

Groton Daily Independent

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The JV football game with Roncalli on Monday, Sept. 8th has a new time and site. The game will be at 6pm at played at Presetation College.

The site for the JV Football game vs Red/Dol on Monday, Sept 29th is now at DOLAND!

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School Breakfast: Mini pancakes, cereal, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Chicken Quesadilla, fresh greens, California blend, fresh and canned fruit.

Senior Menu: Salisbury Steak, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy, Parsley Buttered Carrots, Banana Cake/Icing, Whole Wheat Bread.

Birthdays: Russ Claussen • Seth Duncan • Kelly Kjelden

6:30am: ELC Bible Study

4:00pm: Cross Country at Webster

5:00pm: JV Football at Roncalli

6:00pm: Special City Council Meeting

7:30pm: School Board Meeting

6:30pm: Ladies Night Out. Wine & Cava. Hors d'oeuvres and Wine Tasting



www.harrmotors.com

605-225-3078 ~ 1-800-658-3463

The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **CLOSED**

Recycling Trailer in Groton

The recycling trailer is 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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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

Under 26? Should You Stay on Your Parent's Health Insurance?

By Jason Alderman

In their quest to land a job, any job, many young adults will sacrifice what used to be called "fringe benefits" to gain a foot in the door. But many entry-level jobs either offer no healthcare benefits, or the employee's cost share is prohibitive for someone barely making minimum wage. Add to the equation that most twentysomethings are in good health and rarely visit the doctor and it's easy to see why many will forego health insurance in favor of paying other bills.

But that's a dangerous choice. One serious accident or illness can rack up thousands of dollars in bills. In fact, over half of all personal bankruptcies result from unpaid medical bills. Plus, there's usually a tax penalty for going uninsured.

Fortunately, since the Affordable Care Act (ACA) rolled out, young adults now have more health insurance options than before. In addition to buying coverage through their employer (if offered), people under age 26 may also choose to enroll in their parent's plan, even if they're married or no longer a dependent, or to buy an individual plan through the health insurance marketplace.

If you're currently without coverage or want to explore better options, this is the perfect time to start researching what's available. Here's why:

For most employer-sponsored benefit plans, the open enrollment period to sign up for 2015 benefits happens in the next few months. Watch for communications from your own employer and ask your parents to do likewise if their company provides dependent health coverage. ACA's 2015 open enrollment period is November 15, 2014 to February 15, 2015.

With both employer plans and ACA, if you miss open enrollment you'll have to wait until the following year to apply unless: you're applying for Medicaid; you qualify for a special enrollment period because of a family status change (e.g., marriage, divorce, birth of child); or you lose your current coverage.

Another good reason to enroll in a healthcare plan is the so-called individual mandate, an ACA regulation that says most people must maintain health insurance with minimum essential coverage for themselves and their dependents or be subject to a penalty for non-compliance.

Certain people, like those whose income falls below the federal poverty line, are exempt from the penalty. But keep in mind that even if you opt to forego insurance and pay the penalty, you'll still be responsible for all your healthcare expenses. For more information, go to www.healthcare.gov/exemptions.

If your parent's plan offers dependent coverage, they can add you until you turn 26, even if you are: married; not living with your parents; attending school; eligible for worse coverage through your own

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employer; or not financially dependent on your parent. If they're already covering other dependents, there may be little or no cost to add you to their plan. Plus, they can generally pay the premium using pretax dollars if it's an employer-provided plan.

Other coverage options include:

Those under 30 can buy a catastrophic health plan designed to financially protect against worst-case scenarios like a serious accident or illness. For information, search "catastrophic" at www.healthcare.gov.

If you can't afford your employer's insurance and your income falls below certain levels, you may qualify for a tax credit that reduces the cost of ACA plan coverage.

In addition, many states expanded eligibility for their Medicaid programs under the ACA, meaning you could earn more and now qualify for Medicaid. To learn more about subsidies and Medicaid eligibility, search "income levels" at www.healthcare.gov.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs. To Follow Jason Alderman on Twitter: www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney.



*3rd annual
Ladies Night Out*

**Monday
September 8, 2014**

Social 6:30 PM
Painting 7 PM

OLIVE GROVE GOLF COURSE

Featuring:

\$45

All you can
drink wine
& appetizers!

**Cocktails
& Canvas**



The Workforce Marathon

In South Dakota we have the fourth lowest unemployment rate in the nation. This is a source of pride, but it's also a double-edged sword. Because so few South Dakotans are unemployed, we have a shortage of qualified workers to fill job openings. We lack skilled workers in accounting, engineering, information technology, health care, manufacturing trades and elsewhere.

Business leaders across South Dakota have told me that workforce is the single largest obstacle to our continued economic growth. Some businesses have been unable to expand because of the lack of workers. Others have turned down business.

It is clear that workforce must be addressed if South Dakota is going to remain "open for business." We need strategies to address the skills gap that exists in our state.

This spring I convened six workforce summits across the state. Over 1,000 people attended meetings in Brookings, Watertown, Aberdeen, Mitchell, Sioux Falls and Rapid City. Business, education, government and community leaders attended each meeting to tell us about the unique challenges their communities face.

