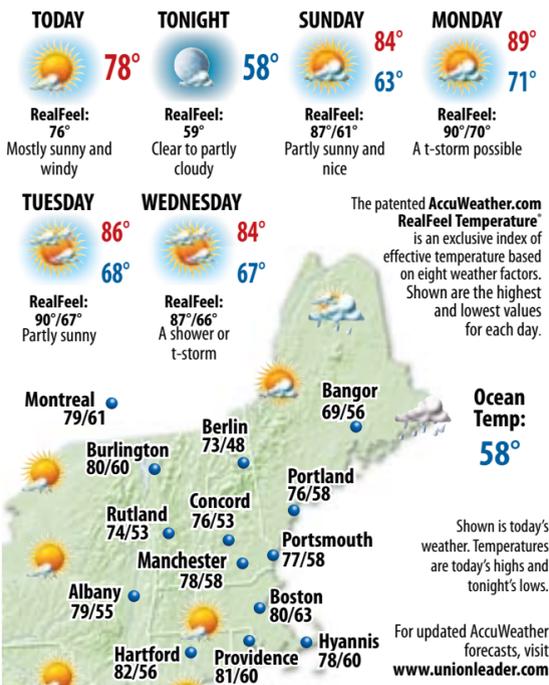


Weather



ALMANAC

Through 4 p.m. yesterday at Concord Airport

Temperature

High/low	70°/65°
Normal high/low	82°/57°
Record high	95° in 2002
Record low	40° in 1971

Cooling Degree Days

Degree days are an indicator of energy needs. The more the total degree days, the more energy is necessary to cool.

Yesterday	3
Month to date (normal)	41 (20)
Since January 1 (normal)	116 (117)

Precipitation

24 hrs through 4 p.m. yest.	1.47"
Month to date	2.96"
Normal month to date	0.44"
Year to date	24.67"
Normal year to date	19.79"

Today's Hampton Tides:

High	5:16 a.m.	5:47 p.m.
Low	11:44 a.m.	---

Moon Phases

First	Full	Last	New
Jul 5	Jul 12	Jul 18	Jul 26

Sun and Moon

	Today	Tomorrow
Sunrise	5:13 a.m.	5:14 a.m.
Sunset	8:28 p.m.	8:27 p.m.
Moonrise	1:16 p.m.	2:18 p.m.
Moonsset	12:06 a.m.	12:37 a.m.

Pollen Source: Asthma and Allergy Associates

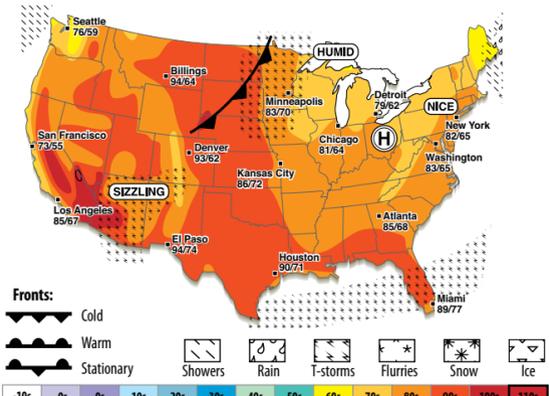
Trees	Low
Grasses	Low
Weeds	Low
Mold	N.A.

NATIONAL SUMMARY

Rain will taper off across Maine today as Arthur departs. With the exception of thunderstorms in Florida, the remainder of the East will be nice and dry. The humidity will be unusually low across the Northeast and mid-Atlantic. Thunderstorms will dot the Desert Southwest, while a few more storms will hit the central Plains.

NATIONAL FORECAST

Shown are today's noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.



National Extremes Friday's extremes for the 48 contiguous states.

