

Groton Daily Independent

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Hanlon Brothers
Gravel Hauling

New & Cleaning of
Stockdams with our
60' reach trackhoe

605/395-6531

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.

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Monday, Aug. 18

Senior Menu: Tater Tot Hotdish, Green Beans, Grape Juice, Sour Cream Apple Pie Square, Whole Wheat Bread

Birthday: • Jason Osterman

9:00am: Student Schedule Change Day

10:00am: Golf: Boys Varsity Invitational (Aberdeen Roncalli, Sisseton, Redfield-Doland, Milbank vs. Sioux Valley @ Sioux Valley High School)

5:30pm: Groton Garden Club meeting at Marjorie Overacker's

7:00pm: City Council meeting

Tuesday, Aug. 19

Senior Menu: Baked Pork Chop, Macaroni Salad, Pineapple Strawberry Ambrosia, Whole Wheat Bread

Anniv: Sherwin & Christine Nyberg

Birthdays: Michelle Leonhardt • Helen "Pat" Nehls • Blake Anderson

7:15am: Sophomore Computer Check-out and Parent Meeting at Arena

8:00am: Faculty Inservice

10:00am: Christian Missionary & Alliance Ladies Bible Study

10:00am: UMW Bible Study

5:00pm: Welcome Back Picnic at GHS Gym

6:00pm: Boys Soccer at Aberdeen Central

6:15pm: Ladies Night Golf

6:30pm: Elementary Open House

6:30pm: 6th Grade Orientation at Arena

6:30pm: Back to School Open House

7:15pm: MS/HS Open House

8:00pm: Girls Soccer at Aberdeen Central

**Two bedroom apartment in the
Rix Apartments (former city
apartments) at 407 N Garfield**

FOR RENT

Attached garage.

Major appliances included.

\$700 per month

Roger: 605/397-7118

MEETING AGENDA
August 18, 2014 – 7pm
City Council Meeting - City of Groton

- 1) Minutes
- 2) Bills
- 3) Department Reports
- 4) 7:15pm – Betty Breck – Brown County Historic Society
- 5) 2nd Reading Ordinance 693- Preventing Yard Waste on Streets
- 6) 2014 C&G Spec Assess Bond Resolution
- 7) Baseball Committee Report – David Blackmun
- 8) Trees Donated
- 9) SD Water & Wastewater Meeting – Watertown- Sept 17-19
- 10) Set dates for Sept Council meetings
- 11) Introduction of Budget – 1st Reading Ordinance 694- 2015 Appropriation Ordinance
- 12) Exe Session – Legal or Personnel

And Any Other Business that may come before the Council

Report Finds Young Athletes “Taking One for the Team”

Jerry Oster

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. - As young South Dakota athletes prepare to take the field for football and other sports this fall, a new survey finds a growing number will likely face an injury during the season.

According to research from Safe Kids Worldwide, an alarming number of young people are hurt as a result of aggressive play, hiding injuries to stay in games, and parents who pressure coaches to keep their kids on the field.

Safe Kids' president and CEO Kate Carr says parents, coaches, and players should come together before the season starts and set ground rules to prevent injuries.

“You can discuss dirty play, hard fouls, and how you're going to deal with them,” says Carr. “You can discuss the training of a coach. You can discuss parental behavior on the sidelines. You can talk to athletes about the importance of speaking up.”

The South Dakota High School Activities Association has come up with a list of concussion-related requirements for schools and coaches. Nationally, it's estimated 3,400 children seek medical treatment every day for sports injuries.

Carr says more than half of the athletes surveyed reported playing while injured, and more than half of the coaches felt pressured to put injured players back in the game. She says this behavior leads to bigger problems down the road.

“The injury you play with could be compounded in that game or in that practice,” says Carr. “A lot of injuries happen during practice, and that could result in a lifetime of a more serious challenge you have to face physically, rather than missing a single game.”

Carr notes proper technique, strength training and stretching can help prevent injuries, and she encourages young athletes to only participate in one sport at a time to prevent overuse injuries.

Study Finds Greater Rural Reliance on Food Stamps

Rural Households Include More Children, Seniors

Jerry Oster

YANKTON, S.D. - The issue of hunger is often associated with people in inner cities, where the cost of living tends to be high.

But a new study shows some of the greatest need can be found where America's food supply is grown and raised.

Jon Bailey, director of rural public policy program for the Center for Rural Affairs, authored the report, which examines the use of food stamps, now called SNAP benefits, from 2008 to 2012.

"And what we found is that during that time period, more households in rural areas received SNAP benefits than did households in more urban - both metropolitan and small-city - areas," he says.

Another key finding, says Bailey, is that rural areas and small cities have higher percentages of households with seniors and children receiving food support than in larger urban areas.

"SNAP is providing a way for those people and those households to meet their food needs, which is important," he points out, "because those two population groups are probably most at risk of hunger and food insecurity."

In rural areas, one in nine households has a SNAP recipient who is either under age 18, or an adult 60 years of age or older.

A Healthier Outlook as Medicare Celebrates 49 Years

Jerry Oster

SIOUX FALLS, S. D. - Medicare is now 49 years old, but questions linger about how many more birthdays the program will be able to celebrate. The influx of baby boomers reaching retirement age and increasing medical costs have lawmakers looking for options to prevent the program from going bankrupt.

