

Groton Daily Independent

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Monday, Nov. 17

- Birthdays:** John Gustafson • Virginia Needham
• Betty Breck
- Junior High GBB hosts Webster: 7th grade at 4pm, 8th grade at 5pm
7:00 pm: City Council Meeting
- Senior Menu:** Swiss Steak w/Mushroom, Gravy/Mashed Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Rice and Raisins, Whole Wheat Bread
- School Breakfast:** Egg Omlet, Fruit, Juice, Milk.
- School Lunch:** Spaghetti with meat sauce, green beans, lettuce salad, vegetable cup, fresh and canned fruit.

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



The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **OPEN**

OPEN: Recycling Trailer in Groton

The recycling trailer is back 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.

A painful obsession

There is probably no more daunting condition than chronic pain. Experts agree that any pain lasting longer than six months will no longer respond to the regular treatment for acute or new pain, but requires a totally different approach.

Mr. AB has had low back pain for at least 25 years, and with two failed back surgeries he hasn't been able to work for about 10 years. He takes regular and high doses of hydrocodone, the most commonly prescribed narcotic, along with other pain, muscle spasm, and sleeping medications without relief. He's overweight, sleeps poorly, is divorced, and says this is someone else's fault.

Other people with chronic pain syndrome can have diabetic neuropathy, severe arthritis, post-shingles nerve pain, chronic pelvic pain, bladder irritability, fibromyalgia, migraine headaches and more.

Many of these people are completely disabled. A recent study reported about one out of three Americans suffer from some kind of chronic pain, which is greater than that of diabetes, heart disease and cancer combined. And estimates have it costing the US more than \$600 billion each year in treatment and lost productivity.

Chronic pain often starts with nerve irritation from trauma, infection, pressure or inflammation. One theory is that if it lasts long enough, like an itch, the human brain becomes obsessed, and after a while because of attention to the irritation, escape from suffering grows increasingly more difficult.

Such discomfort is also made worse by reduced activity, fatigue, sleeplessness, anxiety, depression, irritability and isolation, all increasing the risk for suicide. Such sad feelings are an understandable consequence of pain.

Unfortunately narcotics, also called "opioid" pain medicines, are not that helpful for treating chronic pain. They are rife with side effects, require ever-increasing doses for effectiveness, can cause rebound or worsening pain and are highly addictive to



By Richard P. Holm M.D.

Olde Bank Floral
'N More

**HOLIDAY
OPEN
HOUSE**

101 N. Main St., Groton ~ 397-8650
www.oldebankfloral.com

Thursday, Nov. 20, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Wine Tasting Day

Friday, Nov. 21, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 22, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

10% discount
on regular priced merchandise
(some exclusions apply)

40% off
all kitchen merchandise
Door prize drawing daily
Food samples

Extended Holiday Hours
Thursdays: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Serving Wine Every Thursday
Sundays: Noon to 4 p.m.

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boot. The good news is that many other therapeutics such as nerve-active, vaso-active, and psychoactive medicines work much better for chronic pain than opioids.

Perhaps the most effective way to help is daily exercise or an activity program tailored to the ability of the individual. But those suffering with this should realize that despite all modern medical advancements, complete relief from chronic pain is too often not achievable. So, people with chronic pain, and doctors treating them should set realistic objectives.

Three such goals include avoiding excessive use of opioids, redirecting attention to something else besides pain, all while doing whatever possible to get back to function.

Service Notice: Marion Gustafson

Graveside services for Marion Gustafson, 87, of Sherman Oaks, CA and formerly of Groton will be 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 18, 2014 at Groton Union Cemetery. Rev Bill Duncan will officiate. Arrangements are under the direction of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton. She died November 10, 2014 in California

FRIDAY IS
FRIED CHICKEN DAY
Served with Mashed Potatoes & Gravy

Serving 5-9 p.m.

WE'VE GOT WINGS!
Every Wednesday!

ANDOVER BAR & GRILL
120 S Main St. • 298-5252

Classifieds

House for Rent

Two-bedroom house in Groton. Full basement, breezeway, attached garage, large yard. Wheel-chair accessible. Furnished, appliances included. \$700/month. Less with lease. (941) 525-4515.

Apartment For Rent

One bedroom apartment for rent. Main street ground level. Washer dryer and dishwasher big walk in closet 550 utilities included 400 if you pay your own

Apartments 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.



Stopping a Federal Land Grab

November 14 marked the last day where the public could comment on what could become the largest federal land grab in our country's history. So, what's the next step?

Last March, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Army Corps of Engineers proposed changing the definition of "waters of the U.S." It's one of those things bureaucracies try to do to expand their control. Currently, the term "waters of the U.S." encompasses all waters that are navigable or waterways that significantly connect to navigable ones. What the EPA and Army Corps are trying to do is expand the rule to include much smaller bodies of water and even some areas that are only seasonally wet.

In practical terms, it could mean ditches, small ponds, and prairie potholes could be regulated by the EPA and Army Corps. Farmers, ranchers, and homeowners could have to get permits for things like controlling bugs and weeds on their fields or lawn – or building a fence around their property. If you fail to comply, fines could reach as high as \$37,500 per violation per day.

It's not difficult to see why folks are so concerned and why many I spoke to planned to submit a comment to regulators. Even though the public comment period is now expired, our fight continues.

The strategy we're taking is two pronged: Cut off the resources needed to move the proposal forward and apply as much pressure as we can on the EPA and Army Corps to withdraw the proposal. It's a strategy that I've helped make work in the past.

When I was first elected to Congress, the EPA was reviewing their regulations on dust, including dust that is part of many everyday farming activities. We applied legislative pressure through a bill I wrote and the EPA moved in a different direction. In another instance, we combined pressure from Congress and pressure from the public to get the Department of Labor to rescind a rule that could have banned kids from doing some chores on their relative's or neighbor's farms. And when OSHA was attempting to impose hefty regulations and fines on small family farms, we took the agency head on and they reversed course.

Already, I have helped the House pass limited legislation to ensure FY2015 funds are not used to move the EPA's proposal forward; the bill has not been taken up by the Senate, however. I have thrown my support behind H.R.5078, which prohibits the EPA and Army Corps from developing, finalizing, adopting, implementing, applying, administering, or enforcing – in other words, moving forward in any way – the proposal. Myself and more than 200 other Members of Congress – both Republicans and Democrats – have written the EPA and Army Corps about our concerns as well. And I will continue to do all I can to fight this rule.

What I've had a hard time understanding – and what I bluntly asked an administration official who was testifying before the Agriculture Committee a few months ago – is why they are pursuing the rule they claim is helpful when almost everybody is opposed to it. Needless to say, I didn't get a straightforward response.

We all ought to be able to turn on the faucet or go fishing and know the water is safe. But there has to be a way to do it without farmers, ranchers, homeowners, and property owners having to turn to the EPA when they want to put a fence. It's just not practical.

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Addressing The Backlog Of Rail

This week Sen. John Thune and I had the honor of meeting with U.S. Secretary of Transportation Anthony Foxx, who traveled all the way to South Dakota to discuss transportation priorities here in our state. We participated in a roundtable in Rapid City with transportation stakeholders and then gave Secretary Foxx a tour of a section of the state-owned rail line near Chamberlain.

