

Groton Daily Independent

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Breck to play fiddle at Trinity on Sunday

Betty Breck will be playing hymns with her fiddle at Sunday's (July 27) worship service at the Trinity Historic Church in Groton at Third Ave. and Third Street. Service will be held at 5 p.m. Sunday. You are invited to the service in the historic setting. Offering will be used to help maintain the church and to pay for insurance.



Tuesday, July 22

Senior Menu: Roast Beef, Potatoes/Carrots/Onions, Gravy, Honey Dew Melon or Peaches, Dinner Roll.

Birthdays: Bill Podoll • Jean Lowary • Allison Weber • Charles Knudsen • Sara Menzia

10:00am: United Methodist Women's Bible Study

12:00pm: Olive Grove Bridge

6:00pm: 10U Softball host Warner

6:00pm: Teeners at Warner

6:15pm: Olive Grove Ladies Golf Night

7:00pm: 12U Softball host Warner

Wednesday, July 23

Olive Grove Kid's Lessons

Senior Menu: BBQ Chicken, Rosemary Red Potatoes, Old Fashioned Slaw, Strawberry Jello Dessert, Whole Wheat Bread.

Anniversary: Dwight & Kim Zerr

Birthdays: Joyce Walter • Dylan Young • Chantel Tunby • Matt Locke

7:00am: United Methodist Men's Bible Study

12:00pm: Kiwanis meets at the Community Center

6:00pm: Olive Grove Men's League

Thursday, July 24

SD Wheat Growers Golfing at Olive Grove

Senior Menu: Herbed Roast Pork, Baked Potato/S.Cream, Lemon Buttered Broccoli, Cinnamon Applesauce, Whole Wheat Bread.

Anniversary: Roger and Pam Rix

Birthdays: Christi Swenson • Nathan Loutsch • Nicole Foote • Karen Lane • Harvey Fliehs II • Macine McGannon

The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is back and is open!

Recycling Trailer in Groton

The recycling trailer is back in Groton at 10 East Railroad Ave. Don't forget, there is also a dumpster at the city shop for aluminum cans with the proceeds going to the pool.

Council authorizes offer on Huron slide

Huron had declared surplus a 110' slide for \$4,500 last year. There were no takers on it and the pool where it now sits is abandoned as Huron built a new water park. The slide will have to be disassembled, sandblasted and then installed at the Groton pool. The council is thinking that when all is said and done, it will cost \$30,000 to move and install the new slide. "That's a lot cheaper than \$250,000 for a new slide," said Councilman David Blackmun. The council will offer \$3,000 and will request that they disassemble the slide. "If they're going to throw it away," said Councilman Burt Glover, "they're going to disassemble it anyway." When the slide was used in Huron, they had two lifeguards monitoring it - one on top and one at the bottom. Finance Officer Anita Lowary reported that the annual insurance premium for the slide will be \$350 and property insurance will go up by \$150 if the value assigned is \$50,000 or \$600 if the value assigned is \$200,000.

The safe route to school grant was discussed with the project being cut down from 12 blocks of sidewalk down to a little more of six blocks, but the council questioned some of the expenses listed for the project. They had \$61,000 assigned for removal of sidewalk and there is no sidewalk to be removed in the project area. The grant is for \$210,393.00. The area being considered for sidewalk is as follows: the north side of Fifth Avenue between First Street and Broadway, the east side of First Street between Fifth Avenue and Fourth Avenue, the north side of Fifth Avenue between Broadway and Lincoln, the north side of Fourth Avenue between Broadway and Lincoln, and a small portion on the east side of the block on the north side of Fourth Avenue just west of First Street.

The new well at the Olive Grove pump house is operating quite well. So far, the city has spent less than \$10,000 on the project with \$25,000 budgeted. Remaining work includes pouring concrete and putting up a building. David McGannon said he will be showing the golf course people how to operate the well.

Curb and gutter will begin on Tuesday on the west side of Groton.

The state is going to put an overlay on Railroad Avenue from Sixth Street to US 12 as part of the 2016 detour with the construction of SD 37 through Groton.

There was discussion on responses from the nuisance letters sent out. Thirty-one were sent out with 12 responses. Two residences were given until October 1 to comply. The rest were denied. "We have ordinances," said Councilman Eddy Opp. "Either we put teeth into it or let it go."

Councilman David Blackmun said he has talked with Steve Giedt about the Groton Baseball Foundation help with renovation of the baseball complex. Plans include having a meeting with the city council baseball committee and the foundation committee next Wednesday to outline a plan of attack.

A new ordinance is going to be proposed to prohibit people from blowing grass and leaves onto the street. It would be considered a Class 2 Misdemeanor which would result in 30 days in jail and/or a \$200 fine.

A second reading was passed on the new cemetery regulations and nuisance vehicle definition.

One of Groton's finest homes looking for a new family



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CARDS OF THANKS

Thank you family and friends for helping me celebrate my 80th birthday.
Yvonne Gibbs

I would like to extend a thank you to my family for hosting a surprise birthday party. This was very much appreciated. Thank you to all who came, for the cards and phone calls. Thanks again and God bless you!

Norman Townsend

EMPLOYMENT

Looking for a rewarding opportunity? Sun Dial Manor in Bristol is accepting applications for CAN's and a Restorative Aide to assist residents in the Restorative Therapy Department, and a Cook. Small, drug free facility with new upgrades and recently remodeled. We offer competitive wages and benefits. For questions, please call Connie Brown RN, DON, at 605/492-3615. (0702.0730)

FOR RENT

ONE AND TWO bedroom apartment for rent. HDS subsidized. Rent includes utilities and heat. No smoking. Pets okay. Contact Kendra at 605/215-4000.

FOR SALE

Beautiful and spacious townhouse for sale by owners. Three bedrooms, three baths, finished basement with a custom wet bar. Heated 2 car attached garage. Low monthly rural utilities and low rural taxes. Priced to sell. If interested, please call Lisa @ 605 290 2404 or Dennis @ 605 880 4821.

Once Upon A Time... Adventures in Imagination!

The Dacotah Prairie Museum is proud to announce the new children's event: "Once Upon A Time...Adventures in Imagination!" to be held at the Granary Rural Cultural Center on Saturday, August 2. Times of the Event will be from 1:00 to 4:30pm which will include two showings of the Walt Disney Film "The Sword in the Stone" at 1:00 and at 3:00pm.

Children may enjoy either the 1:00 or 3:00 showing of the movie in Putney Hall on the new big screen. Before or after the movie, children are invited to be involved in a host of exciting activities on the Granary grounds. To add to the fun, children are invited to come to the Granary dressed as their favorite storybook or movie character!

