

Groton Daily Independent

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Tuesday, December 9

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

School Lunch: Italian dunkers, sweet tots, veggie cups, fruit.

Senior Menu: Meatloaf, baked potato with sour cream, stewed tomatoes, cookie, whole wheat bread.

Birthdays: Tracy Davies • Shelby Tietz • Ann Rix • Brooklyn Gilbert • Doris Anderson

10:00am: United Methodist Women's Bible Study

6:00pm: All School Play

7:00pm: Emmanuel Lutheran Church Council

Wednesday, December 10

School Breakfast: French toast, links, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Hamburger on bun, baked chips, lettuce salad, fruit.

Senior Menu: Roast pork, mashed potatoes and gravy, peas, tomato spoon salad, carrot bar, whole wheat bread.

Birthdays: Lincoln Lane • Jerrica Loeschke • Steve Schaller • Miranda Blumhardt

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

12:00pm: Kiwanis meets at the Community Center

12:00pm: UMW Christmas Luncheon

12:30pm: MathCounts at Roncalli Middle School

3:45pm: UMC Confirmation

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

6:00pm: JH UMYF Caroling with potluck

7:00pm: Emmanuel Lutheran Confirmation with youth and parents

7:00pm: Emmanuel Lutheran Luther League

7:00pm: Sr High UMYF

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

7:30pm: NOOMA DVD Study at UMC

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.

School board approves four assistant wrestling coaches

Lance Hawkins, Randy Kurtz, Baker Harr and Corbin Surat were approved as volunteer assistant wrestling coaches. It was reported there are eight wrestlers out this year. Harr will be the designated assistant coach that can be on the mat during matches.

Superintendent Joe Schwan gave his report on the governor's budget address. It includes a 2 percent increase in state aid to education which would amount to \$4,876.76 per student.

Schwan reported that he sent out three draft versions of the 2015-16 school calendar and said that so far, he has received 15 feedbacks and said that there is a "complete lack of consensus" at this point. Schwan said he hopes to have a single draft proposal for the school board at its January meeting.

Elementary Principal Dan Dalchow reported the elementary enrollment has dropped by one, losing two in Pre-K and gaining a second grader. He reported that the Elementary PAC will purchase a banner for AR to be hung in the gym and they will purchase additional ball chairs to replace the damaged ones.

Anna Schwan, middle/high school principal, reported that the FCCLA collected 80 bags of food which were distributed within the community. The third through sixth graders will be attending the high school play performance, "Honk" on Dec. 9.

Dick and Gert Ruden want to give a large amount of money to the school with the interest amounting to \$2,500 each year for two scholarships. It is a perpetual fund and will be held with Edward Jones.

The Robotics team have requested to use the school van and buy the fuel instead of paying the mileage. It would be \$200 in gas versus over \$800 for mileage. Other organizations pay off the mileage chart; however, Robotics does not get any school funding like the other organizations. "It's a great program," Joe Schwan said. "They are doing things with the robots that will take them places." Board member Kelly Kjelden said he would prefer to stay with the mileage chart for this year. There was discussion of having the Robotics team make a request to the board to be a school sponsored event in the spring. "It's the dollar sign that's not the issue," said Board Member Dorene Nelson. "It's consistency with our policy."

Help Wanted

Wheatcrest Hills - New Wage Scale - is hiring for PT and FT CNA positions. We are looking for caring compassionate individuals to join our team. CNA certification training class to start in December and January, benefit packages available. Please stop in for application or contact Kristin at 605/448-2251. (1209.1216)

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.

Apartments For Rent

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One bedroom apartment for rent. Main Street. Ground level. Washer, dryer and dishwasher. Big walk-in closet. \$550 includes utilities. \$400 if you pay your own utilities. Call Chris Kassube at 605-395-7111.

Locke named Honorable Mention All Conference



Dalton Locke

VALLEY CITY, N.D. (VCSU) - Groton native Dalton Locke (Soph., DL) was among 17 Valley City State University football players named to the North Star Athletic Association Football All-Conference Teams, announced by the conference office on Nov. 19.

Viking quarterback Kurtis Walls was named the NSAA Offensive Most Valuable Player after passing for a school-record 35 touchdowns and 2,774 yards. Viking head coach Dennis McCulloch was named Coach of the Year after guiding the Vikings to a 9-1 overall record, a 6-0 mark in conference play, the program's fourth straight conference championship and 8th appearance in the NAIA playoffs.

VCSU senior tight end Jake Miller was also honored with the NSAA Champions of Character Achievement Award.

Nine Vikings were named First Team All Conference, while four more Vikings were named Second Team All Conference. Four Vikings are also named Honorable Mention.

Walls headlined five Vikings who were named First Team All Conference on offense. Also selected were tight end Jake Miller (37 rec., 468 yards, 5 TD), wide receiver Antoine Griffin (71 rec., 1,174 yards, 17 total TD) and offensive linemen George Trujillo and Avery Lock. It is the third straight All Conference award for Trujillo.

Three Vikings were named First Team All Conference on defense. Linebacker Nick McBeain (125 tackles, 9 TFL, 2.5 sacks) earned the honor along with defensive backs Jawuan Pugh (63 tackles, 3 INT, 3 FR, 2 TD) and Mychael Bruce (24 tackles, 3 INT, 2 blocked kicks, TD).

Viking kicker Thomas Cortes was named First Team All Conference on special teams after making 8 of 12 field goal attempts and 45 of 51 extra point attempts.

Four Vikings were named Second Team All Conference. Offensively, receiver Zach Johnson and offensive lineman Landon Freitas were named Second Team. Defensively, the Vikings had defensive lineman Sam Cooke and linebacker Ben Bruenjes named Second Team.

Four Vikings earned Honorable Mention All Conference: Ian Keller (RB), Zach McBeain (DE), Dalton Locke (DL) and Pathen Asuncion (DB).

The Life of Robert John Ball



The funeral service for Robert John Ball, 86, Ferney, was held Saturday, December 6, 2014 at the Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Groton. Pastor Elizabeth Johnson officiated. Robert died on Wednesday, December 3, 2014 at Avera St. Luke's Hospital, Aberdeen.

Robert John Ball, son of Frank E. and Bertha (Quandahl) Ball was born on September 10, 1928 on the family homestead near Ferney, SD. He attended school in Verdon and Ferney and went on to graduate from Groton High School in 1946.

