

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, September 10, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 053 ♦ 1 of 22

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

10

- 1- Rix Apartment for Rent
- 1- Harry Implement
- 1- Today's Information
- 1- Recycling Trailers in Groton
- 2- Redfield Golf Meet
- 2- Groton Soccer this weekend
- 3- Groton City Appropriation Ordinance
- 5- Classified Page
- 5- Andover Bar & Grill
- 6- Today in Weather History
- 7- Weather Page
- 8- Local Weather
- 8- National Weather Map
- 9- Daily Devotional
- 10- News from the Associated Press

School Breakfast: Pancake on stick, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Hamburger, French fries, veg and dip, fresh and canned fruit.

Senior Menu: Hot Pork Combination, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy, Green and Gold Beans, Carrot-Raisin Salad, Pear Halves.

Birthdays: • Debbie Hein • Tami Herron • Robin Loeschke • Hannah Gustafson

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

12:00pm: Kiwanis meets at the Community Center

7:00pm: ELC Confirmation with students and parents

Harry Implement

"Family Owned & Operated Since 1935!"



(605) 395-6421

Ferney

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

Herman, Sombke place at Redfield

Two Groton golfers placed at the Redfield-Doland Invitational held Tuesday in Redfield. Adam Herman placed third with an 81 and Brody Sombke was sixth with an 83. Others golfing were Landon Marzahn with a 92, Sean Schuring shot a 100 and Korbin Blackmun shot a 116.

Sioux Valley placed first as a team with 328, Groton was second with 356, Milbank was third with 358 and Redfield-Doland was fourth with 400.

Great Soccer Action Coming To Town This Weekend

You might be hard pressed to find a high school sports team that is run quite the way the GHS soccer teams are. You will find coaches & parents wearing many hats, to make the program a success. From marking the field, taking gate admission, supplying food and drink for the concession stand, working concessions, stocking bathrooms with necessary supplies, making bus and hotel arrangements for the team, transporting 40-50 kids to away games, fundraising, to picking up garbage left on the field after the game. The coaches, parents and players are doing it all.

Soccer has entered its third year as a sanctioned high school sport. The school board agreed to sanctioning the sport, at a time that budget cuts were being made. Therefore, the agreement was, no school funding, at that time. We have run the program for two years, receiving \$0 from the school. This year the budget was looking better, so the district has agreed to paying the salaries of our two head coaches. Fundraising efforts are still necessary to pay for referee's, upkeep on the buildings, help with busing and any other expenses that come our way. Next year the SDSHAA will be implementing new rules that will require us to replace our current uniforms, so they meet the standards they have set forth. The school is hoping to be able to help out more next year, but nothing is guaranteed. Our fundraising committee has worked very hard to pinch every penny, to keep this team out of the red. Without the help of a very devoted crew of coaches, parents and local businesses, that have sponsored signs. We wouldn't be where we are today.

Unlike most GHS sports, we get to keep the money from both the gate and concession stand. However, we are responsible to staff both, and all concession supplies are donated by soccer parents or bought with money from our account. As a school sport, we are able to honor activity tickets & senior passes.

We would love to see soccer continue for many, many years in Groton. Saturday, September 13th is going to be a big day for soccer in Groton, and we would love to have you come and check it out. Not only would you be directly supporting the future of this sport in our school. You should be highly entertained, by a couple of fun games to watch. The day will start with the girls team taking the field at 1:00 and the boys will follow at 3:00. Both teams will be taking on Sioux Falls Christian. On the girls side, Groton is ranked 3rd and SF Christian is ranked 8th, so if everything goes as it should, our girls should come out on top. The boys game is sure to be a battle to the fullest, as the Groton boys are ranked #2 and SF Christian ranked #1. This could prove to be one best soccer matches in the state, happening right here on our hometown field. If you have never attended a HS soccer game, this weekend is a great opportunity to try something new. Grab your lawn chairs and come check it out. Hope to see you there!

- Jamie Larson

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, September 10, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 053 ♦ 3 of 22

Groton City Appropriation Ordinance

2015 APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

Part I:

Be it ordained by the City of Groton that the following sums are appropriated to meet the obligations of the municipality.

General Fund:

410 General Government: 411 Legislative- \$12,890; 411.5 Contingency- \$82,000; 412 Executive- \$6,950; 413 Elections- \$810; 414 Financial Administration- \$250,670; 419 Other- \$26,670; Total General Government= \$297,990

420 Public Safety: 421 Police- \$243,400; 429 Other- \$210; Total Public Safety= \$243,610

430 Public Works: 431 Street- \$738,360; 432 Weed Control- 8,000; 437 Cemetery- 15,650; 439 Transit- 3,000; Total Public Works- \$465,010

440 Health & Welfare: 441 Pest Control- \$ 3,710; Total Health & Welfare= \$3,710

450 Culture & Recreation: 451 Recreation- \$ 165,730; 452 Parks- \$19,200; 455 Library- \$1,130; 456 Community Center- \$6,580; Total Culture & Recreation= \$ 192,640

460 Economic Development: 465 Promotion & Planning- \$2,000; Total Economic Development= \$2,000

470 Debt Service: 470 Debt Service \$126,980; Total Debt Service= \$126,980

490 Miscellaneous; 490 Gas Tax- \$1,400; 499 Liquor- \$60; Total Miscellaneous= \$1,460

Transfers To Debt Service- \$125,690

2015 General Fund Total Appropriations=\$1,841,090

Gross Receipts Tax Fund: 451 Recreation-\$21,530

Airport Fund: 435 Airport- \$31,960

Family Crisis: 440 Health & Welfare-\$4,400

Debt Service Funds:

470 Special Assessments Debt Service: 2006- \$16,380; 2007- \$28,780; 2009- \$70,950; 2013-\$29,850; 2014- \$31,910

470 Water Debt Service: Main St- \$30,690; EPA- \$21,160

470 Sewer Debt Service: NE Sewer-\$8,840; RR Sewer- \$17,390; West Ditch- \$27,910

Part II:

The following designates the fund or funds that money derived from the following sources is applied to:

Governmental Funds:

General Fund: Undesignated Fund Balance- \$200; 310 Taxes- \$1,151,000; 320 Licenses & Permits- \$10,700; 330 Intergovernmental Revenues- \$243,290; 340 Charges for Goods & Services- \$61,130; 350 Fines & Forfeitures- 890; 360 Miscellaneous Revenue- \$4,540; 380 Liquor- \$9,200; Transfers from Enterprise Funds- \$310,200; Total Means of Finance= \$1,841,150

Gross Receipts Tax Fund: Undesignated Fund Balance- \$ 1,530; 310 Taxes- \$20,000; Total Means of Finance= \$21,530

Airport Fund: Undesignated Fund Balance- \$11,260; 360 Miscellaneous Revenue- \$25,820; Total Means of Finance= \$37,080

Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund: Undesignated Fund Balance- \$32,900; 360 Miscellaneous Revenue-\$1,000; Total Means of Finance= \$33,900

Family Crisis Fund: Undesignated Fund Balance- \$4,000; 360 Miscellaneous Revenue-\$4,400; Total Means of Finance= \$8,400