This week I released a report that resulted from those workforce summits and I travelled again to those six communities to share the findings. The report offers a number of strategies for stakeholders at each level to consider and employ. Here are a few of the key takeaways:

First, job seekers and students must have the information they need about job opportunities in our state, toward enabling them to acquire the kinds of skills which lead to employment.

Second, employers need more and better tools to recruit and retain workers with the right skills.

Third, we need to have a foundation that uses common language and real time data.

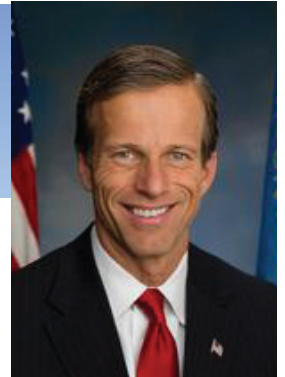
There are a number of things we will be doing at the state level as a response to the workforce summits. The state Department of Labor and Regulation will make real time labor supply and demand data available, so students and job-seekers will have an accurate, up-to-date picture of the opportunities available. The Department will also be working to convert the current language of resumes and job titles to skills and competencies in its job services system. We'll also continue our efforts to recruit new people by targeting populations likely to consider moving to South Dakota.

But the state can't do this work alone. All sectors must work together to address workforce challenges. Businesses, educators and community leaders all have a role to play.

I have asked our current Workforce Development Council to stay in touch with community efforts in the future so we can work toward common goals. As communities each create an individual workforce development plan, I'd like to be able to match community funds with state dollars. I am committing \$1 million in Future Funds toward this effort.

Filling workforce gaps is not going to be easy, and it's not something that we're going to solve in a short time. It's going to take continued dedication from people of all sectors over a long period of time. As we continue to work together to address our workforce challenges, let's remember that this is a marathon, not a sprint.

John Thune
U.S. SENATOR - SOUTH DAKOTA



Lessons From the Locker Room

Tune in to the radio on a Friday night in South Dakota and it is hard not to find a station carrying a high school football game. From Belle Fourche to Kimball to Milbank, high school football is a time-honored tradition in our state. The hot summer afternoons give way to crisp fall nights, and under the lights of the football field the pep band plays, the cheerleaders lead the crowd in the school song, and parents take turns manning the concession stand, trying not to miss too much of the game.

I have fond memories of my time playing high school football. I still remember the sweltering hot August practice days, the feeling of a new pair of cleats, and my nervous energy as I walked onto the field for the season opener. We had some great times out on the football field playing for the Jones County High School Coyotes. While we always played to win, I recognize the tremendous life lessons outside the wins and losses that the team instilled in me.

Football, along with so many student activities, teaches our students the value of teamwork, sportsmanship, and dedication. The competition and hard work required to succeed in extracurricular activities instill values and skills that will serve students far beyond their high school years. Responsibility to teammates and coaches teaches students the value of self-discipline. And even defeat on the field teaches our teenagers the value of perseverance in trying times.

From the road trips, to the big wins and losses, to the homecoming game reuniting friends and family, football season brings communities together to celebrate the success and hard work of our student athletes. With another exciting football season upon us, I wish all student athletes, coaches, and fans a successful and healthy 2014 fall season.

BATES TOWNSHIP WEED NOTICE

OWNERS & TENANTS of Bates Township are hereby notified and required, according to law, to cut all weeds and grass in road ditches adjacent to their property or tenanted by them within Bates township on or before October 1, 2014 or same will be hired done by the township board and assessed property taxes at the rate of \$300 per half mile.

Bates Township Board of Supervisors
Betty Geist
Township Clerk

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Help Wanted

Wheatcrest Hills - New Wage Scale - is hiring for PT and FT CNA positions. We are looking for caring compassionate individuals to join our team. CNA certification training class to start September 15 and we have benefit packages available. Please stop in for application or contact Kristin at 605/448-2251. (0826.0902)

For Rent

ONE AND TWO bedroom apartment for rent. HDS subsidized. Rent includes utilities and heat. No smoking. Pets okay. Contact Darlene Daly at 605/397-8131.

Silver Skates Registration

Registration for the 2015 Carnival of Silver Skates will be on Sunday, September 7th from 11:00 AM until 3:00 PM, and again on Monday, September 8th from 3:00 PM until 7:00 PM at the Warming House in Groton. Be looking for your registration form coming to you via email and through the school as well. If you are going to be a participant in the Carnival, you MUST attend one of these registration dates to be measured for your costume. Thank you!!

Smith Open House

An Open House Bridal Shower honoring Laura Smith (bride to be of Taylor Anderson) will be held on Saturday, September 20th from 9:00-11:00am at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church.

St. John's Luncheon

St. John's Lutheran Church is having its annual soup, sandwich, and pie luncheon (\$2.00 each) on Thursday, September 11th, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. along with crafts and a bake sale. Supplemental funds have been applied for from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

FRIDAY IS
FRIED CHICKEN DAY
Served with Mashed Potatoes & Gravy

Serving 5-9 p.m.

