

Groton Daily Independent

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Harry Implement
"Family Owned & Operated Since 1935!"



(605) 395-6421

Ferney

**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

Wednesday, December 3

School Breakfast: Egg Omelet, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Submarines, baked chips, baked beans, carrots and dip, fruit.

Senior Menu: Creamed chicken, buttermilk biscuit, peas, pineapple/Mandarin orange sauce, peanut butter cookie.

Birthdays: Brook Anderson • Jeff Merkel • Dennis K Larson • Anthony Sippel • Jamie Rossow

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

12:00pm: Kiwanis meets at the Community Center

12:00pm: St. John's Lutheran Ladies Aid/LWML

3:45pm: UMC Confirmation

3:45pm: St. John's Lutheran Confirmation

5:00pm: Emmanuel Lutheran Sarah Circle

7:00pm: Emmanuel Lutheran Confirmation

7:00pm: Emmanuel Lutheran Luther League

7:00pm: St. John's Lutheran Advent Service

Thursday, December 4

School Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Lasagna hot dish, corn, Romaine salad, fruit.

Senior Menu: Ham, sweet potatoes, peas, Acini dePepi fruit salad, whole wheat bread.

Birthdays: Brennan McMahan • Caitlyn Howard • Samantha Larson • Darlys Kampa • Drew Johnson

9:30am: Emmanuel Lutheran India Circle

2:00pm: Emmanuel Lutheran Nigeria Circle

Friday, December 5

State Festival Oral Interp at Huron

School Breakfast: Cereal, yogurt, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Chicken quesadilla, green beans, veggie cups, fruit.

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.

Groton Holiday Tour of Homes - December 7

Give yourself a refreshing and revitalizing break from hectic holiday preparations to enjoy the sights, sounds and wonders of Christmas with Groton's Holiday Tour of Homes on Sunday, December 7. This year's Tour will feature the beautiful homes of Dale & Sandy Carr, Glenn & Wendy Cooper, Jarod & Kristie Flihs and Nikki Kotzer all of Groton. This line-up of homes includes an interesting range of home styles and promises a fun variety of decorating styles and creative holiday touches to entertain and inspire you.



The 2 ½ story home of Dale & Sandy Carr is located at 210 N 4th Street and was built in 1900 for W.B. Miller. It has four bedrooms and two bathrooms. It is built on a granite foundation with walls as thick as 18 inches. The house has a basement which consists of a family room, bathroom, laundry room, furnace room and pantry. The main level houses the kitchen, kitchen nook, formal dining room, living room and foyer. Upstairs, you'll find 4 bedrooms and a bathroom. The attic is one long room with a bonus bedroom. The house still has its original ice box built in and is full of oak, birch and maple woods throughout.

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Glenn & Wendy Cooper's home at 208 N 2nd Street has been completely remodeled. It is handicap accessible and also has a chair lift for the steps leading upstairs. The main floor has a three-sided fireplace in the living room-kitchen area. The upstairs displays Glenn's Notre Dame sports collection along with a few NDSU Bison items. Many items are signed by players and coaches. The village scene contains pieces that Wendy collected and painted over the years.

Wendy has a different decorating theme and decorations every year. "Snow and Fun in the Snow" is the Christmas-decorating theme for 2014.

Classifieds

House for Rent

Two-bedroom house in Groton. Full basement, breezeway, attached garage, large yard. Wheelchair 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.

Groton Tour of Homes Sunday, December 7 1-5pm

featuring the beautiful homes of:

Dale & Sandy Carr
Glenn & Wendy Cooper
Jarod & Kristie Flihs
Nikki Kotzer

Refreshments served @GHS.

Tickets \$8 available from Show Choir students, Lori's Pharmacy, Olde Bank Floral 'N More, First State Bank and at the Groton HS Arena on the day of the event.

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Traditional meets modern best describes Jarod & Kristie Flihs' 4 bedroom, 3 bath, ranch-style home located at 1103 N 3rd Street. The home was built in 1976 and has undergone much remodeling in the past 14 years and features before, under construction, and after pictures of such projects. Many hand-crafted furniture and decorative pieces from past and current generations are enjoyed throughout. Family, history and tradition mixed with modern style and updates.



Weber Landscaping

is extending its Christmas Tree Open House

Saturday, Dec. 6, 1-4 p.m.

204 N. State St., Groton

Small ornaments- 25% off

Large ornaments- 50% off



Join Mr. and Mrs. Claus for activities from 2-4 p.m. with Smores over a campfire at 3:30 p.m.



Mr. and Mrs. Claus and Santa's elves will also be teaching how to string cranberries!

Come get your trees, wreaths, garland and planters and have fun, too!

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Nikki Kotzer's 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath split foyer home can be found at 9E 2nd Ave. The house was built in 1980 and has met with many updates since. The renovated kitchen has hardwood floors with new countertops, island, and back splash. A beautiful, huge built-in hutch is the focal point of the dining room. The master bedroom features a sitting room and half bath. And the finished basement houses a toy room, family room and bar area.

The self-guided tour will be from 1 to 5 p.m., with refreshments served in the high school arena lobby. Tickets are \$8 each and are available now from any of the following show choir members: Korbin Blackmun, Rachel Blackmun, Michaela Cutler, Jenifer Fjelstad, Laura Garcia, Tylan Glover, Taylor Gustafson, Kari Hanson, Christine Herr, Alex Kern, Brittany Kjelden, Macy Knecht, Matt Knecht, Mitchell Koens, Kiana Kokales, Jamie Krueger, Heather Lone, Kaitlin O'Neill, Micah Poor, Devon Poppen, Emily Raap, Kaitlyn Ringgenberg, Truitt Rogers, Aaron Severson, Jasmine Schaller, Maggie Simon, Luke Smith, Garrett Stene, Chance Strom, Sydney Thorson, Allison Weber, Danielle Schinkel, Erin Smith and Whitney Voss plus technical/pit crew members Erika Herr, Marlee Jones, Katie LaMee, Jaden Oliver, Jasmine Schinkel, Alyssa Sippel, Alec Voss and Kasey Waage.

Tickets are also available at these Groton businesses: First State Bank, Lori's Pharmacy and Olde Bank Floral 'N More and will also be for sale at the Groton HS Arena on the day of the event. In case of inclement weather, the tour will not be rescheduled; tickets are non-refundable. A map for the tour will be printed on the back side of the tickets.