Special Assessments Debt Service Funds:

2005: Undesignated Fund Balance- \$(10,000); 360 Miscellaneous Income- \$10,510; Total Means of Finance= \$510

2006: Undesignated Fund Balance- \$12,000; 360 Miscellaneous Income- \$9,300; Total Means of Finance= \$21,300

2007: Undesignated Fund Balance-\$36,000; 360 Miscellaneous Income-\$10,860; Total Means of Finance= \$46,860

2009: Undesignated Fund Balance- \$130,000; 360 Miscellaneous Income- \$30,510; Transfer from

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, September 10, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 053 ♦ 4 of 22

General Fund- \$14,500; Total Means of Finance= \$160,510

2013 Undesignated Fund Balance- \$63,000; 360 Miscellaneous Income- \$26,000; Total Means of Finance = \$89,000

2014 Undesignated Fund Balance- \$5,000; 360 Miscellaneous Income- \$26,710; Transfer from General Fund- \$5,200; Total Means of Finance= \$36,910

Water Debt Service Funds:

Main St: Undesignated Fund Balance- \$0; Transfer from General Fund-\$30,690; Total Means of Finance= \$30,690

EPA: Undesignated Fund Balance- \$0 Transfer from General Fund- \$21,160; Total Means of Finance= \$21,160

Sewer Debt Service Funds:

NE Sewer: Undesignated Fund Balance- \$0; Transfer from General Fund- \$8,840; Total Means of Finance= \$8,840

RR Sewer: Undesignated Fund Balance- \$0; Transfer from General Fund- \$17,390; Total Means of Finance= \$17,390

West Ditch: Undesignated Fund Balance- \$0; Transfer from General Fund- \$27,910; Total Means of Finance=\$27,910

Proprietary Funds:

Electric Fund: Beginning Retained Earnings-\$1,000; Estimated Revenue- \$1,816,800; Total Available-\$1,817,800; Less Appropriations- \$1,596,650; Estimated Surplus- \$221,150; Less Surplus Retained-\$150; Estimated Surplus To Be Transferred To Govt. Funds- \$221,000

Water Fund: Beginning Retained Earnings-\$100; Estimated Revenue- \$307,550; Total Available-\$307,650; Less Appropriations- \$255,860; Estimated Surplus- \$52,300; Less Surplus Retained- \$790; Estimated Surplus To Be Transferred To Govt. Funds- \$81,000

Sewer Fund: Beginning Retained Earnings- \$1,000; Estimated Revenue- \$209,520; Total Available-\$210,520; Less Appropriations- \$201,060; Estimated Surplus- \$9,460; Less Surplus Retained-\$1,260; Estimated Surplus To Be Transferred To Govt. Funds- \$8,200

Solid Waste Fund: Beginning Retained Earnings- \$1,000; Estimated Revenue- \$80,680; Total Available- \$81,680; Less Appropriations- \$79,960; Estimated Surplus- \$1,720; Less Surplus Retained- \$1,720 Estimated Surplus To Be Transferred To Govt. Funds- \$0

Part III:

The following is a summary of those funds for which spending authority has been approved by the electorate:

Wastewater Fund: Amount Authorized- \$635,000; Expended to Date-\$ 465,454; Unexpended Authorization- \$169,546

Wastewater Fund: Amount Authorized- \$420,000; Expended to Date-\$404,475; Unexpended Authorization- \$15,525

General Fund: Amount Authorized- \$1,000,000; Expended to Date- \$980,000; Unexpended Authorization- \$20,000

Part IV:

The Finance Officer is directed to certify the following dollar amount of tax levies made in this ordinance to the County Auditor. The maximum dollar amount of tax levies allowed under the tax freeze (\$404,000) plus \$230,000 authorized under the opt out procedure (\$634,000.00).

Passed First Reading - 8/26/14

Passed Second Reading - 9/8/14

Adopted - 9/8/14

Published - 9/17/14

Effective - 10/1/14

Published once at the approximate cost of \$40.72.

Scott Hanlon, Mayor

Attest:

Anita Lowary, Finance Officer

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, September 10, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 053 ♦ 5 of 22

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.

For Sale

FOR SALE: 1984 1/2 ton Ford pickup, rusty but runs good. \$600 or best offer. Honda riding lawn mower with bagger. Works good. \$550 or best offer. Call 397-2783 or 290-5546.

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

The advertisement features a central illustration of a fried chicken drumstick. Below it, there is a pile of wings with a sunburst effect behind them. To the right, there is a logo for 'ANDOVER BAR & GRILL' which includes a beer glass and a grill. The text is arranged in a clear, bold, and colorful layout.

Today in Weather History

1961: In Webster between 1 and 2 am, a large farm implement was destroyed by a lightning-caused fire. Many implements, three cars, two trucks, as well as merchandise, were lost. Nearby buildings suffered damage from fire. The heavy rain was helpful in reducing the spread of the fire.

1975: Large hail up to the size of 2 inches in diameter damaged many acres of corn, flax, and millet fields during the evening. The area between Volga and Brookings received the most serious damage.

1988: Lightning started fires in Todd county southwest of Mission that burned nearly 14,000 acres of grassland and 4000 acres of timber. The damages were more than 60,000 dollars.

1919 - A hurricane struck the Florida Keys drowning more than 500 persons. (David Ludlum)

1960 - Hurricane Donna struck the Florida Keys, with winds gusting to 180 mph and a thirteen foot storm surge. The hurricane then moved north along the eastern coast of Florida and inundated Naples before moving out to sea. Hurricane Donna claimed fifty lives, injured 1800 others, and caused more than 300 million dollars damage. The Marathon/Tavernier area was almost completely destroyed, and in the Citrus Belt, most of the avacado crop was blown from the trees. Hurricane Donna wreaked havoc from Florida to Maine, with wind gusts to 100 mph along much of the coast. Hurricane Donna produced wind gusts to 121 mph at Charleston SC on the 11th, and wind gusts to 138 mph at Blue Hill Observatory MA on the 12th. The hurricane finally died over Maine two days later, producing more than five inches of rain over the state. (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1976: Tropical Storm Kathleen hit San Diego, CA causing widespread flooding and producing 72 mph wind gusts. A foot of rain fell in a few places in the mountains from the 9th to the 12th, with rainfall rates up to an inch per hour. Six people were killed.

1987 - A late afternoon thunderstorm roared through Austin TX producing wind gusts to 81 mph, and 2.17 inches of rain in just sixty minutes. The high winds toppled six National Guard helicopters at the Robert Mueller Municipal Airport, and damaged or destroyed numerous other aircraft. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Cool air sweeping into the north central U.S. brought snow to some of the higher elevations of Montana. The town of Kings Hill, southeast of Great Falls, was blanketed with six inches of snow. Tropical Storm Gilbert strenghtened to a hurricane over the eastern Carribbean. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Light snow fell in Montana overnight, with three inches reported at Fairfield. Billings MT reported a record low of 33 degrees. Unseasonably warm weather prevailed in the northeastern U.S., with record highs of 86 degrees at Caribou ME and 90 degrees at Burlington VT. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

2003: A Florida couple won \$21 million when they bought the winning lottery ticket while shopping for a surge protector after lightning had struck their TV set.