ANDOVER
BAR & GRILL

WE'VE GOT WINGS!
Every Wednesday!

120 S Main St. • 298-5252

Today in Weather History

1959: High winds and areas of blowing dust occurred across parts of central South Dakota from Walworth to Mellette. During the evening, wind gusts of 40 to 50 mph affected the counties either side of the Missouri River. Low visibility in blowing dust was blamed for a four-car crash near Pierre, injuring five persons, another accident near Mobridge injured one person. Barn buildings were blown over or unroofed near Delmont in Douglas County. Lightning started grass fires and burned several thousand acres of rangeland in Mellette and Lyman counties.

1977: In the late afternoon, high winds associated with a cold front gusted to 70 mph and destroyed six buildings on a farm north and east of Reliance. At 500 pm, winds ripped a camper off a pickup truck 12 miles south of Pierre. Winds were measured at 68 mph at Pierre. At 6 pm cdt, winds gusting to 70 mph damaged many trees in the Watertown area, power lines, and some buildings. A trailer and truck, twelve miles north of Watertown, were blown over while traveling on Interstate 29. A large oil tank was also destroyed. At Rapid City, the winds gusted to 75 mph around noon mdt with many trees downed. Also, some buildings had windows broken and roofs damaged with a mobile home overturned. There were minor reports of damage from a number of counties, mostly in the eastern part of the state. The damage was the result of high winds with a cold front which crossed the state during the afternoon and evening of the 8th. The strong winds also caused blowing dust in the western part of the state resulting in the several accidents.

1900 - The greatest weather disaster in U.S. records occurred when a hurricane struck Galveston TX. A tide fifteen feet high washed over the island demolishing or carrying away buildings, and drowning more than 6000 persons. The hurricane destroyed more than 3600 houses, and total damage was more than thirty million dollars. Winds to 120 mph, and a twenty foot storm surge accompanied the hurricane. Following the storm, the surf was three hundred feet inland from the former water line. The hurricane claimed another 1200 lives outside of the Galveston area. (8th-9th) (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1987 - A tropical depression off the coast of South Carolina brought another round of heavy rain to the Middle Atlantic Coast Region and the Upper Ohio Valley. Showers and thunderstorms produced extremely heavy rain in eastern Pennsylvania, where flooding caused more than 55 million dollars across a seven county area. The afternoon high of 97 degrees at Miami FL was a record for the month of September. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Eighteen cities in the south central and eastern U.S. reported record low temperatures for the date, including Roanoke VA with a reading of 42 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)




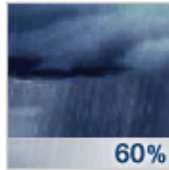



1989 - Thunderstorms developing along a stationary front produced very heavy rain in the central U.S. Thunderstorms during the late morning and afternoon produced five to nine inches of rain around Lincoln NE, with an unofficial total of eleven inches near Holmes Park. Up to six and a half inches of rain soaked northern and western Iowa. Eighty to ninety percent of the homes in Shenandoah IA, where 5.89 inches of rain was received, reported basement flooding. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)











2004: President George Bush visited the National Hurricane Center in Miami, FL making it the first time that a Commander in Chief had visited the facility.

2011: The remnants of Tropical Storm Lee brought copious amounts of rainfall to the eastern United States. Eastern Pennsylvania was especially hard hit, where several locations received over a foot of rain (15.20" at Elizabethtown over a span of five days) and the Susquehanna River set a record stage of 32.8 feet at Bloomsburg (nearly 14 feet over flood stage).











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TODAY	TONIGHT	TUESDAY	TUESDAY NIGHT	WEDNESDAY	WEDNESDAY NIGHT	THURSDAY
						
Sunny High: 85 °F	Mostly Clear Low: 56 °F	Thunderstorms Likely High: 65 °F	Showers Likely Low: 45 °F	Chance Showers High: 51 °F	Slight Chc Showers Low: 36 °F	Chance Showers High: 53 °F

Today	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Today	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
									
88° 55° SW 9	64° 43° N 24	51° 40° N 24	52° 37° NW 11	59° 42° S 8	86° 57° S 15	65° 45° N 23	51° 41° N 26	53° 37° NW 10	58° 39° NW 8
5 Day Outlook - Mobridge, SD					5 Day Outlook - Aberdeen, SD				

Warm/Hot Today ... Much Colder Mid Week

Today	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Today	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
									
92° 62° SW 11	75° 47° N 24	56° 42° N 26	53° 38° NW 11	61° 43° SE 8	80° 60° S 19	73° 47° N 21	51° 41° N 27	50° 36° NW 12	55° 39° NW 9
5 Day Outlook - Pierre, SD					5 Day Outlook - Watertown, SD				

National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD

weather.gov/Aberdeen

National Weather Service Aberdeen

@NWSAberdeen

Updated: 9/8/2014 5:15 AM Central

A few showers and storms in the east this morning will give way to a fair amount of sunshine today, and warm to hot temperatures. However, those temperatures will be short lived as a big push of cold air is expected to start sinking south into the region by mid-week. More showers and storms will accompany that front as it pushes through on Tuesday and Wednesday.

