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Two bedroom apartment in the Rix Apartments (former city apartments) at 407 N Garfield

FOR RENT

Attached garage. Major appliances included. \$700 per month Roger: 605/397-7118

Friday, Nov. 21

Anniversaries: Larry & Sharon Wheeting • Gene & Robin Loeschke

Birthdays: Peggy Locke • Kelsea Heintzman • Bary Keith

School Lunch: Chicken tenders, French fries, veg cups, fresh and canned fruit.

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

Senior Menu: Hearty Vegetable Beef Soup, chicken salad sandwich, Mandarin oranges, Oatmeal raisin cookie

FB Academic All-State

The South Dakota Football Coaches Association has released the 2014 Academic All-State Football Team. The requirements for this award are the following: 1. Must be a Senior; 2. Must have a 3.5 GPA; and 3. Must have played or managed 3 years of football.

Those mentioned on the team are:

Groton Area: Jacob Milbrandt, Jackson Doeden, Matt Knecht, Rachel Blackmun.

Frederick: Kyle Keuser Langford Area: Bo Fries

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.

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Groton Middle/High School News

From the principal...

Hello!

South Dakota teacher pay is always been a controversial issue, and definitely was this year throughout the election season. Regardless of what one believes about what teachers make, most of what they do make isn't about the money at all, it's about life.

The dinner guests were sitting around the table discussing life.

One man, a CEO, decided to explain the problem with education. He argued:

"What's a kid going to learn from someone who decided

his best option in life was to become a teacher?

He reminded the other dinner guests that it's true what they say about teachers:

it's true what they say about teachers: "Those who cando. Those who can't teach."	
To corroborate, he said to another guest: "You're a teacher, Susan," he said. "Be honest. What do you make?"	Olde
Susan, who had a reputation of honesty and frankness, replied, "You want to know what I make?"	
I make kids work harder than they ever thought they could. I can make a C+ feel like a Congressional	101 N. Ma www
Medal of Honor and an A- feel like a slap in the face if the student didn't do their best.	Friday, Saturday,
I can make kids sit through 40 minutes of study hall in absolute silence.	
I can make parents tremble in fear when I call home.	on regul (som
You want to know what I make?	all kite
I make kids wonder.	Door
I make them question.	
I make them criticize.	Extend Thurso
I make them apologize and mean it.	Serving
I make them write.	Sund

HOLIDAY **OPEN** HOUSE ain St., Groton ~ 397-8650 w.oldebankfloral.com y, Nov. 20, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wine Tasting Day Nov. 21, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. , Nov. 22, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 10% discount llar priced merchandise ne exclusions apply) 40% off chen merchandise r prize drawing daily Food samples ded Holiday Hours days: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. g Wine Every Thursday lays: Noon to 4 p.m.

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I make them read, read, read.

I make them spell definitely, beautiful, definitely, beautiful, and definitely beautiful over and over and over again, until they will never misspell either one of those words again.

I make them show all their work in math and hide it on all their final drafts in English.

I make them understand that if you have the brains, then follow your heart...and if someone ever tries to judge you by what you make, you pay them no attention!

You want to know what I make?

I make a difference.

And you? What do you make?

--Taylor Mali

Every day I am impressed with what I see in the classroom. Hopefully you had a chance to attend Family Night in October to experience some of what we've got going on. It was a wonderful opportunity for our teachers to showcase our students' talents, the classroom curriculum, and much more. The second Family Night will be on March 9th; we sincerely hope you can make it.

We continue to implement ICU in the middle school and high school which has been greatly helping our students maintain accountability in completing their assignments. Students are put on the "List" if they are considered to be in danger in the classroom whether it is because of missing assignments or poor grades. Our ineligibility lists are shorter, student motivation has increased, and those students who need extra support are not left behind. We are a team, and together we hold the students' best interest at heart; we want to see them succeed, and we will do everything in our power to help.

We had a wonderful speaker, Jamie Utt, visit Groton earlier this month, and delivered a powerful message to students about the idea that each one of us is capable of making an important change that can lead to an improved school climate and community...one in which every person can live and work comfortably as themselves. Students were effectively pushed out of their comfort zones as they discussed bullying, bigotry, hate, and violence....conversations that will never be perfect and finished for as long as we live. Thank you to PAC for sponsoring Jamie's visit.



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I write this looking ahead at Thanksgiving next week and if you are like me, it's probably been a while since we diligently appreciated all we have. It is cold, we're busy, stressed, and tired. But since I started formally complaining at about the age of 3, my mother has constantly told me, "Somewhere there is someone who is truly thankful for less than you have." Of course she has always been right....

Have a wonderful thanksgiving; I hope you are able to spend time with family and friends. We have lots to be proud of and thankful for in our little town of Groton.

--Anna Schwan

English 10 – Mrs. Honerman

The first semester of Sophomore English involves studying and presenting speeches. In the first quarter, students presented partner introduction speeches, narrative speeches, informative speeches, and persuasive speeches. Second quarter started with impromptu speeches, which terrified students at the beginning but ended up being some of their best speeches to date! We are now in the midst of the demonstration – or how to – speech. I am excited to learn new recipes, how to chop down a tree, how to dance, and many more exciting topics!

As sophomores, the students also complete a thirty lesson vocabulary series throughout the year and we are practicing DOL (Daily Oral Language) to improve their proofreading skills and review grammar and usage. Students are completing blogs that pertain to a specific prompt on a regular basis. This is to help students work on several aspects of writing, such as grammar, developing posts, and writing to a specific topic and length requirement. The use of blogs is a great way to incorporate technology and the use of laptops into the classroom. Students in Sophomore English are also required to read independent, Accelerated Reader novels as part of their English grade.

English 9 – Mrs. Honerman

During the first quarter, the freshmen studied a unit of short stories. Students read "The Most Dangerous Game," "The Necklace," "The Gift of the Magi," "The Sniper," "Rosa," "Rosa Parks," "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings," and "The Scarlet Ibis." As we studied these short stories, students also learned literary terms that coincided; some of the terms on the list included irony, characterization, point of view, and ambiguity. After that, students studied Edgar Allan Poe and read some of his classic pieces including "The Cask of Amontillado," "The Raven," and "The Black Cat." Students created a comic book of one of the stories as a final project. We are now studying Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury, which will take us through the end of the semester.

The students also complete a thirty lesson vocabulary series throughout the year and we are practicing DOL (Daily Oral Language) to improve their proofreading skills and review grammar and usage. The freshmen have started a yearlong writing project in a separate journal. Each week they will be given a prompt that will help them work on several aspects of writing, such as grammar, developing stories, and writing to a specific topic and length requirement. Students in Freshman English are also reading independent, Accelerated Reader novels as part of their English grade.

All School Play – Mrs. Honerman

The all school play for the year is a musical comedy titled "Honk!" The students have been busy working since September to put together a spectacular musical about the ugly duckling. Not only will you see some talented actors, but you'll get to hear them sing and watch them dance! This show is sure to be a fun time for both younger and older audiences. The play dates have been set for Tuesday, December 9 at 6:00 pm and Sunday, December 14 at 3:30 pm. Tickets are available in advance at the school, Olde Bank, and Lori's Pharmacy. They will also be available for purchase at the door. Adult tickets are \$7 and student tickets are \$4.

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Jr. High Band-Deb Jensen

The band has been working very hard in preparation for the Christmas Concert. It will be held Thursday, Dec. 18 at 7:00 p.m. in the high school gym. Performing groups will be the Jr. and Sr. High bands and choirs and the sixth grade band and choir.

We have several students in the process of recording a variety of etudes and scales for the Middle School All-State Band auditions. Students are to submit a recording and are selected based on accuracy of notes, rhythms and articulations as well as tone and style. The students will find out results in January.

Students are given private lessons each week. Please encourage your child to develop a daily practice routine.

As always, thank you for your continued support and encouragement you give you child to practice and perform up to their level of ability.

Sixth Grade Band-Deb Jensen

We are preparing for our Christmas concert on Thursday, Dec. 18 at 7:00 p.m. in the high school gym. Each rehearsal is spent on our Christmas selections as well as etudes in our Essential Elements band series. All students are given an individual lesson each week. We appreciate your continued support in estab-

lishing a good practice routine.