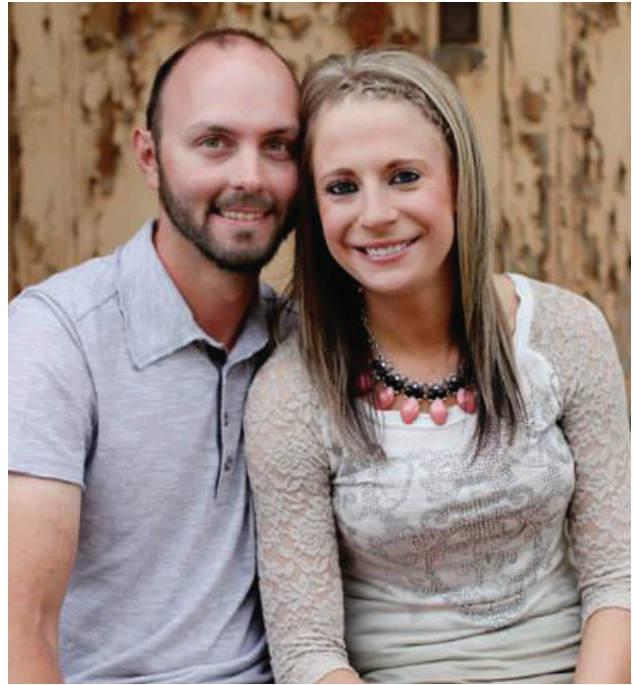
"Mother Goose" will be telling stories and rhymes in the shade of the sculpture garden. Children will tell a favorite story by fashioning a mask of a character to wear at the mask-making gazebo and create home-made musical instruments to accompany singing and dancing. Face painting will magically transform children into their favorite storybook character and before the end of the exciting day they will order a fantastic creation made of balloons to take home! Face painting and balloons begin at 2:30 pm.

Treats and punch will be available and, of course, popcorn with the movie! Free will donations will be appreciated to defray the cost of the event.

To be included in this special day of imagination at the Granary, please call the Museum at 626-7117 to pre-register. All children must be registered and have an accompanying adult to attend. Directions to the Granary are on the Website: dacotahpraiiemuseum.com or available by calling (605)626-7117 when registering. For a magical afternoon in imagination, plan to be at the Granary on August 2nd!

EMPLOYMENT

MAINTENANCE WORKER: The City of Conde, SD, is now accepting applications for a full-time Maintenance Worker. Work areas include, but are not limited to water, sewer, streets, snow removal, and rubble site. The following certifications/licenses must be possessed or be able to obtain: Commercial Applicator's License, Class I Water Distribution, Class I Wastewater Treatment and Distribution, and a valid SD driver's license. Mechanical ability and knowledge and experience with all types of equipment are desired. Individual must also be dependable, reliable, friendly, and able to work with others. Salary/wage is depending upon qualifications and experience. Applications and/or additional information may be obtained from the City Finance Office, PO Box 113, Conde, SD 57434. Telephone: 605-382-5258 or email ctyconde@nvc.net. The City Office is located in the north side of the former school on Broadway St. SW, Conde, SD. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.



Scheuffele/Hoffman engaged

Josh Scheuffele of Aberdeen and Jayme Hoffman, Groton, are engaged and plan an August 2, 2014 marriage ceremony at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Aberdeen.

Parents of the couple are Rick and Cindy Scheuffele, Aberdeen; James Hoffman, Harrold; and Lynette Grieve, Groton.

The groom-to-be is employed at Harr Motors, Aberdeen, and the bride-to-be is employed at Wells Fargo Bank, Aberdeen.

Removal, Grinding, Chipping, Trimming

605-725-WOOD

Mason Dinger: 605-216-6098

Trevor Zeck: 605-216-8910



**DAKOTA TREE
COMPANY**

Fire board looks at needs for Bath station

With the annexation of Bath Township into the Groton Fire and Rescue Tax District, the fire board has made a point of holding at least one board meeting at the Bath fire hall. Monday evening's board meeting held in Bath focused on the remaining needs of the Bath fireman.

The addition of the new fire engine, purchased from the Aberdeen Fire Department, provides the needed firefighting capability that the old engine lacked. However, there is still much that needs to be done to bring the department up to code.

One of the things that the board members stressed to the Bath fireman attending the meeting was the need for a working wish list. While Fire Chief Dion Bahr can provide a list of the items most pressing, the board would like to know what the department



The fire engine purchased from the Aberdeen Fire Department is a much needed addition to the Bath fire department. (Photo by Char Telkamp)

sees as items that may need to be replaced next year or a couple of years down the road. The men working the equipment, and have been for years, have a better working knowledge of how the equipment is working and when it was replaced or serviced last.

At that point, the board was presented with a list of items that Bahr and Assistant Fire Chief Tom Tietz, had drawn up that was needed to bring the Bath pumper truck up to the required specs. The itemized list included things like tools, nozzles, hose racks and axes. The estimated cost of the items on the list was \$4160. The board agreed to order the necessary equipment.

The Bath Fireman also mentioned that some of the bunker gear was nearing the end of its shelf life. The gear is only rated to last 10 years, after that it needs to be replaced. As Bahr was unable to attend the meeting, due to an illness, it was unknown by the board if the gear ordered by Bahr included gear for the Bath department. The fireman felt that at least one or two sets of bunker gear were needed as well as wildland gear for most of the department. Wildland gear is clothing designed to fight grass and wild fires. The board will look into what has been ordered and get prices to replace the needed gear.

In the prepared Fire Chief's report, Bahr noted that Jerry Locke, of Locke Electric, has been asked to tour the Bath Fire Hall to see about updating the electrical needs of the department and look at replacing the lighting in the hall.

Locke has also looked at the needs of the Groton Fire Hall in replacing the generator. A new generator that would provide all the electrical needs of the fire hall, including opening the doors and providing heat, should the power ever go out. The board worried that the 10kw generator quoted may not provide all the power needed especially future needs. The motion to purchase the generator died due to a lack of a second. The board will continue to look into the requirements.

Board member Dale Ringgenberg reported that everything was going well with the rescue squad. He also noted that Groton will be one of the only communities to provide ambulance services in the area outside of Aberdeen as both Hecla and Frederick have lost their services.

