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Wednesday, March 4

Birthdays: Christina Zoellner, Kale Pharis, Kay Brandt

6 p.m.: Emmanuel Lutheran Lenten Meal (SS Serves)

7 p.m.: Emmanuel Lutheran Worship

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

School Lunch: Pizza cruncher, corn, carrots and dip, fruit.

Kindergarten Screening

Thursday, March 5

Birthday: Chance Strom, Linda Locken 9:30 a.m.: Emmanuel Lutheran India Circle 2 p.m.: Emmanuel Lutheran Nigeria Circle **School Breakfast:** Cheese omelet, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Lasagna hot dish, green beans, veggie cups, fruit, tea bun. Kindergarten Screening 6 p.m.: Boys Regional at Sisseton

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

Dr. Geoffrey Rath - Optometrist

Eye Exams Glaucoma Tests Rx's Filled - All Types Contact Lenses -

Doctor here Mondays Only - Office open Thursdays. 701-349-3223 to make appointments & adjustments

Hours at Ellendale, N.D. are:

Monday 9 - 12 & 1 - 5 Thursday 1:00 - 4:00

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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Coffee Cup

Team Standings: Golden girls 35, James Valley 26, Farm Girls 26, Ten Pins 12, Jungle Lanes 11, Ken's 10. High Games: Vicki Walter 169 and 168, Alice Severson 159, Joyce Walter 158. High Series: Vicki Walter 482, Alice Severson 463, Joyce Walter 447.

Conde National

Team Standings: Giants 23, Braves 19, Mets 19, Colts 15, Pirates 12, Cubs 8. Men's High Games: Cliff Kuckelburg 265 and 218, Brandon Kakwitch 246 and 216, Lance Frohling 195. Men's High Series: Cliff Kuckelburg 645, Brandon Kakwitch 632, Bryce Dargatz 500. Women's High Games: Alice Severson 191 and 181, Mary Larson 171, Michelle Johnson 169.



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.

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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No street project for 2016 and 2017 The 2012 Cop Car has been out of commision for over a month. Police Chief Stacy Mayou reported that

The 2012 Cop Car has been out of commision for over a month. Police Chief Stacy Mayou reported that the part is suppose to arrive from Pontiac, Mich., on Wednesday. Then it would take a couple of days to fix it. The transmission in the 2008 is about to go out as well. The transmission in the 2008 could be rebuilt. The transmission in the 2012 is covered under warranty so trying to find the necessary parts that will fit has been a challenge.

Dwight Zerr talked about the results from the review of the sewer camera work. He said there is one area that will need to be repaired before it can be relined.

Terry Herron reported that work is beginning on the pool slide. The metal needs to be taken apart so it can get sandblasted and powder coated.

Herron talked about the change in garbage pick-up soon as the weather warms up. He was thinking March 17th for the change to select streets for pickup.

New sewer main needs to be installed on Fourth Street north of Railroad Avenue. Herron said he has the materials on hand for the project and is looking to rent a backhoe to save money on the digging.

"It would be nice to get it done while it's dry," Herron said of the three-block project on Fifth Avenue West. H.F. Jacobs & Son Construction, Aberdeen, had the low bid for the West Fifth Avenue project. The bid came in at \$285,383.66, which includes an asphalt finish, which was accepted. Councilmen Mary Fliehs and Eddy Opp said they would support this project as long as the city does not do any street projects for two years. Councilmen David Blackmun and David McGannon and Mayor Scott Hanlon agreed. The motion to accept the bid included doing no streets for two years.

TopKote of Yankton had the low bid for the 2015 street resufacing project. The cost came in at \$79,483.08.

There was extensive discussion on the budget for this year. It will take a year to get the temporary loan paid off as there will be no street projects in 2016 due to the state Highway 37 project. The council even discussed not doing any streets for two years to allow the budget to recover.

A Brown Bage permit was approved for Groton Fire and Rescue for April 18.

The backstop for the big field came in. Michaels Fence of Sioux Falls will be doing the outfield fence in Locke-Karst Field. Once Locke-Karst Field is done, then work will begin on the smaller fields. David Blackmun also reported that someone might be interested in the concession stand. Blackmun reported that Pat Krause expressed an interest in being the coordinator this year.

David Hunter was authorized to attend the Search and Seizure School March 11 in Watertown. This will help Hunter get his contact hours.

Equalization hearings are set for March 16 and 17 and maybe March 19.

The city election was cancelled. Eddy Opp and Mary Fliehs took out petitions. No one took out a petition in Ward 1, so the council is trying to find someone to appoint to the spot.

The 2014 Annual Report was accepted.

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THINKING ABOUT HEALTH Long-Term Care Insurance May Provide Little Assurance

By Trudy Lieberman, Rural Health News Service

The U.S. has no national policy to pay for long-term care---no payment system for nursing home, home care or dozens of other services many people need as they age. And almost as bad, there has been little public discussion about this looming crisis in American healthcare. You'd think it might surface as an election issue in the coming presidential campaign, but it hasn't so far.

Last Dec. 31, the youngest of the 76 million Baby Boomers turned 50, and the time when many will start needing long-term care services is only two decades away. The need is already here for older Boomers who are moving into their 70s when the infirmities that come with growing older often show up.

When a loved one needs care many families eventually turn to Medicaid, the jointly funded federal and state program that pays the medical bills for the poor. But it also pays for nursing home stays for middle class families. Medicaid pays for nearly half of all long-term care, and families who have no resources or run out of money turn to it as a last resort. Medicaid pays after someone needing care first spends all of his or her their income and almost all assets on care. They must make themselves "poor" to qualify, a demeaning and frustrating process. This often leaves the spouse at home with very little to live on.



Often they have no choice. The annual cost of a nursing home private room averages about \$84,000 in Nebraska, South Dakota, Colorado, Wyoming, California, Indiana and Illinois, the seven states participating in the Rural Health News Service partnership. Home care can also cost \$40,000 to \$50,000 a year depending on how much and what type of care is needed.

Despite a tax deduction for premiums and lots of media hype, long-term care insurance has yet to catch on. Policies are expensive. It's not uncommon for a couple to pay \$10,000 to \$12,000 a year for two policies. Those buying at younger ages may pay less, but unless they've purchased inflation protection---a costly add-on---an individual or couple can still be unprotected. As nursing home costs escalate—they averaged \$40,000 a year in the 1990s---the benefit bought years ago covers much less.

Insurance companies also carefully check an applicant's health. If you have conditions like Parkinson's disease or diabetes, you may not get a policy even if

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you can pay for it. Insurers don't want people with illnesses that will land them in a nursing home or require lots of home care. This kind of insurance doesn't work like Obamacare plans which must cover everyone whether they are sick or well.

Policies have also been around long enough now to gauge how well companies pay claims. Trying to snag customers, many insurers priced their policies too low when they first offered them. Now they are raising prices as consumers file costly claims. Some companies have tried not to pay claims at all, leaving policyholders stranded.

Because of the large out-of-pocket costs for policies and uncertainties about paying claims 20 or 30 years later, long-term care insurance has never gone mainstream, and while some people are glad they were covered when they needed care, it's not the solution for financing long-term care for everyone who will eventually need it.

Last week, another one of those over-simplified advice stories showed up in the New York Times with financial advisers telling people to shop around for rates and consider buying a policy with fewer benefits to make coverage more affordable, a move that kind of defeats the purpose of having the insurance in the first place.

Journalist Jane Gross, a former Times reporter and author of "A Bittersweet Sweet Season: Caring for Our Aging Parents---and Ourselves," shot back in a letter to the editor summing up the problem this way: "When it comes to long-term care, the elderly, and families struggling to care for them, are being ignored by the government and by the private sector."

Paul Kleyman, who directs the Ethnic Elders Newsbeat at New America Media, is as fierce an advocate for better long-term care financing as anyone I know. He told me even though families have been hit hard nationally by the lack of long-term care protection, it's been difficult to fight politically for better ways to finance care.

This is something that affects the middle class, a voting block politicians covet. But unless there's a collective voice raising the cry about the hardships aging people face, long-term care won't even be a whisper in next year's election.