Among the things Sen. Thune and I discussed with Secretary Foxx was South Dakota's rail situation – what some have called the "rail car shortage."

South Dakota relies almost entirely on railroads to move agricultural products out of state. Because South Dakotans consume a modest amount of the grain produced here, the majority must be sold to out-of-state buyers. It's no secret that over the past few months rail has not been able to keep up with the volume of commodities our farmers need to move to market.

Our rail issues are a result of many factors. The combined harvest of South Dakota wheat, soybeans and corn in 2013 – at 1.060 billion bushels – set a new record, and we are breaking that record in 2014. The 2013 corn to be shipped out of state was more than 200 percent above the 2012 corn shipping demand on the railroads. Adding to the problem is the fact that the Midwest experienced the coldest winter in 20 years, and some interchange locations in the Midwest experienced 200 percent more snow-fall than average.

The result: USDA has suggested South Dakota may experience the largest grain storage shortage in the country – 197 million bushels more than we are capable of storing right now.

Along with Sen. Thune, I have worked closely with the Surface Transportation Board since rail service issues first became apparent last year. The STB has been instrumental in facilitating discussions with the rail companies which led the RCP&E to make a commitment last August to add three extra trains per week.

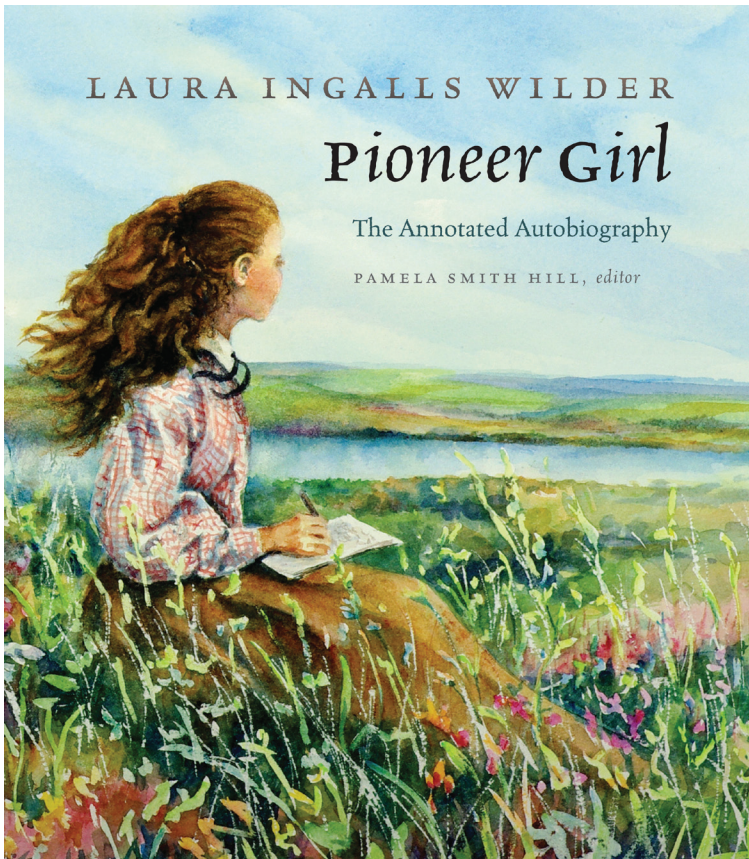
Even as we work toward improved service, we are also working to improve our state-owned rail. South Dakota is reconstructing the 40-mile stretch between Chamberlain and Presho by adding 1,000 tons of rock per mile; replacing 65-, 75- and 85-pound rail with 112-pound rail or better; and refurbishing or replacing bridges.

Thanks to the generosity of private donors and a federal TIGER grant, this project will be undertaken in 2015, and completed in 2017. South Dakota Wheat Growers has responded with a \$40 million project to construct a grain terminal and agronomy center in Kennebec, with shuttle loading capacity. Other strategic investments can and should be made to increase our state's shipping capacity.

Though we've used the tools at our disposal to do what we can to ameliorate our shipping problem, it will take time for our railroads to catch up. To meet this challenge farmers and elevators will need to plan strategically for the ever-growing harvests. Though the state has a role to play, government will not be working alone. Farmers, railroads, grain elevators and others in the business will also have lead roles.

I'm confident that, together, we will work our way through these bottlenecks, and provide South Dakota an even better, stronger, faster freight rail system for our state.

Laura Ingalls Wilder's "Pioneer Girl: The Annotated Autobiography" To Be Released Today



PIERRE, S.D.—Readers around the world will have unprecedented access to Laura Ingalls Wilder's account of her own pioneering experience beginning today. The South Dakota Historical Society Press will start shipping "Pioneer Girl: The Annotated Autobiography" that day.

Written by Laura Ingalls Wilder, this much-anticipated volume is edited by Pamela Smith Hill and made possible through the Pioneer Girl Project, a program of the South Dakota State Historical Society.

Advance reviews have already hailed "Pioneer Girl" as an important historical work that chronicles the true story of the Ingalls family. Extensive annotations accompany Wilder's work, illuminating the hardships of the frontier and making the book truly comprehensive.

"Pioneer Girl: The Annotated Autobiography" is the first volume to explore in depth the communities and people the Ingalls family knew and the life they lived on the frontier," says Nancy Tystad Koupal, director of the South Dakota Historical Society Press. "Hundreds of an-

notations, images, appendices and maps flesh out what, up until this point, few readers had access to—Wilder's original pioneering account."

To find advance reviews, media coverage and more information about the Pioneer Girl Project, visit www.pioneergirlproject.org. Through this website, project staff keep readers up-to-date with the book's progress and share research that went into making this volume a must-read for any Wilder admirer.

"Pioneer Girl" will be available for \$39.95 plus shipping and tax and may be purchased from most bookstores or ordered directly from the South Dakota Historical Society Press. Visit www.pioneergirlproject.org or www.sdshspress.com, email orders@sdshspress.com or call (605) 773-6009.

To become a supporter of the Pioneer Girl Project, please contact the South Dakota Historical Society Foundation at (605) 773-3458 or info@sdhsf.org. Donations can also be made on the foundation website at http://www.sdhsf.org/special_projects/pioneer.html.

