

# Groton Daily Independent

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## 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**

## Monday, February 16

**President's Day** - No School

6:30 am: Emmanuel Lutheran Bible Study

Boys Basketball hosts Roncalli (7th at 3 p.m., 8th at 4 p.m., C game at 5:15 p.m., JV at 6:30 p.m., Varsity at 8 p.m.)

7:30pm: Groton Fire and Rescue Annual meeting at the Fire Hall.

## Tuesday, February 17

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

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

**School Lunch:** Italian dunker, sweet tots, veg cups, fruit.

6:30pm: GBB hosts Tiospa-Zina

7:00pm: City Council meeting

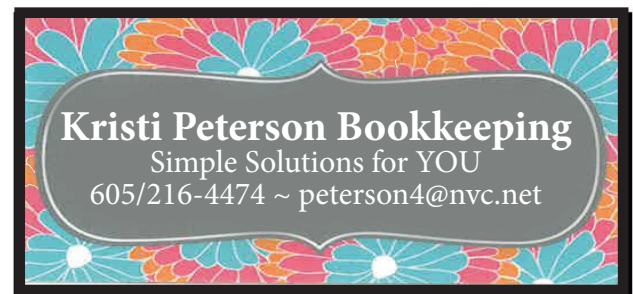
## Wednesday, February 18

**Ash Wednesday**

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

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

**School Lunch:** Fish nuggets, French Fries, roman salad, fruit.



## 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.

## Winter Stresses on Trees and Shrubs

Heavy snow and ice, as well as frozen soil conditions, can damage cherished trees and shrubs in residential landscapes. Even areas without major snowfall experience high winds and huge fluctuations in temperatures during winter. But homeowners can lessen the adverse effects of winter weather with preventive maintenance.

### What can happen in winter, and how can you avoid it?

"Branches of trees can break due to the excessive weight of ice or snow," says Tchukki Andersen, BCMA, CTSP\* and staff arborist with the Tree Care Industry Association (TCIA). "Proper pruning encourages the formation of the strongest possible branches and branch attachments. When pruning alone isn't enough, properly installed cables and rigid braces can add support to a weakened part of the tree."

Winter winds cause evergreens to lose moisture from their needles. Even some deciduous trees suffer from winter drying. If water is not available as moisture is drawn from living cells, permanent damage will result. The best prevention consists of planting only hardy species in areas of prolonged exposure, watering plants adequately in the fall, and mulching to insulate the soil and roots from severe cold.

On sunny days in winter, the tree's trunk and main limbs can warm to 15 degrees higher than the air temperature. As soon as the sun's rays stop reaching the stem when the sun sets, the tree's temperature plummets, causing injury or permanent damage to the bark. The two common types of injury are sun scald and frost cracking. The effects of sun scald and frost cracking can be reduced by sound arboricultural practices to maintain overall health, and by covering the trunks of young, susceptible trees with a suitable tree wrap.

### Winter is a good time to prune

"Most skilled arborists prefer pruning when trees are dormant," says Andersen. "With no leaves on the tree, the arborist is better able to evaluate its architecture and spot dead or diseased branches. In

addition, since the ground is frozen, damage to the turf underneath the tree due to falling limbs and tree care activities is negligible. This is also a good time to check trees for diseases and other damage."

Here are some other things TCIA recommends to improve the health of your living landscape:

Aeration in thawed soil around trees helps improve water and air movement in the soil. This strengthens the tree's root system and reduces soil compaction.

When planting, choose hardy trees available in your area as they have better chances for survival in severe weather conditions. Choosing the best location and following proper planting procedures should be your highest priorities.

Stop fertilizing trees in early fall to allow them to prepare for winter.

In case of moderate storm damage, restoring the tree to its former health and beauty may take some time, but it generally can make a full recovery. Broken, hazardous limbs should be removed immediately. Pruning to remove broken stubs and restore the balance of the crown can be put off a little while, but shouldn't be delayed more than one growing season.

## 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.

### Concessions Manager Wanted

The Groton Area School District is seeking qualified applicants for a concessions manager for the 2015-2016 school year. Salary is \$50/event plus commission. Information and applications are available at [www.grotonarea.com](http://www.grotonarea.com).

## Youth Learn Legislative Process during 3-Day Trip to Pierre

HURON, S.D. - When you're 15, politics can be confusing. South Dakota's Legislature is now more understandable for the teens who earned their way to attend the Farmers Union Two Year Legislative Award Trip, Feb 3-5, 2015.

"Until we made this trip to Pierre, we didn't understand what the Legislators do here exactly; it's been so interesting to see how it works," said Sammi Murtha, 15, a freshman at Parkston High School.

Her friend, Jennifer Hanson, adds; "It's one thing to read about the Legislative process in school, but by being here in the Capitol we get to see it live," says the Britton/Hecla High School freshman.

Like many youth who become involved in Farmers Union Youth Programs, Murtha lives in a rural community and enjoys the opportunity Farmers Union gives her to meet youth from across the state and learn about topics like leadership and cooperatives, which are not typically taught in school. Her friend Taylin Montague, 14, agrees.

"Farmers Union events bring us together with other people we would not have an opportunity to meet otherwise. I live in New Underwood and these girls live in eastern South Dakota we became friends at camp," Montague, a freshman at New Underwood High School, explains.

Along with teaching youth about how their state's government works, the Legislative Youth Trip is designed as one of four reward trips youth can earn throughout their high school years, explains Bonnie Geyer, Farmers Union Education Director.

"Within the youth program there are five levels of achievement. Students earn their way to each level through community service projects, essays and participation in Farmers Union events," Geyer says.

The reward trips coincide with the Farmers Union mission and triangle Cooperation, Legislation and Education. Their first year youth can attend State Leadership Camp at half price, the second year is the Pierre Legislative trip, the third year is a trip to Minneapolis to learn about Cooperatives and fourth year students can earn a trip to the National Farmers Union Camp in Colorado. The fifth year is their Torchbearer award, the highest honor bestowed upon youth in Farmers Union. Torchbearers earn a trip



### SDFU

**Front row (left to right): Doug Sombke, Groton, SDFU President; Jackie Nuss, Tripp; Taylin Montague, New Underwood; Joseph Nugteren, Canistota; Bree Weidenbach, Canistota; Governor Dennis Daugaard. Second row (left to right): Jennifer Hanson, Britton; Sammi Murtha, Dimock; Nathan Linke, Woonsocket; Aaron Linke, Woonsocket. Third row (left to right): Dalton Gerlach, Stickney; Jonah Murtha, Dimock; Rowdy Thompson, New Underwood. Back row (left to right): Lisa Snedeker, Woonsocket, Chaperone; Bonnie Geyer, Huron, Education Director.**

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to the National Farmers Union Convention.

"These trips offer incentive as well as valuable opportunities for students," Geyer says.

Jonah Murtha, 16, whole-heartedly agrees. "I've learned a lot about cooperatives and cooperation in general," explains the Parkston High School Sophomore.

The group was able to join other Farmers Union members in the annual Farmers Union Legislative Day activities, attend committee hearings, observe floor action in both the House and Senate and meet with lobbyists, pages and interns. The group also visited the Law Enforcement Training Academy, the World War II, Vietnam and Fighting Stallions Memorials, the Discovery Center and toured the Capitol.



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By Jason Alderman



## Making Sure Loved Ones Are Prepared for Their Retirement Years

What if a sudden, debilitating illness, fraud or economic downturn affected your senior family member's retirement, estate or long-term care issues? Would you be prepared to take over?

If the answer is no, you're not alone. According to 2013 research (<http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2013/07/18/as-population-ages-more-americans-becoming-caregivers/>) from the Pew Research Center, four in 10 U.S. adults are caring for a loved one with significant health issues.

Don't wait for a crisis to initiate this conversation. Starting early can help you plan and even safeguard your own career and retirement planning. Here are some suggestions for starting the conversation:

Identify the missing links. Find information gaps you need to fill to help your senior relative plan for retirement. If key financial information – investment and banking accounts, legal documents or doctors' contact information – is missing, list any and all unknowns to be researched and compiled.