The annual event is the largest fundraiser for the Prismatic Sensations Show Choir of Groton Area High School. Funds raised help make it possible to purchase costumes and assist with travel costs to show choir competitions. The 2014 Tour of Homes committee and the Prismatic Sensations would like to take this opportunity to offer a huge thanks to the owners of the five homes for agreeing to be on this year's Tour fundraiser. The committee asks the cooperation of tour-goers to be respectful and grateful to the homeowners for opening up their homes for this event. It is a huge commitment of time and energy to extend this type of hospitality, and it is deeply appreciated.

The Life of Dennis Pigors



Services for Dennis Pigors, 72, of Ferney will be 10:30 a.m., Friday, December 5 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ferney. The Rev. Lloyd Redhage will officiate. Burial will follow in St. Paul's Cemetery.

Visitation will be held at the church on Thursday from 4-7 p.m. with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m.

Dennis died November 29, 2014 at Sanford Hospital in Webster.

Dennis Douglas was born on August 1, 1942 in Aberdeen to Elmer and Jeanette (Swenson) Pigors. He attended grade school in Ferney and graduated from Groton High School. Dennis married the love of his life, Judith Hagen on June 19, 1976 and together they made their home in Ferney. Dennis worked on the family farm, raising cattle and grain farming. He also managed Farmers Union in Ferney for 32 years.

Dennis was a lifetime member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, where he held many different offices over the years. He enjoyed spending time with his wife at their lake cabin in Big Stone, fishing, gardening and enjoying

the great outdoors.

Celebrating his life is his wife of 38 years; Judith, his mother, Jeanette Pigors, sister, Diane Pigors and his in-laws: Deb Pigors, Joanne (Richard) Thorpe, Mike (Ruby) Hagen, Greg Hagen, Gary (Cindy) Hagen, Mark (Deb) Hagen, Deb (Bryan) Hawkinson, Dale (Deb) Hagen, Dan (Nancy) Hagen, Shelly (Steve) Kann, David (Judy) Hagen and Todd (Emily) Hagen. Dennis is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Preceding him in death was his father, two brothers, Richard & Corey and an infant sister.

Casketbearers will be Roger Krueger, Kevin Krueger, Rich Zimney, Jim Jones, Greg Pigors and Rick Pigors.

Groton Coffee Cup

Team Standings: Ten pins 35, Jungle Lanes 25.5, Farm Girls 22.15, Ken's 21.5, James Valley 21, Golden Girls 18.4

High Games: Alice Severson 169, Vickie Kramp 166, Joyce Walter 160.

High Series: Alice Severson 471, Joyce Walter 454, Vickie Kramp 446.

Conde National

Team Standings: Mets 20.5, Giants 18.5, Colts 16.5, Braves 15, Pirates 13.5, Cubs 12.

Men's High Games: Cliff Kuckelburg 248, Charlie Dirks 186, Lance Frohling 184.

Men's High Series: Cliff Kuckelburg 583, Charlie Dirks 468, Larry Frohling 467.

Women's High Games: Alice Severson 184, Joyce Walter 169, Breanna Kuckelburg 163, Nancy Radke 163.

Women's High Series: Alice Severson 469, Breanna Kuckelburg 462, Joyce Walter 448.

Contrasting an ER with a Medical Home



By Richard P. Holm M.D.

Just this month I had two strikingly different cases. Case one: Mr. A called to say he was losing ground with back pain, weight loss and bowel changes. I set up an appointment after some blood work in the outpatient clinic for that next day. Case two: Mr. B's daughter called to say he was developing confusion after a fall last week and today his speech was garbled. I advised Mr. B's daughter to get him immediately to the Emergency Room (ER) for testing.

In the U.S. there are two distinct places to obtain health care. The outpatient clinic is where your doctor, your PA or your nurse practitioner comes who knows you, your family and your lifetime story. Sometimes called the "patient-centered medical home," outpatient care provides for preventive care, continuity with long-term monitoring and minor-illness treatment. The most important goal and advantage for the medical home is over repeated visits, you and your provider establish and develop a trusting relationship.

In contrast, the ER is where people with major injuries and severe illnesses are provided care. It is the entrance place to go when you're sick enough that you might need to be hospitalized. It is expensive care partly because they usually don't know you, they anticipate the worst case, understandably they do a lot of testing, and finally, in the ER, they must be ready for any extreme and serious case 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Too often people with minor outpatient type problems go to the ER because they haven't established care in a clinic, haven't the patience to wait for the clinic to open or haven't realized how the ER can result in unnecessary expense. Minor problems are clearly best treated in the outpatient clinic. To say it again, the ER should be where you go when problems are urgent enough that you might need to go into the hospital.

Of course if you have a serious medical concern, without question go to the ER. But please realize the value of the relationship with a primary care provider found in the patient-centered medical home.

Mr. A's outpatient workup found metastatic prostate cancer, which was all diagnosed and treated successfully with outpatient care. Mr. B had a head CT scan in the ER showing a large blood clot requiring hospitalization and subsequent neurosurgery. He eventually regained consciousness and speech.

The outpatient medical home and the ER are two different places with very different purposes, and it's important to know the difference.

Today in Weather History

1985: Light snow and strong winds gusting to near 40 mph caused ground blizzard conditions over parts of central and western sections of South Dakota on the 3rd. Schools were canceled in the Huron area, and some roads were blocked due to the strong winds and blowing and drifting snow.

1991: Strong northwesterly winds behind a departing surface low brought blizzard conditions and dangerously cold wind chill readings across west central and southwest Minnesota on the 3rd. A general 1 to 3 inch snowfall occurred across the area, and combined with winds gusting to 50 mph at times to generate whiteout conditions from the morning into the evening. Air temperatures combined with the strong wind to produce wind chill values ranging from 30 to 50 below zero. A number of schools and businesses were closed during the morning as the storm intensified. Several car accidents and jackknifed tractor-semitrailers littered roadways. Many roads were closed at the height of the storm. Power outages occurred over a small portion of the area due to the strong winds downing ice-covered power lines.

1886: A great snowstorm dumped up to 42 inches of snow in the southern Appalachian Mountains. 33 inches fell at Asheville, NC and 25 inches fell at Rome, GA.

1905: Today the Weather Bureau received its first weather report from a ship at sea via wireless.

1983: Birmingham, AL was drenched with 9.22 inches of rain in just 24 hours, literally submerging traffic. The cloudburst drenched the ongoing Iron Bowl with rain so hard that the field could hardly be seen. That storm went on to produce an F3 tornado and kill two people.