Sam Burnett, a volunteer for the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, says his organization is convinced that efforts to cut benefits will shift the burden to beneficiaries, not reduce the cost of care.

"What they're trying to do is increase the age of eligibility - which means if they increase it from 65 to 67 for Medicare, that's two years that those people will have lost their benefits," says Burnett. "Our task is to make sure they understand that legislation will have an impact on a great many of our seniors."

The new 2014 Medicare and Social Security Trustees Report shows the growth of health-care costs has slowed, in part through health-care reform, to improve the financial picture for Medicare. It says the program's hospital trust fund will pay full benefits until 2030, four years later than last year's report.

Medicare is adding an estimated 10,000 members a day and last year, covered more than 52 million people nationwide. Burnett calls it the lifeblood not only of older people, but also their children and spouses. He talks about how it helped a woman he worked with who was injured in a truck accident.

"Without Medicare, her children would not have had Medicare services that they needed; she would not have had the medicine, the surgery, the follow-up," he says. "So basically, without that, her three children would have suffered; she would have suffered."

There's been some discussion about changing the payment structure to reduce Medicare costs. Some believe paying providers to care for each patient - instead of paying them based on the numbers and types of services they perform - would give doctors more flexibility and result in more personalized patient care.

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Today in Weather History

1936: A tornado moved east, ending southeast of Gettysburg. A farm house and four barns were destroyed near Gorman, in Potter County. Property damage was estimated at \$20,000.

1938: A tornado destroyed a barn, unroofed a gym, and damaged other buildings near Stephen, in Hyde County. The funnel moved northeast then curved to the northwest. There were two other tornadoes on this day. One moved northeast from near Worlsey and Broadland in Beadle County producing F3 damage. The other was an F2 and also started off in Beadle County and moved northeast into Kingsbury County. This storm injured three people.

1983: High winds up to 80 mph caused extensive damage to trees, structures and cars, in Lyman, Hyde, Faulk, and Brown Counties. In Presho, several homes lost their roofs. Hay bales were scattered, metal siding was ripped from outbuildings, and a ballpark lost three large fence sections. Gusty winds up to 75 mph were recorded at Ordway, in Brown County, causing damage to a mobile home. Two hangers at the Aberdeen airport received extensive damage, with roofs and doors torn off.

2009: Numerous thunderstorms developed along a stationary front and trained over the same locations producing very heavy rains along with large hail. Nickel size hail falling for several minutes piled up to 6 to 8 inches deep near Harrold in Hughes County. Very heavy rains of 2 to nearly 5 inches resulted in the flash flooding of numerous roads. Several of the roads were washed out. Some rainfall amounts included, 3.05 inches at Warner, 3.15 inches southwest of Bristol, 4.40 inches in Webster, and 4.50 inches east of Warner.

1925 - During the late morning hours a severe hailstorm struck southeastern Iowa completely destroying crops along a path six to ten miles wide and 75 miles long. The hail also injured and killed poultry and livestock, and caused a total of 2.5 million dollars damage. The hailstorm flattened fields of corn to such an extent that many had to leave their farms in search of other work. It was one of the worst hailstorms of record for the nation. (The Weather Channel)

1983 - Hurricane Alicia ravaged southeastern Texas. The hurricane caused more than three billion dollars property damage, making it one of the costliest hurricanes in the history of the U.S. Just thirteen persons were killed, but 1800 others were injured. The hurricane packed winds to 130 mph as it

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



403 E. 15th Ave.

Over 7,000 sq. ft. of living area. Six bedrooms, six baths, two kitchens, living room, dining room, study room, two family rooms, theater room, oversized three-stall garage, irrigation system.

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crossed Galveston Island, and spawned twenty-two tornadoes in less than 24 hours as it made landfall. (The Weather Channel) (Storm Data)

1987 - Thirteen cities in the eastern U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date, including Orlando FL with a reading of 98 degrees, and Portland ME with a high of 94 degrees. Newark NJ reached 90 degrees for the thirty-sixth time of the year, their second highest total of record. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Twenty-two cities, from the Carolinas to the Upper Ohio Valley, reported record high temperatures for the date, pushing the total number of daily record highs since the first of June above the 1100 mark. Afternoon highs of 102 degrees at Greensboro NC and 105 degrees at Raleigh NC equalled all-time records. Evening thunderstorms in Montana produced wind gusts to 75 mph at Scobey. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Thunderstorms over the Middle Atlantic Coast Region and the Upper Ohio Valley produced torrential rains in eastern Virginia during the late morning and afternoon hours. Totals ranged up to twelve inches at Yorktown. Williamsburg VA was deluged with 10.78 inches of rain between 6 AM and 10 AM, with 6.72 inches reported in just two hours. Flash flooding caused nearly twelve million dollars damage in Accomack County VA. Early evening thunderstorms in the Central High Plains Region produced walnut size hail and wind gusts to 80 mph around Casper WY. Thunderstorms produced locally heavy rains in the Yellowstone Park area, causing fifteen mudslides. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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.



