

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

Wednesday, Feb. 25

Birthdays: Barb Paepke, Brent Morehouse, Danielle Dobbins, Greg Heitmann

6:00 p.m.: Emmanuel Lutheran Lenten Meal served by Sarah Circle

7:00 pm: Emmanuel Lutheran Worship

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

School Lunch: BBQ, French fries, vegetable cups, fruit.

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

8:30 a.m.: MS/HS Spring Pictures

Thursday, Feb. 26

Birthdays: Mary Ann Wehde, Waylon Severson

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

School Lunch: Spaghetti with meat sauce, green beans, remain salad, fruit, garlic toast.

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

GBB Region at Webster

Friday, Feb. 27

Birthdays: Alice Severson, Eddy Nehls

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



OPEN: Recycling Trailer in Groton

The recycling trailer is back at 10 East Railroad Ave. Don't forget, there is also a dumpster at the city shop for aluminum cans with the proceeds going to the pool.

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DI Dessert Theatre

Come and see what the Groton Area Destination Imagination teams have been doing during the past few months. They will present their skits in preparation for the regional competition.

The dessert theatre will be held Sunday, March 1, 3 p.m., at the Groton Area Elementary Gym. The regional competition will be held at GHS on March 7th.

Girls beat Sisseton

The Groton Area girls basketball team defeated Sisseton in the first round of the regional tournament, 50-38.

"I called this the nerve game," said Coach Shaun Wanner. "Now that we got the monkey off our back, we can go out and play some good basketball."

Groton led at the quarterstops at 12-4, 23-12 and 35-24. "We weathered the storm," Wanner said of the win. "It was 38-34 in the fourth quarter. We were playing not to lose, but we came out with the win."

Courtney Kurtz led the Tigers with 18 points followed by Carly Wheeting with 15, Audrey Wanner 12 and Ashley Gibbs added five.

Groton made 40 percent of its field goals and was 17 of 25 from the line for 68 percent. The Tigers had 26 rebounds with Katie Koehler having seven, had nine assists with Kurtz having four, 10 steals with Kurtz having five, 10 fouls and 14 turnovers.

Sisseton was led in scoring by Tiarah Bissonette and Shayli Toelle with 10 each followed by Cami Goodhart and Alyssa Magnuson with six each and Abby Drew, Ashley Schultz and Laci Lafromboise each added two.

Groton will play second seeded Milbank in the second game Thursday night in Webster.

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.



Sun Dial Manor, Bristol, is hiring CNA's for FT, PT, PRN. Competitive wages/benefits. EOE, DFW. To apply call Connie at 605/492-3615 or go to www.sundialmanor.com.



Sun Dial Manor, Bristol, is seeking an RN or LPN for FT, PT, PRN. May be eligible for **\$10,000 Recruitment Bonus** along with competitive wages/benefits. EOE, DFW. To apply call Connie at 605/492-3615 or go to www.sundialmanor.com.

Applications for Baseball Coordinator, Coaches, Grounds-keeper, Concession Stand Manager, Concessions Workers; Swimming Pool Lifeguards; Public Works Laborers; Cemetery Caretaker, Swimming Pool Manager will be accepted until 5pm March 16 for the City of Groton. Request application at City Hall, 209 N Main St, PO Box 587, Groton, SD 57445 or by calling 397-8422. Equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate against disabled persons. (0210.0217.0310)

State wrestling this weekend

PIERRE – The 56th Annual South Dakota State High School Wrestling Championship Tournaments will take place this Friday & Saturday, featuring the Class 'A' Tournament in Sioux Falls and the Class 'B' event in Rapid City. A total of 16 returning individual state champions will be participating, as well as Defending Team Champions Parkston and Aberdeen Central. Both tournaments can be viewed with live statistics and results via South Dakota Public Broadcasting's website: sports.sdpb.org.

The Class 'B' field features eight returning Individual Champions, including one young man who will be gunning for his fourth straight individual title: 138-pound Luke Loudenberg of Howard (34-1, titles at 13-2 pounds in 2014, 120-pounds in 2013, 106-pounds in 2012). In addition, four young men have an opportunity to cap an undefeated season: Sam Ireland of Bennett County (38-0, 160 pounds), Kurt Braun of Burke/Gregory (7-0, 138 pounds), and a pair of Bon Homme/Scotland competitors in Duncan Stuebner (36-0, 120 pounds) and Dan Stibral (28-0, 285 pounds).

On the Class 'A' side, ten individual state champions return, highlighted by 160-pound Regan Bye of Vermillion. Bye is a perfect 47-0 on the 2014-15 campaign, and is seeking his third individual state title after reaching the top of the podium in 2013 & 2014 at the 145-pound weight class. Four other individuals will look to cap an undefeated season on the Class A side as well, including Brett Bye of Vermillion (39-0, 170 pounds), John Frisco of Aberdeen Central (38-0, 182 pounds), and a pair of Rapid City Central Cobblers: Hayden Hansen (41-0, 145 pounds) and Martin Mueller (36-0, 195 pounds).

The chase for the team title in Class 'B' is one to knock-off two-time defending champion Parkston. Beresford, Bon Homme/Scotland and Parkston are the lone three schools to qualify ten or more wrestlers for the meet and figure to lead the way to the title chase with Canton's eight wrestlers also in strong contention. Aberdeen Central is the lone team in either class to qualify all fourteen wrestlers to the State Finals and figures to lead the Class 'A' title chase, followed by Pierre, Huron and SF Roosevelt who each qualified 13 participants.

Groton Coffee Cup

Team Standings: Golden girls 31, Farm girls 26, James Valley 22, Ken's 9, Jungle Lanes 8.

High Games: Mary Jane Jark 198, Vicki Walter 181 and 175, Vickie KRamp 169.

High Series: Vicki Waltr 517, Alice Severson 466, Mary Jane Jark 454.

Conde National

Team Standings: Giants 20, Mets 18, Braves 17, Colts 14, Pirates 10, Cubs 5.

Men's High Games: Cliff Kuckelburg 222 and 215, Bryce Dargatz 192, John Gelhaus 182.

Men's High Series: Cliff Kuckelburg 612, John Gelhaus 512, Bryce Dargatz 495.

Women's High Games: Nancy Radke 182 and 168, Michelle Johnson 169, Hope Knoepfle 165.

Women's High Series: Nancy Radke 493, Michelle Johnson 462, Mary Larson 443.



It's gone

After years of back-and-forth communications, the Jim Stearns mobile home at Washington Street and Third Avenue West was demolished on Tuesday. An agreement was made with Jim and Linda Stearns that the city would have the mobile home removed. Hanlon Brothers did the demolition work.



Sen. Rounds meets with the South Dakota American Legion

Rounds Meets With South Dakota Veterans

WASHINGTON—U.S. Senator Mike Rounds (R-S.D.), a member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, today met with the South Dakota American Legion and the South Dakota Disabled American Veterans (DAV) in his Washington, D.C. office.

"When our service men and women step forward to bravely serve our country, we must make sure we honor our promises to them," said Rounds. "I thank the American Legion and DAV representatives for meeting with me today to share their experiences post-service. Their informed views will be tremendously helpful as we tackle these issues in the Veterans' Affairs Committee."

Rounds also had the opportunity to speak with veterans during a joint Congressional hearing today. After thanking the veterans for their service and sacrifice, the group applauded Rounds for underscoring the important role the Veterans Administration plays in veteran care.

Gov. Daugaard Signs Bills Into Law

PIERRE, S.D. – Gov. Dennis Daugaard signed the following bills into law yesterday:

(To get more information about a bill, go to <http://legis.sd.gov>, then enter the bill number in the upper right hand corner of the page)

HB 1006 – An Act to allow bullheads to be used as bait.

HB 1033 – An Act to repeal the South Dakota Energy Infrastructure Authority.

HB 1034 – An Act to repeal certain outdated and unnecessary statutes related to the Wind Energy Competitive Advisory Task Force.

HB 1035 – An Act to revise certain provisions regarding military specialty plates.

HB 1037 – An Act to revise certain provisions related to the regulation of public utilities.

HB 1038 – An Act to revise certain provisions related to the siting of energy facilities.