Schedule a family financial meeting. Schedule a specific day and time and create an agenda that meets the needs of your senior relative. It is not always necessary to involve all direct family members in a preliminary discussion, but make sure that relevant individuals are aware of the meeting. After helping your senior relative assess his or her financial situation, make sure to identify next steps and responsibilities.

Locate important financial documents. Ask your senior relative to show you where his or her key documents and accounts are, such as retirement and pension information, checkbooks, investment statements, insurance policies and legal and estate data. Find out where incoming bills are kept in case you have to step in and help manage monthly bills.

Consider seeking financial counseling. Any number of reasons, from illness to fraud, may explain losing control of personal finances. If your relative has been working with a qualified financial or tax advisor, the family team should consider meeting with him or her if a need arises. If outside tax, financial or legal help is needed, the team and your senior relative should discuss who those professionals should be, what their fees are and what you expect them to do.

Make and agree on a plan. After all the information gathering and discussion is complete, make a plan – in writing, if possible – to review the senior's wishes, set an action plan and assign responsibilities as necessary. As mentioned above, you should review this plan every year. And if problems emerge in any topic area from retirement to health issues, you'll find guidance throughout the Practical Money Skills for Life website. (<http://www.practicalmoneyskills.com/personalfinance/>)

Bottom line: Asking older relatives about retirement, estate and long-term care preparations can be an uncomfortable conversation. Making a plan and initiating early conversations to involve the right people can ease the financial strain and stress on everyone involved.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs. To Follow Jason Alderman on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney](http://www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney).



## Glimpse From Greenfield

**Brock Greenfield**  
**State Senator**  
**District 2**

When I arrived home from Session at the end of last week, I was greeted by a couple loyal readers of my column who suggested that I write a little less. I decided to comply, and for good measure I went out and slipped on the ice and broke my arm. As I sit here and type one-handed, rest assured that this will be a condensed Glimpse From Greenfield!

Last Tuesday, I pitched SB 175 in front of the transportation committee. The bill sought to include Bronze Star, Bronze Star With Valor, and Silver Star recipients in the list of veterans who are eligible for military specialty plates that are not subject to annual registration fees. This issue was brought to my attention by a constituent who suggested the current list (disabled veteran, Prisoner of War, Pearl Harbor Survivor and Purple Heart recipient) could be enhanced by including these other categories. However, after being approached by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, I agreed to a suggestion that we give them a year to come back with a proposal to more fully address the matter. They spoke of the list of honors in order of precedence that lists a host of other honors that should be considered. They said that they should have given legislation passed in 2014 that included the other categories (listed above) more thought. They acknowledged the merit of SB 175 and reiterated a desire to come with a more inclusive proposal. The committee spoke of their support for the concept, before killing the bill under the understanding that this idea will be back.

I successfully pitched SB 159 in Senate Taxation where similar bills have died each of the past two years. This bill would exempt American Legion and VFW Teener baseball coaches from an interpretation that their income is subject to city and state sales tax. I have discussed this matter in the past, so let me just say that this would put these youth coaches on the same "playing field" as virtually all other youth coaches who happen to be compensated by schools or cities. It also is consistent with a law we passed in 2005 exempting Legion and VFW umpires from sales tax on their incomes. These people often are not compensated terribly well, and in some cases the sponsoring organization has picked up the tax tab. Either way, this bill will take a little tax liability off a few individuals and organizations who generally are unaware of the Department of Revenue's 2012 interpretation and application of the law. They estimate it will result in a \$10,000 fiscal impact to the state, based upon current collections.

I also pitched SB's 162 and 192 in Judiciary Committee. Both bills were aimed at addressing Capitol security concerns in an increasingly volatile world. SB 162 was killed, but 192 remains alive, as it passed committee 5-2. I will be working with several interested parties over the next couple weeks to amend the bill to reach a compromise. I will report on the progress of the bill in a future article. For now, all I will say is that we very much enjoy the openness/accessibility of our Capitol. However, we also recognize that in a building that is identified as a gun-free zone, greater safety measures should be in-place to ensure that the proverbial "bad guy" doesn't gain access without enough "good guys" to thwart any attacks. The bill is very much a work-in-progress.

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Finally, SB 135 would allow municipalities to impose an extra penny sales tax for specific projects, and SB 1 would impose a variety of tax and fee increases to address our transportation concerns. It was pointed out that the price tag associated with SB 135 would be in excess of \$156 million if all communities tried successfully to impose the extra cent. That amount is eerily similar to the \$180 million tax increase proposal that the voters defeated at the ballot box in 2012. Although it would have gone to different projects, my support for the bill turned to opposition when I considered the overall price tag, the disproportionate benefit to urban over rural communities, and the other tax increase proposals that are hanging in the balance this year. With respect to SB 1, it is a bill that I will continue to consider as it works its way through the process. However, proponents of the bill said repeatedly that the multi-tens-of-millions of dollars in tax increases currently in the bill will not be the final dollar amount when things come out in the wash. I have voted in favor of bills in the past to keep them alive, only to be sorely disappointed with the final form. I chose to vote against this bill the first time around, and I will reserve judgment for the bill in its final form. The bill did pass 26-8 after we put one good, taxpayer friendly amendment on it. I voted for the amendment, which passed 21-13. There will be much more debate to come on this bill.

Well, it wasn't as short as some might have hoped for, but it's a bit less lengthy than some of my other weekly recaps! Until next week, may your journeys down the sidewalks be free of snow-covered ice and without incident! God bless!



## Lana's Annals

**Lana  
Greenfield  
District 2  
State  
Representative**

Hello from Pierre. The bills continue to roll in at a quick pace; some go forth, and others we put to rest. This week House members voted in favor of authorizing the use of investigational treatments for patients with terminal illnesses. This is called the "right to try," (HB 1080), and the Senate will now debate its merits. HB 1128 also passed out of the House, but not without debate and dissension. This bill revises the property exempt from the process in a bankruptcy case; it allows up to a \$5,000 exemption for a car. Those who spoke in favor said it is necessary to have a means of transportation to get to a job; opponents argued that exemption requests come in

all too frequently. Rep. Latterell of Tea introduced bill 1155, which requires information be given to the mother whose child tests positive for Downs Syndrome. He said that he has two siblings who have this condition, and these children have been such a blessing to the family. The information could educate families more in understanding how to better care for a child with Downs. This bill passed with no opposition. I heard from many South Dakotans on HB 1179. It revises the definition of a veteran and broadens it to add National Guard members as veterans. We had a long debate about it; some thought it watered down the definition of the word "veteran" (a member of the armed forces). Others retorted that the National Guard was very active during Desert Storm and has been an ever-present emergency group during past South Dakota floods and tornadic conditions, just to name two. When a person enlists, he/she does not know if or when there will be deployment to foreign soil, and just because some are not active in that type of service, it does not take away from a willingness to serve when called. The driving force for my voting for it was armed service organizations who supported this bill. HB1216 dealt with the repealing of the total amount of revenue payable from taxes on real property for all

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taxing districts, except school districts. Opponents felt that if the cap comes off, taxes will be greatly raised; they suggested that if counties need money, they should use the opt out method. Those who favored it said enough trust should be placed in our officials to use wise discretion before raising the taxes. District 1 Rep. Feickert said that opting out has lost in the past in Brown County as more voters live inside the city limits than outside, and they have voted down the increase for county road funding.. I voted in favor because of both of the latter arguments; it, however, lost.

