because they want government that "gets things done in the political center, things that both sides can agree on."

McConnell said both sides would "talk about the things where there may be some agreement."

But he made clear that Obama is "not going to like" some of the bills that will now reach his desk -- likely including Keystone, rolling back environmental restrictions and repealing parts of ObamaCare.

He also said Americans "want us to look for things to agree on and see if we can make some progress for the country," comments similar to those he made after nearly losing a re-election bid in November.

Tennessee GOP Sen. Bob Corker told Fox News that Republicans "absolutely need (Obama) to be involved" on big issues. "We look forward to that opportunity," said Corker, who becomes chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

However, Corker said Congress must have a bigger role in negotiating with Iran to end its apparent pursuit of a nuclear weapon.

"This is one of the biggest issues we'll be dealing with," he said. "And for Congress not to have a role is totally inappropriate."

He said that without question more sanctions will be imposed on Iran if the existing deal falls apart.

Corker also said that Congress, like Obama, realizes that changes must come to the U.S. prison facility in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, but suggested the president has only a piecemeal plan, which included transferring 28 detainees out of the facility last year.

However, he did not say whether congressional Republicans would try to block an attempt by the president to shutter the facility.

"If he tries to close it on his own, we'll see," Corker said.

7-year-old girl who survived plane crash may help probe

EDDYVILLE, Ky. — Sailor Gutzler, the 7-year-old girl who survived a plane crash, walked a mile through the cold, dark woods to safety and then helped authorities locate the wreckage and remains of her family, may not be done helping investigators.

National Transportation Safety Board investigator Heidi Moats said Sunday that Sailor is "one remarkable young lady," and she might be able to assist them in determining what brought the plane down. It is rare for someone to survive a small plane crash and Moats said they want to talk to Sailor about it.

"Having someone that is a witness (is) always helpful in the investigation, it gives us kind of a story line," Moats said.

It's not clear when investigators might talk to Sailor, who despite being bloodied and suffering a broken wrist, pulled herself from the wreckage and walked to the nearest home.

She was dressed for Florida, where her family had been visiting, and was wearing shorts, a short-sleeve shirt and only one sock when she found a home about a mile from the crash site.

Authorities said she walked through thick woods and briar patches in near-freezing temperatures.

"She absolutely went to the nearest house that she could have," Kentucky State Police Lt. Brent White said. "But it was still a considerable feat for her to do that."

The remains of the Piper PA-34 plane were moved Sunday so officials with the NTSB can inspect it.

They haven't discussed any possibilities of what brought the plane down or how Sailor survived the crash.

BY: LEON IRBY

2 of 2 DATED: MARCH 24, 2015

The agency will issue a preliminary report in about 10 days, Moats said at a news conference in Eddyville.

Sailor was treated at a hospital and released to a relative Saturday.

After the Friday night crash, Sailor trekked to the home of 71-year-old Larry Wilkins, who answered her knock at the door and called police. Wilkins said the girl was crying and covered in blood.

"She told me that her mom and dad were dead, and she had been in a plane crash, and the plane was upside down," Wilkins said.

Sailor was alert and able to point emergency workers looking for the plane in the right direction, said Lyon County Judge executive Wade White, who arrived at the crash site.

The crash killed Sailor's parents, Marty Gutzler, 48; and his wife, Kimberly Gutzler, 46; Sailor's sister, Piper Gutzler, 9; and a cousin, Sierra Wilder, 14.

All were from Nashville, Illinois.

White said the father's body was "the last one they pulled out because of how deep he was buried."

Marty Gutzler was flying the plane, which reported engine trouble and lost contact with air traffic controllers around 5:55 p.m. CST, authorities said.

Controllers tried to direct the pilot to an airport 5 to 7 miles from the crash scene.

About 40 minutes later, 911 dispatchers received the call from Wilkins.

The Gutzlers had been visiting family in Key West, Florida, and stopped in Tallahassee, Florida, on the way back to Mount Vernon, Illinois.

Gutzler was a licensed commercial pilot and flight instructor, according to the FAA website.

A woman who answered the telephone at Campagna Funeral Home in Nashville said Sunday that arrangements for Marty Gutzler, his wife and their 9-year-old daughter were pending.

Sailor's family members said through a spokesman that they do not want to do any interviews at this time because they need time to grieve.

