

Groton Daily Independent

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

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Homecoming Week!

Today's Dress-up Day is Hick Day
JH Boys Golf 2:00 pm @ Groton.
Coronation practice 3:00 pm in the gym.
Cross Country 4:00 pm @ Deuel.
JV Football 4:30 pm @ Redfield-Doland.
School Board mtg. 6:00 pm.
Coronation 7:30 pm.

Band will perform at 7:00 pm, parade marshals and royalty will be introduced. Introductions of the varsity cross country, golf, football, volleyball and soccer will follow.

The 2014 Groton High School King and Queen will be crowned.

Pep Rally and Burning of the "G".

Royalty pictures after pep rally in the gym.

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

School Lunch: Chicken patty, bun, oven fries, carrots and dip, fresh and canned fruit.

Senior Menu: Meatballs, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy, Carrots, Fruit Cocktail, Zucchini Bread.

Birthdays: Katie Kampa • Darin Krueger • Alex McKiver • Keegan Schelle • Jason Mettler • Rose Waage • Madison McNickle • Jay Peterson

Removal, Grinding, Chipping, Trimming

605-725-WOOD

Mason Dinger: 605-216-6098

Trevor Zeck: 605-216-8910



The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **OPEN**

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.

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

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Classifieds

Erickson Baby Shower

Open House Baby Shower for Haley Erickson, daughter of Seth & Megan Erickson, will be held Saturday, Sept. 27, 3:00-5:00 p.m., at Melissa Gilbert's Home, 402 N. Main St., Groton.

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.

Cash Rent Land

Land for cash rent 274 tillable acres in Day County/Union Township/ Section one/Lots 1,2,3, and 4. Mail all bids to Judy A .Tobin 42343 130th St. Pierpont, SD 57468. Closing Date Sept. 29, 2014. (pd)

Jungle Day Bazaar

Jungle Day Bazaar- Friday Sept. 26th, Groton Presbyterian Church. 11am-3pm. Food , Candy, Craft & White Elephant. Serving Chicken Salad Sandwiches, Barbecues, Pie, Coffee and Pop. Everyone Welcome!

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

Service Notice: Eugene Luce

Services for Eugene Luce, 92, of Groton will be 11 a.m., Tuesday, September 23 at the United Methodist Church, Groton. The Rev. Matt Richards will officiate. Burial with military honors will follow in Union Cemetery.

Visitation will be held at the church on Monday from 4-7 p.m. with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m. Gene died September 20, 2014 at his home, surrounded by his family.

School Board Agenda

September 22, 2014 – 6:00 PM – GHS Conference Room

1. Call to Order with members present. Approve agenda as proposed or amended.
- OLD/CONTINUING BUSINESS:
1. Open Forum for Public Participation...in accordance with Board Policy & Guidelines.
 2. Program Overview Presentations Grade 5...S. Hendrickson, J. Lone
Wellness and Health Services...B. Gustafson
 3. School Board Committee Reports:
 - a. Building, Grounds, & Transportation: Lars Hanson, Merle Harder, Marty Weismantel
 - b. Personnel, Policy, & Curriculum: Dorene Nelson, Grant Rix
 - c. Negotiations: Kelly Kjelden, Steve Smith
 4. Second Reading and Approval of Policies: BBFA Board Member Conflict of Interest (Amend); GBCA Staff Conflict of Interest (Amend); GBCBB Employee Use of Networking Sites (Amend); GBEB Employee Communicable Diseases (Amend); GBE Staff Health and Safety (Amend); GB General Reference Policy (Amend); GBK Smoking on School Premises (Amend); GBL Personnel Records (Amend); GCAA Professional Staff Contracts and Compensation Plans (Amend); GCBE Professional Staff Vacations and Holidays (Amend); GDC Support Staff Recruiting/Hiring/Posting of Vacancies (Amend); GCFA Mentor Teachers/Mentor Teacher Program (Amend); GCJ Professional Staff Time Schedules (Amend); GDBC Support Staff Fringe Benefits (Amend); GDI Support Staff Assignments and Transfers (Amend); GDJ Support Staff Time Schedules (Amend); JFCE Student Bullying (Amend); JFCK Cell Phones and Personal Technology Devices (Amend); JFC Student Conduct (Amend); JFEE Participation in Work Study Programs (Amend); JHD Student Psychological Services (Delete); JOA Student Recruitment (Amend); JO-N Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (Amend); JO Student Records (Amend); JHCDB Epinephrine Auto Injectors (Add); JNA Loaning of Textbooks (Amend); JGD/JGE Student Suspension/Expulsion (Amend); BDDE Rules of Order (Amend)
 5. Administrative Reports: (a) Superintendent's Report; (b) Principals' Reports; (c) Business Manager Report
- NEW BUSINESS:
1. Approve 2014-2015 district budget with amendments and authorize business manager to file tax request with county auditor.
 2. Review Food Service Inspection of Groton Elementary Food Service Facility conducted by South Dakota Department of Health on 9/11/14.
 3. Review District and School Report Cards for 2014.
 4. Acknowledge receipt of Public School Exemption #15-07 (Grade 12).
 5. Discussion and possible certification of school board member for 2014 ASBSD Delegate Assembly.
 6. Other items, as may be appropriate or as deemed necessary.
- ADJOURN

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Saving Cardboard for DI

Groton's Destination Imagination program has taken over the recycling trailer at the school. The semi-trailer is located on the west side of the school, south of the football field. Julianna and Jeslyn Kosel unloaded a vehicle packed with boxes that were saved from the Dairy Queen. Newspapers and cardboard items can be accepted at the recycling trailer. If you are unable to get to the trailer, please contact a DI member to stop over and pick them up.

golden
living

Golden LivingCenter-Groton is accepting applications for:
Full-Time Dietary Aide and Part-Time Cook

Full-Time night RN/LPN - \$1,000 sign-on bonus eligible

Full-Time all shifts CNA - \$1,000 sign-on bonus eligible

Part-Time/Casual CNA

To apply stop in at 1106 N 2nd St., Groton, or call 605/397-2365.