One local government issue debated and put down was HB1167. This bill would have allowed municipalities, counties, and school districts to post their meetings on the internet if they chose. I spoke strongly against this as we need to have the information available for all people, and many senior citizens do not have access to the internet. Countering this argument, the prime sponsor said that they could go to the library to access the information or could call the school, city hall, or court house to have them send the information. This did not make any sense to me. Not only would older people be affected, but we also have many people in the district that do not have the internet due to religious reasons. I made a motion to send this bill to the 41st day, and others agreed. Another bill we listened to in this committee was concealed carry of pistols on campus. Those who carry would have to be at least twenty-one, and the college has control over carry in dorms or other housing areas that are a part of the campus. We passed it out of committee, so we can have floor discussion; I can envision amendments forthcoming on this one. Through hours of study, I have discovered that targeted areas for mass killings are gun-free zones: schools, libraries, malls, etc. Some out of state colleges have become pro-active in right to conceal-carry before something bad happens; others, such as Florida State, enacted this law in January of this year after a shooter injured three people. It is tough to vote on these types of issues. On one hand, we have the 2nd amendment rights to preserve; yet, on the other side, we need to be comfortable with the training and stability of the people who are toting the concealed weapons. I would be leaning toward willing, trained professors being sentinels.

This bill and HB 1211, regarding concealed weapons being allowed in the capitol, are ones to watch.

In Health and Human Services, we listened to testimony which would outlaw tanning devices for anyone under 18. PERIOD. The parents, according to this bill, could not even give consent. I realize danger exists to excessive tanning, but I would rather have tanning take place in a commercial environment where skin type is matched to the amount of time the person can tan. Proms, weddings, and trips are times for which people like to tan. Unsupervised, home tanning for unspecified amounts of time and for more than once per day poses greater danger, in my opinion. As a small business owner, I feel that too many regulations wreak havoc; therefore, I voted against it. I just do not know how many laws and mandates we must have in place to protect people from THEMSELVES. The vote was tied; action is deferred until Tuesday as one member was absent.

I was pleased to see some people from home this week. With us in the gallery was Roni Jankord, state rodeo queen, from Castlewood. I spoke briefly with Clark's Lonna Deslauriers who helped provide us with a nutritional "grab and go" breakfast. Thanks, Lonna!! Also, it was my pleasure to have Elizabeth Hansen, state FCLB historian and Redfield High School student, shadow me. I had no committee meetings on Wednesday morning, so Lizzie and I attended the hearings in the State Affairs and Judiciary Committees regarding the removal of the death penalty in South Dakota. The testimonies of opponents and proponents were grippingly emotional. I felt extremely sorry for the family members of murdered children, who, every time this issue comes forth, have to come to the hearings, re-live the nightmare, and compel the panel not to do away with the death penalty. Attorney General Jackley and other state prosecutors presenting testimony all stated that many, many people could be given that sentence based on the crime. This sentence, however, is given to only the most vile, savage, unre-



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morseful perpetrators who are a great harm to both society and to the rest of the prison population. All bills were defeated, but I am sure, they will come up again and again...the paid lobbyists are in place and they have gripped at the heart strings of those who feel that everyone should get at least yet one more chance or that innocent people are unjustly being put to death. With DNA testing, this is highly impossible. I would suggest that if you are interested in educating yourselves on evidence testing, visit the DCI crime lab in Pierre.

We continue to discuss our road and bridge funding issue. We can either do some fixing now or wait until even more expense is incurred. I still reserve voting judgment on the expense package forthcoming; priorities need to be laid out to us also.

Education funding and teacher shortages continue to be a part of the discussion. Some paraprofessionals just may be excited about the bill which will allow them to go to school to become certified teachers at state expense, provided they remain in the profession and in state for five years. I know we have caring, capable people who would be exceptional in the teaching field. They just need a nudge!

Until next week, stay well and be a positive force to those around you.

## GO SOLAR and Eliminate your Electric Bills!



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For billing and service inquiries, call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week	
Date of Bill Prepared February 21	
Old Bill:	\$225
Your Account Summary	
Amount of your last level pay plan (LLP) bill	\$225.00
Payment	\$225.00
Balance	
Your Total	
CITY ELECTRIC COMPANY	
For billing and service inquiries, call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week	
Date of Bill Prepared April 21	
Your Account Summary	
Amount owed from previous billing	-\$28.90
Credit balance	-\$28.90
	\$3.84
Your new charges	\$11.84
Do not pay. Your account has a credit balance	\$228.84
Total Savings	
TOTAL SAVINGS: \$228.84	

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## Burt's Summary

**Burt Tulson**  
**District 2**  
**State**  
**Representative**

We have now reached the half way point of the session. Our roads and bridges in South Dakota are very important to all citizens. There are 2 bills that address these needs(SB1 and Hb1131). SB1 passed out of the Senate on a 26-8 vote and was introduced by the summer study task force and was amended to more closely reflect Gov. Dugaard's bill(Hb1131). Hb1131 is scheduled for hearing in House State Affairs Feb. 18. These 2 bills are very important and we as legislators have heard

from many of you, and please keep in touch with us throughout the session. Dyefuel Diesel tax is not supported by me-as I have heard from many of you.. The 2 cents per gallon gas tax increase per year for 8 or 15 yrs.(depending on which bill comes through in conference committees) is appearing to have much support. My thoughts and votes will depend on what counties and townships receive. Our township and county commissioners know their needs and local control is very important. There are many moving parts to these two road bills, as they move through the process.

Many bills are now being debated in committees. Committee meetings are where you hear the nuts and bolts of a bill. There are proponents and usually opponents to a bill. After a bill reaches the floor-only the members of the legislature can speak. That's why what happens in committee is so important and is the place to testify.

Some bills this past week-SB121 would have repealed the death penalty and failed 7-2.

Hb 1206 would authorize the concealed carry of pistols on public university campuses under certain circumstances. Hb1206 passed the House Local Govt. 8-5. I am on that committee and I voted no on Hb1206. Representation from the student federation, which represents the 6 Regent colleges totalling 36,000 students, testified against Hb1206..

(Hb1167) was sent to the 41st day(meaning the bill did not pass) on an 11 - 2 vote on which I voted yes, as we need our newspapers to be the watchdog of all public meetings.If the bill would have succeeded -the public notices would have been able to be printed online in lieu of using the newspapers. Many citizens do not have access to computers or libraries, so I thought in the best interest of the public, not to support Hb1167.

I voted yes on Hb1195 and it passed the House floor 51-16. This bill declared void the transgender policy of the S.D. High school Activities Association. The bill says the sole determinant of a students sexual identity is the sexual identity noted on the student's certificate of birth.

The Build South Dakota Scholarship( for new students going into high need work force programs) is taking applications starting Feb. 17 and is for the 2015-2016 school year. Approximately 300 scholarships will be awarded the first year. The scholarship will cover tuition, fees, books, equipment and other related program expenses. Recipients will commit to stay in S.Dakota to work in their field of study for 3 years following graduation. This fund is made possible by a \$25 million donation from T.Denny Sanford and a \$25 million grant by Gov. Dugaard from the S. Dakota future fund.

We now enter the last half of the session. Keep in touch and encourage you all to come and visit your state capitol.

Best to you all,  
Serving with Joy, Kindness, and Integrity  
Take Care, Rep. Burt Tulson-Lake Norden  
rep.tulson@state.sd.us  
605-881-7809

## The Life of Vivian Luce



Vivian Almeda Luce of Gettysburg died February 11, 2015 in her home. A Visitation will be held from 5:00-7:00pm, Monday, February 16, 2015 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Gettysburg followed by a Wake Service at 7:00pm. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30am, Tuesday, February 17, 2015 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Gettysburg with Interment at the Gettysburg Cemetery.

Vivian was the youngest of three children born to E. Carrol and L. Evelyn (Britting) Klapperich in Conde, SD on September 14, 1936. Vivian attended school near Conde through the eighth grade. When she was sixteen she moved to Maryland to stay with her sister for a short time. Upon her return to SD, she moved to Aberdeen. When working as a carhop, she met her husband Francis Luce. They were married on January 28, 1956. To this loving union, two boys & three girls were born. Four were of them were born in Aberdeen and one in Groton. After moving to Groton in 1967, all five kids graduated from school. Vivian ran a daycare from their home for many years. All the kids brought their friends home to "mom" many times. Francis & Vivian hosted many house parties where thousands of 'cups of coffee' were served, traveled each summer to rod runs and enjoyed camping (even in the rain).