The focus with this beginning group is to improve each students note, rhythm and articulation performance. Each student is given weekly lessons and with good daily practice habits they should advance to a junior high level by summer. Please encourage daily practice.

Fifth Grade Band-Deb Jensen

The fifth grade band students have been learning note names, rhythms, fingerings and general music terms to assist us in reading music. We are meeting with the students in small groups or individually until they are comfortable with embouchure formation, fingerings and tone production.

Please encourage them to establish a daily practice routine. Each student has a time chart to document their practice time.

Psychology: 11th & 12 Grade One Semester – Mr. Wanner

Psychology focuses on people and how they perceive the world around them, how they think, and why they behave the way they do. Psychology involves asking questions and solving problems. This semester in Psychology (the study of human behavior) we've looked and studied various topics such as what is Psychology, Personality, Memory, and Awareness. Psychology gives students multiple opportunities to think critically about research and consider different points of views on many issues. Students also have written articles on various issues relating to Psychology that have been discussed in class. We have been using the internet to find Psychology related materials that are important to Psychology today. We will conclude this semester learning about Intelligence, Perception, Learning, Abnormal Behavior, Motivation, and Gender Roles. We also develop critical thinking skills that are vital to the study of Psychology. All you need to do is watch and read the news to see the importance of Psychology in our everyday lives.

8th Grade Civics: Full Year Course – Mr. Wanner

This course conveys to students the importance of our political system in the United States. The United States provides us with the freedoms and the lifestyle that we enjoy and have to come to expect. The course covers the Constitution, our rights and responsibilities as citizens, the branches of government, the levels of government, the courts, and the political system. Throughout our textbook, students will be asked to think critically about issues that affect their role as an American. The development of critical thinking skills is essential to effective citizenship.

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American History: 11th Grade Full Year Course – Mr. Wanner

History is the discipline that can best help them understand and deal with change, and at the same time to identify the deep continuities that link past and present. History can satisfy young people's longing for a sense of identity and of their time and place in the human story. Well-taught history and biography are naturally engaging to students by speaking to individuality, to their possibilities for choice. By organizing information thematically, students are provided with the opportunity to analyze related information over time.

At the beginning of each unit, "Themes in American History" are taught. Written as summaries of main ideas, these themes alert students to the significant issues they will encounter throughout each unit. After each unit themes are reinforced using a time-line and critical thinking questions. The time-line callouts serve as clues to answering the critical thinking questions. Themes that students will be learning throughout the school year are Economics, The Constitution, Social Change, Geography, Science & Technology, Government & Politics, Ethics & Values, and Conflict.

During the course of the year we also will be using historical documents that allow students to act as historians. As students read, evaluate, analyze, and interpret different reading passages and images, they utilize the skills of a historian. Finally during the school year each quarter we will be reading some interesting books related to subject areas. The first quarter we read Tom Brokaw's Greatest Generation, the second quarter we will read Uncle Tom's Cabin, third quarter will read Unbroken, and finally the fourth quarter will discuss and read Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee.

Honors History: 11th Grade Full Year Course – Mr. Wanner

Honors History students will read and work with historical documents and analyze the documents. Each quarter students will write essays on certain topics pertaining to events in American History. Students will also think critically and develop their own interpretations of history which is, in large part, what the study of history is all about. Each quarter will be broken into history units. Like American History class units will include beginnings to 1789, The Road to Revolution and Victory, The United States begins, The Civil War, World War I, World War II, and present day events.

English 11 – Mrs. Hanten

Junior English involves the study of American literature – from the beginning of the American tradition through the modern era. Since we began the year with the study of the classic novel To Kill a Mockingbird, we are now focused on literature in their textbook, which covers all the major time periods of our country's literary history. In addition to their literature studies, we continue working to improve the students' vo-cabulary usage and writing skills throughout the school year. Daily Oral Language is a part of each class period; students are practicing their proofreading skills, which are very important on their ACT tests. As part of the Common Core State Standards and in preparation for their Smarter Balanced tests this spring, we are also focusing on the reading of informational text. Informational text would include such reading as history, science and math textbooks, but it also includes something we listen to and read each day – the news. Every couple of weeks, students are required to read and analyze current news articles. They also present their article and lead a class discussion by posing insightful, relevant questions related to their article topic. Juniors are also required to independently read Accelerated Reader novels throughout the school year as part of their class requirements. After completing the novel they take a computerized test through the AR website to check their comprehension of the literature. AR book lists can be accessed on the school web page (www.grotonarea.com) by using the academics tab and choosing AR book finder.

English 12 – Mrs. Hanten

Groton High School Class of 2015 – they have their goals set high and will work hard to achieve them! The seniors have spent the last month immersed in the research paper unit. Their research papers are related to their future career choice, and all students are required to interview a professional working in the field, and some even took the opportunity to job shadow. Some of their future career goals include

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teacher, accountant, commercial pilot, physician assistant, nurse, doctor, physical therapist, pharmacist, diesel mechanic, legal secretary, agronomist, farmer, public relations specialist, sales manager, mechanical engineer, civil engineer, psychologist, police officer, and veterinarian. I believe by making the topic very relevant to their lives, students take more interest in the assignment and therefore learn so much more.

We are currently studying the Medieval time period and The Canterbury Tales by Geoffrey Chaucer. We will continue with William Shakespeare's famous tragedy, Macbeth, as we study the English Renaissance time period. Seniors continue to work on their yearlong writing project, their twenty-chapter Senior Memory Book writing assignments, building toward their final book. Daily Oral Language (DOL) and weekly vocabulary lessons are also part of the curriculum, along with the independent reading and testing with the Accelerated Reader program.

Honors English – Mrs. Hanten

The Honors English students have also been working on the research paper unit the past several weeks. The purpose of any research paper is to present the results of an investigation on a selected topic by synthesizing information to support one's thesis. The research process involves choosing a topic, developing a preliminary thesis statement, developing a list of research questions, documenting sources, developing a preliminary outline, taking notes, developing the final outline, writing the rough draft, checking the documentation, revising, proofreading, and completing the final draft and works cited page. The ability to construct a thoroughly researched, well written paper will be necessary to their future success at their chosen university, no matter what career field they choose to pursue. The students worked very hard on this research project, but are happy to now be finished with this requirement.

The Honors English students are also currently studying The Canterbury Tales by Geoffrey Chaucer, and will continue with other works by famous British writers. Their weekly essay assignments for their thirty chapter Senior Memory Books also keep them busy improving their writing techniques. Honors students also work daily to improve their proofreading skills and improve their vocabulary usage. They are required to read Accelerated Reader novels as well, which include some classic novel reading throughout the year.

Business News – Ms. Lingbeck

I am very excited to implement a business program at Groton Area School District. The students have been exposed to different aspects of the business world. Each class is focused on different areas of the business world.

Accounting I: In Accounting, students have analyzed transactions into debit and credit parts, journalized transactions, posted to a general ledger, and managed a checking account. Recently, we have started creating a Work Sheet and adjusting entries for a service business.

Introduction to Business: In this course the students just finished a unit on career development. The students created online career portfolios that focused on furthering their education, future career choices, and the job application process. Currently, we are discussing entrepreneurship and small business management.

Computer Applications: The past few weeks the students have been working with PowerPoint. Currently, they are creating an All About Me PowerPoint that includes transitions, pictures, and music.

Internship: The internship program is expanding into businesses in the community. I am very excited to provide students with the opportunity to acquire real world experiences. This is a chance for the school and local businesses to work together to educate our youth.

Personal Finance: In Personal Finance, we are discussing housing decisions. The students estimated and found items to furnish a one bedroom apartment. Many of the students enjoyed finding furnishings and were surprised at the cost of many items. Students had the opportunity to look at leases and understand their rights as a tenant and their obligations as a renter. We focused on the importance of reading and understanding the lease before signing.

FBLA: Future Business Leaders of America is a new organization at Groton. This is a competitive group that tests individuals and/or team in their business knowledge and skills. The competitive events fall

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into three categories: individual, team, and chapter. Individual and team events focus on skills useful in leadership and career development. There are numerous competitive events available, ranging from digital design to entrepreneurship.