Robert was united in marriage to the love of his life, Merry Jo Jensen on November 12, 1955 in Brentford, SD. They made their home on the family farm which was homesteaded by the Ball family in 1882 and raised their children.

Robert loved the farm, being outdoors and playing Scrabble without keeping

score. He especially enjoyed hunting, fishing and ice fishing. Robert was a life time member of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Groton.

Grateful for having shared Robert's life are his wife of 59 years, Merry Jo Ball, Ferney; two children, Carol (Rod Zastrow) Johnson, Nisswa, MN; and Alan (Nina) Ball, Fridley, MN; and 3.95 grandchildren.

Robert was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, Henry and Leonard, one sister, Lenora, two sons, Mike and Eddy, one grandson, Luke, one son-in-law, Brad, two nephews, Roger and Larry and one niece Loretta.

In lieu of flowers, Robert's family prefers memorials to any organization or the Faith Forever Fund at Emmanuel Lutheran Church.

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Fourth graders take first

The Groton fourth grade girls basketball team took first place at the Aberdeen Y Tournament held this past weekend.

In back, left to right, are Ava Tunheim, Marlee Tollifson, Ellie Weismantel, Shallyn Foertsch; in front, left to right, Aspen Johnson, Ashton Bahr and Brooke Gengerke.

Today in Weather History

1961: A snowstorm moved through the area and dropped 3 to 6 inches of snow east of the Missouri River and 1 to 3 inches to the west of the river from late afternoon on the 8th through late afternoon on the 9th. The storm was accompanied by high winds, blowing snow, slippery highways, and temperatures falling to near zero. Three men were killed and one injured in a two-car crash near Watertown as snow and blowing snow sharply reduced visibilities. A skidding accident on a slippery highway near Winner resulted in an automobile fatality of one man. In a rural area near Vale, in Meade County, one man abandoned his stalled automobile and was found the next day, frozen to death. 6 inches of snow fell at Sisseton and Wheaton, with 5 inches at Aberdeen and Watertown and 3 inches at Mobridge. Only an inch fell at Pierre.

1786 - A second great snowstorm in just five days brought another 15 inches of snow to Morristown NJ, on top of the eight inches which fell on the 7th and 8th, and the 18 inches which fell on the 4th and 5th. The total snowfall for the week was thus 41 inches. New Haven CT received 17 inches of new snow in the storm. Up to four feet of snow covered the ground in eastern Massachusetts following the storms. (9th-10th) (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1917 - A severe winter storm struck the Ohio Valley and the Great Lakes Region. It produced 25 inches of snow and wind gusts to 78 mph at Buffalo NY. The storm produced 26 inches of snow at Vevay IND, with drifts fourteen feet high. By the 16th of the month people could walk across the frozen Ohio River from Vavey into Kentucky. (8th-9th) (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1934: A frozen field made for very slippery conditions for the 2nd annual NFL Championship Game, held at the Polo Grounds. In the third quarter the Chicago Bears led the New York Giants 13-3. One of the Giants players remarked that sneakers would be more suitable for the icy playing surface. Another team member hurried to nearby Manhattan College and picked up nine pairs of sneakers. After switching to the sneakers, the Giants scored 27 points in the fourth quarter to win the game 30-13.

1989: A strong storm produced wind gusts of 40 to 65 mph from the Alaska Peninsula to the North Gulf Coast of Alaska. Southeasterly winds gusted to 75 mph in the Anchorage area. Gusty winds associated with the same cold front caused a power outage across much of the island of Hawaii.

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To inquire stop in 1106 N 2nd St. Groton, SD or call Michele Herr, DNS (605) 397-2365. EOE/M/F/D/V

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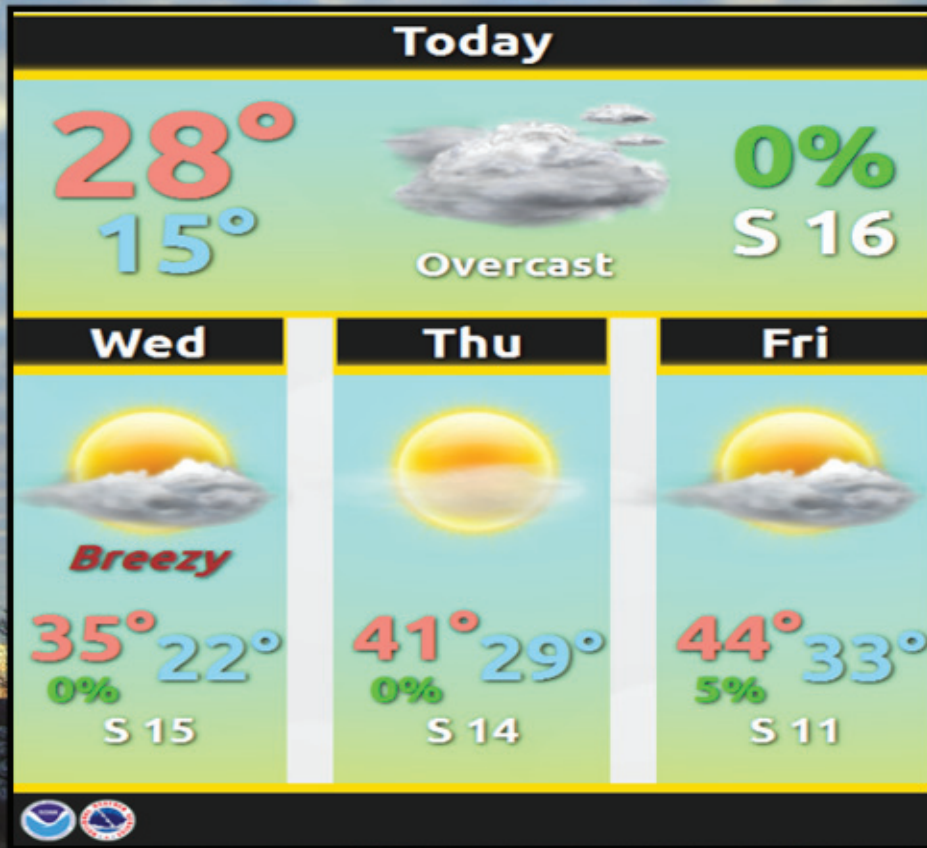
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TODAY	TONIGHT	WEDNESDAY	WEDNESDAY NIGHT	THURSDAY	THURSDAY NIGHT	FRIDAY
						
Patchy Fog High: 27 °F	Partly Cloudy Low: 16 °F	Mostly Sunny High: 35 °F	Partly Cloudy Low: 22 °F	Sunny High: 41 °F	Partly Cloudy Low: 28 °F	Mostly Sunny High: 44 °F

Warming Temperatures Through The Week



 weather.gov/Aberdeen  National Weather Service Aberdeen  @NWSAberdeen Updated: 12/9/2014 5:36 AM Central

After a cool day today with mostly cloudy skies, temperatures will begin to warm through the rest of the week as upper level ridging develops over the region. The graphic above shows the forecast temperatures for Aberdeen through Friday. With 40s expected by the end of the week, any remaining snow cover will begin to diminish even more.