Today in Weather History

1869 - Southwest winds of hurricane force swept the Berkshire and Green Mountains of New England causing extensive forest and structural damage. (David Ludlum)

1927 - A tornado cut a seventeen mile path across Alexandria and southeastern Washington, DC, injuring 31 persons. The tornado struck the Naval Air Station where a wind gust of 93 mph was recorded. A waterspout was seen over the Potomac River ninety minutes later. (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1953 - The temperature at Minneapolis, MN, reached 71 degrees, their warmest reading of record for so late in the autumn. (The Weather Channel)


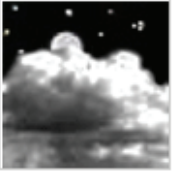


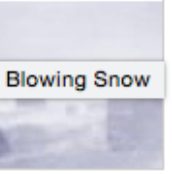


1987 - A storm in the Rockies produced 21 inches of snow at the Monarch ski resort in Colorado, with 14 inches reported at Steamboat Springs CO. Early morning thunderstorms in the southeastern U.S. drenched Mary Esther FL with 4.43 inches of rain. Gale force winds over the Great Lakes Region gusted to 49 mph at Johnstown PA. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

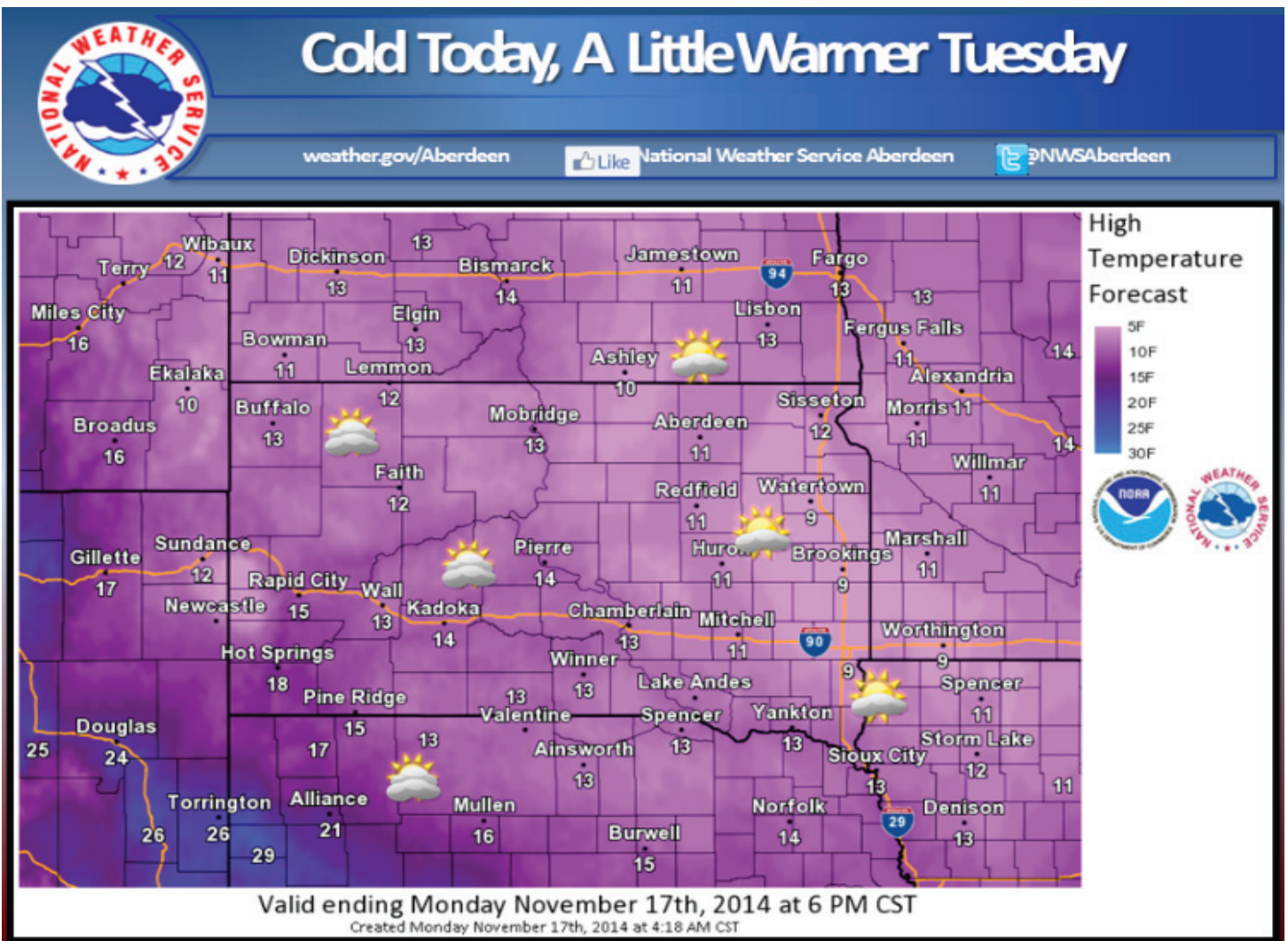
1988 - Another in a series of storms brought heavy snow to the mountains of the western U.S. Totals ranged up to 17 inches at Bob Scott Summit in Nevada. Winds around Reno NV gusted to 80 mph. The Alta and Sundance ski resorts in Utah received 14 inches of snow. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Freezing temperatures overspread the southeastern U.S. in the wake of the severe weather outbreak of the previous two days. Eight cities reported record low temperatures for the date, including Gilbert AR with a reading of 8 degrees. A fast moving storm blanketed the Great Lakes Region and Upper Ohio Valley with snow during the night. Totals ranged up to 12 inches at Pellston MI and Little Valley NY. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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TODAY	TONIGHT	TUESDAY	TUESDAY NIGHT	WEDNESDAY	WEDNESDAY NIGHT	THURSDAY
						
Blowing Snow High: 12 °F	Mostly Cloudy Low: -9 °F	Partly Sunny High: 18 °F	Blowing Snow Low: 10 °F	Blowing Snow High: 20 °F	Mostly Clear Low: -3 °F	Mostly Sunny High: 14 °F



Cold high pressure will settle over the area today with below normal temperatures. Breezy winds in the east may support patchy blowing snow. On Tuesday, a little bit milder air will make its way into the region ahead of the next system.