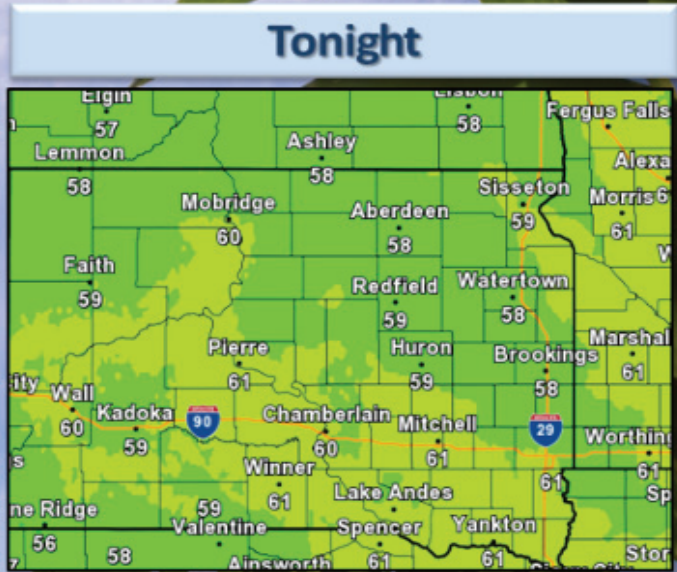
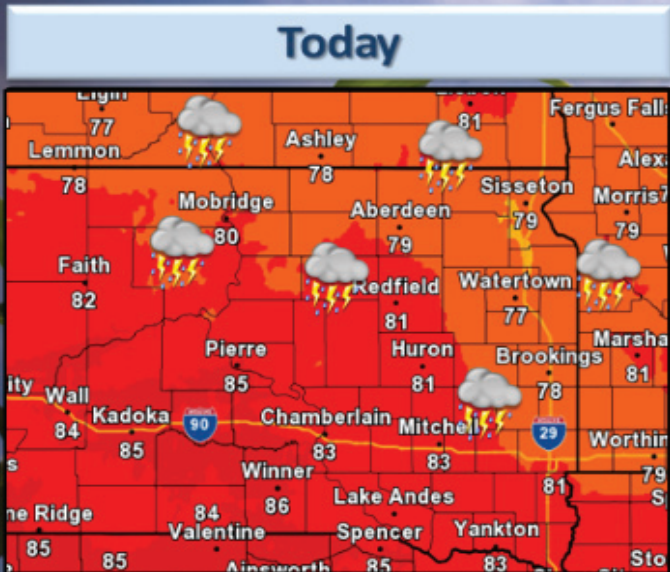
Come 'n' Get It!
Friday is Taco Bar and Soup Night
Andover Bar & Grill Serving 5-9 p.m.
120 S Main St. • 298-5252

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TODAY	TONIGHT	TUESDAY	TUESDAY NIGHT	WEDNESDAY	WEDNESDAY NIGHT	THURSDAY
						
40%	10%			40%	60%	
Chance Thunderstorms High: 79 °F	Slight Chc Thunderstorms Low: 55 °F	Sunny High: 81 °F	Mostly Clear Low: 58 °F	Chance Thunderstorms High: 83 °F	Thunderstorms Likely Low: 64 °F	Mostly Sunny High: 83 °F

Scattered Showers & Thunderstorms Today






 National Weather Service Aberdeen

Issued: August 18, 2014

weather.gov/Aberdeen

 National Weather Service Aberdeen

 @NWSAberdeen

Tuesday	Highs: 80° to 85° 
Wednesday	Highs: 80° to 90° 
Thursday	Highs: 80° to 90° 

Northwest winds will filter relatively cooler and drier air into the region. Scattered showers and thunderstorms are possible this afternoon however. Any storms that develop will dissipate as the sun sets tonight. Tuesday should be dry. The next chance of storms will be associated with a low pressure system which moves into the northern plains on Wednesday.