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Yesterday's Weather

High: 81.5°F at 5:02 PM

Low: 54.3°F at 7:13 AM

High Gust: 32 mph at 6:18 PM

Precip: 0.19

Today's Info

Record High: 101° in 1933, 1931

Record Low: 32° in 1992

Average High: 76°F

Average Low: 49°F

Average Precip in Sept.: 0.45

Precip to date in Sept.: 0.19

Average Precip to date: 16.74

Precip Year to Date: 12.11

Sunset Tonight: 7:58 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:05 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Mon, Sep 08, 2014, issued 2:50 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Mc Reynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



THE IMPORTANCE OF WORDS

"What's a nanosecond, Keller?" I asked my ten-year-old grandson.

"Papa, everyone knows what a nanosecond is," he replied with a wry smile across his lips, as if teasing me.

"Well, not quite everyone. If I knew, I wouldn't ask." I felt like I needed to go back to school. Immediately!

"It means one, one billionth of a second. It's used to measure the speed of light and other stuff," he replied casually. Not having any need to measure the speed of light, I thought it was a good time to end the conversation. I realized how little I knew about some things.

But there is one thing I do know without any doubt: God took great care to choose the exact words He needed to clearly transmit His message of redemption. No second guessing about what He wanted us to understand. No hidden meanings for a special class of people. Nothing is left to our imagination that could cause us to make an error in God's intended message or directions for our lives.

This is very obvious in Proverbs 1:2-4. God, through Solomon, let us know that there is a right way and a wrong way to "live life." Each of us has choices to make about the way we will live: a life of righteousness with God's power that will honor and glorify Him, or a sinful, self-centered life that leads to death and damages others.

Ten of the approximately forty words in Proverbs 1:2-4 provide different aspects on ways to understand even see and apply God's wisdom for daily, God-centered, living.

God leaves nothing to "chance." He wants us to succeed!

Prayer: Thank You, Father, for the "God As My Helper" successful living guide book. May we follow it carefully. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Proverbs 1:2-4 for gaining wisdom and instruction; for understanding words of insight; for receiving instruction in prudent behavior, doing what is right and just and fair; for giving prudence to those who are simple, knowledge and discretion to the young—

News from the Associated Press

Man arrested after Sioux Falls standoff

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Authorities say a man has been charged with domestic assault after a nearly five-hour-long standoff with police at a Sioux Falls home.

Police say Grady Morris surrendered to police late Sunday night after barricading himself and a woman in a house. Homes and apartments in the area were evacuated and surrounding streets were closed.

Authorities say the incident began when neighbors allegedly witnessed Morris assaulting a woman in the front yard of a home.

Authorities say the woman sustained minor scrapes and bruises but required no medical treatment.

SD Farmers Union members in Washington for fly-in

HURON, S.D. (AP) — More than two dozen members of the South Dakota Farmers Union are joining other farmers and ranchers in Washington this week for the National Farmers Union 2014 Fly-In.

They're visiting every member of Congress and meeting with officials from the United States Department of Agriculture and White House staff.

South Dakota Farmers Union President Doug Sombke says a backlog of rail cars is the big issue this year. He and other Farmers Union presidents and members from Corn Belt states are meeting with chairman of the Surface Transportation Board to discuss the problem.

Officials seek more federal help to fight crime

HENRY C. JACKSON, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — As Sen. John Hoeven met with law enforcement officials in Williston, North Dakota, this week he heard what's becoming a familiar request: Get us some more federal help.

"They want FBI and DEA, but they need them here on a permanent basis — period," Hoeven, a Republican said in an interview. "If FBI or DEA agents come in for two weeks or a little more and then leave, it doesn't always get the job done ... as soon as they get acclimated, they're out of here."

Rising crime in North Dakota's fast-growing oil belt — including complex drug and prostitution rings — have already led to some federal officials from the FBI and Drug Enforcement Agency spending extended periods of time in the Bakken region. But Hoeven and other local officials say they are increasingly stretched thin and would like the agencies to establish permanent beachheads in the region.

"We've seen a substantial increase in narcotics arrests, and we've seen prostitution come into our area," said David Peterson, lieutenant detective with the Williston police department. "Most law enforcement out in the Bakken region would appreciate the assistance."

Crime in North Dakota increased by 5.5 percent in 2013 compared to 2012, according to statistics released in July by state Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem. And drug arrests — a key concern in western North Dakota — increased by 19.5 percent. Aggravated assaults also increased by roughly 23 percent in the state. In releasing the statistics, Stenehjem also lamented that the drug cases in the state were more complex than ever, involving large amounts of drugs and cartels.

The push for more federal law enforcement resources in western North Dakota is another sign of the lasting impact of the state's oil boom. While growth in the Bakken region has kept unemployment low and largely protected the state from a national economic downturn, local and federal officials say the

pace of growth has created its own set of problems. Hoeven and Sen. Heidi Heitkamp, D-N.D., have both worked to address those issues on a federal level, pushing for more money to fund roads in the region, increase rail safety and improve the amount and caliber of housing in the region.

