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Dr. Geoffrey Rath - Optometrist

Eye Exams Glaucoma Tests Rx's Filled
- All Types Contact Lenses -

Doctor here Mondays Only - Office open Thursdays. 701-349-3223 to make appointments & adjustments

Hours at Ellendale, N.D. are:

Monday 9 - 12 & 1 - 5 Thursday 1:00 - 4:00

The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is $\ensuremath{\mathbf{OPEN}}$

CLOSED: Recycling Trailer in Groton

The recycling trailer is gone for now at 10 East Railroad Ave. Don't forget, there is also a dump-ster at the city shop for aluminum cans with the proceeds going to the pool.

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Thursday, October 9

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

School Lunch: Walking taco, refried beans, carrots and dip, fruit.

Senior Menu: Baked chicken breast, noodles roman off, lemon buttered broccoli, pineapple strawberry ambrosia, whole wheat bread.

Birthdays: • Clint Jacobson, Jr. • Jerry Johnson

• Eileen Schuelke • Janet Harder • London Bahr • Joseph Smith

4:00pm: NEC XC at Webster 5:00pm: JH VB hosts Sisseton

5:00pm: JV FB at Aberdeen Central

6:30pm: Groton Lions Club meet at Dakota

Brush, Downtown Groton

6:30pm: JV/C VB hosts Sisseton followed by

varsity match

Friday, October 10

School Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, yogurt, juice, milk, fruit.

School Lunch: Chicken Quesadilla, tossed salad, California blend, fruit.

Senior Menu: Sloppy joe on wheat bun, oven roasted potatoes, mixed vegetables, crunchy cranberry salad.

Anniversaries: Charity and Scott Hinman • Dan and Marjae Schinkel

Birthdays: • Jenn Gustafson • Erica Swisher • Mandilyn Krueger Fliehs • Megan Erickson

10:00am: Band Festival in Groton

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

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)

Wanted to Rent

Looking for a small house to rent around the Aberdeen area. 605/380-0959.



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

Full-Time night RN/PPRK \$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

SERVICE TECH

Farm Equipment Tech needed for repair and service of Case IH and Massey Ferguson farm equipment. Sponsored training, excellent benefit package and the possibility for advancement. Contact Steve at 605-395-6421 or email resume to s.harry@harrysinc.com.

Harry Implement Inc.

MASSEY FERGUSON

PO Box 841 Ferney, SD 57439



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S.D. voters to decide on raising minimum wage

By Dana Hess for S.D. Newspaper Association

Some of South Dakota lowest-paid workers may get raises if voters approve an increase in the minimum wage on Nov. 4.

Initiated Measure 18 would raise the hourly minimum wage for non-tipped employees from \$7.25 per hour to \$8.50 per hour effective Jan. 1, 2015. It would also tie future increases in the state's minimum wage to the Consumer Price Index of the U.S. Department of Labor. For tipped employees, the minimum wage would be half the minimum wage paid to non-tipped employees and the same cost of living increase would apply.

Mark Anderson, president of the South Dakota AFL-CIO and chairman of the Raise South Dakota ballot question committee, said that South Dakota's minimum wage hasn't been increased since 2009. He notes that if it had kept up with inflation, the minimum wage would be more than \$10 per hour.

"It's time the minimum wage be raised," Anderson said. "This is the only way to do it."

Anderson said that voters need to resort to the ballot because the Legislature hasn't been interested in raising the minimum wage.

The passage of Initiated Measure 18 will have unintended consequences for employers and the state economy, according to Shawn Lyons, executive director of the S.D. Retailers Association.

"Employers are going to have to make some difficult decisions" about cutting hours or benefits, Lyons said.

Opponents of the measure, who can be found at www.nomoremandates.org, are also concerned with the provision that ties future raises in the minimum wage to the Consumer Price Index.

"We think that's a bad precedent," said Lyons, calling passage of the measure a "perpetual" increase in the minimum wage.

Opponents of Initiated Measure 18 include South Dakota Retailers Association, S.D. Hotel and Lodging Association, S.D. Visitor Industry Alliance, S.D. Grain and Feed Association, S.D. Association of Cooperatives, S.D. Farm Bureau, the National Federation of Independent Businesses, S.D. Agri-Business Association, S.D. Petroleum and Propane Marketers Association, S.D. Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the chambers of commerce from Rapid City, Sioux Falls and Brookings.

Signatures were gathered to get the measure on the ballot through the efforts of the S.D. Democratic Party.

Both Anderson and Lyons make their case by pointing to Gov. Dennis Daugaard's recent Workforce Summits, which were held throughout the state.

Anderson said low wages came up at each meeting, though how to raise those wages didn't make it into the final report on the summits.

"Minimum wage is the 800-pound gorilla in the room," Anderson said. "No one wants to talk about low wages in South Dakota, but it is a problem."

Lyons said a recurring topic at the governor's Workforce Summits was the state's need for workers. With 3.6 percent unemployment, Lyons said, "competition for employees and wages has never been greater. We've really got a demand for workers."

According to Anderson, the workers earning minimum wages are most likely to be women, workers older than 20 and workers who have a better than part-time job.

"It's people who are trying to raise money to raise their families," Anderson said. "They need a raise." Two other questions are on the Nov. 4 general election ballot. Initiated Measure 17 would require insurance companies to list all health care providers who are willing, qualified and meet the conditions established by the insurer. Constitutional Amendment Q would authorize legislators to approve new games for Deadwood casinos.