High: 103° at Barstow, CA	Low: 33° at Bodie State Park, CA
----------------------------------	---

City	Yest. Hi/Lo/Precip	Today Hi/Lo/W	City	Yest. Hi/Lo/Precip	Today Hi/Lo/W
Albuquerque	81/61/0.00	90/68/pc	Los Angeles	81/62/0.00	85/67/s
Anchorage	69/59/0.00	74/58/s	Miami	91/79/0.00	89/77/pc
Atlanta	83/64/0.00	85/68/s	Memphis	82/64/0.00	85/63/s
Chicago	78/58/0.00	81/64/s	New Orleans	87/78/0.00	91/73/pc
Cleveland	71/54/0.00	79/59/s	New York City	74/66/0.14	82/65/s
Dallas	93/74/0.00	93/74/s	Orlando	90/75/0.05	90/73/t
Denver	92/60/0.00	93/62/pc	Phoenix	91/79/0.00	102/87/t
Detroit	76/55/0.00	79/62/s	Pittsburgh	73/57/0.00	79/54/s
Kansas City	81/59/0.00	86/72/t	St. Louis	80/63/0.00	85/69/s
Las Vegas	99/85/0.00	99/82/t	San Francisco	68/55/0.00	73/55/pc

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, f-ice.
Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather.com** ©2014

The Back Page

Even with soggy 4th, hot dogs gobbled, plenty of small-town parades still on

By VICTORIA CAVALIERE
Reuters

NEW YORK — Hot dog eating champs, back yard picnickers and small-town parade lovers pressed on with July Fourth celebrations, some with less sizzle after wet weather on the U.S. East Coast postponed fireworks shows.

Hurricane Arthur dampened many Independence Day plans but didn't wash out the annual Nathan's Famous Fourth of July International Hot Dog-Eating Contest in Coney Island, New York, where a slate of men and women professional eaters competed for purses of \$20,000.

World champion Joey "Jaws" Chestnut, 30, of San Jose, California, walked away with his eighth-straight title after inhaling 61 wieners and buns — short of his world record of 69 set in 2013. Chestnut was pitted against runner-up Matt Stonie, who took down 56 hot dogs in 10 minutes.

Chestnut, who proposed marriage to his girlfriend on stage to roars from the crowd of about 1,000 people just before the competition, followed his win by patting his belly and declaring he felt "really good" about his win and impending nuptials.

The women's contest saw an upset this year, with rookie Miki Sudo, 28, of Las Vegas, toppling reigning champion Sonya Thomas, eating 34 hot dogs in 10 minutes.

"I love watching the guys stuff their faces," said Barbara Hicks, 43, of Queens.

While her beach plans were scrapped because of the rain, she intended to try the amusement park rides,

"I love watching the guys stuff their faces."

BARBARA HICKS
Nathan's hot dog eating contest fan

including the famous Cyclone roller coaster and the newly opened state-of-the-art thrill ride, the Thunderbolt.

"We're going to have fun no matter the weather," she said. Roads were expected to be jammed during the busiest summer travel holiday weekend, with 41 million people traveling 50 miles or more from home, the American Automobile Association said.

That marks a 1.9 percent increase over the 40.3 million people who traveled this time last year, AAA said.

Travelers can be undaunted by the weather, even a Category 1 like Hurricane Arthur, experts said. "People do try to err on the side of keeping their vacation plans in place. They want to go. They want to travel," said AAA spokeswoman Heather Hunter.

Erin Hutchinson, 36, a marketer from Pittsburgh, Pa., who traveled to Maplewood, N.J., to visit family was wearing socks with stars and stripes at the start of a 5K running race.

"We have an indoors back-up plan," Hutchinson said, noting she would take her children, Ava, 9, and Kane, 4, to ice cream eating contests and a dog show that had been moved inside to a community hall.

With the storm approach-



Men's division winner Joey Chestnut celebrates after winning at the annual Nathan's Famous Fourth of July Hot Dog Eating Contest at Coney Island in the Brooklyn borough of New York Friday. Hurricane Arthur dampened many Independence Day plans but didn't wash out the annual Nathan's hot dog eating contest in Coney Island, N.Y.



Contestants Sonya Thomas, left, and Miki Sudo compete in the annual Nathan's Famous Fourth of July Hot Dog Eating Contest at Coney Island in the Brooklyn borough of New York on Friday.

ing, towns from Ocean City, Md., to Nashua, N.H., delayed July Fourth fireworks displays to Saturday. Most towns in Connecticut put off festivities, while the famed Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular tried to beat the hurricane by quickly rescheduling to July 3.

In California, a fast-moving wildfire near the town of Julian, about 35 miles east of San Diego, destroyed 150 acres and two homes and prompted officials to cancel the local July Fourth parade. By midday, it was nearly contained, said Cal Fire Captain Kendal Bortisser.