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Yesterday's Weather

High: 83.4°F at 6:10 PM

Low: 64.1°F at 11:26 PM

High Gust: 37 mph 9:34 PM

Precip: 0.03

Today's Info

Record High: 109° in 1959

Record Low: 38° in 2002

Average High: 82°F

Average Low: 56°F

Average Precip in Aug.: 1.33

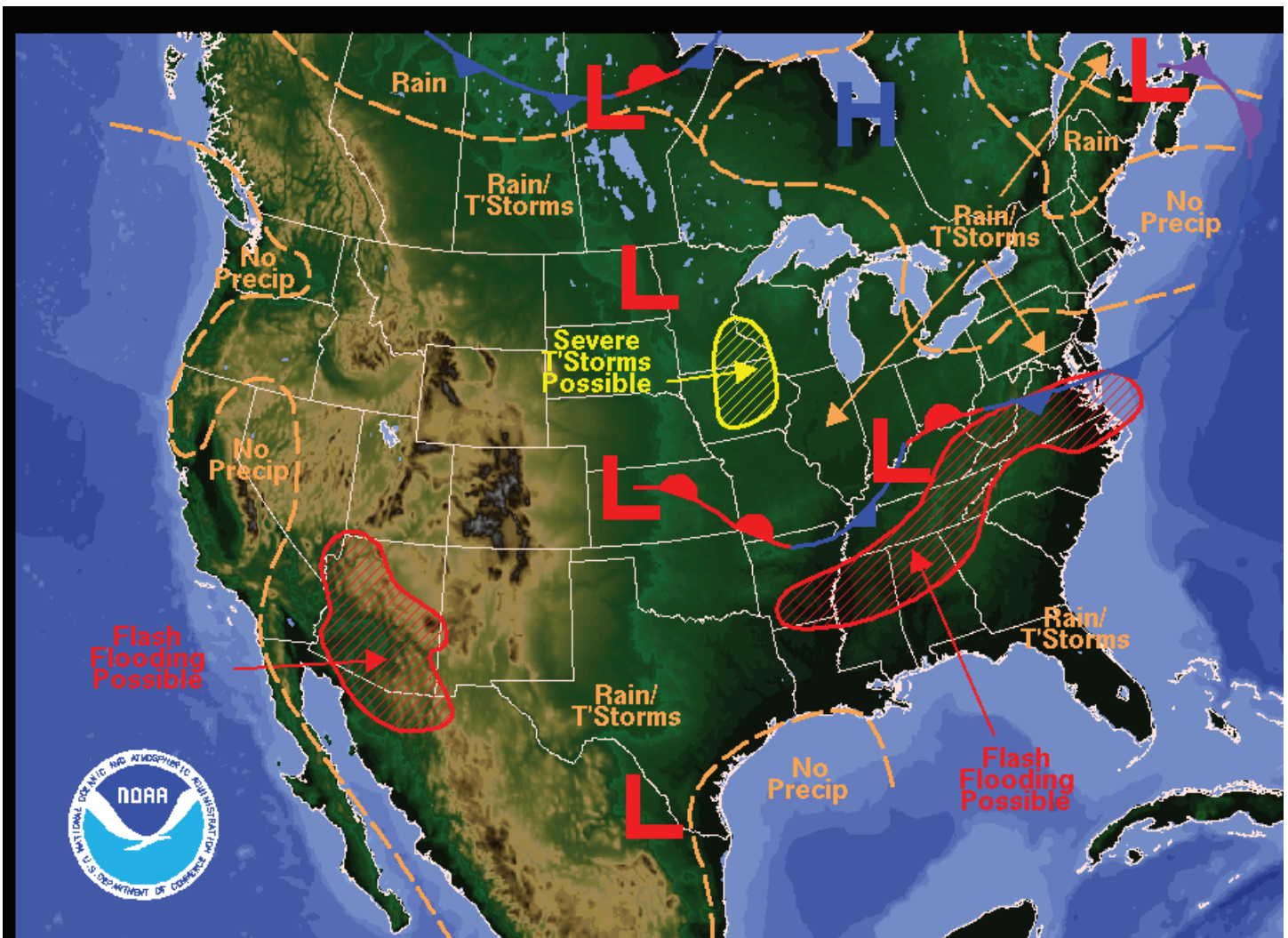
Precip to date in Aug.: 1.27

Average Precip to date: 15.19

Precip Year to Date: 10.25

Sunset Tonight: 8:36 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:39 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Mon, Aug 18, 2014, issued 3:16 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Mc Reynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



A STRONG HEART

After walking for what seemed to be miles, he stopped at the corner of an apple orchard to admire the beautiful apples. The owner of the orchard noticed him and asked, "Son, are you trying to steal my apples?"

"No, sir," he replied, "I'm trying not to. But my trying not to is losing to my wanting to."

It was that way with David. Deep in his heart he wanted to do what was right. But one day he realized that his friendship with evil men was a strong force that was often more powerful than his desire to do the right things.

As his walk with the Lord grew stronger he began to realize that there was a power beyond human power and if he wanted to, he could choose victory over defeat by depending on that power. He was able to move from being overcome by their power to overcoming temptation and sin by calling upon God's power.

So, he went to God in prayer and asked, "Let not my heart be drawn to what is evil, to take part in evil deeds with men who are evildoers; let me not eat of their delicacies."

One of the most powerful thoughts that the devil places in our minds is that we are human and that God realizes we may be overcome by temptation and sin. It's so easy to rationalize sin's power and our weakness.

But Paul refused to accept that excuse. "There is no temptation that is more powerful than God's power. And He'll provide a way of escape if you want it," he added.

Prayer: Lord, help us to confront our excuse of being human as a reason to sin. May we run to You for safety. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 141:4 Do not let my heart be drawn to what is evil so that I take part in wicked deeds along with those who are evildoers; do not let me eat their delicacies.

Sioux Falls street safety effort prompts warnings

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls police targeted about two dozen people with warnings each day during the first week of a campaign aimed at enhancing safety on city streets.

The push to change behavior was prompted by a summer of fatal accidents involving motorists, pedestrians and cyclists. There have been 16 accidents in Sioux Falls this year involving vehicles and bicycles, including the death of a 22-year-old woman about a month ago.

Officers this week will stop issuing warning tickets in favor of tickets that carry fines.

Some bicyclists say they hope the push for change extends beyond traffic enforcement and into driver's education courses.