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, September 10, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 053 ♦ 7 of 22

TODAY	TONIGHT	THURSDAY	THURSDAY NIGHT	FRIDAY	FRIDAY NIGHT	SATURDAY
						
50%		20%				
Scattered Showers High: 51 °F	Mostly Cloudy Low: 40 °F	Slight Chc Showers High: 53 °F	Mostly Cloudy Low: 37 °F	Mostly Sunny High: 58 °F	Mostly Clear Low: 35 °F	Sunny High: 63 °F



Chilly For The Latter Half Of The Work Week

Milder Air This Weekend

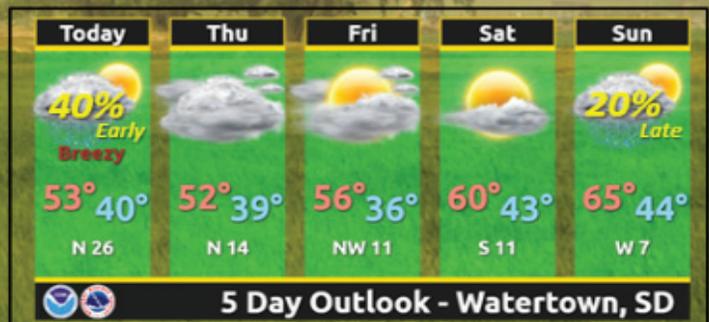
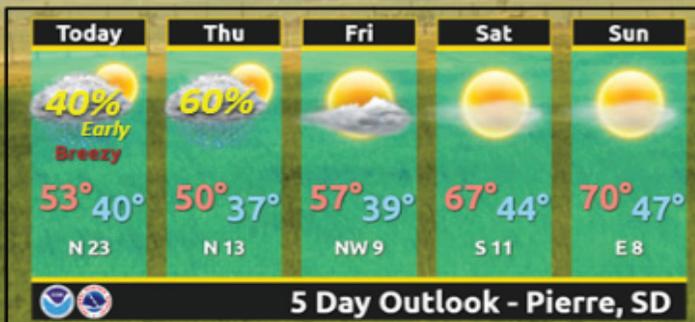
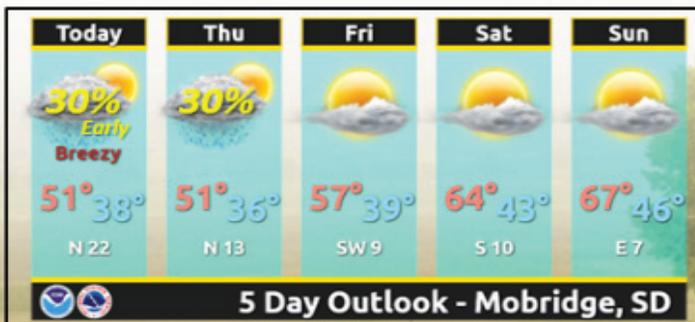
weather.gov/Aberdeen



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen



Scattered showers will continue off and on through most of the morning. Another area of light rain will push into mainly western South Dakota on Thursday before we will see any clearing. A few spots might get a little frosty Friday & Saturday mornings before warmer air returns to the region.

Groton Daily Independent

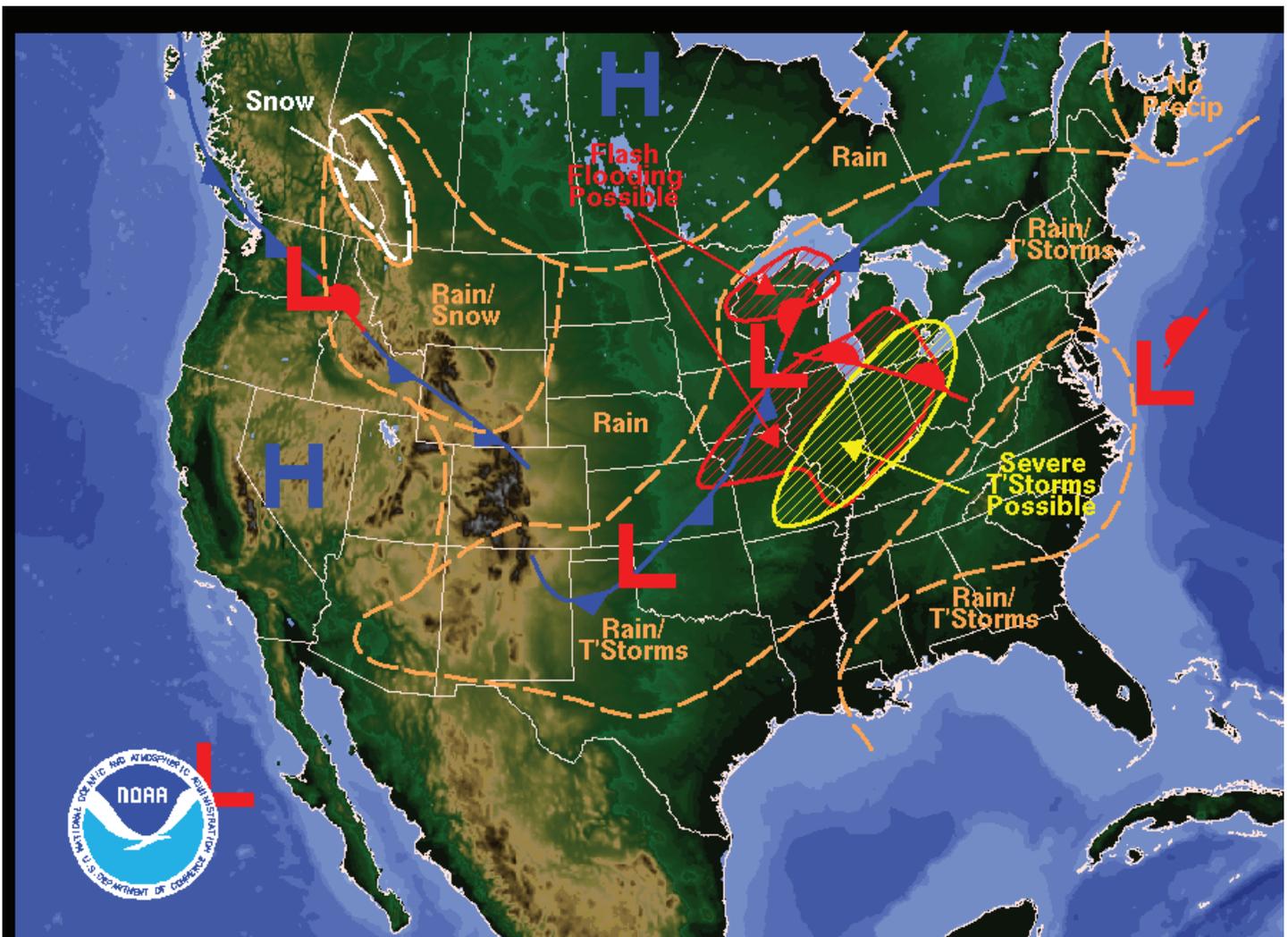
Wednesday, September 10, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 053 ♦ 8 of 22

Yesterday's Weather

High: 63.5°F at 12:37 AM
Low: 50.2°F at 1:13 PM
High Gust: 27 mph at 4:10 AM
Precip: 0.07

Today's Info

Record High: 107° in 1931
Record Low: 27° in 1898
Average High: 75°F
Average Low: 48°F
Average Precip in Sept.: 0.67
Precip to date in Sept.: 0.26
Average Precip to date: 16.96
Precip Year to Date: 12.18
Sunset Tonight: 7:54 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:07 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Wed, Sep 10, 2014, issued 2:50 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Mc Reynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, September 10, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 053 ♦ 9 of 22



ATTENTION!