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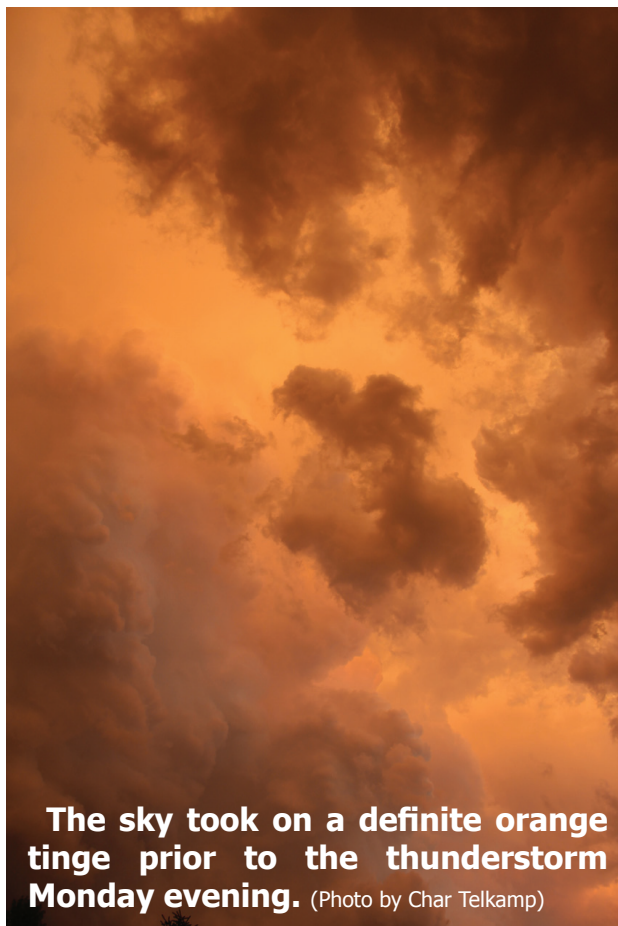


Fireboard members Rick Pigors, Dale Ringgenberg, treasurer; Bob Osterman, president; and Butch Radke are pictured during the fire board meeting on Monday evening at the Bath fire hall. Other board members attending but not pictured were Bruce Sippel, secretary; and Rod Kappes. (Photo by Char Telkamp)

Earlier in the meeting, Ringgenberg presented his treasurer's report. It was noted that several fire calls are still unpaid for. The 12 calls result in over \$3,000 in unpaid fire calls.

Prior to closing the meeting, President Bob Osterman expressed his thanks to the Groton Fireman who cancelled or changed their plans on Saturday to help provide water to the scheduled mud drag races.

-Char Telkamp










The sky took on a definite orange tinge prior to the thunderstorm Monday evening. (Photo by Char Telkamp)



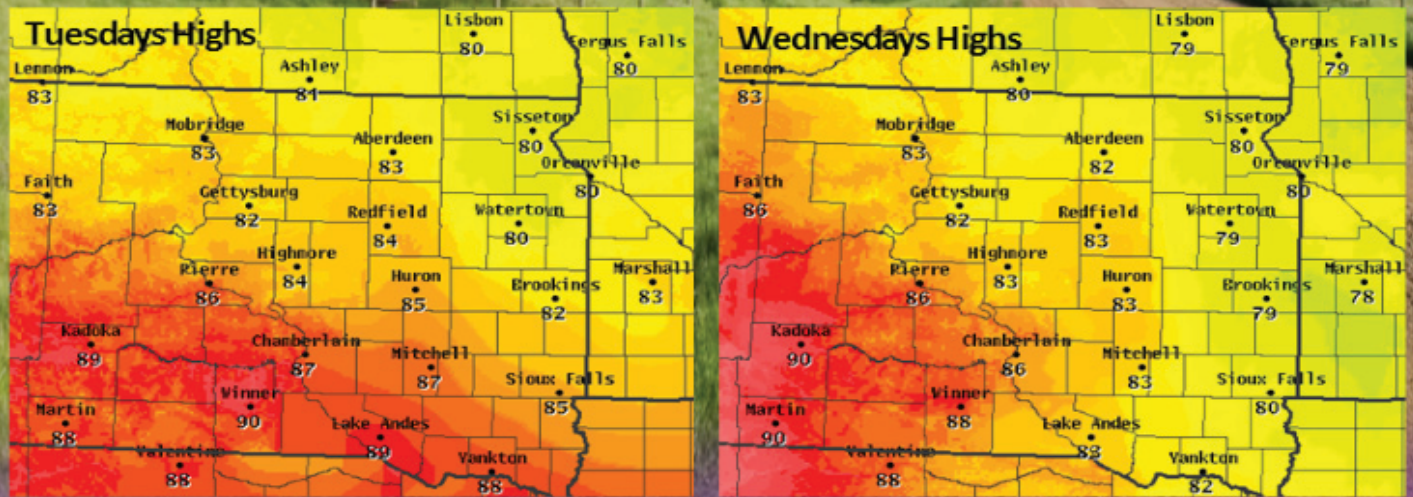
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| TODAY | TONIGHT | WEDNESDAY | WEDNESDAY NIGHT | THURSDAY | THURSDAY NIGHT | FRIDAY |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Isolated Thunderstorms High: 81 °F | Partly Cloudy Low: 57 °F | Mostly Sunny High: 81 °F | Chance Thunderstorms Low: 61 °F | Chance Thunderstorms High: 82 °F | Chance Thunderstorms Low: 66 °F | Chance Thunderstorms High: 83 °F |

Milder Today - Wednesday

Canadian High pressure system responsible for bringing much lower humidity to the region



Canadian high pressure will result in milder temperatures and lower humidity today and Wednesday.

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Yesterday's Weather

High: 90.3°F at 6:15 PM

Heat Index: 105.0

Low: 70.1°F at 6:28 AM

High Gust: 29 mph at 3:02 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 111° in 1934