Sixth Grade English – Diane Kurtz

At the beginning of the year, I'm pretty sure the students missed not having recess when the weather was gorgeous! Now, the students appreciate not having to put on their caps and gloves during the school day. We have been busy covering units in spelling. We recently covered homophones; is it fur or fir, hanger or hangar, or principal or principle? In grammar we have been discussing the sentence and its parts, nouns, pronouns and verbs. We have also covered the perfect and progressive verb tenses.

Seventh Grade English – Diane Kurtz

Taylor Swift, Jack Black, Iggy Azalea, Andrew Clutterbuck and LeBron James are a few of the interesting topics the seventh grade students have chosen for their informative speeches. It is amazing how well young teenagers speak in front of an audience, and the Groton students are no



exception. We started out by brainstorming for topics that interested the students. Next, the students made an outline, note cards covering their main points, introduction card, summary and conclusion cards, works cited page and created a PowerPoint presentation. The final step is their presentation to the class. The class period flies by learning about young actors, athletes and musicians.

Eighth Grade English – Diane Kurtz

King Tut, President Warren G. Harding, The S.S. Edmund Fitzgerald, Squanto and Black Friday are a few of the interesting topics covered in the daily edit. A daily edit consists of a paragraph with ten various errors, including spelling, grammar, and punctuation mistakes, in which the students have to analyze each line in order to find the errors. The purpose of the daily edit is to help students develop the skills needed to proof and edit their writing. The eighth graders have completed units on nouns, pronouns, adjectives, verbs, adverbs, prepositions, conjunctions and interjections. Complements and phrases will be covered during the month of December to wrap up our first semester.

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Today in Weather History

1973: Heavy snow of 4 to 8 inches fell in the northeast and east central counties of South Dakota on the 21st and 22nd. Some snowfall amounts included 5 inches in Highmore; 4 inches at Aberdeen and Eureka; and 3 inches in Conde and Ipswich.

1985: Winds gusting to over 40 mph caused blizzard conditions over the western and central parts of South Dakota on the 21st and 22nd. In addition to the existing snow cover, 1-2 inches of new snow fell and when blown by the wind, reduced visibilities to zero at times. Many roads were drifted shut by the blowing and drifting snow in the western part of the state.

2003: Heavy snow of 6 to 10 inches fell from the late afternoon to the late evening hours on the 21st and into the early morning hours on the 22nd. Some snowfall amounts included 4 inches in Browns Valley, 2S Ashton, and Britton; 5 inches at Timber Lake, Blunt, 6 SE McIntosh, and Pollock; 6 inches at Clark, McLaughlin, 14 NNE Isabel, 17 WSW Fort Pierre and Miller; 7 inches at Castlewood, 1 W Highmore, and 4 NW Onida; and 8 inches north of Goodwin, at Ree Heights, at Eagle Butte, and near Troy. Thirteen inches of snow fell in Watertown.

1798 - A four day storm was in progress in the northeastern U.S. The storm dropped a foot of snow on New York City and New Haven, and as much as three feet in Maine and New Hampshire. The snowstorm ushered in a long and severe winter, in some places the ground remained covered with snow until the following May. (David Ludlum)

1967 - Excessive rains in southern California caused the most severe flooding and the most damaging mmud slidesin 33 years. Downtown Los Angeles received eight inches of rain, and 14 inches fell in the mountains. (David Ludlum)

1985 - Hurricane Kate made landfall during the evening hours near Mexico Beach, FL. Wind gusts to 100 mph were reported at Cape San Blas FL. It was the latest known hurricane to hit the U.S. so far north. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Squalls in the Lower Great Lakes Region and the Upper Ohio Valley produced 14 inches of snow at Snowshoe WV, and nearly eight inches at Syracuse NY. Eleven cities in the eastern U.S. reported record low temperatures for the date. Record lows included 21 degrees at Pinson AL, 9 degrees at Syracuse NY, and 8 degrees at Binghamton NY. Gale force winds lash the Middle and Northern Atlantic Coast, and the strong northwesterly winds produced wind chill readings as cold as 30 degrees below zero. Winds gusting to 60 mph at Trumansburg NY toppled a chimney onto a nearby truck. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - High winds accompanied rain and snow in the northeastern U.S. Caribou ME received eight inches of snow in six hours, and Fort Kent ME was blanketed with a total of fourteen inches of snow. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - The storm which produced thunderstorms and high winds in the northeastern U.S. the previous day, produced snow and high winds in New England, with blizzard conditions reported in Maine. Winds gusted to 55 mph at Boston MA, and reached 58 mph at Augusta ME, and hurricane force winds were reported off the coast of Maine. Snowfall totals ranged up to 18 inches at Vanceboro ME, with 17 inches at South Lincoln VT. There were thirty-five sstormrelated injuries in Maine. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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TODAY

TONIGHT

SATURDAY

SATURDAY NIGHT

MONDAY



Partly Sunny High: 34 °F



Partly Cloudy Low: 20 °F



Mostly Sunny High: 36 °F



Mostly Cloudy Low: 25 °F



SUNDAY

Slight Chc Rain/Snow High: 37 °F



Snow

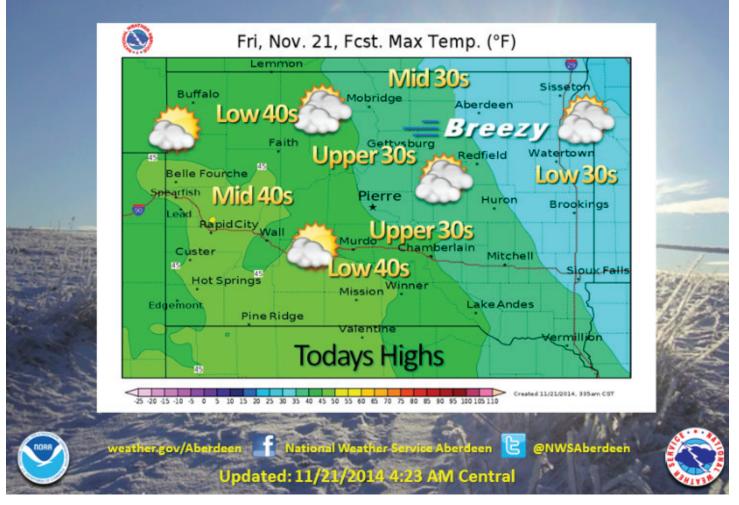
Low: 18 °F

SUNDAY



Blowing Snow High: 22 °F

Milder Temperatures Through Saturday Windy With Snow Showers Sunday



Milder air will move into the region today and remain through early Sunday before the next arctic blast reaches the region.

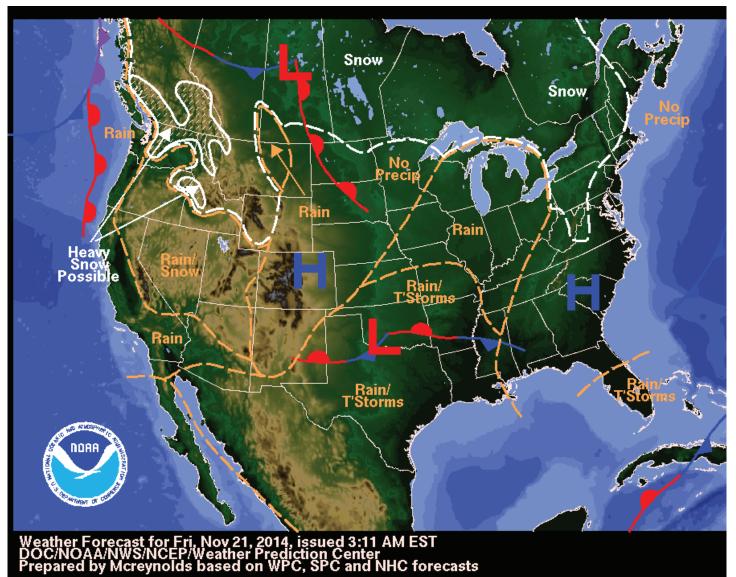
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Yesterday's Weather High: 15.8°F at 3:03 PM

Low: -6.5°F at 7:18 AM **High Gust:** 13 mph at 11:23 PM Precip: 0.00

Today's Info Record High: 66° in 1904

Record High: 66° in 1904 Record Low: -18° in 1964 Average High: 36°F Average Low: 16°F Average Precip in Nov.: 0.53 Precip to date in Nov.: 0.56 Average Precip to date: 21.00 Precip Year to Date: 13.79 Sunset Tonight: 4:58 p.m. Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:42 a.m.





