

Groton Daily Independent

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\$5 BUCK LUNCH

YOHIO
RUCI
TUCI

- 2 Crispy Chicken Wraps
- Bacon Cheeseburger
- Chili Cheese Dog
- 3-Piece Chicken Strip

+ Fries + Drink + Dessert

US 12, Groton ~ 605-397-8627

DQ

Grill & Chill

The cardboard/paper
recycling trailer at the school is **OPEN**

**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

Tuesday, January 6

School is 1 hour late today.

No 8:30 a.m. Pre-School

OST will open at 7:00 a.m.

GBB game at Langford for last night was PP

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

School Lunch: Hot dogs, baked beans, lettuce salad, fruit.

Senior Menu: Turkey and dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy, broccoli, pumpkin bar with topping, whole wheat bread.

Anniv: Bill and Vicki Podoll

Birthdays: Alfred Tastad, Carla Ronning, Samantha Bunke, Zachary Townsend, Stephanie Luvaas-Jung

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

1:30pm: St. John's Lutheran Good Cheer Topic Leader

5:15pm: BBB at Milbank (C game at 5:15, JV at 6:30, V at 8:00)

Wednesday, January 7

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

School Lunch: Soft shell tacos, sweet tots, veg cups, fruit.

Senior Menu: Ranch chicken, boiled potato, green beans, cake with strawberries, whole wheat bread.

Birthdays: Eugene Brolin, Mary Finnesand, Rodney Kappes, Terry Herron

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

12:00pm: Kiwanis meets at the Community Center

1:00pm: St. John's Lutheran LWML Ladies Aid

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

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.

THINKING ABOUT HEALTH

Health Insurance Brings New Tax Headaches

By Trudy Lieberman, Rural Health News Service

Choosing an insurance policy either from your state's shopping exchanges or from an agent selling on the open market is nothing less than daunting, a tough, unwelcome chore most of us could do without. The task for shoppers is about to get even more complicated as tax time approaches.

Since most people must carry insurance or face penalties, and more than 80 percent of those buying from a state exchange received tax subsidies, taxes have quickly become linked to medical insurance.

This column offers a kind of primer to help sort through some of this year's new insurance challenges.

Exemptions. Who doesn't have to carry insurance? When Congress passed the Affordable Care Act in 2010, it chose to increase the number of Americans with insurance by requiring nearly everyone to have coverage. At the time some 50 million Americans were uninsured. If they didn't have coverage from an employer or a government program, the so-called individual mandate required that they buy it themselves.

Because insurance is expensive even with the subsidies provided by the law, Congress created an escape hatch. An estimated 23

Classifieds

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.

WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD

and Congratulations

The Farmer's Wife Boutique



Friday,
Jan. 9

In celebration, Olde Bank Floral 'n More
will be open until 8 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 9th

Sale Prices good

Friday and Saturday Only

Christmas clearance 50-75% off

Winter Head and Hand all 30% off

All Kids Merchandise - 30% off



*Fresh flowers, silks, home
decor & so much more*

101 N. Main St., Groton ~ 397-8650

www.oldebankfloral.com



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million people will qualify for exemptions in 2016.

For example, you don't have to buy a policy if you experienced domestic violence or the death of a close family member; if you filed bankruptcy in the last six months; if you would have been eligible for Medicaid under the new federal guidelines but your state did not expand coverage to include people in your income category. About half the states, including Nebraska, South Dakota, and Indiana are among those currently not expanding to cover additional people.

You also can apply for an exemption if your current individual plan was cancelled or changed and you think you can't afford policies in your state exchange. Don't expect filing an exemption to be a snap. In some cases you have to apply through the state exchange. But if you can't find affordable coverage that costs 8 percent or less of your household income, you'll apply via your tax return.

Once you get an exemption don't expect it to last forever. Healthcare.gov advises if the exemption is based on affordability, it lasts only for the remaining months in the year. If the exemption is based on a hardship like getting a shut-off notice from the gas company, you'll get it only for the months the hardship lasts, the month before it began and the month after.

Penalties. To make the Affordable Care Act work, Congress chose to impose monetary penalties against people who refused or neglected to buy coverage. If you've been uninsured for more than three consecutive months, you may owe a penalty. "The enforcement of the individual mandate is a disaster that hasn't been appreciated yet," says one supporter of the law. Some 4 million people will pay penalties in 2016.

What happens if you don't get an exemption and still don't think you can afford insurance? Are you better off taking the penalty or buying cheap coverage? If you didn't carry insurance in 2014, the penalties are \$95 a person or no more than 1 percent of taxable income. But they will rise steeply by 2016 when they are \$695 per person or 2.5 percent of income.

It's worth noting that families with low incomes will generally pay the flat amount, which can't exceed \$2,085. If you will pay a percentage of your income, the penalty cannot be greater than the cost of a bronze plan in the state exchange---usually the cheapest option.

Reconciliation. This may be the biggest surprise of all. Last year's subsidies were based on 2012 income, and now they must be reconciled with what you actually earned in 2014. If the government overpaid taxpayers based on 2012 income, they'll have to return any overpayments or receive smaller refunds, which could pinch families counting on those refunds to pay big bills. If subsidies were too low, they'll get money back.

"People think of the tax credit as a discount on their premium. But realizing it can be something you repay a portion of is going to be a surprise," says Kathy Pickering, who heads H&R Block's Tax Institute.

Finding help may turn out to be the biggest challenge of all. The head of the IRS said in a recent speech that budget shortfalls have led to cuts in IRS employees meaning the agency can answer only about half of taxpayers' phone calls for help. Instead, he said, they will get a "courtesy disconnect."

The Affordable Care Act is basically a patch on the patchwork quilt that is the U.S. health insurance system. It was never meant to be simple, universal coverage. The frustrations and confusion consumers will face again in the coming months make that pretty clear.

The Rural Health News Service is funded by a grant from The Commonwealth Fund and distributed through the Nebraska Press Association Foundation, the Colorado Press Association, the South Dakota Newspaper Association and the Hoosier (IN) State Press Association.



Electric Superintendent Ward Gilchrist, City Supervisor Terry Herron, Waste Water Superintendent Dwight Zerr and Police Chief Stacy Mayou gave their reports at Monday night's city council meeting. Also pictured is Shawn Lambertz. The council had decided that they would like to meet with the department heads on a monthly basis.

Department Heads give report at council meeting

In a spirit of wanting to work together and better understand the workings of departments, the city's department heads now have to meet with the city council on a monthly basis. "This is good for all of us," said Councilman Michelle Muilenburg. "I think that can open up the lines of communications and we can all work together better. You do a good job for us."

Gilchrist talked about updating the city's electric maps and what is being done to monitor the load management system. Herron talked about the Safe Route to School project and how that project has been downsized considerably. Zerr has been painting the walls in the west warehouse a white color to help with the lighting situation. The city also received a grant for new lights at the west warehouse from Heartland Consumers Power District. Zerr is also reviewing sewer lines to see which ones need to be relined this year. There was discussion about the old jail house and maybe petitioning off an area in the west warehouse or the upstairs part at the city shop to store police department items from the jail house. Police Chief Stacy Mayou said some records have to be kept for seven years. Mayou also reported that the tires on both vehicles are worn and need to be replaced.

open up lines of commuicoatns and we can all work together better, That's the reason. We want you to hear it from us instead of the public. Mayou also went on record thanking the council for what they had done for health insurance coverage for the employees.



Pictured are Taylor Bird, Arlington, Miss South Dakota Outstanding Teen; Allison Weber, Groton, Miss Congeniality; and Meridith Gould, Sioux Falls, Miss South Dakota.

Weber named Miss Congeniality

Allison Weber, a junior at Groton Area, was voted as Miss Congeniality at a pageant held this past weekend at the Miss Northern Hill Pageant held in Sturgis. The awards given were Miss Gold Rush Teen and Miss Northern Hills Teen, in addition to Miss Congeniality.

"It was my first pageant that I did for fun," Weber said. Weber's platform at the event was Against Bullying. The pageant consisted of an on-stage statement of who you are, fitness routine, a six minute interview, talent performance, evening gown and walk, and on stage questions.