There are very few pictures of "attention" that can rival a US Marine standing tall after hearing that word. As soon as that "word" is shouted by the appropriate person, heels come together, muscles tighten and faces freeze as though they were carved in granite. Persons who have served in the military know the significance of that word: that external rigidity that is so visible to the onlooker represents an internal attitude of concentration that is waiting for a command to be obeyed and followed with no hesitation.

Throughout His Word, God uses many different ways to get the "attention" of His children. There are times when He speaks directly to a person. There are times when He speaks through a person. But when God wants the attention of His children, He has many options.

We read in Job that one of His options to get our attention is through suffering: "For He wounds, but He also binds up; He injures, but His hand also heals."

Proverbs 1:2 has a word that can be translated instruction, discipline, training and chastened. But, in this instance, there is no doubt that it means "to teach by discipline" or "punishment."

We often hear stories about people who "have to hit bottom" before they are willing to do something about the problem that is destroying them. God uses suffering to get our attention by "raising the bottom" because He loves us.

"...the Lord disciplines those He loves." God uses discipline to get our "attention" when we abandon Him.

Prayer: Lord, we know You love us. Do whatever is necessary to keep us in Your will - even if we must suffer. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Proverbs 1:2 for gaining wisdom and instruction; for understanding words of insight;

Deputy kills mountain lion in Keystone

KEYSTONE, S.D. (AP) — A Pennington County sheriff's deputy shot and killed a mountain lion after the animal was spotted in a Keystone neighborhood.

Authorities say the mountain lion was spotted Monday night dragging a raccoon through a residential area. A deputy responded and found the young mountain lion in an alley behind a business.

State wildlife officials were notified because the mountain lion had killed an animal in a populated area and was still near homes. Authorities say the animal was killed after consulting with the wildlife officials.

Box Elder man found dead of apparent gunshot wound

BOX ELDER, S.D. (AP) — Authorities say a Box Elder has been found dead of an apparent gunshot wound.

The Pennington County Sheriff's Office says officers to a call Tuesday afternoon and found the body of the 49-year-old man at a home.

The victim's name was withheld pending notification of the man's relatives.

The sheriff's office declined to release further details. It is investigating the death with the Box Elder Police Department and the Rapid City Police Department.

Crop expert says cold temps could hurt soybeans

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — A crop expert says the cold overnight lows in the forecast this week could hurt some of South Dakota's soybean harvest.

Agronomy field specialist David Karki with South Dakota Extension says freezing temperatures can cause up to a 5 to 15 percent yield loss if the plant hasn't reached maturity.

He says the maturity of this year's crop varies because rain in June delayed planting in much of the state, and it's been a cool growing season.

National group honors assistant US attorney in SD

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A national organization that highlights the work of women in law enforcement has recognized an assistant federal prosecutor in South Dakota for his efforts in combating human trafficking.

The group Women in Federal Law Enforcement has honored Assistant U.S. Attorney Kevin Kolinier with the organization's Top Prosecutor Award.

Kolinier is the first man to receive the award, which recognizes career federal prosecutors for their work against the trafficking of women or children, civil rights violations and corporate or government fraud.

U.S. Attorney Brendan Johnson says Kolinier has successfully prosecuted five separate sex trafficking cases that involved defendants preying on multiple girls and young women. Johnson says three men who were prosecuted received life sentences.

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, September 10, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 053 ♦ 11 of 22

Tuesday's Scores The Associated Press

VOLLEYBALL

Aberdeen Central def. Mitchell, 25-22, 25-13, 25-11
Arlington def. Waverly-South Shore, 25-15, 25-9, 25-16
Avon def. Tripp-Delmont/Armour, 25-19, 25-23, 25-19
Bennett County def. Gregory, 25-23, 25-22, 25-14
Beresford def. Irene-Wakonda, 25-14, 25-13, 25-19
Bon Homme def. Vermillion, 26-24, 25-14, 24-26, 25-21
Bridgewater-Emery def. Menno, 25-15, 25-16, 25-22
Brookings def. Yankton, 21-25, 25-23, 23-25, 25-19, 15-9
Castlewood def. Flandreau, 21-25, 25-23, 25-19, 25-13
Chester def. Baltic, 25-7, 25-16, 25-14
Cheyenne-Eagle Butte def. McLaughlin, 25-9, 25-19, 25-23
Clark/Willow Lake def. Tiospa Zina Tribal, 17-25, 25-11, 25-14, 25-11
Colman-Egan def. Garretson, 25-22, 30-28, 16-25, 25-16
Deubrook def. Deuel, 25-20, 25-14, 25-19
Douglas def. Red Cloud, 25-11, 25-13, 25-8
Edmunds Central def. Aberdeen Christian, 21-25, 25-16, 25-18, 25-23
Freeman Academy def. Dell Rapids St. Mary, 25-5, 25-19, 25-17
Gettysburg def. Dupree, 25-11, 25-12, 25-8
Hanson def. Howard, 25-23, 25-14, 25-23
Harding County def. Bowman County, N.D., 25-13, 25-8, 25-16
Harrisburg def. Brandon Valley, 16-25, 25-22, 25-18, 27-25
Herreid/Selby Area def. Strasburg-Zeeland, N.D., 25-19, 25-16, 25-22
Highmore-Harrold def. Sunshine Bible Academy, 22-25, 25-14, 25-14, 25-19
Hitchcock-Tulare def. Faulkton, 25-13, 25-23, 25-23
Jones County def. Philip, 25-17, 25-19, 23-25, 25-12
Lake Preston def. Grant-Deuel, 29-27, 25-17, 25-14
Lemmon def. McIntosh, 18-25, 25-16, 25-13, 25-16
Little Wound def. Kadoka Area, 25-22, 25-22, 25-16
Lyman def. Colome, 19-25, 25-16, 25-23, 25-21
Marion def. Canistota, 25-16, 26-24, 25-17
Mobridge-Pollock def. Eureka/Bowdle, 25-11, 25-20, 25-14
Mt. Vernon/Plankinton def. Ethan, 21-25, 25-13, 25-19, 25-20
Newell def. Takini, 25-9, 28-26, 25-15
Northwestern def. Sisseton, 25-10, 25-12, 25-17
Oldham-Ramona/Rutland def. James Valley Christian, 25-20, 25-21, 26-24
Rapid City Christian def. Oelrichs, 25-9, 25-22, 21-25, 25-20
Redfield/Doland def. Leola/Frederick, 25-19, 25-21, 22-25, 20-25, 16-14
Santee, Neb. def. Marty Indian, 25-14, 15-25, 25-17, 25-10
Sioux Falls Christian def. Madison, 16-25, 25-8, 25-20, 25-10
Sioux Falls O'Gorman def. Huron, 25-12, 25-15, 25-12