U.S. Consolidates Forces in Europe to Save Money

WASHINGTON — The Defense Department is consolidating American forces in Europe to save what Pentagon officials say will be about \$500 million a year while not reducing the number of American military personnel — some 67,000 — who are currently there.

Defense officials said they are ending longstanding operations at Royal Air Force Base Mildenhall, a British air base northeast of London in Suffolk where spy planes and other aircraft have been based. But that move, which withdraws some 3,200 military personnel and their families from the base, will be partially offset by the selection of another British installation, Royal Air Force Base Lakenheath, also in Suffolk, as home to the first F-35 squadron in Europe.

The moves will occur over the next several years.

The F-35, the Pentagon's fifth-generation stealth fighter jet, "gives teeth to our ability to support collective defense of Europe and its partners," Gen. Frank Gorenc, commander of United States Air Forces in Europe and of Air Forces Africa, said in a statement.

The first F-35s will arrive in Britain in 2020, replacing F-15 fighter jets.

Some 14 other European sites will be handed back to their home governments as well, defense officials said, including several facilities in Germany and Portugal, where 500 American military personnel will be withdrawn from Lajes Field in the Azores.

"These decisions will produce savings that will enable us to maintain a robust force presence in Europe," Derek Chollet, the assistant secretary of defense for international security affairs, told reporters during a Pentagon news briefing on Thursday.

Defense officials said more American troops would be stationed in Germany and Italy as the United States sought to counter a more aggressive Russia. "This transformation of our infrastructure will help maximize our military capabilities in Europe and help strengthen our important European partnerships, so that we can best support our NATO allies and partners in the region," Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel said in a statement.

Even as the American military is cutting the number of its forces at permanent bases in Europe, it is rotating more forces in and out of the region, particularly in Eastern Europe and the Baltics.

In recent months the United States has sent troops to conduct military exercises in Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia, all countries where officials have been increasingly alarmed by the Russian takeover of Crimea.

Catastrophe avoided as runaway ship stopped off Italy

Gallipoli (Italy) (AFP) - Italy's coastguard said Wednesday it had narrowly averted a catastrophe by intercepting a runaway freighter that was on a collision course with the country's rocky shoreline with 768 people on board.

In the second major maritime drama of recent days, officers revealed that the huge cargo ship's engine had been locked on with the steering set on a direction that would have led to it crashing ashore in the Puglia region on the "heel" of Italy.

The coastguard, already working flat out because of the Norman Atlantic ferry disaster, scrambled two helicopters overnight after realising that the Moldovan-registered Blue Sky M, was headed for the rocks.

Six officers boarded the vessel and, after some frantic moments on the bridge, were able to unlock the engines and bring the boat under control just five miles (eight kilometres) from the coast.

- Distress call -

"It was a real race against the clock," coastguard spokesman Filippo Marini said. "Unlocking the engines was a difficult and

delicate operation, but they managed to do it."

In a tweet from its official account, the coastguard said a "massacre" had been avoided.

The coastguard later put the number of migrants on board at 768, revising downwards their earlier estimates of more than 900.

The migrants were said by local officials to be almost all Syrians and their number included a heavily pregnant woman whose waters broke during the drama and some 40 children.

Migrants wait aboard the Moldovan-flagged cargo ship Blue Sky M in the port of Gallipoli, in southea ...

As they were being processed in the port of Gallipoli, an inquest began into how the alarming incident had occurred.

It was unclear where the Syrians had boarded the boat but its last port call was at Korfez in Turkey on December 14, according to tracking website www.marinetraffic.com Greece's coastguard had on Tuesday received a distress call from someone on board the Blue Sky M who reported that it was being navigated by heavily armed men.

A navy frigate, a helicopter and two patrol vessels were dispatched to intercept the boat off the island of Corfu.

But Greek officials admitted Wednesday that the checking of the vessel had been cursory at best.

"The coastguard contacted the captain of the ship, who said there was no problem on board," a coastguard source told AFP.

"A navy frigate escorted the vessel briefly in Greek waters until it reached international waters and headed for Italy."

Officially the boat was travelling from Greece to Croatia but it remained unclear where the migrants had been

Italian officials suspect the "captain" who reassured the Greeks nothing was amiss was in fact the leader of a group of people smugglers who later jumped ship, as they frequently do in the knowledge that their human cargo will be picked up by navy or merchant ships.

One man suspected of involvement with the traffickers was arrested after the boat arrived in Gallipoli.

- Conflict and poverty -

The drama came as Italy and Greece were coping with the aftermath of the Norman Atlantic disaster, which has left at least 13 people dead and dozens more unaccounted for.