In 1983, she worked cleaning houses for people and at Groton Veterinary Clinic as an assistant.

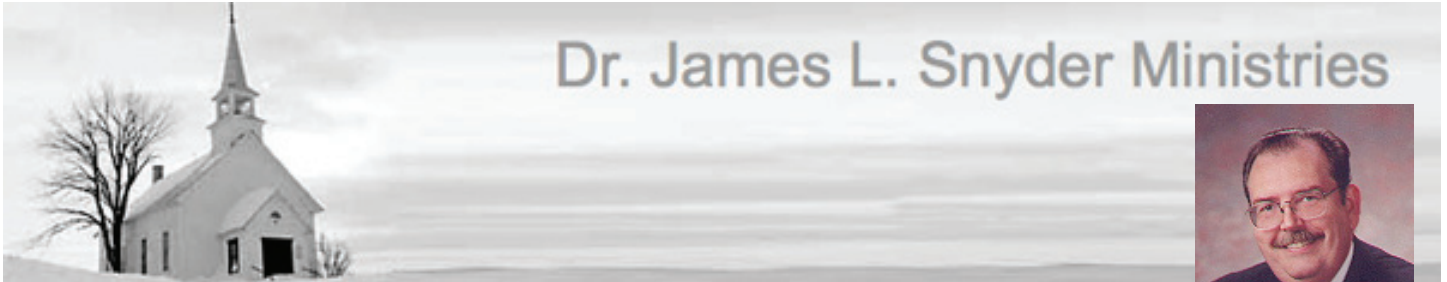
In 1985, the couple purchased the Larson Print Shop in Gettysburg. They ran it together until 1994 when Francis passed away. She ran the shop until 1996 when she went to work for her son John Jr. at Luce Funeral Home until John's death in 2005. At that time, she went to work for Kesling Funeral Home and Gettysburg Senior Center. She also enjoyed her time volunteering at Gettysburg Manor.

In 2000, she met her second love Neal Rausch. They have spent many years together traveling all around the country, playing cards, and gardening flowers and food for themselves, family and friends. Vivian spent many hours playing bridge at the senior center. She was a greeter at Sacred Heart Catholic Church where she was proud to have learned how to video the services.

Vivian's greatest joy was spending time with her family and friends. She loved to tease and be teased even while in the hospital. There was always laughter and love. She was strict and "grouchy" with her grandchildren, but that's how they knew she loved them.

Those blessed to have shared in her life are her special friend Neal Rausch of Gettysburg; her dog Whiskey, son Steve (Terri) Luce of Atlanta, GA; daughters, Victoria (Bruce) Sippel of Groton, SD, Kathy (Bryan) Evjen of Strandburg, SD and Sherrie (Dean) Van Zee of St. Lawrence, SD, 26 grandchildren, 36 great-grandchildren, 2 great-great-grandchildren (and counting), her sister Genevieve (Arvid) Holsing of Wecota, SD, sisters-in-law Marie Schnell of Aberdeen, SD and Madeline Boyd of the Netherlands, brother-in-law Robert (Wilma) Luce of Aberdeen, SD and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband John "Francis" Luce Sr., son John Luce Jr., brother Willis "Bill" (Adonna) Klapperich and granddaughter Lisa Sippel.



## Now I Lay Me Down to Sleep

This year I celebrate another birthday. I hate to say it, but this is getting rather monotonous. Every year I celebrate my birthday. Of course, when the year comes around with no birthday to celebrate everybody will know what has happened.

The only thing I am wrestling with is which birthday am I going to celebrate? I have so many from which to choose, it is hard to really pick out the birthday I want to celebrate.

Some people like to pick the newest birthday to celebrate. I, on the other hand, believe that since it is my birthday, I have the option and right to pick which birthday I am going to celebrate.

It will take me several months to decide, so I need to get started now to pick out which birthday to celebrate.

In thinking this matter over, I have been tempted to celebrate my first birthday because I have no memories of that birthday whatsoever. I am not sure my parents could afford a camera, because there are no pictures of that first birthday. It is rather sad, but I think I can change that.

To celebrate my first birthday would be a rather awesome thing. The first birthday is celebrating the beginning of your life. However, the thing that makes it somewhat crazy is, at that time in life you do not know what to think about as far as life is concerned. After all, being only one year old does not give much time to contemplate what the world is all about. There is a certain degree of innocence in a one year old that fast fades as birthdays come and go.

As I think about celebrating my first birthday, I thought about sitting on the floor in diapers, drooling, while everybody is singing happy birthday to me. That picture kinda cancels any desire I have to celebrate my first birthday.

Then I thought about celebrating my 100th birthday. That would be awesome. I may not be around when I am 100 years old and even if I was around at that time, I may not know what is going on around me. Now that would be the perfect time to celebrate.

Then another disturbing thought entered my head. Just like my first birthday on my 100th birthday, I could be sitting on the floor in diapers, drooling, while everybody around me is singing happy birthday. I do not think we want to go there.

Before I can make any real decisions along this line, I think I am going to have to take a little nap.

As I was taking my nap and just before I slipped off into la-la land, I thought about how old I really am. I am old enough so that I can take a nap in the afternoon without anyone thinking anything negative about it. If that is not something to celebrate, I don't know what is.

If I am going to celebrate my birthday, whichever one I choose, I will have as the focus of that celebration the wonderful privilege of taking naps. The older I get, the more accommodating an afternoon nap really is. That's worth celebrating.

I can remember when younger, if caught taking a nap people made fun of me. "What's the matter with you," people would say as they pointed laughing in my direction.

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To tell them I was just taking a nap did not do anything for my reputation.

Now, the situation is completely changed. I can have a nap in the morning and then another one in the afternoon and then, believe it or not, I can take a nap just before I go to bed for the night.

I feel sorry for those people who are not able to sleep at night. I am definitely not one of them. Sleep has not been a hobby to me; it is a full-time occupation I have mastered.

I am not quite sure how old I was when my parents taught me a little prayer for when you go to bed. It began, "Now I lay me down to sleep." If only I could remember how old I was when I learned that, I would celebrate that birthday.

Nothing has been more beneficial to me than being able to say, "Now I lay me down to sleep," regardless of the time of day. What a wonderful thing it is to be able to sleep and not be harassed by "well-meaning friends" who just don't get it.

I have not come to any conclusion about which birthday to celebrate this year, but I do plan to celebrate this whole idea concerning sleep.

When I was very young, I would fall asleep whenever and not think anything of it. As I got older, it became embarrassing for someone to catch me napping. Then, I passed a certain milestone in life; I do not know which milestone it was, where I am not embarrassed anymore for anybody catching me asleep.

I think that is what I am celebrating this year. At my birthday party, right after the cake, everyone will join me in taking a nap.

David understood the importance asleep when he wrote, "It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: for so he giveth his beloved sleep" (Psalm 127:2).

What puts you to sleep is a good indication of what kind of person you are.

Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, PO Box 831313, Ocala, FL 34483. He lives with his wife, Martha, in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 1-866-552-2543 or e-mail [jamesnyder2@att.net](mailto:jamesnyder2@att.net) or website [www.jamesnyderministries.com](http://www.jamesnyderministries.com).



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## Today in Weather History

1969: Freezing drizzle and heavy fog formed a heavy glaze on utility lines resulting in many broken power and telephone lines across northern South Dakota.

1903 – The temperature at Pokegama Dam, Minnesota plunged to 59 degrees below zero to establish a state record. This record was held until February 2, 1996 when the temperature at Tower fell to 60 degrees below zero.

1989 – A surge of arctic air produced all-time record high barometric pressure readings of 31.08 inches at Duluth Minnesota, 30.97 inches at Chicago Illinois, and 30.94 inches at South Bend Indiana. Readings of 31.00 inches at Milwaukee Wisconsin, and 30.98 inches at Rockford, Illinois, tied their all-time records. Unseasonably warm weather prevailed across the southeastern U.S. Highs of 81 degrees at Athens Georgia, 87 degrees at Charleston South Carolina, 85 degrees at Macon Georgia, and 86 degrees at Savannah Georgia were records for February.