Wind Cave offering free tours Aug. 25

WIND CAVE NATIONAL PARK, S.D. (AP) — Wind Cave National Park will be offering free tours Aug. 25 in honor of the 98th anniversary of the creation of the National Park Service.

The Park Service says tours of the Natural Entrance, Fairgrounds and Garden of Eden will be offered throughout the day with the first tour starting at 9 a.m. and the last one at 5 p.m.

All tours begin at the visitors' center located half a mile off of U.S. Highway 385.

Visitors are encouraged to bring sturdy walking shoes and a light coat or sweater as the cave is 54 degrees.

The Park Service says all tours will be able to view boxwork, a rare calcite cave formation for which Wind Cave is famous worldwide.

Northern Crops Institute holding open house

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — Northern Crops Institute in Fargo is holding an open house this week to celebrate the completion of an equipment upgrade at its Feed Production Center.

NCI Director Mark Weber says more than three-fourths of the \$800,000 cost was paid by commodity groups and private industry. The North Dakota Legislature last year also approved money.

The institute is funded by the states of North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota, along with commodity groups in those states and Montana. It conducts educational and technical programs to support the region's agriculture and value-added processing industries by maintaining and expanding markets for northern-grown crops.

The open house is Wednesday afternoon at the institute's main facility on the North Dakota State University campus and its separate feed center.

Illinois man found dead in the Black Hills

CUSTER, S.D. (AP) — Authorities say a 23-year-old Illinois man who was reported missing in early August was found dead in the Black Hills National Forest.

Lt. Steve McMillin of the Custer County Sheriff's Office says the body of Jordan Baznik of Naperville, Illinois, was found around 5:30 p.m. Friday less than a mile north of the Iron Creek trailhead.

The Rapid City Journal (<http://bit.ly/1tbplE6>) reports authorities found the body in a heavily wooded area just as the search for the man was about to be suspended for the weekend.

An autopsy has been scheduled in Rapid City. Authorities say they don't suspect foul play. The newspaper reports Baznik and friends were driving through the area en route to Canada. He separated from his friends at a Keystone hotel after saying he needed a towel.

Sioux Falls casino reportedly robbed by 2 men

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Police in Sioux Falls say two men wearing bandanas robbed a casino at gunpoint Sunday.

Officers responded to the incident at Happy Jacks Casino around 1 a.m.

Authorities say one man ordered the clerk at gunpoint to lie down on the floor. He then proceeded to remove the till from the cash register.

Police say the other suspect meanwhile told two patrons to face way from where the clerk was being robbed.

The suspects fled the scene and are still at large. No one was injured during the incident.

NSU pushing for Chinese cultural, language center

KEVIN BURBACH, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Northern State University is moving forward with plans to create a Chinese language and cultural center that will be the first of its kind in the Dakotas and that officials hope will give the state a link to China's growing economy.

The South Dakota Board of Regents made funding for NSU's proposed Confucius Center in Aberdeen its top priority on the list of one-time spending requests it sent the Legislature this week.

Legislators still must agree to fund the \$400,000 request, but President James Smith said he's confident school officials can make a strong case for the institute, which would make Northern State the only public school in South Dakota to offer Mandarin Chinese language courses.

"I'm hopeful that people will see it as the opportunity that I think that it is, which is to really expose South Dakota kids to ... a really growing part of the world," he said.

As of 2011, there were more than 350 Confucius Institutes in 104 countries, according to documents provided by the regents. The majority of U.S. states have at least one. If approved, the cultural center at Northern State would be one of the last in the country for now. The Institute will stop taking applications to partner with American institutions at the end of the year.

Northern State has been working with the University of Jinan for several months to establish a partnership.

Northern State could be the first university in the Dakotas to have a Confucius Institute, but it isn't the first to vie for one.

The North Dakota Board of Higher Education gave Dickinson State University permission to establish a partnership with a Chinese university and set up a Confucius Institute, but it never happened. A majority of faculty members had voted against the idea and state officials had also found that the university had given Chinese exchange students hundreds of unearned diplomas.

Northern State stopped offering Mandarin language courses in 1996. Smith said the Institute would be especially valuable for students in the school's Center for Excellence in International Business, who can already travel to China to study abroad but often face a language barrier.

"Obviously, if you're an international business major, you realize that China is a huge market," he said.

Smith will travel to Jinan and Shanghai with several of his colleagues after the next Board of Regents

meeting in October to discuss funding with Chinese education officials. Northern State has asked the regents to help fund one year of the institute. Future years would be supported by the school's Chinese counterparts.

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. MISSOURI GOVERNOR SENDS NATIONAL GUARD TO FERGUSON

The decision comes hours after police used tear gas once again to clear protesters demonstrating against the fatal shooting of an unarmed black teenager by a white policeman.

2. ISLAMIC STATE LOSES GRIP ON ITS GREATEST PRIZE, IRAQ'S LARGEST DAM

Iraqi and Kurdish forces, backed by airstrikes, have wrested back the Mosul Dam from Islamic militants who had captured it less than two weeks ago, according to the Iraqi army.

3. ISRAEL DESTROYS HOMES OF SUSPECTS IN TEENS' DEATHS

Israeli troops demolished the Hebron homes of two Palestinian militants suspected in the abduction and killing of three teenagers in June.