Weber said, "My friend, Amber Hulse, inspired me to start pageants. She was the 2014 Miss Gold Rush Teen. I met Meridith Gould and Taylor Bird at the pageant in Sturgis and they taught me so much. They inspired me to compete again later this year at the state fair."

Weber said that Hulse and Gould were mentors to her. "They have inspired me to continue to compete," Weber said.

Weber is the daughter of Mike and Lorrie Weber, Groton.

Adult Birthday Club

The Adult Birthday Club met at Rosewood Court with Amy Flemmer as hostess for the month of December.

Prizes were awarded to Arlene Anderson, Ella Johnson and Jean Olson.

Arlene Anderson received the honor prizes.

Guests were Arlene Anderson, Jean Olson and Ruby Merack.

The club will meet January 6 at the Dairy Queen at 1 p.m. with DeLores Knoll as hostess.

Today in Weather History

1962: Snow, strong winds, and sub-zero temperatures along with near blizzard conditions caused hazardous driving conditions across the area from the 6th into the 9th. Snowfall of generally 2 to 6 inches with winds of 30 to 40 mph caused widespread low visibilities along with drifts up to 4 foot high across central and northeast South Dakota.

2010: A strong Alberta Clipper low pressure system tracked southeast through the northern plains on Tuesday night, January 5th through Thursday, January 7th. Sufficient Pacific moisture interacted with bitter cold Arctic air surging south from Canada resulting in widespread heavy snowfall over much of northeast South Dakota. Snowfall amounts ranged from 6 to 11 inches. The snowfall began across northeast South Dakota in the late evening of the 5th into the early morning hours of the 6th. Many schools were closed on the 6th and the 7th. Some snowfall amounts included, 6 inches in Andover and Doland; 7 inches in Britton, Sisseton, and near Milbank; 8 inches in Aberdeen, Bryant, and near Summit; 9 inches at Wilmot and Castlewood; 10 inches in Clear Lake and 11 inches at Watertown.

1880 - Seattle, WA, was in the midst of their worst snowstorm of record. Hundreds of barns were destroyed, and transportation was brought to a standstill, as the storm left the city buried under four feet of snow. (David Ludlum)

1884 - The temperature dipped to one degree below zero at Atlanta, GA. It marked the final day of a severe arctic outbreak in the South and Midwest. (David Ludlum)

1987 - A storm moving across the western U.S. spread heavy snow into the Central Rockies. Casper WY received 14 inches of snow in 24 hours, a January record for that location. Big Piney WY reported 17 inches of snow. (National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - It was a bad day for chickens. Heavy snow in Arkansas, with totals ranging up to 16 inches at Heber Springs, claimed the lives of 3.5 million chickens, and snow and ice up to three inches thick claimed the lives of another 1.75 million chickens in north central Texas. Up to 18 inches of snow blanketed Oklahoma, with Oklahoma City reporting a record 12 inches of snow in 24 hours. (National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - A "bonafide blizzard" ripped through south central and southeastern Idaho. Strong winds, gusting to 60 mph at the Fort Hall Indian Reservation, whipped the snow into drifts five feet high, and produced wind chill readings as cold as 35 degrees below zero. The blizzard prompted an Idaho Falls air controller to remark that "the snow is blowing so hard you can't see the fog".(National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)





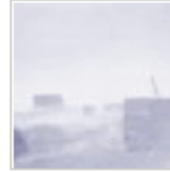


1990 - Rain and gale force winds prevailed along the Northern Pacific Coast. Winds at Astoria OR gusted to 65 mph. Unseasonably warm weather prevailed over Florida. Five cities reported record high temperatures for the date, including Miami with a reading of 86 degrees. The hot spot in the nation was West Palm Beach with a high of 87 degrees. (National Weather Summary)

1996 - A major snow storm hit central Kentucky and southern Indiana on January 6-7. The snow began around noon Saturday and stopped Sunday afternoon. Totals were from 6 to 15 inches.

1999 - In Michigan, heavy snow piles up on top of the snow dropped during the blizzard a few days earlier. Another 9 inches of snow at Muskegon brings the snow total on the ground to 30 inches, with snow drifts several feet high. This will be the snowiest January on record at Grand Rapids with 46.8 inches of snow and Lansing with 34.6 inches.

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TODAY	TONIGHT	WEDNESDAY	WEDNESDAY NIGHT	THURSDAY	THURSDAY NIGHT	FRIDAY
						
Blowing Snow High: 6 °F	Blowing Snow Low: -17 °F	Cold High: -3 °F	Increasing Clouds Low: -7 °F	Blowing Snow High: 15 °F	Blustery Low: -7 °F	Cold High: 4 °F



Extremely Cold Wind Chills Overnight

Follow us on Social Media

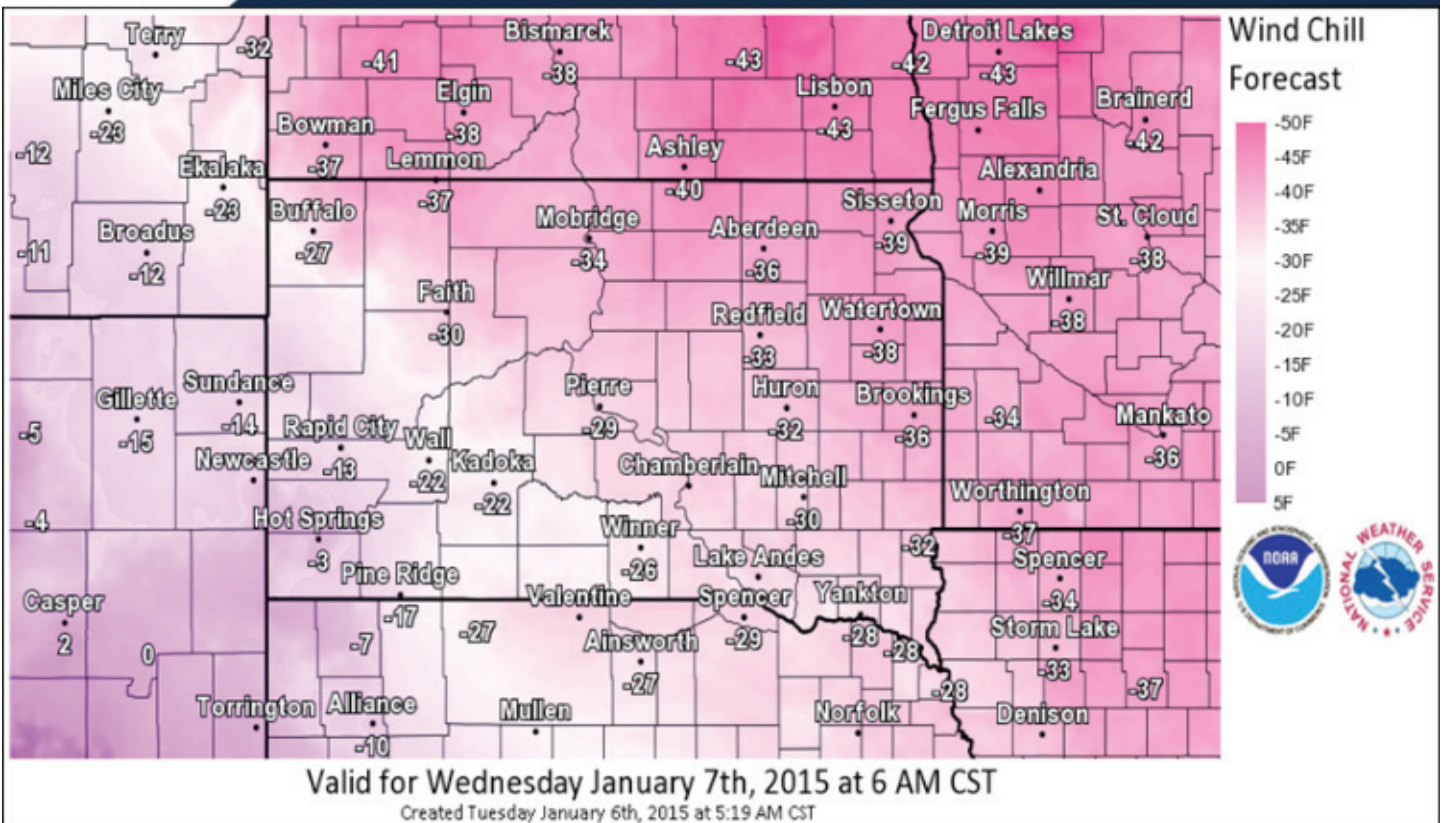
weather.gov/Aberdeen



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen



Arctic air will remain in place across the area through Wednesday, with another shot coming on Friday. For tonight though, the first surge of arctic air will bring with it breezy northwest winds and bitterly cold air temperatures. The graphic shows the current forecast wind chill values at 6 AM CST Wednesday morning. Basically, wind chills from 25 below to as cold as 40 below zero can be expected across the region. Make sure as much exposed skin as possible is covered if you need to be outdoors for any sizeable length of time to avoid frostbite.