HB 1039 – An Act to revise certain provisions related to the regulation of grain buyers and grain warehouses.

HB 1040 – An Act to revise the statute of frauds within the uniform commercial code with respect to the sale of pulse crops.

HB 1044 – An Act to revise certain provisions regarding educational personnel certification and discipline.

HB 1052 – An Act to revise certain provisions regarding the regulation of insurance holding companies.

HB 1056 – An Act to revise certain provisions regarding the Department of Agriculture.

HB 1068 – An Act to revise when a court can grant a cross credit on child support.

HB 1069 – An Act to limit the authority of delegates to a limited Article V convention to vote for unauthorized amendments contrary to legislative instructions and to provide a civil fine for the violation thereof.

HB 1084 – An Act to expand collateral eligible to be pledged as security for public deposits.

HB 1088 – An Act to permit procurement of certain disability insurance from a non-admitted insurer.

HB 1091 – An Act to require that the minutes of meetings of any state board or commission include a record of how each individual member voted on certain motions.

HB 1098 – An Act to authorize extended terms of lease for airport facilities.

HB 1111 – An Act to increase the costs and expenses considered reasonable for the collection of certain dishonored checks.

HB 1132 – An Act to revise certain provisions regarding the titling of motor vehicles, boats, mobile homes, and manufactured homes and the issuance of temporary permits by licensed dealers.

SB 16 – An Act to revise certain provisions safeguarding law enforcement radio communications.

SB 18 – An Act to establish certain administrative provisions regarding charitable raffles, lotteries, and bingo and to make violations of these provisions subject to the Deceptive Trade Practice and Consumer Protection Act.

SB 40 – An Act to revise certain provisions regarding the federal motor carrier regulations.

SB 77 – An Act to allow nursing mothers to breastfeed in certain locations.

SB 85 – An Act to repeal certain requirements regarding the handlebar height on motorcycles.

South Dakota Black Hills Fisheries Management Plans Available for Review

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks' (GFP) Division of Wildlife has drafted two five-year Black Hills fisheries management plans, one for streams and the other for reservoirs, and is currently seeking comments from the public.

"The current Black Hills' streams plan is over 20 years old as is the last comprehensive angler opinion survey on fisheries management in the Black Hills," stated John Lott, GFP chief of aquatic resources. "Several outreach techniques were conducted to develop these plans; including angler focus groups, a comprehensive angler opinion survey and open house events. Public review and comment on these plans is encouraged and is essential as part of the planning process."

An open house event will take place Monday, March 2, 2015, from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. MST at the Outdoor Campus in Rapid City to discuss each of the plans and answer attendee questions.

Final versions of each of these plans are scheduled for adoption by the GFP Commission at the April 1-2, 2015, meeting in Brookings.

The draft management plans can be found online at: <http://gfp.sd.gov/fishing-boating/tacklebox/default.aspx>. Written comments can be sent to 523 E. Capitol Ave., Pierre, S.D. 57501, or emailed to wildinfo@state.sd.us. Comments must be received by March 26, 2015, and include your full name and city of residence.

2015 Groton Area Elementary Kindergarten Screening

March 2 – March 6

Parents of children ages 3-6 not yet attending school are asked to contact Heidi Krueger at the Groton Area Elementary School during school hours at 397-2317 to set up a screening time.

Kindergarten Screening will take place at the Groton Area High School Gymnasium. Please park and use the east entrance to the gym.

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Gasoline Prices Rising by Leaps and Bounds

NEWS EDITORS: This is AAA South Dakota's weekly Tuesday press release detailing city-by-city regular self-serve gasoline prices. AAA has access to daily gasoline prices for 112 cities in South Dakota. Contact us for prices for any cities not on the list.

AAA South Dakota, Feb. 24, 2015 – Motorists in 96 percent of the states are paying more today for gasoline than they did a week ago. Only in Kentucky and Illinois have retail pump prices declined.

"South Dakota's price average for self-serve regular jumped two cents overnight," said Marilyn Buskohl, spokeswoman for AAA South Dakota. "Rapid City's average gas price has risen ten cents over the last week and Sioux Falls has continued to inch up daily."

| | Today | Last Week | Change | Jan. 21 | Change | Last year |
|---------------------|---------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|
| Aberdeen | \$2.250 | \$2.193 | \$0.057 | \$2.079 | \$0.171 | \$3.488 |
| Brookings | \$2.308 | \$2.199 | \$0.109 | \$1.988 | \$0.320 | \$3.543 |
| Huron | \$2.328 | \$2.199 | \$0.129 | \$2.016 | \$0.312 | \$3.325 |
| Mitchell | \$2.231 | \$2.143 | \$0.088 | \$1.970 | \$0.261 | \$3.384 |
| Pierre | \$2.307 | \$2.169 | \$0.138 | \$2.041 | \$0.266 | \$3.496 |
| Rapid City | \$2.024 | \$1.954 | \$0.070 | \$1.907 | \$0.117 | \$3.269 |
| Sioux Falls | \$2.195 | \$2.176 | \$0.019 | \$1.849 | \$0.346 | \$3.293 |
| Vermillion | \$2.217 | \$2.239 | (\$0.022) | \$1.949 | \$0.268 | \$3.446 |
| Watertown | \$2.314 | \$2.249 | \$0.065 | \$2.069 | \$0.245 | \$3.473 |
| Yankton | \$2.301 | \$2.248 | \$0.053 | \$1.923 | \$0.378 | \$3.555 |
| South Dakota | \$2.201 | \$2.147 | \$0.054 | \$1.959 | \$0.242 | \$3.364 |

"Curiously, while retailers were busy bumping up gas prices, crude oil was falling," said Buskohl. "West Texas Intermediate fell \$1.36 yesterday to close at \$49.45 per barrel, its lowest close since Feb. 11."

Both South Dakota's and the nation's average price for regular gasoline have increased for 29 consecutive days, the longest streak of rising prices since last spring. Today's national average is \$2.31 per gallon, 27 cents more than it was one month ago but still \$1.11 less than on Feb. 24, 2014, according to FuelGaugeReport.AAA.com.

"Ample supplies of fuel stateside are expected to keep a ceiling on prices, though there is a good chance that prices will continue to rise this spring," said Buskohl. "Scheduled refinery maintenance is limiting production, plus unexpected problems at isolated refineries have impacted supply."

Last week an explosion at the ExxonMobil refinery in Torrance helped push up prices in California, while bitterly cold weather in the Northeast and Midwest led to a number of refinery problems in those areas.

Global crude oil prices remain volatile, said AAA. Despite U.S. production companies reassessing plans for exploration and production amid shrinking profit margins, domestic crude oil inventories climbed to record levels and output rose to its highest level since 1973, according to a Department of Energy report released last week.

Northland Auto Center

of Webster is

PROUD TO WELCOME

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Diesel Service Technician

CODY HINKELMAN.

Cody comes with 16 years of automotive and light/medium truck experience. He is ASE Certified and specializes in all makes of diesel powered light/medium duty trucks, Cody has extensive Powerstroke, Cummins and Duramax experience and training.



**CALL NORTHLAND AUTO CENTER TODAY
TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT FOR
ALL YOUR AUTOMOTIVE
MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR NEEDS.**



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or toll free
877-473-5870**

**Service department hours Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday 8 a.m. to noon**

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Today in Weather History

1987: Six to thirty inches of snow fell on this date in 1987 across much of western and central South Dakota. Three to six inches of snow fell in the northeast part of South Dakota. Some of the largest snowfall amounts reported were 30 inches at Phillip, 26 inches at Murdo and Timber Lake, with 15 inches at Rapid City. Numerous accidents occurred in the western and central sections of the state. Many roads were closed including interstate 90 for most of the 27th. Slippery roads were a major factor in the vehicle injuries of three women on Highway 12, six and one-half miles east of Ipswich in the late afternoon of the 27th. The storm began on the 24th and lasted into the 28th.

2000: Unusual February severe thunderstorms produced nickel to quarter size hail in Lyman and Hand counties on this date in 2000.