EOE/M/F/D/V

Today in Weather History

1936: Abnormally warm conditions brought record temperatures to much of central and northeast South Dakota along with west central Minnesota on this day in 1936. Temperatures rose into the upper 90s and lower 100s during the afternoon hours. Pierre and Watertown set record highs of 99 degrees. Mobridge and Sisseton warmed to record highs of 101 degrees. Finally, Kennebec and Aberdeen rose to record highs of 102 and 103 degrees, respectively.

1810: Fernhill Heath, England, was struck by what was probably Europe's widest tornado, with some reports saying the twister was nearly a mile across. Modern analysis suggests it was an EF4.

1869: Cleveland Abbe began forecasting weather in Cincinnati. Professor Abbe was one of the nation's pioneer weather forecasters and observers.

1890 - A severe hailstorm struck Strawberry, AZ. Five days after the storm hail still lay in drifts 12 to 18 inches deep. (The Weather Channel)

1913 - Des Moines, IA, experienced their earliest freeze of record. (The Weather Channel)

1961 - Hurricane Esther made a near complete circle south of Cape Cod. The hurricane then passed over Cape Cod and hit Maine. Its energy was largely spent over the North Atlantic Ocean, however, heavy rains over Maine resulted in widespread local flooding of cellars, low roads, and underpasses. (David Ludlum)

1983 - Forty-one cities reported record cold temperatures during the morning. Houston, TX, hit 50 degrees, and Williston ND plunged to 19 degrees. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Hurricane Emily, the first hurricane to roam the Caribbean in nearly six years, made landfall over the Dominican Republic late in the day, packing 125 mph winds. Emily killed three persons and caused thirty million dollars damage. A record high of 92 degrees at Miami FL was their fifth in a row. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - An early morning thunderstorm produced baseball size hail at Plainview, in Hale County TX. Late in the evening more thunderstorms in the Southern High Plains Region produced wind gusts to 75 mph at Plainview TX and Crosby TX. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)








1989 - Hurricane Hugo quickly lost strength over South Carolina, but still was a tropical storm as it crossed into North Carolina, just west of Charlotte, at about 7 AM. Winds around Charlotte reached 69 mph, with gusts to 99 mph. Eighty percent of the power was knocked out to Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. Property damage in North Carolina was 210 million dollars, and damage to crops was 97 million dollars. The strongest storm surge occurred along the southern coast shortly after midnight, reaching nine feet above sea level at ocean Isle and Sunset Beach. Hugo killed one person and injured fifteen others in North Carolina. Strong northwesterly winds ushered unseasonably cold air into the north central U.S., in time for the official start of autumn, at 8" 20 PM (CDT). Squalls produced light snow in northern Wisconsin. Winds in Wisconsin gusted to 52 mph at Rhinelander. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1998: Hurricane Georges raked Hispanola after reaching category 4 status, leaving 580 dead in Haiti and the Dominican Republic, due mainly to flash flooding and subsequent mud slides in high terrain regions. Damage estimates from the storm exceeded \$1 billion (US). Vivid lightning and possible blue jets, a type of rare upward lightning, were reported as the eye passed over the mountains of Hispanola.

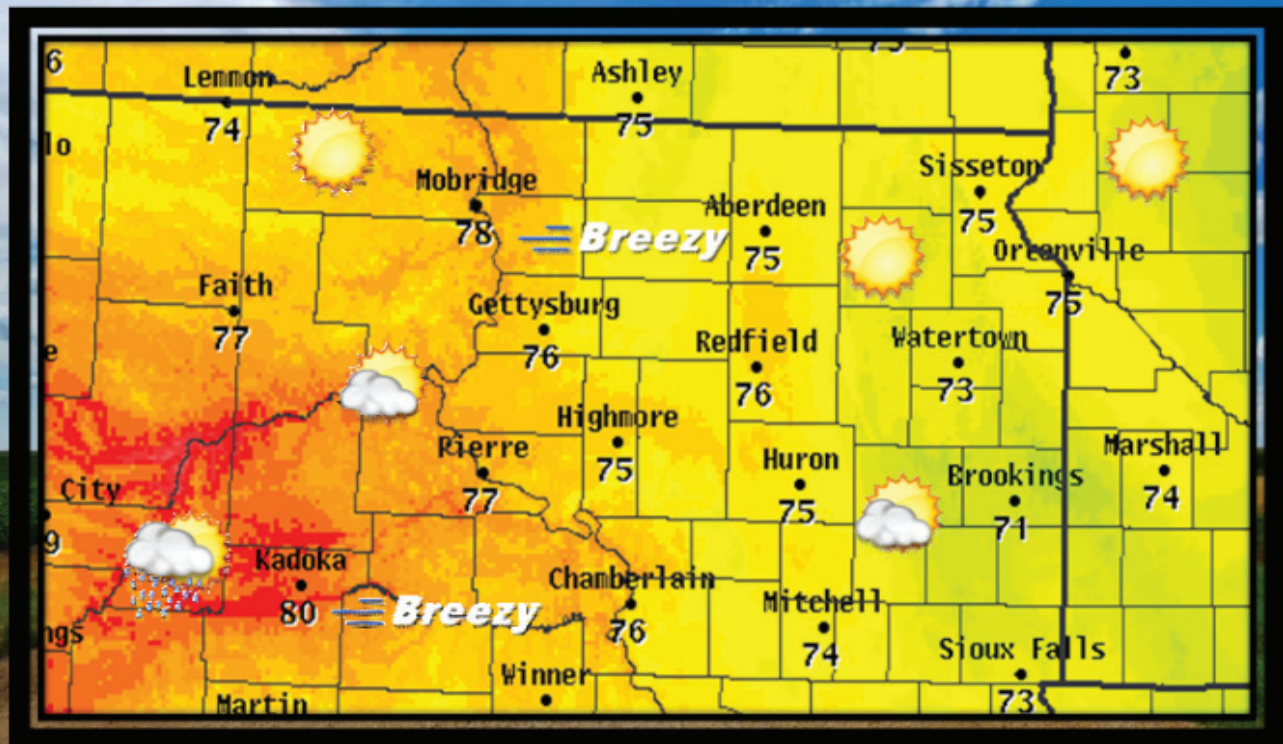
2005 - For the first time in the historical record, two hurricanes reached category-5 intensity in the Gulf of Mexico in a single season as Hurricane Rita intensified before making landfall (Katrina and Rita).