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Patient choice initiative on ballot

By Dana Hess for S.D. Newspaper Association

South Dakota patients won't be forced to switch doctors when their job or insurance changes if voters approve Initiated Measure 17 on Nov. 4.

According to the attorney general's ballot explanation, Initiated Measure 17 would require insurance companies to list all health care providers who are willing, qualified and meet the conditions established by the insurer.

The measure does not apply to a variety of insurance plans including plans for specified diseases, indemnity, accident only, dental, vision, Medicare supplement, long-term care, disability income or workers' compensation.

Backers of Initiated Measure 17 see the new law as a way to reduce costs, eliminate out-of-network fees and reduce the travel necessary for patients who must travel to another town to see the providers included in their health insurance plan.

Supporters of Initiated Measure 17 include the South Dakota Chiropractic Association, the S.D. Orthopaedic Society, the S.D. Optometric Society, the S.D Academy of Physician Assistants, the S.D. State Medical Association and the S.D. American Physical Therapy Association.

"This is so patients will now have a choice on how to save their health care," said Jon Crow, director of operations at Sioux Falls Specialty Hospital and chairman of the Patient Choice for South Dakota ballot committee.

According to Crow, patients can lose their health insurance when they or a spouse changes jobs or when an employer changes health insurance plans. He said he has heard of some cases in which patients have had to end 20-year relationships with their doctors. "Those stories resonate" with voters, Crow said.

Initiated Measure 17 isn't about patient choice, according to David Owen, president of the South Dakota Chamber of Commerce and Industry. "It's about doctor choice," Owen said, explaining that the patient would have to show the doctor his insurance plan and the doctor would have to agree to join that particular patient's health insurance exchange.

"I haven't heard of a doctor yet who would do that," Owen said. "I don't know where the heck patient choice comes in."

Crow said doctors will make the effort to sign up for other health care plans in order to keep their patients. "I see it as a two-way street," Crow said.

Opponents of Initiated Measure 17 can be found at their website, notohighercosts.com. They include the Sioux Falls Area Chamber of Commerce, the South Dakota Chamber of Commerce and Industry, S.D. Association of Health Care Organizations, Avera, Regional Health, Sanford, Independent Insurance Agents, America's Health Insurance Plans, Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield, Avera Health Plans and Sanford Health Plan.

Owen and opponents of Initiated Measure 17 believe that its passage will drive up health care costs. "Plans that have broad coverage are more expensive than plans that have selective networks," said Owen, noting that it's easy enough for insurance buyers to research by just looking at the rates on the Affordable Care Act website or comparing their own policy with others offered by their insurance company.

"This is not a cost increase," Crow said of the change that's known as any willing provider. "Doctors will have to meet the terms and conditions of the health plan they join. Once you establish competition, quality goes up and prices stay consistent or it moves them downward."

According to Owen, passage of the measure would mean more government regulation in health care. "It's more government intrusion into the health care system" Owen said, noting that first Americans had to deal with Obamacare and "now we have Initiative 17 telling insurers who they have to contract with regardless of any contracts they have in place."

Two other questions are on the Nov. 4 general election ballot. Initiated Measure 18 would raise the state's minimum wage. Constitutional Amendment Q would authorize legislators to approve new games for Deadwood casinos.

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Due to confusion on the stat sheet, I misinterpreted the scores. Here is the corrected version.

Netters beat Leola-Frederick

Groton's volleyball team defeated Leola-Frederick Tuesday night in Frederick, 23-25, 25-21, 25-22 and 25-22.

Groton was 123 of 145 in spikes with 25 kills. Josie Doeden was 35 of 40 with nine kills and Maggie Simon was 21 of 24 with five kills.

In serves, Groton was 84 of 97 with 17 ace serves. Marlee Jones was 19 of 21 with six ace serves and Ashley Gibbs was 15 of 16 with three ace serves.

Groton had 116 digs with Kasey Waage having 32, Ashley Gibbs 17 and Courtney Kurtz 15.

In sets, Groton was 126 of 126 with 26 assists. Kurtz had 116 with 22 assists and Audrey Wanner had six with three assists.

Groton had five blocks, three by Doeden and one each by Maggie Simon and Wanner.

Groton won the junior varsity match by game scores of 25-14 and 25-17.

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Today in Weather History

1964: Record cold occurred on this day in 1964 across parts of central and northeast South Dakota with temperatures falling into the mid teens to around 20 degrees at many locations. Sisseton had a record low of 20 degrees, Watertown had a record low of 16 degrees, with Kennebec recording the lowest temperature of 13 degrees on this day in 1964. Although not a record low, Aberdeen fell to 14 degrees.

1980: On this day in 1980, very warm air streamed across central and northeast South Dakota as well as west central Minnesota with highs mostly in the 80s. Record highs were established at Watertown with 86 degrees, and at both Wheaton and Sisseton with 87 degrees. One of the warmest temperatures across the area was 89 degrees at Kennebec.

1903 - New York City was deluged with 11.17 inches of rain 24 hours to establish a state record. Severe flooding occurred in the Passaic Valley of New Jersey where more than fifteen inches of rain was reported. (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1963: A 820-foot wall of water inundated the town of Longarone, Italy, killing almost 2,500 people after a massive landslide pushed a wave over a dam.