The Italian-owned, Greek-operated ferry remained off Albania Wednesday with continuing bad weather preventing it being towed back to Italy.

The cause of a killer blaze that erupted on the ferry on Sunday remained unknown.

Criminal probes into what happened have been opened in Italy and Greece.

Survivors who waited up to 24 hours to be rescued from the burning ship have

ANYWAY

Written by Mother Theresa

Fr. Jim Gladstone, SJ ended his talk, "Finding God in Poetry," with this beautiful poem at the Lay Camillian Family presentation.

People are often unreasonable, illogical and self-centered:

Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, People will accuse you of selfish ulterior motives:

Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, You will win some false friends and some true enemies:

Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and frank, People may cheat you:

Be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building something, Someone could destroy it overnight:

Build it anyway.

The good you do today, People will often forget tomorrow:

Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have, and it will never be enough:

Give the world the best you have anyway.

You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and God.

It has never been between You and Them anyway.



IS PROOFREADING A LOST ART?

Did I read that sign right?

Notice in a health food store window:
CLOSED DUE TO ILLNESS

In an office:

WOULD THE PERSON WHO TOOK THE
STEP LADDER YESTERDAY
PLEASE BRING IT BACK OR
FURTHER STEPS WILL BE TAKEN

Spotted in a safari park (I sure hope so!):
ELEPHANTS PLEASE STAY
IN YOUR CAR

On a repair shop door:
WE CAN REPAIR ANYTHING. (PLEASE
KNOCK HARD—THE BELL DOESN'T
WORK)

POLICE BEGIN CAMPAIGN TO
RUN DOWN JAYWALKERS
(Now that's taking things a bit far!)



"It's All In A State Of Mind"

Author Unknown

If you think you are beaten, you are.
If you think you dare not, you won't.
If you like to win, but don't think you can,
It's almost a cinch that you won't.

If you think you'll lose, you're lost.
For out in the world you'll find
Success begins with a fellow's will;
It's all in a state of mind.

For many a game is lost
Ere even a play is run,
And many a coward fails
Ere even his work is begun.

Think big and your deeds will grow;
Think small and you'll fall behind;
Think that you can and you will;
It's all in a state of mind.

If you think you're out-classed, you are;
You've got to think high to rise.
You've got to be sure of your self before
You can ever win a prize.

Life's battles don't always go
To the stronger or faster man,
But sooner or later, the man who wins
Is the fellow who thinks he can!

BY: LEON IRBY DATED: MARCH 24, 2015

A HISTORY OF THE BIBLE

The BOOKS of the BIBLE were FIRST WRITTEN by HAND on SCROLLS in HEBREW or ARAMAIC, AND THEN translated into GREEK in "The SEPTUAGINT." WHEN Christianity became the RELIGION of ROME, it was TRANSLATED into LATIN in "The VULGATE." This VERSION, put into ENGLISH, was CALLED "The DOUAY." Martin LUTHER PUBLISHED his version in GERMAN.

X T B M N J N V E R S I O N P B
 S R O T A L S N A R T Z V M D T
 L A O S M K Y H A N D W D I U A
 L N K R R K E L I S E M A J G E
 O S S I E M O G I R C N S K L L
 R L Y F G H A C B S I A R D U J
 C A B Y C U H E D T A O L X T G
 S T P S T A H O A D M G K L H B
 W E F P N F U L E E A W N C E B
 H D E G O A I K E E R G O I R D
 E S E O Y I N F I I A V I E K S
 N S I N T E N D T E T A G L U V
 U N E L R H H T T E C N I S P K
 M E J O G A E D E H S I L B U P
 B W M F I N E R K D E R E H T R
 K Q B I B L E L B F N N R I H A

THERE were many OTHER TRANSLATORS. In 1607, KING JAMES I APPOINTED FIFTY-four SCHOLARS

to MAKE a NEW version. There have BEEN many CHANGES SINCE then as MORE was LEARNED.

THE TREMBLING DAY THE NEW YORK TIMES
CHARGED ISRAEL PRIME MINISTER BENJAMIN
NETANYAHA "RACIST" PBS.ORG NEWS HOUR
MARCH 18, 2015, THURSDAY 6:PM.