1899 - Washington D.C. received 1.26 inches of rain in six hours atop a snow cover more than 30 inches deep making it the soggiest day of record. (Sandra and TI Richard Sanders - 1987)

1903 - The temperature at Pokegama Dam MN plunged to 59 degrees below zero to establish a state record. (David Ludlum)

1943 - Record cold prevailed in the northeastern U.S. The mercury plunged to 43 degrees below zero at Concord NH, and to -39 degrees at Portland ME. The morning low of -32 degrees at Falls Village CT established a state record, yet the afternoon high that day was 20 degrees above zero. (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1987 - A winter storm produced snow and ice in the Ohio Valley and the Appalachian Region. Snowfall totals in Virginia ranged up to 14 inches around Farmville, while Granville NC reported eight inches of sleet and ice. Freezing rain in eastern North Carolina caused extensive damage to power lines. Gales lashed the coast of Virginia and North Carolina. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Santa Ana winds in southern California gusted to 50 mph in the Rancho Cucamonga area. Quiet weather prevailed across the rest of the nation. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - A surge of arctic air produced all-time record high barometric pressure readings of 31.08 inches at Duluth MN, 30.97 inches at Chicago IL and 30.94 inches at South Bend IN. Readings of 31.00 inches at Milwaukee WI and 30.98 inches at Rockford IL tied their all-time records. Unseasonably warm weather prevailed across the southeastern U.S. Highs of 81 degrees at Athens GA, 87 degrees at Charleston SC, 85 degrees at Macon GA, and 86 degrees at Savannah GA were records for February. (The National Weather Summary)

1990 - Strong thunderstorms developing ahead of an arctic cold front produced severe weather across the southeastern U.S. between mid morning on the 15th and early evening on the 16th. Thunderstorms spawned thirteen tornadoes, including one which, prior to dawn on the 16th, injured eleven persons near Carrollton GA. There were also 121 reports of large hail or damaging winds. A late afternoon thunderstorm on the 15th produced baseball size hail at Jackson MS, and prior to dawn on the 16th, a thunderstorm produced high winds which injured four persons at Goodwater AL. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)



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## Yesterday's Weather

**High:** 20.1 at 11:24 PM

**Low:** 3.5 at Midnight

Wind Chill:

**High Gust:** 23 at 10:16 AM

Snow: 0.50

Precip: 0.00

## Today's Info

**Record High:** 56° in 1981

**Record Low:** -40° in 1936

**Average High:** 28°F

**Average Low:** 8°F

**Average Precip in Feb.:** 0.25

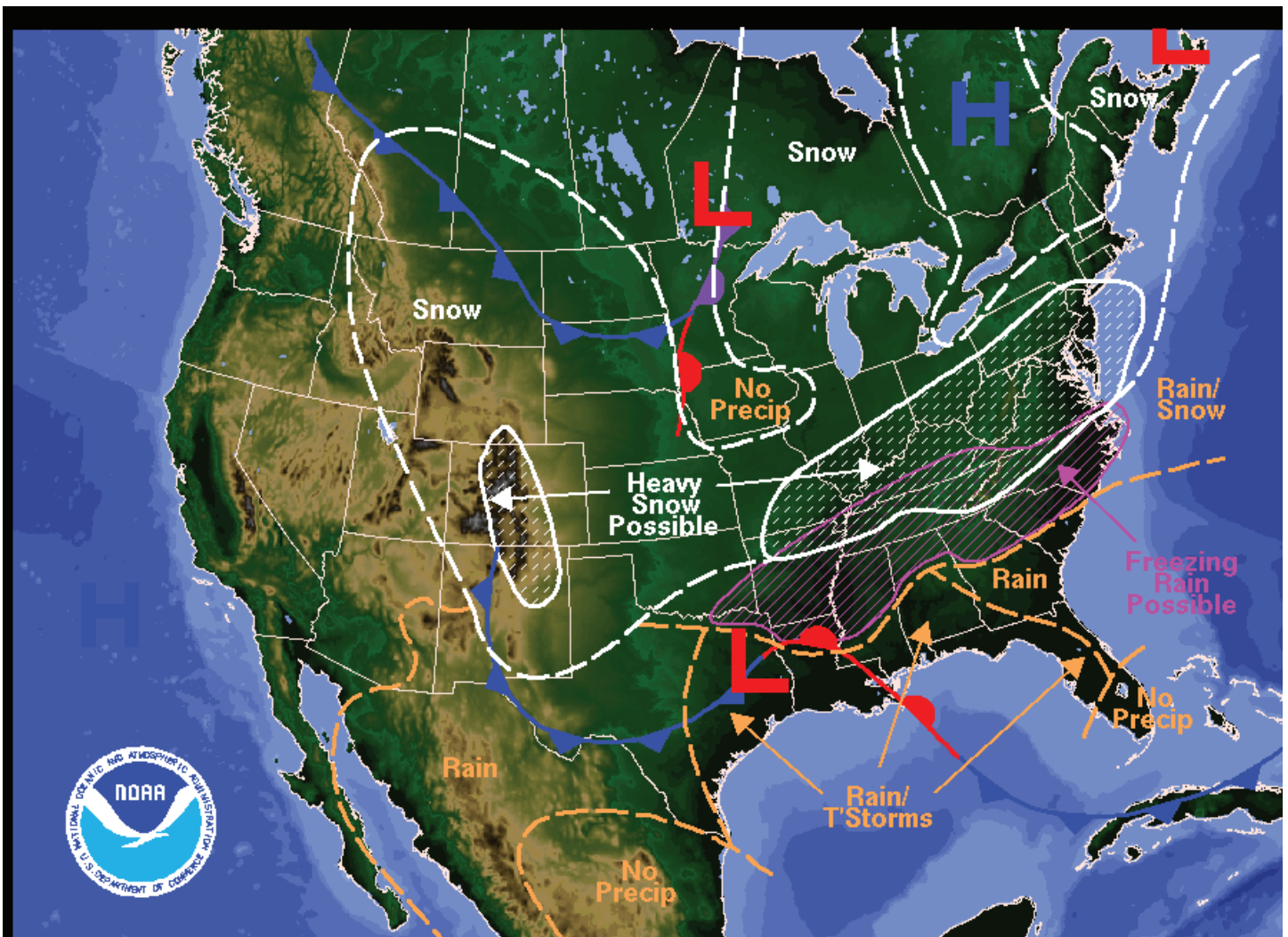
**Precip to date in Feb.:** 0.00

**Average Precip to date:** 0.72

**Precip Year to Date:** 0.40

**Sunset Tonight:** 6:02 p.m.

**Sunrise Tomorrow:** 7:33 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Mon, Feb 16, 2015, issued 3:33 AM EST  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



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## WANTED: GODLY WISDOM

Many years ago I had a friend who wrote a book on decision making. He carefully researched the decision making process of world leaders through history as far as was possible. He concluded that a leader could be known and understood by the people he went to for information before making a decision. He looked at character traits, religious beliefs, education and friends. Simply stated, who we look to for advice before making a decision reveals who we are and what to expect of us.

But advice is not wisdom. Advice, stated by line "authority" is an "opinion about what could or should be done about a situation or problem." One can purchase advice or seek advice from friends or associates, but it is not wisdom. Heed the words of Solomon: "Of what use is money in the hands of a fool, since he has no desire to get wisdom."

It is foolish, according to Solomon, to think that anyone can buy wisdom since it is a gift of God. It can only be acquired by studying His Word and depending on Him for insight and foresight through prayer. Even if someone could buy His wisdom they would be a "fool" for they would lack the sense to know what to do with it.

God's wisdom is not for sale. It is available to those who have a desire to get to know Him by spending time with Him and seeking wisdom from Him. God makes Himself known to those who willingly seek Him with all their heart. The only requirement for those who want God's wisdom is to seek it in His Word and invest time in prayer.