1856 - A severe blizzard began to rage across Iowa and Kansas. It produced as much as 16 inches of snow in Iowa. (David Ludlum)

1926 - Yuma, AZ, was soaked with 1.10 inch of rain, and by the 10th of the month had received 4.43 inches, making it the wettest December of record. The average annual rainfall for Yuma is 3.38 inches. (3rd-10th) (The Weather Channel)

1983 - Birmingham, AL, was drenched with 9.22 inches of rain in 24 hours. The rains caused severe flash flooding which literally submerged traffic. (The Weather Channel)




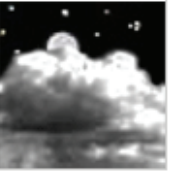



1987 - Stormy weather in the northwestern U.S. finally began to abate, but not before Gold Beach OR was drenched with 7.94 inches of rain in 24 hours. Low pressure spread snow from the Upper Mississippi Valley to the Central Appalachians. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Gale force winds ushered cold air into the northeastern U.S., and produced snow squalls in the Lower Great Lakes Region. Winds gusted to 48 mph at Buffalo NY. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Heavy snow and high winds created blizzard conditions in northern New England. Snowfall totals in Maine ranged up to 31 inches, at Limestone. Presque Isle ME reported a record 30 inches of snow in 24 hours, along with wind gusts to 46 mph. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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TODAY	TONIGHT	THURSDAY	THURSDAY NIGHT	FRIDAY	FRIDAY NIGHT	SATURDAY
						
Sunny High: 25 °F	Partly Cloudy Low: 14 °F ↑	Mostly Sunny High: 32 °F	Mostly Cloudy Low: 13 °F	Mostly Sunny High: 26 °F	Partly Cloudy Low: 8 °F	Mostly Sunny High: 30 °F



Mild Today, Warmer This Weekend

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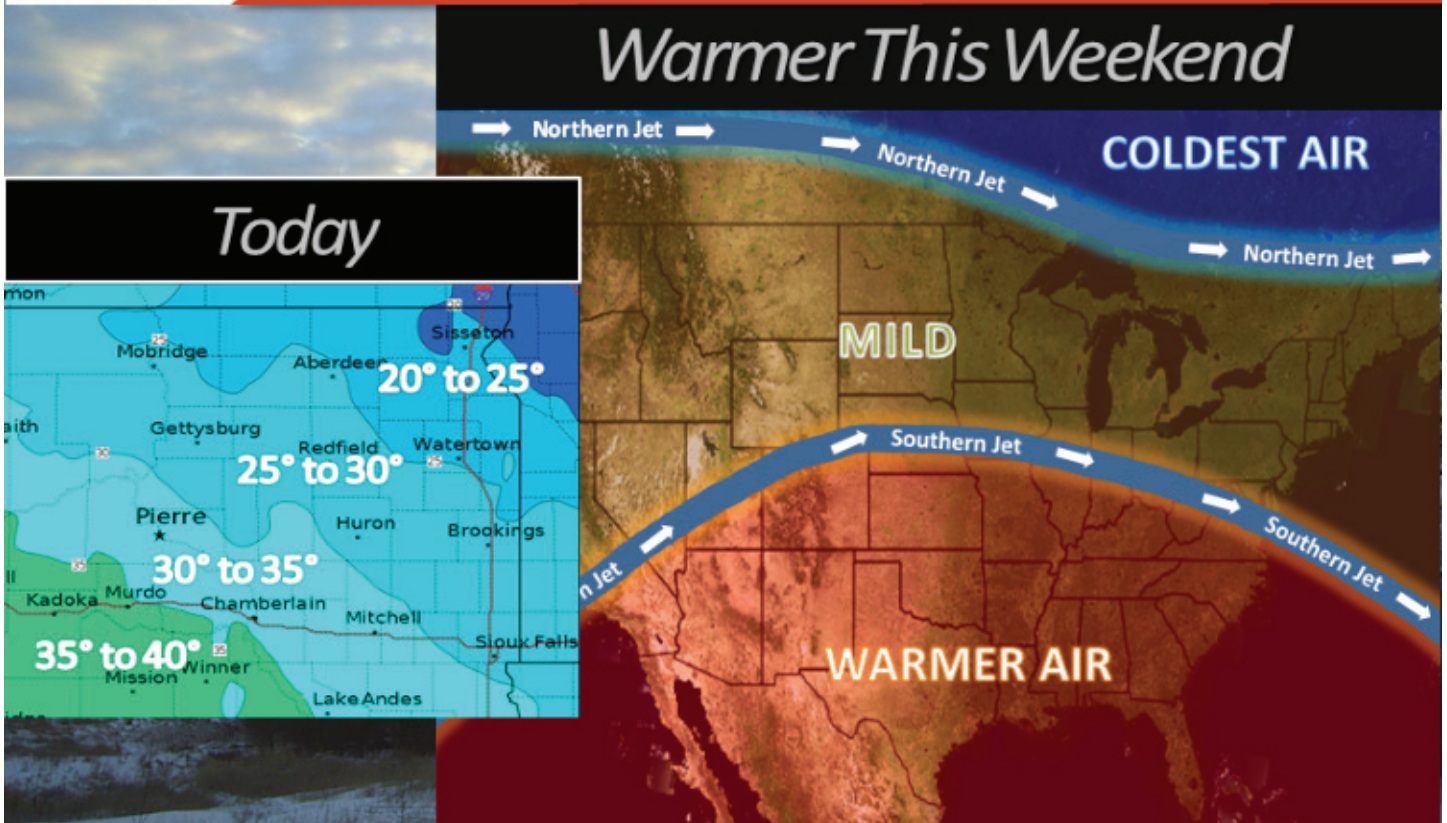
weather.gov/Aberdeen



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen



A quiet weather pattern has taken hold of the region. Today, slightly cooler air will be in place, but a warm up is expected as we move toward the weekend. In fact, the longer range outlooks trend toward warmer temperatures well into next week.