1981 - The temperature at San Juan, Puerto Rico, soared to 98 degrees to establish an all-time record for that location. (The Weather Channel)

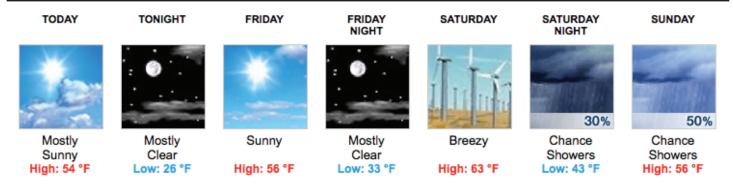
1987 - Eighteen cities in the southeastern U.S. and the Middle Atlantic Coast Region reported record low temperatures for the date. Asheville NC dipped to 29 degrees, and the record low of 47 degrees at Jacksonville FL marked their fourth of the month. A second surge of cold air brought light snow to the Northern Plains, particularly the Black Hills of South Dakota. (The National Weather Summary)

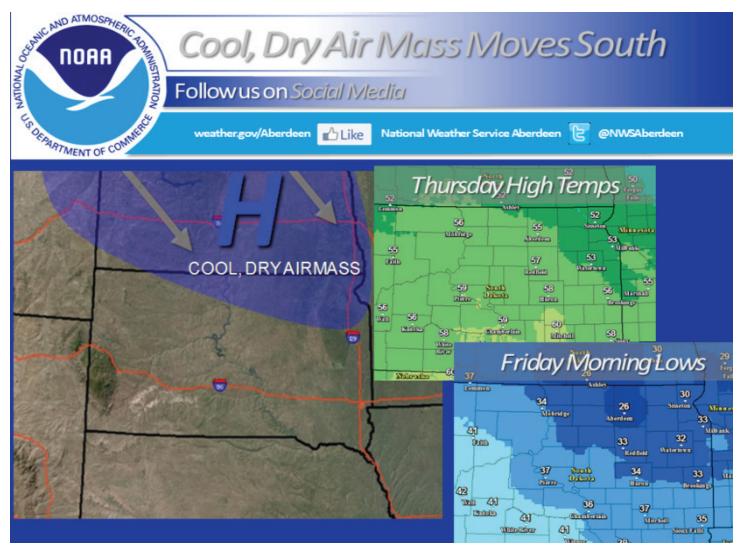
1988 - Ten cities in the northeastern U.S. reported record low temperatures for the date, including Hartford CT with a reading of 28 degrees. Snow continued in northern New England through the morning hours. Mount Washington NH reported five inches of snow. Warm weather continued in the western U.S. Los Angeles CA reported a record high of 102 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Unseasonably cold weather continued in the Upper Midwest. Thirteen cities in Ohio, Michigan and Indiana reported record low temperatures for the date, including Marquette MI with a reading of 20 degrees. Unseasonably warm weather continued in the western U.S. as the San Francisco Giants won the National League pennant. San Jose CA reported a record high of 91 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)

2001: Hurricane Iris struck Belize as a category 4 hurricane with maximum sustained winds near 140 mph. Rainfall totals of 5-8 feet and storm surges of 13-18 feet were measured. It was the worst storm to hit the area in over 60 years. Thirty-one people were killed.

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A relatively quiet weather pattern is expected as a cool, dry air mass will be the dominate feature through the end of the workweek.

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Yesterday's Weather High: 57.1°F at 3:02 PM

High: 57.1°F at 3:02 PM **Low:** 29.0°F at 7:02 AM

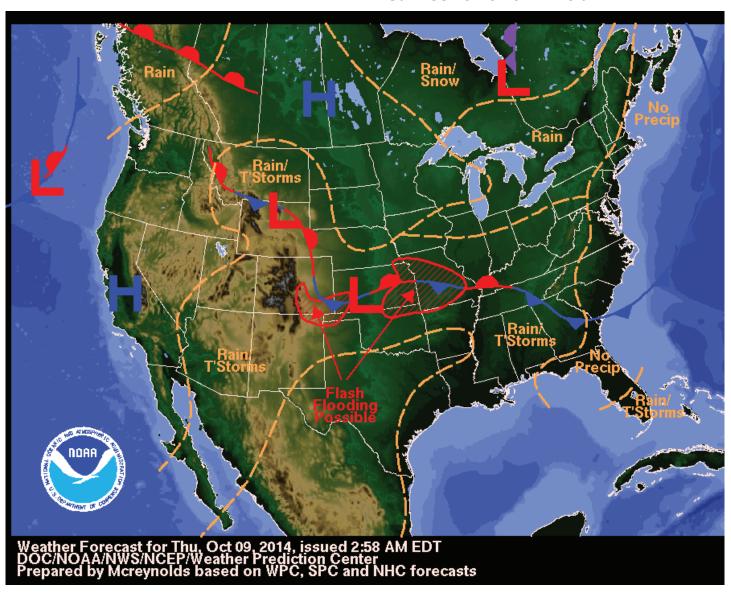
High Gust: 16 mph at 3:02 PM

Precip: 0.02

Today's Info Record High: 86° in 1910

Record High: 86° in 1910 Record Low: 14° in 1964 Average High: 61°F Average Low: 36°F

Average Precip in Oct.: .60
Precip to date in Oct.: 0.04
Average Precip to date: 19.08
Precip Year to Date: 12.98
Sunset Tonight: 6:59 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:43 a.m.



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HOME SCHOOLING

Early childhood education begins at home. From the very first moment a child opens its eyes, hears a noise from any source, experiences warmth or cold or feels the pangs of hunger, the opportunity to teach and learn is present and profound.