4. DISABILITIES RISING AMONG AMERICAN KIDS

A 10-year analysis finds slightly more children are afflicted with handicaps, with poorer ones still bearing a disproportionate burden.

5. A FINAL PAPAL PLEA IN KOREA

The pontiff called on Koreans--from the North and the South--to reject confrontation and find ways to forge peace on the war-divided peninsula and acknowledged the plight of wartime "comfort women" in his final Mass.

6. PERRY MOVING AHEAD WITH 2016 COURTSHIP DESPITE CASE

The Texas governor is visiting three early-voting states in the 2016 primaries in the next two weeks despite an indictment over two felony counts of abuse of power.

7. UKRAINE ARMY TROOPS PRESS INTO REBEL-HELD CITY

Ukraine's national security council said government forces captured a district police station in Luhansk in what could be a breakthrough development.

8. WHAT'S HITTING A 37-YEAR HIGH

Bourbon production is topping 5 million barrels for the first time since 1977, according to the Kentucky Distillers' Association.

9. HOW PAKISTAN'S CAPITAL IS COPING WITH CRIPPLING PROTESTS

Life is brought to a standstill in Islamabad as tens of thousands of people are demonstrating to oust the current government.

10. WHO CAME ATOP AP FOOTBALL POLL

Florida State, the defending national champion, is preseason No. 1 for the sixth time.

AP News in Brief

Missouri governor orders National Guard to Ferguson to help in 'restoring peace and order'

FERGUSON, Mo. (AP) — Missouri's governor on Monday ordered the National Guard to a St. Louis suburb convulsed by protests over the fatal shooting of an unarmed black teen, after a night in which police used tear gas to clear protesters off the streets well ahead of a curfew.

Gov. Jay Nixon said the National Guard would help "in restoring peace and order" to Ferguson, where protests over the killing of 18-year-old Michael Brown by a white police officer entered their second week. Police said they acted in response to gunfire, looting, vandalism and protesters who hurled Molotov cocktails.

"These violent acts are a disservice to the family of Michael Brown and his memory and to the people of this community who yearn for justice to be served and to feel safe in their own homes," Nixon said in a statement.

The latest confrontations came on the same day Attorney General Eric Holder ordered a federal medical examiner to perform another autopsy on Brown, and as a preliminary private autopsy reported by The New York Times found Brown was shot at least six times, including twice in the head.

As night fell in Ferguson Sunday, another peaceful protest quickly deteriorated and the streets were empty well before the midnight curfew.

Some residents, politicians question credibility of investigation in Missouri teen's shooting

FERGUSON, Mo. (AP) — After a week of violent clashes between police and protesters, Missouri authorities leading the investigation into the police shooting death of an unarmed black teenager are increasingly facing questions about whether their eventual findings can be seen as credible among residents who are highly distrustful of those in charge.

The coming days and weeks will be crucial as grand jurors began hearing evidence that will help determine whether Ferguson police officer Darren Wilson is charged with a state crime for the Aug. 9 shooting of 18-year-old Michael Brown.

The U.S. Justice Department is conducting a separate civil rights investigation, which could mean there are two decisions about whether to charge Wilson, who is white.

The state's case is being overseen by St. Louis County Prosecuting Attorney Bob McCulloch, who is white, and remains in charge despite mounting pressure to step aside from some local residents and black St. Louis area officials who believe he cannot be impartial.

In some other prominent cases — most notably, the 2012 racially charged shooting of Trayvon Martin in Florida — special state prosecutors have been appointed to determine whether to pursue charges. That sometimes has occurred only after the local authorities took no action.

Israel, Palestinian negotiators harden positions in Cairo as Gaza cease-fire deadline looms

CAIRO (AP) — Israeli and Palestinian negotiators in Egypt-mediated Gaza truce talks hardened their positions Monday ahead of the expiration of a five-day cease-fire, though both sides appear reluctant to return to the deadly all-out fighting that has destroyed large parts of the densely-populated coastal strip.

The month-long Israel-Hamas war has killed more than 1,900 Palestinians, the majority of them civilians, according to Palestinian and U.N. officials. Israel has lost 67 people, all but three of them soldiers.

Since last week, indirect talks have been taking place in Cairo through Egyptian mediators in an effort to broker a substantive end to the war and draw up a roadmap for Gaza.

On Sunday, Palestinian and Israeli delegations resumed the talks following weekend consultations across the Middle East but gaps between the two sides remain wide, with each staking out maximalist positions.

The Gaza blockade, imposed by Israel and Egypt since the Hamas militants took control of the strip in 2007, remains the main stumbling block. It has greatly limited the movement of Palestinians in and out of the territory of 1.8 million people, restricted the flow of goods into Gaza and blocked virtually all exports.

Pope leaves South Korea after urging rival Koreas to forge peace, reject suspicion

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Pope Francis wrapped up his first trip to Asia on Monday by challenging Koreans — from the North and the South — to reject the “mindset of suspicion and confrontation” that clouds their relations and find new ways to forge peace on the war-divided peninsula.