UPDATE:

President Barack H. Obama and His Team
frequently contemplated the basis of Prime
Minister Netanyahu personal overt contempt and
disdain and Hostilities towards his Presidency.
He rejected nagging hints of Racism. NYT
Reporter Elaine Cooper NBC MEET THE PRESS.COM
SUNDAY NBC NEWS.COM MARCH 22, 2015 10:AM.
CDT

But No Longer!! Be Be's open "Racist
Rant" NYT, 2d against Arab's exercising
their Lawful Right to Vote "Arabs coming out
in groves." Sealed the IDEA!!!

(Plus, more Truth be Told, it was some
powerful Jews [NOTE: SOME JEWS SUPPORTED
THE RAINBOW COALITION] Lead by New York City
Late Mayor Ed Koch, who stopped candid-
ate Jesse Jackson's "RUN Jesse RUN" for
President in New York's PRIMARY!!!

Life is a Do-It-Yourself Project

An elderly carpenter was ready to retire. He told his employer contractor of his plans to leave the house building business and live a more leisurely life with his wife enjoying his extended family. He would miss the paycheck, but he needed to retire. They could get by.

The contractor was sorry to see his good worker go and asked if he could build just one more house as a personal favor. The carpenter said yes, but in time it was easy to see that his heart was not in his work. He resorted to shoddy workmanship and used inferior materials.

It was an unfortunate way to end his career. When the carpenter finished his work and the builder came to inspect the house, the contractor handed the front door key to the carpenter. "This is your house," he said, "my gift to you."

What a shock! What a shame! If he had only known he was building his own house, he would have done it all so differently. Now he had to live in the home he had built none too well.

So it is with us. We build our lives in a distracted way, reacting rather than acting, willing to put up less than the best. At important points we do not give the job our best effort. Then with a shock we look at the situation we have created and find that we are now living in the house we have built. If we had realized that we would have done it differently.

Think of yourself as the carpenter. Think about your house. Each day you hammer a nail, place a board, or erect a wall. Build wisely.

It is the only life you will ever build. Even if you live it for only one day more, that day deserves to be lived graciously and with dignity.

The plaque on the wall says, "Life is a do-it-yourself project." Who could say it more clearly? Your life today is the result of your attitudes and choices in the past. Your life tomorrow will be the result of your attitudes and the choices you make today.



[unknown]



"Thank you, God, for this good life, and forgive us if we do not love it enough."

radio host **GARRISON KEILLOR**



"Humans may be social beings, but solitude has been shown to have great societal value. Jesus was a great healer and teacher, but he took time to rest and pray. Solitude is essential for our spiritual experience—it is where we hear the still, small voice."

from the book *Renewed: Finding Your Inner Happy in an Overwhelmed World*, by **LUCILLE ZIMMERMAN**

"Perhaps suffering is the yeast God uses to make us rise as individuals."

submitted by GUIDEPOSTS reader **DAVID ANDERSON**, of Durham, North Carolina

"Life loves to be taken by the lapel and told, 'I'm with you, kid. Let's go!'"

MAYA ANGELOU, poet

"A man becomes the song he sings."

said to be a favorite Irish proverb of screen legend **PAT O'BRIEN**, famous for playing priests

"It's okay to visit Memory Lane, just don't live there."

submitted by GUIDEPOSTS reader **JEFFREY LORIMER**, of Lanoka Harbor, New Jersey

"Life is a series of commas, not periods."

actor **MATTHEW McCONAUGHEY**

BY: LEON ZIRBY

DATED: MARCH 24, 2015

A Lesson in Faith From A - Z

Although things are not perfect
Because of trial or pain

Continue in thanksgiving

Do not begin to blame
Even when times are hard

Fierce winds are bound to blow

God is forever able

Hold on to what you know

Imagine life without His love
Joy would cease to be

Keep thanking Him for all the things

Love imparts to thee

Move out of "Camp Complaining"

No weapon that is known
On Earth can yield the power
Praise can do alone

Quit looking at the future
Redeem the time at hand

Start every day with worship

To "thank" is a command

Until we see Him coming
Victorious in the sky

We'll run the race with gratitude
X-aling God most high

Yes, there'll be good times and, yes, some will be
bad, but

Zion waits in glory . . . where none are ever sad!



God be in my head, and in my understanding;
God be in my eyes, and in my looking;
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;
God be in my heart, and in my thinking;
God be at my end, and at my departing.

—THE SARUM PRAYER

**“May you always
walk with the morning
star to guide you,
the summer sun
on your back, and an
angel by your side.”**

—UNKNOWN