Record Low: 46° in 1980, 1949, 1925

Average High: 84°F

Average Low: 60°F

Average Precip in July.: 2.16

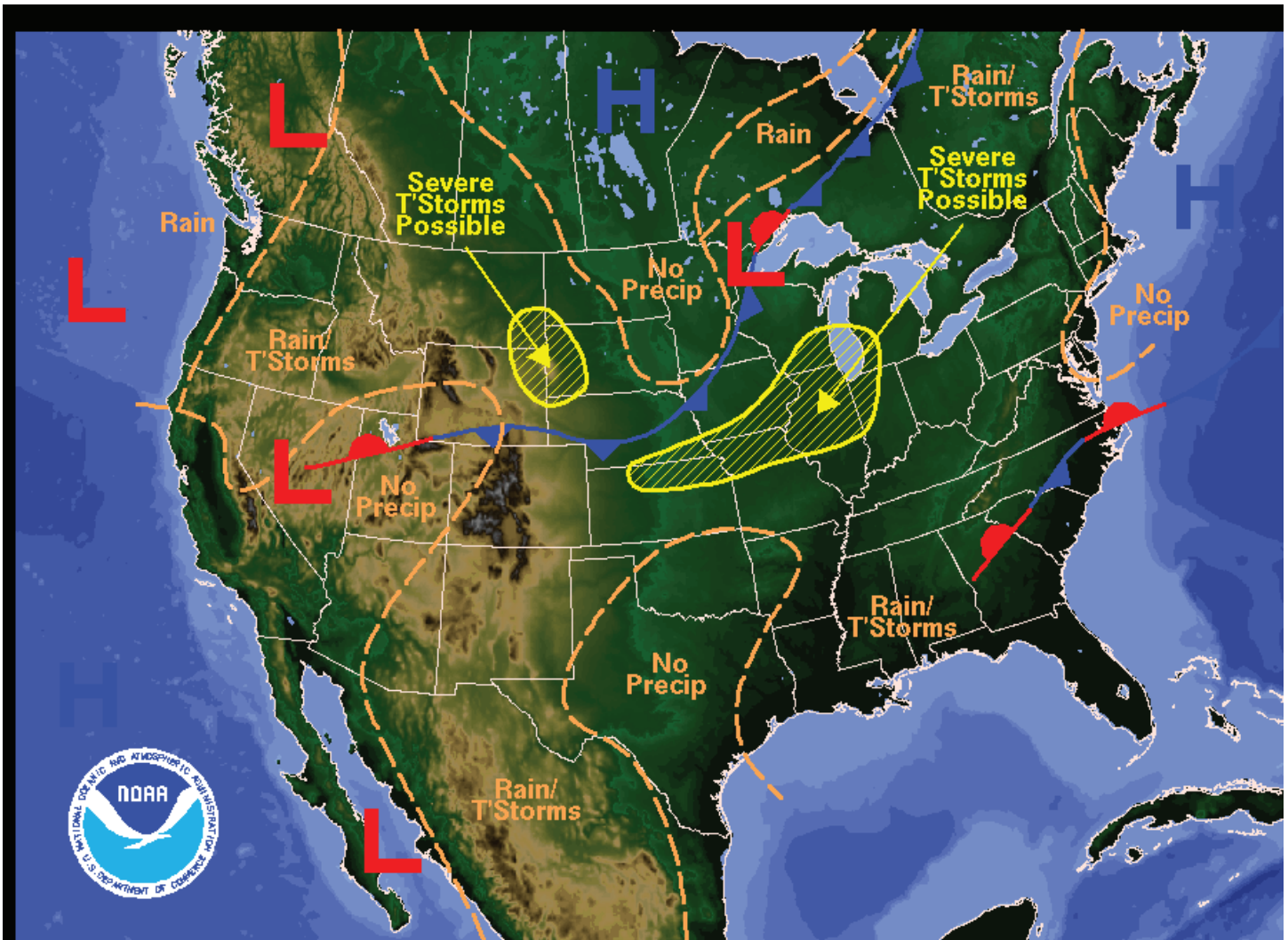
Precip to date in July.: 0.00

Average Precip to date: 13.00

Precip Year to Date: 9.13

Sunset Tonight: 9:13 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:08 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Tue, Jul 22, 2014, issued 2:39 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Mc Reynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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Today in Weather History

July 22, 1926: An estimated F2 tornado moved east across the northern part of Hyde County, destroying two barns.

July 22, 1999: An F0 tornado touched down briefly on a farm southeast of Onida. Over half of the roof of a 40 by 45 foot building was torn off and deposited in a tree belt 200 yards to the north. The south wall of this building was caved in and the north wall was pulled out and the overhead door was ripped off. A grain auger was also damaged when it was pushed up against a granary. A semi trailer was blown over. About 400 acres of ripe wheat were also flattened and some sunflowers suffered damage as a result of the tornado.

July 22, 2011: Numerous severe thunderstorms brought hail up to the size of golf balls, damaging winds over 70 mph, along with flash flooding to parts of north central and northeast South Dakota. Most of the hail occurred in Grant and Codington counties. Several roads were flooded by nearly 4 inches of rain in Grant County. Five miles west of South Shore in Codington County, over 3 inches of rain brought flash flooding to several roads. The strong winds were observed in Corson, Walworth, and McPherson counties. About 9 miles west of Long Lake, eighty mph winds ripped a grain bin from the fasteners, pushed the north wall of a garage in, snapped several corral poles, tipped over a grain vac and feeder wagon, moved a semitrailer four feet, and caused some minor damage to the house. Also, many branches were broken off along with several trees uprooted.

22 July 1890: An F4 tornado near Taunton, MN leveled houses and carried chickens for over two miles.

22 July 1918: A single bolt of lightning struck 504 sheep dead in their tracks in the Wasatch National Forest in Utah. Sheep often herd together in storms, and as a result the shock from the lightning bolt was passed from one animal to another.

22 July 1993: During the Great Flood of 1993, levees near Kaskaskia, IL ruptured, forcing the entire town to evacuate by barges operated by the Army Corps of Engineers.

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CAN YOU SEE HIM NOW?

God has planted evidence of His existence on the pages of history, in the handiwork of nature and the beauty of the skies above us. We read of His faithfulness to care for His people from the beginning of recorded history to this very moment. We find nourishment for our bodies tucked away in plants, animals and minerals. Sailors find directions in the stars He hung in the heavens as they sail from one country to another. Wherever we look, we can find God's fingerprint on the planet or a signpost that directs to His dwelling above us.

Yet, it takes a willingness to see Him, an open mind to search for Him, a sensitive heart to accept Him and a selfless life to follow Him.

Even those who do not want to believe in Him, use the minds He gave them to try to deny His existence. The arguments they offer and the logic they use, in the final analysis, came from His grace. When we look at all the gods that have been created by man, not one of them has stood the test of time. They last only as long as their creator and then pass into the darkness of emptiness.

But the Creator, the God who is God, spoke through a Psalmist and said, "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands. Day after day...and night after night...there is no language where their voice is not heard."

Man may speak and argue, lecture and labor, write and work to erase the existence of God, but there is no way they can reach into the heavens and hide the stars.

Prayer: Thank You, God, our Creator, for making Your existence visible to those who desire to know and love You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today:
Psalm 19:1 The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork.

A colorful advertisement for a taco bar and soup night. The background features a red, white, and green zigzag pattern. On the left, there is a large illustration of a taco. In the center, the text "Come 'n' Get It!" is written in a large, bold, red font with a white outline. Below that, "Friday is Taco Bar and Soup Night" is written in a smaller red font. At the bottom, "Andover Bar & Grill" is written in a large, bold, black font, with "Serving 5-9 p.m." in a green font to its right. At the bottom center, the address "120 S Main St. • 298-5252" is written in a smaller black font. On the right side, there is another illustration of a taco.