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MUCH MORE AND THEN

"How much more..." is a familiar phrase. As in "How much more do you want from me..." or "How much more of this do you think I can take..." or "How much more is there in life..." or "How much more can be done..." And the list could go on and on.

Those three words appear four times in the Book of Proverbs and the words, "How much less" appears twice. There are several lines of thought about their meaning: Some think they are too good to be true; some think they are overly simplistic; some think their promises are vastly overstated while others think they apply to the spiritual realm alone and are completely "future oriented."

"If the righteous receive their due on earth, how much more the ungodly and the sinner," writes Solomon. Is there a simple message in these few words that we may try to complicate for the sake of discussion? Perhaps.

There is a popular opinion among many that some sins are not bad, or they can sin and "get away with it." But, that opinion is not supported by Scripture. Besides, when we want to know what sin is, where it comes from and what to do about it, we do not go to psychologists or philosophers: We go to God's Word.

As far as riches and righteousness, sin and unholy living go, Solomon has some advice: "The righteous do receive their due on earth; how much more the ungodly!" Jesus said: "What a man sows he will reap."

God will reward each of us for the way we live - now and in the life to come.

Prayer: May I focus my life, Lord, on living a righteous life: a life that is worthy of Your unending blessings! In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Proverbs 11:31 If the righteous receive their due on earth, how much more the ungodly and the sinner!

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News from the Associated Press

Obama has lunch with Native American youth from ND NEDRA PICKLER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hours before addressing the nation on immigration on Thursday, President Barack Obama left the White House for lunch.

The president and first lady Michelle Obama were taking in a midday meal with young people from the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation in Cannonball, North Dakota. They were dining on pizza and burgers at adjoining restaurants on Capitol Hill; We, The Pizza and Good Stuff Eatery.

The White House says that, during their visit to the reservation over the summer, the Obamas invited the youth to stop by the White House sometime.

Eighteen youngsters visited the Oval Office before lunch Thursday. Six of them met the Obamas when they were in North Dakota.

Forecast: Warmer S. Dakota weekend then more cold

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Temperatures over the next few days across much of South Dakota will feel spring-like after the recent cold snap.

But the forecast says the above-freezing weather will give way to more cold by Monday.

The National Weather Service state forecast for Friday through Sunday calls for highs in the 30s in the east to 40s in the west.

SDSU Extension Climate Field Specialist Laura Edwards says the winter climate outlook no longer shows a higher chance of above-average temperatures this winter.

And she says the current long-range forecast shows the possibility of another cold outbreak in the region at the end of November into early December.

Tree-lighting ceremony scheduled at SD Capitol

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The annual tree-lighting ceremony at the South Dakota Capitol has been scheduled for Tuesday.

Nearly 100 trees have been decorated by volunteers from communities, schools, churches, nonprofit organizations and state government offices. The decorations for the largest of the trees placed in the rotunda were produced by South Dakota fourth-graders and communities participating in statehood celebrations.

Gov. Dennis Daugaard, first lady Linda Daugaard and Pierre Mayor Laurie Gill will attend the ceremony, which will feature musical performances by Capital City Children's Chorus, the Potter Family and South Dakota Chorale.

The display will be open to the public through Dec. 27.

Thursday's Scores The Associated Press

Volleyball **Class AA State Quarterfinal** Huron def. Rapid City Stevens, 25-19, 25-18, 25-18

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Sioux Falls O'Gorman def. Pierre, 25-6, 25-12, 25-13 Sioux Falls Roosevelt def. Aberdeen Central, 18-25, 25-20, 30-28, 26-24 Watertown def. Harrisburg, 25-15, 25-19, 25-20 **Class A State Quarterfinal** Dakota Valley def. Redfield/Doland, 25-14, 25-19, 25-11 Miller def. Pine Ridge, 25-15, 25-12, 25-16 Mt. Vernon/Plankinton def. Lead-Deadwood, 25-10, 25-18, 25-18 Sioux Falls Christian def. Sisseton, 25-13, 25-14, 25-15 **Class B State Quarterfinal** Chester def. Harding County, 25-17, 25-15, 25-17 Parker def. Arlington, 23-25, 25-23, 18-25, 25-23, 15-10 Sully Buttes def. Kimball/White Lake, 25-13, 25-17, 25-21 Warner def. Jones County, 25-12, 25-13, 25-12

Thune wants visa ban from Ebola-affected countries

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — U.S. Sen. John Thune has joined other Republicans in calling for a temporary visa ban on those attempting to travel to the U.S. from Ebola-affected countries in West Africa. Thune says he has "questions" about the country's ability to manage "the threat that Ebola poses" to the transportation sector, including airports and ports.

The proposed legislation would suspend new visas and revoke current visas for individuals who are permanent residents or nationals of a country the CDC has designated as a country for "widespread transmission of Ebola." Some exemptions would apply.

The White House has pushed back against overly restrictive measures, including proposals for travel bans.

The World Health Organization has said the Ebola epidemic in West Africa has sickened more than 15,100 people and caused more than 5,400 deaths.

Commissioners to weigh sites for sheep

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — A Montana commission on Thursday authorized the relocation of 50 wild bighorn sheep from the Missouri River Breaks to an area north of Helena despite objections from wildlife managers.

Fish, Wildlife and Parks commissioners voted to send the animals to the Highlands area near Butte and the Beartooth Game Range north of Helena, the Helena Independent Record reported (http://bit. ly/14Tq5aP).

Wildlife managers say the high density of sheep in the Breaks raised the risk of disease transmissions that can be fatal to the animals. But they also say there's no suitable place to put them in Montana.

State Wildlife Bureau Chief John Vore told commissioners it would be better to send the sheep to South Dakota, which had requested the animals.

Since 1939, more than 2,700 sheep have been trapped in Montana for transplanting to augment or start new herds. That's helped restore a population that was severely reduced to a small number of remnant bands by 1930, after the settlement of the West brought disease, competition from livestock and subsistence hunting.

It's been more than a decade since the last new population was established in the state, during the

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winter of 2003-04 in the Greenhorn Mountains south of Virginia City.

After 60 sheep were transplanted to Utah in 2009, wildlife commissioners at the request of some hunters adopted a policy against moving the animals to other states.

In 2010, state officials set a target to create five new herds in Montana over the next decade. That hasn't happened.

Rounds picks committees, has immigration concerns REGINA GARCIA CANO, Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Republican Sen.-elect Mike Rounds expressed his concerns Thursday over President Barack Obama's expected administrative actions on immigration and discussed his plans as a new member of Congress.

In a wide-ranging phone call with reporters, Rounds said Obama's decision to act unilaterally will hurt his already tainted relationship with Congress. But, Rounds warned, he doesn't expect lawmakers to use spending-bill tactics to shut down the government over Obama's decision.

"We want to act like adults, we want to be seen as being responsive to the president's actions, but having a response which is mature and with a specific outcome in mind and not just done out of anger," Rounds said.

Defying the GOP and sidestepping Congress, Obama prepared to use his executive authority to shield from deportation the nearly 5 million people in the U.S. illegally. His measures come after years of stalled efforts toward broader federal legislation.

Rounds said he believes the U.S. immigration system must be reformed, but added that Obama's move could lead to another wave of illegal immigration.

"People think that there will always be this amnesty available, and they will flock your way for the next movement on amnesty or that they move here very quickly now hoping to be including in this particular amnesty."

Rounds, who was elected to take over the seat of retiring U.S. Sen. Tim Johnson, traveled to Washington last week to participate in an orientation and meet some of his colleagues. He said he has put in requests to serve on three U.S. Senate committees: armed services; banking, housing and urban affairs; and environment and public works committees.

Those committees are mere preferences, and there's no guarantee he will get them. Rounds said those selections could allow him to weigh in on issues relevant to South Dakota, including Ellsworth Air Force Base and the banking and credit card industry.