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Yesterday's Weather

High: 29.4°F at 2:40 PM

Low: 8.0°F at 11:21 PM

Wind Chill: -1 at Midnight

High Gust: 37 mph at 12:07 AM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 63° in 1941

Record Low: -18° in 1897, 1905

Average High: 30°F

Average Low: 10°F

Average Precip in Dec.: 0.04

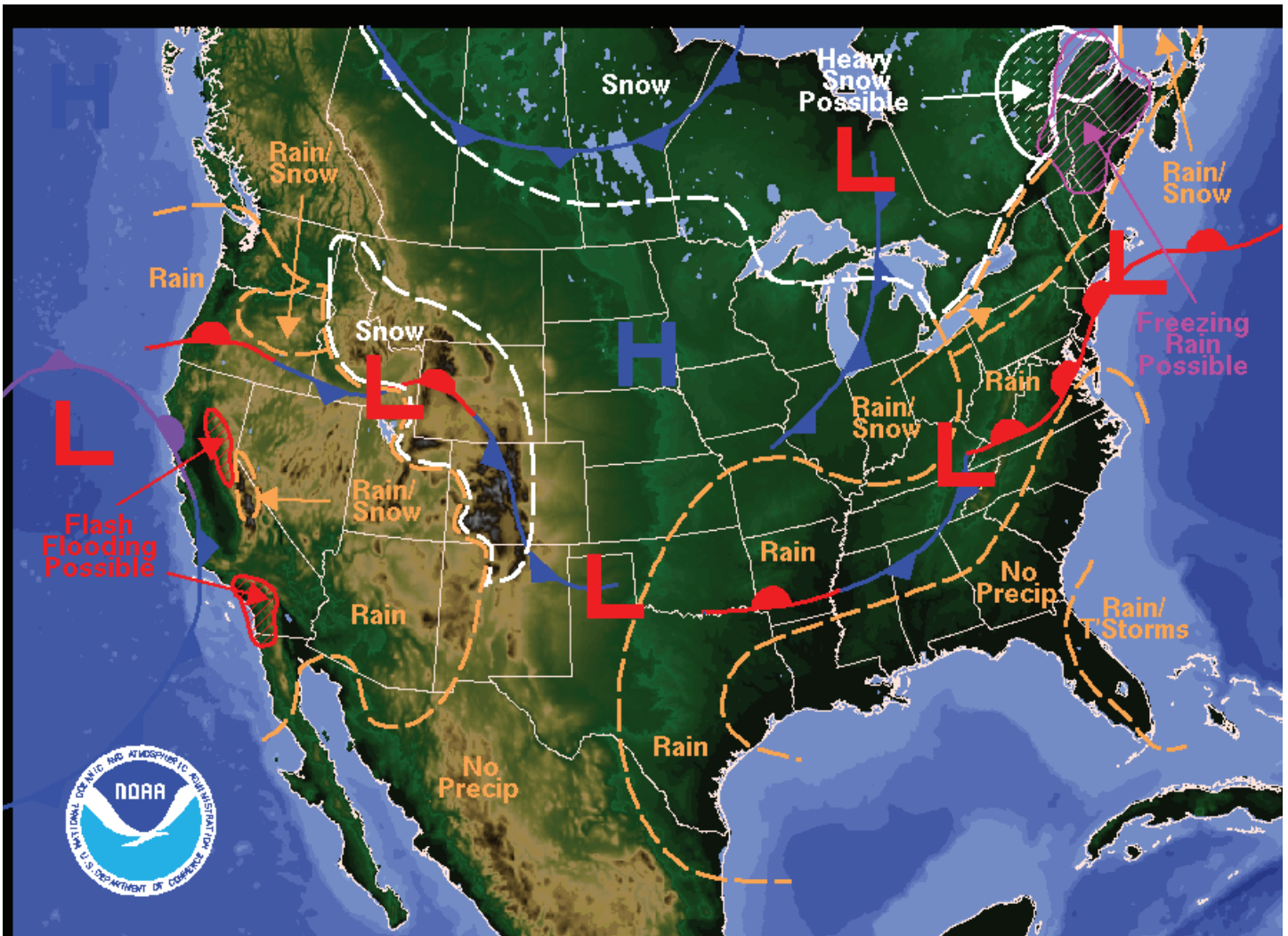
Precip to date in Dec.: 0.00

Average Precip to date: 21.24

Precip Year to Date: 13.99

Sunset Tonight: 4:51 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:57 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Wed, Dec 03, 2014, issued 3:27 AM EST
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



THE WHISTLER AND HIS WIFE

A new preacher came to town. Each day as he passed one particular home on his walk to the post office, he heard a man whistling happily and loudly.

Day after day he heard the whistler. He became so fascinated with the sounds that he decided to discover where they came from. One morning the preacher opened the gate quietly and looked inside. Hearing the gate creak, "the whistler" approached the preacher asking him to come inside.

"Why do you whistle so loudly when you work?" asked the preacher.

"My wife's a cripple," he answered, "and she is also blind. I want her to know as she sits alone on the porch that I'm always close by and thinking about her. When she hears me whistling, she knows I'm not only nearby but available."

Our Lord is just like "the whistler" – always nearby and available. Although we may not hear Him or see Him, He is always present in our world. However, we must trust "Him with our worries and cares, for He is always thinking about us and watching everything that concerns us."

Prayer: Thank You, Heavenly Father, for always being nearby, for always watching over us and protecting us, and meeting our every need. May we always sense Your presence in our lives and Your love that surrounds us. In Your Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: 1 Peter 5:7 Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

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News from the **AP** Associated Press

Lake Area Tech president going to White House

WATERTOWN, S.D. (AP) — Lake Area Technical Institute President Mike Cartney plans to join President Barack Obama, the first lady and vice president Thursday at the White House College Opportunity Summit.

The Watertown school has been a top 10 national finalist for the Aspen Community College Excellence Award three consecutive times and has one of the highest graduation and placement rates in the nation.

The summit draws colleges and universities, business leaders, nonprofit groups and others who support expanding college opportunities for students nationwide.

Its focus is helping communities with strong K-12 and higher education partnerships to encourage college attendance and improve college completion, especially for first generation, low-income and under-represented students.

Obama unveils plan to help young American Indians

BLAKE NICHOLSON, Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — President Barack Obama announced an initiative Wednesday aimed at improving conditions and opportunities for American Indian youth, more than a third of whom live in poverty.

Obama's Generation Indigenous initiative calls for programs focused on better preparing young American Indians for college and careers, and developing leadership skills through the Department of Education and the Aspen Institute's Center for Native American Youth. Members of the president's staff also plan to visit reservations next year.

The announcement, made as part of the White House Tribal Nations Conference that Obama is hosting on Wednesday, comes five months after the president and his wife visited the impoverished Standing Rock Indian Reservation in the Dakotas.

The 3,600-square-mile reservation is home to about 8,500 people, many of whom live in run-down homes, and where the unemployment rate runs as high as 20 percent. The suicide rate for American Indians aged 15 to 24 is more than twice the national rate.