**Prayer:** Father, help us to understand the importance of true, Godly wisdom. May we seek it with all our hearts. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

**Scripture for Today:** Proverbs 17:16 Why should fools have money in hand to buy wisdom, when they are not able to understand it?

### **Officials in regional oil industry stress resiliency**

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — A recent slide in oil prices is leading to fewer jobs in the western North Dakota oil patch, but officials there and in northwestern South Dakota say the regional industry is resilient and will ride out the slump.

Openings posted at the Job Service North Dakota office in Williston have fallen from about 4,500 before the price drop to about 1,900 now, but office Manager Cindy Sanford estimates her office's postings represent fewer than half of the actual jobs available.

"There are some layoffs yes, we are seeing that," she told the Williston Herald. "But there are also jobs."

The need for skilled labor remains high, and qualified workers are quickly finding new employment, Sanford said.

"A guy came in today who had been laid off, and he got a new job for \$2 more an hour," she said.

One reason for the continued demand for workers is that businesses continue coming into the region, according to Sanford. One that registered last month to do business in the state told her "this is still the land of opportunity," she said. "We're coming up, we'll be here in November, and we need 35 people."

The effects of North Dakota's oil boom have spread into northwestern South Dakota, with some companies locating there and some workers living there and commuting to the western North Dakota oil fields.

Executives at a Belle Fourche energy conference organized last week by the South Dakota State University Extension said they expect that impact to continue, the Rapid City Journal reported.

Bob Sieve, manager of Permian Tank in Belle Fourche, said his company has had to lay off seven employees in the past two weeks but is still planning to double the size of its plant and eventually hire more workers.

"I think it's just going to be delayed slightly," he said.

### **Mood remains somber in Lennox after fatal workplace shooting**

LENNOX, S.D. (AP) — The mood in the community of Lennox is somber and likely will remain that way for a while, as residents prepare for the funeral of a man killed in a workplace shooting.

The funeral for Jon Richter, 45, is scheduled for Friday afternoon at Chancellor Reformed Church, according to Dindot-Klusmann Funeral Home. Visitation at the church begins at noon Thursday, with the family present from 5-8 p.m.

Truck driver Jeffrey DeZeeuw, of Sioux Falls, got into an argument over a delivery last Thursday with Richter, a supervisor at a Sioux Steel Co. location known as ProTec, authorities said. DeZeeuw later returned, fatally shot Richter, wounded worker Kathy Steever and injured another employee, Brian Roesler, who confronted DeZeeuw and is credited with likely preventing more injuries or deaths. DeZeeuw then killed himself.

"Those individuals out there were members of our community, and being a small community, everybody knows everybody," Mayor Orv Wiebers told the Argus Leader newspaper (<http://argusnews/1JIP1Kq>).

People in small towns have a trusting nature, and Lennox is in "grieving mode," City Finance Officer

Jerry Jones said.

"Honestly, in your smaller community, we're an easier candidate because we don't have (big-city) security," he said. "But who'd have ever even imagined anything like this happening?"

The shooting has shaken even the newest members of the community. Ahmed Algattan came to Lennox last fall as a foreign exchange student from Kuwait. The 16-year-old high school junior did not immediately contact his parents about the shooting.

"I don't want my mom to be worried," he said, adding that he would tell her "someday."

Wiebers said Lennox is a resilient community and will bounce back, but for now residents are still coming to grips with what happened.

"It's a sad situation," retiree and substitute teacher John Kirchner said.

## **Sioux Falls casino robbed at gunpoint over the weekend**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls police are investigating a weekend robbery at a casino.

Authorities say a male armed with a handgun robbed The Club shortly before 2 a.m. Sunday and fled with an undisclosed amount of money.

No one was hurt.

## **South Dakota approves new online hunter education course**

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Young South Dakotans can now go online to finish much of the state's hunter safety certification course.

The Game, Fish and Parks Department approved the new HuntSAFE program as an alternative to in-person classroom instruction. The online part of the course costs \$15, while the classroom instruction is free.

After passing the online test, students must participate in the required, in-person HuntSAFE field day, which takes about four to six hours and includes a written final exam.

Hunter education is recommended for all hunters, but South Dakota law requires anyone younger than 16 to finish a hunter education course. Students must be at least 11 years old.

The online portion of the test is available at <http://www.hunter-ed.com/southdakota> .

## **Daugaard proclaims Bald Eagle Awareness Week in South Dakota**

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Gov. Dennis Daugaard has proclaimed the last week of February as Bald Eagle Awareness Week in South Dakota.

Various events have been scheduled between Feb. 23 and 28 that will allow individuals across the state to learn more about bald eagles and other birds of prey.

Educators from the Raptor Center at the University of Minnesota will host an event featuring live birds of prey on Feb. 26 at the Outdoor Campus of the Game, Fish and Parks Department in Sioux Falls. The Outdoor Campus in Rapid City will also host a free raptor-themed event, which is planned for Feb. 28.

Bald Eagle Awareness Week is an annual event sponsored by conservation and outdoor recreation organizations, merchants and other conservation agencies.

## 10 Things to Know for Monday

The Associated Press

Your daily look at late-breaking news, upcoming events and the stories that will be talked about Monday:

1. NEW ISLAMIC STATE VIDEO SURFACES

The video purports to show militants in Libya beheading several Coptic Christian hostages.

2. FRAGILE UKRAINE TRUCE LARGELY HOLDING

But continued fighting over a bitterly contested railway hub is threatening to upend the delicate settlement.

3. WHO COULD HAVE BEEN INFLUENCED BY CHARLIE HEDBO MASSACRE

The slain gunman suspected in the deadly Copenhagen attacks was a 22-year-old with a history of violence who may have been inspired by the massacre in Paris last month, officials say.

4. WHAT FAA PLANS TO CLEAR FOR FLIGHT

Long-anticipated rules on commercial drones will eventually open an era in which small unmanned aircraft perform routine tasks — crop monitoring, aerial photography, inspections of bridges, and much more.

5. WHERE THEY'RE WELCOMING MORE SNOW

While southern New England residents bemoan every new storm, ski resorts to the north are expecting visitors to flock to the mountains for rare powder, heading into the mid-winter school break.

6. HACKING RING STEALS UP TO \$1B FROM BANKS WORLDWIDE

The hackers have been active since at least the end of 2013 and infiltrated more than 100 banks in 30 countries, according to a cybersecurity firm's report.

7. BOYFRIEND DESCRIBES EFFORT TO FREE AMERICAN HOSTAGE

In an AP interview, Omar Alkhani details the last time he saw Kayla Mueller in 2013 as a prisoner of the Islamic State group, who confirmed her death earlier this month.

8. BLACK FEMALE FILMMAKERS: ONE OF HOLLYWOOD'S RARITIES

"Selma" director Ava DuVernay, as a black woman, defied incredible odds with her film's best-picture bid at next Sunday's Academy Awards.

9. STUDY: U.S. TEENS ARE GETTING SLEEPIER

Many lack even seven hours of shut-eye each night and the problem has worsened over two decades, research says.

10. 'SNL' CELEBRATES THE BIG 4-0

Guests include Robert DeNiro, Steve Martin, Eddie Murphy, Taylor Swift and everyone else who has ever been an "SNL" regular, guest host, musical performer or behind-the-scenes creative force.

## Eye-opener: US teens getting less & less sleep, study shows

LINDSEY TANNER, AP Medical Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — U.S. teens are getting sleepier: Many lack even seven hours of shut-eye each night and the problem has worsened over two decades, a study found.

More than half of kids aged 15 and older would need to sleep at least two hours more each night to meet recommendations for adequate rest, heightening concerns about the impact on their health and academic performance. That's according to researchers who analyzed the University of Michigan's annual "Monitoring the Future" national surveys of youth behavior.

The study involved nearly 300,000 teens asked in 1991-2012 surveys if they regularly got at least

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seven hours of sleep nightly and enough sleep. Results were published in Monday's Pediatrics.