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Yesterday's Weather

High: 20.7°F at 2:29 PM

Low: -6.4°F at 2:54 AM

High Gust: 32 mph at 2:39 PM

Precip: 0.00

Wind chill was -12 at 3:14 this morning

This morning's Low: 2.5 at 5:18 AM

Today's Info

Record High: 72° in 1953

Record Low: -8° in 1959

Average High: 39°F

Average Low: 18°F

Average Precip in Nov.: 0.43

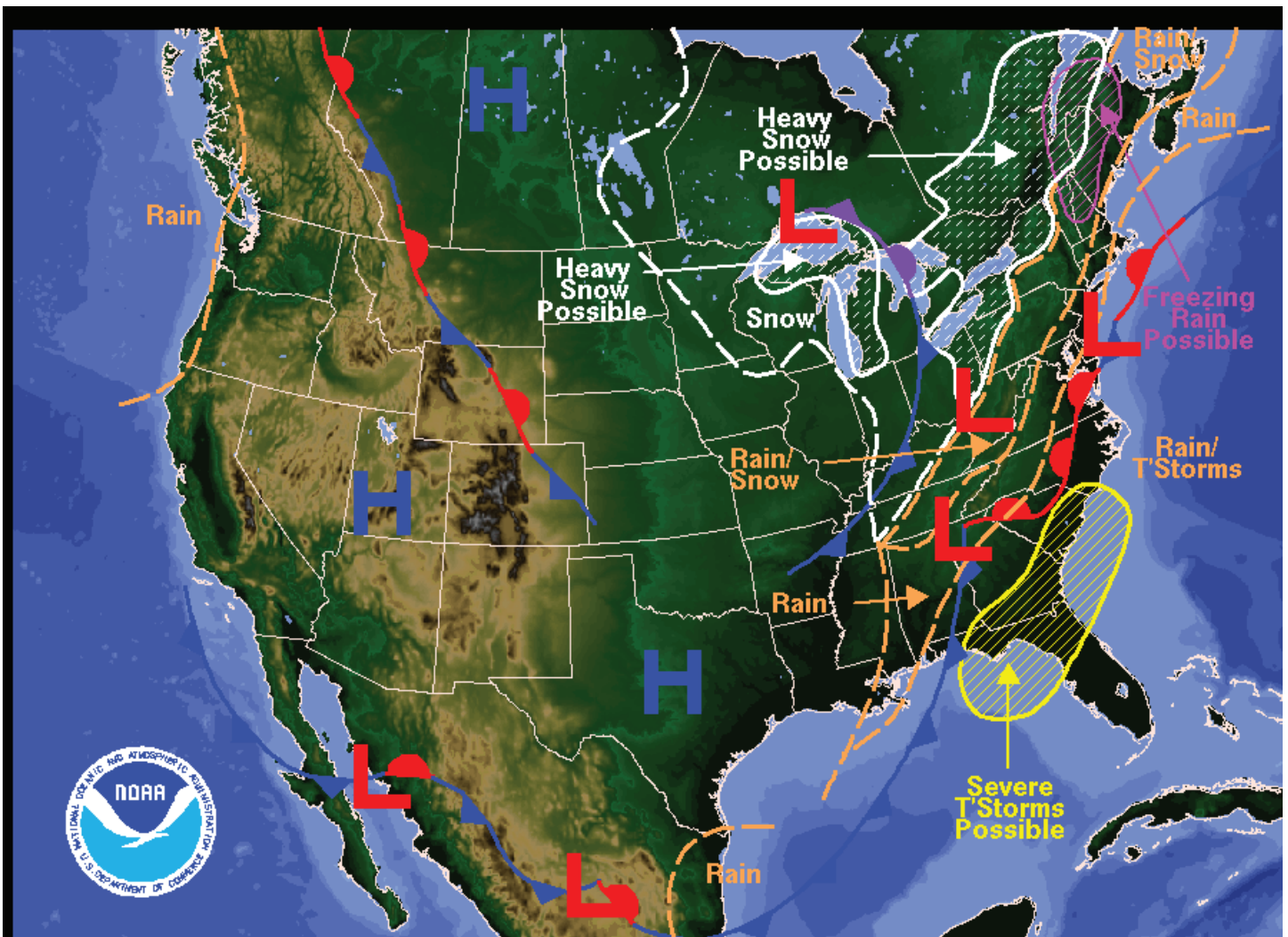
Precip to date in Nov.: 0.56

Average Precip to date: 20.90

Precip Year to Date: 13.79

Sunset Tonight: 5:02 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:37 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Mon, Nov 17, 2014, issued 3:18 AM EST
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



IT'S ALL UP TO GOD

"God's gonna get you for that!"

There was little doubt in Sally's mind about God's justice. Any time anyone said any thing she didn't want to hear, out would come her famous "threat." With red hair, pointed finger and a strong voice, she would continue, "You just wait and see. Maybe not before you fall asleep. But, I'd keep one eye open while I slept tonight if I were you! I know He's coming after you for that! What you said was wrong."

Everyone on campus loved Sally. Her enthusiasm for life, her happy smile, the twinkle in her eye. Every time she uttered those words, the receiver could not help but look around for a truck or bolt of lightning. Or both. She was very convincing.

Justice belongs to God. He is righteous. He is fair. He has no favorites. He looks at things differently than we do: as He planned them to be. He will not allow others to harm His beloved children. His Son died for them.

"The righteous person is rescued from trouble," said Solomon, "and it falls on the wicked instead." He knew from personal experience that when the righteous are the objects of schemes to hurt them, God will intervene at the right time. Our God will never allow any injustice to go by without becoming personally involved. Even though we do not know what His justice will bring or when it will come, all of life is in His hands. He will right each wrong.

Isaiah summed it up this way: "For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for Him."

Prayer: Help us, Father, to trust in Your justice. We are human and spiteful. You are fair and will do what is right. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Proverbs 11:8 The righteous person is rescued from trouble, and it falls on the wicked instead.

News from the Associated Press

Pair of SD lottery tickets match all 5 numbers

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Two lottery ticket-holders will split a nearly \$366,000 cash prize after matching all five winning numbers in the Dakota Cash lottery drawing.

The tickets were sold in Hot Springs and Spearfish and each hit the game's jackpot prize. The winning numbers are 18, 20, 21, 25 and 32.

Officials say the winners should sign the back of the tickets immediately, store them in a safe place and contact the Sioux Falls Lottery office.

The ticket holders have 180 days to claim the winnings.

Dakota Cash is played and won only in South Dakota.

South Dakota troopers struck in wintry weather

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Highway Patrol is stressing safe driving after cars have crashed into two patrol vehicles during the wintry weather.

KSFY-TV reports (<http://bit.ly/1BI55Cm>) the accidents occurred over the past week. The patrol says both troopers were in their car and suffered minor injuries. Their identities haven't been released.

Sgt. Steve Swenson says it reduces the patrol's ability to respond to other accidents when its troopers are hit. He asks drivers to slow down when they see an emergency vehicle.

No charges have been reported.

Randle, Allen lead Stanford over S. Dakota 84-73

PALO ALTO, Calif. (AP) — Rosco Allen missed all but seven minutes of last season with various injuries. He's ready to make up for lost time.

Allen scored a career-high 17 points, Chasson Randle added 23 and Stanford beat South Dakota 84-73 Sunday as part of the Coaches vs. Cancer Classic.

"That whole year I loved being part of the team and going deep into the tournament," Allen said. "It's a different feeling out on the court instead of being on the sidelines. I'm so happy and maybe we can make another run this year."

Stefan Nastic scored 14 points, grabbed 11 rebounds and blocked three shots for the Cardinal (2-0). Anthony Brown added 11 points and 10 boards.

Brandon Bos scored 19 points, including his 100th career 3-pointer, for the Coyotes (0-2). Tyler Larson added 11 points before fouling out.

Randle made all 12 of his free throw attempts and the Cardinal shot just under 83 percent for the game. They were at 61 percent from the foul line in a win over Wofford on Friday night.

"You hear it often that things on the court are contagious," Randle said. "That includes free throws. When someone hits the first one, everybody wants to make them."

Allen made five of his first seven shots but the Cardinal never did run away from the Coyotes.

"Our defense is really coming along," Coyotes' coach Craig Smith said. "Our guys executed the game plan very well on both ends of the floor. Our guys dug their feet in the sand, stood their ground and gave ourselves a chance."

Sekou Harris hit a 3-pointer and then made a free throw to cut Stanford's lead to 65-59 with 7:26 left in the contest. That would be as close as they would come.

The Coyotes drew within three with 8:45 remaining in the first half on a layup by Austin Sparks.