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Yesterday's Weather

High: 34.8 at Midnight

Low: 11.8 at 11:29 PM

Wind Chill:

High Gust: 29 at 1:34 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 61° in 1939

Record Low: -27° in 1955

Average High: 27°F

Average Low: 8°F

Average Precip in Dec.: 0.14

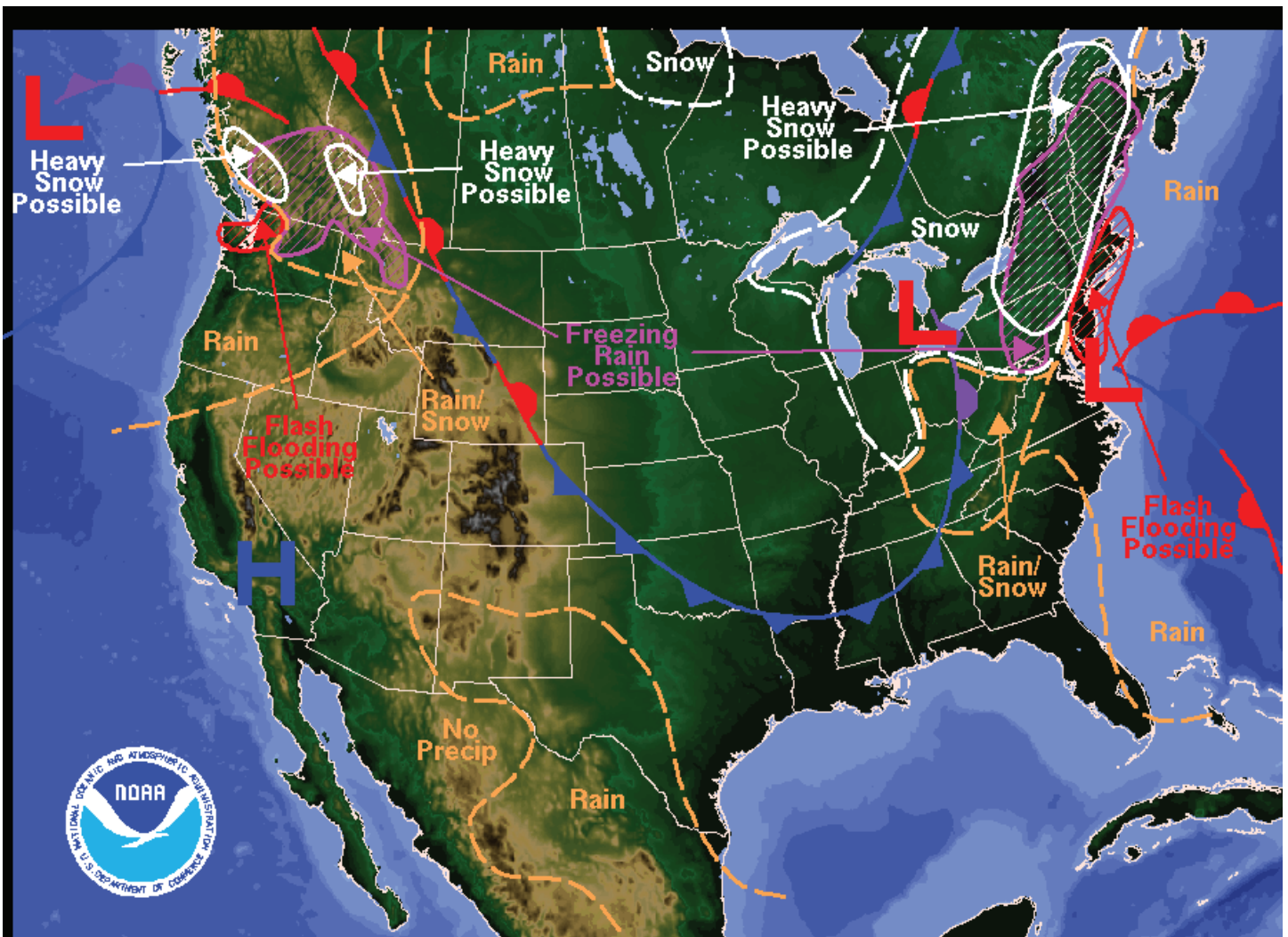
Precip to date in Dec.: 0.00

Average Precip to date: 21.34

Precip Year to Date: 13.99

Sunset Tonight: 4:50 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 8:03 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Tue, Dec 09, 2014, issued 4:15 AM EST
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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KEEP THEM AT HOME

A man once said to Mark Twain, "It is my deepest desire to go to the mount where God gave Moses the Ten Commandments and recite them there!" Puzzled, Mark Twain asked, "Don't you think it would be better to stay at home and try to keep them there?"

The Lord did not give us the Ten Commandments to review, but to reveal; not to look at but to live; not to admire but to acknowledge in the way we behave.

There are many who say one thing with their lips but show another thing with their lives. There are those who say the right things but live the wrong way. And there are some who speak the language of faith but give no evidence of it in their lives. The proof of our faith is not our words but in our works.

Some say, "I am a Christian" but if they are watched closely, there is no evidence of Christ in their lives. We are reminded by James that we are not only to be hearers of the Word, but doers of the Word. A good place to start "doing" is at home.

Prayer: Father, help me to follow the directions for living that I find in Your Word. Do not allow me to deceive myself into thinking that I am acting on Your behalf when my behavior does not reflect what Your Word tells me to do: in Your Name. Amen.