Cecilia Munoz, director of the White House Domestic Policy Council, said the president and first lady "were deeply moved" after listening to children's stories about challenges they faced

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

on the reservation, such as depression and alcohol abuse.

Wednesday's conference involves leaders from 566 federally recognized tribal nations, along with 36 White House Youth Ambassadors chosen from around the country through an essay contest.

"People who grow up in a poverty culture sometimes need guidance, need values, need a little bit of structure," said Chase Iron Eyes, an attorney and Native American rights activist from Standing Rock who is attending the conference.

"Through some of the things the administration is doing, it looks like they're trying to do that," he said. "Youth — they just need the right tools, and maybe they can empower themselves."

The White House also released a report Wednesday acknowledging failures in federal policy and highlighting the need for more tribal help in the areas of economic development, health and education. Slightly more than two-thirds of Native youth graduate from high school, according to the 2014 Native Youth Report.

One of the report's recommendations is to strengthen tribal control of the education system on reservations. Officials are working to overhaul the Bureau of Indian Education, which is responsible for educating 48,000 Indian students in 23 states, Interior Secretary Sally Jewell said.

Jewell estimated it would cost more than \$1 billion to fix schools with crumbling infrastructures. Officials are pursuing money through Congress, existing government programs and philanthropic organizations.

"We have to get creative," Jewell said.

South Dakota beats Cal State-Northridge 68-65

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Casey Kasperbauer set career highs by making seven 3-pointers and scoring 25 points, Brandon Bos hit two free throws with 9 seconds left and South Dakota beat Cal State-Northridge 68-65 on Tuesday night.

South Dakota (3-5) used a 9-2 run, capped Tyler Larson's 3-pointer, to take a 64-57 lead with 2:55 to play.

After a pair of free throws by Stephan Hicks and a Landon Drew jumper pulled Northridge within three, Kasperbauer made two free throws to make it 66-61 with 22 seconds remaining.

Stephen Maxwell was fouled on a put-back layup 9 seconds later, but missed the free throw.

Larson missed the front end of a one-and-one on the other end and a pair of free throws by Hicks pulled Northridge (2-6) within one, 66-65, with 10 seconds to go.

Hick, who scored 27, immediately fouled and Brandon Bos made both free throws before a Northridge turnover sealed it.

Dems: Daugaard budget doesn't hike teacher pay

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — After Gov. Dennis Daugaard outlined a \$4.3 billion budget proposal to lawmakers Tuesday, Democrats found one glaring omission: the plan doesn't directly address South Dakota's bottom-shelf teacher pay.

Daugaard proposed adding about \$50 million to general fund spending in his budget for fiscal year 2016, with roughly 2 percent increases going to schools, health programs and Medicaid provider payments. But lower-than-expected revenues kept the Republican governor from seeking larger spending hikes, and the budget contains no general fund tax increases.

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Democrats had hoped Daugaard would tackle the state's teacher shortage. South Dakota ranks last in the nation for teacher compensation, according to the National Education Association, which was a splitting point in the governor's race decided in November.

Incoming Senate Minority Leader Billie Sutton, D-Burke, said after the address that teacher pay rates are a "crisis" that would take tens of millions of dollars to solve.

"I just wish we could do more," Sutton said.

Daugaard said the state can't spend money it doesn't have, calling his budget a conservative increase built on a modestly growing economy. He pushed back on some of the doomsday rhetoric Democrats peddled, saying it's expedient to refer to chosen causes in the "most desperate terms possible" to make them a higher priority.

The governor said he has no plans to expand the state's Medicaid program as part of the Affordable Care Act, another priority for Democrats.

Daugaard also proposed a 2 percent increase in spending on state employees — a slight drop from the 3 percent increases the governor proposed last year, when there was slightly more on the table to spend. Lawmakers ended up adopting even larger increases in some areas — such as schools and health programs — during the 2014 session.

Last year's budget saw a one-time multimillion dollar windfall from unclaimed property, which comes from bank accounts and other financial holdings turned over to the state when owners cannot be found. But unclaimed property receipts through October — about four months into the budget year — were roughly \$3.8 million short of expectations.

In addition, sales and use taxes through October took in about \$2.7 million less than anticipated. The sales tax is the state's largest general fund source of money, and has been affected by low inflation.

Lawmakers will begin debating the plan when the GOP-dominated Legislature convenes in mid-January.

Incoming House Speaker Dean Wink, R-Howes, praised Daugaard's "sound" budget proposal for its fiscal restraint and said it didn't lack any specific initiatives that he's looking to tackle in the upcoming session. But he said it would be subject to legislative debate.

What isn't addressed in Daugaard's budget request could be the subject of legislative wrangling: whether to increase taxes to fund roads and bridges that need replacing or repaving.

Republican legislators have put forward a loose proposal to hike taxes to fund transportation, as counties have said they need more than \$80 million more for infrastructure repairs and state highways would need more than \$140 million in additional money. Daugaard said transportation funding needs to be tackled this year — he hasn't offered a specific plan — and has said he'll know more by the end of the year.

Sen. Mike Vehle, R-Mitchell, who headed the legislative group that put forward the funding options, said he was "tickled" that Daugaard highlighted the need to maintain roads and bridges. Daugaard said tax hikes for transportation — which isn't financed by the general fund — may be incoming.

"Taxes, when it comes to transportation, are on the table," he said.

5 Things to know about Daugaard's budget plan

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The \$4.3 billion budget plan Gov. Dennis Daugaard presented Tuesday was held in check by modest growth in South Dakota's economy, which means the governor didn't have much of a sandbox to try out new programs.

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Daugaard's plan has about \$50 million in new general fund spending for fiscal year 2016, with roughly 2 percent increases going to schools, health programs and Medicaid provider payments and spending on state employees. But lower-than-expected revenues kept Daugaard from seeking larger spending hikes, and the budget contains no tax increases.

Here's a look at five things to consider about the governor's budget proposal:

STILL AN IMPROVEMENT

South Dakota's economy isn't roaring forward and dragging massive amounts of extra money to spend with it, but Daugaard reminded those disappointed with the amount of new spending available within existing revenue — general fund tax hikes to fund more programs are extremely unlikely — that the budget is still beating tepid inflationary increases.

"People in Japan would be delighted to have a 2 percent growth rate," the governor said.