Though an infant does not know the difference between a Bible or catalog, the object will make an impression which will eventually be interpreted. And if there are more catalogs than Bibles, the child will one day understand the priorities of the parents.

Homes have walls and floors, shelves and ceilings. But what parents place on the walls or hang from the ceilings or place on the shelves is a choice. In our home, everywhere we looked were objects that had a reference to God. I still remember my mother explaining or interpreting the meaning of pictures or using an old globe to tell a story about missionaries and what they did for Jesus. It was an important part of our family life. And it remains a very important part of my life today.

"Listen, my sons, to a father's instruction; pay attention and gain understanding...When I was a boy in my father's house, and an only child of my mother...he taught me: keep my commands, get wisdom and understanding!" How precious!

"My son, I'm passing my wisdom to you that came from my father...when I was young and tender." God's wisdom was passed from grandfather to father to child. We are all passing on what is of value to us, too.

Prayer: Father, we each leave a legacy to everyone we meet. May it bring honor and glory to Your name! In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Proverbs 4:3 For I too was a son to my father, still tender, and cherished by my mother.

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News from the App Associated Press

No charges expected in patrol car-pedestrian crash

HURON, S.D. (AP) — Huron's police chief says charges are unlikely in a case in which a patrol car driven by the Beadle County sheriff struck a pedestrian.

Huron Public Safety Director Gary Will Jr. says the 37-year-old pedestrian was wearing camouflage clothing and might have been drinking alcohol when he stepped in front of Sheriff Doug Solem's patrol car Tuesday night at a Huron intersection.

The man was taken to a hospital with unknown injuries.

Rapid City hotel robbed by man wielding knife

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Rapid City police are investigating the armed robbery of a hotel.

Authorities say a man entered the Holiday Inn Express about 9:30 p.m. Tuesday and threatened the clerk with a knife. He fled with an unknown amount of money from the cash register.

The female clerk was not hurt.

Police investigators are gathering video surveillance of the robbery.

Republicans call for PAC to pull 'defamatory' ad

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Republican Party says it'll take legal action against a political action committee if it doesn't pull a television advertisement the party says is "defamatory" toward U.S. Senate candidate Mike Rounds.

Party Chairman Craig Lawrence threatened to sue Every Voice Action on Wednesday and the television stations that have been airing the ad.

But the Argus Leader reports legal action is unlikely. Every Voice Action spokesman Adam Smith tells the paper that the ads would stop airing Wednesday in light of Tuesday's decision by a California arbitrator.

The ad in question purports Rounds "refuses to take responsibility" for issues that have come to light over the state-run EB-5 program while he was governor.

Motion hearing scheduled in gay marriage case

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The first motion hearing in the lawsuit challenging South Dakota's constitutional ban on same-sex marriage has been scheduled in Sioux Falls.

Judge Karen Schreier has scheduled oral arguments for Oct. 17 on South Dakota's request to dismiss the lawsuit brought by six same-sex couples in May.

Minneapolis attorney Josh Newville is representing Jennie and Nancy Rosenbrahn and five other South Dakota couples. Newville says if the lawsuit is dismissed he will immediately appeal to the federal 8th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Schreier will only hear arguments on the motion to dismiss next week. Newville has also filed a motion asking the Schreier to rule on the case and bypass a trial, which would be heard later if the case is not dismissed.

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Senate Democrats shift \$1M to South Dakota race HENRY C. JACKSON, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — National Democrats plan to drop \$1 million behind their candidate for South Dakota's open Senate seat, for the first time signaling that political operatives consider the race winnable and part of their drive to defend the Senate majority.

The investment from the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee will primarily go to television advertising for Democratic hopeful Rick Weiland, who is in a tough race against former Republican Gov. Mike Rounds for the seat being vacated by retiring Democratic Sen. Tim Johnson. Running as an independent is former Republican Sen. Larry Pressler.

Republicans are driving to gain six seats and the Senate majority. Rounds has been considered a favorite in the contest.

A businessman and onetime aide to former Sen. Tom Daschle, Weiland was not the national committee's preferred candidate in the race; they tried to recruit former Rep. Stephanie Herseth Sandlin. But Weiland and Pressler have both stayed competitive, benefiting from Rounds' recent struggles and the complex, multicandidate race.

Rounds has come under scrutiny for a state-run federal program that let foreign investors earn green cards in exchange for investments in rural job-creating projects. The South Dakota Board of Regents announced Tuesday that a 2008 lawsuit brought against South Dakota related to the embattled EB-5 visa program has been dismissed and the state would not be liable for potentially millions in damages.

Democrats have sought to make the EB-5 program a political issue, accusing a Rounds appointee of costing the state money by dragging it into litigation. The lawsuit began while Rounds was serving as governor. Rounds' knowledge about the lawsuit has become an issue in the Senate campaign. He has said he was not personally aware of the lawsuit when it was filed, but Democrats have said he must have known.

Mayday PAC, a political action committee, said earlier this week it would spend another \$1 million to back Weiland with TV ads.

Principal: 40 kids home sick in Wessington Springs

WESSINGTON SPRINGS, S.D. (AP) — A principal in Wessington Springs says dozens of elementary school students are home sick with stomach flu-like symptoms.

Jason Kolousek is the principal for kindergarten through twelfth-grade students in Wessington Springs. Kolousek says about 40 students are home sick and estimates 70 percent of them have stomach flu-like symptoms. The school district has about 300 students.