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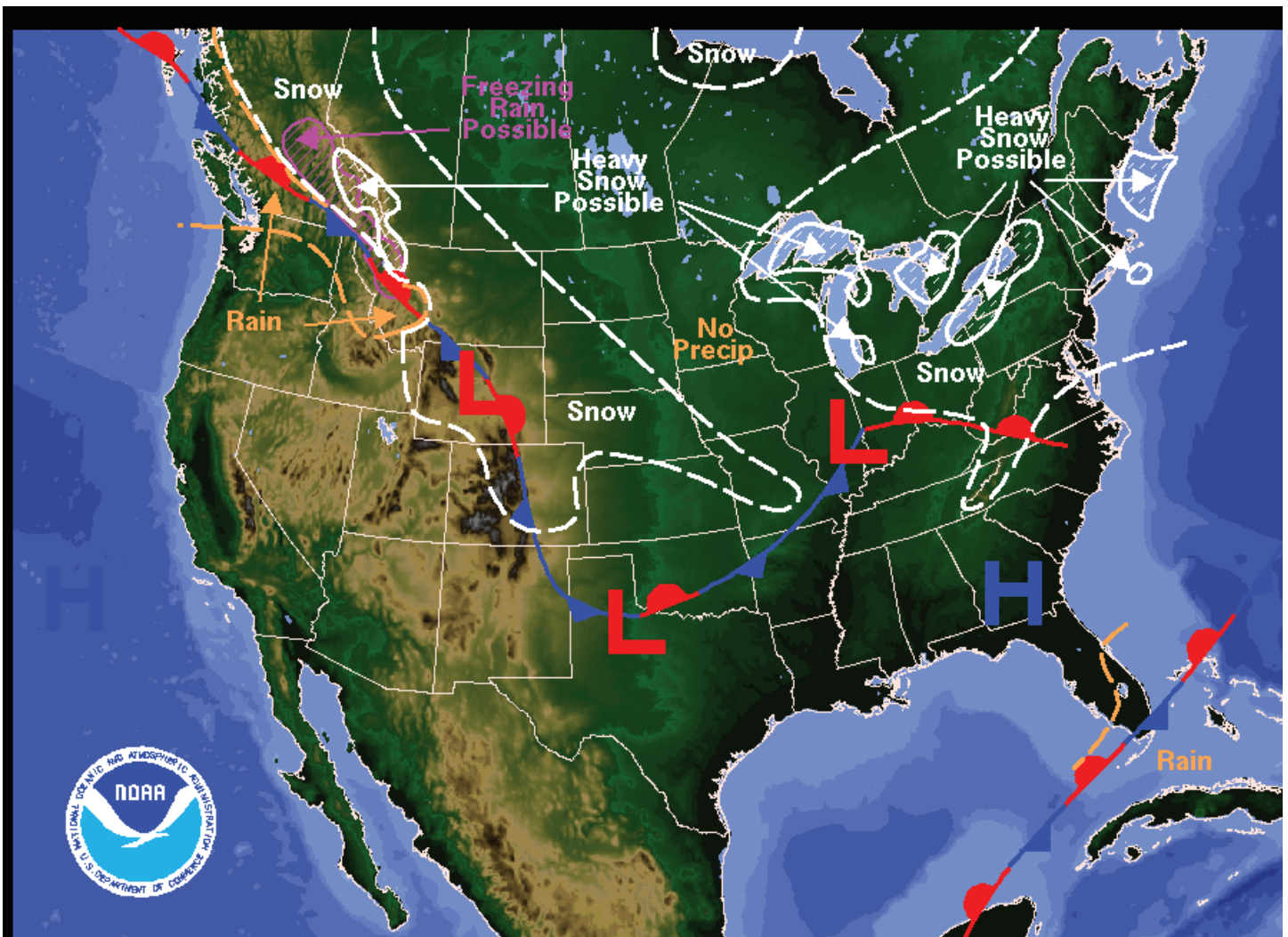
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Yesterday's Weather

High: 4.1 at 4:43 PM
Low: -16.1 at 5:03 AM
Wind Chill: -32 at 5:29 AM
High Gust: 20 at 10:10 AM
Snow: 2.5 inches
Precip: 0.40

Today's Info

Record High: 49° in 2012
Record Low: -30° in 1909
Average High: 22°F
Average Low: 2°F
Average Precip in Jan.: 0.09
Precip to date in Jan.: 0.40
Average Precip to date: 0.09
Precip Year to Date: 0.40
Sunset Tonight: 5:07 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 8:13 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Tue, Jan 06, 2015, issued 3:43 AM EST
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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WICKEDNESS VS RIGHTEOUSNESS

Solomon makes no apology for the wicked and their lifestyle. In fact, his choice of words leaves no doubt about what they do and to recognize them.

For example: "A man cannot be established through wickedness; the advice of the wicked is deceitfulness; the words of the wicked lie in wait for blood; wicked men are overthrown and are no more; men with warped minds are despised." And in the end: "The Lord condemns a crafty man!"

However, the righteous: "cannot be uprooted; the plans of the righteous are just; the speech of the righteous rescues them; the house of the righteous stands forever; the house of the righteous stands firm." And ultimately: "A good man finds favor with the Lord."

It is most interesting to note that the wicked have a completely different approach to life than the righteous. They have a single focus in life: whatever they do begins with the question: "How will what I am about to do benefit me?" This opens the door to being deceitful and dishonest, being patient and waiting for the right moment to take advantage of the weak, uninformed, less educated, those looking for someone they can trust to help them.

And when we look at the righteous, we see the exact opposite: what they do is steadfast and will stand the test of time and God's scrutiny, they are just and fair as God is just and fair. And whatever

they do, ultimately, is right and just in the eyes of God and man.

The final reward? God's condemnation or blessings.

Prayer: Lord, how we get what we have influences our relationship with You. May what we do always honor You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Proverbs 12:7 The wicked are overthrown and are no more, but the house of the righteous will stand.

An advertisement for "Fried Chicken Day" at Andover Bar & Grill. The ad features a large, stylized fried chicken drumstick in the center. The text "FRIDAY IS FRIED CHICKEN DAY" is written in large, bold, brown letters. Below this, it says "Served with Mashed Potatoes & Gravy". A red starburst graphic contains the text "Serving 5-9 p.m.". At the bottom, there's a banner that says "WE'VE GOT WINGS!" with wings, and "Every Wednesday!". The Andover Bar & Grill logo is on the right, featuring a beer and a grill. The address "120 S Main St. • 298-5252" is at the bottom right.

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

Dakotas begin workweek with extreme cold and heavy snow

BLAKE NICHOLSON, Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — The first full work week of the new year in the Dakotas began with bitter cold and heavy snow, as a weather system swept in from Canada.

Temperatures hovered in the minus-20s and minus-30s, with the wind chill factor, early Monday in much of the two states. The temperature was recorded at minus-48 in the northern North Dakota city of Belcourt.

That degree of cold can cause frostbite to exposed skin within a matter of minutes, but “up here, where we’re at, we’re used to it,” said Jake McCloud, assistant manager of the Utter Stop convenience store in Belcourt. “We don’t get too many (customers) who complain.”

However, McCloud said Belcourt’s schools opened a couple of hours later than usual to allow the temperatures to rise, and “we do see a lot of people who stay indoors.”