We'd like to hear about your experiences paying for long-term care. Write to Trudy at trudy.lieberman@gmail.com.

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Five Middle Schoolers selected for All-State Band



Pictured left to right are Kaitlyn Kassube, Emily Thompson, Tylan Glover, Kylie Kassube. Not Pictured: Ashley Garduno

Middle School All-State Band will be held at the Huron High School Theater on March 6-7 at 4:00 p.m. Groton was honored to have five students selected to this prestigious group of students. The students audition on a variety of scales and etudes and are selected by a panel of judges.

Representing Groton this year is Kylie Kassube clarinet, Kaitlin Kassube clarinet, Tylan Glover percussion, Emily Thompson percussion and Ashley Garduno on french horn. The students will have the opportunity to perform with other outstanding musicians from throughout the state.

They are divided into two bands that will be under the direction of Mr. Dave Bohnert from Wayne State College and Mr. Bob Goheen from Brandon Valley.



Back L to R Director Reid Johnson; Dillon Freeman, Tuba; Rachel Blackmun, Bass Clarinet

Front L to R Kaitlin O'Neill, Contrabass Clarinet; Laura Garcia, Euphonium; Keri Pappas, flute

Reid Johnson, Director, Groton High School band; and his students, gave the program for last week's Groton Kiwanis Club program. Groton Kiwanian, Lee Schinkel; was program leader.



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By Jason Alderman



FAFSA Primer: How to Navigate Through the College Aid Maze

If you're worried about paying for your child's college education, keep this statistic in mind: during the 2011-12 school year, the U.S. Department of Education reported that 85 percent of all full-time, fouryear college students were receiving some form of financial aid.

Consider planning way ahead of time to develop a college savings strategy that fits with your finances. If you need more resources to cover additional costs, get to know the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, better known as FAFSA (https://fafsa.ed.gov).

FAFSA is the universal application for current and prospective U.S. college students to receive college financial aid. It is the gateway to grants, student loans and work-study programs on the federal and state level.

If you have a kid headed for college, it's a good idea to learn about the FAFSA as early as possible. The universal form is the first step for any current or prospective student who needs help paying for higher education. For the 2014-15 academic year, the College Board reported that annual tuition, room and board (http://trends.collegeboard.org) averaged \$18,943 at in-state public universities, \$32,762 for out-of-state students and \$42,419 at private, nonprofit schools.

Students fill out the FAFSA, but if your child is a dependent student, you should gather the information together. Dependent students are generally under 24, unmarried and not working full-time, and they will need your financial data to complete the filing. Students with special family circumstances (including absent parents) may still qualify for federal and state aid under certain conditions, but should check directly with financial aid representatives at target schools for specific options.

The process starts with the student choosing a personal information number (PIN) that gives them multi-year access to the financial aid system. They will follow up with their own Social Security, contact and address information. Parents will submit their most recent federal income tax data and other proof of income; Alien Registration Numbers are required from parents who are not U.S. citizens. More detail is available on the FAFSA site.

FAFSA filing opens after January 1 every year with June 30 as the final deadline. Keep in mind, though, that a student's current or target school financial aid deadlines (https://fafsa.ed.gov/deadlines. htm) can be significantly earlier based on the state in which they plan to attend college.

Before this process begins, however, tax and financial advisors should be consulted to discuss the full range of savings and investing options that can minimize the need for student borrowing. For assistance in completing the FAFSA form, parents and prospective students should consider contacting financial aid administrators at prospective schools or where the student has been accepted for admis-

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sion. Some schools offer workshops in filling out the form and organizations like College Goal Sunday (http://www.collegegoalsundayusa.org/) offer that assistance in 39 states.

Parents and students should also check their own networks for help. Employers, professional organizations (related to the student's field of study), fraternal societies and private foundations are great potential resources for no-strings scholarships and grant money. If a dependent child works a summer job at a major company (fast food, retail and beyond) he or she can check if the employer offers scholarships or education benefits to part-time workers. It is also important to keep an eye on the news for the latest changes to federal and state financial aid and student loan rules.

Bottom line: Knowing as much as possible about college financial aid now can help parents and students make the best plans for covering those expenses. Whether college is months or years away, it's never too early to start planning and saving.

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

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Don't Break the Net

Whether it is to catch the scores of last night's game, read the morning news, or stay connected with friends and family, like many South Dakotans, I depend on



fast, reliable Internet service. The role of the Internet in our lives is only going to continue to grow. It will keep revolutionizing things like transportation, commerce, agriculture, and education. But heavy-handed government regulation could delay the next big transformation.

On February 26, three unelected officials of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) voted to approve the most controversial agenda item in the agency's modern history, a policy awkwardly known as Title II reclassification of broadband. The FCC voted 3-2 to impose heavy-handed regulations on the Internet that were designed and intended for monopoly phone companies in the 1930s. The regulations being imposed by the FCC are an attempted power-grab that will create new barriers for innovation and open the door to new taxes and fees on internet service for American households.

In the 317 page rule that has yet to be made public, the FCC gives itself broad power to decide how broadband services may be offered in the market. For example, mobile broadband plans that allow unlimited music streaming could be prohibited by the government. Additionally, the FCC action could make broadband more expensive because compliance with these regulations will increase operational costs for providers that will likely be passed along to customers in the form higher prices for broadband Internet service.

New investment in communications networks will also be threatened. Broadband networks are expensive to build, operate, and maintain, and nowhere is that more apparent than in South Dakota, with our relatively small population and large landmass.

Advocates for reclassification worry that future entities that control Internet access could abuse that position to affect what content users can access. I have generally not been in favor of instituting government regulations until we know there is a real and actual need. But, to prevent the FCC's heavyhanded regulatory overreach, I believe it is time for Congress to act by updating our telecommunication laws.

As chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee, which oversees the FCC and policies relating to telecommunications and the Internet, I put forward a legislative solution earlier this year to create common-sense rules for the digital road. What I am proposing is very different from what the FCC has jammed through. The FCC regulations are 317 pages. My draft proposal is six pages that focuses on what consumers want – prohibiting practices like "blocking," which is the process blocking legal content, and "paid prioritization," which is demanding special payments for access to certain services, all without the legal uncertainty associated with the FCC's plan.

Above all, I don't want the debate about protecting the open Internet to be used as an excuse for the federal government to grab control of the Internet from innovators. I will continue to pursue a legislative solution with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to address the problems associated with the FCC overreach, and I will fight for policies that maintain the light-touch regulatory structure that has enabled the Internet to thrive.



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Resiliency, Strength, Sacrifice

When a service member joins the military, their spouse and family serves beside them. And just as our military stand ready to respond to crisis here and abroad, their families must be prepared for their loved ones to be sent into harm's way.

Last week, the Sioux Falls-based 1742nd Transportation Company of the Army National Guard received the 2014 Department of Defense Reserve Family Readiness Award. The Pentagon honors just one Army National Guard Company with this award each year. South Dakota has taken top honors each of the last three years. In 2013, the 235th Military Police Company in Rapid City was recognized, and in 2012, the 842nd Engineer Company in Spearfish was honored. Each of these awards is an incredible tribute that speaks to the integrity and value-system of the South Dakota National Guard and their leadership.

Demands over the last decade have demonstrated the critical role families play in mission success. More so than in previous military engagements, the War on Terror has required our men and women in uniform to be deployed multiple times, meaning far too many American troops have missed not only one Christmas, birthday or anniversary, but two, three or more. Family readiness for deployment, then, is essential. As one Naval Commander put it, deployment is "so much easier when you know that your spouse and your kids are all taken care of."

For any of us, if there are financial or family problems at home, it can be next to impossible to concentrate on the work that must be done at the office. For men and women in uniform, that distraction could be a matter of life and death. As an Air Force Major wrote, "Without the support of the military family, I find it would be nearly impossible to be in a right state of mind to allow an individual to focus on mission accomplishment when the call comes."