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, September 10, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 053 ♦ 12 of 22

Sioux Falls Roosevelt def. Sioux Falls Lincoln, 25-17, 25-12, 25-21
Sioux Valley def. McCook Central/Montrose, 17-25, 22-25, 25-11, 25-19, 15-9
South Central def. Chamberlain, 18-25, 25-20, 25-12, 25-23
St. Thomas More def. Hot Springs, 25-23, 25-12, 25-20
Sturgis def. Custer, 25-21, 25-22, 25-21
Sully Buttes def. Ipswich, 25-19, 23-25, 25-19, 25-14
Tea Area def. Lennox, 25-15, 25-14, 25-21
Viborg-Hurley def. Dakota Christian, 25-21, 25-20, 20-25, 22-25, 19-17
Warner def. Miller, 25-11, 25-15, 25-15
Watertown def. Pierre, 25-17, 18-25, 25-21, 25-17
Waubay def. Langford, 25-18, 25-10, 25-21
Wayne, Neb. def. Dakota Valley, 25-21, 30-32, 14-25, 25-22, 22-20
Wessington Springs def. Mitchell Christian, 25-13, 17-25, 25-20, 25-18
West Central def. Dell Rapids, 25-18, 25-13, 25-14
Wilmot def. Great Plains Lutheran, 25-17, 25-27, 25-15, 25-19
Winner def. Bennett County, 25-16, 25-8, 25-13
Wolsey-Wessington def. Corsica/Stickney, 25-18, 25-10, 25-9
Centerville Triangular
Gayville-Volin def. Centerville, 25-11, 25-18, 25-15
Gayville-Volin def. Scotland, 25-13, 25-12, 25-19
Scotland def. Centerville, 25-11, 25-21, 25-22

More stained glass returning to Capitol this week

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — More of South Dakota's stained glass windows are returning to the Capitol this week.

Crews began re-installing the glass Tuesday.

The stained glass in the dome, the barrel vault above the grand staircase, and above the House and Senate chambers was removed earlier this year. KCCR says the windows were sent to Conrad Schmitt Studios in Wisconsin to be cleaned, fixed and refurbished.

The project should be done by October 1.

Montana orders drilling limits to help sage grouse

MATTHEW BROWN, Associated Press

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — Gov. Steve Bullock on Tuesday ordered restrictions on future oil drilling and other activities blamed for driving down sage grouse numbers, bringing Montana into step with other states across the West rushing to head off federal intervention for the ground-dwelling bird.

The order establishes no-occupancy zones that extend six-tenths of a mile around certain sage grouse breeding grounds.

Roads could not be built in those areas, and other activities, such as oil and gas exploration, would be allowed on a seasonal basis. Existing land uses, including agriculture, coal mines and oil wells that already are in place, would be exempt.

The restrictions, similar to rules in Wyoming, are meant to prevent disturbances and increase breeding success for the chicken-sized birds, known for an elaborate mating ritual in which males strut around

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, September 10, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 053 ♦ 13 of 22

and puff out their breasts in a colorful display.

The no-occupancy zones are smaller than the 1-mile radius recommended in January by an advisory council established by the governor. Representatives of the oil and gas industry had pushed for the smaller area.

Energy companies still will have to alter their activities to comply, industry representatives said. But Josh Osher with the Western Watersheds Project said the order isn't enough to reverse the bird's decades-long decline.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service faces a September 2015 deadline to make an initial determination on whether sage grouse should be added to the list of threatened and endangered species.

Before that date arrives, Montana and other states want to demonstrate that sweeping federal protections aren't needed. State officials want to keep local jurisdiction over the birds and avoid conservation measures that could be more onerous than what's been proposed.

Such a result came for the Arctic grayling, a Montana cold-water fish that federal officials decided against protecting, saying local restoration efforts already were in place.

Bullock characterized Tuesday's order on sage grouse as a compromise that balances conservation with landowners' rights. He plans to include a proposal in his budget for a Sage Grouse Stewardship and Conservation Fund, to encourage ranchers and other private landowners to voluntarily conserve sage grouse habitat.

"While we may not agree on everything we do agree on the importance of protecting the bird and also leaving the management in state hands," Bullock said.

Sage grouse range across 11 Western states and two Canadian provinces. The birds have lost more than half their historic habitat to agriculture, energy exploration and other development. They also suffer periodic fatal outbreaks of West Nile virus.

Last year's count of male sage grouse on leks, or breeding grounds, in Montana was the lowest recorded since 1980.

There are about 53,000 square miles of sage grouse habitat in Montana, equal to about one-third of the state. Of those, almost 15,000 square miles are labeled as "core" habitat that will be subject to the most restrictive elements of Bullock's order.

Osher said the governor's order gave industry officials "everything they wanted" at the expense of the grouse. He cited studies that have shown sage grouse need at least a 4-mile protective buffer to thrive.

"We will continue to see massive declines in sage grouse populations if this plan goes forward," Osher said.

The changes between the council's recommendation and Bullock's order were downplayed by Janet Ellis with Montana Audubon, a member of the governor's advisory council. Ellis called the order "a place to start" and said she was told by state officials that future adjustments could be made.

Sage grouse "are the iconic, Big Sky Country species because they depend on landscapes that are sage brush as far as the eye can see," Ellis said. "The ultimate goal is to maintain our sage grouse populations in the state of Montana. This program allows us to do that."

Montana Petroleum Association executive director Dave Galt said oil and gas companies would have to curtail some work to meet the new restrictions.

The Fish and Wildlife Service has asked states to submit conservation plans for sage grouse by the end of the year to consider as part of the federal agency's upcoming decision.

Wyoming, Utah and North Dakota have submitted plans and South Dakota is expected to soon, said Fish and Wildlife spokesman Theodore Stein.

Pheasant habitat group: Invest in conservation

BY KEVIN BURBACH, Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A work group established by Gov. Dennis Daugaard on Tuesday released recommendations for protecting the state's pheasant population, which include creating a state-run habitat conservation fund that should start with at least \$1 million in public funding.

The governor's Pheasant Habitat Work Group laid out eight key recommendations in its report that was compiled from public input the committee heard in meetings around the state this year.

The state's pheasant population has been declining over the past several years. The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department released its annual brood count in late August, which found an average of 2.68 pheasants per mile, a 76 percent increase from 1.52 in 2013. The report was welcome news to hunters who saw a 64 percent decline in the count of young pheasants from 2012 to 2013 after months of persistent drought, poor winter and spring conditions and less bird habitat.