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TODAY	TONIGHT	TUESDAY	TUESDAY NIGHT	WEDNESDAY	WEDNESDAY NIGHT	THURSDAY
						
Sunny High: 75 °F	Partly Cloudy Low: 55 °F	Chance Thunderstorms High: 68 °F	Chance Showers Low: 54 °F	Mostly Sunny High: 75 °F	Mostly Clear Low: 56 °F	Sunny High: 78 °F

Mild and Breezy Today



National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD

 weather.gov/Aberdeen  National Weather Service Aberdeen  @NWSAberdeen Updated: 9/22/2014 4:32 AM Central

Southerly winds will increase across the area today as surface high pressure departs. Temperatures will be a few degrees warmer than Sunday, with highs generally in the 70s. Rain showers will move into southwest South Dakota this afternoon as a storm system approaches from the west. Rain chances will spread east across the area overnight and during the day Tuesday.

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Yesterday's Weather

High: 69.3°F at 5:42 PM

Low: 46.9°F at 7:30 AM

High Gust: 16 mph at 1:42 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 103° in 1936

Record Low: 20° in 1995

Average High: 69°F

Average Low: 43°F

Average Precip in Sept.: 1.55

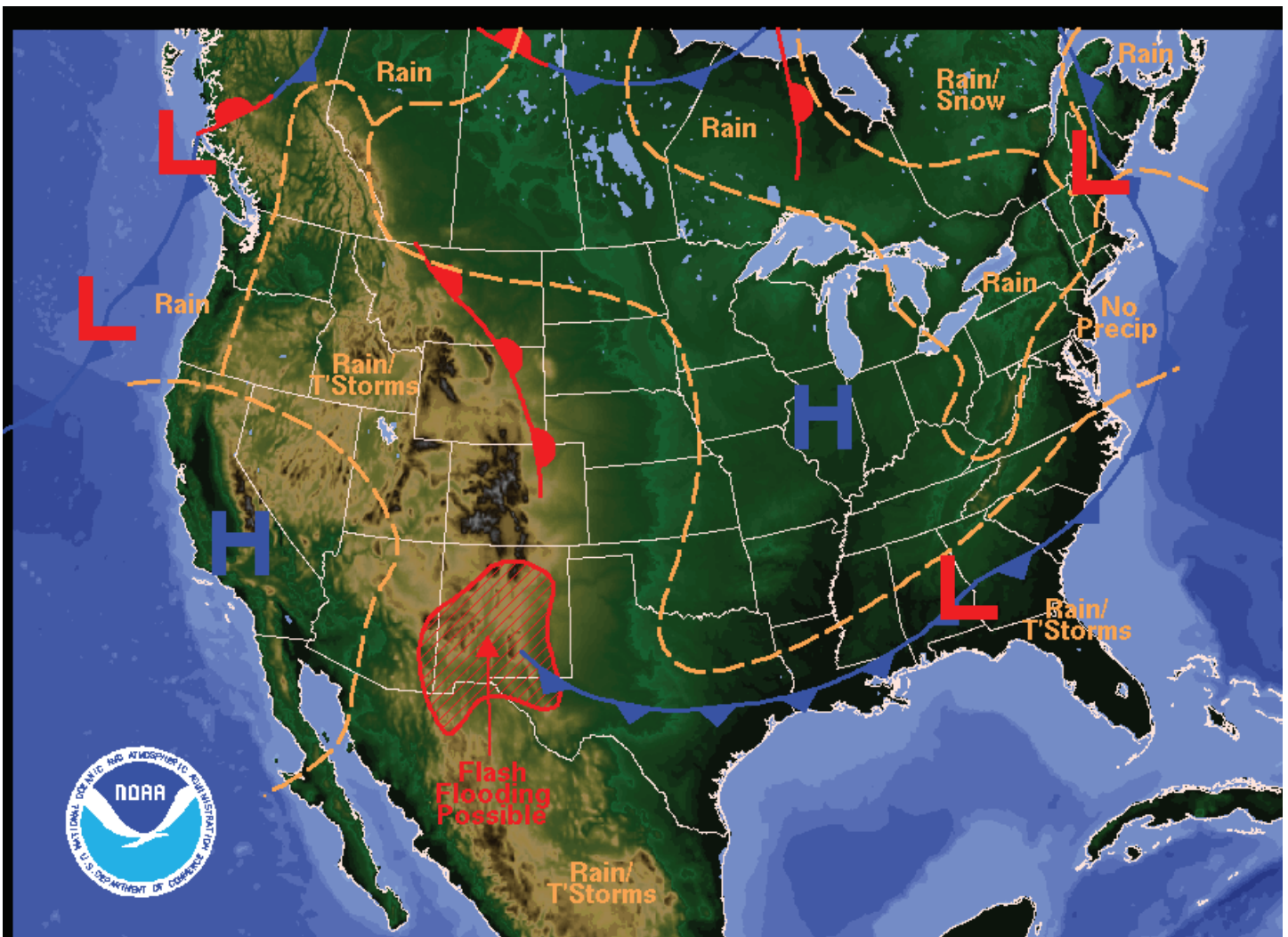
Precip to date in Sept.: 0.26

Average Precip to date: 17.84

Precip Year to Date: 12.56

Sunset Tonight: 7:31 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:22 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Mon, Sep 22, 2014, issued 3:08 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



"I'M SORRY, BUT I FORGOT ABOUT..."

Sound familiar? It's an often used phrase that most of us have used on many occasions. There are times when we really do forget some things. And there are times when we use that phrase when we did not forget "anything" - we just did not want to do what we had agreed to do.

Forgetfulness is a way of life for many. Rather than doing what they said they would do, they use it as an excuse for an unpleasant task. For some, it "just happens" every now and then. For all, however, it started as part of a promise or agreement that was at one time important. And, some promises are, indeed, more important than others. Especially the promises we make to God. Actually, our very life may depend on the promises we make to Him.

Solomon reminds us of this fact when he wrote, "My son, do not forget my teaching...keep my commands in your heart...for they will prolong your life many years and bring you prosperity." Notice the two approaches to the same issue - one is negative: "Do not forget" and the other is positive: "keep them in your heart."

"Forget" in this instance is more than allowing an obligation to escape our memory. It involves disregarding the commandments of God, replacing Him with false gods and idols and a lack of faith and trust.

Notice where God's teachings and commandments are to be kept - in our hearts. The heart, in Scripture, is the center and seat of our inner life, including our mind, our emotions and our will. Submitting our hearts to God is a declaration to Him that His Word rules our lives.

Prayer: Lord, grant each of us a willingness and desire to enthrone You in our hearts and never waiver. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Proverbs 3:1 My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart,

News from the Associated Press

Man in custody after standoff in Sioux Falls

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A man is in custody after an armed standoff in Sioux Falls.