The most successful family readiness programs don't start when the family finds out a loved one is going to be deployed. The most successful programs begin long before that and continue throughout the deployment and long after the service member returns home. That is something the 1742nd Transportation Company was recognized for last week.

I had the opportunity to help welcome the 1742nd Transportation Company home from their last tour in the Middle East. Seeing husbands, wives and children rush to their loved ones in uniform sent chills down my spine and tears to my eyes. The families in the auditorium that afternoon are resilient, strong, and courageous. I deeply respect each of them and admire their sense of duty. Each family there has made tremendous sacrifices so our guardsmen and women can defeat evil and protect the freedoms you and I exercise every day.

I will be forever grateful to our service members and their families for the sacrifices they've made.

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North Central Farmers Elevator and South Dakota Wheat Growers Sign Letter of Intent to Unify

Members of both cooperatives to vote on proposed plan in June 2015

North Central Farmers Elevator (NCFE) and Wheat Growers (WG) announced today that they have entered into a Letter of Intent to unify the two companies into a newly named cooperative. The Boards of Directors of both cooperatives have unanimously approved the Letter of Intent, which enables the businesses to work closely together to finalize the agreement prior to a vote of the full membership of each cooperative.

The Letter of Intent is the product of careful consideration, analysis and evaluation conducted over a 10-month period. As noted by Wheat Growers Board President Hal Clemensen, "This is not a move that we have entered into lightly. We have been focused on ensuring a long-term pathway of success for our members and customers. This is the right decision at the right time for our stakeholders."

"We are committed to generating member value," added North Central Farmers Elevator Board President Richard Osterday, "and we believe this long-term strategic decision will strengthen and enhance the locally-owned cooperative system. We want to continue delivering quality products and services, innovation, growth and profitability for our members and customers."

Looking at the increasingly global view of the competitive marketplace, North Central Farmers Elevator General Manager (GM) Mike Nickolas agrees that growth is vital to success and sustainability. "Our employees and members have built such a strong foundation. Both cooperatives are healthy, profitable and progressive. We now have an opportunity to leverage their hard work to create an even stronger, more sustainable business and marketplace footprint."

Reinforcing the long-term vision, Wheat Growers CEO Dale Locken added, "This is all about smart growth, about moving forward, and about building a relevant locally-owned cooperative for the emerging needs of our membership. We want to ensure that our investments continue to create the resources needed for future generations of our cooperative members."

Over the next several weeks, North Central Farmers Elevator and Wheat Growers will work to finalize the plan and communicate with members and other stakeholders. Several local member meetings are being planned in addition to other communications.

"Discussing the proposed agreement with our members is a top priority. We want to hear from our members and help ensure that they have the information they need," noted NCFE GM Mike Nickolas.

Members of both cooperatives will vote on the proposal, currently planned for June.

"We look forward to visiting with our member-owners," added WG CEO Dale Locken. "We have a strong vision for the future, and we are committed to discussing how this plan helps us get there."

About North Central Farmers Elevator

North Central Farmers Elevator is a full-service, farmer-owned cooperative with product and service areas in grain, agronomy, feed and energy with locations in north central South Dakota and south central North Dakota. Its mission is to excel at providing high-quality services and products that grow member and cooperative profitability and success.

About Wheat Growers

Wheat Growers is a grain and agronomy cooperative in the heart of South and North Dakota. Owned by the members it serves, Wheat Growers exists to provide, with integrity, customers with reliable markets, services and quality products through a safety-oriented, profitable and innovative organization.

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Today in Weather History March 4, 1994: Two to five inches of snow fell across northeast and part of central South Dakota from the 3rd

March 4, 1994: Two to five inches of snow fell across northeast and part of central South Dakota from the 3rd into the 4th. This new snowfall, combined with the already deep and expansive snowpack and winds of 20 to 40 mph, brought widespread blowing and drifting snow. Visibilities were reduced to near zero at times, making travel treacherous. Many roads were blocked by snowdrifts. Many schools, as well as several roads, were closed. Several vehicles became stuck and had to be pulled out. Some snowfall amounts included 4 inches at Clear Lake, Britton, Waubay, and Wilmot; and 5 inches at Onida, Blunt, Highmore, Miller, and Milbank.

1909 - Though fair weather was forecast, President Taft was inaugurated amidst a furious storm. About ten inches of wet snow disrupted travel and communications. The storm drew much criticism against the U.S. Weather Bureau. (David Ludlum)

1953 - Snow was reported on the island of Oahu in Hawaii. (The Weather Channel)

1966 - A severe blizzard raged across Minnesota and North Dakota. The blizzard lasted four days producing up to 35 inches of snow, and wind gusting to 100 mph produced snow drifts 30 to 40 feet high. Bismarck ND reported zero visibility for 11 hours. Traffic was paralyzed for three days. (2nd-5th) (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Rain and high winds prevailed in the northwestern U.S. A wind gust to 69 mph at Klamath Falls OR was their highest in 25 years, and winds at the Ashland Ranger Station in the Siskiyou Mountains of northern California reached 85 mph. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Snow and freezing rain made travel hazardous in Ohio and Indíana. A six car pile-up resulted near Columbus OH, with seven injuries reported. Up to two inches of ice glazed central Indiana. Up to ten inches of snow blanketed northern Ohio. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather in the Lower Mississippi Valley. A strong (F-3) tornado injured five persons near Brownsville MS, and killed seven cows and two hogs in one pasture. Thunderstorm winds gusted to 90 mph at Canton MS. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data) 1990 - A Pacific cold front working its way across the western U.S. produced heavy snow over parts of Idaho,

¹1990 - A Pacific cold front working its way across the western U.S. produced heavy snow over parts of Idaho, Nevada and Utah. Up to eleven inches of snow blanketed the valleys of northwest Utah, while 12 to 25 inches fell across the mountains of northern Utah. Up to six inches of snow blanketed the valleys of east central Nevada, while more than a foot of snow was reported in the high elevations. In Idaho, 6 to 8 inches of snow was reported around Aberdeen and American Falls. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

2004 - An F0 tornado 2 miles north of Muldrow breaks a record stretch of days without a reported tornado, 292 days.

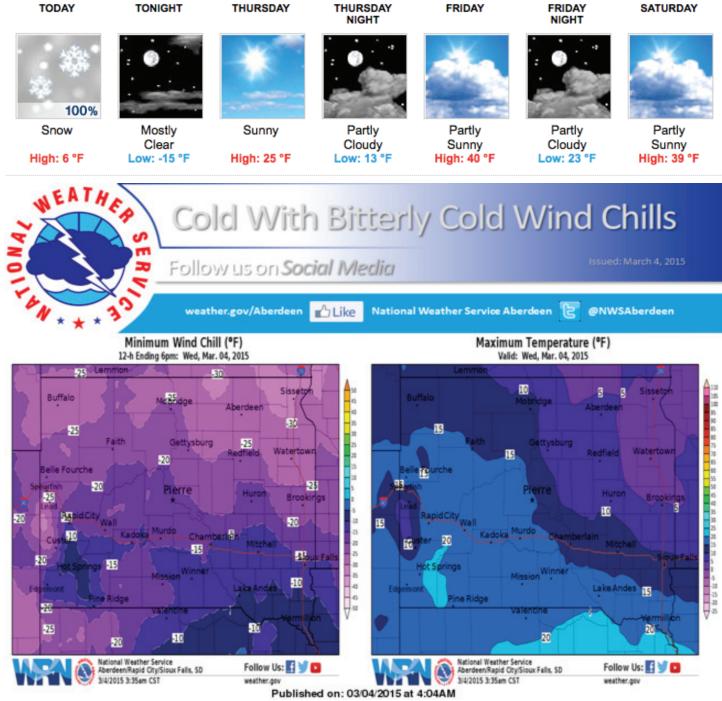
2008 - Only two days after reaching 78 degrees, St. Louis receives nearly a foot of snow in seven hours, the biggest snowstorm in 15 years.

1873 – The inauguration of Ulysses S. Grant remains Washington, DC's, record cold March day. The low was 4 degrees, and by noon with sunshine, the temperature was 16 degrees. Wind chills were around 30 degrees below zero. The 40 mph winds made his inaugural address inaudible to most on the platform with him.