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Stanford responded with a 13-2 run to open a 14-point advantage and South Dakota never recovered. The Cardinal took a 40-26 lead into the intermission.

QUOTE OF THE GAME

From South Dakota coach Craig Smith: "When you look at Stanford's roster — first of all, Randle — I mean, sometimes you just have to punt. You're just hoping he's disinterested because I'm not sure there's much the guy can't do. We tried to take away his right hand, but we really didn't. We just tried to corral him as best we could, but Randle's just really good."

FOUL LINE SOLUTIONS

Stanford was 17 of 28 (60.7 percent) from the charity stripe on Friday night. The Cardinal were 38 of 46 (82.6 percent) against the Coyotes. "We're shooting free throws well in practice and the younger guys are getting that experience in games now," Stanford coach Johnny Dawkins said. "You look at the guys who missed and it's the new guys." The three returning starters -- Randle, Nastic, Brown -- are a combined 37 of 39 on the young season. The rest of the team is 18 for 35.

TIP-INS

South Dakota opens the season with five consecutive road games, the first four against teams who had at least 20 wins last year and played in a postseason tournament.

Stanford will make its third trip to the Barclays Center in Brooklyn in less than a year when the Coaches vs. Cancer Classic continues next week.

UP NEXT

South Dakota travels to Bridgeport, Conn., for three games, beginning with Sam Houston State on Friday.

Stanford meets UNLV in the semifinals of the Coaches vs. Cancer Classic in Brooklyn on Friday.

5 die in crashes on icy Minnesota roads

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — At least five people died in crashes on icy highways as 1 to 2 inches of snow fell across much of southern Minnesota this weekend.

The State Patrol said a three-car crash killed one person around 9:15 a.m. Sunday on an icy stretch of Interstate 94 at the Crow River Bridge near Rogers.

All three cars were eastbound when a Toyota Corolla lost control and spun out, causing a Buick LaCrosse to strike a Pontiac G6. The Pontiac then left the road and struck a piece of construction equipment on the right side of the road, the patrol said.

The driver of the Pontiac was killed. The victim's name and hometown were not immediately released. The other two drivers suffered no apparent injuries.

On Saturday, Angelica Salas, 29, of Lester Prairie, and Jorge Salas, 6, whose hometown wasn't listed, died in a crash just before 2 p.m. on U.S. Highway 212 in Carver County. They were passengers in a car that spun sideways and was broadsided by an oncoming pickup truck. The driver and a 4-year-old boy were seriously injured. The pickup driver suffered non-life-threatening injuries.

The patrol said Patrick Thomes, 47, of Clearwater, died in a crash around 3 p.m. Saturday on I-94 in Stearns County. His pickup left the road and rolled, coming to rest in the center median. He died later at St. Cloud Hospital.

And Terry Wiederich, 49, of Gary, South Dakota, was killed about 3:15 p.m. Saturday on U.S. Highway 71 near Willmar when his pickup lost control, left the road and rolled before coming to rest in the median. A passenger was not injured.

11-year-old killed in I-29 crash near Brookings

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — Authorities have named a boy who died in a three-vehicle crash on Interstate 29, about 12 miles south of Brookings.

The South Dakota Highway Patrol says 11-year-old Jack Lawrence, of Beresford, was a passenger in a Chevrolet Suburban that was northbound on I-29 about 10:30 a.m. Saturday when the driver lost control while attempting to pass another vehicle. The Suburban crossed through the median and into the southbound lane, where it collided with a trailer attached to a Mack truck.

The Patrol says a third vehicle, a car that was heading south, also struck the Suburban.

Jack was thrown from the Suburban even though he was wearing a seatbelt.

The driver and two other juveniles in the Suburban were injured in the crash.

Hunters reminded to not tamper with trapping gear

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Many furbearer seasons are now underway across South Dakota and officials are reminding individuals to not tamper with trapping equipment.

Officials with the Game, Fish and Parks Department say tampering with trapping gear and disturbing furbearers in traps are considered violations.

Officials say that when individuals voluntarily shoot a furbearer in a trap under the assumption that they are assisting the trapper, they oftentimes destroy valuable pelts. This, in turn, can lead to conflicts.

State wildlife officials say trapping is an important part of wildlife management and serves as a critical role in controlling South Dakota's furbearer populations. They add that traps, including snares, are designed to humanly hold furbearers.

Heritage Center holiday event slated for Nov. 28

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The theme of this year's holiday open house of the South Dakota State Historical Society is "A Prairie Christmas."

The event is slated for Nov. 28 at the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre. Officials says the center's lobby will be decorated with branches and wreaths for the historical society's largest event of the year.

The event will include free admission to the new exhibit "Play Ball! The National Pastime in South Dakota," and living-history demonstrations.

Visitors will also be able to buy Laura Ingalls Wilder's memoir "Pioneer Girl: The Annotated Autobiography." The historical society's press will release the book Monday.

Officials are encouraging visitors to bring canned goods to donate to the local food pantry.

Obscure Nebraska panel may hold sway over pipeline

GRANT SCHULTE, Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Congress is suddenly scrambling to vote on the Keystone XL oil pipeline, but the fate of the oft-delayed \$5.4 billion project could still wind up in the hands of an obscure commission in Nebraska that regulates telephones, taxi cabs and grain bins.

The Nebraska Supreme Court is expected to rule within weeks on whether the Nebraska Public Service Commission must review the pipeline before it can cross the state, one of six on the pipeline's route. Nebraska Gov. Dave Heineman gave the green light in January 2013 without the panel's involvement.

The commission's possible role is part of the tangled legal and political history of the pipeline and raises questions about whether it will continue to be snagged even if the Senate votes to approve it

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next week as expected. The House voted 252-161 Friday to move forward with the project. President Barack Obama, who has delayed a decision pending the resolution of the Nebraska issue, has not said whether he would sign the legislation.

The proposed crude-oil pipeline, which would run 1,179 miles from the Canadian tar sands to Gulf coast refineries, has been the subject of a fierce struggle between environmentalists and energy advocates ever since Calgary-based TransCanada proposed it in 2008.

"I don't know if they think they can just override Nebraska," said Randy Thompson, one of three landowners who filed suit to challenge the state's approval process. "If we win our case, I assume TransCanada is going to have to go back to the drawing board."

A district court in February ruled that a law that gave Heineman the authority to approve the project ran afoul of Nebraska's constitution.

While there's no way to tell how the Nebraska Supreme Court will rule on the issue, the justices tend to defer to the lower courts' decisions, said Anthony Schutz, a University of Nebraska associate law professor.

"The separation of powers argument is a pretty powerful argument," Schutz said. "We've spent a lot of time since the early 1900s finding ways to distribute executive power, and the governor is left with a fairly limited realm of authority."

The high court has two justices appointed by Heineman, a Republican, and five by former Democratic Gov. Ben Nelson.

Project supporters say the pipeline should now be ready to go forward even if TransCanada has to seek the state's approval once again.

"We believe the federal government has taken entirely too long to make a decision. I don't see any issue with the Senate voting on it and the president approving it" before the Nebraska issue is resolved, said Ron Kaminski, business manager for the Labors' Local No. 1140, an Omaha-based union that supports the project.