Kolousek says the majority of sick kids are in the elementary school, which is five blocks away from the high school. He says there are also some high school students who are sick as well.

Kolousek says some students that stayed home earlier this week are already back. He says the illness has been affecting students for about 24 hours.

Bison herd being reduced at national park in ND

MEDORA, N.D. (AP) — The National Park Service plans to reduce the bison herd in the south unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park by as much as two-thirds.

The agency has scheduled a five-day roundup next week of the 600 bison in the southwestern North Dakota park. Between 350 and 400 excess animals will go to American Indian tribes, with the Intertribal

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Buffalo Council determining the distribution.

The Rapid City, South Dakota-based council was formed in 1990 to work toward re-establishing bison herds in Indian Country. It currently has a membership of 56 tribes in 19 states, and a collective herd of more than 15,000 bison.

The roundup will begin Sunday, with a helicopter herding the bison into a handling facility near Fryburg. It's scheduled to wrap up Thursday.

All bison will be checked by a veterinarian and tested for brucellosis, an infectious disease that has never been found in park bison, The Bismarck Tribune reported. Animals kept in the park will be marked with a microchip and a metal ear tag for identification.

Park wildlife biologist Blake McCann told the Tribune that he has conducted air and ground surveys of the bison and they appear to be healthy, sustained by plentiful forage in a year of good moisture.

"They're a pretty incredible animal, with a lot of power and speed," he said.

The park regularly culls its herds of bison, wild horse and elk to keep healthy, manageable populations. Roundups are not open to the public.

Ex-South Dakota pastor accused of child sex crimes

CANTON, S.D. (AP) — A former pastor at a South Dakota church is accused of having sex with a teenage girl while working there.

A federal grand jury in Lincoln County on Monday indicted Tony Haglund, who was a pastor in Canton, on three sex crime counts, including sexual contact with a child under 16 and sexual contact by a psychotherapist. He was arrested later that day in Florida's Sumter County, where he works as a real estate agent, the Argus Leader reported.

A woman who answered Haglund's cellphone Wednesday told The Associated Press that he had no comment.

Authorities allege that Haglund had sexual contact with the girl between January 2011 and December 2013, while he was a pastor at Canton Lutheran Church. She was 15 years old when the alleged abuse started.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America South Dakota Synod asked Haglund to resign when the allegations arose, Bishop David Zellmer told the newspaper, and Haglund resigned on Sept. 15, 2013.

"The South Dakota Synod and the ELCA do not tolerate inappropriate sexual behavior of any kind by members of the clergy," Zellmer said in a statement. "ELCA congregations seek to be safe and welcoming places for all who attend and worship."

Zellmer declined to tell the AP whether the synod alerted authorities to the allegations but said, "we have cooperated with law enforcement since the beginning and will continue to do so."

Haglund could face 40 years in prison if convicted. Lincoln County Sheriff Dennis Johnson told the newspaper that Haglund could be brought back to South Dakota in 10 days if he waives extradition from Florida.

Tim Thies, the current pastor at Canton Lutheran Church, declined to comment to the newspaper.

Winter wheat seeding in SD three-fourths done

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — More than three-fourths of South Dakota's winter wheat crop is now in the ground.

The Agriculture Department says in its weekly crop report that winter wheat seeding in the state is 79 percent complete, ahead of the five-year average of 74 percent. About one-third of the crop has

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emerged, on pace with the average.

About 5 percent of South Dakota's corn crop and 25 percent of the soybean crop have been harvested — both well behind the average pace.

The report says pasture and range conditions statewide are rated 69 percent good to excellent, and stockwater supplies are 86 percent adequate to surplus.

Construction to start on Don Meyer cancer center

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — Officials are starting work on a cancer center that will be named for legendary college basketball coach Don Meyer and his wife.

Avera St. Luke's Hospital in Aberdeen held a ceremonial groundbreaking Tuesday for the \$13.5 million Don and Carmen Meyer Center of Excellence, which will be home to the Avera Cancer Institute. Construction is to begin next week and take about a year.

The facility will have 27,500 square feet on a single floor, nearly triple the size of the current cancer facility at the hospital. It could be expanded to four floors in the future. It will be outfitted with state-of-the-art equipment and will expand available services.

"We are currently seeing more than 17,000 patient visits here in Aberdeen each year for cancer care, and that's why we strive to offer the latest evidence-based protocols and advanced technologies," Avera St. Luke's President Todd Forkel said, the American News reported.

Meyer was one of the winningest coaches in college basketball history, compiling 923 victories in 38 seasons at Northern State University in Aberdeen, Lipscomb University in Nashville and Hamline University in St. Paul, Minnesota. The native of Wayne, Nebraska, died in May after a long battle with cancer, at the age of 69.

Doctors discovered the inoperable form of cancer in September 2008, when Meyer was critically injured in a car accident that led to the amputation of his left leg below the knee.

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. US ADDS EXTRA LEVEL OF AIRPORT SCREENING FOR EBOLA

About 150 travelers a day will have their temperatures checked using no-touch thermometers, and health officials expect false alarms from fevers due to malaria.

2. CHILDREN ORPHANED, OSTRACIZED BY EBOLA

At least 3,700 kids across Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone have lost one or more parents to the disease. Many of them are left to fend for themselves and continue to live inside infected houses.