The 30-year-old suspect was treated at a hospital for minor injuries after officers subdued him with a stun gun, then taken to jail. He was arrested on assault, weapons and drug charges.

Authorities say the incident began about 1:15 p.m. Sunday with a report of a man making threats with a handgun and firing the weapon into the ground. Officers surrounded the home and evacuated neighboring houses. They were able to subdue the man about an hour later.

Panel weighs Minnehaha Co. creek, island names

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Board on Geographic Names meets this week to discuss two places in Minnehaha County.

Board members meet Thursday in Pierre. They plan to review comments on the proposed name of Annie Anderson Creek for an unnamed creek and also look at comments on proposed names for an unnamed island in the Big Sioux River near Dell Rapids.

Details can be found at <http://www.sdbgn.sd.gov> .

SD stockgrowers to host convention in Rapid City

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Stockgrowers Association and SD Cattlewomen will be hosting their annual convention and trade show in Rapid City this week.

The groups say the event will include forums on policy discussions. Some panels will focus on animal health and ID issues, as well as updates from the state's Game Fish and Parks Department and the South Dakota Brand Board.

Other gatherings will address reporting and record-keeping in the event of natural disasters, private property rights and agriculture in the classroom.

The two-day event starts Friday.

88-year-old woman dies in two-vehicle crash

TEA, S.D. (AP) — Authorities say an 88-year-old woman is dead after she ran a stop sign and another vehicle collided with hers.

The South Dakota Highway Patrol says Caryl Ann Rand died at a Sioux Falls hospital from injuries she suffered in the crash at an intersection in Tea.

Authorities say the Marion woman failed to stop at the stop sign and entered the intersection, where her 2003 Chevrolet Impala was struck by a 2012 GMC Acadia. The crash sent both vehicles into a ditch.

Authorities say the driver and two passengers in the vehicle that struck Rand's car suffered minor injuries.

The occupants of both vehicles were wearing seatbelts.

Minn. doctor dies in Black Hills motorcycle crash

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A Minnesota behavioral pediatrician who was on a camping trip in the Black Hills is dead after being involved in a motorcycle crash.

The South Dakota Highway Patrol says 71-year-old Ernest Swihart was heading down a hill, when he entered a curve, locked the brakes of his motorcycle, lost control and crashed into a tree near Pactola Reservoir.

The man from Minnetonka, Minnesota, died in the helicopter that was transporting him to a Rapid City hospital.

Lt. David Berkley says passers-by lifted the motorcycle off Swihart, who was wearing a helmet.

The Minneapolis Star Tribune reports Swihart won a Minnesota Book Award in 1997 for co-authoring "The Manipulative Child." In 2011, he appeared on television on ABC's "Nightline" to discuss the use of medication for children with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.

Mines students ready for pumpkin catapult contest

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Students at the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology are preparing for the annual pumpkin catapult contest in Rapid City.