Improving law enforcement resources has proved more of a tangle. The state has worked to address the issue itself, nearly doubling the number of police officers in the state since 2005. And the state recently received \$3 million from the Justice Department to improve crime fighting efforts in western North Dakota.

But Hoeven said local officials regularly tell him that a permanent federal presence in the region would improve the situation. At the roundtable he attended this week, he said officials praised the work of FBI and DEA agents dispatched to the region, saying they brought expertise and more resources. But he said that bringing long term improvement to the situation would require more federal help.

"They, locally, look at this as a partnering effort," Hoeven said. "They're not just asking for resources, but they're looking for a partnering effort."

Hoeven said he has made progress with the FBI and anticipates the bureau opening a Williston office at some point in the future.

"I hope within the next few months we can get them based here permanently," he said.

DEA resources are more finite, Hoeven said. DEA Administrator Michele Leonhart is supportive of the effort to bring more resources to the region and "willing to try to help us," Hoeven said. But she has also told Hoeven she will have to find another place to cut back before she can devote more resources to the Bakken region.

For local officials, getting the FBI and DEA in the region permanently is about cooperation and ensuring as much as possible is being done to stop the growth of drug and prostitution rings.

"It boils down to more eyes and ears and hands," said Peterson.

New shooting complex opens near Pierre, Ft. Pierre

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A shooting complex that's been in the works since 2005 has just opened near Pierre and Fort Pierre.

The state says the Lower Oahe Downstream Shooting Complex has averaged nearly 24,000 users annually since 2002 when the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department took over management of the site from the Corps of Engineers.

The shooting complex is now compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act, has ten 100-yard shooting stations, two 50-yard shooting stations, two 300-yard shooting stations, two handgun bays with six shooting benches and room for standing shooting within the 25-yard handgun bays.

The site also includes a dedicated shotgun/trap area and 20 new concrete shooting benches.

Education groups to propose teacher salary bill

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Representatives from several statewide education organizations will go before a legislative planning committee Monday with a plan they say would increase public school teacher salaries.

Rob Monson, executive director of the School Administrators of South Dakota, will join other education officials around the state at a meeting of the Legislative Planning Committee in Pierre. He said he and his colleagues will present a draft of a bill to the committee. The bill would create a teacher enhancement fund in an effort to raise teacher salaries in the state.

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The group's goal is to bring base salaries up to a "respectable level" by using a combination of state and local dollars, Monson said.

He added that the draft of the bill is preliminary in its current form and estimated Friday that it will likely look very different if it's able to move through the Legislature.

"We know it's going to take a considerable amount of work to get from where it's at to something that's going to be palatable," he said.

The bill proposal comes as many schools across the state report difficulties finding new teachers to replace long-term employees.

Nearly three-quarters of South Dakota school superintendents surveyed in February said they believed low pay is a big reason they are having trouble hiring and keeping teachers. The organizations that conducted the survey, the Associated School Boards of South Dakota and the School Administrators of South Dakota, got responses from 130 of the state's 154 districts.

As of June, more than 30 percent of South Dakota teaching positions posted this year remained open when they probably would have been filled by the end of May in previous years, Monson said.

Monson sent out a follow-up survey for superintendents last week, which he said he expects to have the results from soon.

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. WHAT OBAMA PLANS TO DO ABOUT ISLAMIC STATE GROUP

The president will begin laying out his strategy for defeating the extremists when he meets with congressional leaders and then delivers a speech to the nation.

2. FEDERAL APPEALS COURT TO HEAR SAME-SEX WEDDINGS CASE

The three-judge panel in San Francisco is set to hear arguments on gay marriage bans in Idaho, Nevada and Hawaii.

3. WHY BICKERING LAWMAKERS MAY WORK TOGETHER

Congress is beginning an abbreviated session that will blend votes staged for political messaging with tasks such as preventing a government shutdown.

4. CHICK-FIL-A FOUNDER DIES AT 93

S. Truett Cathy was the billionaire founder of the eatery that famously closed on Sundays but also drew unwanted attention on gay marriage.

5. CEASE-FIRE HOLDS IN EASTERN UKRAINE

A truce between pro-Russian rebels and Ukrainian troops appears to be working a day after shelling and clashes rattled nerves and imperiled the deal.

6. HUNDREDS KILLED BY SOUTH ASIA LANDSLIDES, FLOODS

The Indian army is trying to rescue thousands stranded across Indian-controlled Kashmir and northern and eastern Pakistan have been hit as well.

7. MICROSOFT REVAMPS MSN TO FLOW ACROSS DEVICES

Microsoft says the strategy is to make mobile phones and Internet-based services priorities as its traditional businesses slow down or decline.

8. WHICH COLLEGE IS ABOUT TO CASH IN

A \$350 million gift pledged to Harvard University's School of Public Health is the largest single donation in the university's long history, officials say.

9. WHO'S EXPECTING THEIR SECOND CHILD

Prince William and wife Kate are "delighted" with the news, but the Duchess of Cambridge is being treated for severe morning sickness, royal officials say.