Rounds told reporters he will have offices in Sioux Falls, Rapid City, Pierre and another one in the James River Valley, perhaps Aberdeen or Huron. An avid pilot, Rounds is not flying himself to Washington but plans to use commercial airlines and has found an apartment 10 blocks from the Capitol.

Rounds will be sworn in Jan. 6.

21 Indian reservations joining buyback program MATTHEW BROWN, Associated Press

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — Federal officials on Thursday doubled the number of American Indian communities involved in a \$1.9 billion government effort to return lands on reservations to tribal ownership. Twenty-one Indian communities in 12 states will join the land buyback program by 2017, said Deputy Secretary of the Interior Mike Connor. That brings the number of locations in the program to 42.

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"Right now the program is accelerating," Connor said. "Our outreach efforts and coordination with tribal leaders and government is becoming more effective."

The buyback program was a central piece of a \$3.4 billion settlement in 2009 of a class-action lawsuit filed by Elouise Cobell of Browning who died in 2011. The lawsuit claimed Interior Department officials mismanaged trust money held by the government for hundreds of thousands of Indian landowners.

The 1887 Dawes Act split tribal lands into individual allotments that were inherited by multiple heirs with each passing generation. As a result, parcels of land on some reservations are owned by dozens, hundreds or even thousands of individual Indians. That can make property all but impossible to sell or develop.

The buyback program aims to buy land with "fractionated" interests and consolidate ownership of the parcels under tribal governments.

"We have some plots of land that have 500 owners on one, little 20-acre tract," said Grant Stafne, a member of the executive board for the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Reservation in northeast Montana. "We would have control over our land instead of individual Indians. It would make it easier to lease land."

In the buyback's first year, \$225 million was paid to individual Native Americans for restoring the equivalent of 375,000 acres to tribal governments, Connor said.

During testimony before Congress earlier this year, tribal leaders including Stafne criticized the program for its slow pace. They also said they were being shut out of decisions on what land to buy.

Connor said Thursday the government is making adjustments as the program grows, but Stafne said problems persist. One thing his tribes want is to put the buyback money into their own interest-bearing account.

"We could buy land on that interest alone," he said.

Fort Belknap Tribal President Mark Azure said Thursday that a cooperative agreement with federal officials had eased some of his earlier concerns about the program.

But Azure said Fort Belknap leaders still have too little say over which parcels are chosen.

He added some landowners remain reluctant to participate in the federal program, but if the tribe had more control over it those landowners might be willing to sell.

"That's where we as tribes hopefully provide answers to all of their questions," he said. "They would lean more toward tribal government in bringing in answers that are going to make sense."

Roughly 245,000 owners of fractionated land on 150 reservations are eligible to participate in the program.

NCAA women's tourney heading back to Rupp Arena

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The NCAA women's basketball tournament Is heading back to Lexington, Kentucky, for the first time since 1986.

The NCAA announced Thursday that Rupp Arena will be a regional host site for the 2016, 2017 and 2018 tournaments. The other 2016 regional sites are Bridgeport, Connecticut, Dallas and Sioux Falls, South Dakota, which will be a first-time site.

In addition to Bridgeport and Lexington, Oklahoma and Stockton, California, will host the regional rounds in 2017. Albany, New York; Kansas City, Missouri; Lexington and Spokane, Washington were chosen regional hosts in 2018.

Bridgeport Mayor Bill Finch calls the announcement "great news" and says it will play a major role in the city's "renaissance."

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3 SD Indian communities joining buyback program

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — Three South Dakota communities are part of an expanded effort to consolidate tribal lands owned by multiple individuals.

The Interior secretary says 21 Native American communities in 12 states will join the land buyback program by 2017, bringing the number of locations in the program to 42.

The program was a central piece of a \$3.4 billion settlement in 2009 of a class-action lawsuit that claimed Interior Department officials mismanaged trust money held by the government for hundreds of thousands of native landowners.

The added South Dakota communities include the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe of the Crow Creek Reservation, the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe of the Lower Brule Reservation and the Yankton Sioux Tribe.

Roughly 245,000 owners of fractionated land on 150 reservations are eligible to participate in the program.

Survey suggests economy still slow in rural areas

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — The economic outlook for rural areas of 10 states in the Plains and the West improved in November, but the monthly survey of bankers doesn't suggest much growth.

Creighton University economist Ernie Goss says low grain and energy prices continue to limit the economy in rural areas.

The overall economic index for the region improved for the first time since May, but it only reached the neutral score of 50. That's up from 43.4 in October.

The survey indexes range from 0 to 100. Any score below 50 suggests decline in that factor in the months ahead.

Bankers from rural areas of Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming were surveyed.

Commission drafting bill for new voter-OK'd games JAMES NORD, Associated Press

DEADWOOD, S.D. (AP) — A bill to implement the three new voter-authorized games in Deadwood casinos will move forward, the South Dakota Commission on Gaming decided Thursday.

The commission voted to draft the legislation allowing craps, keno and roulette with the goal of the regulations and games being in place by July 1.

Passage of Amendment Q on Nov. 4 gave the Legislature authorization to expand the types of games offered in the historic Black Hills mining town beyond slot machines, poker and blackjack.

Commissioner Ralph Kemnitz said the committee will propose legislation "that carries out the public mandate."

Backers of the measure said it was aimed to help struggling casinos compete with surrounding outof-state hotspots such as Colorado and Iowa. The new games are part of a larger, multiyear effort to rejuvenate the town, which relies on historical tourism and gambling to attract visitors.

Opponents view the additional games as an expansion of gambling that carries significant social costs. Deadwood Gaming Association executive director Mike Rodman says he doesn't believe the new requ-

lations will hit the same speed bumps they did 25 years ago when gambling was initially authorized in Deadwood — making it the third jurisdiction in the country to do so.

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There could be some legislative opposition to authorizing the voter-backed expansion, Rodman said, but added he's confident the "overwhelming support of the voters" will ensure it prevails.

John Dennis, a spokesman for opposition group Family Heritage Alliance Action, said his organization is considering a push at the Capitol to block the measure, an action which must be voted on by the organization's board.

Rep. Steve Hickey, R-Sioux Falls, opposed Amendment Q because he views gambling as toxic to the state. But he doubts any lawmakers will stand in the legislation's way.

"I can't imagine," Hickey said. "That's political suicide, isn't it? Voters speak clearly on something and you turn around and change it? That's bad."

Tribes work to create sex-offender registries FELICIA FONSECA, Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) — More than three-quarters of American Indian tribes that have the authority to develop sex-offender registries are well on their way to meeting the legal requirements meant to keep convicted criminals from hiding out on tribal lands, a new report shows.

Of the country's 566 federally recognized tribes, 214 are eligible to implement the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act of 2006 or delegate that authority to a state. The rest of the tribes in Alaska, California, Minnesota, Nebraska, Oregon and Wisconsin are under state jurisdiction when it comes to law enforcement and are ineligible to develop the registration and notification systems.

The report released this week by the U.S. Government Accountability Office said that despite most eligible tribes being on board to track sex offenders within their borders, the tribes face a number of challenges in implementing the law. Those include accessing federal criminal justice databases, paying for startup costs and getting enough guidance from federal agencies.

It also says tribes are having trouble getting notified by states when convicted sex offenders move to tribal land or work or go to school on reservations after being released from prison.

Some states said they have no laws or policies that require tribes be notified. Determining whether an address is on tribal land isn't always easy either, they told the Government Accountability Office.

The U.S. Department of Justice agreed with a recommendation to develop a way for states to keep tribes in the loop so that they can enforce laws pertaining to sex offenders. Some tribes restrict how close the offenders can live or work to schools or day care centers, or banish the offenders altogether.

Federal corrections officials ask inmates leaving prison if their new address is on tribal lands, and those officials can notify tribes, the report said.

The accountability office also said the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs could do a better job at finding out which tribes need help implementing the law. The Interior Department said the Bureau of Indian Affairs would be reaching out to tribes.

A Tribal Public Safety Working Group established earlier this year is identifying which tribes have trouble accessing federal databases and finding ways to cover associated costs long-term.

The 164 tribes that chose to implement the law must create registries that include offender descriptions, photographs, fingerprints, criminal history and DNA samples, as well as notify the community and create a website to make offender information available to the public.