Groups of students will be launching pumpkins high overhead starting at 10 a.m. Saturday in Memorial Park. Points are earned for distance and accuracy and teams can be disqualified if their pumpkins travel more than 100 yards.

The top three teams will be awarded cash prizes. The event is part of a festival that draws nearly 20,000 people every year.

The Great Downtown Pumpkin Festival also includes a giant pumpkin weigh-off, chef competition, pumpkin carving contest, musical entertainment, vendor booths and a showing of "It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown!"

USDA invests in 8 renewable energy projects in SD

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The U.S. Department of Agriculture will provide funds to eight projects in rural South Dakota that focus in renewable energy and energy efficiency.

The agency says the funding includes loan guarantees and grants for solar energy projects to create jobs and advance the use of renewable fuels.

The projects are located in Brown, Clark, Codington, Deuel, Kingsbury and Marshall counties.

Nationwide, the department is investing \$68 million in more than 500 similar projects.

The agency says eligible agricultural producers and rural small businesses may use the funds to make energy-efficiency improvements or install renewable energy systems including solar, wind, small hydro-electric, ocean energy, hydrogen and geothermal.

SD inmate reported missing returns to penitentiary

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A state prison inmate reported missing is back in custody in South Dakota.

The state Department of Corrections says inmate Kenneth Lamb returned from his work release job to the penitentiary in Sioux Falls just before 3 a.m. Sunday.

The 41-year-old minimum-security inmate is serving a nearly eight-year sentence for fifth-offense DWI and a four-year sentence for fourth-offense DWI. Both sentences originated in Minnehaha County.

Vehicle drives on sidewalk, hits, injures SD man

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A man is seriously injured after a vehicle drove onto a sidewalk in Sioux Falls and hit him.

Sgt. Tarah Walton with the Sioux Falls Police Department says the driver left the scene of the incident. Walton says around 11:10 p.m. Saturday officers responded to a report of a hit-and-run accident. She says two adults had been walking on a sidewalk, when a vehicle drove partially up and onto the sidewalk and struck one of the pedestrians.

Walton says the injured man was transported to a hospital.

Authorities are asking that anyone with information about the whereabouts of the driver contact police.

Lawmakers say education needs more than just money

BY KEVIN BURBACH, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota's superintendents say schools are struggling to fill open positions mainly because of low teacher pay, while policymakers suggest a solution to the teacher shortage isn't simple and the problem won't be fixed with funding alone.

On Wednesday, the School Administrators of South Dakota released the results of a survey filled out by more than 90 percent of the state's public school administrators. More than 20 percent of the superintendents said they had unfilled teaching positions on the first day of class, half said they had four or fewer candidates for open positions and a third said applicants turned down a job offer because of a low salary.

Some legislators, education advocates and the governor's office then weighed in on how the state should proceed.

Rep. Jacqueline Sly, R-Rapid City, who taught for many years at different schools around the state, said working to fix the shortage of qualified teachers requires more than just more money.

"We need to be looking at how do we pay teachers well and have them trained so that they are high-quality teachers; and giving them support when they are in our school system," Sly said. "We have a big picture thing rather just one part of it (to look at)."

Education advocates and school officials have been petitioning legislators to address the teacher shortage. A group of education officials recently suggested creating a 1-cent summer sales tax to go toward increasing teacher salaries.

Legislators and the governor's office expressed mixed views about that idea.

Sly, House Education committee chairwoman, said a sales tax increase was a possibility but should probably go to a public vote.

Tony Venhuizen, a spokesman for Gov. Dennis Daugaard, said the governor has opposed raising taxes in the past and would be skeptical about the success of a proposal this year.

"There's a political reality," he said. "Not even his position, but would that be something that would be supported by the Legislature or by the public?"

Venhuizen and Rep. Tessa Hawks, D-Hartford, both said the state could look to funding like the Critical Needs scholarship that reward students who commit to teaching in critical areas of the state in exchange for tuition.

"I was a science teacher, so I was granted several loan forgiveness programs because I taught in a high-needs area in a high-needs school," Hawks said. "So expanding that to other fields of teaching would be a good start to creating some incentive programs for teachers."

Several also acknowledged that the state's role is important but limited. Staffing levels and salaries are determined at the local level, Venhuizen said.

"Particularly in some small districts we see they're making decisions to keep larger staffs, to keep their staffing levels higher rather than to use the money to pay fewer teachers more," he said.

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. SOME 130,000 SYRIANS REACH TURKEY, FLEEING ISLAMIC STATE GROUP

The Turkish deputy prime minister says the country is prepared for "the worst case scenario" should more refugees stream in.

2. BUSY WEEK AHEAD FOR MIDEAST DIPLOMACY

The launch of Israel-Hamas talks about a border deal for Gaza and the Palestinian president's U.N. speech about a strategy for dealing with Israel will keep diplomats occupied.

3. RUSSIA GLAD TO KEEP UKRAINE OFF UN RADAR

As world leaders focus on blunting the advance of the Islamic State group and ending the Ebola epidemic, Russia is happy their attention is diverted from the Ukrainian conflict.

4. WHY OBAMA'S MIDEAST WAR STRATEGY ISN'T IN THE CLEAR YET

The president got what he wanted when Congress approved arming and training moderate Syrian rebels, but many lawmakers would like a say over the rest of the plan.

5. ACCUSED WHITE HOUSE INTRUDER EXPECTED TO APPEAR IN COURT

Omar J. Gonzalez faces charges of unlawfully entering a restricted building or grounds while carrying a deadly or dangerous weapon.