10. IT'S SERENA AGAIN AT U.S. OPEN

By defeating Caroline Wozniacki for her third straight title at Flushing Meadows, Williams also equaled Evert and Navratilova with 18 Grand Slam singles titles — the fourth-most in history.

AP News in Brief

Obama plans to outline strategy Wednesday on combatting Islamic State militants

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama plans to begin laying out his strategy for defeating Islamic State militants expanding their grip in Iraq and Syria.

He'll outline his evolving tactics when he meets with congressional leaders from both parties at the White House on Tuesday and then delivers a speech Wednesday on the eve of the 13th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks.

Lawmakers said in advance that they would like the president to give specifics.

The president should target command and control centers and oil refineries controlled by insurgents within Syria, suggested Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., who sits on both the Senate Intelligence and Foreign Relations Committees.

Rubio, claiming that Obama has committed "presidential malpractice in his foreign policy," said he is eager to hear directly what Obama "should have said months, weeks ago."

Appeals court to consider gay marriage laws in Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — For the first time since it declared California's gay marriage ban unconstitutional, the federal appeals court in San Francisco is readying to hear arguments over same-sex weddings in a political and legal climate that's vastly different than when it overturned Proposition 8 in 2012.

State and federal court judges have been striking down bans in more than a dozen states at a rapid rate since a landmark U.S. Supreme Court ruling last year.

Now, three judges on the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals — all appointed by Democrats and one whom wrote the opinion overturning Proposition 8 — are set to hear arguments Monday on gay marriage bans in Idaho, Nevada and Hawaii.

"It seemed like such an uphill battle when I started," said Shannon Minter, legal director for the National Center for Lesbian Rights. "I really couldn't imagine then that we would be where we are now."

Minter has been fighting for gay marriage for 21 years, was instrumental in challenging bans in California and Utah and is representing gay couples seeking to overturn Idaho's prohibition.

Ebola experts: virus is surging in places where it was beaten back; entire countries at risk

CONAKRY, Guinea (AP) — Doctors Without Borders shuttered one of its Ebola treatment centers in Guinea in May. They thought the deadly virus was being contained there.

The Macenta region, right on the Liberian border, had been one of the first places where the outbreak surfaced, but they hadn't seen a new case for weeks. So they packed up, leaving a handful of staff on stand-by. The outbreak was showing signs of slowing elsewhere as well.

Instead, new cases appeared across the border in Liberia and then spread across West Africa, carried by the sick and dying. Now, months later, Macenta is once again a hotspot.

The resurgence of the disease in a place where doctors thought they had it beat shows how history's largest Ebola outbreak has spun out of control.

It began with people leaving homes in Liberia to seek better care or reunite with families back in Guinea, a pattern repeating itself all over.

Spokesman: Chick-fil-A restaurant founder S. Truett Cathy has died at age 93

ATLANTA (AP) — S. Truett Cathy, the billionaire founder of the privately held Chick-fil-A restaurant chain that famously closes on Sundays but also drew unwanted attention on gay marriage in recent years because of his family's conservative views, died early Monday, a company spokesman said. He was 93.

Chick-fil-A spokesman Mark Baldwin told The Associated Press that Cathy died at home surrounded by members of his family. Funeral plans had not yet been finalized, he said.

Cathy opened his first postwar diner in an Atlanta suburb in 1946 and by 1967 he had founded and opened his first Chick-fil-A Inc. restaurant in Atlanta. Over ensuing decades, the chain's boneless chicken sandwich he is credited with inventing would propel Chick-fil-A expansion to more than 1,800 outlets in 39 states and the nation's capital. By early 2013, the company says on its website, annual sales topped \$5 billion as the chain offered up a taste of the South that went beyond chicken to such offerings as sweet tea, biscuits and gravy.

Under the religiously conservative founder, the chain gained prominence for its Bible Belt observance of Sunday — none of its hundreds of restaurants are open on that day, to allow employees a day of rest. Its executives often said the chain made as much money in six days as its competitors do in seven.

Those religious views helped win Cathy and his family loyal following from conservative customers, but also invited protests when Cathy's son denounced gay marriage.

Elections ahead, summer break over, Congress begins short September session with must-do items

WASHINGTON (AP) — Summer break over and elections ahead, Congress is beginning an abbreviated September session with must-do tasks of preventing a government shutdown and extending a freeze on taxing access to the Internet.

Lawmakers will find time, too, for votes conveying political messages primed for fall campaigning.

Republicans who run the House may have lousy approval ratings, but they are poised to pad their 17-vote majority and determined to avoid mistakes like last year's partial government shutdown. That

fight was over implementation of President Barack Obama's health care law.

Now, the GOP is pressing for drama-free passage of a temporary spending bill to prevent a federal shutdown at month's end and fund government agencies past the Nov. 4 election into mid-December. The Senate is sure to go along if that measure is kept free of objectionable add-ons.

House Republicans also plan votes aimed at drawing attention to legislation they say would boost jobs and energy production.

Cease-fire holds in eastern Ukraine as country's leader visits war-torn region

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — A cease-fire between pro-Russian rebels and Ukrainian government troops appeared to be largely holding in eastern Ukraine Monday, a day after shelling and clashes rattled nerves and imperiled the peace deal.