Some highlights:

## EYE-OPENERS

Experts generally recommend nine or 10 hours of sleep for teens; over half of the 15- to 19-year-olds surveyed in 2012 said they didn't even get seven hours each night.

Declines in nightly sleep were seen in teens of all ages during the two decades. The biggest drop was among 15-year-olds — just over half the kids this age reported at least seven hours nightly in 1991, versus less than 43 percent in 2012. Also, about 30 percent of 15-year-olds reported getting what they considered enough sleep in 1991, versus 24 percent in 2012. Reports were slightly better for younger teens and worse for the oldest teens.

In most surveys, girls and non-whites were the least likely to report seven hours of sleep.

## WHAT GIVES?

Reasons for the trend are uncertain but lead author Katherine Keyes, a Columbia University public health researcher, said factors that might have contributed include increasing use of social media, smartphones and other electronics, and rising rates of obesity, which has been linked with sleep deprivation. Other research has suggested that early school start times play a role and advocates have been pushing for later times for teens.

Kids who don't get enough sleep are at risk for mood problems, depression, memory and learning difficulties and poor grades, said psychologist Daniel Lewin, a sleep specialist at Children's National Medical Center in Washington, D.C. He said about 40 percent of U.S. high schools start classes before 8 a.m. — early morning hours that are teens' "optimal sleep period."

## SOLUTIONS

The researchers say improving teens' understanding of how much sleep they need, and the consequence of not getting enough, could help. They also say reversing the trend will require public health efforts to raise awareness about the importance of sleep for teens.

Online:

Pediatrics: <http://www.pediatrics.org>

Sleep needs: <http://tinyurl.com/kgblgt>

## AP News in Brief

### Police say slain 22-year-old Copenhagen gunman had criminal record, links to gangs

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP) — The slain gunman suspected in the deadly Copenhagen attacks was a 22-year-old with a history of violence and may have been inspired by Islamic terrorists — and possibly the Charlie Hebdo massacre in Paris, Danish authorities said Sunday.

Prime Minister Helle Thorning-Schmidt mourned the two people killed and vowed to protect freedom of speech and Denmark's Jewish community.

The suspect was killed in a gunbattle with a SWAT team early Sunday. He had opened fire Saturday at a cultural center hosting a seminar on free speech with an artist who had caricatured the Prophet Muhammad and then later at security forces outside a synagogue, police said.

A Danish filmmaker was killed in the first attack. Nine hours later, a security guard protecting a bat

mitzvah near a synagogue was slain. Five police officers were wounded in the shootings.

Jens Madsen, head of the Danish intelligence agency PET, said investigators believe the gunman "could have been inspired by the events in Paris." Last month Islamic militants carried out a massacre at the French satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo followed by an attack on Jews at a kosher grocery, killing 17 people.

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## **Victims of Copenhagen shootings: Security guard for Jewish community, documentary filmmaker**

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP) — One was a security guard, gunned down while protecting a bat mitzvah near Copenhagen's main synagogue. The other was a documentary filmmaker slain at a seminar on art and freedom of expression.

This is how friends and colleagues remembered the two men killed this weekend by a gunman who opened fire in Copenhagen.

---

Denmark's chief rabbi called Dan Uzan an "irreplaceable" man whose longtime calling was to protect Copenhagen's Jewish community.

"He was a person who was always willing to help. An amazing, amazing guy," said Rabbi Jair Melchior, speaking from Israel's international airport before boarding a return flight to Denmark.

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## **Video purports to show Islamic State militants in Libya beheading Coptic hostages**

CAIRO (AP) — A video purporting to show the mass beheading of Coptic Christian hostages has been released by militants in Libya claiming loyalty to the Islamic State group.

The killings raise the possibility that the Islamic militant group — which controls about a third of Syria and Iraq in a self-declared caliphate — has established a direct affiliate less than 500 miles from the southern tip of Italy. One of the militants in the video, speaking English, makes direct reference to that possibility, saying the group now plans to "conquer Rome."

The Associated Press could not immediately independently verify the video. But the Egyptian government and the Coptic Church, which is based in Egypt, both declared it authentic.

The Egyptian government declared a seven-day mourning period and President Abdel Fattah el-Sissi addressed the nation late Sunday night, pledging resilience in the fight against terrorism.

"These cowardly actions will not undermine our determination" said el-Sissi, who also banned all travel to Libya by Egyptian citizens. "Egypt and the whole world are in a fierce battle with extremist groups carrying extremist ideology and sharing the same goals."

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## **Ukraine cease-fire largely holding, but sounds of shelling heard from railway hub Debaltseve**

LUHANSKE, Ukraine (AP) — A cease-fire that went into effect Sunday in eastern Ukraine appeared largely to be holding, although continued fighting over a bitterly contested railway hub is threatening to upend the delicate settlement.

The leaders of Russia, Ukraine, France and Germany, who last week brokered a deal to try to end the conflict that has raged since April, agreed in a conference call Sunday that hostilities should also cease

around the government-held town of Debaltseve, Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko's office said. Undeterred, armed separatists appeared intent to pursue their claim to the town.

Heavy fog shrouding sodden fields muffled the sound of artillery, but regular shelling could still be heard from Luhanske, a town about 15 kilometers (9 miles) to northwest of Debaltseve and over 80 kilometers west of the city Luhansk. Associated Press journalists were blocked from moving closer by Ukrainian troops, who said it was not safe to travel ahead.

The cease-fire has kindled slender hopes of a reprieve from a conflict that has claimed more than 5,300 lives. Withdrawal of heavy armor from the front line by both sides is scheduled to begin Monday.

Attention will be focused in the coming days on Debaltseve, where Ukrainian forces have been fending off severe onslaughts from the rebels for weeks. The town is a railway link between the main separatist-held cities of Donetsk and Luhansk.

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## Accused triple killer slams religion, religiously defends gun rights as portrait takes shape

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (AP) — If his Facebook page is any indication, Craig Hicks doesn't hate Muslims. An avowed atheist, his online posts instead depict a man who despises religion itself, but nevertheless seems to support an individual's right to his own beliefs.

"I hate Islam just as much as christianity, but they have the right to worship in this country just as much as any others do," the man now accused of killing three Muslim college students stated in one 2012 post over the proposed construction of a mosque near the World Trade Center site in New York.

Days after the shooting deaths of Deah Shaddy Barakat, 23; his wife, Yusor Mohammad Abu-Salha, 21; and her sister, Razan Mohammad Abu-Salha, 19, a nuanced and sometimes contradictory portrait is emerging of the man charged in their slayings.

Police in Chapel Hill said they have yet to uncover any evidence that Hicks, 46, allegedly acted out of religious animus, though they are investigating the possibility. As a potential motive, they cited a dispute over parking spaces at the condo community where Hicks and two of the victims lived.

Hicks' court-appointed lawyer, Stephen Freedman, said he could not comment on the case. Hicks was being held without bond.

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## Deadline day brings push for health law enrollment after technical glitch on website fixed

WASHINGTON (AP) — After a computer glitch got patched up, supporters of President Barack Obama's health care law were out in force Sunday trying to get uninsured people signed up by the official deadline for 2015 coverage.

The effort had the trappings of a get-out-the-vote drive, with email reminders, telephone calls and squads of community-level volunteers.

"You can't avoid it: TV, radio, church, wife, kids, co-workers," said Ramiro Hernandez, a previously uninsured truck repair shop owner who enrolled himself and his family in Joliet, Illinois, on Saturday.

Technicians anxiously monitored the federal HealthCare.gov website for any new bugs. The administration provided no statistics on weekend sign-ups, instead releasing numbers that showed tens of thousands of consumers were trying to connect, online and by phone.

Winter weather interfered in parts of the country. Rhode Island's state-run insurance marketplace extended its deadline until Feb. 23. Blowing snow and bitter cold affected not only walk-in enrollment

sites, but the state's call center as well. Online enrollment was still available.

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## **Drone on: US proposes rules to let the era of commercial drones begin in coming years**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Drone on, the government says.