1922 - The temperature at Los Angeles, CA, soared to 92 degrees to establish a record for the month of February. (David Ludlum)

1977 - Dust reduced visibilities from eastern Virginia through the southeastern states to Florida between the 24th and the 28th. The dust originated in the western Great Plains on the 22nd and 23rd, with wind gusts above 100 mph reported at Guadalupe Pass TX, at White Sands NM, in Sherman County KS, and in eastern Colorado. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Low pressure in Nevada produced snow from the southwestern U.S. to the Dakotas. Snowfall totals in Arizona ranged up to 82 inches at Alpine. Flagstaff AZ reported 23 inches of snow in 24 hours. Other heavier snowfall totals included 20 inches at Daggett NV, 24 inches at Brian Head UT, 24 inches at Red Lodge MT, and 26 inches at Angel Fire NM. Snow at Los Alamos NM pushed their snowfall total for the winter past their previous record of 123.5 inches. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Overnight snow squalls in the Lower Great Lakes Region buried Pulaski NY under 17 inches of snow. Sunny and mild weather prevailed across the rest of the nation. Havre MT reported a record high of 66 degrees. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Thirteen cities in Florida reported record low temperatures for the date, including Jacksonville with a reading of 24 degrees. Severe cold in Florida claimed three lives, and resulted in 250 to 300 million dollars crop damage. Unseasonably warm weather prevailed in the central U.S. Dodge City KS reported record high of 80 degrees. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)








1990 - Snow spread across the northeastern U.S. Massachusetts was blanketed with 8 to 15 inches of snow, 5 to 10 inches was reported in Rhode Island, and totals in Connecticut ranged up to 10.5 inches at New Canaan. In central New York State, snow and high winds resulted in a number of chain-reaction multiple accidents, and a total of 108 persons were injured. Snow and high winds created white-out conditions along Interstate 87 in Saratoga County NY. Subzero cold was reported from Minnesota through Michigan to northern New England. Duluth MN reported a record low of 26 degrees below zero. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

2009 - Two Alaskan communities set their all-time records for highest windspeed. St. Paul registers a wind of 91 mph, and on St George Island the wind reaches 94 mph.

2010 - A strong Nor'Easter spread significant snow and windy conditions across the Middle Atlantic region from Thursday February 25th into Friday February 26th. An area of low pressure developed off the Carolina coast late Wednesday night February 24th and then strengthened as it tracked northward to near Long Island, New York by Thursday evening. As low pressure aloft deepened over the Mid-Atlantic coast Thursday night into Friday, the surface low retrograded and moved westward into northern New Jersey and southern New York. By Saturday February 27th, the low pushed into southern New England and gradually weakened over the weekend. Strong wind gusts were measured throughout the Middle Atlantic region as a result of this coastal storm. Some of the highest wind gusts recorded include: 62 mph measured at Cape May, New Jersey; 52 mph at the Atlantic City Marina; 51 mph at the Mount Pocono Airport and at Lewes, Delaware; and 50 mph at Dover Air Force Base. Wind gusts of 40 mph or greater were also recorded at Philadelphia, Wilmington, and Allentown. Considerable blowing and drifting snow resulted, especially from the Poconos eastward into northern New Jersey. Snow drifts as high as 3 to 5 feet were seen across portions of Warren and Sussex counties in New Jersey. Total accumulations of 20 inches or more were recorded from Morris and Sussex counties in New Jersey westward into Monroe county Pennsylvania. A band of 12 to 18 inches of snow accumulation was measured from Warren and Morris counties in New Jersey westward to Lehigh county Pennsylvania. In addition to snow that accumulated during the daytime on Thursday, many locations across the region experienced a heavier burst of snow with gusty winds Thursday night into early Friday thanks to additional moisture that wrapped around the low pressure system. Some areas saw snowfall rates of 1 to 2 inches per hour, especially from northern New Jersey and into the Poconos. Central Park ended the month with a total of 36.9 inches of snow, making this the snowiest month since records began in 1869.

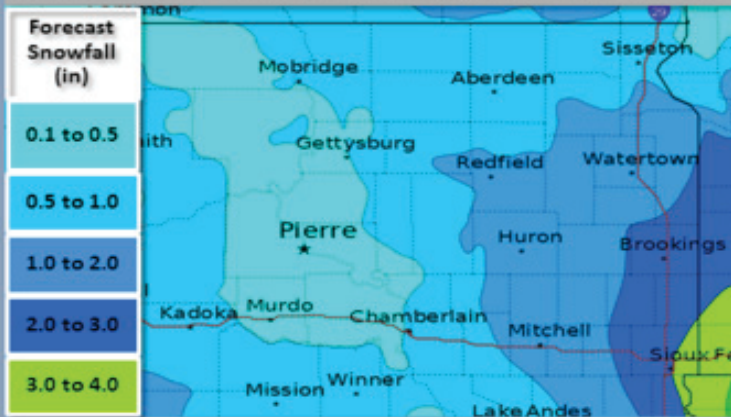
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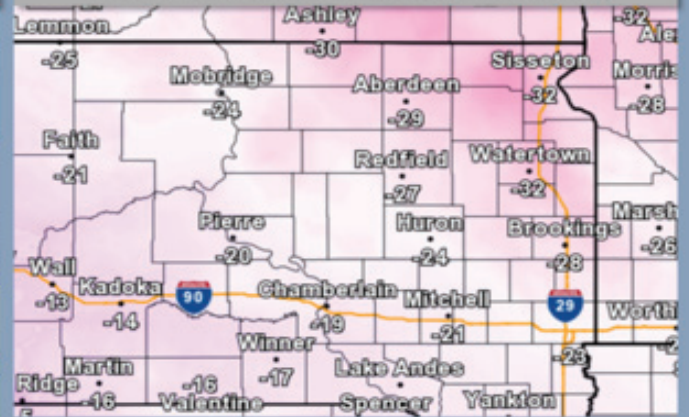
| TODAY | TONIGHT | THURSDAY | THURSDAY NIGHT | FRIDAY | FRIDAY NIGHT | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Snow High: 10 °F ↓ | Partly Cloudy Low: -12 °F | Cold High: 5 °F | Mostly Clear Low: -14 °F | Sunny High: 17 °F | Partly Cloudy Low: 4 °F | Partly Sunny High: 25 °F |

Light snow persists through early afternoon. Then, **Dangerously Cold Wind Chills** tonight into Thursday morning.

Additional Snowfall Through the Afternoon



Wind Chills By Thursday Morning



Timing: Light snow will persist through the morning, before gradually tapering off and ending this afternoon. Winds will range from 15 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph this afternoon.

Dangerously Cold Wind Chills: Temperatures will drop into the single digits below to teens below zero by Thursday morning. Combined with 10 mph winds, wind chill values will be dangerously cold.

Cold Temperatures Persist: Cold temperatures will persist through the remainder of the work week. However, winds will become weaker as high pressure moves overhead.



weather.gov/Aberdeen



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen

Published on: 02/25/2015 at 5:01AM

Light snow will persist through the afternoon. 1 to 2 inches of additional snowfall is possible for parts of northeast South Dakota and west central Minnesota. Lesser amounts are expected elsewhere. Northwest winds will increase to 15 to 20 mph with gusts up to 30 mph this afternoon. Temperatures this afternoon will be steady or slowly falling, plummeting to the single digits below to teens below zero by early Thursday morning. Even more significant will be the wind chill temperatures, which will drop into the twenty below to thirty below zero range by Thursday morning. Cold air will persist through the workweek, but winds should be weaker.