In a statement published online, the city council of Donetsk said there had been no reported casualties overnight and that public transport would be up and running on Tuesday. No shelling or explosions could be heard overnight in downtown Donetsk.

The regional administration of Donetsk announced that Ukrainian president Petro Poroshenko would be traveling to the coastal city of Mariupol on Monday, a symbolic show of strength in a government-held city that has come under rebel fire in recent days.

The area around Mariupol had remained relatively untouched by violence until recent weeks, when rebel forces pushed toward the coastal town, shelling the city's outskirts as recently as Saturday. The city is strategically placed on the Sea of Azov coastline, raising fears that the Moscow-backed rebels could be pushing to link up mainland Russia with Crimea, the Black Sea peninsula annexed by Russia in March.

The Interfax-Ukraine news agency reported Monday that 15 Ukrainian soldiers had been released by rebel forces, another key element of a peace deal between the rebels and Ukrainian troops.

China's terrorism crackdown raises concerns of excessive force, summary killings by police

BEIJING (AP) — When attackers from China's minority Uighurs killed 37 people in a July rampage in far western Xinjiang, police responded by gunning down at least 59 of them. When three Uighurs allegedly killed a top state-appointed Muslim cleric, police shot dead two of them. When security forces led a raid on 10 suspected Uighur terrorists, they fatally shot all but one.

The incidents are part of a pattern raising concerns that Chinese police are excessively using deadly force in their bid to prevent more attacks by Uighur militants, who have killed dozens of civilians in train stations and other public places over the past few years. In some cities, patrolling SWAT units have already been authorized to shoot dead suspected terrorists without warning.

An Associated Press review of articles by China's official Xinhua News Agency and other state media has found that at least 323 people have died in Xinjiang-related violence since April last year, when the unrest began to escalate. Nearly half of those deaths were inflicted by police — in most cases, by gunning down alleged perpetrators who are usually reported as having been armed with knives, axes and, occasionally, vaguely-defined explosives.

Beijing's tight controls and monopoly on the narrative make it difficult to independently assess if the lethal action has been justified. And Chinese authorities prevent most reporting by foreign journalists

inside Xinjiang, making it nearly impossible to confirm the state media numbers. Uighur exile groups and the U.S.-government funded broadcaster Radio Free Asia report far more violent incidents than Chinese state media do, and in some cases, higher death tolls and police shootings of Uighur protesters. But those reports are similarly hard to verify.

To understand just how tough it can be to determine whether China's hand is being forced — or whether officials are recklessly lashing out at those who resist them — consider this recent series of confrontations in Xinjiang: On Aug. 1, police cornered a group of alleged terrorists in an abandoned house and shot nine of them dead, arresting one. In June, police gunned down 13 "mobsters" who allegedly attacked a local police station. In April, checkpoint police fatally shot a teenage Uighur motorcyclist after he allegedly attempted to grab their guns.

AP PHOTOS: Thousands of Gazans displaced by Hamas-Israel war still living in school shelters

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — Thousands of Palestinians in the Gaza Strip are still living in schools where they took refuge during seven weeks of fighting between Hamas and Israel that ended late last month.

Israeli airstrikes have left much of the territory in ruins, and thousands of homes have been destroyed or severely damaged. Reconstruction has yet to begin as a blockade imposed by Egypt and Israel on Gaza still holds, severely restricting the import of cement and other building materials.

Israel fears militants could use such materials to build rockets and reinforce cross-border attack tunnels.

With a population of 1.8 million people, Gaza is a densely populated coastal strip of urban warrens and agricultural land that still bears the scars of previous rounds of fighting. The Islamic militant group Hamas seized power in the territory in 2007.

Rebuilding Gaza will take years, and some Palestinian officials say it could cost in excess of \$6 billion.

Indian, Pakistani troops help rescue people stranded by deadly flooding as rivers still rise

SRINAGAR, India (AP) — Army and air force troops on Monday worked to rescue thousands of people stranded in Indian-controlled Kashmir and northern and eastern Pakistan, where flooding and landslides have caused more than 320 deaths.

Six days of rains in Indian Kashmir have left more than 120 people dead in the region's worst flooding in more than five decades, submerging hundreds of villages and triggering landslides, officials said. In neighboring Pakistan, more than 205 people have died and thousands of homes have collapsed.

In Islamabad, Pakistan's National Disaster Management Authority spokesman Ahmad Kamal said the death toll had risen to 205 people with at least 383 more injured over the past six days.

Pakistani troops were helping civilian authorities in rescue operations and in getting aid to stranded villagers, the Pakistani army said in a statement.

So far nearly 9,000 people have been evacuated from nearly 530 villagers that were inundated by flood waters, Kamal said.

British royal couple expecting second child; Kate being treated for morning sickness

LONDON (AP) — The Duchess of Cambridge, wife of Prince William, is expecting her second child and was being treated for severe morning sickness, royal officials said Monday.

The couple and their families were “delighted” with the news, according to their office, Clarence House.