TEACHER PAY

Democrats see one glaring omission in the proposal that they've long called for: addressing South Dakota's low teacher pay. Incoming Senate Minority Leader Billie Sutton, D-Burke, said after Daugaard's address that he's disappointed the governor didn't specifically highlight the issue. Daugaard said the state can't spend money it doesn't have, calling his budget a conservative increase built on a modestly growing economy.

JUVENILE JUSTICE

Daugaard wants to build on a previous criminal justice system overhaul by bringing reforms to South Dakota's juvenile justice system. He proposed about \$3.2 million in ongoing appropriations to attempt to shift juvenile offenders toward community-based treatments. The overhaul is expected to avert state costs in the future and significantly decrease the number of juveniles committed to the care of the state Department of Corrections.

NO TUITION FREEZE

The South Dakota Board of Regents asked for the continuation of a tuition freeze for resident students that the Legislature approved last session, but it's not included in Daugaard's plan for fiscal year 2016. The governor said there wasn't enough money to fund a freeze, but he pointed to \$1.3 million in the proposal that would bump the South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship from \$5,000 to \$6,500 per student.

ROSS SHAFT

One-time spending in Daugaard's budget includes \$3.95 million for rehabilitation of the Ross Shaft at the Sanford Underground Research Facility at the historic Homestake Gold Mine. The lab, which performs state-of-the-art experiments such as attempting to find dark matter, is working to replace old steel infrastructure in the shaft that was built in the 1930s. The upgrades are expected to require about \$6.5 million total in fiscal year 2016.

USDA homeownership loans available to SD residents

HURON, S.D. (AP) — A federal home loan program geared to potential buyers in rural communities is now available to South Dakota residents.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development home loan program offers 100 percent financing with no down payment required for low and lower income individuals or families at a 3.75 percent interest rate.

State director Elsie Meeks says the loans can help improve the quality of life for South Dakota residents while assisting rural communities grow.

The loans are made directly through the USDA and are offered for a period of 30 to 38 years. The loans can go toward purchasing an existing home or new home construction.

Income qualifications apply and the loan amount is determined by the borrower's repayment ability.

Ex-fire official in SD pleads guilty to 1 charge

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A former fire official in southeast South Dakota has admitted to unlawfully accessing the fire chief's email account.

Forty-seven-year-old Patrick Warren on Tuesday pleaded guilty in Sioux Falls to unlawful use of a computer. As part of a plea agreement, authorities dropped 14 other counts against the former Sioux Falls Fire Rescue division chief.

Prosecutors say Warren between Jan. 5 and May 5 accessed internal fire department documents and other records he wasn't authorized to see.

Police Chief Doug Barthel has said Warren's plans for the information aren't clear, but "it was probably for his own personal benefit," and not for a criminal purpose.

Warren faces up to 60 days in jail and up to a \$4,000 fine. He was one of three division chiefs when he resigned in mid-May.

Rounds names key staff members in SD, Washington

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — U.S. Sen.-Elect Mike Rounds announced Tuesday his choices for leadership positions at his South Dakota and Washington offices.

Rounds hired Katie Douglas, a Pierre native, as press secretary. She'll be based in Washington and work with South Dakota media. Douglas has a political science degree from the University of South Dakota and is a former press assistant for U.S. Rep. Kristi Noem.

Others joining his staff include:

—Jeff Marlette, West River director in Rapid City. Currently superintendent and elementary principal for the New Underwood School District, Marlette retired from the South Dakota Army National Guard.

—Kim Olson, central South Dakota director in Pierre, has worked for more than a decade under Gov. Dennis Daugaard and for Rounds when he was governor.

—Mark Johnston, East River director in Sioux Falls, was Rounds' press secretary from 2002-2006 and has been an executive at Sanford Health for the past seven years. Johnston is retired from the U.S. Army.

—Josh Haeder, senior field manager, will operate satellite constituent offices in Huron and Aberdeen. He spent the past five years as chief operating officer for Allen Credit & Debt Counseling Agency and also owns a voiceover production company.

—Connie Tveidt, state scheduler and director of administration in Pierre, has worked for the state for more than 25 years, including eight as deputy chief of staff for Rounds.

Rounds takes office on Jan. 6.

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. WAR CLINIC IN KURDISH BORDER TOWN STRUGGLES TO TREAT WOUNDED ANTI-IS FIGHTERS
With most Kobani hospitals in ruins, only one is still working thanks to only three doctors and five

nurses and despite shortages of basic equipment and supplies.

2. OBAMA SAID TO HAVE SETTLED ON NOMINEE TO SUCCEED HAGEL

Ashton Carter, 60, has never served in the military or in Congress, unlike many defense secretaries.

3. WHO IS REFUSING TO COMPLY WITH DEMAND FOR AIR BAG RECALL

Japan's Takata Corp. says the decision to withdraw the faulty equipment is up to the automakers, setting the stage for a showdown when the company appears before the U.S. Congress today.

4. CALIFORNIA WOMAN SUES BILL COSBY

Judy Huth says she was molested by the comedian in a bedroom at the Playboy Mansion around 1974 when she was 15.

5. BOMB BLAST HITS YEMENI CAPITAL

At least two people are dead in a massive explosion that took place near the home of the Iranian ambassador.

6. WHY POLICE ARE INVESTIGATING MICHAEL BROWN'S STEPFATHER

Louis Head made angry comments on the streets of Ferguson ahead of the arson, vandalism and looting that followed the grand jury's announcement.

7. INDIA MARKS 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF BHOPAL TRAGEDY

Protesters want harsher punishments for those responsible for the world's worst industrial disaster that killed 15,000 people.

8. HOW COYOTES ARE CAUSING A CALIFORNIA CONTROVERSY

Hunts for the varmints are facing a possible ban as wildlife advocates and hunters clash.

9. WHO WAS STREAMED THE MOST ON SPOTIFY IN 2014

Singer-songwriter Ed Sheeran tops the list globally while Eminem is number one in the U.S. Pharrell's "Happy" was the global favorite on the service.

10. AUSTRALIA BIDS FAREWELL TO CRICKETER PHILLIP HUGHES

Fans and players from around the world attend the funeral of the star who died two days after being hit near the ear by

AP News in Brief

INSIDE KOBANI: War clinic in Kurdish border town struggles to treat wounded anti-IS fighters

KOBANI, Syria (AP) — Like much of this battered Syrian Kurdish border town on the front lines in the battle against the Islamic State group, most of its hospitals and clinics now lie in ruins. Only one is still working — but its location is kept secret for fear it could be targeted by the militants.