Just not through the night sky. Or close to an airport. Or out of the operator's sight. And probably not winging its way with a pizza or package, any time soon.

Long-anticipated rules proposed Sunday will open an era in which small (under 55 pounds) commercial unmanned aircraft perform routine tasks — crop monitoring, aerial photography, inspections of bridges and cell towers, and much more. But not right away. Final rules are probably two to three years away.

And when they are in place, they may include a separate category with fewer restrictions for very small drones, likely to be defined as less than 4.4 pounds.

The Federal Aviation Administration released a variety of proposed requirements for commercial operators to meet, such as passing a knowledge test administered by the agency as well as a federal security check. The small drones could travel as fast as 100 mph, at altitudes of 500 feet or lower. Flights over crowds would be prohibited.

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## **Alabama gay marriage fight echoes old states' rights battles in civil rights, slavery**

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) — Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore's judicial building office overlooks Montgomery's Dexter Avenue, a history-soaked thoroughfare topped by the Alabama Capitol where Jefferson Davis was inaugurated president of the Confederacy and where the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. ended the 1965 march for voting rights.

As gay and lesbian couples left a nearby courthouse clutching marriage licenses last week, Moore, an outspoken critic of gay marriage, was fighting to stop the weddings using a states' rights argument that conjured up those historical ghosts of slavery, the Civil War and the battle against desegregation.

There has been resistance in other states to the tide of rulings allowing gay marriage. Some Florida clerks' offices scrapped all marriage ceremonies rather than perform same-sex unions. In South Carolina and Georgia, legislation is being developed to let individual employees opt out of issuing marriage licenses to gay couples out of sincere religious belief.

No state, however, went as far as Alabama, where the 68-year-old Moore instructed the state's probate judges not to issue marriage licenses to gay couples.

"It's my duty to speak up when I see the jurisdiction of our courts being intruded by unlawful federal authority," Moore said.

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## **The latest in a 'biblical' string of snowstorms brings brutal conditions to hearty New England**

BOSTON (AP) — Another weekend, another major snow storm: The latest system to sweep the Northeast brought another foot to Boston — on top of 6 feet that has fallen over the last month — and tested New Englanders who say the winter is beginning to feel like one without end.

Even after the storm, forecasters warned of exceptionally cold air, perhaps the coldest yet of the season. Strong winds expected to continue into Monday reduced visibility, created drifts and complicated



an ongoing cleanup effort. Forecasters were talking about another storm on the horizon for midweek. "It's historic. It's biblical," attorney Frank Libby said he walked down a deserted street in Boston's Back Bay neighborhood. "I think we're in uncharted territory. People just don't know how to deal with the logistics of it."

He had one message for Mother Nature: "Give us a break."

## 'Selma's best picture nod caps banner year for black female directors; 'not enough,' they say

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Three black women released movies in 2014, more than ever before in a single year. And one of them is a contender for the motion picture academy's top prize.

But just three films in one year — out of the 373 movies that came out in theaters.

Black female filmmakers are one of Hollywood's greatest rarities. In the past seven years, only three were connected to the top 700 movies, according to recent research by the University of Southern California's Media, Diversity & Social Change Initiative.

"The ecosystem of filmmaking is problematic for women and people of color," said initiative director Stacy L. Smith. More than 95 percent of the directors of top-grossing films during the past decade have been male, she said. Looking at the top 700 films over a recent seven-year period, almost 90 percent of them were white.

So while there's been a lot of talk about the lack of diversity among this year's Oscar acting nominees, the larger issue may be the overwhelming lack of diversity among those telling the stories on the big screen.

## Today in History The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Feb. 16, the 47th day of 2015. There are 318 days left in the year. This is Presidents Day.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 16, 1945, American troops landed on the island of Corregidor in the Philippines during World War II.

### On this date:

In 1804, Lt. Stephen Decatur led a successful raid into Tripoli Harbor to burn the U.S. Navy frigate Philadelphia, which had fallen into the hands of pirates during the First Barbary War.

In 1862, the Civil War Battle of Fort Donelson in Tennessee ended as some 12,000 Confederate soldiers surrendered; Union Gen. Ulysses S. Grant's victory earned him the nickname "Unconditional Surrender Grant."

In 1868, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks was organized in New York City.

In 1923, the burial chamber of King Tutankhamen's recently unearthed tomb was unsealed in Egypt by English archaeologist Howard Carter.

In 1937, Dr. Wallace H. Carothers, a research chemist for Du Pont who'd invented nylon, received a patent for the synthetic fiber.

In 1959, Fidel Castro became premier of Cuba a month and a-half after the overthrow of Fulgencio Batista.

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In 1961, the United States launched the Explorer 9 satellite.

In 1968, the nation's first 911 emergency telephone system was inaugurated in Haleyville, Alabama.

In 1977, Janani Luwum, the Anglican archbishop of Uganda, and two other men were killed in what Ugandan authorities said was an automobile accident.

In 1988, seven people were shot to death during an office rampage in Sunnyvale, California, by a man obsessed with a co-worker who was wounded in the attack. (The gunman, Richard Farley, is on death row.)

In 1994, more than 200 people were killed when a powerful earthquake shook Indonesia's Sumatra island.

In 1998, a China Airlines Airbus A300-600R trying to land in fog near Taipei, Taiwan, crashed, killing all 196 people on board, plus six on the ground.

**Ten years ago:** The NHL canceled what was left of its decimated schedule after a round of last-gasp negotiations failed to resolve differences over a salary cap - the flash-point issue that had led to a lock-out. Israel's parliament gave the final approval to Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's plan to withdraw from the Gaza Strip and four West Bank settlements.

**Five years ago:** Officials reported the capture of Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar (BEHR'-uh-dahr), the Afghan Taliban's No. 2 commander, by a joint CIA and Pakistani team. (Baradar was set free by Pakistan in Sept. 2013 in hopes he could help jumpstart Afghanistan's peace process.) President Barack Obama announced more than \$8 billion in new federal loan guarantees to build two nuclear reactors in Georgia.

**One year ago:** U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, during a visit to Indonesia, called climate change perhaps the "most fearsome" destructive weapon and mocked those who denied its existence or questioned its causes, comparing them to people who insist the earth is flat. Carmelo Anthony made an All-Star record eight 3-pointers and scored 30 points, and the Eastern Conference overcame 38-point efforts by Kevin Durant and Blake Griffin for a 163-155 win. At the Sochi Games, Kjetil Jansrud won the fourth straight Olympic super-G gold medal for Norway; Andrew Weibrecht of the United States wound up second while American teammate Bode Miller and Jan Hudec of Canada tied for third. (Miller, at 36, became the oldest ever Olympic Alpine medalist.)

**Today's Birthdays:** Actor Jeremy Bulloch is 70. Actor William Katt is 64. Rhythm-and-blues singer James Ingram is 63. Actor LeVar Burton is 58. Actor-rapper Ice-T is 57. Actress Lisa Loring is 57. International Tennis Hall of Famer John McEnroe is 56. Rock musician Andy Taylor is 54. Rock musician Dave Lombardo (Slayer) is 50. Actress Sarah Clarke is 44. Rock musician Taylor Hawkins (Foo Fighters) is 43. Olympic gold medal runner Cathy Freeman is 42. Actor Mahershala Ali (TV: "House of Cards"; Film: "The Hunger Games: Mockingjay" films) is 41. Singer Sam Salter is 40. Electronic dance music artist Bassnectar is 37. Rapper Lupe Fiasco is 33. Actress Chloe Wepper is 29. Pop-rock singer Ryan Follese (FAHL'-eh-say) (Hot Chelle (SHEL) Rae) is 28. Rock musician Danielle Haim (HYM) is 26. Actress Elizabeth Olsen is 26. Actor Mike Weinberg is 22.

**Thought for Today:** "There are two kinds of man: the ones who make history and the ones who endure it." - Camilo Jose Cela, Nobel Prize-winning Spanish author (1916-2002).