According to the Justice Department, 43 percent of those tribes substantially have implemented the law and 43 percent have submitted an implementation package that hasn't been approved.

Justice officials said they have granted more time to the 22 eligible tribes that have not submitted the package. One tribe has not substantially implemented the law, the Justice Department said.

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"We are reviewing the final GAO report and look forward to working with states to identify ways to improve their notification systems and communications with tribal governments," Justice Department spokesman Wyn Hornbuckle said in a statement Thursday.

Packers-Vikings capsule The Associated Press

GREEN BAY (7-3) at MINNESOTA (4-6)

Sunday, 1 p.m. ET, Fox

OPENING LINE — Packers by 10

RECORD VS. SPREAD — Green Bay 7-3, Minnesota 4-6

SERIES RECORD — Packers lead 57-49-2

LAST MEETING — Packers beat Vikings 42-10, Oct. 2, 2014

LAST WEEK — Packers beat Eagles 53-20; Vikings lost to Bears 21-13

AP PRO32 RANKING — Packers No. 3, Vikings No. 24

PACKERS OFFENSE — OVERALL (9), RUSH (18), PASS (8).

PACKERS DEFENSE — OVERALL (25), RUSH (29), PASS (13).

VIKINGS OFFENSE — OVERALL (30), RUSH (12), PASS (29).

VIKINGS DEFENSE — OVERALL (12), RUSH (21), PASS (8).

STREAKS, STATS AND NOTES — Vikings have only won one of last 10 matchups with Packers, in 2012 regular-season finale. They tied once last year. ... TCF Bank Stadium will be site of first outdoor game between rivals in Minnesota since Nov. 29, 1981 at Metropolitan Stadium. They played once before on University of Minnesota campus, on Oct. 5, 1969 at Memorial Stadium. ... Packers coach Mike McCarthy is 13-4-1 vs. Vikings. ... Packers are second team in NFL history to score 53 or more points in consecutive games, joining 1950 Los Angeles Rams. ... Packers QB Aaron Rodgers has 22 TDs and one INT in last eight games vs. Vikings. His career passer rating of 118.5 vs. Vikings is highest by any opposing QB. ... Packers RB Eddie Lacy has 236 yards and two TDs on 14 receptions over last three games. He has 178 yards and one score on 37 rushes. ... Packers' defense has forced seven turnovers, totaled seven sacks and scored three TDs over last two games. Packers with sprained left ankle. Over last three games, he has thrown one INT and taken five sacks. His 64.2 completion percentage vs. Bears (18 for 28) was career high. ... Vikings WR Charles Johnson, seventh-round draft pick by Packers in 2013, led team with six receptions for 87 yards last game. ... Vikings FS Harrison Smith tied for third in NFL with four INTs. Two of his nine career INTs are vs. Packers.

Services scheduled for former Fort Pierre mayor

FORT PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Memorial services have been scheduled for former Fort Pierre Mayor Sam Tidball.

Tidball died Tuesday, after an illness. He was 90. He had retired last May from his job as mayor, which he had held for 16 years. He was a city councilman for six years before that.

Feigum (FY'-guhm) Funeral Home says services will be at First Congregational Church of Christ in Pierre. Visitation is 5-7 p.m. Friday with a prayer service at 7 p.m. The funeral is 10 a.m. Saturday. Burial is scheduled later in the day at Hillsview Cemetery in Isabel, where Tidball grew up.

Flags in Fort Pierre are to be flown at half-staff from sunrise to sunset on Saturday. Mayor Gloria Hanson says Gov. Dennis Daugaard authorized the tribute.

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Hit-and-run driver damages Sioux Falls house

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A hit-and-run driver caused an estimated 10,000 in damage to a home in Sioux Falls.

Police say a minivan went out of control on a city street about 12:30 a.m. Thursday, went through a yard and struck the front door area of the home. The motorist then drove away from the scene. No one was hurt.

As snow ends, roof collapses, floods are concerns CAROLYN THOMPSON, Associated Press

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) — A snowfall that brought huge drifts and closed roads in the Buffalo area finally ended Friday, yet residents still couldn't breathe easy, as the looming threat of rain and higher temperatures through the weekend and beyond raised the possibility of floods and more roofs collapsing under the heavy loads.

More than 30 roof collapses, most involving farm and flat-roof buildings, were reported overnight, officials said Friday, after snow Thursday brought the Buffalo area's three-day total to an epic 7 feet or more. Little or no snow was expected on Friday, and the forecast called for a chance of rain on Saturday and more on Monday, along with temperatures approaching 60 degrees.

Homeowners and store employees around the region climbed onto roofs Thursday to shovel off the snow and reduce the danger.

"It's getting heavier," said Cheektowaga resident Thomas Mudd Jr., who with his wife spent several hours shoveling 4 to 5 feet off their roof. "It's supposed to warm up and we're supposed to get rain on the weekend, which will make it even heavier. So I didn't want my roof collapsing."

The storms were blamed for at least 12 deaths in western New York, mostly from heart attacks and exposure. The most recent victims were two elderly residents of a nursing home that was evacuated amid concerns of a roof collapse, Deputy Erie County Executive Richard Tobe said Friday.

"No matter how you cut it, this event will end up in the top five for the Lake Erie area," said National Weather Service Director Louis Uccellini.

More than 50 people were evacuated from several mobile home parks in suburban Cheektowaga and West Seneca because roofs were buckling. Bellevue Fire Department Lt. Timothy Roma said more than a dozen buildings and carports collapsed, as did a metal warehouse operated by a Christmas decorations company, where damage was estimated in the millions.

Local media reported that about 180 residents of a Cheektowaga assisted living facility were evacuated after staff members noticed the ceiling bulging under the weight of the snow.

With roads impassable, driving bans in effect and the Buffalo Bills' stadium buried in snow, the NFL decided to move the Bills' Sunday home game against the New York Jets to Monday night in Detroit.

National Guardsmen drove nurses to their hospital shifts. State troopers helped elderly residents trapped in their homes. State officials assembled 463 plows, 129 loaders and 40 dump trucks from across the state for a massive cleanup effort.

Some Buffalo-area schools were closed for the fourth day, burning through snow days with winter still a month away.

A stretch of the New York State Thruway through western New York remained closed, with more than 300 truckers idled at truck stops and service areas, waiting for the highway to reopen.

Amtrak has continued to restore rail service through the region, but with modified schedules.

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With deliveries interrupted, some grocery stores reported running low on staples like bread and milk. Even for the Buffalo area — one of the snowiest and hardiest places in America — this was one for the history books. The three-day total is close to the nearly 8 feet that the region typically gets over an entire year.

Because the Buffalo area is so snowy, building codes require homes and businesses to be able to handle up to 50 pounds per square foot on their roofs, which would be about as heavy as a slab of concrete 4 inches thick, according to Mark Bajorek, a structural engineer.

As anyone who has ever shoveled snow knows, its weight depends in part on how wet or fluffy it is, not just on how deep it is. But Bajorek said some buildings may be close to that limit now, with more precipitation on the way.

10 Things to Know for Today

The Associated Press

Your daily look at late-breaking news, upcoming events and the stories that will be talked about today: 1. WHAT'S NEXT FOR OBAMA ON IMMIGRATION

Despite Republican opposition, the president heads to Las Vegas to sell his executive actions on reform as good politics and good policy.

2. ANOTHER BILL COSBY ACCUSER COMES FORWARD

Therese Serignese, a 57-year-old nurse from Boca Raton, Florida, says the TV icon raped her in 1976 when she was 19 following a show in Las Vegas.

3. U.S. CONTINUES TO PRESS ANKARA ON ISLAMIC STATE GROUP

Vice President Biden will become the latest U.S. official trying to push Turkey to step up its role in the global fight against the Sunni extremists.

4. WHY THINGS COULD GET EVEN WORSE IN BUFFALO

The snow has stopped, but the city by Lake Erie faces a mammoth cleanup and potential for rain and flooding this weekend.

5. PROFILE OF FLORIDA STATE GUNMAN EMERGES

Myron May, 31, was an FSU graduate and attorney who believed the government was targeting him for persecution, authorities say.