In South Dakota, dozens of schools closed early on Monday because of snow. Sioux Falls, South Dakota, closed its community centers and outdoor skating rinks and warming houses.

The National Weather Service posted numerous weather warnings and advisories, with half a foot of snow or more expected from northwestern North Dakota to southeastern South Dakota. Strong winds were forecast to blow the snow around and make traveling treacherous into Tuesday. The bitter cold was expected to linger into Wednesday.

“If you don’t have to travel for the next few days, I wouldn’t,” said Mike Gillispie, a weather service meteorologist in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. “Road conditions are going to be deteriorating very rapidly. If you don’t have to be out and about, it’s a good time to stay indoors.”

Dwight Cook, a North Dakota state senator from Mandan, got in last-minute pheasant hunting with friends before the season ended this weekend, despite a wind chill factor that made it feel like 30 below zero.

“It didn’t stop us from bagging roosters,” Cook said while preparing for Tuesday’s start of the 2014 Legislature in Bismarck. “We’re from North Dakota. It doesn’t matter what the weather. You deal with it.”

A travel alert was issued Monday afternoon for the North Dakota cities of Bismarck, Mandan, Steele, Washburn, New Salem and Linton.

Fast-moving systems with snow, wind and cold that push into the region from the Canadian Rockies are called Alberta clippers. A series of them swept into the Northern Plains in January 2014, resulting in five blizzards in eastern North Dakota during the month.

The long-range forecast doesn’t call for a repeat this year, but the first clipper of the year will be bad enough, said Michael Mathews, a weather service meteorologist in Bismarck.

“This is going to be the lighter-variety snow that will blow around nicely,” he said. “If an area happens to get even an inch or two, you’re certainly going to have blowing snow and reduced visibilities.”

Mathews also cautioned that bare skin can freeze within five minutes in such extreme cold.

“Snow and cold is the story,” he said.

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Pike, catfish spearing allowed on SD/MN lakes until Feb. 22

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Anglers can spear northern pike and catfish on all lakes along the South Dakota and Minnesota border until the end of February.

A valid South Dakota fishing license and a game fish spearing and archery permit is required.

Spearing is not allowed on the Bois de Sioux River downstream of White Rock Dam to the North Dakota border.

The season opened in November and runs until Feb. 22.

Northern pike and catfish may be taken with legal spears from sunrise to sunset. Only one catfish over 24 inches is allowed daily.

Mike Rounds to be sworn into office on Tuesday

WASHINGTON (AP) — South Dakota's former governor and newest U.S. Senator Mike Rounds will be sworn in at 11 a.m. on Tuesday.

Rounds beat out Democrat Rick Weiland and independents Larry Pressler and Gordon Howie on Nov. 4 to replace retiring Democrat Tim Johnson in the U.S. Senate. Rounds will serve on the Armed Services Committee; Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee; Environment and Public Works Committee; and Veterans Affairs Committee.

His family will host a reception before the inaugural ceremony at the Capitol Visitor Center

Monday's Scores The Associated Press

Boys Basketball

Hot Springs 64, Oelrichs 43

White River 94, Kadoka Area 31

POSTPONEMENTS AND CANCELLATIONS

Elkton-Lake Benton vs. Castlewood, ppd. to Jan 8.

Florence/Henry vs. Hamlin, ppd. to Jan 6.

Dell Rapids St. Mary vs. Garretson, ppd. to Jan 12.

Howard vs. Arlington, ppd.

Highmore-Harrod vs. Stanley County, ppd. to Feb 9.

Girls Basketball

Morris Area/Chokio-Alberta, Minn. 65, Milbank 35

Oelrichs 57, Hot Springs 15

Summit 46, Wilmot 31

Tiospa Zina Tribal 61, Waubay 30

Wheaton/Herman-Norcross, Minn. 75, Rosholt 25

POSTPONEMENTS AND CANCELLATIONS

Castlewood vs. Elkton-Lake Benton, ppd. to Jan 29.

Deubrook vs. Chester, ppd.

Miller vs. DeSmet, ppd.

Groton Area vs. Langford, ppd.

Elections board backs Krebs' priorities for Legislature

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

The bipartisan State Board of Elections on Monday backed a handful of proposed changes to South Dakota election law that, among other things, would give citizens and the secretary of state more power to review and challenge candidates' nominating petition signatures.

The election law changes recommended by Republican Secretary of State Shantel Krebs would give citizens more time to challenge nominating petition signatures in court and would allow Krebs' office to audit a random sample of voter signatures from statewide candidates. Krebs said the changes are part of her "aggressive" agenda for the 2015 legislative session that begins on Jan. 13.

The 2014 Republican U.S. Senate primary in South Dakota prompted some of the proposed changes, Krebs said. Authorities say candidate Annette Bosworth fraudulently attested to gathering voter signatures when she was really on a Christian mission trip to the Philippines. She's charged with six counts each of perjury and filing false documents and is set to stand trial next month.

Krebs said she will discuss the proposed election law changes with legislative leaders from both parties to get their input.

In addition to overseeing elections, the secretary of state's office also oversees business and administrative services, including managing public documents and legislative records and registering nonprofit and for-profit corporations.

Krebs wanted a jump on the looming session, so she took her oath of office early on Friday. An overhaul of the state's campaign finance and lobbyist reporting systems is also in the works, and Krebs said she wants an office where "customer service is not the norm, it's beyond expectation." Krebs also wants to improve South Dakota's corporate filing system.

Krebs said she wants to bring the state's business climate for corporate filings in line with other hubs such as Nevada and Delaware. She said South Dakota's tax levels are competitive with those centers, but state laws need to be overhauled to entice corporations — which can often be small businesses — to file here. Establishing a court system specific to corporations and reviewing South Dakota's laws governing corporations will be crucial, Krebs said.

Krebs previously served a decade in the state Legislature before becoming secretary of state. She defeated three others in the November election to win the seat left open by fellow Republican Jason Gant, who didn't seek re-election.

Chill, snow and rain bring taste of winter to much of US

DON BABWIN, Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — A year after a brutal cold spell was blamed on something called the polar vortex — which was treated like a northern invasion by the media and as a conquering hero by children impressed by its power to close schools — this week's chill is little more than what meteorologists like to call winter.

Here are some questions — and answers — about the weather:

Q: WHAT'S THE FORECAST?

A: The Midwest will see the tail end of a storm that could dump as much as 6 inches of snow on Chicago by early Tuesday. That city, which awoke to sub-zero temperatures Monday, is expected to warm to a high of 16 degrees Tuesday before temperatures plummet to as low as 10 degrees below zero Wednesday morning and no higher than 5 degrees the rest of the day.

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The temperatures pale in comparison to those experienced in North Dakota and Minnesota, where wind chills of between negative 25 and negative 50 degrees hit Monday morning.

Rainy New York City will also be struck by the cold come Thursday and "will be lucky if it hits 20" with lows near 10 degrees, according to Michael Musher with the National Weather Service's Weather Prediction Center.

It will be unusually cold in Atlanta on Thursday, when temperatures are forecast to dip into the lower teens, before scrambling up to the lower 20s on Friday.

In the West, a stream of Pacific moisture that dropped as much as 7 inches of rain along the Washington coast is expected to give way to clear skies. Flooding washed out foundations of a few houses and forced the evacuation of about 60 nursing home residents in Hoquiam in western Washington. Some rivers are already flooding or are expected to reach flood stage by Tuesday.

Q: WHAT'S CAUSING THE TEMPERATURE DROP?

A: The jet stream is dipping, meaning cold air from Canada and other northern areas is plummeting into the eastern two-thirds of the United States.

Q: IS IT THE POLAR VORTEX?

A: The phrase took on a life of its own last year, becoming wildly popular on television news and in social media, and serving as fodder for late night comedians, not to mention Rush Limbaugh, who suggested it was an invention of liberals making their case in the debate over global warming.

"We've been told to go around that term," said Musher, chuckling.

The answer is yes and no. Yes, because as Musher noted, the cold air is coming from near the North Pole. But no, because the system itself that came all the way down into the United States has so far stayed in its normal location far to the north of the U.S. border.

Meteorologists say it's simply winter.

Q: HOW CAN PEOPLE PREPARE?