6. WHAT TRACKERS REPORT FINDING IN HUNT FOR AMBUSH SUSPECT

Police recover an assault rifle carried by Eric Frein, the fugitive accused of fatally shooting two Pennsylvania state troopers.

7. WHO HAS COMPLEX HISTORY OF IMMIGRATION POLICY

The son of a Kenyan immigrant, Obama over time has been embraced and scorned by immigrant advocates.

8. AFFLUENCE ELUDES POOR CROWDING INTO ASIAN CITIES

From India to Indonesia, Myanmar and the Philippines, overcrowded urban centers have become studies in extremes of deprivation and wealth.

9. NASA'S MAVEN EXPLORER ARRIVES AT MARS

Now the real work begins for the \$671 million mission, the first dedicated to studying the upper atmosphere of the red planet.

10. CLOUDY START TO CUBAN BASEBALL SEASON

The country's unprecedented effort to stop a talent drain doesn't seem to be working, with a string of stars leaving for major overseas leagues.

AP News in Brief

Turkey's deputy PM says more than 130,000 Syrians fleeing IS have now reached Turkey

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — The number of Syrian refugees who have reached Turkey in the past four days after fleeing the advance of Islamic State militants now totals 130,000, Turkey's deputy prime minister said Monday.

Numan Kurtulmus warned that the number could rise further but insisted that Turkey was ready to react to "the worst case scenario."

"I hope that we are not faced with a more populous refugee wave, but if we are, we have taken our precautions," Kurtulmus said. "A refugee wave that can be expressed by hundreds of thousands is a possibility."

The refugees have been flooding into Turkey since Thursday, escaping an Islamic State offensive that has pushed the conflict nearly within eyeshot of the Turkish border. The conflict in Syria has pushed more than a million people over the border in the past 3½ years.

The al-Qaida breakaway group, which has established an Islamic state, or caliphate, ruled by its harsh version of Islamic law in territory it captured straddling the Syria-Iraq border, has in recent days advanced into Kurdish regions of Syria that border Turkey, where fleeing refugees on Sunday reported atrocities that included stonings, beheadings and the torching of homes.

Busy week of Mideast diplomacy, with launch of Israel-Hamas talks, Abbas strategy speech at UN

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP) — It's a busy week in Mideast diplomacy, book-ended by the launch of Israel-Hamas talks about a border deal for blockaded Gaza and the Palestinian president's U.N. speech about a new strategy for dealing with Israel.

The talks about Gaza's future seem to be a long shot, and failure could set the stage for another Israel-Hamas war, even if neither side wants it. In another obstacle to an agreement, tensions are mounting between Palestinian rivals Hamas and Fatah, the movement of Western-backed Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, over who will run Gaza.

Meanwhile, Abbas' apparent shift to inviting international pressure on Israel, rather than relying solely on so far unsuccessful U.S. mediation, is poised to strain ties with Washington.

The following is a look at what lies ahead.

Russia happy to keep Ukraine off UN radar as world focuses on Islamic State group and Ebola

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — As world leaders gather at the U.N. this week, the U.S. and its European allies are consumed by efforts to blunt the savage advance of the Islamic State group, to end the raging Ebola epidemic and to make progress in nuclear negotiations with Iran. That's likely just fine with Vladimir Putin, since these issues distract from Russia's presence in neighboring Ukraine.

While attention focuses elsewhere, the Russians are consolidating their annexation of the Crimean Peninsula. They are also deeply involved in turmoil in Ukraine's east and south, hoping to prevent the country from moving out of the Kremlin's orbit. Europe and the United States insist the independent nation must be free to choose its own course.

Russia is already enraged over NATO's having brought former Soviet satellite nations in Eastern Europe and some Baltic nations, once Soviet republics, into the alliance over the past two decades. The Kremlin insists it was promised, after the dissolution of the Soviet Union, that that would not happen. It's doing its best to prevent Ukraine from making the same move.

What's more, says American University professor Keith Darden: "Their strategy all along has been to argue that what they did in Crimea is not abnormal. Intervention in Ukraine is not unusual for great powers. The U.S. has intervened in Latin America consistently. Ukraine, they say, is their sphere of interest."

And given the chaos in other areas of the world, says Andrew Weiss, of the Carnegie Endowment, "I can't say I see the Russian challenges and issues as being front and center. Ukraine, to a degree, already has been pushed out of the public eye by the Middle East crisis and the Ebola epidemic. I don't think Ukraine will have the same centrality."

Court appearance scheduled for accused White House intruder, an Army vet who served in Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) — The man accused of scaling a security fence and getting into the White House with a knife is scheduled to have his initial appearance Monday in federal court.

Omar J. Gonzalez, 42, of Copperas Cove, Texas, is facing charges of unlawfully entering a restricted building or grounds while carrying a deadly or dangerous weapon. The Army says Gonzalez served from 1997 until his discharge in 2003, and again from 2005 to December 2012, when he retired due to disability.

The Secret Service tightened their guard outside the White House after Friday's embarrassing breach in the security of one of the most closely protected buildings in the world. Gonzalez is accused of scaling the White House perimeter fence, running across the lawn and entering the presidential mansion before agents stopped him.

President Barack Obama and his family were away at the time.

Secret Service Director Julia Pierson has ordered increased surveillance and more officer patrols, and has begun an investigation into what went wrong.

Obama's Mideast war plan to face sterner examination from Congress after elections

WASHINGTON (AP) — As far as Congress is concerned, President Barack Obama's Mideast war strategy isn't in the clear yet.