Before boarding a plane back to Rome, the pope held a Mass of reconciliation at Seoul’s main cathedral, attended by South Korean President Park Geun-hye as well as some North Korean defectors. It was the final event of a five-day trip that confirmed the importance of Asia for this papacy and for the Catholic Church as a whole, given the church is young and growing here whereas it is withering in traditionally Christian lands in Europe.

Francis’ plea for peace came as the United States and South Korea started a joint military drill that North Korea warned would result in a “merciless pre-emptive strike” against the allies.

In a poignant moment at the start of the Mass on Monday, Francis bent down and greeted seven women, many sitting in wheelchairs, who were forced into sexual slavery by the Japanese military during World War II. One gave him a pin of a butterfly — a symbol of these “comfort women’s” plight — which he immediately pinned to his vestments and wore throughout the Mass.

Francis said in his homily that reconciliation can be brought about only by forgiveness, even if it seems “impossible, impractical and even at times repugnant.”

AP Analysis: Pope gets crash course in tangled inter-Korean politics, victory with English use

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — The heads of AP's Rome and Seoul bureaus look at the achievements and lessons of Pope Francis' trip to South Korea:

THE VIEW FROM THE PAPAL PLANE

In a whirlwind five-day trip to South Korea, Pope Francis beatified 124 martyrs, kissed almost as many babies and rallied thousands of Asian youth. It might be his use of English, though, that will define his first trip to Asia.

The Argentinian pope not only gave speeches in a language he has expressed discomfort with, he also ad-libbed and even joked around — a linguistic victory deemed crucial to the church's push to make Asia a future focal point of the religion.

Iraq security forces, Kurdish fighters retake strategic Mosul Dam from Sunni Islamic militants

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq's army spokesman says security forces and Kurdish fighters have taken back the strategic Mosul Dam, the country's largest, from Islamic militants who captured it less than two weeks ago.

Lt. Gen. Qassim al-Moussawi told The Associated Press that Kurdish peshmerga forces and Iraqi anti-terrorism troops retook the dam on Monday.

Al-Moussawi says the troops were backed by aerial support but he didn't specify whether there were U.S. airstrikes during the battle. Iraqi state TV also reported the capture.

Iraq's recapturing of the entire Mosul Dam complex on the Tigris River and the territory surrounding its reservoir is a significant victory against the Islamic State group, which seized large swaths of northern and western Iraq this summer.

The dam supplies electricity and water to a large part of the country.

Russia says its humanitarian aid for eastern Ukraine expected to enter country soon

MOSCOW (AP) — Russia's foreign minister says he expects the extensive humanitarian aid mission for eastern Ukraine to enter the country in the near future.

Speaking at news conference in Berlin, where he met a day earlier with his counterparts from Ukraine, France and Germany, Sergey Lavrov said Monday that "all questions" regarding the mission had been removed and that agreement had been reached with Ukraine and the international Red Cross.

It was not clear if Lavrov was referring to security guarantees, which the Red Cross wants to receive from all sides, including eastern Ukraine's separatist fighters, before accompanying the more than 200 trucks into Ukraine.

A Red Cross spokeswoman in the region where the trucks are parked told The Associated Press earlier Monday that they were still waiting for the security guarantees.

Twin protests in Pakistani capital seeking government's ouster bring life to standstill

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Twin protests demanding the Pakistani government step down have wreaked havoc in the capital, Islamabad, where commuters must circumvent shipping containers and barbed wire to get to work, protesters knock on people's doors to use the bathroom, and garbage is piling up.

"People are talking of revolution but (they) don't care about the difficulties we are facing due to this situation," said Zafar Habib, a 56-year-old government employee in Islamabad.

Tens of thousands of people have descended on the capital in recent days, answering the call from cricket-star-turned-politician Imran Khan and anti-government cleric Tahir-ul-Qadri to push for the government's ouster. Both claim widespread fraud in the May 2013 vote and want new elections, something the government of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif is not likely to concede.

Both Khan and Qadri have vowed to remain in the streets with their supporters until Sharif leaves office, raising fears of political instability in the nuclear-armed nation, which only saw its first democratic transfer of power last year.

The protests have taken a strain on the city of roughly 1.7 million inhabitants, many of whom work for the government, embassies, or non-governmental organizations. The difficulties began last Wednesday, when the government started to beef up security, and show no signs of letting up in the next few days.

1 daughter at a time for Obama on family's annual Martha's Vineyard summer vacation

EDGARTOWN, Mass. (AP) — President Barack Obama started his vacation on the Massachusetts island of Martha's Vineyard with just one of his daughters, and he may leave with just one of his daughters when the two-week getaway ends next weekend. In a first for Obama family summer vacations, neither teenager is spending the entire holiday with her father.

Obama left Washington Aug. 9 with his wife, Michelle, daughter Malia, and the family's two Portuguese water dogs. The White House said 13-year-old Sasha would join her parents at a later date for "part of their stay" on this quaint island of shingled homes. But Malia will not be around when her younger sister arrives.

The daughters essentially are trading places, and the vacation is boiling down to Obama getting about a week with each one.

Malia, 16, returned to Washington with her father early Monday and was not expected to go back to Martha's Vineyard. The White House said Sasha will join her parents this week, without saying when she will arrive or what kept her away last week, or why Malia left the island.