Scripture for Today: James 1:22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

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News from the **AP** Associated Press

SD Legislature to honor lawmakers who died in 2014

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Legislature is expected to honor the memory of lawmakers who died in 2014 with a service in the House Chamber on Jan. 22, 2015.

A committee planning the memorial is soliciting the names of former state lawmakers from both chambers who passed away in 2014. Those with names to share should contact the Legislative Research Council. The service is scheduled to begin at 3 p.m.

Slain dealer's girlfriend sentenced in SD

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The girlfriend of a marijuana dealer who was killed in December has been sentenced to nearly seven years in federal prison in connection to his death.

A federal judge sentenced 21-year-old Faith Rasmussen on Monday for drug trafficking and money laundering after she took a plea deal earlier this year. She also faces charges in state court.

Rasmussen was the girlfriend of Jordan LeBeau, who was killed in what authorities say was a botched robbery. Two Watertown teenagers have pleaded guilty to assault and manslaughter in LeBeau's slaying.

The indictment says Rasmussen had a role in planning the break-in to rob her boyfriend. Authorities say the drug conspiracy involved over 200 pounds of marijuana.

Rasmussen said in court Monday she was sorry for everything that happened.

4 Dakotas campuses called attractive, affordable

VERMILLION, S.D. (AP) — Four public universities in South Dakota and North Dakota are listed among the 30 most attractive yet affordable college campuses nationwide.

AffordableSchools.net put the University of South Dakota in Vermillion at No. 5 and Northern State

University in Aberdeen at No. 7.

In North Dakota, Minot State University in Minot is ranked 22nd and Mayville State University in Mayville, 23rd.

The site says the list shows that students can attend school on an attractive campus while still staying within budget. Affordable Schools says the 30 universities and colleges offer costs that are below the national average and at the same time deliver visually stunning sights.

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SD lawmakers to debate payday loan changes

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Opponents of payday lending may be waiting until the 2016 elections to try to effectively end the practice in South Dakota, but the state will pitch smaller regulatory changes during the upcoming legislative session.

The South Dakota Banking Commission voted on Friday to move forward with legislation to close a legal loophole payday lenders use and to try to better regulate Internet loans offered by companies not licensed in the state. Rep. Steve Hickey, who has previously pushed for stricter regulations on short-term lenders in the Legislature, is preparing a ballot initiative to cap interest on payday loans at 36 percent. If it overcomes the necessary hurdles, the measure would go before voters in 2016. Both sides have said it would effectively end payday lending in South Dakota because it would make it difficult to keep a business profitable.

Advocates argue that payday lending offers access to credit for people who can't qualify for bank loans, while opponents call it a snare engineered to profit off the poor.

"It's an industry that's intentionally built and marketed to financially unsophisticated people, and it's crafted such that it becomes a long-term debt trap," Hickey said. "I call it the poverty industry. There are people that are making millions off the poor, and it's a blight."

The Sioux Falls Republican said he abandoned a ballot proposal to work with payday lending firms during the 2014 session on a compromise. The companies ended up opposing the legislation, and it ultimately failed, so Hickey is marching back toward the ballot.

He said on Monday that attorneys are working to craft the measure's language and that his coalition hopes to begin collecting signatures by the middle of the spring.

Dollar Loan Center founder Chuck Brennan, who has 11 locations in South Dakota, said short-term lenders would fight to educate the public about how payday loans actually work. He said the eye-popping annual interest rates on loans that opponents cite ignore the fact that many consumers quickly pay back the loans — making them cheaper than other options.

"The industry is simply just out of business" in South Dakota if voters approve the ballot measure, Brennan said.

As the ballot-question process moves forward, lawmakers will likely debate much less sweeping changes to the regulations governing short-term lenders in the upcoming legislative session.

One provision would attempt to stop Internet lenders not licensed in South Dakota from preying on state residents by making only the amount borrowed — and not interest — collectible. The Banking Commission also supported provisions that would go before lawmakers to close a loophole some lenders were using to get around loan renewal limits and payment requirements.

"This is just kind of (a) putting our finger in the next hole kind of thing," Director of Banking Bret Af-dahl told the commission. "I'm sure they'll come up with a new avenue."

Missing South Dakota prison inmate back in custody

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A missing state prison inmate is back in custody in South Dakota.

State corrections officials say 26-year-old Paul Trejo walked away from the Rapid City Minimum Unit on April 20. He was apprehended in Bennett County on Saturday.

Trejo is currently housed in the jail in Winner but will be transported to Pennington County to face escape charges.

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Trejo was serving a 10-year sentence with two years suspended for a third-degree burglary out of Butte County.

Sioux Falls man accused of abusing pit bull puppy

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A Sioux Falls man has been charged with felony animal abuse after allegedly dragging a bloodied pit bull puppy down a sidewalk.

Police spokesman Sam Clemens says 36-year-old Trinity George Swift Hawk was arrested Saturday on charges of felony cruelty to an animal and false impersonation.

Clemens says a bystander called police after seeing that the dog's paws were bloodied and that there was a long trail of blood on the sidewalk.

Authorities say Swift Hawk gave police a false name when they confronted him.

The 4-month-old puppy was taken to a vet for treatment. Clemens says he did not have an update on the dog's condition.

It wasn't immediately clear if Swift Hawk has an attorney.

South Dakota girls basketball poll

Class AA

Record	Pts	Prv		
1. Sioux Falls O'Gorman (8)	0-0	44	-	
2. Sioux Falls Roosevelt	0-0	27	-	
3. Aberdeen Central	0-0	18	-	
4. Sioux Falls Lincoln	0-0	11	-	
5. Pierre	0-0	10	-	

Others receiving votes: Rapid City Stevens 7, Sioux Falls Washington (1) 6, Brookings 6, Sturgis 3, Harrisburg 1, Mitchell 1.

Class A

Record	Pts	Prv		
1. St. Thomas More (8)	0-0	44	-	
2. Sioux Valley (1)	0-0	30	-	
3. Mt. Vernon-Plankinton	0-0	23	-	
4. Clark-Willow Lake	0-0	17	-	
5. Winner	0-0	15	-	

Others receiving votes: Pine Ridge 4, West Central 2.

Class B

Record	Pts	Prv		
1. Warner (7)	0-0	38	-	
2. Sanborn Central-Woonsocket (1)	0-0	31	-	
(tie)Sully Buttes (1)	0-0	31	-	
4. Hanson	0-0	16	-	
5. De Smet	0-0	8	-	

Others receiving votes: Summit 7, Ethan 3, Gayville-Volin 1.