6. WHAT CHINA IS DOING TO COUNTER DISSENT

A state-owned newspaper sent reporters to secretly sit in on lectures by dozens of university professors, aiming to catch remarks critical of the Communist Party.

7. "GOLDEN PARACHUTE" OFFERS SOFT LANDING FOR TITANS

The CEOs who've decided to sell in the 10 biggest U.S. deals this year are set to rake in an estimated \$430 million in payments, a study finds.

8. HOW AFGHANS ARE COPING WITH WAR

Afghanistan's first amusement park offers a rare respite for families in a country blighted by armed conflict and poverty.

9. A GIFT FOR THE TECH SAVVY

AP's Anick Jesdanun says that for \$100 or less there are devices that can stream online video to your big-screen TV set.

10. WHO GOT THEIR FIRST WIN IN MORE THAN A YEAR

It took 368 days, but the Oakland Raiders broke a 16-game losing streak when they beat AFC Westleading Kansas City 24-20.

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AP News in Brief

Obama's own politically motivated delays contribute to bumpy road to immigration orders

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama's sweeping immigration executive orders cap a turbulent, six-year quest to make headway on a thorny issue that has at times put the White House at odds with some of its fiercest supporters.

To those who argue the actions are long overdue or don't go far enough, Obama pins the blame solely on Republicans who oppose broader legislation. But Obama himself has contributed to the delays, making political calculations that left legislative efforts languishing throughout his first term and paused the promise of executive action in his second.

In recent months, the protracted process has been aimed in part at finding more favorable political terrain to unveil measures that spare as many as 5 million people in the U.S. illegally from deportation. However, Obama's decision to ultimately wait until after the midterm elections to exert his presidential powers has only heightened the anger from victorious Republicans, who have suggested responding with everything from lawsuits to impeachment.

"The action he's proposed would ignore the law, would reject the voice of the voters and would impose new unfairness on law-abiding immigrants — all without solving the problem," said Sen. Mitch McConnell, the Kentucky Republican who is soon to become Senate majority leader.

Obama announced the executive actions Thursday after a fitful year of stops and starts. While the measures were widely welcomed by advocates, many said they had come far too late.

Emotions rise as people hear President Barack Obama's announcement on immigration reform plan

Thousands of immigrant-rights activists, families and elected officials cheered across the country as President Barack Obama announced on television his plan for relief from deportations for about 5 million people.

But after the initial burst of emotion Thursday evening at hastily organized watch parties and in living rooms, many said Obama's plan was just the first step in the fight for comprehensive immigration reform. Immigrant families pointed out the plan would only cover about 5 million of the 11 million without legal status, leaving many families and individuals in limbo.

Republicans slammed the president's action as an overreach, while advocates — including Oregon Gov. John Kitzhaber and California Gov. Jerry Brown — praised Obama's plan.

Not everyone was happy with Obama's action. A couple of protesters held "no amnesty" signs outside a New York union office where advocates of the president's plan watched the speech.

A snapshot of reactions across the country:

It's Biden's turn to try to get US and Turkey in sync over what to do about Syria

ISTANBUL (AP) — Vice President Joe Biden on Friday will become the latest in a parade of U.S. officials trying to push Turkey to step up its role in the international coalition's fight against Islamic State

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extremists.

His visit comes after weeks of public bickering between the two NATO allies. The Turkish president insists that if the U.S. wants his help, it must focus less on fighting IS and more on toppling Syrian President Bashar Assad. Erdogan wants the U.S.-led coalition to set up a security zone in northern Syria to give moderate fighters a place to recoup and launch attacks.

The U.S. has no appetite to go to war against Assad and has said a no-fly zone against Syria's air force is a no-go.

Turkey has pledged to train and equip moderate Syrian forces on its soil, but no details have been announced by either side. U.S. and Turkish officials have discussed the coalition's desire to use Turkey's Incirlik Air Base for U.S.-led operations against IS militants, but Turkey has made no public decision about Incirlik.

"From the no-fly zone to the safety zone and training and equipping — all these steps have to be taken now," Erdogan said on Wednesday. Then he echoed the same line he's been saying all along: "The coalition forces have not taken those steps we asked them for. ... Turkey's position will be the same as it is now."

Florida woman becomes 4th to publicly allege Bill Cosby drugged, then sexually assaulted her

BOCA RATON, Fla. (AP) — A Florida woman who came forward Thursday became the fourth in recent weeks to say Bill Cosby gave her pills that made her feel groggy then forced himself on her sexually.

Therese Serignese, now 57 and a nurse in Boca Raton, said the television icon raped her in 1976 when she was 19 years old following a show in Las Vegas. She said she went backstage and when the two were alone, Cosby gave her two pills and a glass of water, saying, "Take these."

"My next memory is clearly feeling drugged, being without my clothes, standing up," she said. "Bill Cosby was behind me, having sex with me."

Cosby spokesman David Brokaw did not respond to a request for comment. Cosby's lawyer, in a statement released Sunday, criticized previous "decades-old, discredited allegations," stating that "the fact that they are being repeated does not make them true."

Cosby made no mention of the allegations Thursday during a benefit performance in the Bahamas for a women's service organization. He stuck to his routine, including stories about his childhood growing up in the projects of Philadelphia. There were few empty seats in the house and a few people gave him an ovation when he finished his set.

Chinese professors worry about state paper's criticism of classroom comments, fear crackdown

BEIJING (AP) — Over two weeks, the Communist Party-run Liaoning Daily newspaper sent reporters to sit in on dozens of university lectures all over the country looking for what the paper said were professors "being scornful of China."

During visits to more than 20 schools, the regional paper wrote last week, it found exactly what it said it was looking for: Some professors compared Mao Zedong, first leader of China's communist government, to ancient emperors, a blasphemy to party ideology upholding Mao as a break from the country's feudal past. Other scholars were caught pointing out the party's failures after taking power in 1949. Some repeatedly praised "Western" ideas such as a separation of powers in government.

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"Dear teachers, because your profession demands something higher of you, and because of the solemnity and particularity of the university classroom, please do not speak this way about China!" implored the article, since widely distributed on social media throughout China.

Chinese professors have long endured monitoring and some degree of political interference, but this kind of public shaming was unprecedented in China's recent history, said Zhang Wen, a journalism professor at the University of Science and Technology Beijing. For some, it evokes memories of the bloody political purges of the Cultural Revolution 40 years ago.

Since taking power last year, President Xi Jinping's government has tightened controls over a wide range of society, from artists to churches. And while academics have traditionally been held up as respected voices of authority in Chinese society, many view the public investigation as an order to watch what they say in classrooms, Zhang said.

Snow comes to an end in Buffalo, but rains possible, bringing threat of floods

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) — A snowfall that brought huge snowdrifts and closed roads around Buffalo was finally expected to stop, but residents still couldn't breathe easy, as the looming threat of rain and higher temperatures through the weekend and into the coming week raised the possibility of floods and the specter of roofs collapsing under the heavy loads.

Roofs already were beginning to creak and collapse Thursday as another storm brought the Buffalo area's three-day snowfall total to an epic 7 feet or more. Little or no snow was expected on Friday, and the forecast called for a chance of rain on Saturday and more on Monday along with temperatures approaching 60 degrees.

Homeowners and store employees around the region climbed onto roofs Thursday to shovel off the snow and reduce the danger.

"It's getting heavier," said Cheektowaga resident Thomas Mudd Jr., who with his wife spent several hours shoveling 4 to 5 feet off their roof. "It's supposed to warm up and we're supposed to get rain on the weekend, which will make it even heavier. So I didn't want my roof collapsing."

The storms were blamed for at least 10 deaths in western New York, mostly from heart attacks and exposure.

Supermarket chain Sainsbury's stirs strong passions, outrage with World War I advertisement

LONDON (AP) — Artillery booms. A trench comes into view. Soldiers huddle into their overcoats for warmth.

The scene is the unlikely backdrop for a holiday commercial that has many Britons reaching for hankies — and others demanding it be pulled from the air. The 3-minute, 40-second mini-movie from the Sainsbury's grocery chain depicts the 1914 Christmas Truce, when soldiers stopped killing each other for a few hours to celebrate the holiday together in no man's land.