Petrus Kerras, a decorated U.S. Navy veteran of both the Korean and Vietnam wars, left, rides on a float in a July Fourth parade in Barnstable, Mass., on Friday. A man, right, waves an American flag as he watches the July Fourth parade in Barnstable on Friday. Barnstable was first settled in 1639, and is celebrating its 375th anniversary in 2014.



REUTERS/MIKE SEGAR

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	#12B410 Blis, Moonroof, Backup Camera, Cooled & Heated Seats	'12 LINCOLN MKZ AWD W/ NAVIGATION SALE PRICED AT \$25,419
	#12B408 Moonroof, Rear View Camera, Blis	'12 LINCOLN MKZ HYBRID W/NAVIGATION SALE PRICED AT \$25,949
	#11B412 Backup Camera, Dual Panel Moonroof, THX Stereo, Kona Blue	'11 LINCOLN MKS ECOBOOST W/ NAVIGATION SALE PRICED AT \$28,319
	#11B405 White Platinum, THX Stereo, Panoramic Roof, Rear view Camera	'11 LINCOLN MKX AWD W/NAVIGATION SALE PRICED AT \$32,959
	#12B418 THX Stereo, Panoramic Roof, Rear View Camera, Blis System	'12 LINCOLN MKX AWD W/ NAVIGATION SALE PRICED AT \$35,574
	#11B420 Heated/Cooled Seats, Canyon Interior, Back-Up Camera, 8 Passenger	'11 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR ELITE LIMITED W/NAVIGATION SALE PRICED AT \$41,872

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Book: 'Star-Spangled Banner' author may have been tone deaf

By JEFFREY B. ROTH
Reuters

GETTYSBURG — The author of the "The Star-Spangled Banner," which will ring out at thousands of baseball games and parades across the United States this Independence Day weekend, may have been tone deaf, according to a new biography.

As the 200th anniversary of the famously difficult-to-sing anthem approaches, the book "What So Proudly We Hailed: Francis Scott Key, A Life," by historian Marc Leepson reveals some little-known details about Key and his tribute to the "land of the free and the home of the brave."

It is well-known that Key, a Georgetown, Virginia, attorney, became a witness to the Sept. 13-14, 1814, British naval bombardment of Fort McHenry in Baltimore after agreeing to help win the release of Maryland physician Dr. William Beanes. Beanes had been taken

prisoner by the British. With the blessing of President James Madison, Key, assisted by John Stuart Skinner, negotiated the doctor's release.

But because the three Americans had learned of the British battle plans, they were put under guard on an American truce ship in Baltimore Harbor in advance of the long night's cannon and rocket bombardment of Fort McHenry.

Seeing the large American flag by "rockets' red glare," Key was inspired to pen the poem "The Defense of Fort McHenry." Almost immediately, Key "wedded the lyrics to a popular British melody, 'The Anacreon in Heaven,'" Leepson said.

"He was not musical and he had never written a song in his life and he may have been tone deaf," Leepson added. The song, which was later retitled "The Star-Spangled-Banner," quickly became popular but did not officially become the U.S. national anthem until 1931.

For 33 years, man took dead mom's Social Security benefits

(Reuters) — An Ohio man has pleaded guilty to federal charges that he collected more than \$230,000 in Social Security benefits intended for his mother for 33 years after she died. Frank Pospisil admitted in U.S. District Court in Dayton, Ohio, on Wednesday that he had stolen his mother's Social Security survivor benefits totaling \$230,479 since she died in 1981, according to federal court documents.

Maryland vandals tag sow, piglets with graffiti
Vandals broke into a Maryland petting zoo this week and painted graffiti on a sow and her piglets, police said on Wednesday. The taggers used blue veterinary antiseptic spray to paint "Hello my pretty" on the 650-pound, 3-year-old mother at the Green Meadows Petting Farm in Monrovia, Maryland.

India finance minister UFO Facebook post angers "common men"
With many Indians worrying about the threat of tough measures in their new government's first budget next week, a Facebook post suggesting the finance minister might be pondering less earthly matters quickly roused anger on Wednesday.

Arun Jaitley, a key confidante of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, published a message celebrating "World UFO Day" on his Facebook page, which is one of the main forums in which he publishes official information. Robbers attack PA gun collectors home, leave with 31 guns