News from the Associated Press

' Fargo ' gets 2nd season on FX with new cast, crime

ALICIA RANCILIO, Associated Press

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — FX is taking another trip to " Fargo ," where the cast is changing but some of the characters are not.

The network announced Monday that it has renewed the series for a second season with new actors, time period and crime.

Executive Producer Noah Hawley told a TV Critics ' panel that season two will be set primarily in North Dakota in 1979 with a younger version of the Lou Solverson character (played by Keith Carradine in season one.) His daughter, Molly, who Allison Tolman portrayed, is just 4 years old.

Hawley said he ' s open to changing the weather and is toying with starting the story in the winter and transitioning to spring and summer.

The earliest the series will air is fall 2015.

Hawley said it would be easier to tap the same actors to return, but he ' s committed to making " Fargo " an anthology.

FX CEO John Landgraf said that while he thinks casting an Oscar-winning actor like Billy Bob Thornton helped attract viewers, he ' s not sure that it ' s necessary for season two.

Landgraf noted that Tolman, who began the series as an unknown actress, now has an Emmy nomination.

" We needed Billy Bob Thornton, but now the show, the title, the tone, the writing ... are the star of that show," Landgraf said.

Landgraf compared " Fargo ," which also starred Martin Freeman, to HBO ' s " True Detective ," saying the latter " is gonna have to prove that it ' s more than just a vehicle for movie stars." Hawley has " already proven he can write something really great," Landgraf said.

" Fargo " has earned 18 Emmy nominations. It was based on the 1996 Coen brothers ' movie.

SD gets over \$294K to digitize historic newspapers

WASHINGTON (AP) — South Dakota has been granted more than \$294,000 in federal funds to digitize 100,000 pages of historic state newspapers published between 1836 and 1922.

U.S. Senator Tim Johnson on Monday announced the grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Johnson says the funds will help preserve and promote South Dakota ' s rich history.

The grant will be administered by State Archivist Chelle Somsen.

South Dakota ' s Digital Newspaper Project is part of a larger, national newspaper archiving program.

Dakotas lead US in economic well-being for kids

BY KEVIN BURBACH, Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — Strong local economies and an oil boom have helped the Dakotas lead the nation in terms of economic well-being for children, according a report released Tuesday by a national children ' s advocacy group that also says the two states could improve when it comes to education and kids living in poverty.

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The annual Kids Count report, published Tuesday by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, ranked North Dakota and South Dakota as the top two states for economic well-being, based on data from 2012, the most recent year for which the information is available. This is the third year North Dakota ranks No. 1 in the economic well-being category, which measures the percentage of children in poverty, along with parental employment, housing costs and the number of teens working or in school.

The annual report also looks at statistics on education, health and family and community in each state. Carole Cochran, the project director for Kids Count South Dakota, said North Dakota's booming oil and gas industry has helped push South Dakota up in the rankings.

"There's certainly an economic impact that is broader than just North Dakota," she said.

Laura Speer, the associate director of policy reform and advocacy at the Casey Foundation, said the Great Plains as a whole have fared better than the rest of the country in recent years in terms of economic development. The other spots in the top five are held by Iowa, Minnesota and Nebraska.

"It's not necessarily new," Speer said. It's just that "the states in the Great Plains seem to have weathered the recession a bit better than other states have."

But despite a strong economic showing, organizations in both North Dakota and South Dakota stressed that the number of children living in poverty — particularly Native American children — and measures of educational readiness are troublesome.

The percentage of children in North Dakota — 13 percent, or about 20,000 — who are living below the poverty line is the lowest in the nation, but has remained stagnant, said Karen Olson, the project manager for North Dakota Kids Count at North Dakota State University.

"Despite that rapid growth in North Dakota's economy, that poverty rate has not changed in 12 years," she said.

Olson also said there are significant disparities within the state. About half of Native American children in North Dakota live in poverty.

In South Dakota, 17 percent of children, or about 35,000, live below the poverty line. Speer said American Indian children in the state fare worse in terms of education and poverty than any other group in the country.

"So, certainly, when you look at the state level, when you look across the Plains, kids are doing really well at the economic well-being measures — at the median — but it's not the case for all kids," she said.

In both states, most children ages 3 and 4 are not enrolled in preschool. About 64 percent of children in North Dakota — 5th worst in the nation — are not enrolled in preschool, which research shows can improve school readiness and help at-risk children. In South Dakota, about 62 percent of children are not attending preschool.

Men sentenced in case involving ex-USD athletes

REGINA GARCIA CANO, Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Two Florida men accused of participating in a scheme in which former University of South Dakota athletes and others used stolen identities to fraudulently collect hundreds of thousands of dollars in tax refunds were sentenced to federal prison Monday.

U.S. District Judge Karen E. Schreier ordered Raunta Ellison to serve 5 years and 1 month in prison, while Dametrius Turner, a former cornerback for the Coyotes, was sentenced to 3 ½ years.

Prosecutors say Ellison, 25, and Turner, 23, were among 11 people who participated in a ring that stole people's identities and filed bogus income tax returns showing about \$1.1 million in refunds due, according to the U.S. Attorney's office in South Dakota. The Internal Revenue Service paid fraudulent

refunds of about \$500,000 before the scheme was uncovered.

Seven of the 11 people have ties to the University of South Dakota. Six, including the alleged ring leader, Alphonso "Rico" Valdez, played for the school's football team. Another former student was part of the track and field team and student body president.

The ring was indicted in 2012. Four people, all from Tampa, Florida, have since pleaded guilty. Ellison, Turner and co-defendant Charlie Frank Adams, 23, who was sentenced in January, have been ordered to pay the IRS and ID theft victims nearly \$422,000. Valdez' former girlfriend, Melissa Dinataly, 23, was sentenced to two years in prison in June.

Seven co-defendants are expected to face trial before the end of the year.

Prosecutors say Valdez recruited students at USD and people he knew in Tampa to gather names, addresses and other identifying information, and used that information to file the fraudulent tax returns.

The scam was discovered when Valdez used preloaded debit cards to withdraw \$900 in cash from an ATM in Vermillion, South Dakota. Valdez tried to hide his identity by wearing sunglasses and a stocking cap. That led investigators to a USD dorm room, where authorities say they found evidence of fraud that started a more than 6-month investigation.

Turner's attorney, Kenneth Tschetter, said on Monday his client is "definitely" remorseful for his actions and will not appeal his sentence. Tschetter said Turner was in the "back end" of the operation and did not steal any identities. The attorney said Turner provided addresses where some of the returns were sent and picked up a couple of the debit cards in the mail.