3. US, ALLIES CONTINUE AIR CAMPAIGN IN BESIEGED SYRIAN TOWN

The coalition pounds positions of the Islamic State group in Kobani in some of the most intensive strikes so far, a Kurdish official and an activist group say.

4. TURKEY, KURD TENSIONS WORRY US IN FIGHT FOR KOBANI

Washington fears that Ankara might use military action to target Kurdish fighters who are the last line of defense against extremists trying to take over the Syrian border town.

5. OFF-DUTY OFFICER OPENS FIRE, KILLS MAN IN ST. LOUIS

Hours after the accident, a crowd gathers at the scene, shouting "Hands up, don't shoot" in reference to Michael Brown's fatal shooting in Ferguson.

6. WHICH SECRET SERVICE CHANGES LAWMAKERS MULL

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Key members of Congress weigh breaking up the agency and yanking it from the Homeland Security Department.

7. KASHMIR ROCKED BY VIOLENCE WORST IN YEARS

The fierce trading of mortar shells and gunfire that began Sunday night marks the most serious violation of a 2003 cease-fire accord brokered between India and Pakistan.

8. WHO PUTS WEDDING PLANS ON HOLD

Gay couples in Las Vegas are disappointed as county clerks turn them away amid a flurry of conflicting court decisions over same-sex marriage.

9. WHAT POLICE FIND IN BARRACKS SHOOTING PROBE

A journal left by ambush suspect Eric Frein provides a "cold-blooded and absolutely chilling account" of the night he allegedly opened fire outside a Pennsylvania State Police barracks.

10. NEW AT THE POT SHOP

Recreational marijuana sellers reach out to novice cannabis users with a raft of edible products that impart a milder buzz, including the "Rookie Cookie."

AP News in Brief

US adds extra level of airport screening for Ebola; hardest hit countries make appeals for aid

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama calls it a "belt and suspenders" approach — an extra level of screening at five major U.S. airports to try to catch any travelers from Ebola-ravaged countries who may be carrying the disease.

About 150 travelers a day will have their temperatures checked using no-touch thermometers, and health officials expect false alarms from fevers due to malaria.

The extra screening probably wouldn't have singled out Thomas Eric Duncan when he arrived from hard-hit Liberia last month, because he had no symptoms while traveling. Duncan, the first person to be diagnosed with Ebola in the U.S., died Wednesday in Dallas.

The disease has killed at least 3,800 people in West Africa with no signs of abating. Thursday, the presidents of Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone, the countries hardest hit in the outbreak, are appealing to the World Bank for more help for their nations.

"What we're paying for now is our failure to have invested in those countries before," said Francisco Ferreira, the World Bank's chief economist for Africa. They had only minimal health facilities even before Ebola hit.

4 Liberia siblings orphaned, ostracized by Ebola but fight to stay together in parents' home

MONROVIA, Liberia (AP) — First 16-year-old Promise Cooper's mother complained of a hurting head and raging fever, and she died days later on the way to the hospital. The following month, her father developed the same headache and fever, and her baby brother grew listless.

That's when Promise knew this was not malaria.

She had heard about Ebola on the radio. When she tended to her father, she washed her hands immediately afterward. Desperate to keep her three other younger siblings safe, she urged them to play outside and stay away from their one-room home. Yet she was powerless before an invisible enemy, as

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her family of seven disintegrated around her.

In the meantime, neighbors and relatives were starting to become suspicious. No one came by to check on the kids, not even their grandparents.

Word, like the virus, was spreading through Liberia's capital: The Coopers had Ebola.

US-led airstrikes pound Islamic State group in Syrian border town as militants press offensive

MURSITPINAR, Turkey (AP) — The U.S.-led coalition pounded positions of the Islamic State group in the Syrian border town of Kobani on Thursday in some of the most intensive strikes in the air campaign so far, a Kurdish official and an activist group said.

But despite the airstrikes overnight and into the morning, the Islamic State fighters managed to capture a police station in the east of the town, said the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights.

The militants now control more than third of the strategic border town, added the Observatory, a group that tracks Syria's civil war through a network of activists on the ground.

The fighting over Kobani has brought Syria's civil war yet again to Turkey's doorstep and allies have tried to press Ankara to take a more robust role in the U.S.-led coalition to fight the Islamic State group. There has also been criticism that Turkey has stood by idly with its tanks parked just across the frontier from the Syrian Kurdish town.

Responding to such criticism, Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu said Thursday that it was unrealistic to expect Turkey to launch a ground war against the Islamic State group on its own.

US fears Turkish front against Islamic militants may also target Kurds defending Syrian city

WASHINGTON (AP) — Even as it prods Turkey to step up in the global fight against Islamic State militants, the United States is worried that Ankara might use military action to target Kurdish fighters who are the last line of defense against extremists trying to take over the Syrian border town of Kobani. In a careful-what-you-wish-for scenario, U.S. officials acknowledge that drawing Ankara into the war could open a new line of attack against a Kurdish movement that has for decades sought greater autonomy inside Turkey.

At the same time, Americans officials fear Turkey could simply choose to remain out of the fray, and let two of its enemies — the Islamic State group and Kurdish guerrillas — fight for Kobani. That would give the militants an opportunity to do as much damage to the Kurdish fighters in Syria as possible.

Neither scenario is agreeable, the officials said. The issues and implications are expected to be broached — delicately — when U.S. envoys coordinating the international response to the Islamic State group meet Thursday and Friday with Turkish leaders in Ankara. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the diplomatic situation by name.