Nebraska officials became supportive of the pipeline after TransCanada agreed to change the route to avoid the ecologically sensitive Sandhills region in the remote northern part of the state. In 2012, the Republican-controlled Legislature passed a law allowing Heineman to give the go-ahead.

But opponents have charged that the state constitution gives that power to the Nebraska Public Service Commission.

The elected commission regulates "common carriers" that are used to transport goods, energy and people. The panel includes four Republicans and one Democrat. The commission generally takes about seven months to approve or deny an application, said Dave Domina, an attorney for the landowners.

The Nebraska attorney general's office has argued that the 2012 law was constitutional.

The resistance to the pipeline remains strongest in Nebraska on the pipeline's route. Governments of the other states have been supportive, citing the construction jobs it would create. A majority of Nebraska residents now support the pipeline, according to independent surveys, but pipeline opponents say 115 of 515 Nebraska landowners along the proposed route have refused to sign agreements with the company.

Even if the project wins final approval, property owners want assurance that money will be set aside for land restoration in the event of any leaks, said Jane Kleeb, executive director of Bold Nebraska, a leading opposition group.

Kleeb said she's still hopeful Obama will veto legislation that approves the Keystone XL.

"I have no option but to be optimistic," Kleeb said. "These farmers are the reason I do this every day."

Dan Frost, a Denver attorney who specializes in pipelines and infrastructure projects, said regulatory

agencies like Nebraska's Public Service Commission would subject a project to a more thorough review than a governor would.

"Generally speaking, they're less politically charged and more technical in nature," Frost said. "...I think they're more inclined to look at the project's technical merits."

SD joins national distance learning initiative

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota has joined a national distance learning initiative that will make more courses available to students across state lines.

Jack Warner is the executive director and CEO of the South Dakota Board of Regents. Warner says officials must help students gain access to high quality programs as distance learning at the postsecondary education level continues to grow.

Warner says the state is joining the initiative through a reciprocity agreement. Staff members from the board will begin accepting applications from South Dakota schools next month that wish to participate in the agreement, which would allow them to offer classes to students in other states that have similar agreements.

More than 22,500 students attending one of South Dakota's six public universities enrolled in a distance education course last year.

Drivers urged to use caution at Wind Cave in SD

WIND CAVE NATIONAL PARK, S.D. (AP) — Wind Cave National Park officials are urging drivers to use caution when traveling through the park as bison and other large animals are once again on or near the roadways because of the recent snowfalls.

Bison and other large animals such as elk are drawn to the roads by salt used to melt snow and ice during winter storms. The park doesn't salt its roads, but salt is carried into the park by outside vehicles.

Park superintendent Vidal Davila says at least three bison have been injured after being hit by drivers near the park's southern entrance along Highway 385.

Davila adds the bison gather in the driving lanes next to the cattle guards and are particularly difficult to see at night.

The park is home to about 400 bison.

Ex-Rapid City mayor addresses public outbursts

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A former Rapid City mayor says he has had a series of public outbursts due to unchecked diabetes and low blood sugar.

Jim Shaw, 68, recently said in court that his erratic behavior when he went to vote in the June primary election was a potentially life-saving, wake-up call, the Rapid City Journal (<http://bit.ly/1zT3g3H>) reported. Shaw refused to show poll workers his ID and tried to take a poll book, which contains the list of registered voters, according to authorities.

Shaw said he doesn't remember picking up the poll book and walking away with it. He said he only remembers one of the poll workers saying to him, "I'm very disappointed in you."

Shaw pleaded guilty to disturbing an election and paid \$120 in court costs for the misdemeanor.

"I'm very embarrassed about it and still am today," he said of the incident several months ago.

He said he was diagnosed with Type II diabetes a few years ago but hadn't made the connection between low blood sugar and his fluctuating moods before that incident.

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"When it (blood sugar) gets too low, I get argumentative," he said in court. "I just hope I can help others who have this problem."

The former mayor said it's no excuse, he explained that feelings of impulsive anger build within him until he is helpless to stop the ensuing meltdown. Shaw said others should be aware of the importance of monitoring their diabetes, and what could happen if they don't.

"The doctor told me 'You can continue along this line, but I'm going to be reading your obituary pretty soon. This is what kills people,'" Shaw said of his medical consultation following the June incident.

Irritability and anxiety are among the symptoms of low blood sugar, also known as hypoglycemia, according to the American Diabetes Association.

Shaw said he's a new person now that he closely monitors his diet and blood sugar.

"It's made a big difference. I feel good about myself again and in control," he said.

South Dakota digitizes historic newspapers

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota State Historical Society is digitizing archival newspapers to preserve state history and give researchers online access.

The society is using a nearly \$300,000 two-year federal grant to work with the Minnesota Historical Society to modernize the records, The Daily Republic of Mitchell (<http://bit.ly/1xDIOT5>) reported. The society will digitize 100 rolls of microfilm from newspapers that stopped publication in 1922 or earlier.

"We have to select newspapers that have an end date of 1922, so it'll be earlier newspapers that qualify," said Chelle Somsen, a state archivist who's overseeing the project. "A committee is going to meet and decide which title to start with, so no decisions have been made yet."

The National Endowment for the Humanities grant allows South Dakota to participate in a Library of Congress project that aims to develop a searchable online database of selected U.S. newspapers. The Chronicling America Project allows researchers to search the database for free.

"The funds we received will help preserve and promote South Dakota's rich history," Somsen said.

Although the digitization will be done out of state, members of the South Dakota and Minnesota historical societies will check each image to ensure they are easy to read. Others will help create histories for each newspaper that's digitized and study the publications to create searchable databases for each page.

"Otherwise, the vendor would only digitize the pages and we'd end up with images. We'll make sure the images are readable and searchable," Somsen said.

North Dakota and Iowa began digitizing their newspapers last year.

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: BEHEADING OF FORMER US SOLDIER 'PURE EVIL'

The president denounces the death of aid worker Peter Kassig at the hands of Islamic State terrorists, saying the militant group "revels in the slaughter of innocents."

2. DEA AGENTS RAID 3 NFL MEDICAL STAFFS

Officials say the operations are part of an investigation into former players' claims that teams mis-handled prescription drugs.

3. WHERE A SHRINKING ECONOMY SPELLS GLOBAL TROUBLE

Japan, which has the world's third largest GDP, slid unexpectedly into a recession in the past quarter,

threatening Asian economies with a possible downturn.

4. OBAMA COMES BACK FROM ASIA TO FACE GOP

Republicans will confront the president on immigration and the Keystone pipeline after their big wins in the midterm elections.

5. HOW MANY AMERICAN KIDS ARE HOMELESS

A state-by-state report says the number of children living on the streets has surged in recent years--now one in 30 is without a home.

6. ISRAEL RATCHETS UP HOUSING DEMOLITION POLICY AGAINST ATTACKERS

Police have issued home destruction notices to Palestinian families whose members, they say, are implicated in violent attacks against Israeli civilians.

7. POLICE IN HAITI FACE CRUCIAL TEST AFTER UN WITHDRAWAL

The long-maligned Haitian law enforcement force is learning to engage the community from Haitian-American cops from New York City.