William Sims, Ellison's lawyer, said he and his client have not decided whether to appeal the judge's decision.

The 11 people were charged with conspiracy to defraud the United States, and all but one was charged with aggravated identity theft. The conspiracy charge carries a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. The identity theft charge has a mandatory punishment of two years in prison.

Lake Andres man sentenced to prison on meth charge

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota man has been sentenced to a decade in prison on a methamphetamine charge.

Forty-two-year-old Michael Andrews, of Lake Andes, pleaded guilty in April to distribution of a controlled substance.

Authorities say Andrews sold meth in January 2013 to a confidential source working with the FBI.

U.S. District Judge Karen Schreier on Monday ordered Andrews to serve 10 years in prison followed by three years of supervised release.

Crop conditions good despite week with little rain

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Crop conditions in South Dakota were reported mostly good to excellent despite a week with little rainfall.

The Agriculture Department says in its weekly crop report that topsoil moisture supplies were 82 percent adequate to surplus and subsoil moisture was rated 84 percent adequate to surplus.

Spring wheat, oats and corn were all rated at least 80 percent good to excellent. Barley was rated 65 percent good and 13 percent excellent.

Pasture and range conditions were reported to be 22 percent excellent, 55 percent good, 19 percent fair and 4 percent poor.

Sioux Falls worker killed in industrial accident

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls police are investigating an industrial accident that killed a worker at a concrete plant.

Police say 59-year-old David Lee VanVoorst, of Sioux Fargo, was killed after he was struck by a 3,200-pound concrete culvert.

The accident happened about 8:15 a.m. Monday at Josten Concrete Products in Sioux Falls.

Lance Armstrong is grand marshal for Sturgis ride

STURGIS, S.D. (AP) — Dethroned cyclist Lance Armstrong has been named the official grand marshal of the mayor's ride to kick off the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally.

The 12th annual mayor's ride is a fund-raiser for the Sturgis volunteer fire department. It is scheduled Aug. 4.

Armstrong won seven consecutive Tour de France titles. He was later stripped of those titles for doping.

Rally officials say they understand the controversy that surrounds Armstrong, but say he represents the American spirit and a city that believes in second chances.

10 Things to Know for Today

The Associated Press

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

1. ISRAELI DEFENSE SOURCE: ONE SOLDIER MISSING IN GAZA

The official says the IDF combatant went missing after a deadly battle over the weekend. Gaza was heavily bombarded through night and morning with several mosques also targeted.

2. FOR MANY JEWS, A CALL TO FIGHT, FAR FROM THE LIVES THEY KNOW

The two Americans killed in fighting in the Gaza Strip followed in the footsteps of scores of others from around the world who leave behind often comfortable lives to join the Israel Defense Forces.

3. THE TRAIN CARRYING VICTIMS' REMAINS ARRIVES IN KHARKIV

The bodies of those who perished in the Malaysia Airlines crash, many of them Dutch, are en route to the Netherlands for identification by families, having left an area under rebel control.

4. IN FACE OF MANY CHALLENGES, OBAMA STILL A DRAW FOR DEMOCRAT CASH

Ahead of midterm elections that could change Washington's balance of power, the president sets out on a three-day, West Coast fundraising trip to include at least five events.

5. IN DETROIT, WORKERS AND RETIREES ACCEPT PENSION CUTS

The step is crucial for the city to emerge from the largest municipal bankruptcy in U.S. history.

6. WHY TEXAS IS SENDING TROOPS TO THE MEXICO BORDER

Gov. Rick Perry says he'll dispatch up to 1,000 members of the National Guard to help deal with an influx of immigrants from Central America.

7. HOW MANY HOMELESS PEOPLE MAY HAVE BEEN ATTACKED IN NEW MEXICO

One of three teens accused of fatally beating two homeless men in Albuquerque tells police that he and the two others have terrorized perhaps 50 transients in recent months.

8. MANY US VOTERS STAYING HOME

More than half the states to hold primary elections so far have seen record-low turnouts, according to a survey.

9. IN NEW STUDY, SCHIZOPHRENIA COMES INTO SHARPER FOCUS

More than 100 researchers from around the world collaborate in the biggest-ever genomic mapping of the illness, finding hard genetic evidence to bolster a theory connecting it to the immune system.

10. WHO IS TURNING ONE TODAY

Britain's Prince George is celebrating his birthday amid a media frenzy that involves glossy specials, a commemorative coin, and a new word--"Georgeous"--to describe him.

AP News in Brief

Israeli soldier missing as Gaza fighting rages on and truce efforts continue

JERUSALEM (AP) — An Israeli soldier is missing following a deadly battle in the Gaza Strip, a defense official said Tuesday as Israeli airstrikes pummeled a wide range of targets in the coastal strip and diplomatic efforts intensified to end more than two weeks of fighting that has killed at least 585 Palestinians and 29 Israelis.

The defense official told The Associated Press the soldier went missing after a deadly battle in Gaza over the weekend and it was not immediately clear if he was dead or alive. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to discuss the incident with media.

The development adds a further complication to international efforts to broker a truce. U.N. chief Ban Ki-moon and U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry met in Cairo late Monday to launch the highest-level push yet to end the deadly conflict. The U.N. has said that the majority of the Palestinians killed were civilians, among them dozens of children.

Israel has said its campaign, launched July 8, is aimed at stopping Hamas rocket fire into Israel — some 2,000 rockets have been launched over the past two weeks, the military says — and destroying tunnels the military says Hamas has constructed from Gaza into Israel for attacks against Israelis. Overnight, Israel bombed five mosques, a sports complex and the home of the late Hamas military chief, a Gaza police official said.

The airstrikes set off huge explosions that turned the night sky over Gaza City orange early Tuesday. The sound of the blasts mixed with the thud of shelling, often just seconds apart, and the pre-dawn call to prayer from mosque loudspeakers.

American Jews, other foreigners feel calling to serve Israeli military despite the dangers

The two Americans killed in fighting in the Gaza Strip followed in the footsteps of scores of Jews from around the world who have volunteered to fight for Israel.

Israel calls them the lone soldiers: They are men and women in the prime of their lives who have left their parents and often comfortable lives behind in places like Sydney, London, Los Angeles and elsewhere to join the Israel Defense Forces, marching in the desert and taking up arms to defend the Jewish state.

There are about 2,000 lone soldiers currently serving in the military, said Marina Rozhansky, spokeswoman at the Israel Consul General in Los Angeles. Groups for families of lone soldiers have recently started in Los Angeles and other cities, providing a support network as the fighting intensifies.