For months, Turkey resisted using force against the Islamic State, which has rampaged through large amounts of territory just over its borders in Iraq and Syria. Until recently, its reluctance had been mostly excused out of security concerns for dozens of Turkish diplomats and employees who were kidnapped by the militants from the Iraqi city Mosul in June. The hostages were freed last month.

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Spasm of violence in Kashmir worst in years as India and Pakistan trade shells and blame

DHAMALA HAKIMWALA, Pakistan (AP) — Iram Shazadi was making breakfast for her family when bullets started whizzing through her dusty Pakistani village just a half-kilometer (quarter-mile) from the Indian-controlled area of disputed Kashmir.

Then a mortar shell fired by Indian forces slammed into her home, killing her two young sons and her husband's mother in the worst spasm of violence in the tense Himalayan region in years. So far, 19 people — 11 on the Pakistani side, eight on the Indian — have died over the past week. Dozens have been injured, and tens of thousands have fled their homes.

"I lost my whole world," Shazadi said Wednesday while recovering from injuries at a military hospital. She sat crying next to her 6-year-old son, who narrowly escaped the blast.

Although minor skirmishes in the tense, rocky region are common, the fierce trading of mortar shells and gunfire that began Sunday night marks the most serious violation of a 2003 cease-fire accord brokered between India and Pakistan. Adding to the sense of shock was that the fighting erupted during the Muslim festival of Eid al-Adha, which families normally celebrate with roast goat and parties.

The clashes — which both India and Pakistan blame the other for starting — come even though both governments say they want to improve ties and even resolve the conflict. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi invited Pakistan's leader, Nawaz Sharif, to attend his inauguration in May, saying he wanted to engage the archrival more assertively.

Police say off-duty officer shot and killed man who fired on him in south St. Louis

ST. LOUIS (AP) — An off-duty police officer fatally shot an 18-year-old man who opened fire during a chase in south St. Louis, sparking loud protests in the area, police said Thursday.

St. Louis Police Chief Col. Sam Dotson said the 32-year-old officer was patrolling the Shaw neighborhood for a private security company late Wednesday when the shooting happened.

The officer said three men in the street ran away when they spotted him, Dotson told reporters at a news conference early Thursday. The way that one of the men ran — grabbing at his waistband, slightly lopsided — indicated that he was carrying a weapon, so the officer chased him, Dotson said.

The man approached the officer in an aggressive way, an altercation ensued and the man fired at the officer, the police chief said. The officer returned fire and killed him.

Ballistic evidence recovered from the scene indicates that the man fired three rounds at the officer before his weapon jammed, Dotson said, adding that the gun was also recovered.

Lawmakers weigh breaking up Secret Service, yanking it from Homeland Security Department

WASHINGTON (AP) — Key members of Congress are weighing dramatic changes to the embattled Secret Service, including moving it out of the Homeland Security Department and breaking up its mission.

The proposals come as lawmakers assess how to improve the agency after a series of scandals, including a White House break-in by a man with a knife last month. The agency's director, Julia Pierson, resigned amid the controversy, but lawmakers are promising they'll continue their focus once Congress reconvenes after the Nov. 4 midterm elections.

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One suggestion is to move the Secret Service back into the Treasury Department, where it resided for decades until the creation of the Homeland Security Department following the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks.

"Looking at the positioning of the agency, whether it should be in Treasury or be in Homeland Security, is one issue that must be taken up" as part of an independent review, said Rep. Elijah Cummings of Maryland, top Democrat on the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, which hosted Pierson at a hearing last week prior to her resignation.

A top committee Republican, Rep. Jason Chaffetz of Utah, said, "I haven't heard anyone make a strong case that it really is working the right way" within Homeland Security.

Palestinian unity Cabinet to hold first Gaza session, signaling end of absolute Hamas control

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — Members of the new Palestinian unity government assembled in Gaza on Thursday for their first Cabinet session in the war-battered territory — a largely symbolic meeting meant to mark the end of absolute Hamas control of the coastal strip.

The gathering, set for midday, comes three days ahead of an international pledging conference where Western-backed Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas will seek \$4 billion for Gaza reconstruction following a 50-day war there this summer between Israel and Hamas. The war ended Aug. 26.

Several of the ministers arrived in the Gaza Strip after traveling from the West Bank on Thursday morning, including the new Prime Minister Rami Hamdallah. He spoke hopefully of a new era between the militant Hamas movement and Abbas's Palestinian Authority.

"We have put the years of split behind us and started the reconciliation process as a crucial step to alert the international community to its responsibilities in helping reconstruct Gaza and lift the blockade," he said.

Israel has prevented the arrival in Gaza of many types of construction materials and other goods, fearing that Hamas could use them to manufacture rockets and other weapons. By meeting in Gaza for the first time, the unity government of independent experts hopes to reassure donors that it can lead reconstruction efforts and that funds pledged for Gaza will not reach Hamas, shunned by the West as a terror group.

New at the pot shop: Milder edibles for novices who don't want risk of taking too much

DENVER (AP) — Recreational marijuana sellers are reaching out to novice cannabis users with a raft of edible products that impart a milder buzz and make it easy for inexperienced customers to find a dose they won't regret taking.

In many ways, the marketing shift is the pot-industry equivalent of selling beer and wine alongside higher-alcohol options such as whiskey and vodka.