1899 – Cyclone Mahina, aka "The Bathurst Bay Hurricane" in Australia was credited with having produced the highest storm surge on record in the world. The cyclone, with an estimated central pressure of 911 millibars or 26.90 inches of mercury caused a 42.6 foot surge when it came ashore on the coast of northern Australia. The storm killed as many as 400 people.

1983 – Brownsville, Texas recorded a high of 100 degrees, the earliest the city has ever hit the century mark.

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A few flurries or some light snow is possible this morning, but the bigger news is the cold temperatures and bitterly cold wind chills. Highs will struggle into the single digits above zero over the east, and into the teens west. The good news is the cold air will be short lived. Milder air will replace the arctic air later this work week...lasting into the weekend.

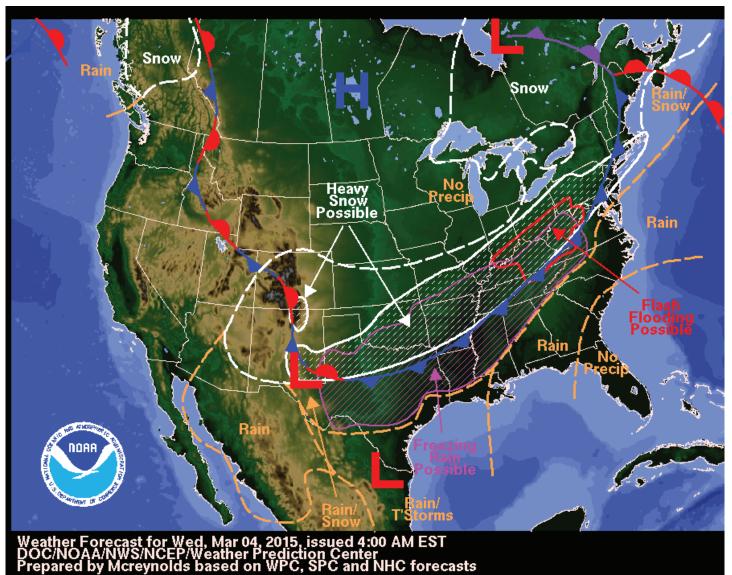
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Yesterday's Weather High: 31.6 at 12:28 AM

High: 31.6 at 12:28 AM Low: -0.3 at 10:10 PM Wind Chill: High Gust: 39 at 12:07 PM Snow: 0.00 Precip: 0.00

Today's Info Record High: 64° in 2000

Record High: 64° in 2000 Record Low: -23° in 1917 Average High: 34°F Average Low: 15°F Average Precip in March.: 0.09 Precip to date in March.: 0.00 Average Precip to date: 1.11 Precip Year to Date: 0.40 Sunset Tonight: 6:25 p.m. Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:05 a.m.



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"IT'S" SIMPLY WRONG!

Unfortunately, most of us do "it" without thinking about "it." "It" has become part of our nature and we do "it" constantly - much to the displeasure of God. The "It"? Rewarding the undeserving.

Our hearts go out to them: the "unfortunates" - or so we think of them as being "unfortunate." Or incapable. Or unable. Or not having had opportunities. Or not having a teacher or mentor or who or whatever it took to "get" what they "got." But if they were or are capable of "getting" what they "got" according to Solomon, the "it" is not fitting. Rarely do we think of them as being what we must recognize: the "unwilling." This is a category that we have allowed to become eroded from our minds.

"It is not fitting for a fool to live in luxury," wrote Solomon. Perhaps we need to look at "it is not fitting" more closely. It is more accurately translated "inappropriate" for the point he wants us to understand, accept and apply. Unearned gifts to others, no matter how deserving we may think the recipient is, do not reflect God's wisdom. Those gifts, the "its" of life, are not a result of a person living according to the teachings of God's Word or the application of His wisdom. Our skills and talents are gifts from God - and what we do with them is our gift to God. Developing our skills and talents to enjoy the "luxuries" of life is important.

Receiving an inheritance or winning the lottery or receiving any gift that is unearned often reveals a person's "flawed character." Unearned "gifts" are often squandered in the pursuit of selfish and self-centered "luxuries" that are unneeded, unnecessary and ungodly.

There is nothing essentially wrong with having "luxuries." But there is something wrong with not earning them by honoring God's wisdom. Wealth that comes from hard work honors God because we learn the value of earning the "luxuries" that He gives us.

Prayer: "Work" began with You and is something You did willingly. May we honor You by working for our "luxuries." In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Proverbs 19:10 Luxury is not fitting for a fool, Much less for a servant to rule over princes.

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News from the Associated Press

Voters soundly reject proposed bypass around Sturgis

STURGIS, S.D. (AP) — Voters in Meade County have overwhelmingly rejected a highway bypass around the motorcycle mecca of Sturgis.

More than 3,300 people voted in Tuesday's election, and unofficial results show 75 percent of them were against the proposed 6-mile "Fort Meade Way."

Bypass proponents said it could spur growth east of the city and ease traffic during the annual motorcycle rally that draws hundreds of thousands of people. But both the City Council and the Chamber of Commerce opposed the idea, worrying about the effect of a bypass on local businesses.

State setting aside \$300,000 to expand its ethanol program

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota is setting aside \$300,000 to help the state's retailers install ethanol storage tank units at gas stations.

The Governor's Office of Economic Development announced this week that it earmarked the funds for its Ethanol Infrastructure Incentive Program.

The program was initially designed to assist retailers across South Dakota by reimbursing them for costs associated with the installation of new ethanol flex-pumps. This new funding will now also help retailers expand their storage capacity for ethanol.

South Dakota Ethanol Producers president Dana Siefkes-Lewis says the Ethanol Flex-Pump Program and Storage Tank Program allow retailers to offer more choices to consumers.

Applications for both programs are being accepted until June 30.

State Fair brainstorming ways to keep up positive attendance

HURON, S.D. (AP) — Organizers of the South Dakota State Fair in Huron are trying to keep the momentum of higher attendance going.

Visitor numbers for the 2014 fair were up 15 percent over the year before.

State Fair manager Peggy Besch says fair commissioners are working on lining up the rest of the entertainment package for this year.

She says camping numbers are coming in strong again, and the office is getting inquiries from campers who have never attended the fair.

Besch says the number of offseason events at the fairgrounds should equal last year.

She says about 78 percent of the \$4.7 million needed for the new 4-H exhibit hall has been raised. Ground-breaking will be this spring, but the project won't be finished until 2016.

Tuesday's Scores

The Associated Press

BOYS' BASKETBALL

District 3AA Semifinals Huron 59, Aberdeen Central 50 Pierre 74, Mitchell 58

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District 4AA Semifinals Rapid City Central 60, Sturgis 49 Rapid City Stevens 56, Spearfish 43 **Region 5A Semifinals** McCook Central/Montrose 68, Bon Homme 47 Tri-Valley 62, Wagner 56 West Central 59, Parkston 53 **District 2B Semifinals** Langford 86, Leola/Frederick 44 Warner 63, Aberdeen Christian 52 **District 3B Semifinals** Eureka/Bowdle 59, Herreid/Selby Area 57 Potter County 59, Faulkton 22 **District 4B Semifinals** Hitchcock-Tulare 74, Sunshine Bible Academy 52 Sully Buttes 63, Highmore-Harrold 49 **District 8B Semifinals** Canistota 58, Ethan 48 Hanson 51, Bridgewater-Emery 32 **District 9B Semifinals** Freeman 79, Menno 69 **District 10B Semifinals** Centerville 55, Alcester-Hudson 44 Irene-Wakonda 64, Viborg-Hurley 60 **District 11B Semifinals** Corsica/Stickney 75, Kimball/White Lake 44 Platte-Geddes 59, Dakota Christian 45 POSTPONEMENTS AND CANCELLATIONS District 1AA Brookings vs. Sioux Falls O'Gorman, ppd. to Mar 5. Watertown vs. Sioux Falls Roosevelt, ppd. to Mar 5. District 2AA Brandon Valley vs. Sioux Falls Washington, ppd. to Mar 5. Yankton vs. Sioux Falls Lincoln, ppd. to Mar 5. Region 2A Redfield/Doland vs. Deubrook, ppd. to Mar 5. Deuel vs. Hamlin, ppd. to Mar 5. Region 3A Garretson vs. Flandreau, ppd. to Mar 5. Flandreau Indian vs. Madison, ppd. to Mar 4. Region 6A Mobridge-Pollock vs. Miller, ppd. to Mar 5. Crow Creek vs. Cheyenne-Eagle Butte, ppd. to Mar 5. District 6B James Valley Christian vs. Sanborn Central/Woonsocket, ppd. to Mar 5.