For Jews who left Israel before the age of 15 or who never lived there, their service is voluntary. For

many, it is a calling, a way to get back to their roots and unite the world's Jewish population. Some have dual citizenship. Others speak little to no Hebrew and have only recently been to Israel.

Max Steinberg, 24, who grew up in Southern California's San Fernando Valley, joined six months after he visited Israel for the first time on a Birthright Israel trip with his younger brother and sister in June 2012, said Jake Steinberg, who spoke to The Associated Press hours after learning his brother, a sharpshooter in the Golani Brigade, was among 13 Israeli soldiers and scores of Palestinians over the weekend who died during the first major ground battle in two weeks of fighting between Israel and Hamas. The Jewish Journal was first to report Steinberg's death.

Train bearing bodies from Malaysia Airlines crash arrives in Kharkiv

KHARKIV, Ukraine (AP) — A train carrying the remains of people killed in the Malaysia Airlines crash arrived in the eastern Ukrainian city of Kharkiv on Wednesday on their way to the Netherlands, a journey which has been agonizingly slow for relatives of the victims.

An AP reporter saw the train Tuesday as it pulled into a station in Kharkiv, a government-controlled city where Ukrainian authorities have set up their crash investigation center.

For many, it is the next stop on their journey home to the Netherlands. Of the 298 who died, 193 were Dutch citizens.

Oleksander Kharchenko, spokesman for the state committee on the crash, said "we will do our best" to send the bodies to the Netherlands on Tuesday. Ukraine has agreed to send remains of all the victims there for identification and forensic investigation.

The train stopped overnight in the contested city of Donetsk but left around 3 a.m., the Ukrainian emergency services ministry said.

Victims' bodies, plane debris could hold vital clues to who shot down airliner over Ukraine

LONDON (AP) — "What exactly are they trying to hide?" President Barack Obama asked Monday as he demanded that Ukrainian rebels give investigators access to the wreckage of the downed jetliner.

The answer is: potentially a lot.

Aviation and defense experts say the victims' bodies could contain missile shrapnel. Chemical residue on the plane could confirm the type of weapon that brought down Malaysia Airlines Flight 17. And the location of the wreckage could yield information on how the attack unfolded.

The black boxes could offer vital clues as well. The cockpit voice recorder would record the bang of a missile. The data recorders, which register altitude and position, would be able to tie that information to the timing of a known missile launch in the area.

"You can effectively backtrack and give a relatively high degree of confidence in the location where that missile took off from," said a Manchester, England-based aviation industry consultant, Chris Yates. "If that location happens to be in rebel-held territory, which we all suspect it is, that would be the first point where you could point the finger of blame."

Immigration debate centers on 2008 law passed to address very different circumstances

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Dianne Feinstein recalls turning on her television and seeing a young Chinese girl crying before a judge, without even an interpreter to help her after surviving a harrowing journey to the U.S.

That was the genesis of a law six years ago that is now at the center of an immigration crisis at the nation's Southern border. More than 57,000 youths, mostly from Central America, have crossed into the U.S. illegally since October. Fewer than 2,000 of them have been sent back.

Immigration advocates and many Democrats insist on preserving what they describe as important protections in the 2008 law for unaccompanied youths who flee their home countries or are smuggled to the U.S.

Most Republicans and a few Democrats want to change the law to address circumstances far different from six years ago, when no more than 8,000 kids arrived at the border each year without their parents.

"The 2008 law creates a process that made sense when you're talking about a limited number of children, the victims of sex trafficking. It doesn't make sense when you talk about 50,000 unaccompanied minors," said Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C. "The 2008 law wasn't designed to deal with this situation."

Detroit retirees endorse pension cuts in bankruptcy; city praises 'positive decision'

DETROIT (AP) — A year after filing for bankruptcy, Detroit is building momentum to get out, especially after workers and retirees voted in favor of major pension changes just a few weeks before a judge holds a crucial trial that could end the largest public filing in U.S. history.

Pension cuts were approved in a landslide, according to results filed shortly before midnight Monday. The tally from 60 days of voting gives the city a boost as Judge Steven Rhodes determines whether Detroit's overall strategy to eliminate or reduce \$18 billion in long-term debt is fair and feasible to all creditors.

Trial starts Aug. 14.

"I want to thank city retirees and active employees who voted for casting aside the rhetoric and making an informed, positive decision about their future and the future of the city," said Kevyn Orr, the state-appointed emergency manager who has been handling Detroit's finances since March 2013.

General retirees would get a 4.5 percent pension cut and lose annual inflation adjustments. They accepted the changes with 73 percent of ballots in favor. Retired police officers and firefighters would lose only a portion of their annual cost-of-living raise. Eighty-two percent in that class voted "yes."

Father says boys accused in fatal beatings of homeless men were also once homeless

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — A man who says he is the father of two of three teens charged with fatally beating two homeless men says that they too were once homeless, and he has no idea what prompted the brutal Friday night attack that police say left the victims unrecognizable.

After their arrest, the 15-year-old told police that the trio had been targeting homeless people for the past year, according to a criminal complaint. He said they had attacked about 50 people over the last

few months, but had never gone that far, according to the criminal complaint.

"It's so hard that he could do that to someone where ... I mean, like I said, we came from there," said Victor Prieto, who identified himself to KOB-TV as the father of the 15- and 16-year-olds accused. "You know what I mean? We're not there now, but that's where we ... We got out of there."

His sons and 18-year-old Alex Rios were charged on Monday with murder and ordered held on \$5 million bonds. The Associated Press is not identifying the minors because of their age. The teens and Prieto all have different last names.

A man at the house where police found the trio Saturday declined to comment on Monday as he watched a steady stream of reporters and photographers visit a corner lot where neighbors said the homeless regularly camped without bothering anyone.

Scientists find 'genetic revelation' to the mystery of schizophrenia, seeing hints for therapy

WASHINGTON (AP) — Scientists have linked more than 100 spots in our DNA to the risk of developing schizophrenia, casting light on the mystery of what makes the disease tick.

Such work could eventually point to new treatments, although they are many years away. Already, the new results provide the first hard genetic evidence to bolster a theory connecting the immune system to the disease.

More than 100 researchers from around the world collaborated in the biggest-ever genomic mapping of schizophrenia, for which scientists had previously uncovered only about a couple of dozen risk-related genes.

The study included the genetic codes of more than 150,000 people — nearly 37,000 of them diagnosed with the disease. Researchers found 108 genetic markers for risk of getting the disease, 83 of them not previously reported. And scientists say there are still likely more to be found.

"It's a genetic revelation; schizophrenia has been a mystery," said study co-author Steve McCarroll, director of genetics for the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard. "Results like this give you things to work on. It takes it out of the zone of guesses about which genes are relevant."