The president got what he wanted this past week when the House and Senate overwhelmingly approved arming and training moderate Syrian rebels to fight Islamic State militants. But the go-ahead is good for less than three months. And many lawmakers want a say over the rest of a plan featuring more than 1,600 U.S. military advisers in Iraq and airstrikes expanding into Syria.

Congressional authorization for military action is "long overdue," said Sen. Dick Durbin of Illinois, the No. 2 Senate Democrat and the most senior member of Congress to question Obama's legal basis for intervening in the Middle East. "We are living on borrowed time, and we are traveling on vapors."

A showdown looms when lawmakers return to the Capitol after midterm elections — and no one knows yet how it's going to play out.

Permission to prepare vetted Syrian opposition units as a ground force to complement U.S. airstrikes

expires Dec. 11, at which point the training effort won't even have begun. American military leaders say the operation needs up to five months to get off the ground. Authorization for the training program is also included in a version of this year's defense policy bill, but its passage is not guaranteed.

Obama and immigration: Mixed record and high expectations; complicated history with issue

WASHINGTON (AP) — There were about 30, all Mexican nationals desperate to avoid deportations that would separate them from their families. Living in Illinois, they appealed for help from their new U.S. senator, Barack Obama.

He turned them down.

It was one of the first times Obama could have used the power of his office to help defer the removal of immigrants who were in the United States illegally. Eight years later, with his powers magnified as president, such a decision is upon him again, this time with the status of millions of immigrants at stake.

That episode in 2006 represents just one early marker in Obama's complicated history with the politics of immigration. The son of a Kenyan immigrant, Obama has been embraced and scorned by immigrant advocates who have viewed him as both a champion and an obstacle to their cause.

Now, perhaps paradoxically, in their anger over his delay of executive actions that potentially could give work permits to millions of immigrants living illegally in this country, these advocacy groups also hold out hope that when Obama does act, he will be aggressive and leave a mark for posterity.

Affluence eludes poor crowding into Asian cities as elites capture increasing share of wealth

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — Down a concrete path, between rail tracks that buzz with each approaching train and a river choked by plastic and raw sewage, Asih Binti Arif cradles her baby and reflects on dreams gone dark.

Five years ago, Arif and her husband left impoverished Madura Island, joining the stream of migrants from across the vast Indonesian archipelago seeking a better life in its capital.

Across the developing world, migration from country to city has long been a potential path out of poverty. Less and less is that true for Arif and millions of others in Asia, where the wealth gap is growing in many of the most densely populated cities in human history.

Experts say the trend could worsen as a widening gulf between the richest and everyone else undercuts efforts to reduce poverty, bringing a litany of problems: poorer health, less education, more family breakups, crime and unstable societies.

"With inequality, the impact of growth on poverty eradication is muted," said Indu Bhushan, an Asian Development Bank official.

Police say they're on the trail of trooper ambush suspect; assault rifle left in woods

CANADENSIS, Pa. (AP) — Authorities have had no confirmed sightings of the alleged gunman who is accused of a deadly ambush at a police barracks 10 days ago, but they say they have found an assault rifle he was carrying and believe they are hot on his trail in the dense northeastern Pennsylvania woods.

Investigators said Sunday that the suspect they describe as a self-taught survivalist had been planning

a confrontation with law enforcement for months, if not years, and they believe he is still armed and dangerous, and possibly concealing himself in self-built bunkers.

Pennsylvania State Police Lt. Col. George Bivens revealed a few more details about the manhunt for Eric Frein, saying trackers have discovered items he hid or abandoned in the woods — including an AK-47-style assault rifle and ammunition they believe he had been carrying while on the run.

“We are pushing him hard, he is no longer safe and I am confident that he will be apprehended,” Bivens said.

Authorities did not yet know if the weapon had been used in the ambush, he said. Still, police believe Frein, 31, remains dangerous, and possibly armed with a .308 rifle with a scope that police say was missing from his family home along with the AK-47.

NASA’s Maven spacecraft enters Mars orbit, science work begins in 6 weeks to study atmosphere

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — NASA’s Maven spacecraft entered orbit around Mars for an unprecedented study of the red planet’s atmosphere following a 442 million-mile journey that began nearly a year ago.

The robotic explorer successfully slipped into orbit around the red planet late Sunday night.

“I think my heart’s about ready to start again,” Maven’s chief investigator, Bruce Jakosky of the University of Colorado, said early Monday. “All I can say at this point is, ‘We’re in orbit at Mars, guys!’”

Now the real work begins for the \$671 million mission, the first dedicated to studying the Martian upper atmosphere and the latest step in NASA’s bid to send astronauts to Mars in the 2030s.

Flight controllers in Colorado will spend the next six weeks adjusting Maven’s altitude and checking its science instruments, and observing a comet streaking by at relatively close range. Then in early November, Maven will start probing the upper atmosphere of Mars. The spacecraft will conduct its observations from orbit; it’s not meant to land.

Cuban baseball opening runs into trouble, fails to stop flow of departures to major leagues

HAVANA (AP) — Cuba’s unprecedented effort to stop a devastating baseball talent drain doesn’t seem to be working, with a string of stars leaving for the major leagues in the year since the government allowed a small number to play professionally overseas.

The island’s national league began its 54th season Sunday badly weakened by the departure of both stars and promising prospects chasing dreams of riches in the U.S. To fight the drain, Cuba relaxed a five-decade ban on professional play in September 2013 and allowed ballplayers to sign offseason contracts with leagues like Japan’s and Mexico’s as long as a large chunk of their contracts goes to the state and they return to play in Cuba. The state also gave raises to on-island athletes.