The commercial has sparked debate on whether it is appropriate for corporations to use sensitive national history for commercial use. The issue is all the more delicate as the country marks 100 years since World War I began — a months-long national moment of soul searching highlighted by somber ceremonies, intense media coverage and crowded exhibitions.

"It is a somewhat brave decision on the part of Sainsbury's," said Leslie Hallam, the course director of

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the psychology of advertising program at Lancaster University Management School. Brave, that is, in the sense of it being risky.

Mourning stage and screen director Mike Nichols, the enemy of mystery, the searcher of truth

NEW YORK (AP) — The last time he was on Broadway, director Mike Nichols was asked what his secret was to getting the best from his actors.

"If you can get it right, there's no mystery," he said in a rehearsal room for the 2013 revival of "Betrayal" starring Daniel Craig and Rachel Weisz. "It's not about mystery. It's not even mysterious. It's about our lives."

Nichols, who died Wednesday at age 83, was the enemy of riddles, of inscrutability, of charades. During a long and illustrious career in the arts that included stage, films and TV, Nichols searched for truth, humor and celebrated real human flaws.

The suave, bespectacled Nichols said he wanted work presented in a way "so that you are part of it and it is part of you." He wanted to find the connections between people, to prove that whatever was happening onscreen or onstage wasn't so different from what the audience was going through.

"I've seen plays about South Africa where I've felt that. We all have. We're all people and if somebody can find the heart of what they're doing and why, we can say, 'Oh, yeah, me, too. Me, too,'" he said. "I love that. That's fun."

Afghanistan's first amusement park, with rides, clowns and games, brings families joy amid war

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Excitement builds in the queue forming behind the barbed-wire security fence outside Afghanistan's first amusement park as children in bright clothes clutch their parents' hands and hop from foot to foot in anticipation of the pleasures waiting behind the high concrete blast walls.

For the thousands of families who have visited Kabul's City Park since it opened during a national religious holiday weekend in October, it is a rare escape from lives blighted by war, death and misery.

Squealing children hardly know where to look as they race through the gates. Inside, they find large friendly characters that look almost, but not quite, like Minnie Mouse and Tom the cat from Tom and Jerry — all dancing together and dispensing hugs.

Traditional fairground rides — including a Ferris wheel and bumper cars — attract the older kids, while a carousel, face painting and games keep younger children happy.

"It's very nice, everything is very beautiful, the carousel horse ride is nice," said 6-year-old Sadaf through a gap-toothed grin as she had her face decorated like a mouse.

Killing of Miss Honduras both family tragedy and national outrage in violence-ridden country

SANTA BARBARA, Honduras (AP) — Maria Jose Alvarado expected some difficult questions about her country at the Miss World pageant in London, so the 19-year-old beauty queen enlisted a teacher to help her prepare.

They reviewed the history of Honduras, including the military-backed coup in 2009 that sent the

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president into exile. They went through the daily newspapers to discuss politics and the gang and drug violence that makes this small Central American republic one of the most dangerous countries in the world.

The odds of winning the Miss World crown were long, Alvarado knew, but she practiced her English in the weeks ahead of the pageant, just in case she needed an acceptance speech, said Jose Eudaldo Diaz, the philosophy professor who was coaching her.

"She knew that the questions would be about the insecurity and violence because that is what the world knows about Honduras," Diaz said. "Her goal was to explain that she wanted to contribute to a Honduras in which children could walk the streets without fear of being murdered."

No one ever got to hear Alvarado's speech, and she didn't get to the pageant. She was shot to death along with a sister, their bodies discarded on a riverbank. They were laid to rest in a rain-soaked cemetery Thursday.

Today in History The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Nov. 21, the 325th day of 2014. There are 40 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 21, 1864, a letter was signed by President Abraham Lincoln expressing condolences to Lydia Bixby, a widow in Boston whose five sons supposedly died while fighting in the Civil War. (As it turned out, only two of Mrs. Bixby's sons had been killed in battle; also, historians are not certain that Lincoln actually wrote the letter.)

On this date:

In 1789, North Carolina became the 12th state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

In 1861, Judah Benjamin, who had been acting Confederate Secretary of War, was formally named to the post.

In 1922, Rebecca L. Felton of Georgia was sworn in as the first woman to serve in the U.S. Senate.

In 1934, the Cole Porter musical "Anything Goes," starring Ethel Merman as Reno Sweeney, opened on Broadway.

In 1942, the Alaska Highway, also known as the Alcan Highway, was formally opened at Soldier's Summit in the Yukon Territory.

In 1964, the upper level of New York's Verrazano Narrows Bridge, connecting Brooklyn and Staten Island, was opened.

In 1969, the Senate voted down the Supreme Court nomination of Clement F. Haynsworth, 55-45, the first such rejection since 1930.

In 1973, President Richard Nixon's attorney, J. Fred Buzhardt (buh-ZAHRDT'), revealed the existence of an 18-1/2-minute gap in one of the White House tape recordings related to Watergate.

In 1974, bombs exploded at a pair of pubs in Birmingham, England, killing 21 people. (Six suspects were convicted of the attack, but the convictions of the so-called "Birmingham Six" were overturned in 1991.)

In 1980, 87 people died in a fire at the MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada.

In 1989, the proceedings of Britain's House of Commons were televised live for the first time.

In 1991, the U.N. Security Council chose Boutros Boutros-Ghali of Egypt to be Secretary-General.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush, trying to mend relations with Latin America, pledged during an economic summit in Chile to make a fresh push for stalled immigration reforms. Iraqi authorities

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set January 30, 2005, as the date for the nation's first election since the collapse of Saddam Hussein's dictatorship. Six Wisconsin hunters were shot to death by Chai Soua Vang, an ethnic Hmong immigrant who was later sentenced to life in prison.

Five years ago: The Senate voted 60-39 to open debate on health care legislation. An explosion at the Xinxing coal mine near Hegang city in China killed 108 miners. The University of East Anglia, in eastern England, reported that hackers had broken into a server at its Climatic Research Unit. (The hackers posted hundreds of private e-mails and documents online, stoking debate on whether some scientists had overstated the case for man-made climate change.) The shimmering, white glove Michael Jackson wore when he premiered his trademark moonwalk dance was auctioned off for \$350,000 (plus \$70,000 in taxes and fees) at the Hard Rock Cafe in New York's Times Square.

One year ago: Sweeping aside a century of precedent, Democrats took a chunk out of the Senate's hallowed filibuster tradition, clearing the way for speedy confirmation of controversial appointments made by President Barack Obama; Republicans warned Democrats would regret their actions once political fortunes were reversed and they could no longer block appointments made by a GOP president. Fifty-four people were killed in a supermaket roof collapse in Riga, Latvia. Three women were freed after being held captive 30 years in a south London home.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Joseph Campanella is 90. Country singer Jean Shepard is 81. Actor Laurence Luckinbill is 80. Actress Marlo Thomas is 77. Actor Rick Lenz is 75. Singer Dr. John is 74. Actress Juliet Mills is 73. Basketball Hall of Famer Earl Monroe is 70. Television producer Marcy Carsey is 70. Actress Goldie Hawn is 69. Movie director Andrew Davis is 68. Rock musician Lonnie Jordan (War) is 66. Singer Livingston Taylor is 64. Actress-singer Lorna Luft is 62. Actress Cherry Jones is 58. Rock musician Brian Ritchie (The Violent Femmes) is 54. Gospel singer Steven Curtis Chapman is 52. Actress Nicollette Sheridan is 51. Singer-actress Bjork (byork) is 49. Pro and College Football Hall of Famer Troy Aikman is 48. Rhythm-and-blues singer Chauncey Hannibal (BLACKstreet) is 46. Rock musician Alex James (Blur) is 46. MLB All-Star player Ken Griffey Jr. is 45. TV personality Rib Hillis is 44. Rapper Pretty Lou (Lost Boyz) is 43. Football player-turned-talk show host Michael Strahan (STRAY'-han) is 43. Country singer Kelsi Osborn (SHeDAISY) is 40. Singer-actress Lindsey Haun is 30. Actress Jena Malone is 30. Pop singer Carly Rae Jepsen is 29. Actor-singer Sam Palladio is 27.

Thought for Today: "Never confuse motion with action." - Ernest Hemingway, American author (1899-1961).