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South Dakota boys basketball polls

Class AA

Record	Pts	Prv		
1. Sioux Falls Lincoln (8)	0-0	44	-	
2. Sioux Falls Washington	0-0	31	-	
3. Yankton	0-0	24	-	
4. Sioux Falls O'Gorman	0-0	15	-	
5. Pierre	0-0	8	-	

Others receiving votes: Sioux Falls Roosevelt (1) 6, Rapid City Stevens 4, Brandon Valley 3, Huron 1, Sturgis 1.

Class A

Record	Pts	Prv		
1. St. Thomas Moore (5)	0-0	38	-	
2. Sioux Falls Christian (2)	0-0	34	-	
3. Madison (1)	0-0	27	-	
4. Dell Rapids (1)	0-0	20	-	
5. Clark-Willow Lake	0-0	9	-	

Others receiving votes: Sioux Valley 4, Tea Area 3, Aberdeen Roncalli 1.

Class B

Record	Pts	Prv		
1. Platte-Geddes (7)	0-0	41	-	
2. White River (2)	0-0	36	-	
3. Sanborn Central-Woonsocket	0-0	23	-	
4. Welsey-Wessington	0-0	14	-	
5. Hanson	0-0	9	-	

Others receiving votes: Langford 4, James Valley Christian 3, Potter County 2, Warner 2, Ethan 1.

Board looks to refine rules on ag rail shipments

DAVE KOLPACK, Associated Press

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — The U.S. Surface Transportation Board is working on improving reporting rules that should give North Dakota grain producers and others better information on rail shipments, the agency's head said Monday.

The board in October issued an order requiring railways to give more details on shipping, following a hearing in Fargo with producers who were worried about getting their crops from a record harvest to market in a timely fashion. The order included data on average speeds, the weekly number of grain cards ordered and overdue and the number of cars cancelled by state.

Board Chairman Daniel Elliott, who was part Monday's panel discussion at a conference on agriculture shipping issues, said people have interpreted the order differently and that the rules need to be clearer and more specific.

"I think things have improved, but there's a lot of work to be done," Elliott said. "We are in the process of getting you better information."

John Miller, a BNSF Railway vice president, said after the discussion that his company has been "thoughtful about communicating directly" with its customers and filing the necessary paperwork with the government.

"We have complied from day one exactly what they've asked for and exactly how that can be used," Miller said of the federal order.

Miller said BNSF is trying to be "more predictable and more consistent" with its orders, but it's difficult to predict market factors. He noted that the issue was especially tense two months ago when crop premiums were high, but prices have since collapsed.

"Where are we going to be six months from now? What's the marketing going to be like on the ag side?" Miller said. "I don't know."

Eluned Jones, head of business and agricultural economics at South Dakota State University, said rules can help, but it's more important to solve problems and avoid legislation.

"The fact you have this many leaders in all parts of the economy who are sitting in here the room together, from producers all the way through to the politicians, it tells you how important this is, but it also tells you that people who are sitting here are in it for the long term," she said.

Sens. Heidi Heitkamp and John Hoeven, who sponsored the conference along with researchers from North Dakota State University, said the key to ending shipping delays is building a bigger rail system.

"Agriculture shipment delays have had crippling effects on some of the hardest-working folks in our country but it really speaks to the larger issue of a transportation system that has failed to live up to expectations," Heitkamp said.

Drought the focus of multi-state workshop in Vegas

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Water experts from 11 Western states, several hydrology engineers and federal officials are talking about drought during a two-day workshop in Las Vegas organized by the Western Governors' Association.

The meetings Monday and Tuesday are being hosted by Nevada Gov. Brian Sandoval at the Renaissance Hotel.

The topic is, "Drought Impacts and Solutions for Water Supply Management," and Deputy U.S. Interior Secretary Michael Connor is speaking Monday about the federal role in planning for shortage.

Participants are from various public, private and research entities in Arizona, California, Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming and Nevada.

Their discussion about drought in the West comes after governors from eight states held executive meetings during the weekend about common issues including energy, rangeland management and water quality and quantity.

South Dakota resolves ads dispute with Chicago

BLAKE NICHOLSON, Associated Press

The state of South Dakota has resolved a dispute with Chicago officials about business-recruiting advertisements at O'Hare International Airport, but the state also has expressed its displeasure with the Windy City in a full-page ad in Sunday's edition of the Chicago Tribune.

The dispute that began in August is itself an example of the differing business climates, Gov. Dennis Daugaard said Monday.

"We make doing business easy in South Dakota. From our experience, Chicago does not," he said.

Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel's office did not immediately respond Monday to an Associated Press request for comment.

South Dakota's ad campaign in Chicago and Minneapolis is aimed at luring companies by touting the state's business climate. The initial messages on the O'Hare banners included the phrases "No Govern-

ment Pat Downs," "Keep Your Change in Your Pockets" and "We're Hands Off When it Comes to Business."

Chicago airport officials had asked for the messages to be changed, saying they appeared to conflict with Transportation Security Administration regulations, South Dakota Economic Development Commissioner Pat Costello said.

The banners were revised, but Chicago officials decided against allowing other states' tourism or economic development agencies to advertise in the airport, Costello said. That decision was eventually reversed, but South Dakota once again was told to change the messages, he said.

Three new banners were approved — "Our Economy is First Class," "Prepare Your Business For Take Off" and "Build Your Business in South Dakota" — and are scheduled to be posted at O'Hare next month.

Meanwhile, the state of South Dakota placed an ad in the Chicago Tribune, which begins with "This is the ad Rahm Emanuel doesn't want you to see." It goes on to tout what the Governor's Office of Economic Development says is the ease of doing business in South Dakota, and says "We can't say the same for Chicago."

A spokeswoman for South Dakota's economic development office did not immediately know how much the newspaper ad cost.

"While it's not our original message, we think the new banners, coupled with the Tribune ad, will make an even stronger statement," Daugaard said.

Man pleads not guilty to killing Sioux Falls woman

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A homeless sex offender has pleaded not guilty to second-degree murder and manslaughter in the killing of a Sioux Falls woman inside her apartment.