There are no official statistics on ballplayers’ departures from Cuba, typically murky affairs that come to light only when a player appears in Mexico or the Dominican Republic to be declared a free agent with a shot at a big contract in the major leagues.

But observers note that a quarter of the players on Cuba’s star-studded 2013 World Baseball Classic team have stopped playing, with most leaving the island since last year’s reform in search of major-league deals.

“There’s no way that economically Cuba is going to keep enough top players in the country to have

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the quality of league they had five or ten years ago," said Peter C. Bjarkman, author of "A History of Cuban Baseball, 1864-2006." "It hasn't been destroyed, but my fear is that it's living on borrowed time ... It certainly doesn't seem to be affected by what the Cubans tried to do."

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Sept. 22, the 265th day of 2014. There are 100 days left in the year. Autumn arrives at 10:29 p.m. Eastern time.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 22, 1776, during the Revolutionary War, Capt. Nathan Hale, 21, was hanged as a spy by the British in New York.

On this date:

In 1761, Britain's King George III and his wife, Charlotte, were crowned in Westminster Abbey.

In 1792, the French Republic was proclaimed.

In 1862, President Abraham Lincoln issued the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation, declaring all slaves in rebel states should be free as of Jan. 1, 1863.

In 1911, pitcher Cy Young, 44, gained his 511th and final career victory as he hurled a 1-0 shutout for the Boston Rustlers against the Pittsburgh Pirates at Forbes Field.

In 1927, Gene Tunney successfully defended his heavyweight boxing title against Jack Dempsey in the famous "long-count" fight in Chicago.

In 1938, the musical comedy revue "Hellzapoppin'," starring Ole (OH'-lee) Olsen and Chic Johnson, began a three-year run on Broadway.

In 1949, the Soviet Union exploded its first atomic bomb.

In 1950, Omar N. Bradley was promoted to the rank of five-star general, joining an elite group that included Dwight D. Eisenhower, Douglas MacArthur, George C. Marshall and Henry H. "Hap" Arnold.

In 1964, the musical "Fiddler on the Roof," starring Zero Mostel, opened on Broadway, beginning a run of 3,242 performances. The secret agent series "The Man from U.N.C.L.E.," starring Robert Vaughn and David McCallum, premiered on NBC-TV.

In 1975, Sara Jane Moore attempted to shoot President Gerald R. Ford outside a San Francisco hotel, but missed. (Moore served 32 years in prison before being paroled on Dec. 31, 2007.)

In 1989, the Irish Republican Army bombed the Royal Marines School of Music in Deal, Kent, England, killing 11 band members. Songwriter Irving Berlin died in New York City at age 101.

In 1994, the situation comedy "Friends" debuted on NBC-TV.

Ten years ago: British hostage Kenneth Bigley, 62, appeared on a video posted on an Islamic Web site weeping and pleading for his life (Bigley was later beheaded by his captors). In Haiti, the death toll from Tropical Storm Jeanne topped 1,000. CBS-owned stations were fined a total of \$550,000 by the Federal Communications Commission for Janet Jackson's exposed right breast during the Super Bowl XXXVIII (38) halftime show (however, a federal appeals court twice threw out the fine, and the U.S. Supreme Court refused to consider reinstating it.) The TV series "Lost" premiered on ABC.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama, visiting New York, brought together Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas for their first face-to-face meeting. Al-Qaida released a 106-minute-long video predicting President Obama's downfall at the hands of the Muslim world.

One year ago: President Barack Obama spoke at a memorial service for the 12 men and women

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killed in the Washington Navy Yard shooting, calling on Americans to raise their voices against gun violence. A pair of Sunni militant suicide bombers blew themselves up inside a church in Peshawar, Pakistan, killing 85 Christian worshippers. German Chancellor Angela Merkel led her conservatives to a stunning election victory. "Breaking Bad" won best drama series while "Modern Family" was recognized as best comedy series at the 65th annual Primetime Emmy Awards.

Today's Birthdays: Baseball Hall of Fame manager Tommy Lasorda is 87. Former NBA Commissioner David Stern is 72. Musician King Sunny Ade (ah-DAY') is 68. Actor Paul Le Mat is 68. Capt. Mark Phillips is 66. Rock singer David Coverdale (Deep Purple, Whitesnake) is 63. Actress Shari Belafonte is 60. Singer Debby Boone is 58. Country singer June Forester (The Forester Sisters) is 58. Singer Nick Cave is 57. Rock singer Johnette Napolitano is 57. Actress Lynn Herring is 57. Classical crossover singer Andrea Bocelli (an-DRAY'-ah boh-CHEL'-ee) is 56. Singer-musician Joan Jett is 56. Actor Scott Baio is 54. Actress Catherine Oxenberg is 53. Actress Bonnie Hunt is 53. Actor Rob Stone (TV: "Mr. Belvedere") is 52. Musician Matt Sharp is 45. Rock musician Dave Hernandez is 44. Rhythm-and-blues singer Big Rube (Society of Soul) is 43. Actress Mireille Enos is 39. Actress Daniella Alonso is 36. Actor Michael Graziadei (GRAHT'-zee-uh-day-ee) is 35. Actress Ashley Drane (Eckstein) is 33. Actress Katie Lowes (TV: "Scandal") is 32. Actor Tom Felton is 27. Actress Juliette Goglia is 19.

Thought for Today: "I saw old Autumn in the misty morn/ Stand shadowless like silence, listening/ To silence." - Thomas Hood, English author (1799-1845).