A: Officials in the coldest areas urged residents to bundle up to guard against hypothermia and exercise caution while driving.

In the North Dakota city of Belcourt, the temperature was recorded at minus-48, with the wind chill. That degree of cold can cause frostbite to exposed skin within a matter of minutes, but "up here, where we're at, we're used to it," said Jake McCloud, assistant manager of the Utter Stop convenience store in Belcourt. "We don't get too many (customers) who complain."

In Montana, snow and freezing rain triggered highway accidents, school closures and avalanche warnings. One to 2 feet of snow had fallen by Monday morning in the Whitefish and Kalispell areas.

"We're definitely concerned for travelers out there, people on the roadways when conditions are fine one moment, then visibility drops," said Paul Nutter with the National Weather Service in Great Falls, Montana.

Q: WHAT'S NEXT?

A: Temperatures are expected to be lower than normal for days but could rise a bit by the end of the week.

"We have cold temperatures, but it's not like it never happened before," said Bob Oravec, a meteorologist with the Weather Prediction Center in College Park, Maryland. "It's typical for an Arctic outbreak."

Rapid City shooting leaves homeowner with minor injuries

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Authorities are investigating a shooting that left a Rapid City homeowner with minor injuries.

The incident was reported at 5 a.m. Monday. Authorities say the home was entered by unknown individuals who fired multiple rounds.

Investigators believe the shooting is connected to a report by the homeowner Sunday of a stolen vehicle. The vehicle was recovered.

No further information was available.

Sioux Falls breaks 3 records for building permits in 2014

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls officials say the city broke three records for building permits in 2014.

A total of 14,945 building permits were issued during the year, shattering the previous mark of nearly 8,000 in 2013.

Officials say the permits totaled \$619.5 million, topping the 2013 record of \$588.2 million.

The total number of new housing units also set a record with 2,056 permits, or 17 more than the previous year.

Sioux Falls Mayor Mike Huether says the figures show that residents and business owners in the state's largest city are confident in the economy.

Trial begins for woman accused in 2009 killing of SD teen

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Prosecutors say a woman accused in the killing of a Mitchell teenager five years ago targeted the victim to keep her away from her boyfriend. Defense attorneys say their client was herself a victim of her boyfriend.

Maricela Diaz is charged in the 2009 death of 16-year-old Jasmine Guevara. Diaz was 15 at the time, but is being tried in adult court.

Investigators say Diaz and boyfriend Alexander Salgado lured Guevara to a remote site near Mitchell, stabbed her and left her to die in the trunk of a burning car. Salgado is serving a life sentence.

Prosecutors said Monday in opening statements that Diaz was a jealous teen who made a choice. Defense attorneys countered that Salgado abused Diaz and demanded that she take the blame for Guevara's murder.

Big threat for Obama's climate efforts from GOP-run Congress

JOSH LEDERMAN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama's determined efforts to combat global warming face their biggest trial yet as Republicans take full control of Congress this week. The GOP vows to move fast and forcefully to roll back his environmental rules and force his hand on energy development.

The GOP's first order of business: the Keystone XL pipeline. The Republican-led House has repeatedly passed legislation to approve the pipeline, which would carry tar sands oil from Canada deep into the United States. The bills died in the Senate when Democrats were in control, but that will change Wednesday when a Republican-led Senate committee holds a Keystone hearing.

"The president is going to see the Keystone XL pipeline on his desk and it's going to be a bellwether decision by the president whether to go with jobs and the economy," Sen. John Barrasso, R-Wyo., said

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Sunday.

Success for Republicans on the climate front would jeopardize a key component of Obama's legacy. And the ramifications would likely ricochet far beyond the United States.

Later this year, nations are supposed to sign a major global climate treaty in Paris. Aggressive action by the U.S. under Obama has upped the pressure on other governments to get serious about climate change, too. But if Obama can't make good on his commitments at home, it's unclear whether poorer nations will still feel compelled to act.

"The American government has been responsible for sending very strong political and economic signals with what they have announced so far," former Mexican President Felipe Calderon, now a global climate leader, said in an Associated Press interview. "I know that there is a risk that those will be overcome by the new political reality in the U.S."

Obama has made clear he will use his veto power if Republicans succeed in getting hostile bills to his desk — especially on climate change. "I'm going to defend gains that we've made on environment and clean air and clean water," he has said.

And Sen. Brian Schatz, D-Hawaii, says the Republicans aren't likely to overturn his veto. That would require a number of Democrats to vote against the president.

"There's reason to be concerned, but I don't think there's reason to be panicked," Schatz said.

By design, Obama's biggest steps on climate rely on existing laws and don't explicitly require Congress to act. But Republicans can try to undercut them before they take effect. Republicans argue that Obama's coal plant emissions limits, for example, would devastate local economies and hamper job-creation.

These are some of the most likely ways the GOP will try to stop Obama on climate change, as described by Republican leadership aides:

—After Wednesday's hearing on Keystone, GOP senators plan to work on the bill's details on Thursday and then start debating the legislation next week. The Senate could vote soon after Obama's Jan. 20 State of the Union address. A separate House vote on Keystone could come as early as this week.

That makes Keystone likely to be one of the first bills to hit Obama's desk in 2015. White House aides decline to say how they might respond until they see the final GOP bill. But in his most recent news conference, Obama spoke at length about how Keystone would basically save money for Canadian energy producers, with negligible effects for U.S. gasoline prices or American jobs.

— Republicans aim to pass legislation forcing Obama to certify — before his regulations on power plants take effect — that they won't drive up power prices or eliminate jobs. Attaching that requirement to a broader spending bill would make it harder for Obama to veto without jeopardizing other government spending.

In the "defund" approach, Republicans could pass bills prohibiting the government from spending any money to implement his EPA regulations. Meanwhile, states and other groups are pursuing litigation in the courts challenging the administration's authority to proceed without Congress.

— The GOP could try to block Environmental Protection Agency regulations directly. The Congressional Review Act enables such resolutions to pass the Senate with a simple majority vote, meaning Democrats couldn't filibuster, once the regulations became final. That's scheduled to happen this year for Obama's carbon dioxide rule, which aims to cut power plant emissions nearly a third from 2005 levels.

— Lawmakers could refuse to give Obama the \$3 billion he has already pledged on the country's behalf to a global fund to help poorer nations address climate change. Obama hasn't yet asked Congress for any money to fulfill that pledge. The White House says the administration will make its first request in its budget plan for fiscal year 2016, which begins Oct. 1.

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— Republicans are likely to send Obama bills aimed at spurring energy development in the U.S., such as promoting drilling on federal lands or making it easier to export gas and oil. Many of these bills have previously passed the House and are teed up for quick passage by the new Congress.

South Dakota improving its 911 system with new technology

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota is upgrading its emergency calling system.

Officials with the state's 911 coordination board say the technology will eventually allow citizens to share pictures and video with 911 centers during an emergency call.

The new system will include backups that are meant to make 911 services less prone to outages and failures.

The system will be operated by TeleCommunications Systems, Inc., of Annapolis, Maryland.

Officials closer to identifying old remains in Deadwood

DEADWOOD, S.D. (AP) — Officials trying to identify human remains unearthed in Deadwood during a construction project in 2012 say they have narrowed the possibilities to two dozen people.

The remains of a man in his late teens or early 20s are at least 100 years old. They were found by crews replacing a retaining wall where an old cemetery once stood.

Historic preservation officials say DNA tests have concluded that the person had Western European ancestry and likely had red hair and light brown eyes. A dental analysis found nine fillings, something rare for the 1800s and possibly indicating wealth.

The investigation will continue.

Sioux Falls man claims \$20,000 Mega Millions lottery prize

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A Sioux Falls man has claimed a \$20,000 lottery prize.

John Steinhaus won the money in last Friday's Mega Millions drawing. He won the game's third prize of \$5,000 and also had purchased an option for an additional dollar that quadrupled the amount.

The odds of winning the third prize are 1 in about 740,000.

Mega Millions is played in 44 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The jackpot is at \$206 million.

Mike Rounds to be sworn into office on Tuesday

WASHINGTON (AP) — South Dakota's former governor and newest U.S. Sen. Mike Rounds will be sworn in at 11 a.m. Tuesday.