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District 14B

Wall vs. Rapid City Christian, ppd. to Mar 5.
Philip vs. New Underwood, ppd. to Mar 5.
GIRLS' BASKETBALL
Region 8A Regional Final: St. Thomas More 49, Belle Fourche 26
Region 7B Regional Final: Jones County 53, Wall 40
Region 8B Region Final: McLaughlin 72, Lemmon 65
POSTPONEMENTS AND CANCELLATIONS
Region 1A Regional Final: Milbank vs. Webster, ppd. to Mar 6.

Huron Public Library to host drone video contest for teens

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Teens who compete in a drone video contest at the Huron Public Library are in the running for their own flying drone as a grand prize.

The contest opens on Monday as part of Teen Tech Week, which thousands and of libraries and schools are expected to celebrate nationwide.

Huron Public Library Teen Librarian Mary Olson says that getting teens into libraries is key to improving digital literacy. She says she wants a wide variety of teens to participate in the festivities.

The theme for 90-second video entries into the drone video contest is: "It happened on the way to the library." The library will provide contestants with a drone to use for the video.

Motorists being asked to drive carefully near bighorn sheep

DEADWOOD, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota officials are asking motorists in the western side of the state to drive carefully when they are near bighorn sheep.

The state's Game, Fish and Parks Department last month released 26 bighorn sheep in the high country near Deadwood. The herd, however, has repeatedly traveled down and around roadways over the past two weeks, occasionally presenting a hazard to travelers.

Mike Kintigh is regional supervisor at the department's Rapid City office. He says it's not unusual for bighorn sheep to travel toward roads in search of salt.

The department says bighorn sheep are expected to travel and cross Highway 385, from the top of Strawberry Hill down through Deadwood, and Highway 14A from Radio Tower Road through Deadwood and Lead.

Fast-moving storm dumps snow in parts of Upper Midwest

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — A fast-moving storm dumped several inches of snow across the Upper Midwest on Tuesday, making travel treacherous in some areas and leading to at least several traffic-related fa-talities.

The storm dropped up to 6.5 inches of snow in western Minnesota, while far eastern South Dakota got 3 inches. But blizzard warnings for Minnesota and South Dakota were lifted.

Meteorologist Jim Taggart with the National Weather Service in Chanhassen, Minnesota, said the state has seen about half its usual snowfall this season. But the quick-hitting storm could be winter's last blast for the region, said Minnesota Public Radio meteorologist Paul Huttner. Forecasts call for high temperatures above freezing this weekend and into next week.

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TOUGH TRAVELING

Snow turned the morning commute in the Twin Cities into a slippery mess. The State Patrol reported 150 crashes and nearly 30 vehicles that slid off roads or spun out by midafternoon. A state trooper's squad car was struck and badly damaged on I-494 near Concord in South St. Paul, Minnesota, while that trooper was investigating a crash.

Authorities closed a slippery stretch of Interstate 94 in central Minnesota for a time due to numerous accidents. The driver of an SUV was killed in a multivehicle crash on the freeway, the State Patrol said. One person died in a crash on Highway 41 in Brown County of northeastern Wisconsin. At least four school buses got stuck in traffic behind the crash scene.

The storm forced officials to temporarily close the Apostle Islands ice caves to tourists. Around 12,000 people have visited the ice caves along the south shore of Lake Superior since they opened over the weekend. But the National Park Service said high winds and blowing snow could make the ice leading to the caves unsafe.

BOSTON TRANSIT

The Boston-area transit system is considering ways to compensate customers for weeks of weatherrelated delays and breakdowns as the area has received 8¹/₂ feet of snow.

A Massachusetts Bay Transportation official said Tuesday the options include a week of free fares, which he estimated would cost the agency \$6 million. Other possibilities include rebates or discounts for monthly pass holders, or letting customers with monthly passes use them for another month.

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation board will vote next week on whether to approve any of the plans.

Officials estimated the cost to the transit system of the winter storm cleanup is \$36.5 million to date.

WASHINGTON WOES

The mid-Atlantic region braced for another shot of snow, sleet and freezing rain in time for the evening rush hour. A winter weather advisory was effect in the Baltimore and Washington areas.

The federal government in the Washington region was open, but workers were given the option of taking unscheduled leave or teleworking. Several school systems canceled evening events and a few closed early.

ST. PATRICK'S PLEA IN BOSTON

Organizers of Boston's annual St. Patrick's Day Parade say the event will go on as planned March 15, despite the 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet of snow that has fallen on the city this winter — but they are asking for help in clearing the route.

Brian Mahoney, commander of the South Boston Allied War Veterans Council, is asking unions, businesses and residents to help shovel snow. He said it would be impossible to postpone the parade.

The city is just short of surpassing its 20-year-old snowfall record. Sunday's snowfall brought the city's total to 103.9 inches. It needs 3.7 inches more to break the 1995-1996 record of 107.6. Snow forecast for Tuesday and Wednesday could tip that total over the edge, according to Frank Nocera, a NWS meteorologist in Taunton, Massachusetts.

PRAIRIE PROBLEMS

Many schools from the eastern Dakotas to western Minnesota delayed classes or closed for the day. South Dakota's Transportation Secretary Darin Bergquist warned it would be "a dangerous spring

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storm."

"Just another day in South Dakota," said Jessica Martin, who works at the Crossroads Truck Stop in the eastern South Dakota town of Colman. "We're way ready for spring."

Heavy snow and gusty winds also struck much of Wyoming, causing road closures and prompting transport officials to warn against all but essential travel across much of the state. Three people were killed in a three-vehicle crash north of Casper, Wyoming, on Monday night as the storm blew into the state, the Casper Star-Tribune reported.

Icy roads were making travel treacherous in Iowa and Nebraska, leading to at least one fatal traffic accident in Omaha. Rain and freezing rain remained in the forecast for both states.

Senate passes proposal making state disease response easier

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The state Senate has passed a measure that would more easily allow the state to react to deadly disease outbreaks.

Senators voted 29-5 Tuesday to approve the plan, which was backed by the Department of Health and would expand the state's authority to respond to serious communicable diseases.

Republican Sen. Craig Tieszen says the measure came as a result of the Ebola scare that peaked last fall. He says the measure modernizes the types of diseases included in state law, which was focused on Tuberculosis.

Republican Sen. Phil Jensen questions why the bill is necessary and says the bill itself should be quarantined. It heads to Gov. Dennis Daugaard's desk.

The proposal originally gave the state authority over all top-tier diseases. It was amended in January to cover just five.

Rapid City police investigating death of man found in park

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Police in Rapid City are investigating death of a man whose body was found in a city park.

Police say they were called to Memorial Park around 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday.

They say they found the body of a Native American man in his mid-50s.

An autopsy is scheduled to determine the cause of death. His name is being withheld until family members have been notified.

Police say there are no initial signs of foul play.

Rapid City police: Man accidently shot himself over weekend

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Rapid City police say a 22-year-old man who died over the weekend accidently shot himself in the head with a gun he believed to be empty.

Police say Colton Strangerhorse, of Rapid City, was drinking with friends when he pulled out a gun from his waistband around 1 a.m.

Witnesses tell police that Strangerhorse believed the gun was not loaded when he point it at himself and pulled the trigger. He died at the scene.

No foul play is suspected at this time, but Rapid City Police and the Pennington County Sherriff's Office is still investigating.