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Yesterday's Weather

High: 31.9 at Midnight

Low: 21.2 at 11:26 PM

Wind Chill:

High Gust: 29 at 7:17 AM

Snow: 0.00

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 70° in 1958

Record Low: -29° in 1919

Average High: 31°F

Average Low: 12°F

Average Precip in Feb.: 0.45

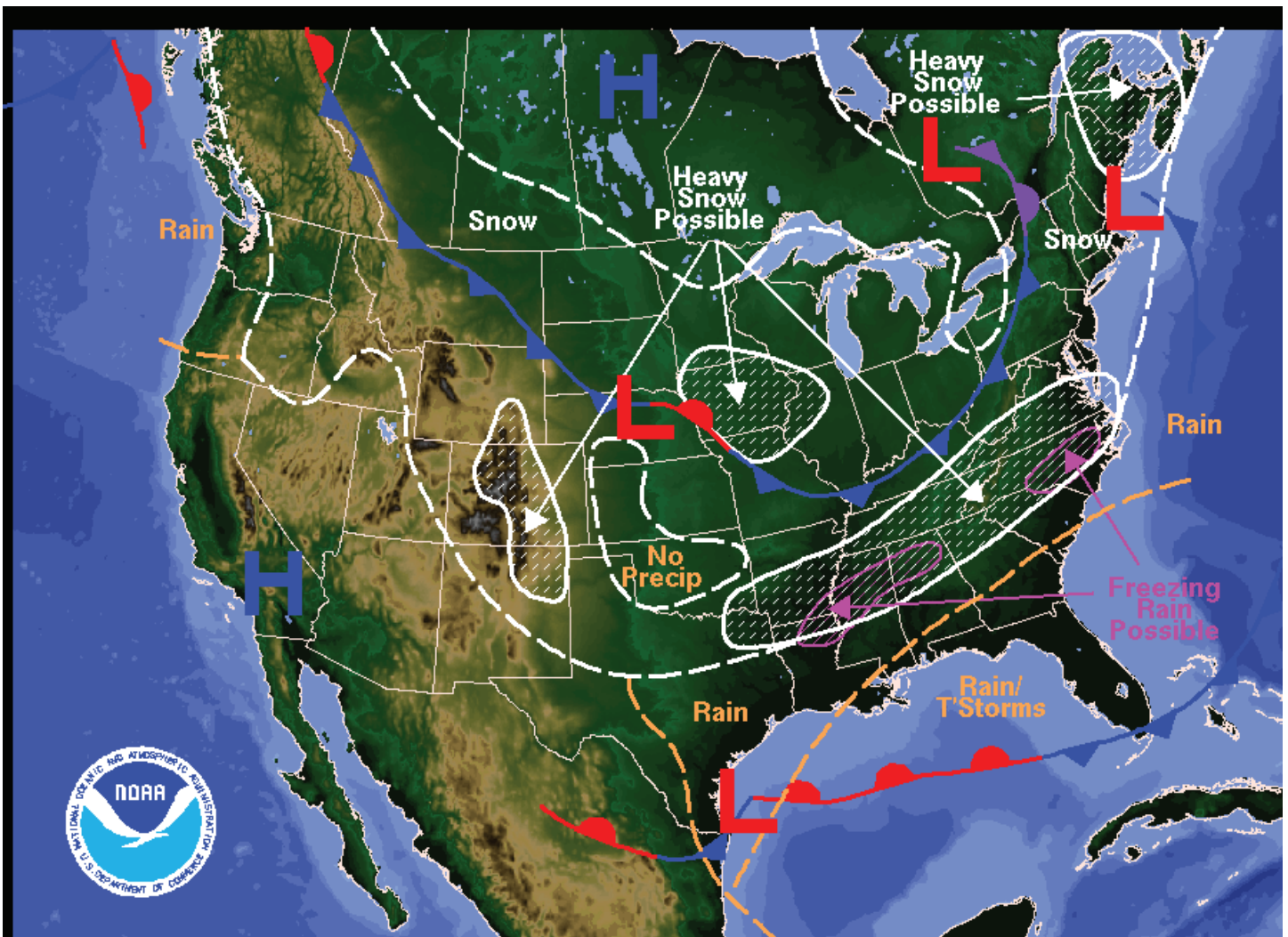
Precip to date in Feb.: 0.00

Average Precip to date: 0.92

Precip Year to Date: 0.40

Sunset Tonight: 6:15 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:18 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Wed, Feb 25, 2015, issued 3:54 AM EST
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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SEEKING THE RIGHT "STUFF"

Years ago while I was a graduate student studying human behavior it was the "rule" of the day to take an endless number of pencil and paper tests. The object, so often stated, was to "provide an understanding of who we were and to bring self-enlightenment and understanding." Some were insightful, some worthless and some actually, if I might say it with respect, really stupid.

Proverbs 18:15 has some great advice for students of all ages and disciplines: "The heart of the discerning acquires knowledge, the ears of the wise seek it out." The first step of a wise person is to understand that he is not wise. How very interesting. Many think their professors possess knowledge and wisdom and sitting in their classes and listening to their lectures will impart the information they need and elevate them intellectually. Others who believe they are learned persons seek to prove their knowledge by having someone or some source validate it. Some think that true knowledge can be discovered apart from God.

The truly wise person is one who is willing to admit that getting knowledge and wisdom is a life long journey that begins and ends with God. Proverbs reminds us over and over again to "let the wise listen and add to their knowledge and let the discerning get knowledge."

But Solomon never strays from the indisputable fact that "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline."

Teachers and books pass, but God's Word abides!

Prayer: Give us teachers who know, love and honor You to teach students that wisdom begins with fearing You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Proverbs 18:15 The heart of the discerning acquires knowledge, for the ears of the wise seek it out.

News from the Associated Press

Proposed \$25 million solar farm near Sioux Falls shot down

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls and Minnehaha County officials have decided against allowing construction of a solar farm on the outskirts of the city.

Minnesota-based Geronimo Energy proposed the \$25 million Cherry Creek solar farm, saying it would generate enough power for about 2,000 homes. But some neighbors of the site opposed the idea, saying they worried about a decrease in property values and problems with glare, among other things.

Sioux Falls City Council members on Tuesday night voted 6-2 to deny a permit, and a vote by county commissioners ended in a 2-2 tie.

Geronimo Energy officials declined comment to the Argus Leader.

Arctic front brings snow, wind and cold to the Dakotas

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — The National Weather Service is cautioning residents of the Dakotas about heavy snow, wind and bitter cold as an arctic front moves through the region.

The agency has issued winter weather advisories for snow in the northern Black Hills of South Dakota and much of the eastern part of that state. Forecasters say about half a foot of snow could fall in some areas by the end of Wednesday, and gusty winds will blow it around.

North Dakota is getting lesser amounts of snow, but bitter cold is following on the heels of the precipitation. The weather service says wind chills overnight into Thursday morning will plunge into the minus 30s in all of western and central North Dakota. Forecasters say frostbite and hypothermia can occur within minutes under such conditions.

ND man pleads guilty to habitual domestic offender charge

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — A man with a history of domestic abuse on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation has pleaded guilty to assault.

Samuel Silk Jr. faces five years in prison on a federal charge of domestic assault by a habitual offender. Authorities say Silk has two prior convictions in tribal court.

Silk's lawyers argued earlier that the habitual offender law should not apply because one conviction occurred after the date of the charge referenced in the federal complaint. That motion was withdrawn so the two sides could continue with plea negotiations.

A federal public defender could not be reached for comment.

A sentencing hearing has not been set.

SD chapters plan variety of activities for National FFA Week

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Several FFA chapters around South Dakota have activities planned this week as part of National FFA Week.

The Tri-State Neighbor reports (<http://bit.ly/1D7rMec>) the goal is to give back to communities and raise awareness about the youth farm organization.

Beresford FFA members will host a pancake breakfast Wednesday morning at the high school.

Nearby in Lennox, the FFA chapter is holding a canned food drive and cooking breakfast for school staff on Wednesday.

Other activities planned by FFA chapters this week include old-time dance lessons in Newell, an Ag Olympics in Arlington to teach elementary kids about agriculture in a fun way and an animal nursery in Brookings for elementary students and the community.

SD seeks comments for Black Hills fisheries management plans

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota wildlife officials are seeking comments from the public on two proposed management plans for fisheries in the Black Hills.

Officials with the state's Game, Fish and Parks Department have drafted two five-year plans. One plan is for streams and the other for reservoirs.

John Lott is the department's chief of aquatic resources. Lott says the current streams plan in the Black Hills is more than 20 years old. He adds that public input is "essential" in the planning process.

Officials have scheduled an open house for Monday at the department's Outdoor Campus in Rapid City to discuss each plan and answer questions from the public.

The Game, Fish and Parks Commission is expected to take final action on the plans in early April.

House committee set to take up youth minimum wage measure

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A state House committee is expected to take up a proposal to exempt youth from the minimum wage hike to \$8.50 that voters approved in November.

The House Commerce and Energy Committee on Wednesday is scheduled to review the plan, which would carve out a \$7.50 youth minimum wage.