Rounds beat out Democrat Rick Weiland and independents Larry Pressler and Gordon Howie on Nov. 4 to replace retiring Democrat Tim Johnson in the Senate.

Rounds will serve on the Armed Services Committee; the Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee; the Environment and Public Works Committee; and the Veterans Affairs Committee.

His family will host a reception before the inaugural ceremony at the Capitol Visitor Center.

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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. GOP-LED CONGRESS POISED TO TAKE OVER

Republicans plan to move swiftly toward a veto showdown with Obama over the Keystone XL pipeline.

2. GAYS MARRY ACROSS FLORIDA

The Sunshine State's ban on same-sex marriage is over, and court clerks in some counties waste no time issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples.

3. SPACEX FLIGHT SCRUBBED AT LAST MINUTE

The launch of the unmanned Falcon rocket to the International Space Station is called off, and an unprecedented rocket landing is put on hold.

4. MEXICAN LEADER HEADS TO WHITE HOUSE

The U.S. is looking to its southern neighbor for help implementing changing policies on immigration and Cuba.

5. ISRAELI MILITARY DIVIDED OVER GAZA WAR PROBES

Commanders are at odds with lawyers over the extent to which soldiers should be held legally accountable for their actions during last summer's Gaza war.

6. WHAT IS NATO'S MOST PRESSING PRIORITY

Getting the swift and nimble expeditionary force into operation that's supposed to act as a deterrent to Russia is paramount for the 28-member alliance.

7. WHO IS EXPECTED TO ATTEND CUOMO FUNERAL

The standard bearers of the Democratic Party are joining family and friends for a final goodbye to one of their champions, the former three-term New York governor.

8. HOW THE SEARCH FOR FLIGHT 8501 IS GOING

Strong currents force Indonesia to expand the search area for the missing AirAsia jet, as efforts to reach the wreckage and black boxes beneath the sea become desperate.

9. TV'S PLAN FOR STREAMING VIDEO

AP's Anick Jesdanun tells us how TV makers and service providers are keeping big screens relevant in this new era of online video.

10. THREE ACES EXPECTED TO LEAD HALL OF FAME CLASS

Randy Johnson, Pedro Martinez and John Smoltz appear to be shoo-ins for enshrinement in Cooperstown.

AP News in Brief

New GOP Congress: Speaker Boehner in line for 3rd term; Keystone looms as showdown with Obama

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans are assuming full control of Congress for the first time in eight years in a day of pomp, circumstance and raw politics beneath the Capitol Dome.

They planned to move swiftly Tuesday toward a veto showdown with President Barack Obama over the Keystone XL pipeline, summoning unity despite a tea party-backed effort to unseat House Speaker John Boehner of Ohio.

As mandated by the Constitution, Congress was to convene at noon.

In the Senate, with Vice President Joe Biden presiding, Mitch McConnell of Kentucky was to automati-

cally ascend to majority leader following his approval by rank-and-file Republicans last year.

McConnell and Boehner both were to deliver remarks on their chamber's floors as they positioned themselves for two years of clashes with Obama.

Counties across Florida issue marriage licenses, hold weddings for gay couples

KISSIMMEE, Fla. (AP) — Florida's ban on same-sex marriage ended statewide at the stroke of midnight Monday, and court clerks in some Florida counties wasted no time, issuing marriage licenses and performing weddings for same-sex couples overnight.

But they were beaten to the punch by a Miami judge who found no need to wait until the statewide ban expired. Miami-Dade Circuit Judge Sarah Zabel presided over Florida's first legally recognized same-sex marriages Monday afternoon.

Still, most counties held off on official ceremonies until after midnight early Tuesday, when U.S. District Judge Robert L. Hinkle's ruling that Florida's same-sex marriage ban is unconstitutional took effect in all 67 counties. Florida's attorney general, Pam Bondi, is still pursuing state and federal appeals seeking to uphold the ban voters approved in 2008, but her effort to block these weddings until the courts finally rule was denied by the U.S. Supreme Court.

And now that same-sex marriage is a reality in Florida, Bondi's spokeswoman told The Associated Press "the judge has ruled, and we wish these couples the best."

The addition of Florida's 19.9 million people means 70 percent of Americans now live in the 36 states where gay marriage is legal.

Obama hosts Mexican President Pena Nieto looking for help on immigration and Cuba

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama is hosting Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto at the White House Tuesday, looking to his southern neighbor for help implementing the president's changing policies on immigration and Cuba.

Obama wants Pena Nieto to join him in pressuring Cuba to make democratic reforms now that the White House is moving to re-establish diplomatic and commercial ties. The U.S.-Cuba estrangement had been a point of friction with Latin American countries, including Mexico, that had normal ties with the communist island nation.

Pena Nieto's government also could help spread the word of qualifications for Obama's plan to defer some 4 million deportations for immigrants in the U.S. illegally. Two-thirds of those who are eligible are from Mexico.

Both actions from Obama in recent weeks drew praise from Pena Nieto, who may be hoping his visit to the White House can help give him a boost after a 2014 marked by scandal, violence and corruption. That includes soldiers killing 22 civilians in a questionable "shootout" and revelations that Pena Nieto and his treasury secretary live in luxury homes built and financed by a favorite government contractor.

Perhaps most notably, tens of thousands of protesters have taken to the streets to protest the Sept. 26 abduction and presumed murder of 43 college students, allegedly at the hands of local officials and police in league with a drug cartel. Pena Nieto told the country it was time to "move beyond" the case just weeks after their abduction, and he took a month to meet with their families.

Hundreds come face to face with Tsarnaev, jury selection to take weeks in marathon trial

BOSTON (AP) — As some prospective jurors got their first look at Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, the young man accused of bombing the renowned Boston Marathon, it became clear that choosing a jury in the closely watched terror case would not be a quick or simple process.

U.S. District Judge George O'Toole Jr. told the first 400 people called for jury duty Monday that choosing a panel of 12 jurors and six alternates for the highly anticipated trial was expected to take at least three weeks.

He told the potential jurors not to think of the trial as "an annoying burden," but as a needed service and an "important duty of citizenship."

Tsarnaev is accused of planning and carrying out the twin bombings that killed three people and wounded more than 260 others near the marathon's finish line on April 15, 2013. Prosecutors say Tsarnaev and his brother, now dead, also killed an MIT police officer several days after the bombings as they tried to flee.

Federal prosecutors and Tsarnaev's lawyers are beginning the process of trying to find jurors who can be fair and impartial. Jurors must also be willing, if Tsarnaev is convicted, to consider imposing the death penalty in a state that abolished its own death penalty three decades ago. Tsarnaev is being tried under the federal death penalty.

Israeli military divided over whether to probe wartime conduct by soldiers in Gaza

JERUSALEM (AP) — A fierce debate is raging within Israel's military over the extent to which soldiers should be held legally accountable for their actions during last year's Gaza war, with commanders increasingly at odds with military lawyers.

The dispute has set off a firestorm in Israel, where many say the legal threat would shackle soldiers in any future battle, lower their morale and shatter a sacred trust on which Israel's compulsory military service relies.

But with the Palestinians announcing their application last week to the International Criminal Court, the decision to investigate becomes all the more pressing: A robust Israeli inquiry into its military's actions could be essential in thwarting an embarrassing and potentially incriminating outside probe.

Israel launched the operation in Gaza on July 8 in what it said was a mission to halt relentless rocket fire by Hamas militants. During 50 days of fighting, more than 2,100 Palestinians were killed, most of them civilians, according to the Hamas-run Health Ministry and the United Nations. On the Israeli side, 66 soldiers and 6 civilians were killed.

Israel has defended the operation as an act of self-defense and blamed Hamas for the heavy civilian death toll, saying the militant group used residential areas for cover. But critics have pointed to the heavy Palestinian civilian death toll and questioned whether Israel's response was proportionate.

In 2015 NATO shifts its focus to Europe and creation of fast-reaction 'spearhead force'

BRUSSELS (AP) — Leaving combat operations in Afghanistan behind, NATO is shifting its focus to Europe in 2015 and the creation of its new ultra-rapid-reaction force, designed as a deterrent to Russia.