Fifty-seven-year-old Arthur Brundige is charged in the Nov. 22 strangulation death of 39-year-old Sabrina White. The Argus Leader reports (<http://argusne.ws/1w5Y6iq>) that he entered his pleas on Monday. Judge Susan Sabers scheduled trial to begin March 2.

Brundige is a registered sex offender because of sexual conduct convictions in Minnesota and Nebraska in the 1980s. He faces life in prison or possibly the death penalty if convicted in White's slaying.

He remains jailed on a \$750,000 cash-only bond.

Mitchell police officer cleared in fatal shooting

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — Attorney General Marty Jackley says a Mitchell police officer who shot a woman who later died was justified in using lethal force.

Jackley's office investigated the Nov. 8 shooting of 52-year-old Joy Ann Sherman, who died two days later at a Sioux Falls hospital. Such reviews by the Division of Criminal Investigation are standard procedure.

Patrol Sgt. David Beintema was among officers who responded to a report of a woman at a motel who was armed with a handgun, drunk and threatening to hurt herself and others. Jackley's report says Beintema shot Sherman three times after Sherman pointed her gun at him.

Jackley's report says no one else at the scene saw Sherman point her gun at Beintema, but other evidence indicated his actions were justified.

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Assisted living facility in Vermillion closing

VERMILLION, S.D. (AP) — An assisted living facility in Vermillion is closing in a few weeks because its owners can't afford the cost of necessary upgrades.

Eleven people live in the home, Vermillion Assisted Living, and some are worried about where they will go. David Hansen told KELO-TV that he's battling liver cancer, and he'll be forced from his home the day after his next chemotherapy appointment.

"They took a chunk of my heart out," he said. "This has been like a home to me."

Residents were told last week that they have to move out of the facility by Dec. 17, and then the building will officially close at the end of the month. The staff has been trying to help residents find new homes before the deadline.

Stephanie Baysinger moved into the home just over a month ago. She said she and her fellow residents are upset about losing their home and worried about finding new living arrangements on such short notice.

"I am scared, but I believe I will be able to find a place to go. I am just worried if I will be able to do that. If not, I could end up homeless," Baysinger said.

Brad Halver of Bare Assets LLC, the company that owns the home, told the Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan that the company followed state guidelines and the residents were given proper notice.

The company said in a statement that a state inspection in November uncovered building deficiencies that it can't afford to fix. Bare Assets did not release a cost estimate.

Correction: Frontier Christmas story

LAKE CITY, S.D. (AP) — In a story Dec. 7 about the frontier Christmas, The Associated Press reported erroneously that the park is located in northwest South Dakota. It is located in northeast South Dakota.

A corrected version of the story is below:

Fort Sisseton in SD to host a frontier Christmas

Fort Sisseton in northeast South Dakota to host a frontier Christmas; admission is free

LAKE CITY, S.D. (AP) — Fort Sisseton Historic State Park in northeast South Dakota is set to host its annual frontier Christmas.

Park manager Christopher Soukup says the event is an authentic, old-fashioned Christmas celebration.

Event participants will have the opportunity to take a sleigh or wagon ride through the fort grounds; get an up close look at traditional sleigh bells; see demonstrations on how wool and other natural fibers are made into clothing; and try old-fashioned rope turning.

The free event will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. A park entrance license is required and can be purchased at the park.

AP News in Brief

White House: US embassies preparing for security risks from release of torture report Tuesday

WASHINGTON (AP) — American embassies, military units and other U.S. interests are preparing for possible security threats related to the release of a report on the CIA's harsh interrogation techniques at secret overseas facilities after the 9/11 terror attacks.

The report from the Senate Intelligence Committee will be the first public accounting of the CIA's use of what critics call torture on al-Qaida detainees held at "black" sites in Europe and Asia. The commit-

tee on Tuesday was expected to release a 480-page executive summary of the 6,000-plus-page report compiled by Democrats on the panel.

"There are some indications that the release of the report could lead to a greater risk that is posed to U.S. facilities and individuals all around the world," White House spokesman Josh Earnest said Monday. "The administration has taken the prudent steps to ensure that the proper security precautions are in place at U.S. facilities around the globe."

Army Col. Steve Warren, a Pentagon spokesman, said "there is certainly the possibility that the release of this report could cause unrest" and therefore combatant commands have been directed to take protective measures.

U.S. officials who have read the report say it includes disturbing new details about the CIA's use of such techniques as sleep deprivation, confinement in small spaces, humiliation and the simulated drowning process known as waterboarding. It alleges that the harsh interrogations failed to produce unique and life-saving intelligence — a conclusion disputed by current and former intelligence officials, including CIA Director John Brennan.

Defense Secretary Hagel in Baghdad to meet with Iraqi officials, US commanders

BAGHDAD (AP) — U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel arrived in Baghdad Tuesday to consult with Iraqi government officials and confer with U.S. commanders about the campaign to defeat Islamic State fighters.

In remarks to a group of U.S. and Australian soldiers, Hagel said the U.S. wants to help Iraq regain the territory it lost to Islamic State militants earlier this year, but said the only lasting solution must come from the Iraqis themselves.

"In the end, that's where this all goes," he said in remarks on an outdoor stage shielded by portable concrete walls at Baghdad International Airport.

"Just as in Afghanistan, it is their country," Hagel said. "They have to lead. They are the ones that are going to have to be responsible for end results."

Hagel said the Baghdad government must bring the country together after disastrous years of sectarian division that undermined much of what the U.S. did to train Iraqi security forces.

Before yielding gavel, GOP's Issa readies a final shot at 'Obamacare,' and 'stupidity' remark

WASHINGTON (AP) — One of the Obama administration's harshest congressional critics will get a final high-profile shot when the House Oversight Committee grills witnesses about the president's health care overhaul and a former adviser's remark about voters' "stupidity."

For four years, Rep. Darrell Issa, R-Calif., has used the committee chairmanship to probe and attack the administration on issues such as the IRS scandal, misplaced guns and U.S. deaths in Benghazi, Libya. Talk radio conservatives love him. But even some GOP colleagues say he overdoes the combative partisanship at times.

Issa, who surrenders the chairmanship next year due to term limits, will lead the questioning of former health adviser Jonathan Gruber. Gruber, an MIT economist, recently apologized for saying Americans' "stupidity" was vital to passing the health law in 2010.

The committee also will question a top administration official who wants to be queried separately from

Gruber.