The report cites a study conducted by researchers at South Dakota State University, which concluded that between 2006 and 2012 more than 1.8 million acres of grassland were converted to cropland, inundated by water, or lost to urban development.

To help restore lost pheasant habitat and prevent future losses, the group suggested the state take eight steps. Here are some of the recommendations:

— Create a state-run conservation fund.

The report suggests the state should establish a state-run fund that would be responsible for managing conservation efforts and donations in the state. Public and private entities could use the fund as South Dakota's main repository that would then oversee the distribution of funds to solely for conservation purposes. The report suggests the state should appropriate at least \$1 million in one-time funding to the fund "to launch the fund and bolster related private-sector fundraising efforts."

— Petition the USDA's Risk Management Agency to make all South Dakota counties eligible for crop insurance coverage on winter wheat.

South Dakota annually produces 1.3 million acres of winter wheat, a crop which is planted in the fall and harvested in the spring. The report notes that the crop provides valuable nesting habitat to pheasants across the state but has production has fallen in recent years in the state in part because 24 counties east of the Missouri River aren't eligible for crop insurance. The report suggests Daugaard petition the U.S. Department of Agriculture to reevaluate the restrictions on insurance for crops that can better withstand the winter with help of modern technology.

— Encourage the South Dakota Office of School and Public Lands to include a land management plan as a condition for securing a lease

The South Dakota Office of School and Public Lands manages 760,000 acres of state-owned land, which it leases out for grazing and farming purposes. The authors of the report note at times the land can be susceptible to "overgrazing and less-than-ideal stewardship." They suggest the office should require a land management plan as a condition for securing a lease because it would lead landowners to be "more diligent stewards of lands that can provide valuable pheasant habitat."

— Create South Dakota Conservation Certification Program

The authors of the report say conservation practices "benefit soil health, improve and protect water quality and provide habitat for all species of wildlife, including pheasants." For that reason, the report suggests the state create a certification program that would reward farmers and ranchers who maintain a minimum level of conservation on their land. The certification may be used to provide certain benefits for landowners that enroll in conservation programs.

Judge: History of violence can be used in trial

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A judge says a history of violence against children can be used as evidence against a Sioux Falls man accused of killing the 2-year-old son of Minnesota Vikings running back Adrian Peterson.

Joseph Patterson is scheduled for trial in October on charges of second-degree murder, manslaughter and aggravated assault in the October 2013 death of Tyrese Ruffin. Patterson appeared Tuesday at a motion hearing.

A judge ruled that three separate attacks by Patterson on children can be used in the trial. Each of the cases allegedly happened within the last four years against children 3 years old or younger.

Jurors will not hear about an alleged attack on the mother of the victim in June. Patterson faces charges of aggravated assault and kidnapping in that case.

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Man, woman hospitalized after Sioux Falls dispute

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Police say a man was stabbed several times and a woman was beaten with a blunt object during a domestic violence dispute in Sioux Falls.

Authorities say officers responded to the call at about 4:30 a.m. Tuesday morning at a home in the central part of the city.

Police say the man and the woman were taken to a hospital.

Police say the injuries were non-life threatening. The investigation is ongoing.

Sioux Falls bans booze at 2 city parks

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The Sioux Falls City Council has banned alcohol use at two additional city parks.

The Council voted Tuesday to ban booze at Tower Park and Van Eps Park. The ban begins next month. Council's action came despite concerns that problems associated with public drinking at the parks are likely to move elsewhere in the city.

Alcohol already is banned at a dozen parks in town.

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. OBAMA TO OUTLINE STRATEGY TO COMBAT ISLAMIC STATE MILITANTS

The president's plan may include more wide-ranging airstrikes against targets in Iraq and possibly in Syria.

2. WHAT MIDEAST COULD OFFER A U.S. COALITION

The Obama administration envisions its Sunni allies in the Arab Gulf plus NATO member Turkey playing a leading role in any united front against the Islamic State group.

3. 13 YEARS AFTER 9/11, COMBAT PERSISTS

Americans are bracing for another upsurge of military engagement against extremists in the Middle East where one war seems to blur into another.

4. FERGUSON CITY COUNCIL MEETS WITH BAD BLOOD AT THE FORE

Elected leaders in the St. Louis suburb were greeted with fear, anger, outrage and threats of voter retribution at their first public meeting since Michael Brown's death.

5. MAN SUSPECTED OF KILLING HIS FIVE CHILDREN

The children, ages 1 to 8, were slain in South Carolina, then wrapped in plastic and dumped on a dirt road in Alabama, authorities say.

6. MISSOURI INMATE PUT TO DEATH

Earl Ringo Jr., convicted in a 1998 robbery and double murder, was the eighth execution in the state this year and the 10th since November.

7. GAZA WAR OVER, BUT JERUSALEM VIOLENCE REMAINS

A wave of violence that has hit parts of the divided city at the core of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict sparked events that led to the war in the coastal territory.

8. WOMEN'S COLLEGES ADDRESS TRANSGENDER APPLICANTS

The discussions come as institutions, particularly faith-based ones, want to place limits on those students once they arrive on campus.

9. APPLE UNVEILS LONG-ANTICIPATED SMARTWATCH

The stylish Apple Watch represents the company's most ambitious expansion since the iPad in 2010.

10. RAY RICE SPEAKS OUT

The suspended running back says he has "to be strong for my wife" while NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell says the league tried to obtain the longer video but could not.

AP News in Brief

Obama to outline mission to combat Islamic militants, including possible airstrikes in Syria

WASHINGTON (AP) — In an address to the nation, President Barack Obama will outline an expanded military and political effort to combat militants in Syria and Iraq, and urge Congress to quickly give him authority to arm moderate Syrian opposition forces fighting President Bashar Assad.

But administration officials said Obama will press forward with other elements of his plan without formal authorization from lawmakers. That could include wide-ranging airstrikes in Iraq and possibly in Syria. Other elements of Obama's plan, which he was to lay out in a prime-time TV speech Wednesday, included increased support for Iraqi security forces, as well as military and diplomatic commitments

from partners in Europe, the Middle East and elsewhere.

After an hourlong discussion with congressional leaders Tuesday, the White House said Obama told lawmakers that he "has the authority he needs to take action" against the Islamic State militants. The White House added that the president still would welcome action from Congress that would "aid the overall effort and demonstrate to the world that the United States is united in defeating the threat."

For Obama, a sustained U.S. intervention in the Middle East is at odds with the vision he had for the region when he ran for president on a pledge to end the war in Iraq, where the role of American fighting forces drew to a close nearly three years ago. The timing of his announcement Wednesday night was all the more striking, scheduled just hours before anniversary commemorations of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

Among the president's most urgent priorities will be seeking authorization from Congress to arm more moderate elements of the Syrian opposition fighting Assad. The president asked lawmakers earlier this year for a \$500 million train-and-equip program, but the plan stalled on Capitol Hill.