The priority for the 28-member alliance will be to get the new agile expeditionary force into operation, but also settling the question of who will pay for it, analysts say.

The multinational force, often called the "spearhead," was ordered into existence by President Obama and other NATO leaders in September so it could be deployed to reinforce alliance members feeling threatened by the actions or ambitions of Vladimir Putin's Russia.

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg has called the new force and other components of the re-boot of alliance capabilities "the biggest reinforcement of our collective defense since the end of the Cold War."

Stoltenberg, now in his third month as the alliance's top-ranking civilian official, said it is his "top priority to implement this plan in full and on time."

After Shanghai disaster, China puts controls in place, keeps firm grip on public sentiments

SHANGHAI (AP) — Some wailed and some staggered with grief as the relatives of the 36 people killed in Shanghai's New Year's Eve stampede visited the disaster site Tuesday for seventh-day commemorations that are a revered ritual in China. But each family was allowed to stay only about five minutes in the tightly managed visits, and government workers roughly dragged away one middle-aged woman when she began crying out emotionally.

The government's strict arrangements reflect efforts to keep tight controls over the disaster's aftermath and prevent distraught relatives from coalescing into a critical group that would draw sympathy and galvanize public calls for greater accountability.

"Such a major public safety incident can tug the heartstrings of the public, and the acts and words by victims' relatives can make the public sentiments to swing, making it a key task for authorities to control the families, limiting their contacts with each other or with the media," said Zhao Chu, a Shanghai-based independent commentator.

The victims' relatives laid bouquets of white and yellow chrysanthemums and bowed deeply to the statue of the city's first Communist mayor that overlooks the 17 concrete steps on Shanghai's famed riverfront known as the Bund where the stampede took place.

Three dozen people, including a 12-year-old boy, were trampled and asphyxiated amid a crowd of hundreds of thousands of New Year's revelers.

Strong currents force Indonesia to expand search area for wreckage of crashed AirAsia plane

PANGKALAN BUN, Indonesia (AP) — Strong currents forced Indonesia to expand the search area for the crashed AirAsia plane Tuesday, as rough seas and bad weather pushed debris and made it difficult to reach suspected chunks of the fuselage on the ocean floor.

With only 37 bodies recovered since Flight 8501 crashed Dec. 28, there are also concerns that it will become harder to find the remaining corpses.

"Time is of the essence," said the National Search and Rescue Agency's director of operation, Suryadi B. Supriyadi. "But it seems like it is hard to beat the weather."

The search operation will expand by about 185 square kilometers (70 square miles), search and rescue chief Henry Bambang Soelistyo said.

Dozens of new air carriers have popped up in Indonesia in recent years to meet the industry's booming demand, but a string of deadly accidents has raised concerns about safety.

TV isn't dead, but set makers and service providers focus design on growing online viewership

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Does anyone just watch TV anymore? The dramatic shift toward online and mobile viewing is driving television set makers to design as much for streaming video as for watching broadcast or cable channels.

Traditional TV is far from dead, but these days viewers care less about watching shows live and even prefer saving certain series to watch all at once in an evening or weekend of binge-watching. Broadcast networks and hundreds of cable channels share viewer attention with thousands of online services, including amateurs creating their own series on YouTube. Already, Netflix has outbid traditional channels for hits such as "House of Cards." And Dish this week announced it will sell online access to a bundle of channels including live sports network ESPN for just \$20 a month. Online video will account for a third of all video viewing in 2020, up from about 10 percent in 2013, predicts The Diffusion Group, a research firm that specializes in Internet video.

So how to keep the television set, that focal point of the American living room for decades, relevant? Design for online video.

At the International CES gadget show this week in Las Vegas, TV makers unveiled new models with 4K resolution, or four times the clarity offered by today's high definition TVs. They are pushing the features even though not a single TV channel is yet available in 4K. But Internet services such as Netflix, Amazon and M-Go are starting to offer 4K video.

Sony on Monday promised to create more 4K content to watch on those sets. Four popular shows from its entertainment division — "The Goldbergs," "The Blacklist," "Masters of Sex" and "The Night Shift" — will soon be available in 4K and it's working with partners including Netflix and YouTube to deliver more 4K streaming video.

SpaceX calls off launch to space station at last minute

MARCIA DUNN, AP Aerospace Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — SpaceX called off its planned flight to the International Space Station on Tuesday because of rocket trouble.

The unmanned Falcon rocket was supposed to blast off before sunrise. But the countdown was halted with just over a minute remaining. The soonest SpaceX can try again is Friday morning, provided it can fix the problem by then.

SpaceX officials said one of two motors needed for rocket thrust steering of the second stage failed to operate as expected. If controllers had not aborted the launch, computers likely would have done so closer to flight time, officials said.

The Dragon capsule aboard the rocket contains more than 5,000 pounds of supplies and experiments ordered up by NASA. That's the primary objective for SpaceX. But the California-based company plans to attempt an even more extraordinary feat once the Dragon is on its way: flying the booster rocket to a platform in the Atlantic. No one has ever pulled off such a touchdown.

SpaceX's billionaire founder and chief executive, Elon Musk, said recovering and reusing rockets could speed up launches and drive down costs.

The delivery was supposed to occur before Christmas, but was delayed because of a flawed test firing of the rocket engines. The test was repeated successfully, paving the way for Tuesday's try.

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NASA's last contracted shipment ended in an explosion seconds after the October liftoff from Virginia. That company — Orbital Sciences Corp. — has grounded its rocket fleet until next year. Researchers scrambled to get replacement experiments and equipment on this Dragon flight.

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Jan. 6, the sixth day of 2015. There are 359 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 6, 1540, England's King Henry VIII married his fourth wife, Anne of Cleves. (The marriage lasted about six months.)

On this date:

In 1759, George Washington and Martha Dandridge Custis were married in New Kent County, Virginia.

In 1838, Samuel Morse and Alfred Vail gave the first successful public demonstration of their telegraph in Morristown, New Jersey.

In 1912, New Mexico became the 47th state.

In 1919, the 26th president of the United States, Theodore Roosevelt, died in Oyster Bay, New York, at age 60.

In 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, in his State of the Union address, outlined a goal of "Four Freedoms": Freedom of speech and expression; the freedom of people to worship God in their own way; freedom from want; freedom from fear.

In 1945, George Herbert Walker Bush married Barbara Pierce at the First Presbyterian Church in Rye, New York.

In 1950, Britain recognized the Communist government of China.

In 1963, "Oliver!," Lionel Bart's musical adaptation of the Charles Dickens novel "Oliver Twist," opened on Broadway. "Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom" premiered on NBC-TV.

In 1974, year-round daylight saving time began in the United States on a trial basis as a fuel-saving measure in response to the OPEC oil embargo.

In 1975, the original version of "Wheel of Fortune," hosted by Chuck Woolery and Susan Stafford, premiered on NBC-TV.

In 1987, the U.S. Senate voted 88-4 to establish an eleven-member panel to hold public hearings on the Iran-Contra affair.

In 1994, figure skater Nancy Kerrigan was clubbed on the leg by an assailant at Detroit's Cobo Arena; four men, including the ex-husband of Kerrigan's rival, Tonya Harding, went to prison for their roles in the attack. (Harding denied knowing about plans for the attack.)

Ten years ago: Attorney General-nominee Alberto Gonzales, under scorching criticism at his Senate confirmation hearing, condemned torture as an interrogation tactic and promised to prosecute abusers of terror suspects. Congress certified President George W. Bush's re-election. Former Ku Klux Klan leader Edgar Ray Killen was arrested on murder charges 41 years after three civil rights workers were slain in Mississippi. (Killen was later convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to 60 years in prison.) Andrea Yates' murder conviction for drowning her children in the bathtub was overturned by a Texas appeals court. (Yates was found not guilty by reason of insanity in a retrial.)

Five years ago: James von Brunn, a 89-year-old white supremacist charged in a deadly shooting at Washington's Holocaust museum, died in North Carolina, where he was being held while awaiting trial. British Prime Minister Gordon Brown fended off a challenge to his leadership from within his own ruling

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Labour Party just months before general elections.