Rapid City Police says the public should remember to exercise extreme caution when handling firearms and should treat every firearm as loaded. The department also says that alcohol and firearms should never mix.

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State House defeats measure to require schools safety plans

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The state House has voted down a measure requiring South Dakota schools to have a safety plan for potential violent incidents such as a school shooting.

The House voted 37-30 against the proposal, which also would require schools to conduct a lockdown drill annually.

The bill's sponsor is Republican Rep. Scott Munsterman. He says the bill's defeat on the floor surprised him.

Munsterman says schools have drills for tornados and fires, so they should also have a blueprint for reacting to violent situations.

Opponents say the measure contained unnecessary mandates on school districts.

Munsterman says school districts want the guidelines and says that the plan is part of making children safer. The plan had been approved in its previous legislative stops without any dissenting votes.

Panel votes down measure to void transgender athletes policy JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A measure that would have required transgender students to use the sex on their birth certificates to determine the sports team they played on was defeated by a South Dakota Senate committee Tuesday, but another bill on the issue is being considered later this week.

The Senate Education Committee voted 4-3 to dismiss the measure, which would have invalidated a South Dakota High School Activities Association policy on transgender student participation in sports.

The association's policy was adopted in June. It directs schools to help transgender students or their guardians apply to the activities association with the correct documentation. An association committee would then make the determination.

Republican Rep. Jim Bolin of Canton, the House sponsor of the bill that was defeated by the Senate committee, said the association "made a significant error and overstepped its authority" when it adopted the policy.

"It's not a small thing. It is a very, very big thing," Bolin told the committee.

On Thursday, the same legislative panel is to consider a separate measure that seeks to void the policy.

Dale Bartscher, executive director of Family Heritage Alliance Action, pushed the committee to support Bolin's measure and said that it's unfair to allow young people whose sex at birth was male to play on girls sports teams. He acknowledged the emotions surrounding the issue, but said the association's policy should be "voided and avoided."

Lindsey Riter-Rapp, a lobbyist for the organization, told the committee that the association hasn't fielded any requests from transgender students yet. She said the policy was meant to be a proactive move since the issue has been raised in other states, and that it was thoughtfully considered before being approved.

Those opposed to voiding the policy argued that transgender athletes shouldn't face discrimination or intolerance. Huron District Superintendent of Schools Terry Nebelsick, who was testifying as a private citizen, said children should be made to feel valued and shouldn't be stopped from participating in school athletics.

"We must not select a group of children to discriminate against," Nebelsick said. "A student is a child of God and needs (the) unconditional love and protection of the adults that are in their lives."

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Andrea Kosters, a transgender student from Emery, South Dakota, who identifies as a girl, testified against the measure during a House committee hearing in February.

Kosters, 18, said Tuesday that she's pleased the Senate panel shot down the plan because it's unfair. "People need to meet someone like me and actually talk to me for a little bit to understand who I am," said Kosters, who added that she hopes "that we have that freedom to be who we want."

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South Dakota PUC approves rate hikes for Black Hills Power

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The state Public Utilities Commission has granted a request from Black Hills Power to raise rates for its customers in western South Dakota.

The commission voted 3-0 on Monday to approve an overall rate hike of 4.35 percent. The utility company had initially requested an approximately 9 percent hike.

The hike means a residential customer using an average of 650 kilowatt-hours of power per month will see an increase of about \$58 per year.

Because the commission granted the utility its requested 9 percent rate on a temporary basis starting last October, Black Hills Power will refund customers with the difference, with 7 percent interest.

The new rates will bring in close to \$6.9 million more for the public utility. They're scheduled to take effect starting in April.

South Dakota boys basketball poll

Class AA Record Pts Prv 1. Sioux Falls Washington (9) 18-2 45 1 2. Sioux Falls Lincoln 2 16-4 36 3. Aberdeen Central 17-3 24 3 4. Sioux Falls O'Gorman 14-6 19 4 5. Pierre 13-7 4 5 Others receiving votes: SF Roosevelt 3, Yankton 2, Spearfish, Sturgis. Class A Record Pts Prv 1. Aberdeen Roncalli (8) 18-2 43 1 2. Dell Rapids (1) 18-2 37 2 3. Winner 19-1 27 3 4. Clark-Willow Lake 17-3 17 4 16-4 7 5 5. Sioux Falls Christian Others receiving votes: Madison 2, Mt. Vernon-Plankinton, Little Wound. Class B Pts Record Prv 1. Wolsey-Wessington (7) 20-0 43 1 2. Langford (2) 19-1 35 2 3. Faith 19-1 23 3 4. Elkton-Lake Benton 18-2 4 18 5. White River 18-2 14 5 Others receiving votes: None.<

Condition of South Dakota winter wheat crop deteriorates

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The condition of South Dakota's winter wheat crop has deteriorated over the past month.

The Agriculture Department says in its latest crop report that only 49 percent of the crop is in good condition, and none is in excellent condition. That compares with 58 percent in those two categories at the beginning of both February and January.

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Cattle and calf conditions in the state are rated 91 percent good to excellent. Sheep and lamb conditions are 87 percent good to excellent.

The report says hay and stock water supplies are in good shape in the state.

Longtime Northern State wrestling coach stepping down

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — Longtime Northern State University wrestling coach Pat Timm is resigning, effective May 21.

Timm, 40, told the American News that he wants to pursue a new career opportunity.

"I'm not leaving on bad terms. I'm leaving on great terms," he said. "I'm always going to bleed maroon and gold and support the program 100 percent."

Timm has led the Wolves program the past 15 years. He led Northern State to the 2002 Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference championship and was named the conference Coach of the Year.

In 2004, he led the Wolves to a 15th place finish in the NCAA Division II national tournament. He has coached 10 NCAA All-Americans, including two-time national champion Matt Meuleners, and also has served on the NCAA Wrestling Rules Committee.

"Coach Timm has poured his heart and soul into NSU wrestling since his arrival in 2000," Athletics Director Josh Moon said in a statement.

Timm was a two-time All-American wrestler at South Dakota State University and served as an assistant coach there prior to his hiring at Northern State.

He will continue his duties with the Wolves until mid-May, including coaching Joe Gomez at the national tournament in St. Louis in mid-March.

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. BOSTON MARATHON BOMBING TRIAL BEGINS

Lawyers of accused suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev will seek to portray him as the impressionable younger brother of the attack's mastermind, Tamerlan, while prosecutors will say he was an active and willing participant.

2. INVESTIGATORS: FERGUSON, MISSOURI, RIFE WITH BIAS

The Justice Department finds troubling patterns of racial discrimination in the city's police force and legal system.

3. WHERE A MINING EXPLOSION MAY HAVE TRAPPED DOZENS

A miner is killed in the war-torn east of Ukraine in a blast that occurred at a depth of more than 3,000 feet.

4. NETANYAHU'S ELECTORAL FATE HINGES ON WHITE HOUSE REACTION

If the Israeli prime minister is seen as escaping the consequences of challenging President Obama on Iran, he might win re-election in two weeks.

5. ALABAMA SUPREME COURT ORDERS HALT TO GAY MARRIAGE

Resisting numerous federal rulings, the court instructs the state's probate judges to stop issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples.

6. HILLARY CLINTON USED A 'HOMEBREW' SERVER FOR OFFICIAL EMAILS

Records reviewed by the AP show that the presumptive presidential candidate used a private email address that traced back to an internet provider in her New York state home.

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7. WHO WILL FACE MORE FRATRICIDAL FIGHTS

After securing funding for homeland security, House Speaker John Boehner and his leadership team will face more confrontations with rebellious conservatives within the GOP.

8. WHICH CEO GOT THE TOUGHEST JOB IN AVIATION

Christoph Mueller, credited with reviving Ireland's Aer Lingus, has taken on the challenging task of turning around Malaysia Airlines, still reeling from the twin disasters that beset it last year.

9. PETRAEUS AGREES TO PLEAD GUILTY

The ex-CIA chief is accused of giving his biographer — with whom he had an affair — classified material while she was working on a book.