A look at what Mideast states could offer a US-led coalition against the Islamic State group

BEIRUT (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry is to travel to the Middle East this week, with stops in Saudi Arabia and Jordan, to try to line up support for a coalition to take on the extremist Islamic State group. His trip follows Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel's visit Monday to Turkey to make the same case to Ankara, a regional heavyweight. Kerry will hold talks with officials from Jordan, Turkey and Egypt, as well as Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and other Gulf nations.

The diplomatic press is one part of the U.S. push for concerted action against the extremist group that has overrun huge tracts of Syria and Iraq, declared a proto-state ruled by Islamic law and earned a reputation for brutality and ruthlessness. President Barack Obama is to deliver a speech Wednesday laying out his plan for defeating it.

U.S. officials have already made clear that Washington envisions its Sunni Arab allies, plus NATO member Turkey, playing a leading role in any united front against the militants.

With expanded mission against Islamic State, US role in Mideast wars will span a generation

Thirteen years after the Sept. 11 terror attacks, this was supposed to be a season of relief, with Iraq managing on its own and most U.S. troops finally ending their combat duty in Afghanistan. Instead, Americans are bracing for another upsurge of military engagement in a region where one war blurs into another. Across the world, a generation has now grown up amid this continuous conflict, and there's no end in sight.

"The Cold War took 45 years," said Elliott Abrams, a longtime diplomat who was top Middle East adviser to President George W. Bush. "It's certainly plausible that this could be the same. ... It's harder to see how this ends."

For now, President Barack Obama seems to have bipartisan support as he prepares to outline his plans Wednesday for expanded operations against militants of the so-called Islamic State who have overrun large swaths of Iraq. His administration has cautioned that the effort could take several years.

Short-term, Obama has public opinion with him; a new Washington Post-ABC News poll found 71 percent of Americans supporting airstrikes against the Islamic State fighters, compared to 45 percent in

June. Longer-term, a Pew Research Center-USA Today poll last month suggested that most Americans view the world as becoming more dangerous and expect militant forms of Islam to grow in influence rather than subside.

Since the autumn of 2001, America, with its allies, has been at war against factions of Islamic militants and terrorists, including the Taliban and al-Qaida, as well as offshoots in Yemen, Somalia and elsewhere.

Police: Father of 5 children expected to be charged in connection with their deaths

CAMDEN, Ala. (AP) — Authorities expect to charge a South Carolina man in connection with the deaths of his five children after he led them to a secluded dirt road in Alabama where their bodies lay wrapped in individual garbage bags.

Timothy Ray Jones Jr. has been charged with child neglect and police expect to lodge additional charges against him, the Lexington County, South Carolina, Sheriff's Department said in a news release.

Jones, 32, is awaiting extradition to South Carolina from Mississippi, where he has been jailed since his arrest Saturday on a drunken-driving charge, Smith County Sheriff Charlie Crumpton said in a statement.

Wilcox County, Alabama, District Attorney Michael Jackson told The Associated Press that Jones is suspected of killing the children in South Carolina before bringing their bodies to Alabama.

Police have not released details on how the children died. Lexington County Coroner Earl Wells was arranging for the children's bodies to be taken back to South Carolina for autopsies and identification Tuesday night, sheriff's officials said.

New currency for a new country? Scotland faces range of options, risks if it breaks from UK

LONDON (AP) — In for a penny, in for a pound.

There'll be no going back if Scotland votes for independence from the United Kingdom on Sept. 18.

Opinion polls showing that may happen have prompted investors to sell off the British pound. If a knockout blow is dealt to Scotland's 307-year union with England, that selling could accelerate as the U.K. plunges into a constitutional crisis.

The fate of the pound, which is also known as sterling and is one of the most tangible links of the union, will be front and center in any separation proceedings, as it has been during the campaign.

The nationalists, led by Scotland's First Minister Alex Salmond, hope Scotland will still use the pound through a currency union with what's left of Britain — Wales, Northern Ireland and England. The main British political parties, notably the Conservatives and Labour, say that's not going to happen.

At meeting Ferguson officials hoped would heal, speakers express outrage, doubt over reforms

FERGUSON, Mo. (AP) — Elected leaders in the St. Louis suburb where an unarmed black 18-year-old was fatally shot by a white police officer hoped to use their first public meeting since Michael Brown's death as a chance to promote community healing.

Instead, they were greeted Tuesday night with anger, outrage and warnings of voter retribution at the

ballot box. Proposals to overhaul the municipal courts and create a citizen police review board were greeted warily, if not with outright skepticism.

"You've lost your authority to govern this community," said St. Louis activist John Chasnoff. "You're going to have to step aside peacefully if this community is going to heal."

The shooting last month exposed an undercurrent of racial unrest in Ferguson and other nearby suburbs in mostly black communities of north St. Louis County, and prompted days of sometimes-violent protests.

Ferguson officials have pledged to boost minority hiring in a 53-person police force with just three black officers, and to meet informally in city neighborhoods to promote a public dialogue.

Gaza war is over, but a wave of violence still rocks parts of Jerusalem

JERUSALEM (AP) — While the world's attention was focused on the airstrikes and rockets over Gaza and Israel this summer, a wave of violence hit the streets of Jerusalem — and is still roiling parts of this divided city at the core of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The kidnapping and killing of three Israeli teens by Palestinians in the West Bank, and the apparent revenge killing of a Palestinian youth by Israelis in Jerusalem, sparked a chain of events that led to the 50-day war between Israel and Hamas militants in Gaza.

The same events also stoked violence in the streets of Jerusalem, and the Gaza war fed the turmoil. Israel's Shin Bet security service said there were seven times more violent Palestinian attacks on Israeli security forces and civilians in Jerusalem in July and August than in the previous two months, documenting about 150 cases, and the Israeli rights group Ir Amim reported a spike in Israeli attacks on Palestinians, with about two dozen such cases.

Compared to the Israel-Gaza fighting, there were few conflict-related deaths and injuries in Jerusalem, and the violence has hardly been felt in the city's Jewish neighborhoods, where cafes and shopping centers are bustling.

Missouri man convicted in robbery, killings put to death; 8th execution in the state this year

BONNE TERRE, Mo. (AP) — A Missouri inmate convicted in a 1998 robbery and double murder was put to death Wednesday, the eighth execution in the state this year and the 10th since November.

Earl Ringo Jr. and an accomplice killed delivery driver Dennis Poyser and manager trainee JoAnna Baysinger at a Ruby Tuesday in Columbia in the early hours of July 4, 1998. Poyser and Baysinger were shot to death at point-blank range.

Ringo's last words were a quote from the Quran that expresses belief and wishes for after death. He wiggled his feet as the process began, breathed deeply a few times, then closed his eyes, all in a matter of seconds. The Department of Corrections said Ringo was executed by lethal injection and pronounced dead at 12:31 a.m.

Courts and Gov. Jay Nixon had refused to halt the execution over concerns raised by Ringo's attorneys, who, among other things, questioned Missouri's use of a pre-execution sedative, midazolam. Attorneys argued that the drug could dull Ringo's senses and leave him unable to express any pain or suffering during the process.

Ringo declined to take any sedative, including midazolam, the Corrections Department said.