Republican Sen. David Novstrup has said the evidence he's seen shows that states with a higher minimum wage also have higher youth unemployment.

His proposal would affect people under age 18, and the \$7.50 youth wage wouldn't be subject to future cost of living increases.

Novstrup has said that the discussion around the ballot proposal that passed in November wasn't around younger workers.

He has said his proposal is a small change to the law.

New enrollment period for artists hoping to teach in schools

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Arts Council says it has created a new enrollment period for artists interested in working at schools and with nonprofits.

The Council says artists wanting to apply for the Artists in Schools and Communities program now have until April 15 in the spring to apply. The program previously only accepted applicants in the fall by its September deadline.

The program provides intensive, hands-on training in all arts disciplines to students by providing funds to schools and nonprofit organizations that bring in groups and individuals for residencies. Artists are responsible for developing their residency lesson plans.

The Council says applicants should give themselves plenty of time to prepare materials. Applicants must submit several items, including an artist statement, residency outline and work samples.

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Tuesday's Scores

The Associated Press

BOYS' BASKETBALL

Aberdeen Central 44, Brandon Valley 43
Custer 62, Hill City 44
Huron 58, Pierre 56
McIntosh 58, Takini 42
Rapid City Christian 72, Lead-Deadwood 59
Sioux Falls Lincoln 63, Sioux Falls Roosevelt 50
Sioux Falls Washington 83, Sioux Falls O'Gorman 71
St. Thomas More 76, Belle Fourche 21
Sturgis 66, Douglas 55
Watertown 73, Harrisburg 65

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Aberdeen Central 47, Brandon Valley 34
Harrisburg 54, Watertown 44
Pierre 72, Huron 55
Rapid City Stevens 57, Rapid City Central 45
Sioux Falls Roosevelt 57, Sioux Falls Lincoln 37
Sioux Falls Washington 64, Sioux Falls O'Gorman 63

Region 1A

Aberdeen Roncalli 55, Tiospa Zina Tribal 53
Groton Area 50, Sisseton 38
Milbank 34, Britton-Hecla 27

Region 2A

Clark/Willow Lake 56, Deuel 15
Deubrook 65, Redfield/Doland 46

Region 3A

Flandreau 53, Garretson 44
Madison 84, Flandreau Indian 14

Region 4A

Beresford 51, Tea Area 42
Dakota Valley 74, Canton 31
Lennox 36, Vermillion 35

Region 5A

McCook Central/Montrose 68, Bon Homme 38
Tri-Valley 55, Wagner 48
West Central 62, Parkston 46

Region 6A

Chamberlain 54, Miller 49
Mobridge-Pollock 76, Crow Creek 42

Region 7A

Little Wound 67, Bennett County 51

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District 1B Semifinal

Summit 56, Great Plains Lutheran 27
Wilmot 87, Waverly-South Shore 53

District 2B Semifinals

Northwestern 60, Leola/Frederick 40
Warner 56, Waubay 16

District 3B Semifinal

Herreid/Selby Area 59, Potter County 35
Ipswich 53, Faulkton 42

District 4B Semifinal

Highmore-Harrold 65, Sunshine Bible Academy 43
Sully Buttes 56, Hitchcock-Tulare 25

District 5B

Estelline 38, Florence/Henry 33
Lake Preston 44, Arlington 34

District 6B Semifinal

James Valley Christian 54, Wessington Springs 38
Sanborn Central/Woonsocket 59, Wolsey-Wessington 32

District 7B

Baltic 58, Dell Rapids St. Mary 40
Oldham-Ramona/Rutland 59, Colman-Egan 42

District 8B

Bridgewater-Emery 60, Mitchell Christian 39
Howard 52, Canistota 43

District 9B Semifinal

Freeman 41, Menno 31
Parker 46, Scotland 32

District 10B Semifinal

Centerville 54, Gayville-Volin 46
Viborg-Hurley 55, Irene-Wakonda 46

District 11B Semifinal

Dakota Christian 42, Platte-Geddes 27
Kimball/White Lake 56, Tripp-Delmont/Armour 45

District 12B Semifinal

Avon 59, Gregory 38
Burke/South Central 84, Marty Indian 30

District 13B Semifinal

Jones County 48, Stanley County 19
Lyman 63, White River 28

District 14B Semifinal

New Underwood 56, Oelrichs 49
Wall 70, Philip 39

District 16B Semifinal

Faith 58, Harding County 45

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Daugaard signs companion bill to balanced budget resolution

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Gov. Dennis Daugaard has signed into law a measure that would limit the authority of a constitutional convention delegate from the state.

Daugaard signed the bill on Tuesday that serves as a companion measure to a proposal that calls for a convention to amend the U.S. Constitution to require a balanced federal budget.

Opponents have said they're concerned the amendment process could backfire and be used to rewrite many parts of the Constitution.

Advocates say the bill Daugaard has signed restricts a South Dakota convention representative from approving any unauthorized amendments.

It would also require convention delegates from the state to take an oath affirming they wouldn't support a rogue amendment. It would allow up to a \$5,000 civil fine to be imposed if a delegate violated the oath.

Fire destroys Tea business in which it started; no injuries

TEA, S.D. (AP) — A fire in Tea has destroyed the industrial building in which it started Tuesday morning.

Officials say the fire began around 9:30 a.m. at the Huck Finn Painting Company, located in an industrial area of the town. The fire is now out but burned for several hours and filled the sky with thick black smoke that could be seen for miles.

Lincoln County Emergency Management Coordinator Harold Timmerman says fire started when a woodworking machine malfunctioned.

Timmerman says the fire burned quickly because the building was filled with paint, stain and lacquer.

All of the employees got out safely and no emergency responders were hurt as they spent hours fighting the flames.

Panel defeats plan to allowed concealed carry without permit

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A state Senate panel has defeated a proposal that would allow people in South Dakota to carry a concealed pistol without a permit.

The Senate Judiciary Committee voted 5-1 on Tuesday against the measure, which would have removed the requirement for a concealed pistol permit from state law.

Openly carrying a firearm in South Dakota is legal.

Republican Rep. Jim Stalzer has said that he has a concealed pistol permit and has been in situations where he's been glad to have it. But Stalzer says he knows people who have accidentally let their permits expire and have carried their weapons illegally.

The law enforcement community has opposed the proposal, which passed through the House.

Republican Sen. Phil Jensen says an effort to revive the plan Tuesday afternoon didn't receive enough support.

House approves proposal to overhaul conflict-of-interest law

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The House has approved a proposal to overhaul conflict-of-interest laws for South Dakota public employees in response to the investment-for-visa scandal that dominated last year's U.S. Senate race.

The House on Tuesday voted 67-1 for the measure, which broadens state law to prohibit state employees or officers from directly benefiting from contracts they approve.

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Republican Rep. Mark Mickelson says his proposal extends that prohibition for a year after the employee leaves state government, with exceptions.

Mickelson says his proposal strengthens state law. It also extends to contracts that don't include the expenditure of public funds.

Democratic Rep. Peggy Gibson says a failed amendment she pushed to establish a state ethics commission would have helped provide a more open government.

She says the EB-5 visa scandal is still "shrouded in mystery."

Anti-Common Core plan fails to get full House consideration

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota House of Representatives has voted to not consider a measure that would end the state's involvement in the Common Core educational standards.

The House voted 39-31 on Tuesday as part of procedural maneuvering not to schedule the bill to be on the calendar for Wednesday's floor session.

Aberdeen Republican Rep. Dan Kaiser argues the anti-Common Core measure should have been heard on the floor. He says advocates of the standards have been allowed to "propagandize" during committee.

Kaiser says it's time to make sure opponents receive a fair hearing to discuss the standards.

Republican Rep. Jacqueline Sly of Rapid City says her committee gave adequate consideration to the bill.

The proposal narrowly died in committee last week, and procedural maneuvers ultimately failed to resurrect it.

SD delegation criticizes Obama's veto on Keystone XL pipeline

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota's Republican congressional delegation is criticizing the president's veto of a bill to approve construction of the Keystone XL oil pipeline.

Sen. John Thune, South Dakota's senior senator, says President Barack Obama's veto is disappointing but not surprising.