One year ago: The U.S. Supreme Court stayed a decision by a federal judge striking down Utah's ban on same-sex marriage so that the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver could decide the issue. (In June 2014, the Court of Appeals overturned the ban; in October, the U.S. Supreme Court turned away appeals from five states seeking to preserve their bans, including Utah.) By a vote of 56-26, the U.S. Senate confirmed Janet Yellen as the first woman to lead the Federal Reserve. Former Miss Venezuela Monica Spear and her ex-husband, Thomas Henry Berry, were shot and killed and their 5-year-old daughter wounded after they'd resisted robbers by locking the doors of their broken-down car. No. 1 Florida State beat No. 2 Auburn 34-31 in the BCS National Championship Game.

Today's Birthdays: Pollster Louis Harris is 94. Retired MLB All-Star Ralph Branca is 89. Author E.L. Doctorow is 84. Country musician Joey, the CowPolka King (Riders in the Sky) is 66. Former FBI director Louis Freeh is 65. Rock singer-musician Kim Wilson (The Fabulous Thunderbirds) is 64. Singer Jett Williams is 62. Rock musician Malcolm Young (AC-DC) is 62. Actor-comedian Rowan Atkinson is 60. World Golf Hall of Famer Nancy Lopez is 58. Rhythm-and-blues singer Kathy Sledge is 56. TV chef Nigella Lawson is 55. Rhythm-and-blues singer Eric Williams (BLACKstreet) is 55. Movie composer A.R. Rahman is 49. Movie director John Singleton is 47. Actor Norman Reedus is 46. TV personality Julie Chen is 45. Actor Danny Pintauro (TV: "Who's the Boss?") is 39. Actress Cristela Alonzo (TV: "Cristela") is 36. Actress Rinko Kikuchi is 34. Actor Eddie Redmayne (Film: "The Theory of Everything") is 33. NBA player Gilbert Arenas is 33. Actress-comedian Kate McKinnon (TV: "Saturday Night Live") is 31. Rock singer Alex Turner (Arctic Monkeys) is 29.

Thought for Today: "Simplicity is an acquired taste. Mankind, left free, instinctively complicates life."
- Katharine Fullerton Gerould, American author (1879-1944).

Driver's Exam Stations

Important: Application must be submitted at least 1 hour in advance of scheduled closing time. No drive tests will be given from 11:30 to 1:30. For more information see our website at www.dps.sd.gov call 1-800-952-3696.

Aberdeen: 2729 W Highway 12

Open 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Tuesday through Friday

Redfield: Dept. of Transportation - N Hwy 281.

Open 8:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays

Webster: Courthouse Basement (711 W 1st St. - Ste. 107

Open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Fridays

DOCUMENTS NEEDED TO OBTAIN A SOUTH DAKOTA DRIVER LICENSE OR ID CARD (photo copies cannot be accepted)

Federal requirements have changed the documents required to obtain or renew your South Dakota driver license or identification card. We want to make the process as quick and easy as possible for you.

Look over the documents on the list below, and if you have any questions at all, anything you don't understand or any documents you aren't sure you can find, please contact the Driver Licensing Program. You may email DPSLicensingInfo@state.sd.us (please include your first and last name) or call toll-free at 1-800-952-3696 or directly at 605-773-6883.

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If you think you will have difficulty obtaining any of the documents please contact us. We may be able to arrange for an extension or a temporary permit while you gather the documents needed to obtain your federally compliant South Dakota driver license or identification card. If you find that you simply can't produce one of the required documents, we can work with you in those situations. Again, please use the contact information for the Driver Licensing Program if you have any questions or concerns.

The need to show the additional documents is a one-time requirement. That means once you have your federally compliant driver license or identification card in hand, you will only need that card and two documents to show your current address the next time you renew your driver license or identification card. If your driver license or identification card has a gold star in the upper right corner, then it is federally compliant.

Our staff is committed to providing the best service possible, so don't hesitate to contact us by telephone or email. We will help you in any way we can.

Federal regulations require anyone applying for a new, renewal, or duplicate driver license or identification card to provide the documents listed below and on page 2 (photo copies are not acceptable):

I. You will need one Identity Document. NOTE: If your name is different than the name on your identity document, you will need to bring additional proof of your legal name. Acceptable documents for proof of a legal name change are a certified marriage certificate (issued by a state vital records agency), a certified adoption document, or a certified court order authorizing a name change (such as a divorce decree). If you have had multiple marriages, you will need to bring similar documents providing legal proof of each name change (presenting a valid passport with your current name eliminates this requirement).

An Identity Document to prove identity, date of birth, and lawful status is considered to be one of the following:

- ◆ Certified U.S. birth certificate issued by state or county (hospital birth certificates are not acceptable)

- ◆ Valid unexpired U.S. passport
- ◆ Certificate of Naturalization
- ◆ Certificate of Citizenship

Non-Citizens may bring:

- ◆ Valid unexpired permanent resident card
- ◆ Valid unexpired employment authorization document
- ◆ Foreign passport with valid unexpired U.S. Visa with I-94

South Dakota birth and marriage certificate information is available on the state of South Dakota web site at <http://www.doh.sd.gov/vitalrecords/order.aspx> and through your local County Register of Deeds office. Marriage certificates before 1950 may not be available for same day issuance. For telephone numbers and addresses to write for out-of-state vital records, please visit <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/w2w.htm>.

II. You will need one document to prove Social Security number. Only the documents listed below can serve as proof of Social Security number (the document must include your name and full social security number):

- ◆ Social Security card
- ◆ W-2 Form

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- ◆ SSA 1099 Form
- ◆ Non-SSA 1099 Form
- ◆ Pay stub

(For information on how to apply for a social security number or replacement card, please visit <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/ssnumber/>.)

III. You will need two documents to prove your residential address. A parent's proof of address is acceptable for a minor child. Proof of address documents may **not be more than one year old**. Please bring two of the documents listed below (each must contain your current physical address):

- ◆ Utility bill
- ◆ Pay stub or earnings statement
- ◆ Rent receipt
- ◆ Phone bill
- ◆ Transcript or report card from an accredited school
- ◆ Bank statement
- ◆ Mortgage document
- ◆ Tax document
- ◆ Homeowners/renter's insurance policy
- ◆ Other items with your address can be reviewed by Driver Licensing personnel
- ◆ If you are unable to provide proof of residency, please call 1-800-952-3696 or 605-773-6883 for exceptions.
- ◆ Post Office Box addresses are acceptable in areas not assigned a street or 911 address

Address Exceptions:

Minors - If a minor does not have two documents proving residency, the parent may provide two forms for them.

Living with someone else - An individual residing with another person may have the other person sign a "Consent for Use of South Dakota Address" form and present two residency documents belonging to the person with whom they reside. The Consent for Use of Address form may be obtained at the exam station or printed off our website.

Living within an organization or at a facility - Applicants may provide a letter from the organization or facility (on their letterhead) stating the individual resides there.

People who travel full-time - If you are using a mail forwarding address, you must complete the Residency Affidavit. You will also need to provide one document no more than one year old proving your temporary South Dakota address (campground or RV park receipt) and one document no more than one year old proving your personal mailbox (PMB) service address (receipt from the PMB business or a piece of mail with your PMB address on it). If you have friends or family in South Dakota and plan to use their address, you can complete and follow the instructions on the Consent for Use of Address form.

Military and Military Dependents - Applicants can use an out-of-state address on their license and provide two documents proving residency showing the out-of-state address.

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Before your license or ID card is issued, our examiners will review your documents to make sure they comply with the federal requirements. We will work with you to resolve any problems with your documents and to identify any additional documents or other information that may be necessary to complete the process. The additional requirements are designed to establish a more secure driver license, which will address our shared concern about national security, identity theft and highway safety.

Veterans

Veterans who have been honorably discharged from the military have the option of adding the word "Veteran" to the front of their South Dakota driver license or identification card. In addition to the documents listed above, they will need to present:

- ◆ DD-214 form which shows their honorable discharge status from active duty or
- ◆ Present a certificate signed by a county or tribal veteran's service officer verifying their status.
- ◆ DD Form 2 (Retired)
- ◆ DD Form 2A (Reserve Retired)

Note to CDL holders: If you are required to carry a medical examiners certificate (aka DOT medical card) you must show a valid card at the driver exam station.