Obama often draws chuckles from sympathetic parents who understand his complaints about his girls' lack of interest in spending time with him.

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Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Monday, August 18, the 230th day of 2014. There are 135 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 18, 1914, President Woodrow Wilson issued his Proclamation of Neutrality, aimed at keeping the United States out of World War I, saying, "The United States must be neutral in fact as well as in name during these days that are to try men's souls."

On this date:

In 1587, Virginia Dare became the first child of English parents to be born in present-day America, on what is now Roanoke Island in North Carolina. (However, the Roanoke colony ended up mysteriously disappearing.)

In 1838, the first marine expedition sponsored by the U.S. government set sail from Hampton Roads, Virginia; the crews traveled the southern Pacific Ocean, gathering scientific information.

In 1846, U.S. forces led by General Stephen W. Kearny captured Santa Fe, New Mexico.

In 1862, Dakota Indians began an uprising in Minnesota (the revolt was crushed by U.S. forces some six weeks later).

In 1920, the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, guaranteeing all American women's right to vote, was ratified as Tennessee became the 36th state to approve it.

In 1938, President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Canadian Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King dedicated the Thousand Islands Bridge connecting the United States and Canada.

In 1954, during the Eisenhower administration, Assistant Secretary of Labor James Ernest Wilkins became the first black official to attend a meeting of the president's Cabinet as he sat in for Labor Secretary James P. Mitchell.

In 1963, James Meredith became the first black student to graduate from the University of Mississippi.

In 1969, the Woodstock Music and Art Fair in Bethel, New York, wound to a close after three nights with a mid-morning set by Jimi Hendrix.

In 1976, two U.S. Army officers were killed in Korea's demilitarized zone as a group of North Korean soldiers wielding axes and metal pikes attacked U.S. and South Korean soldiers.

In 1983, Hurricane Alicia slammed into the Texas coast, leaving 21 dead and causing more than a billion dollars' worth of damage. The Kansas City Royals defeated the New York Yankees, 5-4, in the completion of the "pine-tar" game in just 12 minutes.

In 1988, Vice President George H.W. Bush accepted the presidential nomination of his party at the Republican National Convention in New Orleans.

Ten years ago: In Athens, Paul Hamm (hahm) won the men's gymnastics all-around Olympic gold medal by the closest margin ever in the event; controversy followed after it was discovered a scoring error cost Yang Tae-young of South Korea the title. Film composer Elmer Bernstein died in Ojai, California, at age 82. Hawaii's first U.S. senator, Hiram L. Fong, died at age 97.

Five years ago: Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, during his first visit to Washington in five years, offered lavish praise for President Barack Obama; for his part, Obama spoke of an "extraordinary opportunity" for making peace in the Middle East. Ohio executed Jason Getsy, a murder-for-hire triggerman, for killing the mother of his intended target, who survived the attack. Robert Novak, the combative TV and newspaper pundit, died in Washington, D.C., at 78. Former South Korean President and Nobel Peace laureate Kim Dae-jung died in Seoul.

One year ago: David Miranda, partner of Guardian reporter Glenn Greenwald, who'd received leaks from former National Security Agency contractor Edward Snowden, was detained for nearly nine hours

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at London's Heathrow airport, triggering claims authorities were trying to interfere with reporting on the issue. Usain Bolt won his third gold medal of the world championships held in Moscow, anchoring Jamaica to victory in the 4 x 100-meter relay.

Today's Birthdays: Former first lady Rosalynn Carter is 87. Movie director Roman Polanski is 81. Attorney and author Vincent Bugliosi is 80. Olympic gold medal decathlete Rafer Johnson is 79. Actor-director Robert Redford is 78. Actor Henry G. Sanders is 72. Rhythm-and-blues singer Sarah Dash (LaBelle) is 71. Actor-comedian Martin Mull is 71. Rock musician Dennis Elliott is 64. Comedian Elayne Boosler is 62. Country singer Steve Wilkinson (The Wilkinsons) is 59. Actor Denis Leary is 57. Actress Madeleine Stowe is 56. Former Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner (GYT'-nur) is 53. ABC News reporter Bob Woodruff is 53. The former president of Mexico, Felipe Calderon, is 52. Bluegrass musician Jimmy Mattingly is 52. Actor Adam Storke is 52. Actor Craig Bierko (BEER'-koh) is 50. Rock singer-musician Zac Maloy (The Nixons) is 46. Rock singer and hip-hop artist Everlast is 45. Rapper Masta Killa (Wu-Tang Clan) is 45. Actor Christian Slater is 45. Actor Edward Norton is 45. Actor Malcolm-Jamal Warner is 44. Actress Kaitlin Olson is 39. Actor-writer-director Hadji is 38. Rock musician Dirk Lance is 38. Actor-comedian Andy Samberg (TV: "Saturday Night Live") is 36. Actress Mika Boorem is 27. Actress Maia Mitchell (TV: "The Fosters" "Teen Beach Movie") is 21. Actress Parker McKenna Posey is 19.

Thought for Today: "The self-hatred that destroys is the waste of unfulfilled promise." - Moss Hart, American playwright and director (1904-1961).