8. WHOSE POLITICAL FATE IS TIED TO SAME-SEX MARRIAGE

Ohio Republican Sen. Rob Portman is facing a conservative backlash after he came out in support of the issue in 2012.

9. MUSLIM MINORITY IN MYANMAR FLEES IN RECORD NUMBERS

An exodus of the Rohingya is happening at an even faster rate as a campaign to instill fear in them strengthens.

10. LAWYER: COSBY WON'T DISCUSS 'DISCREDITED' SEX ABUSE CLAIMS

One of the comedian's accusers levels allegations of sexual assault against him in interviews and in an online column for the Washington Post.

AP News in Brief

Islamic State group beheads US aid worker Peter Kassig, Obama calls slaying 'pure evil'

BEIRUT (AP) — The Islamic State group has beheaded Peter Kassig, releasing a video Sunday showing a masked militant standing over the severed head of a man it said was the former U.S. Army Ranger-turned-aid worker, who was seized while delivering relief supplies in Syria last year.

President Barack Obama confirmed Kassig's slaying after a U.S. review of the video, which also showed the mass beheadings of a dozen Syrian soldiers.

The 26-year-old Kassig, who founded an aid group to help Syrians caught in their country's brutal civil war, "was taken from us in an act of pure evil by a terrorist group that the world rightly associates with inhumanity," Obama said in a statement.

He denounced the extremist group, which he said "revels in the slaughter of innocents, including Muslims, and is bent only on sowing death and destruction."

The slain hostage's parents, Ed and Paula Kassig, said they were "heartbroken" by their son's killing, but "incredibly proud" of his humanitarian work.

DEA agents surprise at least 3 NFL teams' medical staffs with checks after Sunday games

Federal drug enforcement agents showed up unannounced Sunday to check at least three visiting NFL teams' medical staffs as part of an investigation into former players' claims that teams mishandled

prescription drugs.

There were no arrests, Drug Enforcement Administration spokesman Rusty Payne said Sunday. The San Francisco 49ers' staff was checked at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey, after they played the New York Giants. The Tampa Bay Buccaneers' staff was checked at Baltimore-Washington International airport after playing the Redskins. The Seattle Seahawks, who played at Kansas City, confirmed via the team's Twitter account that they were spot-checked as well.

The operation was still ongoing, and other teams may be checked later Sunday, Payne said.

"DEA agents are currently interviewing NFL team doctors in several locations as part of an ongoing investigation into potential violations of the (Controlled Substances Act)," Payne said.

The spot checks were done by investigators from the federal DEA. They did not target specific teams, but were done to measure whether visiting NFL clubs were generally in compliance with federal law. Agents requested documentation from visiting teams' medical staffs for any controlled substances in their possession, and for proof that doctors could practice medicine in the home team's state.

Collision course: After Obama's productive trip abroad, confrontations with Republicans await

BRISBANE, Australia (AP) — After a productive trip abroad, President Barack Obama returned home Sunday on a collision course with Republicans on immigration and an oil pipeline project, showdowns that threaten prospects for cooperation over his remaining two years in office.

The contentious immigration debate could mean a year-end fight over keeping the government running, if some GOP lawmakers get their way.

On the foreign policy front, there is a Nov. 24 deadline in nuclear negotiations with Iran, and questions are surfacing within the administration about whether to overhaul U.S. policy toward Syria.

Given his faltering political support in the U.S. and his party's recent election losses, his trip to China, Myanmar and Australia appeared to offer respite.

The president, who arrived in Washington late Sunday, basked in policy breakthroughs with China and warm welcomes in Myanmar and Australia.

New report details rise of child homelessness in US, says more affordable housing needed

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The number of homeless children in the U.S. has surged in recent years to an all-time high, amounting to one child in every 30, according to a comprehensive state-by-state report that blames the nation's high poverty rate, the lack of affordable housing and the impacts of pervasive domestic violence.

Titled "America's Youngest Outcasts," the report being issued Monday by the National Center on Family Homelessness calculates that nearly 2.5 million American children were homeless at some point in 2013. The number is based on the Department of Education's latest count of 1.3 million homeless children in public schools, supplemented by estimates of homeless pre-school children not counted by the DOE.

The problem is particularly severe in California, which has one-eighth of the U.S. population but accounts for more than one-fifth of the homeless children with a tally of nearly 527,000.

Carmela DeCandia, director of the national center and a co-author of the report, noted that the federal government has made progress in reducing homelessness among veterans and chronically homeless

adults.

"The same level of attention and resources has not been targeted to help families and children," she said. "As a society, we're going to pay a high price, in human and economic terms."

Japan slides into recession in wake of tax hike, undermining global growth prospects

TOKYO (AP) — Japan's economy unexpectedly slipped back into recession as housing and business investment dropped following a sales tax hike, hobbling its ability to help drive the global recovery.

The world's third-largest economy contracted at a 1.6 percent annual pace in the July-September quarter, the government said Monday, confounding expectations that it would rebound after a big drop the quarter before.

The news cast a pall over financial markets: Japan's share benchmark fell 3 percent, and many others in Asia also declined. Shares were lower in early trading in Europe and Dow Jones and S&P futures were off 0.5 percent, suggesting a dismal start for the week on Wall Street.

An economy is generally considered to be in recession when it shrinks for two consecutive quarters. "GDP for July-September wasn't good, unfortunately," Prime Minister Shinzo Abe told a political gathering in Tokyo shortly after his return to Japan from the Group of 20 leading economies in Brisbane, Australia.

What Japan's recession means for country, global economy

TOKYO (AP) — In a surprise, Japan said its economy, the world's 3rd-biggest following the U.S. and China, contracted 1.6 percent at an annual pace in the July-September quarter as consumer and corporate spending failed to regain momentum after a sales tax increase in April.

Here are some implications for the global economy and for Japan following the unexpectedly dismal GDP report:

CLOUDED OUTLOOK: A recession is generally regarded as two straight quarters of economic contraction, and Japan's economy shrank 7.1 percent in the April-June quarter, immediately following the sales tax hike. The slump comes as China's growth is slowing and Europe's economy is limping along. It could drag on Asia's growth if Japanese businesses hold back on investing abroad and companies and consumers buy fewer imports. The drop also adds to uncertainties in world financial markets.

WHAT'S NEXT: Prime Minister Shinzo Abe will likely delay another sales tax hike planned for October 2015, and use that decision and the bad GDP numbers as reasons to call snap elections, possibly as early as next month, to seek a public mandate on this course of action. Also, he may want to try to shore up support for the ruling Liberal Democratic Party amid the apparent weakness in the opposition.

'Campaign to create fear' sends Rohingya fleeing Myanmar in larger numbers, activist says

SITTWE, Myanmar (AP) — The captain of the small fishing vessel has spent most of his life helping fellow Rohingya Muslims escape persecution and hatred in Myanmar, but now even he is worried about the panicked pace the exodus has taken in recent weeks.

"Everyone is going now," Puton Nya said. "I'm afraid that soon, no one will be left."