The hearing comes as prominent Democrats debate the wisdom of devoting much of 2009 — Barack Obama's first year as president — to the bruising battle for the health care legislation, which finally passed without a single Republican vote. Sen. Chuck Schumer of New York is among those Democrats now criticizing the timing. Top liberals are defending Obama, creating new divisions among Democrats right after major losses in this year's elections.

Bay Area demonstrators block highway, stop train in third night of protests

BERKELEY, Calif. (AP) — Hundreds of people marched through Berkeley for a third night a row, blocking a major highway and stopping a train as activists in this ultra-liberal bastion protest grand jury decisions not to indict white police officers in the deaths of two unarmed black men.

Protesters blocked traffic on both sides of Interstate 80 in Berkeley, while another group stood on and sat on train tracks, forcing an Amtrak train to stop Monday night.

A large group of people began peacefully marching earlier Monday through downtown Berkeley. The first stop for demonstrators shouting, "Who do you protect? Peaceful protest" was the Berkeley Police Department. A line of officers in riot gear blocked them from getting close to the building. The group then headed to a Bay Area Rapid Transit train station and sat outside, prompting authorities to briefly shut down the station.

But as the night went on, the protesters divided into smaller groups that disrupted traffic and train passengers.

The California Highway Patrol said in a tweet that some in the crowd tore down fencing to enter the freeway.

Mother, 2 young sons among 6 killed when plane crashes into Maryland home, explodes

GAITHERSBURG, Md. (AP) — Residents of a suburban community adjacent to a small, regional airport said they don't give much thought to the jets that fly over their homes daily.

But the sound they heard Monday — a plane flying much too low and struggling to remain aloft — was different. It was followed by a horrifying scene on the ground.

A mother and her two young sons, one of them just a month old, were killed Monday morning when a private jet crashed into their two-story wood-frame home, which was engulfed in a fireball immediately, authorities and witnesses said. All three people on board the plane also died.

Marie Gemmell, 36, tried to protect 3-year-old Cole and 1-month-old Devon from the smoke and fire, but there was nothing she could do, Montgomery County police spokesman Capt. Paul Starks said. Her body was found in a second-floor bathroom, lying on top of her sons.

The jet's fuselage crashed into the front lawn of an adjacent home, which was heavily damaged by fire, and investigators believe one of its wings, which had fuel inside, sheared off and tore through the front of the Gemmell home, said Robert Sumwalt, a National Transportation Safety Board member. Witnesses reported seeing and hearing a secondary explosion after the plane hit the ground.

Federal autopsy in Ferguson police shooting reaches similar conclusions to others

ST. LOUIS (AP) — A federal autopsy in the Ferguson police shooting reached similar conclusions to those performed by local officials and a private examiner hired by 18-year-old Michael Brown's family, documents show.

The Armed Forces Medical Examiner System's autopsy on Brown, conducted at the request of the Department of Justice, was among grand jury documents that St. Louis County Prosecuting Attorney Bob McCulloch released Monday with little explanation. Other documents include transcripts of eight federal interviews of possible witnesses to Brown's shooting in early August; police radio traffic; and an alleged audio recording of the shots fired by Wilson.

Many of documents contained information that was similar or identical to the materials that McCulloch released on Nov. 24 after a grand jury decided not to indict Ferguson police officer Darren Wilson in Brown's shooting death. A transcript of testimony from an Air Force pathologist who performed the Justice Department autopsy was included in the November documents, but the autopsy report itself was not released until Monday.

The transcripts of the witness interviews that were released Monday were already included in previously released testimony heard by the grand jury.

The Justice Department autopsy found that Brown died from multiple gunshot wounds and had severe head and chest injuries, though it noted the chest injury might have been an exit wound from a shot that entered Brown's arm. The autopsy also found a minor gunshot wound to Brown's right hand was evidence of close range discharge of a firearm.

Hong Kong democracy protest camp shutdown looms after court authorizes clearance

HONG KONG (AP) — Hong Kong pro-democracy activists have until Thursday morning to leave a sprawling protest camp that's blocked traffic in the Chinese financial hub for more than two months before authorities clear it out, a lawyer said Tuesday.

Authorities are set to move in after a court order authorized the removal of barricades, tents and other obstructions from the Admiralty district, site of the protesters' main camp downtown, setting the stage for one last showdown with activists demanding greater democracy.

Workers will dismantle the protest camp starting at 9 a.m., said Paul Tse, a lawyer for the bus company that took out the injunction.

"What I would like to do now is to perhaps make a public plea to the students to stay away from the scene when there is plenty of time," he told reporters, adding the company wanted to give protesters enough time to pack their belongings and leave the site.

He said the court order, which was published in newspapers Tuesday, would be posted at the Admiralty site in the afternoon.

Prince William, Kate to visit Sept. 11 Memorial and Museum; black-tie fundraiser in evening

NEW YORK (AP) — Britain's Prince William and his wife, Kate, are scheduled to visit one of New York City's most somber sites, the National Sept. 11 Memorial and Museum.

The Tuesday morning visit to the site, where 67 British citizens were among those who died, the most of any foreign country, is coming on the last day of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge's trip. The visit to New York City and Washington was the first time either of them has visited those cities.

On Tuesday evening, William and Kate are expected at a black-tie fundraiser for the University of St. Andrews, where they both got their degrees.

On Monday, William went to the White House and spoke at a World Bank conference. Kate wrapped Christmas gifts and helped children decorate picture frames while touring a child development center with New York City's first lady, then talked technology, theater and more with a British-success-story guest list at a lunch at the consul general's home.

The duchess and first lady Chirlane McCray met with families and heard about the work of the North-side Center for Child Development, which offers mental health and educational services.

Nuts or nothing! Korean Airlines executive delays flight over first class service spat

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Forget dust-ups over reclining seats in economy class. There's a new and exclusive twist on inflight anger: Nut rage in first class.

A recent Korean Air Lines flight was delayed when its chairman's daughter, who is also vice president responsible for cabin service at the airline, ordered a senior crew member off the plane. The crime? Allowing passengers in the pointy end of the aircraft to be served bagged macadamia nuts instead of nuts on a plate.

The airline has apologized for inconveniencing passengers, but also excused the executive's behavior.