Inside the tiny field clinic, saving lives and dealing with horrifying wounds of war comes first, and concerns such as keeping operating rooms sterile and cleaning up after surgery are on the back burner.

Blood is splattered across most of the beds and floors, and a small team of only three doctors and five nurses are providing the only remaining medical services in the town. They are sometimes forced to operate by torchlight since power generators regularly fail.

They treat a seemingly unending flood of wounded Kurdish fighters and members of the Free Syrian Army, just meters (yards) away from the front lines.

The Spartan clinic only has the very basic equipment and regularly runs out of supplies. Those with more critical wounds must make a mad dash for the border with Turkey, and wait there for a transport to a better hospital in the neighboring country.

Obama's expected pick to lead wartime Pentagon earned his defense stripes the quiet way

WASHINGTON (AP) — No household name, Ashton Carter has earned his stripes in the national security trenches the quiet way. For decades he has toiled as a defense thinker and strategist, nuclear expert, three-time Pentagon executive, budget guru and academician.

He never served in the military or in Congress, unlike many defense secretaries, including the man he would replace if President Barack Obama nominates him as Chuck Hagel's successor. But he spent a lot of time with troops during his 2011-2013 stint as deputy defense secretary and has built relationships with an entire generation of military leaders during his years in the Pentagon.

Administration officials said Tuesday that Carter, 60, is expected to be Obama's nominee, putting him in line to take over a far-flung, hard-to-manage department that has had an uneasy relationship with the White House.

Obama spokesman Josh Earnest stopped short of confirming that the president had made a decision, yet praised Carter effusively for serving "very, very ably" at the Pentagon previously and noted he had been easily confirmed by the Senate before.

"This is an indication that he fulfills some of the criteria that we've discussed in the past," Earnest said. "He is somebody who definitely deserves and has demonstrated strong bipartisan support for his previous service in government."

New lawsuit by California woman brings Cosby sex abuse claims back into court setting

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A lawsuit by a woman who claims Bill Cosby molested her when she was 15 years old has moved allegations of sexual misconduct against the comedian from the court of public opinion into the courthouse.

Judy Huth's lawsuit filed Tuesday in Los Angeles accuses Cosby of forcing her to perform a sex act on him in a bedroom of the Playboy Mansion around 1974. She is the latest woman to accuse the comedian of sex abuse, and is the first one since 2005 to file a lawsuit.

Cosby has been beset for weeks by allegations by more than a dozen women that he drugged and sexually assaulted them in incidents spanning several decades. The comedian has not been criminally charged and many of the claims are so old, they are barred by statutes of limitations.

Huth's lawsuit, however, contends that she became aware of the serious effect the abuse had on her within the past three years. California law allows victims of sex abuse when they were minors to bring a claim after adulthood if they discover later in life that they suffered psychological injuries as a result of the abuse.

Cosby has not been criminally charged, but Netflix and NBC have scuttled projects featuring the comedian and several shows on his comedy tour have also been canceled.

Takata passes to automakers recall decision on exploding air bags ahead of Congress hearing

DETROIT (AP) — Japan's Takata Corp. refused to comply with a U.S. government demand for an expanded recall of its air bags that can explode and shoot out shrapnel, and instead passed along the

crucial decision to automakers.

The response, which the U.S. immediately criticized as inadequate, sets the stage for a showdown between the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the company, when they appear before U.S. Congress on Wednesday.

So far, 14 million vehicles worldwide have been recalled due to the air bag problem, including 8 million in the U.S. Takata has yet to pinpoint a cause, even though the recalls started a decade ago.

The U.S. government wants Takata and automakers to add millions of cars across the U.S. to recalls now limited to areas with high humidity. The automakers indicated Tuesday that they want to do their own testing, in addition to tests underway at Takata.

The deadline had been set for midnight Tuesday for Takata to send a response to NHTSA, which was demanding a national recall of driver-side air bags or face civil fines and legal action.

Tests raise worry that battery shipments on passenger planes could catch fire

WASHINGTON (AP) — Dramatic government test results raise new concern that bulk shipments of rechargeable lithium batteries carried as cargo on passenger planes are susceptible to fires or explosions that could destroy the airliners.

Yet U.S. and international officials have been slow to adopt safety restrictions that might affect the powerful industries that depend on the batteries and the airlines that profit from shipping them. The batteries are used in products ranging from cellphones and laptops to hybrid cars.

Shipments of rechargeable batteries on passenger planes are supposed to be limited to no more than a handful in a single box, under safety standards set by the U.N.'s International Civil Aviation Organization and adopted by the U.S. and other nations. But a loophole permits shippers to pack many small boxes into one shipment and get around the rules. Tens of thousands of the batteries may be packed into pallets or containers and loaded into the cargo holds of wide-body passenger planes.

In an April test by the Federal Aviation Administration, a cargo container was packed with 5,000 lithium-ion batteries and a cartridge heater added to simulate a single battery experiencing uncontrolled overheating. The heat from the cartridge triggered escalating overheating in nearby batteries, which spread in a chain reaction. Temperatures reached about 1,100 degrees.

Once about 300 batteries had become involved, a fierce explosion blew open the container door and sent boxes flying, catching FAA and industry observers by surprise. Within seconds, the cargo container was in flames. The explosion came from a buildup of flammable gases.

Police investigating Michael Brown's stepfather for comments ahead of Ferguson rioting, arsons

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Police are investigating Michael Brown's stepfather for angry comments on the streets of Ferguson after a grand jury decided not to indict the police officer who fatally shot his stepson, a spokesman said Tuesday.

Officials are looking into Louis Head's comments as part of a broader investigation into the arson, vandalism and looting that followed the Nov. 24 grand jury announcement, St. Louis County Police spokesman Brian Schellman said. Twelve commercial buildings were destroyed by fire.

Brown, 18, who was black and unarmed, was killed Aug. 9 by Darren Wilson, who is white. Wilson, who resigned from the Ferguson department last weekend, had told the grand jury his life was being

threatened, but some witnesses said Brown was trying to surrender.

Video widely circulated after last week's grand jury announcement shows Brown's mother, Lesley McSpadden, on top of a car and breaking down as the decision blares over a stereo. Head, her husband, comforts her then yells angry comments, including "Burn this bitch down!"

Family attorney Benjamin Crump has called the reaction "raw emotion," but "completely inappropriate." He did not immediately return messages seeking comment Tuesday.