The pipeline proposed by TransCanada Corp. would transport Canadian oil through Montana and South Dakota to Nebraska, where it would connect with existing pipelines to carry the oil to refineries along the Gulf Coast.

Sen. Mike Rounds says Obama has chosen to appease the "far-left wing" of his political base instead of doing what's best for Americans.

U.S. Rep. Kristi Noem says the president's decision is veto on jobs, South Dakota counties and relief for a transit system already over-crowded with oil transport.

Congressional Republicans may try to override Obama's veto.

House panel buys more time to review transportation funding

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Concerns about long-term increases in gas taxes to help pay for South Dakota's roads and bridges prompted House lawmakers on Tuesday to buy about two more weeks to examine the issue.

The House State Affairs Committee unanimously killed its version of a transportation package in favor of a more limited Senate proposal. The move allows lawmakers to avoid a Tuesday legislative deadline for bill consideration and extend debate by taking up the Senate plan later.

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House Majority Leader Brian Gosch said the committee had too many questions about the size of the tax hikes in the proposal compared with what's needed to pay for roads and bridges.

"I'm not certain if we have answers to many, many of the questions that were asked today," said Rep. Roger Solum, a Republican from Watertown. "I have some serious concerns about this."

The House plan would have raised the gas taxes 2 cents each year for 15 years, while the Senate plan would raise it 2 cents each year for eight years. Both proposals are modified versions of the transportation plan Gov. Dennis Daugaard has proposed, which raises about \$50 million in road and bridge funding in its first year through increases in fuel taxes, fees and other assessments.

Transportation funding is likely the most hotly debated issue lawmakers will consider during the 2015 session. Tax increases require two-thirds legislative support to pass.

"Does the current bill ... exceed what the need actually is?" Gosch said after the hearing. "There will be a lot more to do in the next two weeks."

The governor's director of policy and operations, Nathan Sanderson, told the committee that South Dakota's fuel tax has remained flat for years, but the state's transportation construction costs have increased significantly. The state and local governments say hundreds of millions of dollars are needed each year for repairs.

The state alone has identified an average necessary yearly spending increase of more than \$140 million to keep up with future funding requirements, Sanderson said.

The oil and gas industry opposed the longer-term increases in motor fuel taxes included in the House plan that stretched until 2030. Daugaard's original plan proposed ongoing increases in fuel taxes without a set end date, whereas the increases in the Senate plan would expire in 2023.

South Dakota Petroleum and Propane Marketers Association Executive Director Dawna Leitzke said that the annual fuel tax increases in the House proposal would have made South Dakota less competitive with surrounding states.

South Dakota's fuel taxes currently are lower or roughly on par with neighboring states, but Leitzke said the House plan would drastically change that.

Sanderson said the governor is flexible with the provisions the proposal includes as long as it addresses the state's funding needs.

"As long as we meet the need, he's not particularly concerned what the soup looks like," Sanderson said.

National animal nonprofit says SD justice advocate a top dog

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A national animal defense nonprofit has honored a Lead woman who pushed heavily to make South Dakota the last state in the nation to make animal cruelty a felony.

The Animal Legal Defense Fund has named Shari Kosel one of its Top Ten Animal Defenders for 2015. Kosel is the co-founder and chair of South Dakotans Fighting Animal Cruelty Together.

She petitioned the state Legislature for years to make malicious animal cruelty a penalty. Last year lawmakers passed a measure that reserves felony charges only for those who willfully and maliciously seek to harm animals, while keeping a misdemeanor penalty for neglect or mistreatment.

The ALDF says Kosel began pushing for tougher penalties after her neighbor's dog was tortured and murdered in 2008.

Sioux Falls police arrest 3 teens in stolen SUV at school

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Police say three Sioux Falls teenagers accused of stealing an SUV and driv-

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ing around the city recklessly were arrested after they dropped off a 10-year-old boy at school.

Police spokesman Sam Clemens says a woman called police Tuesday morning to report her 2001 Land Rover Discovery was missing. Police had already received a report of a similar car driving recklessly on the city's east side.

Officers found the SUV and followed it to Garfield Elementary. Police say a 10-year-old boy got out of the Land Rover and went to school.

Officers moved in and found two 14-year-old girls and a 13-year-old boy in the SUV. All three were charged with possession of a stolen vehicle.

The 10-year-old was not charged and is believed to be related to one of the girls.

Report: Many Dakotas college students go elsewhere to finish

DAVE KOLPACK, Associated Press

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — A relatively high rate of North Dakota junior college students complete their degrees at a four-year university, according to a report released Tuesday by a group that tracks the progress of college students.

North Dakota was one five states to have more than 20 percent of its students who start at two-year colleges successfully finish at four-year schools, according to the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center study, which followed college student progress over a six-year period. Kansas led the way at 25 percent. The national average is 16 percent.

Lisa Johnson, who tracks student transfers and retention for the North Dakota University System, said the state has favorable policies for transfer students, including commonly numbered courses and a general education agreement.

"Our two-year schools are particularly attentive to academic advising and clear transfer pathways," she said.

Overall, the report shows that North Dakota and South Dakota college completion rates are relatively close to the national average. The percentage of students who earn degrees or certificates after starting at four-year schools is 64.65 percent in South Dakota and 64.61 percent in North Dakota. Of those, 13 percent of North Dakota college students and 12 percent of South Dakota students finish at a school other than where they started.

The overall completion rate in the U.S. is 62.85 percent, with 13 percent of students moving on to finish at other colleges.

Daniel Palmer, researcher for the South Dakota Board of Regents, called the report a "tremendous asset" because the numbers are more reflective of the student body than traditional studies of graduation rates.

"When we talk about graduation for our students, or anybody's students for that matter, we're only looking at the ones who completed a degree at the institution they started at," Palmer said. "We know at the same time that a lot of students are going to complete courses at multiple institutions and they're likely to finish somewhere other than where they originally started, and this confirms that."

Many North Dakota college students transfer among four-year schools and in some cases from four-year to two-year institutions, Johnson said.

"I find the reasons for student transfer almost as unique as the student," she said. "Maybe someone they are in a relationship with transfers and they follow them; it might be job opportunities; it might be program opportunities. They just really are varied."

Palmer said that while the numbers "speak to the reality" of the situation with transfer students, the best scenario is for students to finish their educations where they started so they don't have the hassle

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of transferring credits and possibly retaking classes.

“Just because a lot of students may complete somewhere else, that doesn’t let us or anybody else off the hook with respect to doing our best to ensure that students are successful who do start at our institutions,” he said.

Retail gasoline prices continue to rise in the Dakotas

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — Average retail gasoline prices continue to rise in the Dakotas.

GasBuddy.com reports that the average price of a gallon of gas is about \$2.13 in South Dakota and \$2.22 in North Dakota. South Dakota’s average price rose 3 ½ cents over the past week and North Dakota’s average jumped nearly 5 ½ cents.

Gas prices in both states fell below the \$2-per-gallon mark in January as global oil prices dropped. But GasBuddy.com Senior Petroleum Analyst Patrick DeHaan says seasonal rises in gas prices are now well underway.

Gas in the Dakotas is still more than \$1 per gallon cheaper than it was a year ago, however.

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. EX-MARINE FOUND GUILTY IN ‘AMERICAN SNIPER’ TRIAL

Eddie Ray Routh, 27, faces life in prison without parole in the deaths of Chris Kyle and his friend, Chad Littlefield.

2. PRESSURE MOUNTS ON GOP ON HOMELAND SECURITY BILL

The ball is in the House Republicans’ court as their fellow senators agree to fund the department without linking it to rolling back the president’s immigration action.

3. CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADVOCATE HAS CRIME HISTORY

Sean Hosman, whose company is a key player in the national movement to overhaul the incarceration system, is a repeat offender himself.

4. WHERE OVERFISHING IS BREEDING SLAVE LABOR CONDITIONS

Thailand’s seafood industry is using migrant laborers who are sold onto boats that trawl international waters following a decline in the local fish population.

5. WHO IS FAVORED TO WIN BRITAIN’S VOTE

No one, really. Voter disillusionment with the two major political parties means the May poll is truly a “lottery election.”