Bouts of vicious violence, together with discriminatory government policies, have sent an estimated 100,000 Rohingya fleeing this Buddhist-majority nation by boat in the last two years, according to the Arakan Project, a human-rights group that monitors the Rohingya. Director Chris Lewa said the pace is accelerating, with more than 15,000 people leaving since Oct. 15 — twice the number that fled during the same period last year.

Lewa said soldiers and border guards in northern Rakhine state, where most of the estimated 1.3 million Rohingya live, are engaging in a “campaign to create fear and to get them to leave.”

She said that in the last six weeks:

Recruiting scams and kickback schemes: Prosecutors troubled by frequency of military fraud

WASHINGTON (AP) — Fabian Barrera found a way to make fast cash in the Texas National Guard, earning roughly \$181,000 for claiming to have steered 119 potential recruits to join the military. But the bonuses were ill-gotten because the former captain never actually referred any of them.

Barrera’s case, which ended last month with a prison sentence of at least three years, is part of what Justice Department lawyers describe as a recurring pattern of corruption that spans a broad cross section of the military.

In a period when the nation has spent freely to support wars on multiple fronts, prosecutors have found plentiful targets: defendants who bill for services they do not provide, those who steer lucrative contracts to select business partners and those who use bribes to game a vast military enterprise.

Despite numerous cases that have produced long prison sentences, the problems have continued abroad and at home with a frequency that law enforcement officials consider troubling.

“The schemes we see really run the gamut from relatively small bribes paid to somebody in Afghanistan to hundreds of millions of dollars’ worth of contracts being steered in the direction of a favored company who’s paying bribes,” Assistant Attorney General Leslie Caldwell, head of the Justice Department’s criminal division, said in an interview.

AC/DC drummer Phil Rudd lives at full speed among New Zealand retirees, but now has legal woes

TAURANGA, New Zealand (AP) — AC/DC drummer Phil Rudd was the toast of this quiet New Zealand coastal community when he celebrated the launch of his surprise solo album at his marina restaurant, Phil’s Place. Even the mayor was there.

Less than three months later, posters promoting the album plaster the windows of his waterfront home, protecting his privacy, after police raided it earlier this month and filed serious charges against him. The fans who came to support him after the raid, singing AC/DC songs into the night, have left, and the 60-year-old has become a virtual prisoner in a town that for years had seemed to accept him and his excesses with a knowing wink.

He’s avoided serious consequences from previous brushes with the law, but the stakes are higher this time: He’s charged with threatening to kill, which comes with a maximum prison sentence of seven years, as well as possessing methamphetamine and marijuana. An even more serious charge that alleged Rudd tried to hire a man to kill two people was dropped due to a lack of evidence.

There are also questions about Rudd’s future with the Australian band he’s been part of on-and-off for almost four decades.

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AC/DC guitarist Angus Young said he hasn't been in touch with Rudd since his arrest and that his behavior had been erratic when they were recording their new album, "Rock or Bust," which is due to be released Dec. 2.

Today in History The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Nov. 17, the 321st day of 2014. There are 44 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 17, 1889, the Union Pacific Railroad Co. began direct, daily railroad service between Chicago and Portland, Oregon, as well as Chicago and San Francisco.

On this date:

In 1558, Elizabeth I acceded to the English throne upon the death of Queen Mary.

In 1800, Congress held its first session in Washington in the partially completed Capitol building.

In 1869, the Suez Canal opened in Egypt.

In 1917, French sculptor Auguste Rodin (roh-DAN') died in Meudon at age 77.

In 1934, Lyndon Baines Johnson married Claudia Alta Taylor, better known as Lady Bird, in San Antonio, Texas.

In 1947, President Harry S. Truman, in an address to a special session of Congress, called for emergency aid to Austria, Italy and France. (The aid was approved the following month.)

In 1968, NBC outraged football fans by cutting away from the closing minutes of a New York Jets-Oakland Raiders game to begin the TV special "Heidi" on schedule. (After being taken off the air, the Raiders came from behind to beat the Jets, 43-32.)

In 1973, President Richard Nixon told Associated Press managing editors in Orlando, Florida: "People have got to know whether or not their president is a crook. Well, I'm not a crook."

In 1979, Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini ordered the release of 13 black and/or female American hostages being held at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran.

In 1987, a federal jury in Denver convicted two white supremacists of civil rights violations in the 1984 slaying of radio talk show host Alan Berg. (Both men later died in prison.)

In 1989, the Walt Disney animated feature "The Little Mermaid" opened in wide release.

In 1994, the Andrew Lloyd Webber musical "Sunset Boulevard" opened on Broadway with Glenn Close as faded movie star Norma Desmond.

Ten years ago: It was announced that Kmart was acquiring Sears in a surprise \$11 billion deal. In Washington state, officials said Republican gubernatorial candidate Dino Rossi led Democratic opponent Christine Gregoire by only 261 votes. (After three counts of the ballots, Gregoire was declared the winner by just 129 votes out of 2.9 million cast.)

Five years ago: President Barack Obama held formal, closed-door talks in Beijing with Chinese President Hu Jintao. Sarah Palin's autobiography "Going Rogue" was released; 1 million copies sold in less than two weeks.

One year ago: Intense thunderstorms and tornadoes swept across the Midwest, causing extensive damage in several central Illinois communities, killing more than half a dozen people. A Tatarstan Airlines Boeing 737 crashed 450 miles east of Moscow, killing all 50 people on board. Doris Lessing 94, an independent and often irascible author who won the Nobel Prize in 2007, died in London.

Today's Birthdays: Sen. James Inhofe, R-Okla., is 80. Rock musician Gerry McGee (The Ventures) is 77. Singer Gordon Lightfoot is 76. Singer-songwriter Bob Gaudio is 73. Movie director Martin Scorsese

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(skor-SEH'-see) is 72. Actress Lauren Hutton is 71. Actor-director Danny DeVito is 70. "Saturday Night Live" producer Lorne Michaels is 70. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Tom Seaver is 70. Movie director Roland Joffe is 69. Former Democratic National Chairman Howard Dean is 66. House Speaker John Boehner (BAY'-nur) is 65. Actor Stephen Root is 63. Rock musician Jim Babjak (The Smithereens) is 57. Actress Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio is 56. Actor William Moses is 55. Entertainer RuPaul is 54. Actor Dylan Walsh is 51. National Security Adviser Susan Rice is 50. Actress Sophie Marceau is 48. Actress-model Daisy Fuentes is 48. Rhythm-and-blues singer Ronnie DeVoe (New Edition; Bell Biv DeVoe) is 47. Rock musician Ben Wilson (Blues Traveler) is 47. Actor David Ramsey is 43. Actor Leonard Roberts is 42. Actress Leslie Bibb is 41. Actor Brandon Call is 38. Country singer Aaron Lines is 37. Actress Rachel McAdams is 36. Rock musician Isaac Hanson (Hanson) is 34. Actor Justin Cooper is 26. Musician Reid Perry (The Band Perry) is 26. Actress Raquel Castro is 20.

Thought for Today: "The upper classes are merely a nation's past; the middle class is its future." - Ayn Rand, Russian-American author (1905-1982).