Officials: Floods that killed 457 in Pakistan and India endanger thousands more

JHANG, Pakistan (AP) — Thousands of people fled their homes in Pakistan on Wednesday as monsoon flooding that has already inundated the disputed Himalayan region of Kashmir coursed down onto the plains, causing a major river to breach its banks.

The flooding began earlier this month in Kashmir, where it has caused landslides and submerged much of the main city of Srinagar, on the Indian-administered side. The death toll from the flooding in both countries has climbed to at least 457.

The rains have washed away houses, bridges, communication equipment and crops. Pakistani and Indian troops say they have evacuated nearly 75,000 people. The floods are the worst to hit Pakistan since 2010, when some 1,700 people died.

Survivors have waded through waist-deep water to escape the floods, with many carrying children and household items on their shoulders as others drag their livestock along behind them. Hundreds of others remain stranded on rooftops, waving for help to passing helicopters.

Haleema Bibi, 65, sobbed as she climbed out of a boat in Pakistan's eastern Jhang province. Her granddaughter was to be married in the coming days but the floodwaters swept her dowry away. She appealed to the rescuers to go back to the village, saying her grandson was stranded there.

Review: Apple Watch impressive in offering choice, shunning phone conventions

CUPERTINO, Calif. (AP) — As computerized wristwatches go, the upcoming Apple Watch looks impressive.

I like that it will come in two sizes, so the watch won't feel giant on smaller hands, as some competing watches do.

I also like that Apple will offer a variety of straps and materials, so fitness buffs can get a strap that's stronger and sweat-proof, while those seeking a fashion accessory can opt for an 18-karat gold edition.

Beyond looks, it's great that the Apple Watch isn't simply adopting the smartphone way of doing things. The operating system, Watch OS, was designed specifically for the watch, and its interface relies heavily on the dial to the right, known as the digital crown. Competing watches tend to emphasize the voice and touch controls found on phones.

Of course, it's premature to conclude that you need an Apple Watch. I had only about 45 minutes with the Apple Watch and other new products announced Tuesday. The watch I was allowed to try on was running in a demonstration mode. It'll take more time with the watch — beyond a controlled environment — to make a solid conclusion.

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, September 10, the 253rd day of 2014. There are 112 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On September 10, 1939, Canada declared war on Germany.

On this date:

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, September 10, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 053 ♦ 21 of 22

In 1608, John Smith was elected president of the Jamestown colony council in Virginia.

In 1813, an American naval force commanded by Oliver H. Perry defeated the British in the Battle of Lake Erie during the War of 1812. (Afterward, Perry sent out the message, "We have met the enemy and they are ours.")

In 1914, movie director Robert Wise ("West Side Story"; "The Sound of Music") was born in Winchester, Indiana.

In 1919, New York City welcomed home Gen. John J. Pershing and 25,000 soldiers who'd served in the U.S. First Division during World War I.

In 1935, Sen. Huey P. Long died in Baton Rouge two days after being shot in the Louisiana state Capitol, allegedly by Dr. Carl Weiss.

In 1945, Vidkun Quisling was sentenced to death in Norway for collaborating with the Nazis (he was executed by firing squad in October 1945).

In 1955, the long-running TV Western series "Gunsmoke," starring James Arness as Marshal Matt Dillon, premiered on CBS television.

In 1963, 20 black students entered Alabama public schools following a standoff between federal authorities and Gov. George C. Wallace.

In 1974, the West African country of Guinea-Bissau became fully independent of Portugal.

In 1979, four Puerto Rican nationalists imprisoned for a 1954 attack on the U.S. House of Representatives and a 1950 attempt on the life of President Harry S. Truman were freed from prison after being granted clemency by President Jimmy Carter.

In 1984, a revival of the TV game show "Jeopardy!" hosted by Alex Trebek premiered in syndication.

In 1994, the prison drama "The Shawshank Redemption," starring Tim Robbins and Morgan Freeman, premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival.

Ten years ago: CBS News vigorously defended its report about President George W. Bush's Air National Guard service, with anchor Dan Rather saying broadcast memos questioned by forensic experts came from "what we consider to be solid sources." Former transportation secretary Brock Adams died in Stevensville, Maryland, at age 77.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama said he'd accepted Republican Rep. Joe Wilson's apology for shouting "You lie!" during the president's health-care speech to Congress. A frail Sen. Robert Byrd addressed the Senate for the first time in months to pay tribute to the late Sen. Edward Kennedy, his one-time rival and longtime dear friend. The activist group ACORN fired two employees of its Baltimore office after they were seen in hidden-camera video giving tax advice to a pair of conservative activists, James O'Keefe and Hannah Giles, who were posing as a pimp and a prostitute.

One year ago: President Barack Obama, in a nationally broadcast address, said diplomacy held "the potential to remove the threat of chemical weapons" in Syria without the use of force, but declared the U.S. military would be "ready to respond" against President Bashar Assad if other measures failed. An Indian court convicted four men in the fatal gang rape of a young woman on a moving New Delhi bus. (The four were later sentenced to death.) Thomas Bach was elected president of the International Olympic Committee, succeeding Jacques Rogge (zhahk ROH'-geh).

Today's Birthdays: World Golf Hall of Famer Arnold Palmer is 85. Actor Philip Baker Hall is 83. Actor Greg Mullavey is 81. Country singer Tommy Overstreet is 77. Jazz vibraphonist Roy Ayers is 74. Singer Danny Hutton (Three Dog Night) is 72. Singer Jose Feliciano is 69. Actor Tom Ligon is 69. Actress Judy Geeson is 66. Former Canadian first lady Margaret Trudeau is 66. Political commentator Bill O'Reilly is 65. Rock musician Joe Perry (Aerosmith) is 64. Actress Amy Irving is 61. Country singer Rosie Flores is 58. Actress Kate Burton is 57. Movie director Chris Columbus is 56. Actor Colin Firth is 54. Rock

Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, September 10, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 053 ♦ 22 of 22

singer-musician David Lowery (Cracker) is 54. Actor Sean O'Bryan is 51. Actor Raymond Cruz is 50. Retired MLB All-Star pitcher Randy Johnson is 51. Rock musician Robin Goodridge (Bush) is 49. Rock musician Stevie D. (Buckcherry) is 48. Rock singer-musician Miles Zuniga (Fastball) is 48. Actress Nina Repeta (NY'-nuh ruh-PEHT'-ah) is 47. Rapper Big Daddy Kane is 46. Movie director Guy Ritchie is 46. Contemporary Christian singer Sara Groves is 42. Actor Ryan Phillippe (FIHL'-ih-pee) is 40. Actor Kyle Bornheimer is 39. Rock musician Mikey Way (My Chemical Romance) is 34. Olympic bronze medal figure skater Timothy Goebel is 34. Rock musician Matthew Followill (Kings of Leon) is 30. Singer Ashley Monroe (Pistol Annies) is 28. Singer Sanjaya Malakar ("American Idol") is 25. Actor Chandler Massie is 24. Actress Hannah Hodson is 23.

Thought for Today: "There are years that ask questions and years that answer." - Zora Neale Hurston, American author (1891-1960).