South Korean daily Segye Ilbo reported this week that the flight from New York City to Incheon, South Korea returned to the gate after Cho Hyun-ah told the head of cabin crew to leave the plane. The report said Cho quarreled with crew in the first class cabin and the flight departed 20 minutes late.

Cho, 40, is the oldest child of Korean Air's chairman, tycoon Cho Yang-ho. Her two siblings are also executives at South Korea's largest airline.

James, Irving and multiple Nets players warm up in 'I Can't Breathe' shirts

NEW YORK (AP) — LeBron James, Kyrie Irving and multiple Brooklyn players wore "I Can't Breathe" shirts while they warmed up for Monday night's game between the Cleveland Cavaliers and the Nets.

Kevin Garnett and Deron Williams were among four Nets wearing the shirts in support of the family of Eric Garner, who died July 17 after a police officer placed him in a chokehold when he was being arrested for selling loose, untaxed cigarettes.

"It was a message to the family. That I'm sorry for their loss, sorry to his wife. That's what it's about," James said after the Cavaliers' 110-88 victory. "I think everybody else gets caught up in everything else besides who's really feeling it, and that's the family. That's what it's about."

Chicago star Derrick Rose wore one before a game Saturday and James said Sunday he wanted one. He got it from Nets guard Jarrett Jack, who provided them to players on both teams. A few NFL players had the saying written on different items of gear and shirts during pregame warmups before games on Sunday, including St. Louis Rams guard Davin Joseph, Detroit Lions running back Reggie Bush and Cleveland Browns cornerback Johnson Bademosi.

Entertainer Jay-Z, a former part-owner of the Nets who still attends some games, also gave some of

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the shirts to the team.

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Dec. 9, the 343rd day of 2014. There are 22 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 9, 1854, Alfred, Lord Tennyson's famous poem, "The Charge of the Light Brigade," was published in England.

On this date:

In 1608, English poet John Milton was born in London.

In 1911, an explosion inside the Cross Mountain coal mine near Briceville, Tennessee, killed 84 workers. (Five were rescued.)

In 1940, British troops opened their first major offensive in North Africa during World War II.

In 1942, the Aram Khachaturian ballet "Gayane," featuring the surging "Sabre Dance," was first performed by Russia's Kirov Ballet.

In 1958, the anti-communist John Birch Society was formed in Indianapolis.

In 1962, the Petrified Forest in Arizona was designated a national park.

In 1965, "A Charlie Brown Christmas," the first animated special featuring characters from the "Peanuts" comic strip by Charles M. Schulz, was first broadcast by CBS-TV.

In 1971, Nobel Peace laureate Ralph Bunche died in New York.

In 1982, special Watergate prosecutor Leon Jaworski died at his Wimberley, Texas, ranch at age 77.

In 1984, the five-day-old hijacking of a Kuwaiti jetliner that claimed the lives of two Americans ended as Iranian security men seized control of the plane, which was parked at Tehran airport.

In 1987, the first Palestinian intefadeh, or uprising, began as riots broke out in Gaza and spread to the West Bank, triggering a strong Israeli response.

In 1992, Britain's Prince Charles and Princess Diana announced their separation. (The couple's divorce became final Aug. 28, 1996.)

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush ruled out raising taxes to finance a Social Security overhaul. President Bush announced he was keeping the heads of the Transportation, Interior, Housing and Labor departments. Canada's Supreme Court ruled that gay marriage was constitutional.

Five years ago: Five young American Muslims were arrested in Pakistan over possible links to terrorism. Iran claimed that a newly-built U.N. station to detect nuclear explosions was built near its border to give the West a post to spy on the country. Former Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo Odio, 82, died in San Juan. Actor Gene Barry, 90, died in Woodland Hills, California.

One year ago: North Korea announced it had sacked leader Kim Jong Un's uncle, Jang Song Thaek, long considered the country's No. 2 power, for leading a "dissolute and depraved life" (Jang was reportedly executed three days later). Scientists revealed that NASA's Curiosity rover had uncovered signs of an ancient freshwater lake on Mars. Retired managers Joe Torre, Tony La Russa and Bobby Cox were unanimously elected to the baseball Hall of Fame by the expansion era committee. Actress Eleanor Parker, 91, who played a scheming baroness in "The Sound of Music," died in Palm Springs, California.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Kirk Douglas is 98. Actor Dick Van Patten is 86. Actor-writer Buck Henry is 84. Actress Dame Judi Dench is 80. Actor Beau Bridges is 73. Jazz singer-musician Dan Hicks is 73. Football Hall-of-Famer Dick Butkus is 72. Actor Michael Nouri is 69. Former Sen. Thomas Daschle, D-S.D., is 67. World Golf Hall of Famer Tom Kite is 65. Singer Joan Armatrading is 64. Actor Michael

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Dorn is 62. Actor John Malkovich is 61. Country singer Sylvia is 58. Singer Donny Osmond is 57. Rock musician Nick Seymour (Crowded House) is 56. Comedian Mario Cantone is 55. Actor David Anthony Higgins is 53. Actor Joe Lando is 53. Actress Felicity Huffman is 52. Crown Princess Masako of Japan is 51. Country musician Jerry Hughes (Yankee Grey) is 49. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, D-N.Y., is 48. Rock singer-musician Thomas Flowers (Oleander) is 47. Rock musician Brian Bell (Weezer) is 46. Rock singer-musician Jakob Dylan (Wallflowers) is 45. Country musician Brian Hayes (Cole Deggs and the Lonesome) is 45. Actress Allison Smith is 45. Songwriter and former "American Idol" judge Kara DioGuardi (dee-oh-GWAHR'-dee) is 44. Country singer David Kersh is 44. Actress Reiko (RAY'-koh) Aylesworth is 42. Rock musician Tre Cool (Green Day) is 42. Rapper Canibus is 40. Actor Kevin Daniels (TV: "Sirens") is 38. Rock musician Eric Zamora (Save Ferris) is 38. Rock singer Imogen Heap is 37. Actor Jesse Metcalfe is 36. Actor Simon Helberg is 34. Actress Jolene Purdy is 31. Actor Joshua Sasse (TV: "Galavant"; "Rogue") is 27. Olympic gold and silver medal gymnast McKayla Maroney is 19.

Thought for Today: "In individuals, insanity is rare; but in groups, parties, nations and epochs, it is the rule." - Friedrich Nietzsche (NEE'-chuh), German philosopher (1844-1900).