6. OBAMA VETOES KEYSTONE OIL PIPELINE

Boehner says Republicans are “not even close” to giving up the fight for the \$8 billion project.

7. WHY SAGGING OIL PRICES ARE SENDING COLOMBIANS PACKING

Thousands of people who were employed by a thriving petroleum industry in the Latin American country are now facing a harsh new reality.

8. GEORGE ZIMMERMAN WON’T FACE FEDERAL CHARGES

The Justice Department says there isn’t enough evidence to prove the former neighborhood watch volunteer killed Trayvon Martin, a black teen, on account of his race.

9. EMANUEL FACES RUNOFF IN CHICAGO

The mayor of the nation’s third largest city is facing a stiff challenge from a commissioner who has the backing of teachers, unions and many residents.

10. STUDY DETAILS CHALLENGES FACING LGBT HOMELESS YOUTH

A unique federal survey finds that many lesbian, gay and transgender teens resort to earning money through "survival sex" to find shelter.

AP News in Brief

Ex-Marine guilty of murder in 'American Sniper' trial faces life in prison without parole

STEPHENVILLE, Texas (AP) — A Texas jury has rejected the insanity defense of a former Marine in the deaths of famed "American Sniper" author Chris Kyle and another man.

After a two-week trial in which jurors heard testimony about defendant Eddie Ray Routh's erratic behavior, including statements about anarchy, the apocalypse and pig-human hybrids, they convicted Routh Tuesday night in the deaths of Kyle and Chad Littlefield at a Texas shooting range two years ago.

Routh showed no reaction as a judge sentenced him to life in prison without parole, an automatic sentence since prosecutors didn't seek the death penalty in the capital murder case. As one of his victim's siblings called him an "American disgrace" shortly after, Routh looked back at the man intensely but didn't react otherwise.

The verdict capped an emotional trial in which prosecutors painted the 27-year-old as a troubled drug user who knew right from wrong, despite any mental illnesses. Defense attorneys said he suffered from schizophrenia and was suffering a psychotic episode at the time of the shootings. While trial testimony and evidence often included Routh making odd statements and referring to insanity, he also confessed several times, apologized for the crimes and tried to evade police after the crime.

"You took the lives of two heroes, men who tried to be a friend to you," Chad Littlefield's half brother Jerry Richardson told Routh after the verdict. "And you became an American disgrace."

Pressure centers on House GOP on Homeland Security funding bill with partial shutdown looming

WASHINGTON (AP) — Days ahead of a looming partial agency shutdown, the pressure is on House Republicans after Senate GOP leaders agreed to Democratic demands and announced legislation to fund the Homeland Security Department without contentious immigration provisions opposed by Democrats and President Barack Obama.

Early reviews from House conservatives were negative ahead of a closed-door caucus meeting set for Wednesday morning, their first since returning from a weeklong congressional recess. Several insisted they could not accept the two-part strategy proposed by Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell: a vote on legislation to fund the Homeland Security Department, and a separate vote to overturn Obama's recent executive actions sparing millions of immigrants in this country illegally from deportation.

The approach "is tantamount to surrender, and won't meet with support in the people's House," said Rep. Matt Salmon, R-Ariz. "I will fight against any funding bill that does not fully defund the president's illegal actions."

Yet with a partial shutdown set to trigger at midnight Friday without congressional action, options were few for Republicans who won full control of Congress in November's midterm elections in part on promises to block Obama's immigration policies.

They could allow the agency's funding to expire, violating their leaders' promises that there would

be no more shutdowns on the GOP watch. They could try to pass a short-term extension of current funding levels, postponing the conflict to another day. Or they could go along with McConnell's strategy of funding the agency fully while registering their disapproval of Obama's immigration policies with a separate vote.

Utah CEO pushes justice overhaul, wins government contracts while fighting repeat offenses

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The CEO of a Utah company that has emerged as a key player in a national movement to overhaul the justice system is a repeat offender himself.

Sean Hosman's dual roles as advocate for change and repeat visitor at county jails provide a striking case study in an expanding national effort to use insurance industry methods to help predict future crimes and steer defendants toward treatment.

His company, Assessments.com, has won 100 contracts with state and county governments from Florida to California. He has spoken at justice forums in Texas, Idaho and Washington state.

At the same time, Hosman has been arrested at least nine times since 2010, four for DUI and one for cocaine possession. Just like tens of thousands of defendants undergoing this process known as risk assessment, he has been booked, assessed, jailed and sent to rehab.

He said he has been clean since July 5, 2012, the date of his last DUI.

Fate of abducted Christians unclear as fierce fighting continues in northeastern Syria

BEIRUT (AP) — Fierce fighting between Kurdish and Christian militiamen and Islamic State militants is continuing in northeastern Syria where the extremist group recently abducted at least 70 Christians.

Hassakeh province which borders Turkey and Iraq is the latest stage for the fight against IS. The group overran a cluster of villages nestled along the Khabur River on Monday, seizing dozens of Christians, many of them women and children.

Thousands of others fled to safer areas.

The fate of those kidnapped was still unclear Wednesday, two days after they were seized.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights and a Christian group called the Syriac Military Council said heavy clashes against IS militants in the area are continuing.

Thailand's multibillion-dollar seafood industry plagued by pirates and slaves on high seas

SAMUT SAKHON, Thailand (AP) — Urine pools under a bed where an emaciated Burmese man lies wearing only a T-shirt and a diaper.

As he struggles to sit up and steady himself, he tears at his thick, dark hair in agitation. He cannot walk and doesn't remember his family or even his own name. He speaks mostly gibberish in broken Indonesian — a language he learned while working in the country as a slave aboard a Thai fishing boat.

Near death from a lack of proper food, he was rescued from a tiny island in Indonesia two months ago. He is just one of countless hidden casualties from the fishing industry in Thailand, the world's third-largest seafood exporter.

A report released Wednesday by the British nonprofit Environmental Justice Foundation said that

overfishing and the use of illegal and undocumented trawlers have ravaged Thailand's marine ecosystems and depleted fish stocks. Boats are now catching about 85 percent less than what they brought in 50 years ago, making it "one of the most overfished regions on the planet," the report said.

Shrinking fisheries in the Gulf of Thailand and Andaman Sea have, in turn, pushed Thai fishing boats farther and farther from home. The group estimates that up to half of all fish labeled a "product of Thailand" is sourced from outside its borders — mainly in Asia, but as far away as Africa.

Iran's Revolutionary Guard attacks mock US aircraft carrier in drill near strategic strait

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran's Revolutionary Guard launched large-scale naval and air defense drills near a strategic Gulf waterway on Wednesday in which dozens of speedboats swarmed a replica of a U.S. aircraft carrier.

The drill, named Great Prophet 9, was held near the Strait of Hormuz, through which one fifth of the world's oil passes. Iran's regular army carried out naval drills near the strait in December.

State TV showed footage of missiles fired from the coast and the fast boats striking the mock U.S. aircraft carrier. The drills, which also included shooting down a drone and planting undersea mines, were the first to involve a replica of a U.S. carrier.

"American aircraft carriers are very big ammunition depots housing a lot of missiles, rockets, torpedoes and everything else," the Guard's navy chief, Adm. Ali Fadavi, said on state TV, adding that a direct hit by a missile could set off a large secondary explosion. Last month Fadavi said his force is capable of sinking American aircraft carriers in the event of war.

The Guard's chief commander, Gen. Mohammad Ali Jafari, said the drills send a "message of (Iran's) might" to "extraterritorial powers," a reference to the United States.

Candidates try to woo weary, wary voters in Britain's most unpredictable election

ATHERSTONE, England (AP) — Posters are being printed and slogans are being polished as Britain's politicians battle it out in the most unpredictable national election in decades. One top election analyst has dubbed it "the lottery election."

Voters, though, don't seem very excited about who gets the prize.

"There's nobody who can run a country. They all lie to us," said Victor Loach, a fishmonger selling his wares in the cobbled central square of Atherstone, 100 miles (160 kilometers) northwest of London. "And why do they shout at each other like children?"

It's a common refrain. Opinion polls suggest voters are lukewarm about both Prime Minister David Cameron's Conservatives, seeking a second term, and Ed Miliband's opposition Labour Party.

So who is going to win the May 7 vote?