10. PLAY BALL! QUICKLY!

Major League Baseball introduces its new pace-of-play initiatives during spring training games in Arizona and Florida.

AP News in Brief

Different views of Boston Marathon bombing suspect to be described during death penalty trial

BOSTON (AP) — Two dramatically different portraits of Boston Marathon bombing suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev are expected to emerge when prosecutors and Tsarnaev's lawyers give their opening statements at his federal death penalty trial.

Was he a submissive, adoring younger brother who only followed directions given by his older, radicalized brother? Or was he a willing, active participant in the attacks?

The trial that begins Wednesday is expected to be one of the most closely watched terror cases in years.

Tsarnaev's lawyers have made it clear they will try to show that at the time of the bombings, Tsarnaev, then 19, looked up to his older brother, Tamerlan, 26, and was heavily influenced by him. They plan to portray Tamerlan as the mastermind of the attack. He died following a shootout with police days after the bombings.

But prosecutors say Dzhokhar was an equal participant who acted of his own free will. He faces 30 charges in the bombings and the fatal shooting days later of a police officer from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Seventeen of the charges carry the possibility of the death penalty.

Hillary Clinton ran homebrew computer system for official emails, tracing back to NY estate

WASHINGTON (AP) — The computer server that transmitted and received Hillary Clinton's emails — on a private account she used exclusively for official business when she was secretary of state traced back to an Internet service registered to her family's home in Chappaqua, New York, according to Internet records reviewed by The Associated Press.

The highly unusual practice of a Cabinet-level official physically running her own email would have given Clinton, the presumptive Democratic presidential candidate, impressive control over limiting access to her message archives. It also would distinguish Clinton's secretive email practices as far more sophisticated than some politicians, including Mitt Romney and Sarah Palin, who were caught conducting official business using free email services operated by Microsoft Corp. and Yahoo Inc.

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Most Internet users rely on professional outside companies, such as Google Inc. or their own employers, for the behind-the-scenes complexities of managing their email communications. Government employees generally use servers run by federal agencies where they work.

In most cases, individuals who operate their own email servers are technical experts or users so concerned about issues of privacy and surveillance they take matters into their own hands.

Clinton has not described her motivation for using a private email account — hdr22(at)clintonemail. com, which traced back to her own private email server registered under an apparent pseudonym for official State Department business.

Decision time for judges after Alabama Supreme Court orders halt to gay marriage

Probate judges must again decide whether to issue wedding licenses to gay couples after the Alabama Supreme Court ruled the state's ban on same-sex marriage is legal, despite a federal court's decision to the contrary.

The all-Republican court sided with a pair of conservative groups Tuesday night and ordered Alabama's 68 probate judges to stop issuing marriage licenses to gay couples.

A previous ruling by U.S. District Judge Callie Granade that gay-marriage bans violate the U.S. Constitution does not preclude the judges from following state law, which defines marriage as between a man and a woman, the court ruled.

It was not immediately clear what effect the court's ruling would have, or what probate judges would do after opening their doors Wednesday.

While a six-member majority of the nine-member court did not explicitly invalidate the marriages of hundreds of same-sex couples who obtained licenses in the state in recent weeks, the decision used the term "purported" to describe those licenses.

After scathing Justice Department report, pressure for change builds in Ferguson

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Justice Department report says blacks in Ferguson, Missouri, are disproportionately subject to excessive police force, baseless traffic stops and citations for infractions as petty as walking down the middle of street.

City officials said Tuesday they were reviewing the report, which they expect to be released Wednesday.

With scathing findings of a months-long investigation being released, attention now turns to Ferguson as the city confronts how to fix racial biases that the federal government says are rooted in the police department, court and jail.

The full report could serve as a roadmap for significant changes by the department, which commanded national attention after one of its officers shot and killed an unarmed black man, 18-year-old Michael Brown, last summer.

Similar federal investigations of troubled police departments have led to the appointment of independent monitors and mandated overhauls in the most fundamental of police practices. The Justice Department maintains the right to sue a police department if officials balk at making changes, though many investigations resolve the issue with both sides negotiating a blueprint for change known as a consent decree.

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AP Analysis: After speech on Iran, Netanyahu's prospects could hinge on White House response

JERUSALEM (AP) — With Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu facing a tough re-election fight in two weeks, the U.S. Congress has handed him an unprecedented boost with its effusive welcome to a message that resonates at home: Iran cannot be trusted as a threshold nuclear state.

Which way it goes for Netanyahu may hinge on whether Israel is in some perceptible way punished by the White House for its leader's extraordinary offensive against a U.S. president. If he is seen as having bravely spoken truth to power and escaped consequences, the episode will likely help him at the polls.

That could deeply affect the Middle East for years to come on issues far beyond Iran, most notably the conflict with the Palestinians, which some consider even more important than the nature of any future deal on Iran's nuclear program.

At home and abroad, Netanyahu is seen by many as a leading obstacle to peace with the Palestinians and perhaps the Arab world. And his insistence on continuing Jewish settlement of the occupied West Bank has many fearing the country will never be able to extricate itself from the territory and its millions of Palestinians — with or without peace — destroying Israel's character as a Jewish state.

For this and other reasons, Netanyahu has found himself at increasingly toxic loggerheads with the country's elites — from the security establishment to academics, journalists, cultural figures and much of the business world. This has been recently compounded by scandals involving his expenses, and rage from middle-class Israelis who struggle to make ends meet and can no longer afford to buy homes.

Supreme Court hears fight over health law subsidies that could affect coverage for millions

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court is hearing arguments in a major test of President Barack Obama's health overhaul that threatens insurance coverage for millions of people.

The justices are meeting Wednesday to try to determine whether the law makes people in all 50 states eligible for federal tax subsidies to cut the cost of insurance premiums. Or does it limit tax credits only to people who live in states that created their own health insurance marketplaces?

A ruling that limits where subsidies are available would have dramatic consequences because roughly three dozen states opted against their own marketplace, or exchange, and instead rely on the U.S. Health and Human Services Department's healthcare.gov. Independent studies estimate that 8 million people could lose insurance coverage.

Opponents of the Affordable Care Act failed to kill the law in an epic, election-year Supreme Court case in 2012. Chief Justice John Roberts joined with the court's liberal justices and provided the crucial vote to uphold the law in the midst of Obama's re-election campaign.

The new case, part of a long-running political and legal fight to get rid of the law also known as Obamacare, focuses on four words — "established by the state" — in a law that runs more than 900 pages. The challengers say those words are clear and conclusive evidence that Congress wanted to limit subsidies only to those consumers who get their insurance through a marketplace, or exchange, that was established by the state.

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New Malaysia Airlines CEO "battle hardened" outsider taking on industry's toughest job

HONG KONG (AP) — When the owners of embattled Malaysia Airlines went looking for a new CEO to lead its restructuring, they chose a German turnaround specialist known as "The Terminator" to take on what's been dubbed the toughest job in aviation.

Christoph Mueller, 52, comes to the post fresh from a stint reviving Ireland's Aer Lingus. He'll be the first foreigner to head the Malaysian state-owned company. Analysts say he's an industry veteran "battle-hardened" from his work carrying out corporate restructurings at other state-owned airlines, including failed Belgian carrier Sabena.

Mueller will be facing his biggest challenge yet at Malaysia Airlines. The company was pushed to the brink of bankruptcy by the disappearance of Flight 370 on March 8 with 239 people on board and the shooting down mere months later of Flight 17 over Ukraine, killing all 298 passengers and crew.

Khazanah, the sovereign investment fund that owns Malaysia Airlines, declined an interview request for Mueller, who started his job on Sunday. But clues about his management philosophy can be found in a video interview he gave to Cambridge University's business school last year.

"The first year of a restructuring is really like a war situation," Mueller told his interviewer, exuding a polite, polished and firm manner that is in stark contrast with the brash charisma of the bosses at his former and present discount rivals: Michael O'Leary of Ryanair and AirAsia's Tony Fernandes.