Yemeni officials: car bomb targets home of Iranian ambassador in capital

SANAA, Yemen (AP) — A massive car bomb exploded Wednesday morning in the Yemeni capital, Sanaa, apparently targeting the home of the Iranian ambassador, Yemeni security officials said.

The blast heavily damaged several buildings in the area. At least two people were killed, both security guards at the ambassador's residence, the officials said.

The Yemeni officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they are not authorized to brief the media.

Iran's ambassador to Yemen, Hossein Niknam, is new to the post and presented his credentials to the Yemeni Foreign Ministry within the last week, according to Iranian state media.

Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian told the semi-official Tasnim news agency that the ambassador was unharmed.

3 Hong Kong pro-democracy leaders turned away by police after call to end 2-month-old protests

HONG KONG (AP) — Three founders of a civil disobedience campaign that helped spark Hong Kong's pro-democracy protests were turned away by police Wednesday after trying to surrender in a bid to bring to an end the increasingly violent street demonstrations.

Professors Benny Tai Yiu-ting and Chan Kin-man and the Rev. Chu Yiu-ming haven't been charged, but authorities say protests that have blocked streets in the Asian financial center for more than two months are illegal.

In a statement, they had said their move to surrender was a message that they were ready to respect the rule of law. "To surrender is not to fail, it is a silent denunciation of a heartless government," they said.

The attempted surrender was likely to have little influence on student protesters, who are continuing to occupy two protest sites after a violent night of clashes with police earlier this week as they tried to surround city government headquarters.

The three democracy movement leaders were joined by dozens of supporters also planning to turn themselves in, as well as a crowd of jeering people calling for them to be jailed.

Suicide car bomb blast hits UN convoy in Mogadishu; 3 killed

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP) — A suicide bomber rammed his vehicle into a U.N. convoy near Mogadishu's airport on Wednesday, killing three people, Somali police said.

"The car bomb hit near the front gate of the Mogadishu airport. Several people, including an army officer, (were) killed after he tried to stop the vehicle," said police spokesman Kasim Ahmed Roble.

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Yusuf Haji, a resident in the area, said soldiers fired at pedestrians after the blast.

The militant group al-Shabab frequently carries out suicide blasts and gunfire attacks in Mogadishu. The group has also claimed responsibility for two gruesome and deadly attacks against Kenyan civilians near the Kenya-Somali border over the last two weeks.

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Dec. 3, the 337th day of 2014. There are 28 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 3, 1984, thousands of people died after a cloud of methyl isocyanate gas escaped from a pesticide plant operated by a Union Carbide subsidiary in Bhopal, India.

On this date:

In 1810, British forces captured Mauritius from the French, who had renamed the island nation off southeast Africa "Ile de France."

In 1818, Illinois was admitted as the 21st state.

In 1828, Andrew Jackson was elected president of the United States by the Electoral College.

In 1833, Oberlin College in Ohio - the first truly coeducational school of higher learning in the United States - began holding classes.

In 1925, George Gershwin's Concerto in F had its world premiere at New York's Carnegie Hall, with Gershwin at the piano.

In 1947, the Tennessee Williams play "A Streetcar Named Desire" opened on Broadway.

In 1960, the Lerner and Loewe musical "Camelot" opened on Broadway.

In 1964, police arrested some 800 students at the University of California at Berkeley, a day after the students stormed the administration building and staged a massive sit-in.

In 1967, surgeons in Cape Town, South Africa led by Dr. Christiaan Barnard performed the first human heart transplant on Louis Washkansky, who lived 18 days with the new heart. The 20th Century Limited, the famed luxury train, completed its final run from New York to Chicago.

In 1979, 11 people were killed in a crush of fans at Cincinnati's Riverfront Coliseum, where the British rock group The Who was performing.

In 1991, radicals in Lebanon released American hostage Alann (cq) Steen, who'd been held captive nearly five years.

In 1994, AIDS activist Elizabeth Glaser, who along with her two children were infected with HIV because of a blood transfusion, died in Santa Monica, California, at age 47.

Ten years ago: It was announced that Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld was staying on the job. Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson resigned, warning as he left of a possible terror attack on the nation's food supply. The Ukraine Supreme Court ordered a rerun of the head-to-head presidential contest, setting off rejoicing by supporters of Western-leaning Viktor Yushchenko, who ended up the winner.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama hosted a White House-sponsored jobs forum, where he said he'd heard many "exciting ideas" and proposals and expressed hope some could be put into action quickly. Pope Benedict XVI and visiting Russian President Dmitry Medvedev agreed to upgrade Vatican-Kremlin ties to full diplomatic relations. Comcast and GE announced joint venture plans, with Comcast owning a 51 percent controlling stake in NBC Universal. British actor Richard Todd died in Little Humby, Lincolnshire, England, at age 90.

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One year ago: Seeking to regroup from his health care law's disastrous rollout, President Barack Obama insisted the sweeping overhaul was working and warned Republican critics that he would fight any efforts to strip away its protections. A federal judge ruled Detroit could use bankruptcy to cut employee pensions and relieve itself of other crushing debts, handing a defeat to the city's unions and retirees and shifting the case into a delicate new phase. The Illinois Legislature approved a historic plan to eliminate the state's \$100 billion pension shortfall.

Today's Birthdays: Movie director Jean-Luc Godard is 84. Singer Jaye P. Morgan is 83. Actor Nicolas Coster is 81. Actress Mary Alice is 73. Rock singer Ozzy Osbourne is 66. Actress Heather Menzies is 65. Rock singer Mickey Thomas is 65. Country musician Paul Gregg (Restless Heart) is 60. Actor Steven Culp is 59. Actress Daryl Hannah is 54. Actress Julianne Moore is 54. Olympic gold medal figure skater Katarina Witt is 49. Actor Brendan Fraser is 46. Singer Montell Jordan is 46. Actor Royale Watkins is 45. Actor Bruno Campos is 41. Actress Holly Marie Combs is 41. Actress Liza Lapira is 39. Actress Lauren Roman is 39. Pop-rock singer Daniel Bedingfield is 35. Actress Anna Chlumsky (KLUHM'-skee) is 34. Actor Brian Bonsall is 33. Pop/rock singer-songwriter Andy Grammer is 31. Actress Amanda Seyfried is 29. Actor Michael Angarano is 27. Actor Jake T. Austin is 20.

Thought for Today: "The well of Providence is deep. It's the buckets we bring to it that are small."
- Mary Webb, Scottish religious leader (c.1881-1927).