Chicago Mayor Emanuel gears up for runoff for re-election against County Commissioner Garcia

CHICAGO (AP) — After failing to persuade a majority of Chicago voters to back his re-election bid, Mayor Rahm Emanuel could face an even stiffer challenge in April against a runoff opponent aiming to consolidate the support of residents unhappy with how the former White House chief of staff has

managed the nation's third-largest city.

In a race Tuesday against four challengers, Emanuel discovered it wasn't enough to spend millions of dollars on TV ads, earn the backing of the city's business leaders, and secure the hometown endorsement of President Barack Obama. In order to keep the job, he'll need to win another race in six weeks against Jesus "Chuy" Garcia, a Cook County commissioner who claims the backing of teachers, unions and neighborhood residents disillusioned with Emanuel.

Emanuel pledged to rev up campaigning immediately, starting Wednesday morning by shaking hands with residents at Chicago Transit Authority stops.

"We will get back out there, talking to our friends and families and neighbors as they make a critical choice about who has the strength, who has the leadership, who has the ideas to move this great city forward," Emanuel told supporters Tuesday evening.

But Garcia and his supporters said they'd be ready for another contest, with national groups poised to weigh in on the mayor's race.

As HSBC chiefs prepare testify in UK, questions over whether some banks too big to manage

LONDON (AP) — First there was money laundering. Then foreign-exchange rigging. Now tax evasion. HSBC, Europe's biggest bank, has endured a string of scandals — and paid millions in penalties to regulators around the world. But recent revelations that its Swiss private bank helped the wealthy evade taxes are raising new questions about HSBC's conduct and shining a spotlight on an industry still reeling from the 2008 financial crisis.

Politicians and analysts are asking whether big banks, which during the crisis were considered to be too large to be allowed to fail without endangering the wider economy, have also become too big to manage.

"If they're too big to fail, they're too big to control," said Crawford Spence, a professor of accounting at Warwick Business School. "But are they too big to bludgeon into corporate responsibility?"

HSBC Chairman Douglas Flint and Chief Executive Stuart Gulliver may get the chance to answer that question Wednesday, when the U.K. Parliament's Treasury Committee grills them about allegations that HSBC's Swiss private bank actively marketed tax avoidance schemes that helped as many as 1,000 Britons evade taxes.

Without hate crime, US limited in prosecuting Zimmerman because he wasn't a police officer

MIAMI (AP) — The Justice Department's decision to not prosecute a civilian neighborhood watch volunteer for a hate crime in the shooting death of an unarmed black teenager is not necessarily a harbinger of how it will rule in two other high-profile deaths of unarmed black men at the hands of police officers, legal experts say.

That is because the standards used to gauge the existence of a hate crime committed by civilians are different from those used to measure the behavior of police officers, who can be charged with depriving someone of their civil rights by using excessive force in the course of duty.

Because George Zimmerman was not a police officer, the U.S. Justice Department could only prosecute him for fatally shooting teenager Trayvon Martin nearly three years ago if it had sufficient evidence the killing was motivated by racial bias or hatred, the experts say.

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Zimmerman was a neighborhood watch volunteer in Sanford, Florida, without any legal authority associated with law enforcement officers. Zimmerman claimed he shot the 17-year-old Martin in self-defense, and he was acquitted by a jury in July 2013 of second-degree murder.

If he had been a sworn officer, federal prosecutors would have the option of pursuing "color of law" charges against Zimmerman. It is this kind of federal case that could be brought against officers in recent contentious killings by white police officers of black suspects Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri, and Eric Garner in New York.

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Feb. 25, the 56th day of 2015. There are 309 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 25, 1940, a National Hockey League game was televised for the first time by New York City station W2XBS as the New York Rangers defeated the Montreal Canadiens, 6-2, at Madison Square Garden.

On this date:

In 1836, inventor Samuel Colt patented his revolver.

In 1901, United States Steel Corp. was incorporated by J.P. Morgan.

In 1905, the Upton Sinclair novel "The Jungle" was first published in serial form by the Appeal to Reason newspaper.

In 1913, the 16th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, giving Congress the power to levy and collect income taxes, was declared in effect by Secretary of State Philander Chase Knox.

In 1922, French serial killer Henri Landru, convicted of murdering 10 women and the son of one of them, was executed in Versailles (vehr-SY').

In 1943, Allied troops reoccupied the Kasserine Pass after clashing with German troops during World War II.

In 1950, "Your Show of Shows," starring Sid Caesar, Imogene Coca, Carl Reiner and Howard Morris, debuted on NBC-TV.

In 1964, Eastern Airlines Flight 304, a DC-8, crashed shortly after taking off from New Orleans International Airport, killing all 58 on board. Muhammad Ali (then known as Cassius Clay) became world heavyweight boxing champion as he defeated Sonny Liston in Miami Beach.

In 1973, the Stephen Sondheim musical "A Little Night Music" opened at Broadway's Shubert Theater.

In 1986, President Ferdinand Marcos fled the Philippines after 20 years of rule in the wake of a tainted election; Corazon Aquino assumed the presidency.

In 1991, during the Persian Gulf War, 28 Americans were killed when an Iraqi Scud missile hit a U.S. barracks in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

In 1994, American-born Jewish settler Baruch Goldstein opened fire with an automatic rifle inside the Tomb of the Patriarchs in the West Bank, killing 29 Muslims before he was beaten to death by worshippers.

Ten years ago: Municipal employee and church leader Dennis Rader was arrested for the BTK ("bind, torture, kill") serial slayings that had terrorized Wichita, Kansas. (Rader later pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 10 life prison terms.) A suicide bombing killed four Israelis outside a Tel Aviv nightclub, shattering an informal truce. Amnesty International founder Peter Benenson died in Oxford, England, at age 83. Hall of Fame basketball coach John Chaney was suspended for the rest of the regular season by Temple for ordering rough play by one of his players during a game against Saint Joseph's. The Walt

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Disney Co. agreed to sell the Anaheim Mighty Ducks to billionaire Henry Samueli and his wife, Susan, for \$75 million.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama convened a health care summit with Democrats and Republicans; after a day of debate and disagreement, the president concluded the talkfest with a bleak assessment that an accord might not be possible. In Vancouver, the Canadian women beat the United States 2-0 for their third straight Olympic hockey title. Americans Billy Demong and Johnny Spillane finished 1-2 in a Nordic combined race. Yuna Kim of South Korea won ladies' figure skating.

One year ago: In a blunt warning to Afghan President Hamid Karzai, President Barack Obama threatened to withdraw all U.S. troops from Afghanistan by the end of 2014 if a crucial security pact wasn't signed. (U.S. and Afghan officials signed the pact in Sept. 2014.) Jim Lange, the first host of the popular game show "The Dating Game," died in Mill Valley, California, at age 81.

Today's Birthdays: Country singer Ralph Stanley is 88. Actor Tom Courtenay is 78. CBS newsman Bob Schieffer is 78. Actress Diane Baker is 77. Actress Karen Grassle is 73. Humorist Jack Handey is 66. Movie director Neil Jordan is 65. Rock musician Dennis Diken (The Smithereens) is 58. Rock singer-musician Mike Peters (The Alarm; Big Country) is 56. Actress Veronica Webb is 50. Actor Alexis Denisof is 49. Actress Tea (TAY'-ah) Leoni is 49. Comedian Carrot Top is 48. Actress Lesley Boone is 47. Actor Sean Astin is 44. Singer Daniel Powter is 44. Latin singer Julio Iglesias Jr. is 42. Rhythm-and-blues singer Justin Jeffre is 42. Rock musician Richard Liles is 42. Actor Anson Mount is 42. Comedian-actress Chelsea Handler is 40. Actress Rashida Jones is 39. Country singer Shawna Thompson (Thompson Square) is 37. Actor Justin Berfield is 29. Actors James and Oliver Phelps ("Harry Potter" movies) are 29. Rock musician Erik Haager (Carolina Liar) is 28.

Thought for Today: "He who never leaves his country is full of prejudices." - Carlo Goldoni, Italian playwright (born this date in 1707, died 1793).

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 Pro-

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gram. 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.

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):

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- ◆ Social Security card
- ◆ W-2 Form
- ◆ 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.