11 parents of Nigeria's kidnapped girls die from attacks and stress; hometown is besieged

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP) — About a dozen parents of the more than 200 kidnapped Nigerian schoolgirls will never see their daughters again.

Since the mass abduction of the schoolgirls by Islamic extremists three months ago, at least 11 of their parents have died and their hometown, Chibok, is under siege from the militants, residents report.

Seven fathers of kidnapped girls were among 51 bodies brought to Chibok hospital after an attack on the nearby village of Kautakari this month, said a health worker who insisted on anonymity for fear of reprisals by the extremists.

At least four more parents have died of heart failure, high blood pressure and other illnesses that the community blames on trauma due to the mass abduction 100 days ago, said community leader Pogu Bitrus, who provided their names.

"One father of two of the girls kidnapped just went into a kind of coma and kept repeating the names of his daughters, until life left him," said Bitrus.

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George turns 1: Big milestone for Britain's little prince

LONDON (AP) — The palace is releasing special pictures, the Royal Mint is striking a commemorative coin and newspapers are publishing glowing tributes.

What's all the fuss about? A little boy who will be king.

Prince George turns 1 on Tuesday. While he may be too young to appreciate it, the milestone is causing a nationwide frenzy.

Editorial writers call him a symbol of hope, newspaper headlines hail him as "Gorgeous George" and one published a 24-page glossy magazine chronicling his first 12 months. Prince William and his wife Kate, who plan a small party at Kensington Palace, have said little in public about the ups and downs of parenting, but here are some things we know about the lad:

GEORGE HAS AN IMPORTANT NEW SKILL — WALKING

Today in History The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, July 22, the 203rd day of 2014. There are 162 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 22, 1934, bank robber John Dillinger was shot to death by federal agents outside Chicago's Biograph Theater, where he had just seen the Clark Gable movie "Manhattan Melodrama."

On this date:

In 1587, an English colony fated to vanish under mysterious circumstances was established on Roanoke Island off North Carolina.

In 1796, Cleveland, Ohio, was founded by General Moses Cleaveland (correct).

In 1893, Wellesley College professor Katharine Lee Bates visited the summit of Pikes Peak, where she was inspired to write the original version of her poem "America the Beautiful."

In 1916, a bomb went off during a Preparedness Day parade in San Francisco, killing 10 people.

In 1933, American aviator Wiley Post completed the first solo flight around the world as he returned to New York's Floyd Bennett Field after traveling for 7 days, 18 and 3/4 hours.

In 1943, American forces led by Gen. George S. Patton captured Palermo, Sicily, during World War II.

In 1944, the Bretton Woods Monetary Conference concluded in New Hampshire with an agreement to establish the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

In 1946, Jewish extremists blew up a wing of the King David Hotel in Jerusalem, killing 90 people.

In 1963, Sonny Liston knocked out Floyd Patterson in the first round of their rematch in Las Vegas to retain the world heavyweight title.

In 1975, the House of Representatives joined the Senate in voting to restore the American citizenship of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee.

In 1983, Samantha Smith and her parents returned home to Manchester, Maine, after completing a whirlwind tour of the Soviet Union.

In 2011, Anders Breivik (AHN'-durs BRAY'-vihk) massacred 69 people at a Norwegian island youth retreat after detonating a bomb in nearby Oslo that killed eight others in the nation's worst violence since World War II.

Ten years ago: The September 11 commission issued a report saying America's leaders failed to grasp the gravity of terrorist threats before the devastating attacks of 9/11, but stopped short of blaming President George W. Bush and former President Bill Clinton. The Army Inspector General's office released a report on abuses by U.S. troops in Iraq and Afghanistan which found 94 cases of confirmed

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or alleged abuse and 39 deaths. A new high-speed passenger train derailed in northwestern Turkey, killing 37 people.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama told a prime-time press conference that Cambridge, Massachusetts, police had acted "stupidly" in the arrest of prominent black scholar Henry Louis Gates Jr., and that despite racial progress, blacks and Hispanics were still singled out unfairly for arrest. Earlier, the president met at the White House with Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki. Millions of Asians witnessed the longest solar eclipse of this century; in some areas, totality lasted as long as six minutes and 39 seconds.

One year ago: Frenzied crowds of Roman Catholics in Rio de Janeiro mobbed the car carrying Pope Francis as he returned to his home continent for the first time as pontiff, embarking on a seven-day visit. The Duchess of Cambridge, the former Kate Middleton, gave birth to a son, Prince George, who became third in line to the British throne after Prince Charles and Prince William. 2011 National League MVP Ryan Braun was suspended without pay for the rest of the season and the postseason, the start of sanctions involving players reportedly tied to a Florida clinic accused of distributing performance-enhancing drugs. Onetime Chicago cop-turned-actor Dennis Farina, 69, died in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Today's Birthdays: Opera singer Licia Albanese is 101. Former Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole, R-Kan., is 91. Actor-comedian Orson Bean is 86. Fashion designer Oscar de la Renta is 82. Actress Louise Fletcher is 80. Rhythm-and-blues singer Chuck Jackson is 77. Actor Terence Stamp is 76. Game show host Alex Trebek is 74. Singer George Clinton is 73. Actor-singer Bobby Sherman is 71. Former Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas, is 71. Movie writer-director Paul Schrader is 68. Actor Danny Glover is 68. Singer Mireille Mathieu is 68. Actor-comedian-director Albert Brooks is 67. Rock singer Don Henley is 67. Movie composer Alan Menken is 65. Singer-actress Loretta McKee is 61. Jazz musician Al Di Meola is 60. Actor Willem Dafoe is 59. Rhythm-and-blues singer Keith Sweat is 53. Actress Joanna Going is 51. Actor Rob Estes is 51. Folk singer Emily Saliers (Indigo Girls) is 51. Actor John Leguizamo is 50. Actor-comedian David Spade is 50. Actor Patrick Labyorteaux is 49. Rock musician Pat Badger is 47. Actress Irene Bedard is 47. Actor Rhys Ifans (rees EYE'-fanz) is 47. Actor Colin Ferguson is 42. Rock musician Daniel Jones is 41. Singer Rufus Wainwright is 41. Actress Franka Potente (poh-TEN'-tay) is 40. Actress A.J. Cook is 36. Actor Keegan Allen (TV: "Pretty Little Liars") is 27. Actress Camila Banus (TV: "Days of Our Lives") is 24. Actress Selena Gomez is 22.

Thought for Today: "I hold that man is in the right who is most closely in league with the future."
- Henrik Ibsen, Norwegian dramatist (1828-1906).