Killer's comments blaming women for being raped reflect views held by many in India

NEW DELHI (AP) — When a rapist and killer said the woman brutally attacked on a New Delhi bus was responsible for what had happened to her, it sounded shocking around the world. But not in India. Here, blaming women for rape is what hundreds of millions of men are taught to believe.

And the code for women in this country is simple: Dress modestly, don't go out at night, don't go to bars and clubs, don't go out alone. If you break the code, you will be blamed for the consequences.

When one of the four men sentenced to death for the high-profile gang rape of the woman in 2012 was quoted in a new documentary as saying "a girl is far more responsible for rape than a boy," he was repeating something community and religious leaders in this nation of 1.2 billion routinely say.

"A decent girl won't roam around at 9 o'clock at night. ... Housework and housekeeping is for girls, not roaming in discos and bars at night doing wrong things, wearing wrong clothes," Mukesh Singh said in the documentary, "India's Daughter," meant to be shown on Sunday, International Women's Day, in India and several other countries.

Dozens trapped in coal mine blast in rebel-held city in eastern Ukraine; at least 1 dead

DONETSK, Ukraine (AP) — An explosion ripped through a coal mine before dawn Wednesday in wartorn eastern Ukraine, killing one miner and trapping over 30 others underground, rebel and government officials said.

The explosion took place at the Zasyadko mine in Donetsk, an eastern city under the control of sepa-

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ratist rebels, but rebel authorities said it was not caused by shelling.

Eastern Ukraine has been wracked by fighting between government forces and Russian-backed rebels for almost a year, during which more than 6,000 people have been killed.

The speaker of Ukraine's parliament, Volodymyr Groysman, said Wednesday he can confirm only one death, pedaling back on an earlier claim that 32 miners had died. It was unclear what his source for the information was, since rebel authorities do not answer to the government in Kiev.

The blast occurred at a depth of more than 1,000 meters (3,280 feet deep) as 230 workers were in the mine, separatist authorities in Donetsk said in a statement, adding that the explosion was caused by a mixture of gas and air — a common cause of industrial mining accidents.

Rings to bring Chinese women to have US-citizen babies targeted in California searches

IRVINE, Calif. (AP) — Women who come to the U.S. from China to give birth to automatic American citizens may not be breaking the law by doing so, but it's illegal to lie about why they're coming into the country.

That was the clear message federal agents sought to send when they searched three dozen California homes Tuesday in what may have been the biggest federal crackdown yet on so-called maternity tour-ism.

The raids came as homeland security agents investigated three rings catering to such women, who must tell the truth about their visits on visa applications, authorities said.

Recent cases in California have catered to wealthy Chinese visitors, most likely due to the country's large population, economic boom and ties to the region. Their numbers are unclear, and no arrests have been made or charges filed.

"It is fertile ground for this kind of scheme," said Claude Arnold, special agent in charge for Immigration and Customs Enforcement's homeland security investigations in Los Angeles. "These people were told to lie, how to lie, so that their motives for coming to the U.S. wouldn't be questioned."

Today in History The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, March 4, the 63rd day of 2015. There are 302 days left in the year. **Today's Highlight in History:**

Ioday's Highlight in History:

On March 4, 1865, President Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated for a second term of office; with the end of the Civil War in sight, Lincoln declared, "With malice toward none, with charity for all."

On this date:

In 1789, the Constitution of the United States went into effect as the first Federal Congress met in New York. (The lawmakers then adjourned for lack of a quorum.)

In 1791, Vermont became the 14th state.

In 1861, Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated as the 16th president of the United States. The Confederate States of America adopted as its flag the original version of the Stars and Bars.

In 1913, the "Buffalo nickel" officially went into circulation.

In 1925, President Calvin Coolidge's inauguration was broadcast live on 21 radio stations coast-tocoast.

In 1930, Coolidge Dam in Arizona was dedicated by its namesake, former President Calvin Coolidge. In 1940, Kings Canyon National Park in California was established.

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In 1952, Ronald Reagan and Nancy Davis were married in San Fernando Valley, California.

In 1964, Teamsters president James Hoffa and three co-defendants were found guilty by a federal court in Chattanooga, Tennessee, of jury tampering.

In 1974, the first issue of People magazine, then called People Weekly, was published by Time-Life Inc.; on the cover was actress Mia Farrow, then co-starring in "The Great Gatsby."

In 1989, Time Inc. and Warner Communications Inc. announced plans for a huge media merger.

In 1998, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that sexual harassment at work can be illegal even when the offender and victim are of the same gender.

Ten years ago: American troops in Iraq fired on a car carrying just-freed Italian journalist Giuliana Sgrena (zhoo-lee-AH'-nah ZGRAY'-nah), killing Nicola Calipari, the intelligence officer who'd helped negotiate her release and injuring the reporter. Martha Stewart, imprisoned for five months for her role in a stock scandal, left federal prison to start five months of home confinement. President George W. Bush nominated career scientist Stephen L. Johnson to head the Environmental Protection Agency.

Five years ago: A Hollister, California, man with a history of severe psychiatric problems opened fire at a Pentagon security checkpoint; John Patrick Bedell, 36, wounded two police officers before being killed by police. Two Germans and two Turkish men were convicted in Duesseldorf over a foiled 2007 plot to attack U.S. targets in Germany and given prison sentences ranging up to 12 years. Turkey, a key Muslim ally of the United States, angrily withdrew its ambassador after a congressional committee approved a resolution branding the World War I killing of Armenians a genocide. (The measure, however, was never taken up by the 111th Congress.)

One year ago: President Barack Obama submitted a \$3.9 trillion budget for fiscal 2015. U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry met in Ukraine with the new government's leaders in a show of support following Russia's military incursion into the Crimean Peninsula.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Paula Prentiss is 77. Movie director Adrian Lyne is 74. Rock musician Chris Squire (Yes) is 67. Singer Shakin' Stevens is 67. Author James Ellroy is 67. Former Texas Gov. Rick Perry is 65. Singer Chris Rea is 64. Actor/rock singer-musician Ronn Moss is 63. Actress Kay Lenz is 62. Musician Emilio Estefan is 62. Movie director Scott Hicks is 62. Actress Catherine O'Hara is 61. Actor Mykelti (MY'-kul-tee) Williamson is 58. Actress Patricia Heaton is 57. Actor Steven Weber is 54. Rock musician Jason Newsted is 52. Actress Stacy Edwards is 50. Rapper Grand Puba is 49. Rock musician Patrick Hannan (The Sundays) is 49. Rock singer Evan Dando (Lemonheads) is 48. Actress Patsy Kensit is 47. Gay rights activist Chaz Bono is 46. Actress Andrea Bendewald is 45. Actor Nick Stabile (stah-BEEL') is 45. Rock musician Fergal Lawler (The Cranberries) is 44. Country singer Jason Sellers is 44. Jazz musician Jason Marsalis is 38. Actress Jessica Heap is 32. TV personality Whitney Port is 30. Actress Margo Harshman is 29. Actor Josh Bowman is 27. Actress Andrea Bowen is 25. Actress Jenna Boyd is 22.

Thought for Today: "I do not understand the world, but I watch its progress." - Katherine Anne Porter, American author (1894-1980).

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

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Open 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Tuesday through Friday **Redfield:** Dept. of Transtportation - N Hwy 281. Open 8:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays **Webster:** Courthouse Basement (711 W 1st St. - Ste. 107 Open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Fridays

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

Federal requirements have changed the documents required to obtain or renew your South Dakota driver license or identification card. We want to make the process as quick and easy as possible for you. Look over the documents on the list below, and if you have any questions at all, anything you don't

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

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

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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 <u>one</u> document to prove Social Security number. Only the documents listed below can serve as proof of Social Security number (the document must include your name and full social security number):

- Social Security card
- W-2 Form
- 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 <u>two</u> 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:

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

<u>Living with someone else</u> - 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

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the person with whom they reside. The <u>Consent for Use of Address</u> form may be obtained at the exam station or printed off our website.

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

<u>People who travel full-time</u> - 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. <u>Military and Military Dependents</u> - Applicants can use an out-of-state address on their license and provide two documents proving residency showing the out-of-state address.

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.