"No one buys a handle of Jim Beam and thinks they should drink all of that in one sitting," said Tim Cullen, owner of two Denver-area marijuana dispensaries. "But people do want to eat an entire cookie, an entire piece of chocolate. So these products allow you to do that and not have a miserable experience."

Nine months into Colorado's recreational pot experiment, retailers have good reason to court new users. A market study released in July suggested 40 percent of customers in Denver-area recreational

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marijuana shops are tourists. That figure spikes to 90 percent in ski towns such as Aspen or Breckenridge. Tourists cannot shop in medical-marijuana dispensaries, so many of those customers may be buying legal weed for the first time.

New on the shelves in Colorado's recreational pot shops is the "Rookie Cookie," a marijuana-infused confection that contains 10 milligrams of marijuana's psychoactive ingredient. That's a low enough dose that most adults wouldn't be too impaired to drive a car.

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Oct. 9, the 282nd day of 2014. There are 83 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 9, 1888, the public was first admitted to the Washington Monument.

On this date:

In 1514, Mary Tudor, the 18-year-old sister of Henry VIII, became Queen consort of France upon her marriage to 52-year-old King Louis XII, who died less than three months later.

In 1776, a group of Spanish missionaries settled in present-day San Francisco.

In 1813, composer Giuseppe Verdi was born in the Italian village of Le Roncole. (Some sources say Verdi was actually born on Oct. 10.)

In 1914, the Belgian city of Antwerp fell to German forces during World War I.

In 1934, King Alexander I of Yugoslavia was assassinated in Marseille, France, by a Macedonian gunman.

In 1940, rock and roll legend John Lennon was born in Liverpool, England.

In 1946, the Eugene O'Neill drama "The Iceman Cometh" opened at the Martin Beck Theater in New York.

In 1958, Pope Pius XII died at age 82, ending a 19-year papacy. (He was succeeded by Pope John XXIII.)

In 1967, Latin American guerrilla leader Che Guevara was killed by the Bolivian army a day after he was captured.

In 1974, businessman Oskar Schindler, credited with saving about 1,200 Jews during the Holocaust, died in Frankfurt, West Germany. (At his request, he was buried in Jerusalem.)

In 1985, the hijackers of the Achille Lauro (ah-KEE'-leh LOW'-roh) cruise liner surrendered two days after seizing the vessel in the Mediterranean. (Passenger Leon Klinghoffer was killed by the hijackers during the standoff.)

In 1995, a sabotaged section of track caused an Amtrak train, the Sunset Limited, to derail in Arizona; one person was killed and about 80 were injured. (The case remains unsolved.)

Ten years ago: A tour bus from the Chicago area flipped in Arkansas, killing 15 people headed to a Mississippi casino. Afghanistan's first direct presidential election began (interim president Hamid Karzai emerged the winner). Australian Prime Minister John Howard won a historic fourth term in national elections. World-renowned French philosopher Jacques Derrida died in Paris at age 74.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama won the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize for what the Norwegian Nobel Committee called "his extraordinary efforts to strengthen international diplomacy and cooperation between peoples." A suicide car bomb in a busy market area in Peshawar, Pakistan, killed 53. A surveillance plane assigned to the U.N. peacekeeping mission in Haiti crashed into a mountain, killing all 11 peacekeepers on board. Jacques Rogge (zhahk ROH'-geh) won re-election as president of the

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International Olympic Committee for a final four-year term.

One year ago: The United States announced it was cutting hundreds of millions of dollars in aid to Egypt in response to the ouster of President Mohamed Morsi and the crackdown by the military-backed government on his supporters. Critic, author and editor Stanley Kauffmann, 97, died in New York.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Fyvush Finkel is 92. Retired MLB All-Star Joe Pepitone is 74. Former Sen. Trent Lott, R-Miss., is 73. Rhythm-and-blues singer Nona Hendryx is 70. Singer Jackson Browne is 66. Nobel Peace laureate Jody Williams is 64. Actor Gary Frank is 64. Actor Richard Chaves is 63. Actor Robert Wuhl is 63. Actress-TV personality Sharon Osbourne is 62. Actor Tony Shalhoub is 61. Actor Scott Bakula is 60. Musician James Fearnley (The Pogues) is 60. Actor John O'Hurley is 60. Writer-producer-director-actor Linwood Boomer is 59. Pro and College Football Hall of Famer Mike Singletary is 56. Actor Michael Pare is 56. Jazz musician Kenny Garrett is 54. Rock singer-musician Kurt Neumann (The BoDeans) is 53. Country singer Gary Bennett is 50. Movie director Guillermo del Toro is 50. Brit-ish Prime Minister David Cameron is 48. Singer P.J. Harvey is 45. Movie director Steve McQueen (Film: "12 Years a Slave") is 45. World Golf Hall of Famer Annika Sorenstam is 44. Actress Cocoa Brown is 42. Country singer Tommy Shane Steiner is 41. Actor Steve Burns is 41. Rock singer Sean Lennon is 39. Actor Randy Spelling is 36. Christian hip-hop artist Lecrae is 35. Actor Brandon Routh is 35. Actor Zachery Ty Bryan is 33. Actress Spencer Grammer is 31. Actor Tyler James Williams is 22. Country singer Scotty McCreery (TV: "American Idol" winner) is 21.

Thought for Today: "It is not good for all our wishes to be filled; through sickness we recognize the value of health; through evil, the value of good; through hunger, the value of food; through exertion, the value of rest." - Dorothy Canfield Fisher, American author and essayist (1879-1958).