The duchess was being treated at Kensington Palace for severe morning sickness, Clarence House said. She suffered from morning sickness during her first pregnancy with Prince George, who was born in July 2013.

Prime Minister David Cameron said he was “delighted by the happy news that they’re expecting another baby.”

The new baby will become fourth in line to the throne, pushing Prince Harry to fifth.

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Monday, September 8, the 251st day of 2014. There are 114 days left in the year.

Today’s Highlight in History:

On September 8, 1974, President Gerald R. Ford granted a “full, free, and absolute pardon” to former President Richard Nixon “for all offenses against the United States which he, Richard Nixon, has committed or may have committed or taken part in during the period from January 20, 1969 through August 9, 1974.”

On this date:

In 1504, Michelangelo’s towering marble statue of David was unveiled to the public in Florence, Italy.

In 1761, Britain’s King George III married Princess Charlotte of Mecklenburg-Strelitz a few hours after meeting her for the first time.

In 1892, an early version of “The Pledge of Allegiance,” written by Francis Bellamy, appeared in “The Youth’s Companion.”

In 1900, Galveston, Texas, was struck by a hurricane that killed an estimated 8,000 people.

In 1921, Margaret Gorman, 16, of Washington D.C., was crowned the first “Miss America” in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

In 1934, more than 130 people lost their lives in a fire aboard the liner SS Morro Castle off the New Jersey coast.

In 1939, President Franklin D. Roosevelt declared a “limited national emergency” in response to the outbreak of war in Europe.

In 1944, Nazi Germany fired the first of its V-2 rockets, which were faster and more powerful than the V-1, into London during World War II.

In 1954, the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) was founded in Manila by the United States, France, Britain, New Zealand, Australia, the Philippines, Thailand and Pakistan.

In 1964, public schools in Prince Edward County, Virginia, reopened after being closed for five years by officials attempting to prevent court-ordered racial desegregation.

In 1989, Partnair Flight 394, a Convair CV-580, crashed into the sea off Denmark, killing all 55 people on board.

In 1994, USAir Flight 427, a Boeing 737, crashed into a ravine as it was approaching Pittsburgh International Airport, killing all 132 people on board.

Groton Daily Independent

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Ten years ago: CBS' "60 Minutes II" aired a report raising questions about President George W. Bush's National Guard service; however, CBS News ended up apologizing for a "mistake in judgment" after memos featured in the report were challenged as forgeries. The Genesis space capsule, which had spent three years gathering solar wind samples, crashed to Earth when its parachutes failed to deploy. (Despite the crash, scientists were able to save enough of the solar samples for study.) Richard G. Butler, founder of the Aryan Nations, was found dead at his home in Hayden, Idaho; he was 86.

Five years ago: In a nationally broadcast pep talk from Wakefield High School in Arlington, Virginia, President Barack Obama challenged the nation's students to take pride in their education. Justice Sonia Sotomayor ceremonially took her seat at the Supreme Court in front of a packed courtroom that included President Obama and Vice President Joe Biden. A U.N.-backed commission said it had found "convincing evidence" of fraud in Afghanistan's presidential election. Veteran Hollywood columnist Army Archerd, 87, died in Los Angeles.

One year ago: NAACP President and CEO Benjamin Jealous, credited with boosting finances at the nation's largest civil rights organization and helping to stabilize it, announced plans to step down at year's end. Top-seeded Serena Williams won her fifth U.S. Open championship and 17th Grand Slam title overall by beating No. 2 Victoria Azarenka 7-5, 6-7 (6), 6-1 in a windy final. The International Olympic Committee voted wrestling back onto the program for the 2020 and 2024 Games. Perennial pitcher and car dealer Cal Worthington died in Orland, California, at age 92.

Today's Birthdays: Ventriloquist Willie Tyler is 74. Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., is 73. Actor Alan Feinstein is 73. Pop singer Sal Valentino (The Beau Brummels) is 72. Author Ann Beattie is 67. Cajun singer Zachary Richard (ree-SHARD') is 64. Musician Will Lee (TV: "Late Show with David Letterman") is 62. Actress Heather Thomas is 57. Singer Aimee Mann is 54. Pop musician David Steele (Fine Young Cannibals) is 54. Actor Thomas Kretschmann is 52. Rhythm-and-blues singer Marc Gordon (Levert) is 50. Gospel singer Darlene Zschech (chehk) is 49. Alternative country singer Neko (NEE'-koh) Case is 44. TV personality Brooke Burke-Charvet is 43. Actor Martin Freeman is 43. Actor David Arquette is 43. TV-radio personality Kennedy is 42. Rock musician Richard Hughes (Keane) is 39. Actor Larenz Tate is 39. Actor Nathan Corrdry is 37. Rhythm-and-blues singer Pink is 35. Singer-songwriter Eric Hutchinson is 34. Actor Jonathan Taylor Thomas is 33. Rapper Wiz Khalifa is 27. Dance music artist AVICII is 25.

Thought for Today: "Fools act on imagination without knowledge, pedants act on knowledge without imagination." - Alfred North Whitehead, English philosopher and mathematician (1861-1947).